

GUIDING

AUGUST 1991 £1

**JOLLY
BOATING
WEATHER**

**LEAVING
HOME
TIME**

**ON PARADE
AT WHIPSNADE**

**NAPPY
CAMPING**

**HELEN REACHES
THE STARS**

WALTONS BROWNIE SIX



**Guiding
is . . .**

**smiling at
obstacles**



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COMMENT

A few weeks ago I attended a County event along with 1,500 other members of the Movement from Rainbows to Guiders, many having travelled miles to share in the activities, friendship and fun. Nothing unusual in that, except we were in Germany, which is one of our British Guides in Foreign Countries (BGIFC) Counties.

It was so stimulating to look round and realise all the Advisers were under 30, refreshingly free from preconceived ideas and not afraid to try something new.

I had such a wonderful time, I returned eager to tell you about BGIFC, which plays an important part in our Association and has done for over 75 years.

Launched in Oporto, Portugal in 1911, BGIFC now has around 7,000 members in more than 30 countries. The units exist in areas where it is impossible or inappropriate for our girls to join the local Association.

They make the same Promise we do and follow, where possible, the GGA Programme, policy and rules.

The attractive badge, worn by everyone apart from Rainbows, is in the shape of a galleon, representing Guiding overseas. The red cross on the sail — a Crusader Cross — invokes the adventurous and crusading spirit that inspires UK citizens to live and work abroad.

Since 1986, as a result of the Forward Plan, BGIFC has had its own Commissioner, Advisers and Secretary and is administered like a Country/Region but from CHQ.

Guiders from Belgium, Germany, The Netherlands and Oman represented BGIFC at the 75th anniversary celebrations at Buckingham Palace. And, in 1987, the Friends of BGIFC was formed.

Regular contact with members is maintained through a newsletter sent out five times a year. It offers invaluable training advice, as well as news and information from CHQ.

Not even the outbreak of war can defeat BGIFC. On page 27 you can read how Owl Press kept Guiders in touch during the Gulf War.

JANE GARSIDE
Chief Commissioner



FRONT COVER



Tanya Longbottom, aged 12, takes a breather before joining her chums from the 1st Plaistow Guide Company, Sussex West, for a spot of rock climbing — just one of the fun activities on offer at Blackland Farm. The girls also intended having a go at archery and abseiling during their days camping at the centre near East Grinstead.

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Round UP

WHAT A SPECTACLE!

◀ Brownie Lauren Moss was spotted making a spectacle of herself in Scarborough shopping centre — but it was in a good cause.

Lauren, from 3rd Scarborough Brownie Pack, joined other Brownies and Guides in a bid to fight blindness in the Third World.

They were in the shopping centre to help collect a mile of pennies for Sight Savers, the Commonwealth charity dedicated to preventing and treating blindness affecting the world's poor. Sight Savers chairman, Mrs Megan Jakes, was also appealing for old pairs of spectacles.

BEAR NECESSITIES

▼ Between them the 1st Oxon Brownies from Shrewsbury have knitted nearly 40 teddy bears for orphans in Romania. The bears were shipped out to Romania, along with the 100 others made by the Brownies' friends and relatives, as part of the Romanian Children's Appeal.

PHOTOGRAPH: COURTESY OF THE SCARBOROUGH EVENING NEWS



PHOTOGRAPH: SHROPSHIRE STAR



Round UP



BROWNIE GIFTS

▲ Brownies gave children's television presenter David Benson-Phillips some badges promoting Guiding when they went to see him in pantomime.

The Brownies from 8th Yeovil (St Mary's) Pack met the presenter of BBC's *Playdays*, when he was appearing as Idle Jack in *Dick Whittington and his Cat* at the Octagon Theatre, Somerset.

PICTURE BY EUGENE TAGLIONE, COURTESY OF THE WESTERN GAZETTE



TREE-TIME

▲ For more than 25 years the Association has been involved with the Royal Agricultural Show held at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire. And to honour the link with the show a red oak tree has been planted outside the Centre at the National

Agricultural Showground.

For 20 years, Mrs Joyce Beckett, pictured holding the tree, was NAC Liaison Guider, running the communication service provided by the Scouts and Guides. Since her retirement Mrs Betty Sunley, pictured filling in the soil, has taken over.

CARING COOKS

▼ Guests feasted on a four-course banquet when Rangers from Cheshire joined Venture Scouts to put their joint cooking talents

to good use.

The 2nd Macclesfield (St Michael's) Ranger Unit and the Barbarians Venture Scout Unit, met once a fortnight for three months to plan and prepare for the charity banquet.

Then 40 guests, including parents and leaders of the Scout and Guide family group, were served up a four-course meal. The evening raised £100 for two charities: a local hostel for unmarried teenage mothers and Cancer Research.

HIGH PRAISE

● The high standard of performance and content at Weston-super-Mare's Meet the Gang Show was praised by a VIP guest — the Mayor.

Over 190 adults and youngsters took part in the sell-out show following three months of hard rehearsal.

Public Relations Adviser for Weston Division, Lynne Johnson, said: 'The Mayor's sentiments were echoed by all our other guests. Although it was hard work we all enjoyed doing it, which proves that a public relations exercise can be fun.'



THE MACCLESFIELD EXPRESS ADVERTISER

What do the Waltons, the world's only girl sextuplets, do when they are looking for fun and a challenge? Join the Brownies, of course.

a unique **BROWNIE SIX**

The girls — that's Hannah, Ruth, Kate, Lucy, Sarah and Jenny — are energetic members of the 11th Wallasey West (St Hilary) Pack and love it.

Their Guider, Anne Branch, told *GUIDING*: 'They are charming, well behaved, polite — all the good things a Brownie ought to be.' But she admits to being a bit apprehensive before the sisters arrived in January.

'I wasn't sure what the media interest would be locally, if not nationally, and I was also a bit concerned that I wouldn't be able to tell them apart,' she said.

But her 'mixed feelings' soon dissolved when she saw how well the girls fitted in and the Press didn't descend.

'Quite a few members of the Pack knew the sisters from school and can tell them apart, though I can't,' Anne explained. 'It isn't so much that they are identical, it's more a family resemblance. But, if Brown Owl gets their names mixed up, the children soon put me right.'

Having Pack numbers jump from 24 to 30 with just one intake meant forming a new Six, as Anne wanted to split the sisters between Sixes.

Anne said: 'They have fitted in remarkably well. Their mother is very sensible and leaves them to get on with it. Now they are part of the Pack.'

On hand to help them settle down were Anne's team of assistants: Tawny Owl, Janet Stanfield; Barn Owl, Olga Bridger and Young Leader and Pack Leader, sisters Julie and Gail Williams.

There's no chance of the Pack forgetting the Waltons' Promise Ceremony — it was the day the lights went out. Anne, who is a Trainer and District Commissioner for Wallasey in the County of Wirral, North West England, had planned 'a small, family affair'.

Watched by their mother and father, Janet and Graham Walton, and their two grandmothers, four of the sisters had made their Promise, when the hall was suddenly plunged into darkness.

'Where we are, you have to put 10ps

in a meter for electricity,' Anne explained. 'Two of the girls were still waiting to be enrolled when the lights went out. We had to scabble around for some 10ps to put in the meter so we could continue.'

Coping with the sisters, who were born in November 1983 following fertility treatment, should provide no problems — apart from getting their names right — for Anne, who has run the Pack since 1969 and is headmistress at a local primary school.

She said: 'What we did find interesting was that when they first came and we played ball games, the girls always threw the ball to one of their sisters. Now they take part in everything in the way all the rest of the Brownies do.'

'And once they were in uniform, they didn't really stand out from the rest.'

The Waltons won't be going on Pack Holiday this year but, in a year's time, Janet Walton could have six rucksacs to pack and be looking forward to her first week off since the girls were born.



Ready for action — meet the Waltons
(l to r) Lucy, Ruth, Hannah,
Sarah, Kate and Jenny

AMERICAN BACKWOODS FUN

As an Assistant Brownie Guider with the 93rd St John's Bradford, Lesley Clark did not feel particularly well-qualified to work for two months as a 'general counsellor' at an American Girl Scout summer camp in Pennsylvania.

But, after a week's intensive training before the 'troops' invaded, she felt ready to cope with anything — from bedwetters to brown bears lurking in the woods!

Once she had recovered from the initial 'culture shock', it turned out to be a challenging and thoroughly enjoyable experience, which she would be happy to repeat.

I first heard about the scheme through a friend who then sent me a brochure and application form. I decided to apply as a "general counsellor", although I had no real obvious skill to share with young people in the States.

To my delight I was accepted for a Girl Scout camp in Pennsylvania. Having given up my secretarial job in London, I was to spend eight summer weeks at Camp Mosey Wood last year.

The camp had places for 180 girls, aged from six to 16 and would employ about 50 counsellors to work with these girls. It was situated in the Poconos mountains, and was described as being surrounded by woodland and having its own large lake. It sounded absolutely gorgeous!

There were eight other British girls there from all over the UK.

Some were actively involved with a unit in the UK, but the majority were either ex-Guides or Rangers. However, what we all had in common was enthusiasm, excitement — and apprehension. We had each received a really encouraging letter from the Camp Director, Jill DeLong, but we didn't really know what to expect.

We arrived at camp one week before the first set of girls were due. For we had not only to prepare the camp for the summer but to prepare ourselves.

Mosey Wood turned out to be every bit as good as it had been described, with a marvellous array of facilities. No salesman's hype here!

The 40 or so American girls took part in a full range of activities in the initial week. In it we covered every possible situation — every

problem which we were likely to encounter.

We took part in every activity available to the girls, including boating, arts and crafts, swimming, nature study, archery, hiking, rope courses — the list seemed endless.

At the end of the week we were ready for the bedwetter, the homesick, the bully, the loner. Everything, in fact, including the bears. Our training was soon to be put to the test... except in the case of the bears. We heard them howling at night in the trees but, never once, did they rear their grizzly heads!

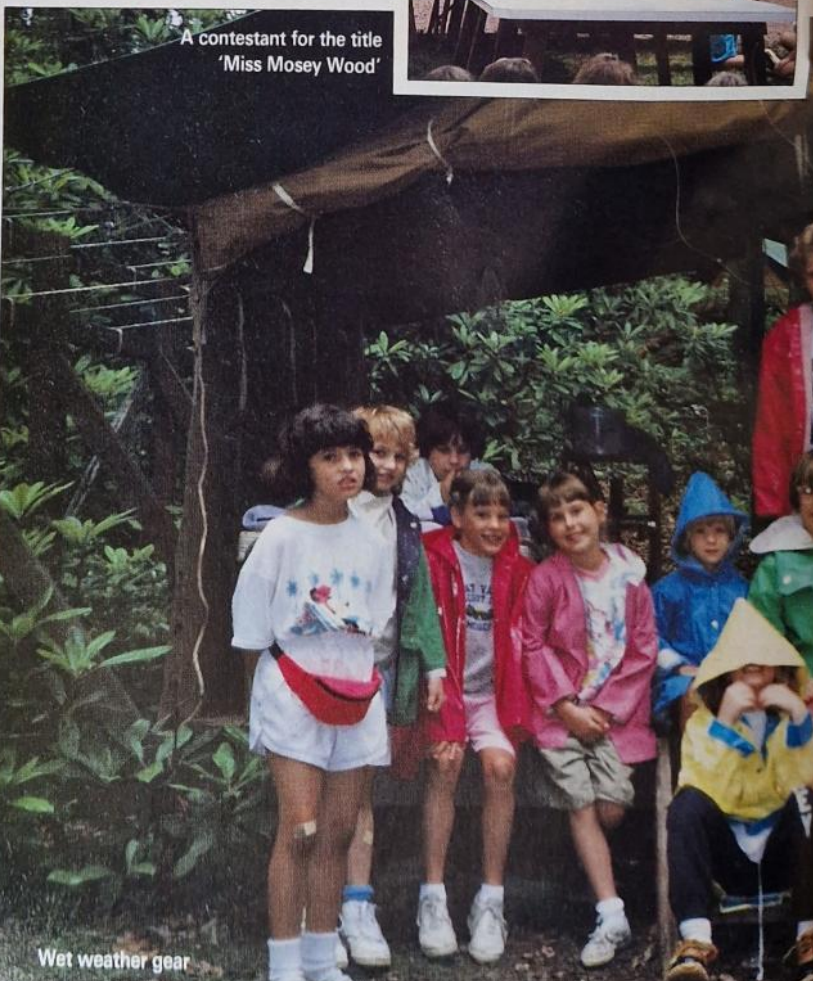
The girls, who came from all over the State of Pennsylvania, would arrive on Sunday afternoons and remained until teatime on Friday. Most of the

Brownies stayed for one week only.

Girl Scouts and Brownies were formed into camp units, and we



A contestant for the title 'Miss Mosey Wood'



Wet weather gear

counsellors changed units every week. In a Brownie unit there were usually 24 girls, with either two or three unit assistants and a unit leader.

I was appointed a unit leader and I spent six of the eight weeks with the Brownies, aged from six to nine. My job was basically like that of any leader, anywhere — to trouble-shoot and cope with problems. And also to make sure that the girls had a fun week in which they would learn new skills and take part in new activities, playing, working and improving together.

A typical day's programme for Brownies started with waking-up bell at 7am, followed by "flag" at 7.45am — the Pledge of Allegiance to the USA and reciting the Girl Scout and Brownie Law, followed by breakfast at 8am in a dining hall.

At 9am came "unit and camp jobs", until "nature" at 9.30am. That was when the girls collected items for use in "arts and crafts", beginning at 10.45am. At 11.45am came a break for team games, including "parachutes" — group fun with a real parachute canopy minus most of its cords — and Earthball, which is a truly enormous rubber globe. There are continents and countries marked on it and it is big enough for several girls to roll on.

Lunch at 12.30pm was followed by

"trading post" — the camp shop, in other words, and change for swimming at 2pm. At 2.50pm came boating on the lake and at 3.15pm showers. Rest hour began at 4.30pm and sing-songs, while waiting and walking to dinner, were scheduled at 5.30pm, with dinner served at 6pm.

At 7.15pm there was the good old familiar camp fire, with songs, sketches — and "smores", which are roasted marshmallows sandwiched between chocolate and Graham crackers. Yum! In case you don't know, Graham crackers are a wheaty sort of digestive biscuit.

The programme would end at 8.30pm with "toothbrush party and change for bed".

There was such a wide range of facilities and talent available that the programme was easily filled. Unit leaders met to book facilities as, in addition to mine, there were six other units organising a week's programme. Times and activities often clashed and programmes had to be changed.

Times also had to be allocated for daily tasks within the unit, including collection of firewood and the cleaning of unit latrines, tents, the unit house and grounds.

In addition, there was a rota of daily jobs for each unit: to keep the entire

camp clean, tidy and well-organised for the whole of the summer. Every girl helped in preparing tables for meals, collecting and serving food, and leading the flag ceremony, as well as cleaning the central showers and latrines.

Generally it all worked very smoothly, with the girls tackling their tasks — even unpleasant ones — willingly and cheerfully. In fact, there were few problems with the girls, who seemed to enjoy themselves immensely.

On Wednesday evenings every unit had a cook-out — preparing, cooking and serving their meal in the unit house. Everyone helped to maintain the fire — collecting and chopping wood — and the preparation of food and drinks.

The girls' favourite meal was upside-down pizza, cooked in a Dutch oven, with the ingredients added in reverse order — the dough going in on top, like a pie — with cheesy garlic bread and salad, followed by no-bake cookies, washed down with "bug juice".

Bug juice was simply a cocktail of any kind of juice available. The girls loved eating in the unit, so we tried to do so as often as possible. Every week we organised a "jungle breakfast" — with things that involved no cooking, like bananas, apples and very sugary, layered iced cake.

Not only did this enable us to enjoy breakfast in the morning sunshine but also to have a lie-in until 8.30am!

For the other two weeks of my stay at Mosey Wood I was working with Juniors. These are Girl Scouts between the ages of ten and 12. One of these weeks was fairly tough going because the girls assigned to my unit were, in fact, a bit problematical — very boisterous and tended to be aggressive.

The other week was bliss, with delightful, well-balanced girls. One of them asked me: "Will you be my mother for a week?" I, of course, said: "Yes". She wanted nothing from me but to form a bond of friendship. We are still writing to each other.

Over the eight weeks we all had lots of fun and, for me, it was an invaluable experience, one which I was eventually able to appreciate after the initial shock of having to be available, almost literally, 24 hours a day.

I came away tired and yet refreshed by new and exciting ideas for ways of working with Brownies in our own country. I would certainly do it again and may well do so — next time in another, lovely part of America.

LESLEY CLARK

If you are interested in spending a summer with American Girl Scouts write to: British Universities North America Club — BUNAC — 16 Bowling Green Lane, London EC1R 0BD.



Counsellors and a captive Brownie
(Lesley second on right)



THE GIFT OF LOVE FOR ROMANIA'S ORPHANS

Brown Owl Annie Grant has just returned from a six-week stay in Romania where she nursed the sick children abandoned in a primitive Bucharest hospital.



The children wearing their new clothes, in a new cot

Annie, a State Registered Nurse, first heard of the plight of the Romanian orphans when she saw an appeal on television. She was so moved, she volunteered immediately, but worried she might be considered too old.

She said: 'I was worried about my age, I'm 50, so on my application form, I put my age as: "50 — but only just!" When they phoned me up they said: "Well, at least you have a sense of humour," so that worked in my favour.'

Annie's nursing experience and links with Guiding also helped. She explained: 'They are very careful about who they send. The fact that you've been in Guiding means you can get good references.'

'I wasn't the oldest one there — one woman was about 60. We were a good, mixed bunch really, which worked out well.'

Annie had no doubts about applying. She said: 'I don't have any children of my own, but I do love children, and I love running my Brownie Pack. My husband said to me: "If you really want to do it, then you must. I think you don't".'

10 ...Health Aid UK, ...Hospitals in fact two hospitals on one site. The general hospital has 350 beds and a separate

ward for children with AIDS. And behind it is the 800-bed infectious diseases hospital.

Romania, once a prosperous nation, was brought to its knees by the Ceausescu regime. But the price the Romanian people paid only came to light after his death. Many Westerners were horrified by the harrowing television pictures of children abandoned in squalid hospitals. And, like Annie, wanted to help.

Annie said: 'Bucharest was pretty grim. The people looked very depressed and down. They have lived under an awful regime.'

There's no food in the shops, people have to queue for everything. The bread is very dry and you can't get any fruit or vegetables.'

It was a far cry from the little village in Herefordshire, just over the Welsh border where Annie runs a newsagent with her husband and is in charge of 1st Hay-on-Wye Brownie Pack.

'In Romania we lived three to a room, which was probably quite a good thing, as you had no privacy, so you didn't have time to stop and think. We were so shattered at the end of the day, we just fell into bed,' Annie recalled.

The nurses alternated between two shifts, one from 7am to 2pm and another from 2pm until 8pm.

All the children Annie cared for were HIV positive and had hepatitis. Some also had tuberculosis, rickets and scabies.

Annie said: 'Nurses are used to being tough, but emotionally it was very hard on us. It was hard work physically because the children were over us all the time, but emotionally it was harder.'

'Because so little is known about AIDS and children, no one knows how long they will live.'

Most of the children with AIDS were infected by a medical procedure which was halted in 1989, whereby children were given blood transfusions, sometimes with dirty needles. Some of the blood supply, which may have been imported, was contaminated with HIV and Hepatitis B.

To make the problem worse, all antibiotics had to be injected, in spite of the shortage of clean needles. And the state required all families to have at least five children, even if they couldn't afford to feed any extra mouths.

When Ceausescu was overthrown, parents, who misunderstood the way AIDS is transmitted, abandoned their babies if they were diagnosed HIV positive — fearing they'd infect the rest of the family. Annie said: 'The babies' parents, especially the dads, were absolutely terrified about AIDS.'

Some mothers had even walked out of maternity wards after giving birth, abandoning their new-born baby in the hospital.

Most of the Romanian nurses are unqualified, because all nurse training was banned because it was thought to be 'unnecessary'.

When Health Aid arrived at the hospital, untrained staff were feeding up to 30 children each and had no time to pick up the children, let alone to give them a cuddle.

Annie said: 'The hospital cleaners had to be nurses as well. They were very good, but they all had big families at home and were so run-down.'

Then there were the 'medical assistants' who just stood around in white coats. I don't know what they were doing. I never saw them doing any work.'

'Emotionally it was very hard on us'.

Some staff resented the foreign nurses' 'interference'. Annie said: 'You did have to be very diplomatic. I said to one nurse: "Imagine if you were working in a hospital and a load of American nurses came in and started telling you what to do. How would you feel?"'

The strain of the regime had taken its toll on the nation's morale, she discovered. 'We found the Romanians very unfriendly. They would push and shove, but then they have been through so much,' Annie explained.

'Every family had a horror story to tell you — children were killed, husbands beaten, mothers raped. This went on for over 40 years. We just cannot begin to understand.'

'I told them all about Brownies and Guides and they were very interested. The only youth organisations under Ceausescu were political and you had to join them by law. They said they'd like to have Guiding in Romania, but couldn't afford uniforms.'

'I took a lot of leg pulls about being a Brown Owl. Once when there was a power cut, just by chance I happened to have my torch with me. So there I was changing nappies by torchlight,

and the other nurses said: "Oh we can see you're a Brown Owl — always prepared!" After that we always carried our torches around with us.'

When Health Aid arrived at the hospital, workers found wards infested with rats and cockroaches. Little thought was given to hygiene, so disease spread rapidly. The children's cots were rusty, their mattresses decayed, paint was peeling off the walls, everything looked grey and there were no pictures or toys.

The children all wore bonnets, even when it was hot, and were swaddled. They were fed three or four times a day and then propped up. They were only

healthy in the photographs, their limbs are weak and many are anaemic,' Annie said.

On her return to England, Annie told her Brownies about the hospital and gave a talk at a local school.

Now she'd like to go back and continue her work at the hospital. 'When I first got back, I was so shell-shocked. When you are out there, you don't have time to think about it. But once I'd been home for a while it hit me. I thought to myself: "You have been nursing children who are dying,"' she said.

'We just cannot begin to understand what it is like to live there. When I was



picked up when the nurses needed to change the sheets.

Staff from Health Aid UK installed a washing machine, unswaddled the children, removed their bonnets on warm days, dressed them in baby clothes and gave them new sheeting, bright blankets and toys.

They bought new cots and decorated the wards with colourful pictures, balloons and posters. The children were bathed for the first time and fed on nurses' knees, where possible.

But the conditions make life very difficult. There's a shortage of hot water — sometimes there's no water at all — and an urgent need for gas or electric heaters.

Although the children look quite

in Romania a woman said to me: "Just thank God, every day, that you live in England."

**Annie, with
Lucretia, Florina
and Irina**

Annie advises people who want to send donations only to contact a reputable, established organisation such as the Save the Children Fund or Health Aid UK.

Meanwhile, Health Aid UK is setting up a nurse training school at the Colentina Hospital. The nurse teachers appointed will work closely with the Romanian Health Ministry to provide a syllabus which meets the needs of the country.

You can contact Health Aid UK at: The Bateman Centre, Birch Hill Hospital, Rochdale, Lancashire OL12 9QB. Or telephone 0706 40349.

School is out and with many Rangers, Young Leaders and Guiders poised to start new lives, this month's Live Issues looks at the pleasure and the pain of leaving home and offers some useful tips.

Leaving home is exciting, but also daunting. If you're going to university, polytechnic or a higher education college some distance from home, you've probably got no choice but to live away.

If you're working, you may have decided it's time to fly the nest — or maybe you want to share with friends.

Whatever the reason for leaving, probably for the first time in your life, you'll have to worry about paying bills and finding out where the next meal's coming from.

And it's not just you who's going to feel the change. It's an emotional time for parents too as they struggle to adjust to their 'baby' growing up and being ready to move on.

If you're not properly prepared, leaving home can be disastrous. So, before you venture out into the big, wide world, make sure you know what you're letting yourself in for!

YOU'RE NOT ALONE

There's a host of organisations working to help young people cope with the responsibilities of leaving home.

Mary Quinlan is Housing Advice Worker at the London Council for the Welfare of Women and Girls, which offers an accommodation and advisory service. Mary said: 'Young people who are away from home can feel isolated, insecure and lonely. We can offer information, advice and support.'

Students have to cope with a number of problems all at once, according to a spokeswoman from Edinburgh University's Students Association. She explained: 'Students coming to university are normally facing change in their lives in an enormous range of areas.'

'At their age they are still maturing, so it is quite a traumatic time,' she said. Her advice: 'If you feel bad, tell someone. Don't bottle it all up.'

Talk to other students at lectures and you'll probably find they're feeling the same way. Just because people appear to be having a ball, it doesn't mean they are.'

Most colleges are equipped to deal with students' practical and emotional problems. Edinburgh University, for example, has a student counselling centre and a Nightline service, as well as a similar way to the Glasgow University.

Poised to start new lives.

SHE'S LEAVING

A HOME FROM HOME

The amount of affordable accommodation available varies throughout the country. It takes time to find your 'dream home', so don't leave it too late before you start looking.

If you're a student, your college will provide information. Some can give you lists of landladies and landlords.

Look for adverts in local newspapers, newsagent windows and on college noticeboards. Put the word round that you're looking — a lot of people find accommodation simply by word of mouth. If you use a flat-finding agency, bear in mind that some charge at least a month's rent for their services.

If you're a student or earning a modest salary, you're unlikely to be able to afford a flat all to yourself. So, you're going to have to share.

Many close friendships have floundered over a flatshare. If you don't want to lose a good friend, think twice before moving in with her.

Sometimes it's easier to share with a stranger or a friend who is not so close. That way you've got less to lose if you fall out!

HOUSE RULES

The best way to avoid falling out with your flatmate is to get all the ground rules sorted out from the start. Decide how the bills will be shared, who does the cooking, even silly things like who buys the loo rolls — you'll be amazed how resentment festers over these seemingly trivial issues!

If you're fussy about housework, a cleaning rota is absolutely essential. And everyone in the flat or house *must* stick to it.

HOUSE-HUNTING

Be prepared to trudge around looking for accommodation, armed with a map of the area. You may need to make phone calls, so make sure you've got a pen, paper and bags of change or a phonecard.

Before you go and view the accommodation, compile a list of questions to ask such as who pays for/organises repairs, what the rent actually covers and if you will have to pay during holidays. Don't be too proud to ask your parents to go with you — they'll appreciate still being of use.

HOME AT LAST!

When you've found the room or flat you like, it's usual to pay a month's rent, plus a month's deposit in advance. Never hand over any money without getting a receipt.

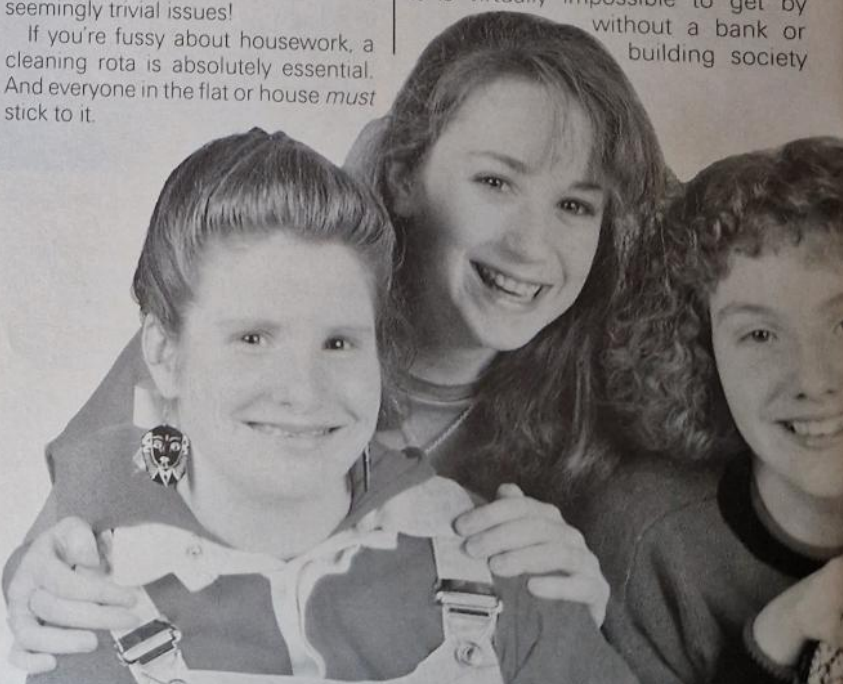
The landlord will refund the deposit when you leave, provided you've paid the rent, left the property clean and haven't damaged anything.

Ask your landlord for a rent book. All the rent you pay should be recorded in this book and will be needed as proof if you apply for state benefits.

Your rights as a tenant vary depending on the type of tenancy you have. Your college welfare office or local Citizens' Advice Bureau should be able to advise you.

BANK ON IT!

It is virtually impossible to get by without a bank or building society



HOME

account. Most employers pay direct into your account and all grants arrive in the form of a cheque.

Banks and building societies will be happy to advise you. Barclays Bank, for example, has published a range of booklets with advice for young people. They give information on budgeting, getting a job, grants and benefits as well as guides for students and school-leavers.

Ask at your local branch for details or write to: Barclays Bank PLC, Personal Sector Marketing Department, 54 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3AH.

BUDGETING

This is where many young people come unstuck, and mistakes can leave you homeless, hungry and in debt for years to come. Make sure it doesn't happen to you.

You'll probably have regular bills to pay, such as gas, electricity, water rates, poll tax and insurance. After deducting these, work out how much you expect to spend on other essentials such as food, clothing, books and stationery. Don't under-estimate.

Allow yourself a certain amount to spend each week from your grant or wages, and stick to it.

Ask your bank or building society about setting up standing orders for regular bills. Also, talk to your local gas or electricity board about spreading bills evenly over the year.

If you do get into debt, don't bury your head in the sand. Contact your bank or building society manager immediately and get it sorted out.

BENEFITS

Changes to Social Security rules have restricted benefits for young people.

Most students aren't entitled to housing

benefit any longer and can't claim benefits during their holidays.

If you are over 18, to be eligible for Income Support (which used to be called Supplementary Benefit) you must usually not have enough money to live on and/or be unemployed or working less than 24 hours a week and not have savings of more than £8,000. Consult your local DSS office.

PEACE OF MIND

Imagine how much it would cost to replace your stereo, your records, your jewellery... Once you've left the family home, these items are not usually covered by your parents' house insurance.

Shop around for the best insurance deal by asking for a quote. Endsleigh Insurance, for example, specialises in insurance for students.

LETTING GO

While you're busy adapting to your new life, spare a thought for your mum and dad. If you've got brothers and sisters still living at home, it won't be so bad for them. But, if they're on their own for the first time in years, they may find it hard to adjust.

One way you can help is to keep up a steady stream of letters and phone calls. And not just requests for cash; tell them about your new life and friends so they still feel involved.

A CRY FOR HELP

If you have problems, don't suffer in silence. There are plenty of organisations offering help with either emotional or practical difficulties.

For the address of your nearest youth counselling service, send an sae to the National Association for Young People's Counselling and Advisory Services.

And, just because you've left home, you don't have to leave Guiding behind!

Your college may have a Student Scout and Guide Club. Look out for them at the Freshers' Fair held at the start of term, or contact your nearest Student Scout and Guide Organisation (SSAGO).

You can, of course, remain a member of your Ranger Unit at home or you could join LINK International Fellowship. This caters for young adults aged between 18 and 30 who want to keep in contact with Scouting and Guiding. For more information write to: LINK Office, Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.

A PLACE TO STAY

Most universities, polytechnics and

higher education colleges have **Halls of Residence** where students can stay in their first year at least.

● **Hostels** are popular with London-based students and are useful places to stay temporarily while you look for something more permanent. The London Council for the Welfare of Women and Girls produces a handbook giving details of 150 hostels in the capital. The LCWWG also publishes a free booklet, *A Place to Stay*.

● **Lodgings** are probably the cheapest form of private accommodation. But if you want independence, you may find being a lodger is even more restrictive than living at home. You are living in someone's house and are subject to their rules.

● **Bedsits** have a reputation of being gloomy and depressing, but are ideal if you like living alone. You usually share a bathroom and, sometimes, a kitchen.

● A **flat** usually has at least one bedroom and a separate bathroom and kitchen.

USEFUL ADDRESSES

● Housing Advice Switchboard, 7A/B Fortress Yard, Fortress Road, Kentish Town, London NW5 1AD. Tel: 071-434 2522.

● International Students' House, 229 Great Portland Street, London W1. Tel: 071-631 3223.

● Citizens' Advice Bureau (look under 'C' in the phone book).

● National Union of Students, Research Policy Department, 461 Holloway Road, London N7 6LJ — write for advice on benefits.

● Endsleigh Insurance Services Ltd, 97-107 Southampton Row, London WC1B 4AG. Tel: 071-436 4451.

● London Council for the Welfare of Women and Girls/London YWCA Accommodation and Advisory Service, 57 Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3BD. Tel: 071-430 1524.

● National Association for Young People's Counselling and Advisory Services, 17-23 Albion Street, Leicester LE1 6GD.

USEFUL BOOKS

● *College on a Shoestring* — a survival handbook for students by Eve Ludington. Published by Impact Books.

● *Help Yourself* — young person's guide to everyday living by Alastair Thomson and Rosemary Platt. Published by Impact Books.

● *Leaving Home* by Carol Parsons and David Veal. Published by Chambers.

● *Benefits* by Liz Rutherford. Published by CHAR Housing Campaign for single people.

NICOLA WHATMORE



KIM TONELLI AT SCADON'S STUDIO

**SPECIAL REDUCED ADMISSION ON SATURDAYS
14th AND 21st SEPTEMBER 1991**

LET YOUR PARTY GO WILD FOR A DAY



For a wild group day out, you can't beat Chester Zoo.

It's fun. Ride high – on the new Zoo-fari Overhead Railway – a great monorail experience! Wild African crocodiles, gigantic Asian elephants, awesome Siberian tigers and the finest Chimp House in Europe – just some of the animals that will enthrall youngsters.

It's educational. You can read the special information sheets and work books on animal conservation. A special 'ZYPOES' (Zoo's Young Peoples Organisations Educational Services) Pack is available. You can adopt your own animal in our special scheme.

It's big. With 110 acres it's the largest zoo in the North. There's a full range of group catering facilities – from packed meals to party menus. If it's wet there's loads to do under cover – eat in the marquee, stroll round the Tropical House or visit the Brass Rubbing Centre.

It's cheaper. Adults and youngsters in uniform in groups of 15 or more enjoy reduced admission all year round at Chester Zoo (details in our 'ZYPOES' Pack). However, on our special 'Jamboree Days' on Saturdays 14th and 21st September you pay ONLY £1.75! - Adults & Youngsters.

It's wild. It's Chester Zoo.

For further details on catering, adoptions or education services, write to Marketing Office, FREEPOST, Chester Zoo, Coughall Road, Chester, CH2 1YZ, or telephone our party office on 0244 380280 during office hours.

CHESTER ZOO

Open all year round. Admission cannot wait.

Open all year round. Admission cannot wait. * Just off the A41 * Free parking

THE NEW WEMBLEY STADIUM TOUR

Each year Wembley plays host to an amazing variety of sporting and entertainment events. The new 1991 Wembley tour takes you behind the scenes, gives you the chance to experience the unique sights, sounds and feelings that are usually the privilege of the chosen few. Fact filled, exciting, with something for everyone, no matter how young or old.

- ★ Ride the Wembley landtrain – see the sights in style
- ★ Climb those famous steps – collect 'the cup'
- ★ See the famous pitch – close up
- ★ Check security at Event Control
- ★ Visit the Royal Box and banqueting hall
- ★ Players changing rooms
- ★ With special cinema presentation, 'Wembley's Greatest Moments'
- ★ And a wonderful price: Adults £3.50, Children (15 and under) and Senior Citizens £2.50. Special rates for students.



Opening Times. We're open 7 days a week, except event and special days. Tours depart continuously, throughout the day, from 10am. Last tour departs 4pm.

Bookings. Special discounts for groups 20+. School teachers – 1 free ticket per 10 pupils.

We advise you to phone before visiting. 081-902 8833

Ample parking available.



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THE MAGIC
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YOURSELF**

RUN UP THE FLAG FOR THE BEST OF BRITISH TENT MANUFACTURERS

A SAMPLE OF OUR
VAST RANGE OF TENTS

RIDGE TENTS
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DINING
SHEDS
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TENTS
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FROM
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Faced with our fickle climate you can trust most British tent manufacturers to come up with the goods – but only Bradford Cover and Tent produce the high level of quality and durability required by more and more 'adventurous' youth groups. Massive Sales generated by these high standards have helped us to keep prices keen. That's why we're the best – and it's how we'll stay the best!



Name: _____
Address: _____
Postcode: _____ Telephone: _____
Guide Group: _____

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& TENT CO. LTD.
FREEPOST RD 209H
44 CHAPEL STREET
BRADFORD
WEST YORKSHIRE BD1 1BB

G 8/91 WEST YORKSHIRE BD1 1BB

There was a hero's welcome for Staff Sergeant Neil Tootell when he finally met Leyland District Rainbows.

For the Lancashire lassies were penpals to Neil and other lads of the 21st Engineering Regiment during the Gulf War.

Formed last October, the 15-strong Unit meets at St Anne's School, Leyland.

Bernadette Cain, one of the Unit leaders, explained: 'Neil was so pleased with the letters and pictures the girls sent that he came to visit us when he got back.'

'He was wearing all his desert stuff.'

DESERT PENPAL

The girls were really excited, their eyes nearly popped out of their heads when they actually saw him.'

Neil is engaged to another of the Unit's leaders, Donna Holmes. And there's no prizes for guessing who will be lined up as guard of honour outside the church when they marry next March.



Network

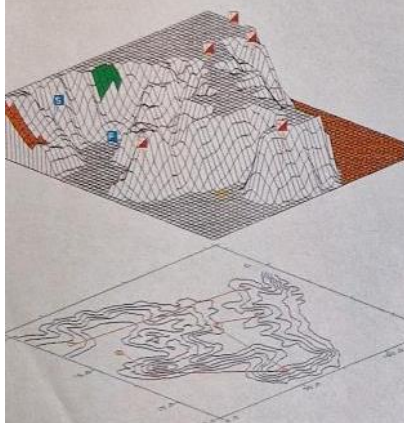
BTCV KNOW-HOW

How to use a chainsaw, plant trees, manage a pond, identify common grasses... The BTCV has more than 500 courses in environmental skills on offer.

The courses, which run over evenings, days, weekends and longer, cater for both experienced conservationists and newcomers. Most take place in the field and costs are kept to a minimum.

Full details appear in the *Developing Skills* brochure, available from British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, 36 St Mary's Street, Wallingford, Oxon OX10 0EU.

BOB BOWKER



BRADLEY ASSOCIATES LTD

3-D TREK

The sport of orienteering has entered the realms of hi-tech, following the development of a novel approach to map reading. The traditional contour maps used for navigation have been transformed into computer-generated 3-D images showing the race terrain.

The orienteer will use a map depicting the terrain in four separate 3-D images, from each of the compass points, showing information from one direction which may be obscured from another. As usual, competitors have to complete the course in the quickest time.

The 3-D Trek is developed by Bradley Associates Ltd, 100 High Street, Berkhamstead, Herts SG11 7AT. Tel: 0438 779381.

16

HENRY'S 500th

The centrepiece of *Henry VIII 500* — nationwide celebrations to mark the monarch's quincentenary — is a major exhibition at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich.

Glittering Tudor treasures — paintings, tapestries, manuscripts, weapons, jewels — appear in displays that re-create key events of Henry's reign.

Henry had strong links with Greenwich having been born in the Palace of Placentia (near today's museum).

He spent two-thirds of his life at Greenwich and established the Royal Dockyards nearby. Both his daughters — Mary and Elizabeth — were born at Placentia, also the setting for two of his six marriages.

The exhibition is open daily until September 1. Enquiries to 081-858 4422.

HELP NEEDED

For fundraisers in search of a cause... CICRA (Crohn's in Childhood Research Appeal) is seeking more support. Crohn's disease — a chronic inflammation of the digestive tract — is fast becoming more prevalent and can strike at any age, but most often in adolescence.

So far, there is no known cause or cure. Symptoms, such as abdominal pain,



Henry VIII (after Holbein)

NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM

diarrhoea, loss of appetite leading to malnutrition, painful joints, anal cracks, mouth ulcers... are normally controlled by steroids which themselves have ugly side effects.

Because the disease is particularly distressing in children and can seriously affect development, a group of parents formed CICRA to increase awareness, promote research and help young

sufferers.

CICRA has been — and is — a success and as part of its valuable work is funding several major research projects. Inevitably, progress is slow. And, just as inevitably, CICRA needs more money...

For details, contact CICRA at Parkgate House, 356 West Barnes Lane, Motspur Park, Surrey KT3 6NB. Tel: 081 949 6209.

GOLDEN PHOTOS

In England, the Twenties and Thirties were golden years for portrait photography and one of the era's top photographers was a woman: Dorothy Wilding.

Her many memorable portraits include Jessie Matthews, Noel Coward, G B Shaw, Aldous Huxley, Maurice Chevalier and Douglas Fairbanks Jr.

She took the official coronation pictures of George VI and Queen Elizabeth, as well as official studies of our present Queen.

A major exhibition of her work is on at the National Portrait Gallery from July 5 to September 29, and admission is free.

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY



Self-portrait by Dorothy Wilding

HELP FOR EXPLORERS

Climbing in China, geology in Iceland, conservation in Kenya... If you're planning an expedition or wanting to go on one, why not contact the Young Explorer's Trust?

The YET, a voluntary organisation, exists to encourage better expeditions in the UK and abroad for young people, usually aged 14-20.

It does not run expeditions itself, but offers help and advice, as well as approval and some grant aid, to expeditions which meet certain criteria — remoteness, self-reliance, challenge...

Additionally, it is possible to join the Trust — individually or as a group.

Membership benefits include a magazine and reduced rates at YET conferences and courses. Details from YET, Royal Geographical Society, 1 Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AR.

VISNEWS

Where were you when President Kennedy was shot? Possibly not even born. If that's the case you may like to get hold of *Where Were You When...* the latest video from Visnews.

It's a compilation of major news events covering the last 37 years. The video features hit music from star names like David Bowie,

Marvin Gaye, Dean Martin and Elton John.

It also includes events that you may have missed or would like to see again. These include the Prince and Princess of Wales's wedding, the first moon walk, the Watergate scandal and even the Berlin Wall coming down.

If you fancy catching up then the video is available in your high street, priced at £9.99.

KIELDER CALLS

The Border Forest Park — officially opened this spring — is Britain's largest, covering 250 square miles across Northumberland and southern Scotland.

At its heart stands Kielder Castle, once the Duke of Northumberland's shooting lodge and now the Visitor Centre. Nearby is Kielder Reservoir, which is used for all kinds of water activities.

The park has extensive facilities, including way-marked walks, mountain bike trails, horse riding routes and backpack sites.

To help visitors appreciate the area's wildlife there's a new audio cassette, *A Border Forest Ballad*. This contains songs and calls of 37 different species, ranging from tawny owl to roe deer.

For information, contact the Visitor Centre on 0434 250209.



Kielder Castle

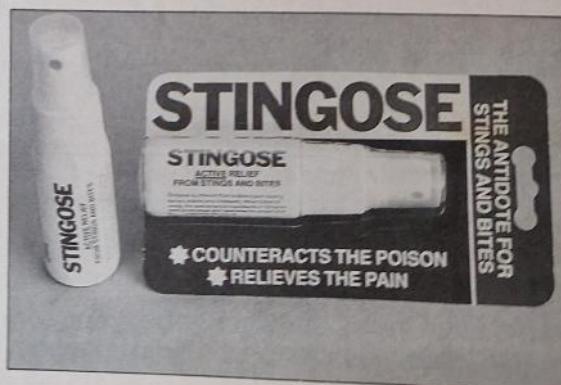
FORESTRY COMMISSION

BUZZ OFF

This summer, if your insect repellent lets you down and you get attacked, try Stingose. Recently introduced from Australia, Stingose not only tackles symptoms like swelling and itching, but also

neutralises the poison to give lasting relief.

Suitable for most kinds of bites and stings — wasps, bees, jellyfish, mosquitoes, nettles... Stingose comes in a 25ml pump action spray, priced at £2.75.



JUNIOR COUNCIL CALLING

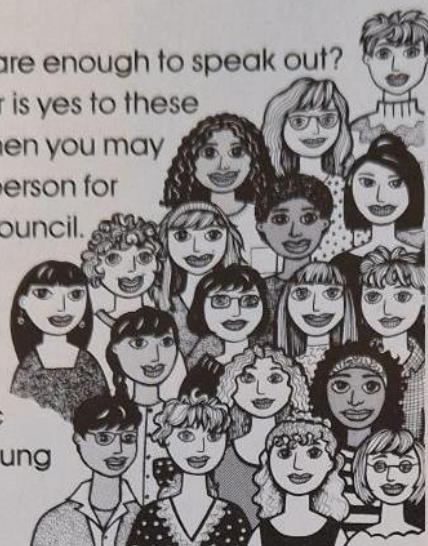
FIRST ANSWER THREE EASY QUESTIONS

- 1 Are you aged between 16 and 25 years?
- 2 Are you interested in the future of Guiding?
- 3 Do you care enough to speak out?

If the answer is yes to these questions, then you may be just the person for the Junior Council.

WHO?

We are an enthusiastic group of young adults, four from each of the Countries/Regions with two members representing British Guides in Foreign Countries. One of our members is featured in Lifestyle on page 63.



WHAT DO WE DO?

We are a forum for the GGA, able to debate and discuss a wide variety of issues and put our views, suggestions and recommendations forward to the Association.

WHAT IS INVOLVED?

We meet for two weekends a year and maintain a link with our equivalent bodies in the Countries and Regions. There are also other groups and committees we are sometimes asked to sit on. Each member serves for four years.



WHY YOU?

If you would like to participate in the decision-making process of the GGA, expanding both your own horizons and those of the Association in a motivated and fun environment, then this is your chance!

If you would like to know more please complete and send off the slip below!

Please send me the Junior Council Information Pack.

Name (please print) _____

Unit _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Please return this slip to: Miss Elizabeth Anderson, Assistant General Secretary,
18 The Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.

DIGNITY

■ NOT INCLUDED ■

The day I made my stage debut, was an occasion my family would prefer to forget. Dressed as a gnome, complete with a fishing rod and bells on my shoes, I sat on a bucket, centre stage, and sang English Country Garden.



It was the Saturday afternoon performance that brought the house down. The bucket I was sitting on slowly collapsed. I toppled forward to land on my padded stomach like a beached whale. Unable to sit up with any dignity, I decided to finish the song from that position.

I refused an encore, and the evening performance only went ahead after I had been supplied with a stronger bucket. For days my son refused to walk down the street with me in case we saw one of his friends, and my daughter took to leaving magazines lying open at the diet pages.

The young people responsible for my being dressed as a gnome thought my slow motion dive the highlight of the whole *Gang Show*. These fans were the current members of my Brownie Pack.

These little angels have a knack of insisting that, whatever they do, I must actually be seen to be joining in.

This insistence that Brown Owl shouldn't miss the fun has, in the last ten years, been responsible for many of my grey hairs. I have acquired bruises

in a variety of places from activities as varied as skipping and abseiling.

Compared to skipping, abseiling is easy. Was I really an expert when a schoolgirl? Two turns of the rope now finds me flat on my back and nursing more than bruised dignity.

When it comes to fund raising, Brown Owl seems to be the target for all the stunts. Surely, in a sponsored wheelbarrow race, I could have pushed the wheelbarrow? But no. 'How many Brownies does it take to push Brown Owl?' was thought to be a hilarious money-spinner. Actually keeping her in the wheelbarrow proved to be more difficult.

Having spent too many hours behind a variety of stalls, I rashly volunteered to try something different. The local Scout and Guide supporters' association found me dressed as Madame Sagsa, peering into a goldfish bowl, telling fortunes on a sunny Saturday.

The sweated labour that went into learning what all the cards meant was nothing compared to the mental torment of finding something different to say to a continuous stream of Brownies and

Guides, who immediately went outside the tent to compare notes. Some of them even returned for a second go to see if they could catch me out.

This particular stunt proved popular with parents, as part of my patter was to tell all the children, 'I can see good luck for those who keep their rooms tidy, are polite and cheerful and always do their homework on time'. Alas I think this influence was short-lived.

In my ten years as Brown Owl I have worn a variety of costumes, from ringmaster to fairy queen — not forgetting the famous gnome outfit. Every enrolment finds me perched on a bench hooting like an owl, while the new Brownies perform the Brownie story around me. This could explain why new parents find it hard to take me seriously.

When every new term begins and we meet to discuss our programme my heart sinks when I hear these fatal words, 'Why don't we?' So often in the past those words have led to Brown Owl doing something daft, usually in public.

Notices

FUND HELP

The Ralph Reader Memorial Fund (see July's Notices) needs support to fulfil its commitment to assist deserving individual members of the Scout and Guide Movement who are under 20.

As it was Ralph Reader who inspired the tradition of staging Gang Shows, it is particularly appropriate if the Fund receives a contribution from the money raised all over the UK by similar shows, and such contributions would be gratefully received.

Cheques should be made payable to The Scout Association, and sent to Baden-Powell House, Queen's Gate, London SW7 5JS. Please make sure to indicate clearly that it is a contribution to The Ralph Reader Memorial Fund.

RAF RUTLAND WALK

This year's RAF Rutland Walk will take place on Sunday, September 22. There are three routes provided to meet the abilities of the wide age range of those taking part. But all pass along the scenic shores of Rutland Water. The walk is a relaxed, non-competitive event and is recognised by the British Walking Federation. All who complete the walk will receive a medal and a certificate and there are prizes for individuals and teams raising the largest amount of sponsorship.

A camp site with limited facilities will be available for the night before. Weather permitting, it is hoped to include a flying display while the walk is in progress.

All money raised by this event will be donated to national and local charities. However, the major beneficiaries this year are the NSPCC, the Hospice for Rutland Project and the RAF Benevolent Fund.

If you would like to sponsor the walk, please contact the organisers at Royal Air Force House, 111, High Street, Oakham, Leicestershire LE15 8RL.



MYSTERY RAINBOWS

Photographer Brenda Bickerton has a problem that she hopes *GUIDING* can solve. While snapping away at the Foxlease Grand Fête in April, Brenda took some

shots of a group of Rainbow Guides at their leader's request.

Brenda's photos came out but, unfortunately, she has lost the address. If anyone can help they can contact Brenda via *GUIDING*.

The highly-successful fête raised over £2,000 to help pay for the many and varied activities planned for the Trail '91 Camp in August, part of the 75th anniversary celebrations for the senior section.

THE ASSOCIATION'S AWARDS

GOOD SERVICE

BEAVER

MRS PENNY HARDWICK, County Commissioner, Sussex West.

LAUREL

MISS JO ARTINGSTALL, County Commissioner, Middlesex South West.

MERITORIOUS CONDUCT STAR OF MERIT

MISS JOYCE BUNN, District Commissioner Designate, Pudsey, Guide Guider, 4th Pudsey Company.

PATRICIA CARSON, Guide, 1st Rayne Company, Essex North East.

KATE ERRINGTON, Brownie Guide, 11th Whitley Bay (St Paul's) Pack, North Tyneside.

LOUISA PARKES, Brownie Guide, 3rd Harwich Pack, Essex North East.

ELEANOR THOMAS, Brownie Guide, 1st Fulmer Pack, Buckinghamshire.

ESME TRUSSLER, Brownie Guide, 2nd Halesworth Pack, Suffolk.

GLENBROOK

In the Chief Commissioner's Comment in June the impression was given that a building at Glenbrook Training Centre can accommodate 34 members with disabilities. It should, of course, have read 34 members and a disabled member.

Full details of all accommodation available at the Association's Training Centres will appear in a list of camp site and indoor accommodation in September's *GUIDING*.

REUNION

Nottinghamshire invites those who have been Land Rangers, Sea Rangers, Air Rangers or Cadets to a Reunion Celebration Picnic, to be held on Saturday, September 7 at the Portland Training College for the Disabled, near Mansfield, from noon to 4pm.

Please contact Joan Wisdich, at Nottingham Guide HQ, North Church Street, Nottingham NG1 4BE tel: 0602 475880 for further details. We want to make contact with as many as possible!

SHORT TERM INVESTMENT SERVICE

Monthly interest rate after deduction of management commission.

March, 1991 12.063 per cent
April, 1991 11.175 per cent
May, 1991 11.016 per cent

An additional 0.5 per cent per annum for deposits of £2,500 and above.

TRUST FUND

On May 31, the value of a share in the Scout and Guide Trust Fund was:

for selling purposes 257.98p
for buying purposes 270.89p
income yield 3.76 per cent

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

BROWNIE REUNION

The 10th Coulsdon Brownies would like to invite all past members, Brownies and Guiders, to their 40th birthday party on September 5. Please contact Anne Wood at 5 Roffes Lane, Chaldon, Surrey CR3 5PU or ring 08883 349636.

a personal VIEW

This month we are giving two readers the chance to stand on *GUIDING's* own soap box to air their views.

How often do you get asked why on earth you spend so much time and energy on Guiding? I've given up counting. I try not to be a Guiding bore when I'm with non-Guiding friends, so I try to specialise in low key, succinct answers to the query.

Better not say too much than to sound evangelical on the subject but, naturally, if pressed, I can easily give a very lengthy talk on my favourite hobby.

I must be able to paint a fairly rosy picture because one of my best successes occurred at a conference, when I gained a Unit Helper — a true volunteer, not even a pressed woman!

A rather splendid sweet became even sweeter when my colleague said: 'I think I'd like to come and help.' My lonely days as a solitary Ranger Guider were over.

But back to that ever-repeated question. I've had cause to contemplate that subject recently and, apart from some flippant answers like 'Why not?', I can think of many personal benefits my Guiding life has given me. Leadership skills, outdoor skills and opportunities, friends all over the world, confidence, self esteem and, of course, fun.

I expect you are wondering why I raised the issue. Well, recently I have been to a number of events where Guiders seem to be suffering from GFD (Guiding fatigue and depression).

This disease manifests itself in miserable faces, heads held in hands and loud, prolonged wailing noises.

These ladies usually rush past looking harassed, barely able to be polite, calling: 'Sorry I'm so busy, must dash.'

Now why do they do it? Can there be any pleasure left? This is a voluntary organisation and we can and must say no if the pressure on us becomes so obvious.

Our first responsibility is to make this organisation fun for the girls. Will they really believe that this is the best opportunity they can get, if the leaders — at all levels — look so sick?

We have so much to offer, but we seem to have forgotten that rather out-of-favour song which says 'This game is a game for ever that all of us can play.'

HILARY COOPER

Backworth
Tyne and Wear

Am I the only Guider who regrets the current trend of lowering age ranges, although welcoming the greater flexibility given in the new rules in the *Guiding Manual*? I know children mature physically earlier these days and that they develop sophisticated tastes sooner rather than later... but does that really justify encouraging just ten year-olds into Guides or just 14-year-olds into Rangers?

I'm sure girls enjoy Guiding as long as they have a varied programme and a group of friends in their unit. As a Brownie Guider, I have always found it possible to happily occupy and stretch a group of ten-and-a-half to eleven-year-olds within the Pack, and Brownie Programme.

They are then already starting to think of secondary school before they transfer to Guides during their last year of primary education. Similarly, we have in our church units several 14-year-old Guides. Perhaps one reason they have stayed is that their units are not overweighted with Guides still at primary school.

After all, the sort of activities a Patrol or Company can plan have to be within the capability and interest of

most of the members. And the social maturity of a ten-year-old, with a year-plus still to go at primary school, is so much less than that of a 14-year-old choosing GCSE options.

Equally, could pushing older Guides into Rangers too soon, nudge the older Ranger out? It could be a vicious circle. I don't have current experience of a Ranger Unit, but I do have a 16-year-old daughter — and I am well aware of the changes in her activities which have come about post GCSE. I cannot imagine how any Ranger Unit can easily accommodate many pre-GCSE members with sixth form students, or girls who are at college or out at work. Yet that is what our current age limits ask them to do. I do hope Ranger Guiders' experiences have proved me wrong!

So, in our endeavours to keep older members in the Movement by moving them up into the next section at the earliest opportunity, are we actually defeating our object? Surely, the answer is to use the Programme in each section to the full; developing activities for the whole age range alongside some for older members, for example Sixers/Patrol Leaders and Seconds only.

I am sure one reason why the Guide Company I grew up in in the late 1950s had so many 15 and 16-year-olds was our Guider's practice of organising a winter holiday away for just the older ones. Whether it was a weekend at Our Ark — as Olave House was then known — in London or a magical ten days at Our Chalet.

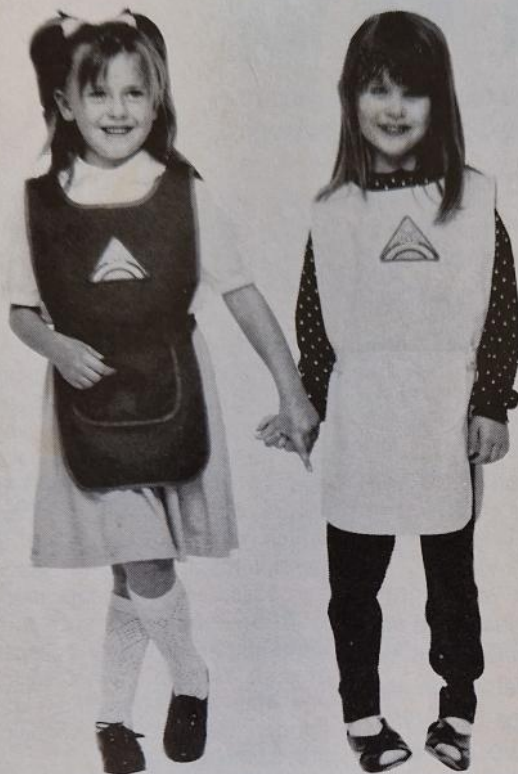
We didn't moan if we were not old enough to be included, for we knew our turn would come one day. Would such a practice not work today? Or are today's youngsters too experienced in the culture of immediate gratification?

LIZ BEBINGTON

Croydon

The views expressed in these articles 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.

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When you buy from the Movement, we all benefit.

The British claim to be a nation of dog lovers carries about as much force as a faithless husband's assertion that he loves his wife. If we love dogs so heartily, why do we treat them so badly? Whatever the fond fantasies that abound, we are, in reality, a nation with an appalling record of cruelty to man's best friend.

The recent increased awareness of fighting dogs, such as American pit bull terriers, bred to be killing machines, has focused public attention on both this type of dog and its owner. It is useless for these people to claim that their own beloved bundle of tooth, muscle and sinew is purely a treasured family pet.

An animal specifically bred for generations to hone its aggression and bulk is not a suitable creature to romp with the kiddies, as we are now all too horribly aware. After all, why should such a creature be expected to distinguish between a lively child and easy prey, when its owner cannot distinguish between a wild animal and a domesticated pet?



However, the obvious instance of the wanton creation of the fighting dog is just the most glaring example of man's cruelty to canines. To breed a killing machine with an unstable character is a clear instance of brutal irresponsibility, and the Kennel Club wisely refuses to admit such breeds to its ranks.

However, this august body has laid down often outlandish guidelines for the breeding of pedigree dogs, resulting too frequently in deformed and disabled creatures whose lives are only brightened by the dubious distinction of collecting a rosette at a dog show.

A DOG'S LIFE

The blueprint for the perfect bulldog would say that the head should be as large as possible, leading to sad specimens which had to be delivered by Caesarian section.

Many snub-nosed breeds have

extreme difficulty breathing through their unnaturally squashed snouts, and the basset hound has been bred to such an elongated extremity that many of the breed have crippling spinal problems.

What, other than senseless fashion, could dictate the continued docking of the ears and tails of certain breeds? Dogs are not extensions of their owners' egos, and ought not to be treated as such. Although we've all seen poodles mincing along with coat teased, tormented and even dyed to be the perfect accessory for a thoughtless owner.

Cruelty need not only be by design; it can also be by default. Centuries of selective breeding have produced both the canine curios at Crufts and the 'Darwinian nightmare' of the ultimate fighting dog. As well as the marvellous and multifarious breeds designed for specific tasks. These strains were generally bred for equable temperament and sturdy yet specialised physique.

The German Shepherd, or Alsatian as it is more popularly known, was bred to be with a German shepherd and his flock; a Labrador to plunge into the chilly waters of far northern America for game; and fox terriers are meant to be out burrowing after foxes. Failing these ideal lives, these activity-loving dogs, at the very least, need ample space and owners with time to give them plenty of exercise.

Penned in and unexercised these normally good-tempered animals will begin to go barking mad, and even develop a vicious streak. Sure, a dog may 'love' its lazy, inconsiderate owner — who else has it to love? And we all know lax owners who claim to dote on their dogs.

Yet what value is there in this sort of selfish affection, which prompts an idle owner to keep an active dog for his or her own pleasure, while the poor beast suffers?

And it isn't only the dog that pays. Anyone who has lived next door to a frustrated city dog will know the horror of hours of tortured baying and howling. As often as not answered by the sympathetic barking of all the other

dogs cooped up for streets around.

The suggestion that the blood-curdling racket, or the fouled pavements caused by these dogs, is intolerable, makes such self-styled dog lovers see red. And I, for one, am not going to lecture someone holding the lead of a 14-stone biting machine on their social responsibilities.

The figures quoted by the RSPCA and other agencies in the campaign for dog registration are well known. Half a million dogs are destroyed every year in this country, because they are abandoned or unwanted. The damage caused by stray dogs amounts to £76m a year. The *toxicara canis* worm can induce sickness in humans including lung ailments and blindness. A horrifying 87 per cent of incidents involve dogs attacking youngsters under the age of 15.

We need to go further than the registration of dogs or the banning of certain breeds, for the animals' sake as well as our own. Dog ownership in this country seems as sacrosanct as gun ownership is in the US... and just as senseless.

No one should have the automatic right to own a dog. There should be a dog licence with requirements as



stringent and proscriptive as a gun licence, as testing and thorough as a driving test.

It is time we stopped regarding man's best friend as his toy and realised that owning a dog is an onerous and time-consuming responsibility, as well as a pleasure.

It is madness to pretend otherwise.

FROM SHEFFIELD TO OUTER SPACE VIA MARS

Former Guide Helen Sharman has returned to earth after earning a place in the history books as Britain's first astronaut. Helen, who was a Brownie and a Guide in the South East Division of Sheffield, beat more than 13,000 applicants to become the only Briton on the Russian Juno Mission which blasted into space in May.

Kitted up and ready to go (l to r) Anatoli Artsebarski, Helen Sharman and Sergei Krialiov



Her mother Lyndis, also a former Brownie and Guide, and proud father John, were in Russia to see Helen hurtled into orbit aboard the Russian Soyuz rocket for an eight-day journey to the Mir space station, 250 miles from Earth.

The 28-year-old scientist, who helped develop Mars Milk and the Mars Ice-cream, had finally realised a dream she had held for years ago.

Helen was driving to work on the day the programme which would send her into space was announced. The Russians were looking for a Briton into space, and Helen was the astronaut who was wanted and not the other way round.

Helen stopped the car and quickly scribbled down the phone number. That was the first time she'd ever fancied becoming an astronaut.

Before jetting off into space, Helen interrupted her training in Moscow to ring GUIDING. Explaining why she'd applied, Helen said: 'I was always interested in space; it is something fascinating. But having the opportunity to fly into space was something I'd never contemplated.'

After sending in her application form, Helen won through to the interview stage, where she took part in a complex set of psychological tests and endured a series of gruelling and unpleasant physical experiments.

But, although the tests were 'nasty', Helen never felt like giving up. 'There was this wonderful carrot at the other end,' she said.

The list was whittled down to 150, then, finally, it was announced that Helen and Army Air Corps Major Tim Mace had been selected to train for the mission.

Helen was amazed. She said: 'I just kept thinking, I've been lucky to get this far, and in the end I couldn't believe I'd been chosen.'

Helen and Tim met for the first time during selection tests at the Institute of Aviation Medicine in England, before going to the Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre in Star City, just

outside Moscow. There they were to endure nearly 18 months of often repetitive astronaut training.

It was Helen who won through and Tim became first reserve.

Communications were difficult at Star City and Helen admitted to feeling lonely at times. When Helen telephoned she'd had to book the call an hour in advance, the line was poor and eventually we got cut off.

As well as Russians, there were also Austrians, Germans and French training at the centre. However, Tim and Helen were the only Britons and so became quite close as a result.

The first task they were given on reaching Star City was to learn Russian. No problem for Helen, who's always been good at languages. She was already fluent in French, German, Italian, Dutch and Japanese.

Even though they mastered the language, the two Britons still felt isolated. Helen explained: 'When you are the only two Britons you tend to rely on each other.'

Helen admits she would have been bitterly disappointed if, after all the training and build-up, she hadn't been able to travel in space. Before the mission she said: 'I very much want to make this particular space flight, it is a one-off thing.'

Helen got her wish. She was in space for eight days, while the Soyuz docked with the Mir space station, which is already orbiting in space.

In space, Helen's job involved both simple and complex tasks, such as turning control panel buttons and keeping valves open. She explained: 'It ranges from something simple like loading a tube into a furnace and pulling the tube through, to trying to measure blood pressure in different parts of the body.'

Her responsibilities included controlling heating, communications and a television system to beam pictures back to Earth.

Britain's first astronaut comes from a very down-to-earth family. Lyndis nurses at a hospice and John, a science teacher, is Assistant Principal at Stradbroke Tertiary College in Sheffield. Helen went to Brownies and Guides with her sister, Andrea.

Lyndis said: 'I was a Brownie and a Guide and I'd enjoyed it. So, when the girls were old enough, they went to Brownies and then up to Guides. They did all sorts of nice things. Helen went camping and she did lots of badges — she had them all down her arm.'

'But I think Guiding is better now, there is a wider range of activities and things to join in with these days.'

Helen was a Patrol Leader with 172nd St Peter's Greenhill Guides,

Sheffield. Her former Guider Sue Chalmers recalled: 'She would come with things for her Patrol to do, you didn't have to organise or suggest things for her. She was extremely conscientious and totally reliable. If you asked her to do something she would do it.'

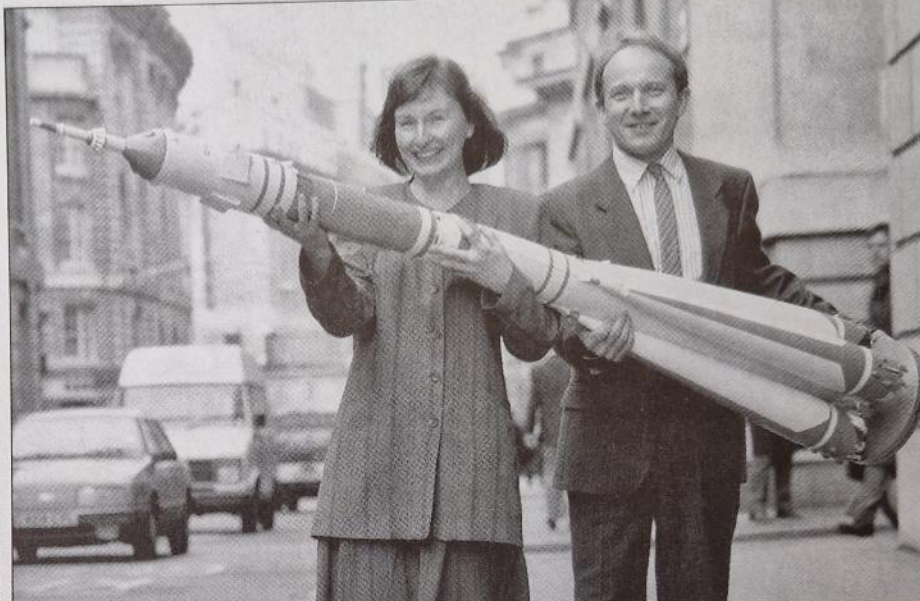
'She was quite a serious girl — not that she didn't have a sense of fun. But she did take life seriously and really worked hard. All her badges were done really thoroughly.'

million project.

Due to the lack of funding, the British experiments had to be abandoned so Helen could only carry out Soviet tests. But she always maintained: 'I am not a passenger.'

During those nail-biting eight days, Lyndis and her husband tried to get on with their daily lives.

'It is so difficult to explain my feelings as Helen went into space. We were watching her on the television cameras and she was waving and



There was a sort of steely quality in her, but she was an extremely pleasant, very nice girl.'

At Jordanthorpe Comprehensive School, Sheffield, Helen already was a high flyer leaving with 12 O-levels and four A-levels.

She loved sport, enjoying hockey, swimming and badminton; and played the piano and saxophone. She graduated from Sheffield University in 1984 with a BSc in Chemistry and went on to Birbeck College, London to study for a PhD.

Helen travelled to university lectures on her motorbike and has since worked out that the thrust at take off into space was about two-and-a-half-times the maximum acceleration on her old Suzuki 750cc GSX!

After university, Helen took an engineering job in London. Then she moved to Surbiton, Surrey, and worked as a research technologist at Mars Confectionery in Slough, Berkshire, until picked to train for the Juno Mission.

At one point the mission was in danger of being shelved, eventually the Moscow Narodny Bank in London came to the rescue and financed a slimmed-down version of the £16

smiling. I remember the roar of the rocket made a terrific noise,' she added.

Throughout the years of training and during the mission, the Russians were impressed by Helen's coolness, dedication, and sense of purpose. Colonel General Shatalov, Head of the Gagarin Space Centre commented: 'Your country can be justifiably proud of its astronaut candidates.'

On her return to England Helen greeted the British Press at the Royal Aeronautical Society in London. She described how much she'd enjoyed the feeling of weightlessness in space, adding that one morning she woke up standing on her head!

'At night I would look at the stars and they were absolutely perfect. They are crystal clear. It looked like someone had taken a white blob of paint and scattered it over space.'

Now Helen is keen to encourage young people to explore space science. 'This has been the first opportunity for a Briton to go into space, I hope it is not going to be the last. I think, in the future, it is going to be easier to travel in space, I would certainly recommend it!', she added.

**Helen Sharman
with fellow
Briton Tim Mace**



EQUINE SHOESHINE

There were some unusual customers waiting for Brownie Christine Savage and Beaver Matthew Walmsley when they took their shoe cleaning gear along to West Yorkshire police stables.

Patiently waiting for a spruce-up were eight police horses. So Christine and Matthew got down to some serious hoof polishing.

The pair are members of Packs that meet at Southfield Lane Methodist Church in Great Horton, Bradford.

It was Christine's idea to approach Matthew's dad, Ian, a policeman with Bradford's mounted section, to raise money for the Movement.

She said: 'I've never done this before and, as I like horses, I thought it would be a good idea.'

Ian didn't need much persuading — he's a leader with the Southfield Methodist Scouts. And he talked his colleagues into parting with 25p per hoof.

While the likes of Kate Adie and other intrepid media people were covering the Gulf War, a new 'newspaper' was launched in Bahrain to meet the emergency — *Owl Press*.

In the event, it lasted for only one issue because the conflict involving the Alliance suddenly ended. But it served its purpose, which was to keep the Guides and Brownies of BGIFC Bahrain in touch when they were unable to hold meetings.

The war did not, of course, ever reach Bahrain. But, being in the Arabian Gulf, joined by a causeway to Saudi Arabia, it was too close for comfort.

Apart from the possibility of invasion by Saddam Hussein's forces, there was also the risk of air raids, so Bahrain District decided it would be prudent to suspend all meetings and collective activity for the duration.

In the Brownie section of *Owl Press* extensive use was made of material that had appeared in our own *BROWNIE* magazine, including Super Brownie strip cartoon, an illustrated, instructional feature about making leaf print cards; some Fun Food recipes, and a few of Wise Owl's 'amazing facts'.

Owl Press also had a section for British Guides in Bahrain, called 'Gulf Guiding War-time Special', that included reprints of items which have appeared in earlier issues of *GUIDING* and *Guide Annuals*.

One of these was 'Badge Crazy', an instructional feature for Guiders on

GULF NEWS



how to organise an evening devoted to the International badge, including a quiz, a map jigsaw and a peg doll.

Owl Press came hot off a photocopier in time for Thinking Day and gave details of the programme for that day which included a service at St Christopher's Cathedral, Manama. Guides and Brownies were exhorted to wear uniforms — 'Pressed and as smart as possible, please' — and 'Don't forget to polish your Promise Badges'.

In an editorial, the Guide leaders explained *Owl Press's* raison d'être like this: 'These are rather unusual times and so we've decided to have rather unusual meetings — meetings by post! A year ago none of us thought we'd be living in the middle of a war zone, listening for air raid warnings, and carrying towels or gas masks!'

'Just think how appropriate the Scouting and Guiding motto is for us now: Be Prepared. Baden-Powell knew that young people would always have to meet many challenges. Just now we have the challenge, along with our families, of being alert and ready to deal with any problems.'

'But, perhaps, our biggest challenge here in Bahrain is to carry on our

normal life and interests as far as possible in various ways ...'

'As you know, regular meetings are not a good idea yet, just in case there is an air raid warning and we all have to sit together for hours, while parents worry at home ...!'

The Gulf oil slick disaster was given full-page prominence, with an explanation of what had happened. Guides were asked not only to start a scrap book on the subject, which would count for Trefoil work, but to help stricken sea birds.

'Ask your family and friends for old woollen jumpers', the article went on. 'These make jackets for affected birds to keep them warm and stop them preening their feathers and, therefore, swallowing oil. The jacket also absorbs the oil.'

Girls were instructed in the article to phone one of the Guiders if they found an oiled bird alive.

Wise owls among the Brownies and Guides of BGIFC Bahrain have, no doubt, salted away their copies of *Owl Press*, confident that these will eventually become highly collectable pieces of memorabilia — part of Guiding history, in fact.

When Rainbows from Hampshire appealed for jumpers to send to Romania, they weren't disappointed. Friends of 1st Highcliffe (Methodist) Rainbows knitted a total of 253 'T-shaped' jumpers to send to Romanian children.

The Rainbows enlisted the help of their parents, grandparents and friends after seeing an appeal on their local television station, asking people to knit jumpers for Romanian children.

The Angie Hayter Appeal asked for jumpers to be knitted in a simple T-shape, which will fit most sizes, so the children, who aren't used to modern clothes, could get them on without worrying about buttons and zips.

The unit has been running for two years and has 15 members. It was the first charity project the Rainbows attempted and they were thrilled by the response.

Rainbow Guider Carol Coulson said: 'They were very surprised. I thought we might get a few jumpers, but they just kept coming. One grandparent knitted ten!'

MEGA-KNIT

Angie Hayter's appeal was so successful, she collected a million jumpers, and flew out to Romania personally to make sure the children got them.

• Girls from Mansfield Division have raised £300 for Romania by a combination of bring-and-buy sales, carol singing and sponsored events. With the help of Tesco in Mansfield they are now sending goods worth far more than their original total to help Romanian orphans.

The Highcliffe Rainbows
with their knitting



PHOTOGRAPH BY KIND PERMISSION OF THE EVENING ECHO, BOURNEMOUTH

Going places with Guiding
— Denise King



THE VOICE OF YOUTH

Denise King is not afraid to voice her opinions on Guiding, nor is she shy about telling you in which direction she believes the Movement should be heading.

At times this has led to her being criticised because of what she has said or written.

Sometimes the backlash has been hurtful, but Denise, Chairman of the Junior Council, won't be intimidated. She speaks out because she cares about the Movement and wants young people to have a say in its future. After all, Denise is the first to admit she owes a lot to Guiding.

And now her hobby has also become her career. At 24, Denise is the European Programme Executive for WAGGGS.

Her work takes her all over Europe, organising seminars and promoting the Movement internationally.

Formed in 1928, WAGGGS links together 118 national Girl Guides and Girl Scouts Associations worldwide.

Denise said: 'It is all about learning tolerance and respect for other cultures in this world.'

'By bringing young people together without prejudice, by living with people from other countries for a while, at least, young people can learn to have an open mind.'

Denise is quick to point out she comes from an ordinary family and went to the local grammar school in her home town, Oldham in Lancashire.

What she has achieved in life, Denise has earned through sheer hard work. And her love of Guiding has provided opportunities she has grasped.

'I know that I have been privileged, I have had some fantastic opportunities, but I have also worked very hard,' said Denise. 'I just think that anybody can do the things I have done. I haven't got anything special — I just liked Guiding.'

The job at WAGGGS came along after Denise had impressed fellow delegates when she chaired the youth panel at the 27th World Conference in Singapore last year.

It wasn't a case of jobs for the girls. When the post came up, it was advertised and Denise applied for it along with everyone else. However, the maturity and ability Denise showed at the conference, must have weighed in her favour.

This World Conference requested attendances from people under 30 years old,' Denise explained. 'We met together and formed a panel to present our ideas. I was asked to take the chair. We had all split up in groups to decide the various things to do with the conference, we put it all together and presented it.'

'It was a good opportunity for us. I had to introduce all the people on the panel. Although they were young, these girls were all professionals. They

included a lawyer and a doctor and came from all over the world — from the Philippines, Australia, New Zealand and Columbia. It was a fantastic experience.'

The group put forward its views on Guiding training and on the advancement of girls and women. Denise believes that it is important for young people to have a voice in the Movement, and thinks they should be given a bigger share in shaping its future.

She said: 'I think there are a lot of young people with a lot to offer. They could bring their vision to the Movement. Many of these young people are professionals. They have good jobs, even though they are only in their 20s.'

*'I have had some
fantastic
opportunities,
but I have also
worked very
hard.'*

'Just because you are young and have a full-time job, people write you off and say you have no time. But I think it is up to the individual.'

Denise would like to see more young women involved in decision-making within the GGA.

'I would like to see a Junior Council at County level as well as at Country/Region and Association level,' she said.

Although Denise believes that young people should be more influential in Guiding, she accepts that the Movement's more experienced members play a vital role. It is they, Denise said, who can encourage young people to speak out and say what they want from Guiding.

Those with more experience can motivate the young people to get up and do something. Sometimes you need to get them to recognise what they want,' she said.

'There are people who are just in the Movement for themselves. I think people do get hung up on positions. I think people should be elected through a democratic process.'

'There is a lot of work going on for young people by young people. But you can't push people. Just because you took up the opportunities, you cannot expect that of everyone.'

Because she has met Girl Guides from different nations, Denise can see

that Guiding is not the same the world over. It plays a different role in other countries which have varying needs and cultures.

In Britain she feels the emphasis is too often on 'leisure activities' such as camping, travelling and games.

While these are great activities for girls to enjoy, Denise thinks we should look at what Guides in other countries are doing and see if we can take some of their ideas on board.

She explained: 'I really believe in the Guiding for Everyone and Outreach schemes and I would like to see us being more than just a leisure-time activity. We can expand further on our work in inner cities, if we develop and offer a relevant programme and package it properly.'

An honours graduate from Keele University with a degree in history and economics, Denise joined Cheshire County Council as a trainee accountant on leaving university.

But, when the training she was promised didn't materialise and she found herself doing clerical work and photocopying, Denise looked around for something more satisfying. 'I felt it was time to go and do something less boring instead,' she said.

That was when she applied for the job at WAGGGS. It meant moving south as her job is based at the World Bureau in Hampstead, North London. She shares in a flat in the area with a friend she knew at university.

'All my friends have reminded me how I said I would never move to London!' admitted Denise, adding: 'I think it is an exciting place to be for a certain period.'

As well as working for WAGGGS, Denise remains actively involved with Guiding but she doesn't feel it has taken over her life. 'A lot of my friends don't have anything to do with the Movement,' Denise said.

A Brownie at seven, Denise went on to become a Guide, a Ranger and an Assistant Guide Guider. Even at university she helped out at a Guide unit in the area.

'I have put a lot into it, but I feel I have more than reaped the benefits,' Denise said. 'I do owe a debt to Guiding and to my leaders who encouraged me.'

She added: 'Guiding offers young women the opportunity to assert themselves — it gave me the confidence to get my first job. It teaches you that if you really believe you can do something, then you can.'

Denise became chair of the Association's Junior Council in December 1989. The Junior Council, which has 38 members, provides a forum for debating issues of interest to the GGA

and of concern to young women and the community in general.

Although the Scouts are to admit girls at all levels, Denise believes there is still an important role for Guiding to play in single sex youth provision.

'At the moment there are not many single sex groups available for young people, there is so much that is mixed. I think it is important that we offer something different,' she said.

But Denise insists that doesn't mean if the Movement was mixed, the girls would stand by and let the boys do the interesting jobs at camp while they did the washing-up.

She said: 'I think we underestimate young girls sometimes. I passionately believe that Guiding has a lot to offer. When the Scouts brought in girls, I believe that those particular girls who left Guides and joined the Scouts would probably have left anyway. So at least they stayed in the Movement.'

'But, if girls are leaving, it does mean we are not doing our job in providing what they want. We have got to improve ourselves.'

Image is also a problem for WAGGGS, which has hired a public relations executive to raise its public profile. 'We

*'We can expand
further on our
work in inner
cities, if we
develop and offer
a relevant
programme.'*

have got a lot to do — so the world had better watch out!' Denise said.

Meanwhile, Denise is not going to keep quiet even if she is the new kid on the block. She's determined to have her say and the women she now works with have been very supportive.

Denise was part of a high profile team when she went to the World Conference. She recalled: 'Most of the GGA delegates were very experienced, but they treated me as an equal and valued my opinion, so I felt part of a team.'

She rates the way Guiding treats people as equals whatever their background or experience as one of its best achievements. 'It gives you self confidence and allows you to grow — that for me is what Guiding is all about.'

NICOLA WHATMORE 29

STAGED BADGES

*Don't panic when you look through the new
Badge Books in September, and find that some
of the well-established badges are missing.
Instead turn to the section on staged badges.*

Most of you will already know about the Chess staged badge but the new Badge/Certificate Books will contain syllabuses for a further 11 staged badges.

Some will both incorporate and replace well-used favourites from the Brownie, Guide and Ranger sections. You will find the details listed under staged badges of: Bellringer, Chess, Needlecraft, Knitter, Knotter, Photographer and Speaker.

They will replace current Brownie and Guide badges and Ranger certificates of these or similar names.

Exciting new possibilities are contained in a further selection of badges: Downhill Skier, Walking, Survival, Culture and Short Tennis.

These have been developed to give opportunities for the development of new interests — reflecting requests received from many of the girls.

The staged badges have been introduced to encourage the development of the individual.

In the past all badges have been section specific, and thus not related to the development, opportunities and environment of the individual girl. This new set of badges will change things, so that these factors are taken into account.

Most badges have four stages. Level 1 is the easiest — the starter level, while Level 4 demands a high level of skill and understanding.

As each girl can opt to come into a staged badge at the level she thinks is suitable for her, these badges should show the true level of interest and expertise each girl has reached.

A girl just starting an interest could enter at Level 1, while a very experienced girl could tackle Level 4.

Some of our youngsters are very interested in their own interests and become experts at an early age. You have only to look at the age of some of our international swimmers



A girl can enter at the level appropriate to her skills

and gymnasts, and thrill to the skills of young musicians to know this is true.

Some of our Brownies, Guides and Rangers are already very able or have the potential to become so. And it is hoped that by staging the badges in this way, the girls will be encouraged to progress.

We will be offering them the opportunity to start and develop a new interest at an appropriate skill level, irrespective of age. For those who have developed skills and interests, we are offering a badge which truly signifies the level they have reached.

AVAILABLE TO ALL

The syllabuses for staged badges will be exactly the same in all three Badge/Certificate Books, and are available to all Brownies, Guides and Rangers. Guiders need only to buy their own section Badge Book to get all levels of the staged badges.

The actual badges will be the same for everyone, so that a girl who gains a badge in one section will take it with her into the next section and wear it on her new uniform.

Each badge will have a symbol to indicate the interest, plus a figure to indicate the level achieved.

Every girl who decides to take a staged badge may choose for herself the level at which she enters.

Unit Guiders will need to encourage their Brownies, Guides or Rangers to choose for themselves, bearing in mind that they do not need to have passed an easier level. For instance, a Guide who decides to enter at Level 2 does not need to have completed Level 1 first; or a Brownie who enters at Level 3 will not need to have completed Levels 1 and 2.

But in looking through the badges you will notice that generally a girl will need to have the skills included in the previous levels in order to succeed. For example a Level 3 skier will need the skills included in Levels 1 and 2. But, if she is good enough to be tested at Level 3, she does not need to be tested at the easier levels first.

This progressive development of skills through the levels or stages, does mean that, for instance, a Ranger who takes up photography for the first time at 16 and wishes to pursue that interest, can enter the badge at Level 1, because that is the stage appropriate to her ability.

She can then work through Levels 2, 3 and 4 if she chooses, gradually becoming more skilful as she progresses.

To recap, these staged badges:

- Are for Brownies, Guides and Rangers.
- Girls can enter at their own level.
- Reflect the level of interest a girl has.
- Demonstrate the level of ability the girl has attained.
- Offer to individuals a progression through the development of a new interest.

In September, look through the new books, become familiar with the section on staged badges, introduce the concept to the girls so that they understand right from the start what is expected.

WENDY GOODHIND

- Watch for further details next month.

win a TREASURE TROVE OF T-SHIRTS

Robinsons ready drinks have got a great deal on offer this summer and now Brownie Packs can win their very own goody bag — and there's something in it for Guiders too.

Your girls may already be having fun taking part in the Robinsons giant Mega Treasure promotion, collecting the butler tokens on the sides of the drinks cartons, which can be redeemed against a host of free toys and goodies.

But taking part in our offer is even easier. Robinsons are giving away

super, luminous T-shirts to every member of the first 20 Packs to write in.

And there will be a stylish cooler bag for each Pack's adult leader — just the thing for picnics and days out.

All Brownie Guiders have to do is send their name and address on a postcard, together with the name of

the Pack and number of Brownies in it to Robinsons/Guiding Offer, 15/17 Huntsworth Mews, London NW1 6DD.

The first 20 entries drawn on August 23 will win the goody bags but there will be Mega Treasure booklets for everyone who writes in. Winners will be notified by post.

ROBINSONS



WITH WOLVES AND WALLABIES IN WARTIME

Author Lucy Pendar grew up in Whipsnade Wild Animal Park at Dunstable in Bedfordshire. Her father took the family to live there in 1929, when he was appointed resident engineer. To celebrate Whipsnade's diamond jubilee, this year Lucy has written an account of the Park from its early days to its present eminence as a conservation centre and breeding ground for many endangered species. Here she recalls wartime Guiding at Whipsnade.

The wolves were restless. A bear, alerted by activity at this normally quiet time of evening, snuffled inquisitively, its great fluffy head pressed against the bars of its large scrub-filled den, as a group of girls made their way past.

Jubilantly the girls sprang out from the bushes on to startled look-outs who couldn't understand why the girls were coming from that direction. They hadn't crossed the road, or had they? Stunned, the look-outs realised they'd been fooled. Those round-backed figures hopping along, silhouetted against the evening sky, hadn't been wallabies after all!

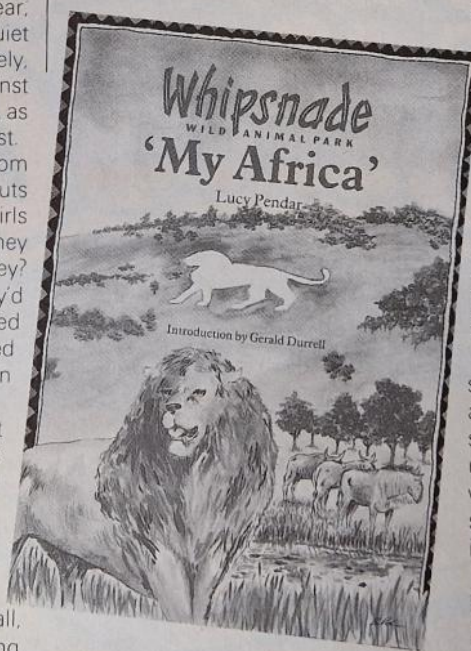
The scene wasn't played out down under, of course. It was staged at Whipsnade Park during the Second World War.

Next the voice of Captain Beal, the superintendent of the zoological park, boomed out his congratulations. He had, after all, played an active part in the stalking activities.

For the Guides were members of his wife's Company, who had set up their headquarters in the couple's home and, naturally, organised their outdoor activities in the famous park.

Mrs Beal had formed the 1st Whipsnade Guide Company in the dark days of 1940, after she realised there was no one to provide for evacuees.

At the outbreak of war, there had been a handful of girls and boys in the village of Whipsnade. The adjacent world-renowned zoo had changed with the arrival of evacuees.



The children from Hampstead were Mrs Beal's responsibility as she was the WVS Evacuee Organiser. She'd beavered away and found billets for them all among the villagers.

The other evacuees, both women and children, were the families of men who worked at London Zoo, evacuated along with some of the animals by the Zoological Society of London to their other premises in the safety of the country.

Suddenly, the village was full of children. There were so many that the village hall was turned into a school with a party there at Christmas for

local and evacuee children.

One of the highlights was a play produced by Mrs Beal featuring local children and, a few weeks later, a deputation of evacuee girls asked her to organise a club for them.

Her immediate response was to call a meeting at her home inside the park for all girls of Guide age. Her husband, the larger-than-life jovial Captain, was in the hall smiling benignly as the girls trooped in.

Once everyone was settled in the sitting-room, velvet curtains pulled across and the fire burning brightly, spilling its light on to the eager, upturned faces, Mrs Beal explained what Guiding was all about, adding she was prepared to start a Company, if there were enough girls interested.

Meetings, she explained, would be held on Friday evenings in that large room. Her husband was quite happy to retire to his office from 7.30 until 9pm. He had his stamp collection to occupy him, as well as Home Guard and ARP business to keep him occupied.

The girls were told there were laws to learn and a Promise to be made — a Promise which bound girls throughout the world, whatever colour their skins, into the great sisterhood of Guiding.

No one can ever be sure what effect their words have on others, all I know is that Mrs Beal's words that night had such a profound effect on me, I have never harboured any racist thoughts in all my life.

Fired with enthusiasm to get on with the great game of Guiding, we hurried

to our homes, finding our way by the pinpoint of light shining through the cardboard discs in our blacked-out torches, to return the following week.

With the completion of the Tenderfoot tests and our enrolment, spring came to the park, to beckon us outdoors on long, fine evenings. It prompted Captain Beal to leave his office to instruct us in the finer points of stalking and tracking. With all of the park's 500 acres at our disposal, it is small wonder that we Guides excelled at outdoor activities.

In those days Guide leaders were called Captains and Lieutenants. This presented the 1st Whipsnade Company with a problem. Our Captain's husband, who was becoming increasingly involved in our activities, was himself an ex-regular army captain. How could we differentiate between them?

Then, one evening, a bright girl referred to Mrs Beal as Mrs Captain and the problem was solved.

No doubt remembering the usefulness of the boy Cadets at Mafeking and, in the absence of a Scout Troop in the village, Captain Beal pressed the

you do it?

Luckily there were no such dangers involved in carrying messages on Home Guard manoeuvres, but there was the ever-present risk that one might be caught by the 'enemy' platoon. That would mean, at least, the loss of the poached egg and haddock breakfast cooked by the zoo's chef.

*'Those figures
hopping along
... hadn't been
wallabies at all!'*

I can still recall my thumping heart and dry throat as I made my way along narrow footpaths under cover of hedges, or across cornfields, crawling through the long stalks, remembering to stop now and again — a constant ripple in the ears of grain would have betrayed my presence.

The occasional all-night manoeuvres

cart, storing it in the Beals' garage to await collection. We knitted squares for blankets, made items for bazaars, and helped to harvest the crops grown in undeveloped parts of the park — its obligatory contribution to the war effort.

But, Guides have to train to 'Be Prepared' for all eventualities and catastrophes. First aid classes in the village hall were a 'must', as was the ARP training, instigated by Captain Beal, the Chief Air Raid Warden.

This involved care of the hosepipes on the park's fire tender; use of axes and the wearing of gas masks and canvas fire-fighting masks in the smoke-filled smithy in the zoo's works yard, where we actually extinguished small fires with stirrup pumps. Eventually about 40 bombs dropped on Whipsnade, causing little damage and no human casualties.

Besides all these activities, the Guides provided the locals with their wartime entertainment of concerts and plays, of which the *pièce de résistance* was the splendidly patriotic *Masque of Empire*. Magnificently costumed, it was staged in the picturesque setting of the restaurant cloisters, then opened with overhead beams entwined with clusters of trailing mauve wistaria.

*'One might be
caught by the
"enemy"
platoon.'*

Camp fires, with everyone enjoying mugs of steaming cocoa and baked potatoes, were the only activity which could *not* be held within the park. They were lit on the common by the Beals' back gate, and had to be doused before dark.

At length the war years drew to a close — the evacuees went home — the time came for the superintendent to retire and he and Mrs Captain moved to Alverstoke in Hampshire.

Never again were the wolves provoked into joining in with girlish voices, howling their accompaniment, as Guides sang Christmas carols outside the main gate cottages — for Guides no longer prowled through Whipsnade Wild Animal Park.

LUCY PENDAR

● Lucy's book, *Whipsnade Wild Animal Park — My Africa* is published by the Book Castle, Church Street, Dunstable, Beds. Price £12.95 with £5.95 for the paperback version. It is available from good bookshops.



Posing proudly with the Dunstable and District Shield, the 1st Whipsnade Guide Company. Lucy is third from the left in the back row

Guides into service on Home Guard manoeuvres as reliable messengers and signallers.

After all, the Guides knew Morse Code and the Home Guard didn't! In fact we were experts in Morse Code and decoding messages. It was that very expertise that led to our winning the District Shield one year.

The achievements⁴⁴ in these two skills, were in no small way due to Mrs Captain's inspiration in enlisting the aid of a blue-eyed, fair haired Cambridge undergraduate, destined for the RAF, as coach.

In *Scouting for Boys*, B-P wrote: 'If an enemy were firing down this street and I were to tell you to take a message to a house on the other side, would

involved spending part of the time snatching some sleep on the wooden floor of the estate office near the switchboard, ready to be awoken to carry any messages that might be phoned through.

Changing shifts meant creeping back to the outside guard posts, never quite sure if the figure lurking by the main gate, shrouded in the early morning mist rising from the damp grass, was a friend, an enemy, or one of Farmer Bates's cows!

Since Mrs Captain was deeply committed to service to the community, it was not surprising that her Guides' service involved much more than helping the Home Guard. We gathered up the village salvage on an old hand-

Open Door

SUNNY HOURS

'I only mark the sunny hours' is one of my favourite sundial inscriptions. Not that I'm pretending life's dark moments don't exist. They do. And, hopefully, we do our best to cope with them, learn from them — and then let them go. What's the use of a memory bank crammed with bitterness, anger, resentment... especially if they're crowding out the sunshine times?

What prompted my thoughts in this direction was not a sundial but my neighbour's patchwork quilt. An on-going project for years, Peggy had, at last, finished it and was shyly showing it off.

I remarked on a particularly pretty patch — a delicate butterfly motif in pink. Peggy smiled: 'That came from the blouse in my going-away outfit and this scrap of pastel green was one of the other

dressess I took with me.'

And so it went on. The blue and grey stripe was a fragment of husband Tom's first office-job shirt; mauve gingham pieces were leftovers from an apron made by Julie, their daughter, while at primary school; a handkerchief corner, with embroidered edelweiss, was a holiday present brought back by an older Julie from Austria; a rich, summer-fruits remnant

had belonged to Gran's sitting room cushions...

The whole quilt was a concentration of 'sunny hours'. And it seemed to me that a store of happy memories is a double bonus: not only are they good to think back on, in themselves, but they can shine through into the present and help us deal with any darker, 'down' days.



News Focus

SMILING RAINBOW

For Rainbow Katie Jones, Wednesday February 6 was a day to remember. That was the day she went to London to collect her McDonald's Child of Achievement Award.

Six-year-old Katie, of the 2nd Wombourne Rainbows, has rheumatoid arthritis — but doesn't let the illness get her down. Since her last operation, she even refuses to use her wheelchair! She joins in everything and, in the words of the award profile, 'is always cheerful and full of smiles — it's hard to realise the constant pain she suffers'.

One person who did know was her Rainbow Guider, Lynda Maskew, who nominated Katie for the award. Each year there are 9,000 nominations — and only 150 winners are chosen. To the delight of all her Wombourne friends, Katie was



Katie meets Andy Crane

one of them.

Finally the big day came: a glittering ceremony at London's Guildhall in the presence of the Princess of Wales and the Lord Mayor. Katie and her parents got up at 4.15am but, in spite of their early start, they almost

didn't arrive in time. Their train broke down and they had to wait for a replacement engine. When they reached London at last there was a scramble for the tube and a rush to Guildhall — with Katie riding on her dad's shoulders.

PAT ROBERTS

Katie said: 'The hall was very big and old and we sat quite near the front. There were a lot of cameras and people filming. I had to wait a long time for my turn to go up on the stage because I was number 150, the very last one!'

But her turn *did* come... TV-personality Andy Crane presented her with the award — a statuette featuring two children — and 'he had an Edd the Duck pen in his pocket'.

Afterwards there was a party and a chance for all the winners to meet the royal guest of honour. Apart from asking Katie her name, the Princess wanted to know what her favourite food was. 'Cheeseburgers,' came the answer.

Finally, it was home time — with a bag full of gifts and goodies and loads of memories to share at the next Rainbow meeting.

Coming Next

IN GUIDING SEPTEMBER

Striding Out with Tessa — Brown Owl goes walkies
Complete AGM report



Achieving it — fiery Clare remembers 100 days as a Guide

34

Sight Savers: winning the battle
On the Run: Sherlock Holmes steps in
Twin Blossoms: TV stars tell all

IN TODAY'S GUIDE SEPTEMBER

Spouting about... volcanoes
Getting Out: thrills and spills at Thorpe Park
Hot Topics checks up on child labour
Rural art — corn dollies

Clever cookery: baking for fêtes and sales
Beauty bonus: skin care routines



IN BROWNIE AUGUST

All about deserts — sandy secrets

A story to enjoy — an extract from *The Water Babies*
Out and About: visiting a canal
Strictly for landlubbers — making an origami boat
Spot the dangers lurking on the beach



HIGHLIGHTS

MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT

For Commissioners
FOXLEASE:
November 8-10, 1991
Trainers: C Sargent, J Dixon

The job of every Commissioner is to enable Guiding in her area. This is both a challenging and rewarding job. The purpose of this weekend training is to help Commissioners examine the many aspects of their job as managers of Guiding and to develop effective ways of responding to their task. The training will be planned to take account of the particular needs of the members of the group, as well as considering essential management skills.

TOWARDS 2000

FOXLEASE:
September 27-29, 1991
Trainers: CHQ Training Team
Towards 2000 is a weekend for Young Leaders and Guiders under 25, looking at the next ten years.

It will be an opportunity to look at what Guiding is offering in the 1990s and to explore where you see the Association going and your role in that development.

The training will include sessions on leadership, confidence building, future planning, opportunities and social issues.

THE PRACTICAL PROMISE

FOXLEASE:
September 27-29, 1991
Trainers: M Flinders, T Hope

This weekend will provide an opportunity to look at the meaning of the Promise in today's language, taking into account society's demands: moral, ethical and practical.

Ideas such as 'A Promise made is a Promise for Life' and 'The Promise as a way of growth' will be considered, in addition to practical, grass roots ways of carrying out the Promise as young adults and grown women, and ways

of coping with the Promise in difficult situations.

TRAINING SKILLS FOR ADVISERS

FOXLEASE:
November 8-10, 1991
Trainers: M Willatt, G Berry, H Berry, S Thorpe (CHQ Training Team)

This weekend has been specially arranged to meet the needs of Outdoor Activities Advisers who have asked for help in passing on their knowledge to Guiders. Advisers' differing needs will be taken into account around the core subjects.

Sessions during the weekend will cover some of the following:

- presenting yourself.
- choosing appropriate training methods.
- adapting to the needs of trainees.
- use of visual aids.
- how adults learn practical skills.

ASSERTIVENESS FOR GUIDERS

FOXLEASE:
October 8-10, 1991 (midweek)
Trainers: CHQ Training Team
Open to anyone in Guiding.

Do you find it difficult to say no? If so, come and practise being assertive. You will have the chance to look at yourself and learn the art of effective communication.

LONE GUIDERS

WADDOW:
October 11-13, 1991
Trainer: C Horne

Do you feel that most Guider trainings fail to answer the questions which you face, because you are running a Lone Unit? Would you like the opportunity to meet and share with other Lone Guiders from the other Country/Regions and the UK Lone Guide Co-ordinator? Are you looking for practical ideas, and ways to express them for the girls?

If the answers you give to

these questions are yes, then this weekend is for you. Come along to Waddow, and meet those who share your experience and problems. There will be an opportunity to try some new ideas, and to discuss how to put them over to the isolated girls.

There will be a chance to look at some of the recent GGA developments with resources, such as the open learning material for adults and *Action Plus* for older girls, and to discuss the use of these with the Lones; and to share your ideas for resources especially for you.

So, for a weekend with like-minded people, come to the Lones training.

CANOEING/CLIMBING/CAVING

Concentrating on Leadership
GLENBROOK:
September 20-22, 1991
Trainers: H Robertson, L Travell

This weekend will allow you to fulfil your secret ambition to try pot holing, climbing or canoeing with the help of skilled and patient instructors. You can try your hand at any two, or perhaps concentrate on only one. In addition, the instructors can offer those with some experience of these sports the chance to improve their skills or to lead others or gain qualifications.

This weekend is open to Guiders, Rangers and Young Leaders.

LEADING YOUR TEAM

WADDOW:
November 29-December 1, 1991

Trainers: CHQ Training Team
There are many elements of a Commissioner's job which can cause headaches. We will concentrate on running meetings, handling the paperwork and implementing the Adult Leadership Scheme. We aim to help you tackle

these by developing the potential of your whole team.

WALKING SAFELY LEVEL 3

GLENBROOK:
November 22-24, 1991
Trainers: T Halmshaw, G Goss, H Cooper

The aim of this course is to develop the knowledge and expertise of Guiders who have completed Level 2 of the Walking Safely Training Scheme and who wish to extend their skills in order to accommodate the requirements of walking and leading in difficult country (as defined in the WSTS).

Theoretical and practical sessions will include:

- map and compass work
- route planning
- navigation skills
- party organisation and management
- safety precautions
- leadership skills.

The exact nature of the weekend will be determined, as far as possible, by the requirements of the participants on the course.

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR DISTRICT

FOXLEASE:
September 20-22, 1991
Trainers: A Hall, A Mitchell, C Brown, E Suddes, S Gordon

This weekend will concentrate on the benefits that can be gained from working together as a District. It will provide an opportunity to look afresh at day-to-day activity of local Guiding and enable the District to make plans and carry out future projects.

It is an ideal chance to get to know each other in a relaxed, happy atmosphere and to exchange ideas, skills, problems and experiences. Working together as a team can be fun and the support it brings may last for many years.

District Commissioners are

TRAINING DIARY

asked to bring a group of Guiders from all sections in the District and of all levels of experience. If your District has no Ranger Unit, invite a Ranger Guider from the Unit which serves the District.

ADAPTING PROGRAMME IDEAS

For Unit Guiders

WADDOW:

January 24-26, 1992

July 3-5, 1992

October 16-18, 1992

FOXLEASE:

February 14-16, 1992

November 20-22, 1992

These trainings are for all unit Guiders and Assistant Guiders.

The aim is to help Guiders to develop confidence in trying new approaches to meet the needs of individual girls in their units.

During the training you will have an opportunity to:

- Have a really good look at our handbooks and publications, together with resources from outside.
- Try out lots of ideas, adapting them to suit individual needs.
- Learn how to assess the needs of individual girls.
- Develop flexibility in trying to meet individual needs.
- Learn from and share with other Guiders.

TEAM BUILDING

FOXLEASE:

January 10-12, 1992

November 13-15, 1992

WADDOW:

April 24-26, 1992

Good Guiding needs keen and motivated teams to manage its work and achieve results.

- How can we build effective teams?
- How can we engender and maintain team spirit?
- How do we cope with the team member who doesn't fit in?

...and how can we ensure that the contribution of each team member is recognised and valued?

These weekends will explore all these issues.

The aim

- To explore the role and function of the team in the management of Guiding.
- To develop awareness of individual team roles.
- To perform and analyse team tasks.
- To examine strategies for building effective teams.

The trainings are for any 'management' team in Guiding, for example:

- C/R Commissioners and County Commissioners.
- County Commissioners and Advisers.
- County Commissioners and Division Commissioners.
- Division Commissioners and District Commissioners.
- C/R Advisers and County Advisers.
- District Commissioners and Guiders.

TRAINING SKILLS FOR ADVISERS

FOXLEASE:

February 7-9, 1992

WADDOW:

November 20-22, 1992

Are you an enthusiastic and highly skilled Adviser, working hard to promote your particular specialism in the County, the Country/Region or at Association level?

Could you benefit from acquiring a set of basic training skills to help you put your message across more effectively?

The Association has developed just the weekend training package for you, at the end of which you will be able to:

- Set aims and objectives for your training sessions.
- Evaluate your training sessions constructively.
- Use ice-breakers effectively.
- Use visual aids with confidence.
- Understand how adults learn.
- Use small group work effectively.

The weekends are very practical and you will have plenty of opportunity to try out your training skills.

The weekends are for any Advisers who would benefit from gaining basic training skills to convey their specialism to other adults.

LEARNING TO LISTEN

WADDOW:

January 31-Feb 2, 1992

FOXLEASE:

March 31-April 2, 1992

Trainers: CHQ Training Team

These trainings are open to anyone in Guiding who is interested in learning more about the skills of listening and effective communication.

Sometimes it is hard to tune in to receive messages and to respond effectively.

Learning to Listen will help you communicate with both teenagers and adults.

These trainings will cover the following topics:

- Active listening.
- Paraphrasing and reflecting.
- Blocks to communicating.
- Asking questions.
- Summarising what you've heard.

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 a £9 deposit and a sae.

TRAINING DATES

FOXLEASE

AUGUST

2-11 Celebration '91: Trail UK Camps

16-26 Holiday period

29-Sept 2 1. Walking at Foxlease. 2. Pursue a hobby

SEPTEMBER

13-15 Working together in the youth service

20-22 Getting to know your District

27-29 1. The practical Promise 2. Towards 2000 3. ASA/RLSS life saving course

OCTOBER

8-10* Assertiveness for Guiders

18-20 1. Science and technology 2. Rainbow resources

NOVEMBER

8-10 1. Management development for Commissioners 2. Training skills for Advisers 22-24 Insite

WADDOW

AUGUST

2-11 Celebration '91: Trail UK Camps

15-29 Holiday weeks

SEPTEMBER

6-8 Developing the Programme with your unit

OCTOBER

11-13 Lone Guiders

NOVEMBER

29-Dec 1 1. Community involvement and development 2. Leading your team.

GLENBROOK

AUGUST

2-11 Celebration '91: Trail UK Camps

SEPTEMBER

20-22 Canoeing/climbing/caving

OCTOBER

7-10 Trefoil Guild

* Midweek

GLENBROOK

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

FOXLEASE

Lyndhurst
Hants
SO43 7DG
Tel: 0703 282638

WADDOW

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

NETHERURD

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

LORNE

Craigavad
Co Down
Ulster
BT30 OBS
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

Here we are in the holiday month when Rainbow Guides may be going away with their families or possibly on day outings. The theme I have chosen this month is therefore that of travelling. You might like to look back to some of May's ideas about Wheels and Circles for further ideas.

DESERT ISLANDS

This is a 'catch' game needing little preparation, which the girls will enjoy tackling. They will need to make islands out of cardboard from the sides of old cartons (see Fig 1). These are scattered about the floor.

One Rainbow Guide becomes the shark. The others have to travel from island to island without being caught. Only one person is allowed on any island at once — and they must keep moving on.

If the shark captures someone — they swap places, or alternatively the Rainbow that has been caught loses a leg having to hop but, if caught a second time, she becomes an extra shark.

TRAVEL WAYS

Ask the Rainbows to bring to the next meeting pictures of some of the ways in which people travel. Talk about all the different modes: walking, cycling, driving, flying, swimming, skiing and so on — and challenge them to come up with interesting examples. Their pictures could be cut from magazines or drawn.

Stick the pictures into a scrapbook at the next meeting to make *The Rainbow Travel Book*.

Or you could try mounting the pictures on card and asking the Rainbows to put them in the order according to speed. For example: bike, boat, car, plane...

Ask the girls to tell the others about unusual journeys they have made, for example in a motorcycle sidecar.

FIG 1

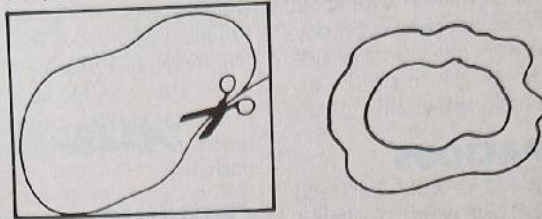
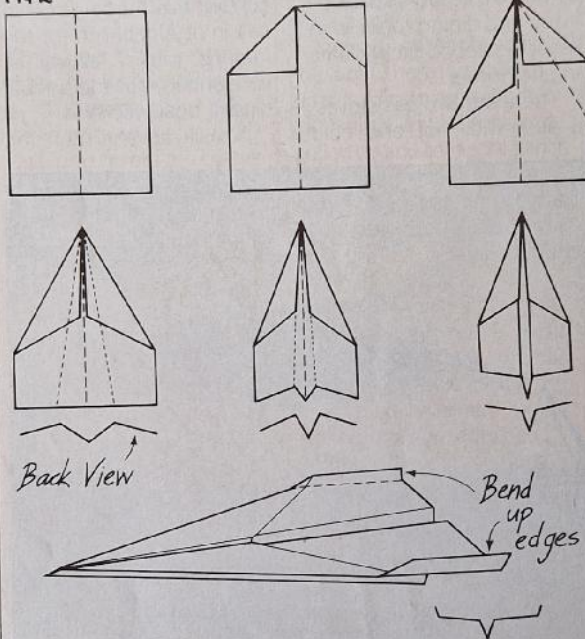


FIG 2



MAKE PLANES

Using a piece of A4 paper for each girl, show them how to make paper planes (see Fig 2). Each girl can mark her own with her name or other identifying device and stage a flying contest.

WALK ABOUT

This game encourages the Rainbow Guides to listen carefully and to follow directions. You will need blindfolds for half the group at a time — or trust them to keep their eyes shut tight.

One half of the group line up blindfolded, spread as far apart as space allows. The other girls watch, listen and may comment at the end.

The leader then gives the blindfolded girls directions

such as: 'Walk three steps forward... turn to face the door... take four more steps... turn right around once... walk three steps sideways...'

After about ten moves, they can open their eyes to see which spot they have reached. Where do the watchers think the travellers should have been?

Now it is the watchers' turn to become travellers.

Introduce right and left into the instructions to test the girls' skills further.

TORTOISE JOURNEY

This game from Sylvia Heathcote of the 14th St Anne's Rainbow Guides in Lancashire requires ingenuity and challenges the girls' ability to work together. Each group

of four or five girls is given a blanket — the 'tortoise shell'.

The object of the game is to get their tortoise (the group crawling together under their shell) from one end of the hall to the other.

Explain that tortoises travel slowly, so this is not a race. What is important is that they work together to get their tortoise 'home'.

• We featured another type of tortoise in June's *GUIDING* — did you give it a try?

TRAVEL GAMES

If you are travelling any distance with your Rainbow Guides, you might like to amuse them with one of the following activities.

WATCH OUT

Before you leave on your journey, prepare a list of about five or six objects to watch out for on the way. For example: a blackbird, a red car, a black sheep, a church tower, a bicycle for two... Cross them off your list as the girls see them.

I SPY

Another good game to test the girls' powers of observation is to ask them to look out for items beginning with a particular letter of the alphabet. For instance if you chose C, the girls might call out car, cat, cloud, caravan, cyclist...

HOME THOUGHTS

At the end of the meeting this might be the thought to take home: 'Let us all go safely on our different ways, have a good week and travel safely back to join together as Rainbow Guides at our next meeting.'

NEXT MONTH

The theme for September's Rainbow Guides' page will be Colours. You might like to try and collect some stories and poems on the subject of light and colour to use on this theme.

GETTING OUT

A TALL STORY

For most of her life the Thames sailing barge, *Xylonite*, which was launched at Mistley in 1926, was a cargo vessel. She was mainly used to carry malt and grain for East Coast brewing companies. In the early '70s, her working life ended, and, in 1977, she was acquired by a private owner who converted her into a charter barge.

The Cirdan Trust, a registered UK charity, bought *Xylonite* in 1983 and, after a major rebuild, she began a new career, allowing groups of

could have a week's sailing holiday on *Xylonite* for about £12.50 per person per day. These charges do not include food or the cost of any excursions made on shore.

SPACIOUS

Xylonite is 86ft long and over 18ft wide, so there's plenty of space both above and below decks. Her former cargo hold is now a spacious living and dining room, with a well-equipped kitchen area in one corner.

There are two gas stoves, a sink with hot and cold

to youth group leaders so Guiders will be encouraged to take a very active role in planning their cruise on *Xylonite*. They can follow one of several traditional barge routes between East Coast ports.

CRUISING

It's also possible to combine a cruise with other activities. For example, the barge could call in at Aldeburgh for the famous music festival or visit Shotley for the annual classic boat weekend.

A really adventurous unit

Guiders who have sailed on one of these induction courses will be much better able to advise their girls about what clothes and equipment to bring. For example, at sea, wind and spray can be chilling, even on a summer day, so adequate warm and waterproof clothing will be needed.

A booklet about planning the cruise is also available from the Cirdan Trust, it's regularly updated and packed with information about organising and running a cruise.

Xylonite has a full-time qualified crew of two, who are used to taking inexpe-

Thames Sailing Barge *Xylonite*



Sleeping peacefully, opposite Pin Mill in the Orwell

young people to taste the excitement and adventure of sailing in a tall ship, at very low cost.

The Cirdan Trust is funded by private donations and sponsorship, so the scale of charges is very modest. The sum charged is for the hire of the whole barge, and its crew, so it's up to a group to decide how the cost is shared between them. A weekend cruise from Friday evening to Sunday morning — is

£12.50 per person per day to £15.00 per person per day. Saturday morning to Sunday morning, costs £15.00 per person per day.

This means that a group

water, a fridge and all the pots, pans, plates, and cutlery any sailors would need.

A corridor leads off the living area towards the front of the boat, where three large cabins provide accommodation for up to 12 young people and group leaders. Between the cabins, there are two toilet/washroom compartments with hot and cold water, one of which has a shower.

If the weather is cold *Xylonite* is heated by two solid fuel stoves of the type which were traditionally used in her trading days.

One of the Cirdan Trust's aims is to provide a service

who like a real challenge, might ask for the chance to race *Xylonite* in one of several barge matches.

Someone who has sailed on *Xylonite*, used the cooking facilities and seen the storage arrangements obviously will be better equipped to plan a cruise than someone who hasn't, so leaders are encouraged to spend a couple of days on the barge, prior to arranging a group cruise.

A modest charge of £50 is made for this 48-hour induction period. This charge includes all meals and the fee is refunded if a group booking is subsequently made.

MARTIN MARTIN



GETTING OUT

rienced people to sea. They are responsible for the running of the vessel and safety aboard. But the group leader is in charge of all leisure activities and domestic arrangements. These include purchasing food to stock the barge, before and during the voyage, and cooking meals for everyone on board, including the crew.

Throughout the voyage, those on board are treated as additional crew and are

totally involved in sailing *Xylonite* and keeping her smart and well-maintained.

This will involve the leader in setting up a rota so that some girls are crewing the barge while others are carrying out domestic duties, like cooking and washing clothes.

EMBARKING

Usually a group would join *Xylonite* in her home port of Malden in Essex but, during the racing period, arrangements may have to be made to go on board at another port.

Once on board, stores will have to be packed away but, if cabins have been allotted prior to the voyage, it isn't long before the barge is ready to sail. However, ships wait for tides, so whether *Xylonite* leaves her berth that evening, or early next morning, will depend on a favourable tide.

One of the first things Rangers or Guides will learn is how to read charts. These are sea and river maps which show the positions of deep channels and mark where there are possible hazards such as submerged wrecks or sandbanks just under water.

Charts have to be studied alongside tables which give the variation in water depths at hourly intervals between high and low tides.

Navigation lessons will also be on the agenda and these will involve listening to the shipping forecast, and using information it gives about the wind to work out a course to steer.

There will be other, more practical, lessons to learn

and even girls who've been around boats all their lives will find sailing *Xylonite* a challenging experience.

HEAVY FIN

Most sailing ships are deep in the water and have a heavy fin — called a keel — under the hull, which helps to stop the boat being pushed sideways by the wind.

Barges were designed for the shallow creeks and inlets of the East Coast, so *Xylonite* only has 2ft 8ins of her hull in the water and doesn't have a keel.

Instead, on each side of the boat there are two flat boards, known as lee boards. In shallow waters these are pulled up and lie high against *Xylonite's* sides. But, out at sea, one or other will be lowered to act as a keel and help the barge keep to her planned course.

Another difference between *Xylonite* and a yacht is the sheer size of her equipment. Her masts are as big as telegraph poles and her sails are adjusted by pulling on ropes almost as big as a man's wrist. So anyone who isn't fit can expect a few aches and pains after the first day's sailing.

Although *Xylonite* is big, she is very easy to handle, making her ideal for teaching inexperienced young people how to sail a tall ship. Her roomy accommodation, spacious deck and comparatively wide access stairs mean that girls with disabilities are welcomed on board. Many physically handicapped young people have found her a safe but challenging environment, where they could test and extend their capabilities.

Those who don't know the East Coast can ask for suggestions where to cruise and what places to visit during the voyage.

CAPITAL CALL

One obvious choice is to sail up the Thames to London, stopping on the way to visit the famous clipper *Cutty Sark* and the Greenwich

Maritime Museum. Followed by sailing past Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament and experiencing the thrill of having Tower Bridge lifted to allow *Xylonite* to pass through.



One of the most beautiful rivers in the region is the Orwell where, at the head of the river, *Xylonite* can moor in historic Ipswich.

An alternative, very picturesque, overnight stop in this river is to drop anchor in the bay opposite the village of Pin Mill.

The Deben is another attractive river with interesting things to see, like the last remaining tidal mill on the East Coast and the Saxon burial ship at Sutton Hoo.

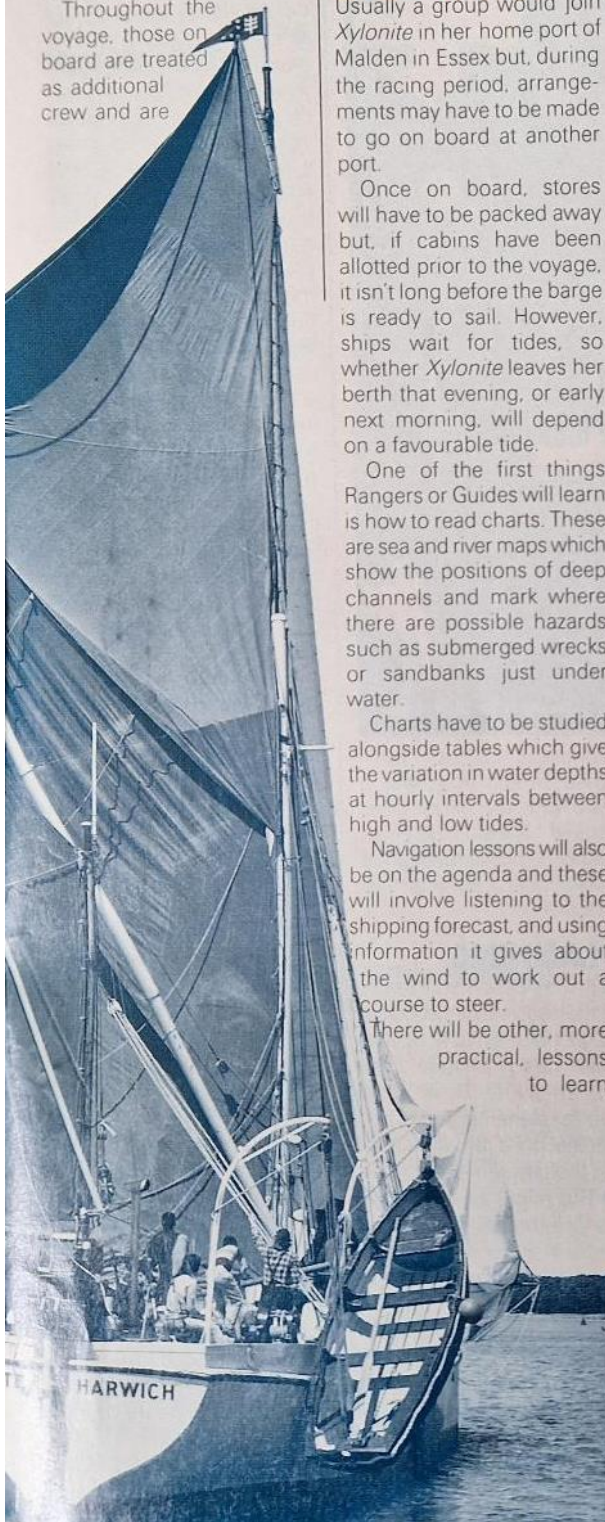
Taking a trip on a Thames barge is a great experience whether it is just sitting doing nothing while the barge whispers along in almost no wind or rushing along in a flurry of spray when the wind blows hard.

It's also fun to sit in the big, warm saloon, listening to the crew telling stories about the trading days. And it was wonderful to tumble into a bunk at night tired after hauling in the sails or taking a turn at the wheel.

MARIAN MARTIN

● Further information can be obtained by writing to: The Cirdan Trust, Fulbridge Wharf, Maldon, Essex CM9 7LE, tel: 0621 851433.

By the end of the holiday you'll know which rope to pull!



MARIAN MARTIN

BROWNIE GUIDERS

This is the month which stretches gloriously ahead, invitingly free of all routine Guiding responsibility. It's also the month which whizzes by faster than any of the other eleven, dumping you unceremoniously at the beginning of another Guiding year with truly amazing speed!

Don't be caught out! Use the rare opportunity of meeting-free weeks to put your Brownie house in order and be ready to return to the game one step ahead.

RECORDS

- Bring records up-to-date. Fill in those neglected spaces, so you really know how far each Brownie has moved along her personal road. Make sure you've recorded any change of address and telephone number.

- Check each girl's progress on Footpath, Road or Highway. Has anyone almost finished a Journey? Perhaps you could incorporate her needs into your early September meetings to give a real sense of achievement and to move her along to the next challenge.

- Contact new recruits in good time, ensuring they know where and when to come and what to bring. If possible, make sure each new entrant knows someone from her Six. If she's new to the area you could consider arranging a get-together at your home for a few members of her Six, in order to give her confidence for the first meeting.

- Bring accounts up-to-date and bank cash at the beginning of August, especially if your house will be empty.

EQUIPMENT

- Check your Badge box. Are you short of enough emblems, badges, nametapes, etc. to last the year?

- Check your first aid box, disinfectant, etc. for expired medication.



Be ready for their return

- Sort out the Brownie cupboard, making sure play equipment such as ropes, beanbags and balls, paper, paints and sticky shapes are where you like them to be.

- Take a critical look at Pack treasures such as the toadstool, pool and owl. Try to see them through the eyes of next term's new recruits! Have they gradually become tatty without your noticing? If so, should you refurbish them before September? Have you enough recruit booklets and Handbooks for the new intake?

SIXES

- Take time for a good look at the make up of your Sixes. Is every child happy in her group? Is there a representative selection of ages from Sixer to newest recruit? Does any Sixer have an unfair number of 'awkward'

youngsters to cope with? When should you have a word with the oldest ones about transferring to Guides? Who will make good replacement Sixers and Seconds?

PLANNING

- It may be difficult to get all the leaders together during August as, inevitably, holiday dates rarely coincide. Even so, do try to fit in some group planning time, and decide on a broad outline for the term ahead.

- This might include Promise Ceremonies, harvest and Christmas Good Turns and, maybe, a party, theatre visit or carol service. Decide who is responsible for each activity, and make sure you involve your Young Leader and/or Pack Leader in some of the more interesting aspects of the Programme.

It's unfair only to give them games to run. They are capable of a good deal more and, in the case of the Young Leader, you have an obligation to help her achieve the training necessary for her certificate.

- Examine each Brownie's need for progress along the Journeys, and allow time to discuss with each group which challenges they prefer. If possible, arrange a brief chat with each individual, though that is a counsel of perfection, especially if you have a full Pack and the minimum number of helpers.

- Where other people are involved, such as at a bring and buy sale or open evening, jot down the dates on which you need to put out your invitations or publicity.

In the case of a Christmas theatre visit, it's a good idea to make a provisional phone reservation for an estimated number the moment booking opens, usually at the end of August.

Send information to the parents at the first September meeting, giving an early deadline for return of order and money.

If you leave it much later than this, all the best seats will have been taken, and Brownies do love to be at the front where there is a good chance of being involved in the action!

- Finally, when you know the plans for the new term, don't keep them to yourself! Give parents a list of dates and events or, better still, a cheerful, welcoming Newsletter to take them right through the term. This should ensure maximum co-operation and turnout for all your events.

You'll find that the time spent in being thoroughly organised will be well worth the effort. After all, August is probably the last breathing space you're going to get until Boxing Day!

GILLIAN ELLIS

GUIDE GUIDERS

Knotting can be fun. It can open up many an opportunity for discovery, adventure, teamwork, and skill. There is plenty for Guides to uncover on the knotting front, and many an idea for an evening's activity for you to use.

WHAT KNOT?

Every Guide Unit should at least own the bare essentials for any knotting activity. Forget the bits of string. What you need is enough longish lengths of the sort of rope girls use for skipping for each Guide, plus a few spares.

Aim to build up a collection of different kinds and different thicknesses of rope. This way the Guides can see for themselves that each type of rope has its advantages and its disadvantages. They can also gain invaluable, firsthand experience of which job each rope is best for.

As well as a collection of rope, you do also need an assortment of different types of string. First of all you will be using this to whip the ends of your ropes and, later, for lashings, whippings and, perhaps, also decorative knotting.

You can never buy too much string but it is all too easy to buy too little! Teach the Guides to respect string, it should be recycled whenever possible as even small lengths can be re-used (see Reef Knot Circle below).

Gradually build up a collection of gadget wood of all qualities, thicknesses, and lengths. Hoard garden canes; bamboo canes; high-quality gadget wood — your Camp Adviser will show you examples; redundant tent poles (aluminium as well as wooden); and strong poles that are suitable for pioneering activities.

Finally, find someone who has the time to make you a set of practical knotting cards, which can be used for years. Buy two copies of *Knotting for Guides*, a stack of A4

card, and several packs of A4 transparent envelopes. Cut out and mount the instructions for each knot on to a piece of A4 card, label it in large letters, and put it into a protective envelope.

TIPS

With a little practice most people can learn new knots by following step-by-step instructions and illustrations. If you are teaching a group of Guides how to tie a knot, remember to get them to stand beside you, rather than in front. This avoids having to say your left/my right each time.

Try some of these activities below to give your unit's knotting sessions a new and interesting flavour.

WHIPPED ENDS

If you've just invested in a new set of rope lengths, get the Guides to take an interest in them from the start. Let them discover for themselves the disadvantage of unwhipped rope, and the advantages/disadvantages of quick-solution stopper knots to prevent fraying.

After one or two knotting sessions, they will all see the sense in whipping the ends as well as possible. Let them discover for themselves which kind of string is best for the job.

NEW KNOTS

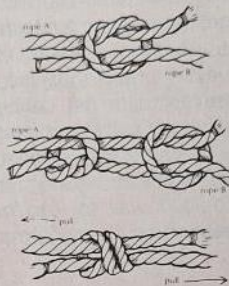
Extend your unit's knotting repertoire by the 'learn one, teach one' method. Scatter the knotting cards around the room and challenge every Guide to go and teach herself a new knot. This means, not only how to tie it, but what it is called, and what it is usually used for. You could suggest that Guides working for their Yellow or Green Trefoils might learn a knot from their syllabuses.

After a given time Patrols get together and teach each other what they have learned.

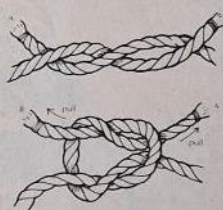
BEST KNOTS

Provide each Patrol with lengths of differing types of string and rope, knotting cards or a book, and any other necessary equipment. Within a given time, say 45 minutes, they are to discover the best knot for as many

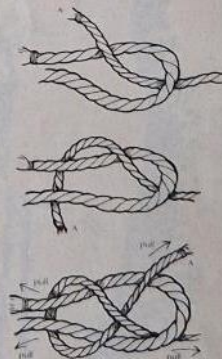
Fisherman's Knot



Reef Knot.



Sheet-bend.



different situations as possible. Encourage them to research the problems, both from the given literature, and by trial and error.

Ask them which knot(s) they would use to:

- Tie every Guide's length of rope together to make one long length.
- Put a handle around the top of a jam jar for a pond-dipping expedition.

- Make a long, pond-dipping net out of short canes, wire, and muslin.

- Create a buoy for a two-metre deep canal out of a balloon, a brick, and some short lengths of thin rope.

- Cordon off an area of two square metres, using only a Silva compass, tent poles, tent pegs, rope or string, and a small ruler.

- Transport a pile of tent poles over a given area, with only two Guides available to carry them.

- Tie a string to a blown-up balloon.

- Secure a cowboy's horse outside the tavern so that the horse is there for the cowboy to escape on as quickly as possible.

- Tie yourself to one end of a rope so that you can be 'hauled' safely back to base by the rest of your Patrol.

- Construct an emergency washing line for your parents.

- Make the ends of any bandage secure.

LIGHTHOUSE CHALLENGE

This is a good activity for warm afternoons in camp. Challenge the Guides to build a lighthouse from the given materials, possibly demonstrating as many different knots, whippings, and lashings as they can. Part of the challenge could be to draw up detailed plans of the construction before they start. Provide: gadget wood of all kinds, string, rope, torch bulbs, batteries, wire, paper clips and so on.

REEF KNOT CIRCLE

Challenge each Patrol, or the whole unit, to join together as many short lengths of string as possible in a given time, say two minutes, using reef knots, or perhaps sheet-bends, to form one large circle. This could be a running challenge every few weeks until you have a unit full of master knotters!

CANCER OF THE BREAST

Daphne Pearson, a doctor and former District Commissioner for South Sutton contacted *GUIDING* to tell us how she felt when she discovered she had breast cancer. Dr Pearson wondered if readers would be interested in her reaction to the news and the way she refused to let it spoil her life. We felt her message of hope and encouragement was worth passing on.

Many women develop lumps in their breasts and go through a diagnostic biopsy. For some the news is good — the lump is benign. Others require further treatment. Some are found to have cancer and the treatment for some of them will be a mastectomy — the removal of a breast or, in a few cases, both breasts.

The myth that you are only half a woman after this needs to be dispelled once and for all. I know — because I have recently had a mastectomy and it hasn't made any difference to me.

Fortunately, many breast surgeons are aware of the feelings of being mutilated which patients used to have and are now doing a reconstruction operation so that they can have an immediate replacement if possible. Even if they have to make do with a 'false' no one need notice the difference.

Imagine how I felt when I got back from holiday last summer to find a letter which, after the usual pleasantries, said: 'Your mammography was suspicious. Please come for an appointment on Monday week'.

My husband and I are both doctors, so we reacted in a slightly abnormal way — I certainly didn't believe it would be cancer and was relieved at the thought of how busy our people would be when I received the same letter.

When I received the letter I told my family and everyone I met so that when the next stage

— a biopsy — came back suspicious we were all prepared. I didn't really believe it until my husband came with me to Out Patients, which he's never done before. We discussed with the surgeon when I would be admitted for my mastectomy and reconstruction.

This, I'm told, is the way people cope and the doctors help — by feeding you a bit more information each time you go to see them. I've always thought that if you were going to get cancer, the breast was the place to get it as it can be removed.

When it came to the point I couldn't wait to lose my breast and stop any spread

— I'd already begun to wonder whether my back-ache and my cough were caused by secondaries.

DIFFICULT

At the time I felt I couldn't go to work and listen to other people's problems, as mine needed to be freed and dealt with. Of course this was equally difficult for my husband, who had to go on working and dealing with his own patients with various forms of blood cancer.

I faced the waiting by telling everyone I see regularly. After all, I couldn't just disappear into hospital and

then convalesce without people noticing. In the end my daughter said: 'Do you have to tell everyone you're having a plastic boob, Mum?' I then began to feel guilty burdening everyone, and left the grape-vine to do the rest.

While I was out shopping getting my winter wardrobe for when I came out of hospital, some people were shaking tins collecting for the Marsden Cancer Research and I felt very



strange. I thought, 'They're collecting money for me'.

I couldn't face going to the family service that Sunday so I went to eight o'clock Communion. I must have reduced the average age by half and I found it quite difficult going through a service I know by heart when 'everlasting life' is frequently referred to and we say 'Thy will be done'. That was the only time I asked 'Why me?'. After that I thought, 'Thank God it's now, when all my children can cope, and thank God it's not one of them.'

I was offered a private

room but declined on the grounds that I would cheer up the rest of the ward! Actually, I know only too well that if you are on a general ward and everyone else has the same problem as you, you support each other. When I arrived and saw the patient who had 'been done' the day before walking down the ward (with her drain bottle in a pretty flowery bag) wearing a pair of fashionable shortie pyjamas, I knew I'd be OK.

FAITH

I took all my make up into hospital and my prettiest nighties, scissors to deal with the flowers, several books and my one year Bible. Among the readings while I was in was Psalm 62:

'I stand silently before the Lord waiting for him to rescue me. For salvation comes from him alone. Yes, he alone is my rock, my rescuer, defence and fortress.' My faith kept me going.

The feeling of empathy on the ward was amazing. I had my weep over a young patient who was dying without God and was terrified. My friend cried when her flowers were thrown away. You wouldn't be human if you didn't cry over something. I hope my being there helped other people to realise that cancer can affect anyone — even doctors.

One day one of the other patients and I compared our different reconstructions in the bathroom! Actually hers looked more natural than mine, but that's because I

had very little breast in the first place, and my reconstruction has to be 'blown up and then let down' to produce a natural droop!

Occupational therapy in the ward was flower arranging, when I had time between visitors. It was great to be allowed to put your own clothes on as soon as you wanted to, although the family did bring me some rather strange assortments of loose clothing!

NOT ILL

My mother was amazed when she came to see me. Not only was I dressed, but walked down three flights of stairs with her to say goodbye. The older generation has a funny idea that when you're in hospital you ought to be ill. The only time I felt ill was just after the anaesthetic, although the drain bottles which you have to carry round for two days are a bit restricting.

I also had a stiff arm which I hadn't to raise above 90 degrees for three months and I had to do physiotherapy and wear things that button down the front. I expected to be driving after about six weeks, but was in no rush to be at everyone's beck and call again!

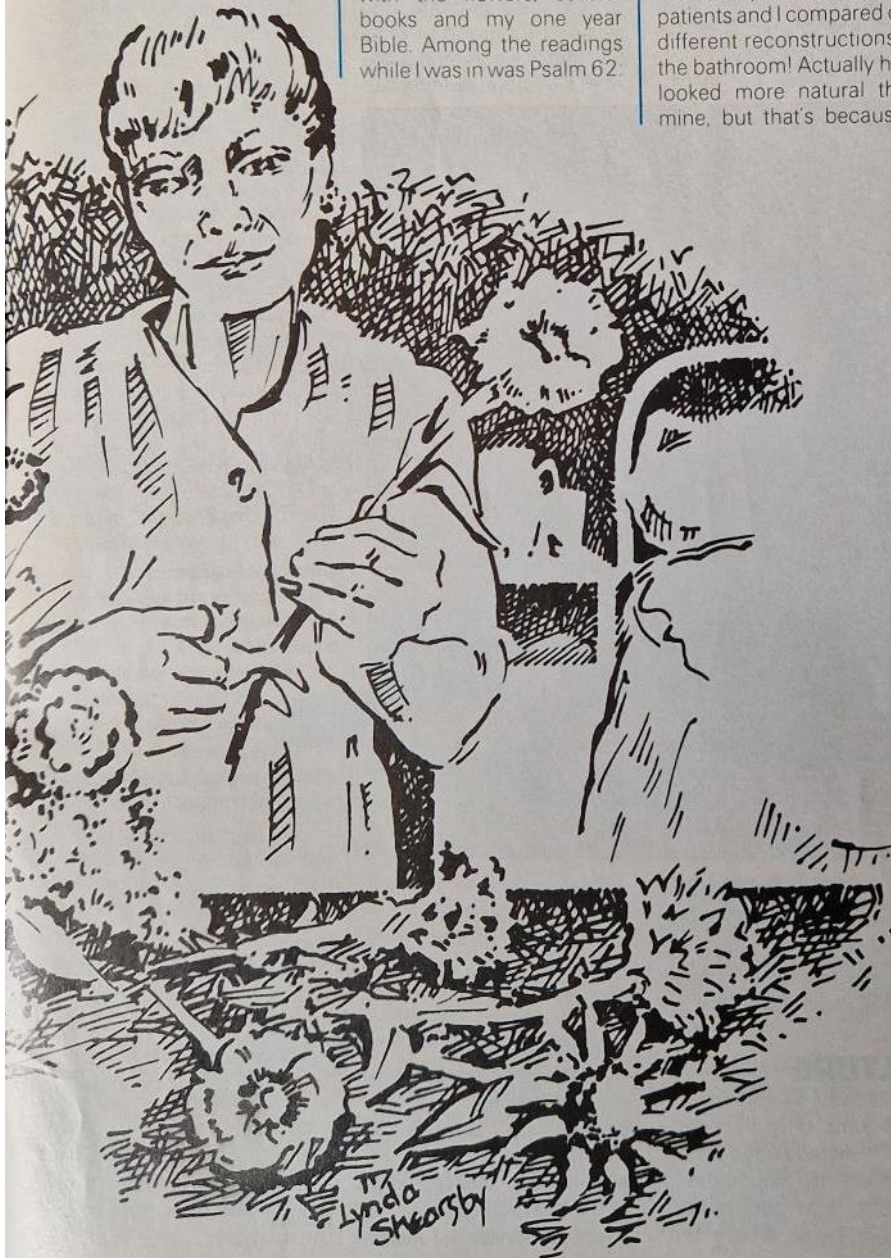
On going home, neighbours and friends cooked, shopped, sent flowers and presents, and surrounded me with love. I was a bit tired sometimes, and had a course of chemotherapy — three weekly intravenous shots for 18 weeks.

It meant I had to 'prioritise' all my activities and concentrate on 'me and mine' first.

That means that Guiding will have to give way to my paid work — although I'm sure I won't be allowed to get away! Nor would I want to. After all I have to prove that having cancer doesn't make any difference to what you can do in life. The fuller the life you lead, the more you enjoy it.

I will, however, be more caring and understanding of other people's life events and I hope God will help me to share the faith I have.

DAPHNE PEARSON 43



RANGER GUIDERS

If we acknowledge that the advancement of young women is one of the aims of Ranger Guiders, then we have to consider whether we have the skills and the information to help the Rangers to advance. Having a woman and an ex-Guide as the first Briton in space should be demonstrating to members that women can be the first, can lead the way into the widest of worlds.

SELF IMAGE

One of the parts in the Creativity section of Action Plus deals with self image. It aims to help the individual to look very positively at herself, so that she can consider how she might progress. To help young women to advance, we have to help them to be aware of where they come from, and where they are going to.

Action: Read through the activities suggested on page 27 of *Action Plus*. Pick out those activities that you feel the Unit could support for those involved with Action Plus. Choose those activities that you think a young Ranger could achieve alone. Select those activities that you hope the Rangers will avoid. If there are some activities that fall into this last category, then ask yourself *why* you feel that way.

Some of the activities may well touch on aspects of life which will be difficult for some to face but, if you shy away from them or give evasive answers, it will be even more difficult for your Rangers.

Activity: As an alternative to making a personal life map, why not make a Unit life map. How far back can you remember? Where are you now? What are the members of the Unit?

...to organise ... Celebrate ... understanding ... and ... as you can ... and then get the ... members of the Unit to hunt

out the missing pieces.

Activity: Having got the life of the Unit mapped out, how about getting each Ranger to fit her own life map around this. It doesn't have to be in great detail, just accept whatever the Rangers want to tell you.

Remember — the Rangers will only tell you what they want you to know. Be sensitive to this.

Consider a similar way into the activity based on family trees. For some young women you may feel that this is a no-go area. Many of the programme activities for Rangers have the magic

individual might be asked to discuss her own role in the life of her family group.

You may have to decide whether you feel able to support those young women who find it difficult to discuss their past family life, or whether you would rather build around yourself — and the Unit — alternative means of supporting them.

The second alternative is probably easier for units that are closely linked with a particular religious community. Or units that are one section of a group of units meeting in a common place where all adult leaders are

of local youth groups.

If there is nothing in your area, could you help to get something started? Remember for young women of Ranger age, *today* is important. To have someone available to listen *now* is what counts.

FORWARD

Looking back may just be the right trigger for looking forward in a more positive way. Some Units do find it difficult to plan ahead. Looking back might give you the opportunity to highlight those activities that could usefully be reintroduced into the programme; to put to one side those which you wish had never happened; and to evaluate activities which the members in the existing Unit have experienced in the recent past.

From such a base you might help the Unit plan for the next three months including, not only those things that are traditionally part of the programme, but new ideas too.

Activity: Make enquiries in your area about speakers who the Unit Secretary might approach to explain about:

- the benefits agency
- writing letters of application
- completing forms
- looking for work
 - using the telephone effectively
 - local training schemes
- family health programmes
- personal fitness

You might decide to check out on the suitability — or the availability — of such speakers, so that at first, at least, the secretary has some success when she approaches them.

Looking back may bring many good memories, but even some of those may be tinged with sadness for what was. There is room for that in Rangering — as long as the aim of advancement of young women is not lost in nostalgia.



Modern women

KIM TONELLI AT SCAIONI'S STUDIO

word 'or' tacked on to the end. There is usually an alternative and, certainly, there would be no need for a Ranger to choose this idea.

CULTURE

The activity would be a good lead into the new Culture staged badge (to be published in September), and into that part of the Queen's Guide where the

willing and able to use their own particular strengths. If you are not in either of these situations can you identify sources of help for individual youngsters?

- Action:** Seek out:
- youth support groups in your own community
 - counselling services for young people
 - counselling services linked to the local college
 - support service for leaders

SO FAR...

The following article starts an occasional series based on ideas presented at a new-style training weekend. So far... and yet so near.

I ASK YOU, IS THAT FAIR?

In a Movement where we strive to run our units with justice and equality at all levels, it's easy for the girls to come to regard this as the norm. But the world isn't a fair place. So few have so much and so many have so little. That's why it can, sometimes, be valuable to remind

or twelve. Explain that they may not visit other groups for any reason, but may observe them from their own corner.

Groups are given paper and felt-tipped pens. Large sheets of fresh, clean paper and nice, new sets of pens are given to the two small groups; a medium-sized sheet of paper and a limited set of pens to the middle-sized group; and a sheet of paper torn from an exercise book with an old set of worn-out pens for the large group.

CRISP COMMENT

An activity to consider the world's food distribution.

Divide the unit into similar groupings to the previous activity, and announce that you have a treat for them. Hand a family-sized bag of crisps to each of the two small groups; one small bag to the medium group; and half a packet to the large group. Tell them to eat the crisps, sharing them among their own group as fairly as possible.

In the following discussion,

Get them started by listing some examples of personal rights: to be listened to; to be different from others; to have pocket money; to have food and water; to go on holiday; to have a room of my own; to have fresh air; to love and be loved; to have possessions; to live in a family; to stay out late; to be free; to dress as I like; to make decisions.

Each girl has one sheet of paper divided into ten numbered sections and another sheet cut into pieces of the same size. On these slips



our young people that no matter where they come in the scheme of things in this country, almost all of them are rich compared with their counterparts in underprivileged countries.

The following activities are suitable for girls of Brownie age upwards. Try one or two to bring home to your unit how it might feel to belong to a society that is less well endowed with material goods.

PICTURE YOUR WORLD

An activity to illustrate the unequal and unfair distribution of resources among nations.

Divide the unit into four groups of unequal size with, say, three or four in two groups; five or six in another; and one large group of ten

Ask the girls to draw a picture of their home town or village, each person drawing at least one thing. Tell them they have ten minutes to complete this task.

Show the pictures and discuss how the girls felt during the exercise. How did the large group react to their inadequate materials? How did they feel when they saw the new pens and paper the others were given? Did they all have time for a turn? Was there room on their paper? Did the well-equipped groups feel they wanted to share with the others though they weren't allowed to?

'It's not fair!' will certainly be heard at some point. Be ready with some facts about the distribution of the world's resources to make your point.

point out on a world map the areas where people do not have enough to eat, and those where there is far too much available. To drive the point home, flip through an illustrated cookery book or a glossy menu card from an expensive restaurant.

Make sure the girls change groups before beginning the second activity.

THE RIGHTS BALLOON

An activity to consider the rights of young people and the value judgments placed on these.

The unit decides in discussion the ten personal rights they collectively consider the most important. Some may have to be decided by majority vote, which is all part of the exercise.

she writes each of the ten chosen rights.

Each girl draws a balloon, using a template if necessary, on to which she attaches her ten slips of paper.

The leader announces that everyone is on board a balloon, which is drifting gently over the sea. Also on board are her rights, each weighing 2kg.

Suddenly the balloon begins to lose height. To prevent it crashing, each girl must jettison the one right which she is prepared to sacrifice. This is removed from the balloon and stuck to section one of the numbered sheet.

The balloon continues to lose height, so a second right must be given up. The process continues until each girl has only one right left — the one which she feels is

TRY THIS

most important.

Activities following on from this are up to the Guider. A Brownie might decorate her balloon shape with an illustration of her chosen right. Guides could compare the order in which their rights were jettisoned and discuss the reasons for their choice.

Rangers might go further by discussing how the rights of people in underdeveloped countries might differ from those they have chosen.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES?

An activity to illustrate the effect one's place of birth can have upon the opportunities presented through life.

You will need a coin, a bag of dried beans or similar and a paper cup or small box.

All players toss the coin to determine whether they are born in the developing or developed world. Those in the former receive three beans, while those in the latter receive ten beans.

From a reasonable distance, each player in turn attempts to throw her beans one by one into the cup. Those beans which don't reach the cup are lost. Those which do are given back.

When everyone has thrown, each player's remaining beans are assessed on the following scale:

- 1 bean = the chance of surviving the first year of life.
- 2 beans = receiving primary education.
- 3 beans = receiving secondary education.
- 4 beans = progressing to higher education.
- 5 beans = obtaining paid employment.
- 6 beans = earning enough to support a family.
- 7 beans = first child surviving its first year.

The girls may question the validity of this game on the grounds that some aim better than others. Point out that

this, too, is largely a matter of chance.

WATER BABIES

Many Third World girls have to carry water for their families daily, often for long distances. Challenge your unit to some watery activities... preferably outdoors! Can they:

- Carry a bucket, almost full of water, round a pre-determined course without spilling any?
- Balance a margarine pot containing a small amount of water on their heads and walk the same course?
- Repeat the above with a full pot?
- Repeat with a four-litre ice-cream container full?

WORLD NEIGHBOURS

Choose from the following activities to heighten the girls' awareness that their neighbours are not only those who live in their street, town, country or even continent. We need to dem-

onstrate that only when neighbourliness extends to all men everywhere will inequality have even the remotest chance of being ironed out.

● Make a collection of newspaper and magazine cuttings about underprivileged countries. Use it as a starting point for discussion on practical ways you could help.

● Adopt a Third World child through Action Aid, Tear Fund or a similar organisation. Ask each member of the unit to bring 10p per week from her own pocket money to sponsor the child's education and to write to her regularly. Hold a fund-raising event to make up any shortfall on your unit's annual contribution.

● Invite a representative of an international organisation to visit your unit and talk to the girls about ways in which they could offer help. If you are unsure whom to contact, a good starting point would be UNICEF, 55 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3NB. Tel: 071-405 5592.



● Join in the Emergency Box Challenge as part of Celebration '91. See the details in February's *GUIDING* or contact Guiding Activities, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.

THE WORLD IN A CARRIER BAG

An activity to identify the source of our foodstuffs and to develop an awareness that many of the poorer countries are feeding the richer ones.

Give each Six or Patrol a carrier bag containing assorted tins and packets of food, at least ten for each group but more if wished.

Each group also needs a small outline map of the world mounted on a polystyrene tile or similar, drawing pins, wool, pen, scissors and a copy of *Foods Coming Into The UK*. A large world map should be on display.

Each group unpacks its carrier bag and studies the

labels and/or food list to discover the origin. The large map can be consulted to find the relevant countries and their positions marked on the small map. A length of wool is tied round each item and the long end pinned to the map, to make a display on the group table.

This activity may be extended to marking each item with the price paid for it. Discussion could follow on cost, mode of transport,

distance the food has travelled and the relative wealth of the country of origin. Discuss why some foods are cheap others expensive.

GILLIAN ELLIS

SOURCES

The Rights Balloon, Centre for Global Education;
World in a Supermarket Bag, Oxfam;
Foods coming into the UK list in *From Dhaka to Dundee*, War on Want.

FOODS COMING INTO THE UK

TEA:	India, China, Sri Lanka, Japan, Tanzania, USSR, Bangladesh.
COFFEE:	Brazil, Nicaragua, Colombia, Ivory Coast, Uganda, Angola, Ethiopia, Kenya.
SUGAR CANE:	West Indies, Cuba, Brazil, India.
SUGAR BEET:	UK, France, USA, USSR.
COCOA:	(For chocolate etc.) Nigeria, Ivory Coast, Brazil, Cameroon, Ghana.
HONEY:	Australia (Inc. Tasmania), Cuba, Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, China, West Indies.
CEREALS:	For bread etc. (wheat, barley, oats, rye, maize, millet) USA, Canada, Peru, Mexico, Bolivia, Argentina, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Morocco, Tunisia, UK, Spain, France, Germany, USSR, China, Australia.
RICE:	India, Bangladesh, Burma, Thailand, Kampuchea, Vietnam, Malaysia, Italy.
PASTA:	Italy, Greece.
POPCORN:	USA.
LENTILS:	France, USA, Turkey.
BEANS:	China, Turkey, Peru, USA, Ethiopia (all kinds of beans).

NUTS

PEANUTS:	China.
ALMONDS:	USA, Spain.
CHESTNUTS:	Italy.
COCONUTS:	West Indies, Philippines.
HAZELNUTS:	Turkey, Italy.
WALNUTS:	India, Turkey.
SUNFLOWER SEEDS:	USA, France.

FRUIT

APPLES:	— fresh, jam, juices and so on.
APRICOTS:	France, USA, South Africa, UK, Chile, Turkey, Afghanistan.
BANANAS:	West Indies, Costa Rica, Philippines.
GRAPES:	Greece, Chile, South Africa, Spain.
CHERRIES:	UK, Italy.
DATES:	Morocco, Iran, Iraq, Israel.
FIGS:	Turkey, Greece.
PEARS:	UK, France, Australia, South Africa.
PLUMS:	France, UK.
PEACHES:	Australia, South Africa, Italy.
ORANGES:	South Africa, Israel, Spain, Cyprus.
LEMONS:	Greece, Israel, West Indies.
GRAPEFRUIT:	Israel, South Africa, USA.

TOMATOES:	Italy, Canary Islands, Netherlands, Guernsey.
CURRENTS:	Greece.
PRUNES:	USA, France.
RAISINS:	Turkey, USA, Afghanistan.
SULTANAS:	Australia, Greece, Turkey.
POTATOES:	UK, Spain, Cyprus, Egypt.
ONIONS:	Spain, UK, Netherlands, Chile.
CARROTS:	UK, Netherlands, Italy.
CABBAGE:	UK, Netherlands.
LETTUCE:	UK, Israel, Spain, USA.
PEPPERS:	Canary Islands, Spain, Italy.
AUBERGINES:	Israel, Italy, Netherlands.
SWEETCORN:	USA, South Africa, Mexico, Israel.
LEEKs:	UK, France.
PEAS:	UK.
SWEDE/TURNIP:	UK.
CELERY:	Israel, Spain, Italy.
GREEN BEANS:	UK, Kenya, France.
GARLIC:	Italy.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

CHEESE:	UK, France, Switzerland, Greece, Denmark, Netherlands.
BUTTER:	UK, France, Netherlands, Denmark, Ireland.
MARGARINE:	(sunflower) USA, France.
EGGS:	UK, France.

MEAT

BEEF:	Canada, Venezuela, Brazil, Argentina, USA, Mexico, India, China, New Zealand, Australia, UK, France, Germany, USSR, Ireland, South Africa.
LAMB:	Canada, USA, Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay, Argentina, USSR, South Africa, Somalia, Australia, New Zealand.
PORK:	USA, Brazil, UK, France, Germany, USSR, China, Kampuchea, Malaysia.
ANIMAL FEED:	Indonesia, Brazil, USA.
MAIN FISHING GROUNDS:	East and West coast of USA, off coast of Peru, North Sea, Bay of Biscay, Cape of Good Hope, N. Arabian Sea, N. Bay of Bengal, Sea of Japan, South China Sea, Around Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia.

YOUNG LEADERS

Here are some ideas for all sections to cover Clause 8 of the Young Leader Scheme. They are from Anne Thompson, Young Leader Adviser for North West England.

THE MAGIC RAINBOW

For Rainbows: Equip yourself with different coloured card, paper, shade chart and choose a location near your meeting place, for example a park, playground, field, quiet street, market square or church park.

Look for as many objects as possible which will match the coloured paper or card and make a note of them. These need not all be natural objects and there could be more than one with the same colour: paint on a door, curtains, fencing...

Make up a bag for each Rainbow containing a piece of all the colours that you have found and, if you like, one or two extra. Give each helper a pencil, paper and clipboard.

Divide the Rainbows into groups, so there is a helper for each group, who has a pencil, paper, clipboard and watch. Give each Rainbow one of the bags that you have prepared, then tell them this story:

'Very early this morning, before any of you were awake, there was a most beautiful rainbow and the end of the rainbow landed in... (name a location you have chosen). Then a wonderful thing happened, as it touched the ground, it split into all different colours and hid in many different things.'

'In your bag you have a small piece of each of the different colours. You will have to go with your helper and find where the colours have hidden. If you find a colour that matches the one in your bag, you can write it down on your clipboard. You have 15 minutes (or as long as you decide) and then



Searching for the magic rainbow

we will see if we have found all the hiding places.'

● **Make sure all leaders have watches so they get back in time.**

TREASURE TROVE

For Brownies: Again choose a suitable location near your meeting place (for locations see the Rainbow activity). From your chosen area collect different objects for each Six. For example leaf or leaves; feather; wall flower; moss; or what is available.

Note: For four Sixes you will need to collect four of each object. You might wish to include non-natural objects, if there are several of them in the location you have selected. Make a note of where you found, or could find, each item. Put the things you have chosen into a suitable container, one for each Six.

At the meeting give each Six a container you have prepared and pencil, paper and clipboard and say the following:

'Treasure was found in... (name area you have selected). In the next 20 minutes (or appropriate time) can your Six find:

● **Exactly where the treasure came from.**

● **Any identical piece of treasure, for example the same size, shape...**

The Guider/Young Leader/Pack Leader will let you know how much time you have left. Be back in the meeting room or other appropriate place by...

When they return, award one point if they've found the right location and three points for every identical piece of treasure found (one or two points if nearly identical).

PROBLEM SOLVING

For Guides: You'll need a blindfold for every member of the Patrol; a good, clear whistle; a stop watch, watch with second hand or digital watch; one or two more people to help you; pencil; paper; and clipboard.

The more interesting the surroundings the more challenging the activity, so scout out playgrounds, fields, open wasteland.

The aim of the game is to see which Patrol takes the least time to solve the problem. Of course, you should not let a Patrol which has not completed the challenge watch another Patrol.

Get the Patrol together and tell them to have a good look at the area they are in. Are there trees, buildings, walls, fences, streams, bushes? Is it hilly or flat? Check they can all hear the whistle, then give them the

challenge.

All members of your Patrol will be blindfolded and taken to different parts of the area, one member of your Patrol will be given a whistle and the other members must make their way to her.

She must line up the Patrol in height order, tallest on her right, shortest on her left. And, when she has done this, she must call out that she has finished.

This must be done as quickly as possible, and the time will start when the whistle is blown, ending with the word 'finished'. The whole activity must be done in silence.

Time penalties will be incurred. A penalty of 30 seconds will be added to the final time for each time anyone speaks or makes a noise and 30 seconds will be added if the team is not lined up in the right order. You have two minutes to discuss and ask questions, then you will be blindfolded and led away to starting positions.

Ask your helpers to blindfold the girls at the end of the two minutes. Spin them round and take them to different parts of the chosen area.

You can put them facing trees, bushes or walls and so on, but keep watch so they do not endanger themselves.

When all are positioned, give one member of the Patrol, not necessarily the Patrol Leader, the whistle and call out, so they can hear, 'Start'.

Make a note of the time, remember to note the number of penalties, record the time when 'finished' is called, then add on any penalties to the time taken. Add an extra five minutes if anyone was missing from the line up — this can happen.

This activity can take from five minutes to 35 minutes to complete.



Rangers of the J J Centre planting a tree

ZIMBABWE

POPLAR AND BULAWAYO — TWINNED BY FRIENDSHIP

They are now in their seventies, or older, and no longer as active in the Movement as they would like to be, but the Guiding light still shines brilliantly for the Friends of Poplar.

All former Guides and ex-members of the Trefoil Guild, they help local Guide units in and around Poplar, part of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

But they could equally well call themselves the Friends of the 12th Bulawayo (Jairos Jiri) Rangers. For friends is what they are to this Unit of severely-disabled African girls in Zimbabwe — very good friends indeed.

**ONE
WORLD**

The Ranger Guider the girls invariably call 'Capten' is Mary Dineen, a former District Commissioner and Divisional Commissioner in Zimbabwe. She emigrated to what was then Southern Rhodesia as a teacher in 1954, and took over an African Guide Company six weeks later. She is herself disabled.

'Mary often took these girls herself to the Mpilo Hospital'

Mary, whose Guiding began in South Wales with the 4th Cardiff Guide Company, found a kindred spirit in Dorothy Horsley, another expatriate teacher whom she met in Bulawayo shortly after her arrival. Soon Dorothy was helping Mary to run her Guide Company attached to an African school. Many years later Dorothy retired and now lives in a retirement home at Lowestoft, Suffolk.

Dorothy recalled: 'When Mary became a Commissioner the Jairos Jiri Centre for disabled young people was in her District and she did all she could to help the Ranger Unit there, eventually taking it over when it was without leaders.'

'Girls often arrived from far away bush villages, where little or no modern medical help was available. Leg deformities were made worse by primitive kraal living conditions.'

'Mary often took these girls herself



Taking a break from fund raising (left to right) Nell West, Betty Dunn and Margaret Greaves



Friends meet: Grace Turnbull (left) and Lily French

to the Mpilo hospital, nearby, and badgered the busy doctors to operate on the girls' legs so that they could, at least, be upright on crutches and eventually use calipers or be in wheelchairs.'

In Zimbabwe there is no upper age limit for Rangers. One of the girls was Farisai, then 26. Crippled by polio in early childhood, she had been able to

move only by dragging herself about on her knees. At the hospital her legs were broken, re-set and encased in plaster, in the hope that she would eventually be able to walk upright with the aid of crutches.

When Mary went on leave to England she met Dorothy's friend, Frances Hobby, a former Commissioner for Poplar, who was then chairman of the Poplar Trefoil Guild, whose members later became the Friends of Poplar Guides.

She told Frances of the plight of the grossly-disabled Rangers of Mata-

'Never will I forget what you did for me'

beleland (a region of Zimbabwe), their poverty and the struggle to provide them with the special footwear, calipers, wheelchairs and, in particular, about Farisai.

Frances, with the support of a group of her ex-Guide pals — the Friends of Poplar — launched the Farisai Fund, not only to help this patient, quiet girl but others like her, some of them blind. Among the Friends were Lily French



and Betty Dunn, both of Woodford, Margaret Greaves and Nell West, both of Poplar, and Grace Turnbull, formerly of Poplar and now living at Ely, Cambridgeshire.

That all happened a long time ago. Farisai is in her mid-thirties now and Mary Dineen has since retired from teaching, although she is still in Bulawayo and still a Ranger Guider, as well as Guider Adviser to Mpilo Division.

Yet the Farisai Fund is still going strong — thanks to the Friends of Poplar. They raise money mostly by bring-and-buy sales and similar events. Many of the things they sell in aid of the fund, like hand-made Christmas cards, crochet mats, cushions and lavender bags, are made by Grace Turnbull.

She travels to London several times a year to deliver her wares to Lily French. Scattered about the country are three or four other ex-Trefoil Guild members who support the Friends by sending donations to the fund.

Sadly Frances Hobby did not live to see the continuation of the Farisai Fund into the 1990s. She died in 1984. Over the years the Friends have sent Mary Dineen more than £2,000, which has been used to buy boots, calipers, socks — to prevent legs being chafed — as well as parcels of wool, knitting needles, patterns, pencils

folding white stick — he had no hope of ever being able to buy one for himself — and a boy in his early teens called Daniel who, when Mary first saw him, had spent virtually his entire life crawling on his hands and knees.

As with many of the girls, there was no prospect of his ever being able to work normally. But, after an operation on his deformed legs, Daniel was at

*'Over the years
the Friends have
sent Mary Dineen
more than
£2,000'*

last able to stand upright and walk with the aid of calipers and crutches.

Enita, a similar case, 'walked' on all fours. Like Daniel, the quality of her life was greatly improved by an operation that enabled her to get around with calipers and crutches and look the world in the face. She is now sponsored by a Bristol Guide Company.

Last Christmas, Mary received a card from one of her former Rangers, now in South Africa. On the card, addressed to 'Captain Dineen', was

Ranger Elizabeth Marono wrote: 'Dear Friends of Poplar Guiding, I am wearing my new canvas boots to camp today! I am so happy. Thank you all very much...'

The Brownies, Guides and Guiders of Tower Hamlets who, in turn support the Friends in maintaining the Farisai Fund, also receive cards and messages that make it all so rewarding.

One of the problems in Zimbabwe has been obtaining and maintaining wheelchairs — replacement parts are often unavailable.

Agnes, one of Mary's Rangers, had to get about as best she could in a wheelchair with a broken castor.



Farisai on her feet for the first time



Enita, benefiting from Poplar's help

and other things for the disabled Rangers of Bulawayo.

During the ten years that Mary has been at the Bulawayo J J Centre, Mary, with the support of the Friends of Poplar and other well-wishers, has been able to help no fewer than 288 girls, most of them severely disabled.

In addition, she has helped a blind man for whom the Friends sent a

written: 'May the Lord keep you in good health. Never will I forget what you did for me. I'm what I am because of you. No-one could have bought this caliper that I have, for me.'

Simple, touching messages like this, often in shaky handwriting, are received not only by Mary Dineen but by the Friends 'for sending money to our Captain'.

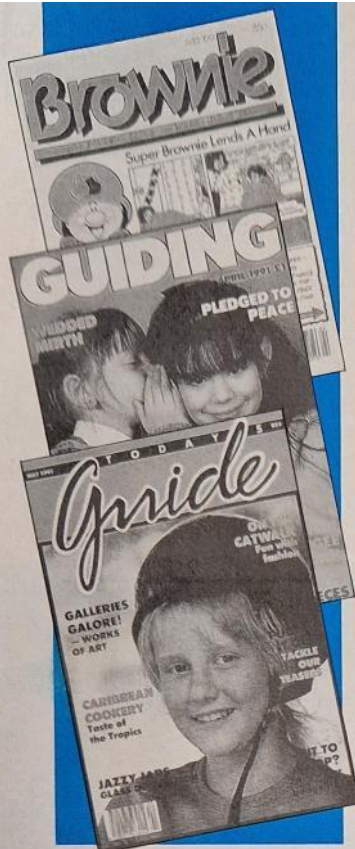
Recently, Mary was able to report to the Friends of Poplar that Agnes was 'now sitting happily in a new wheelchair', bought with money they had sent. And because the chair was made in Bulawayo, when parts wear out replacements will be available.

Last year, to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the founding of the J J Ranger Unit, Mary Dineen took a party of her Rangers to see for the first time one of the Seven Wonders of the World — the Victoria Falls. It involved a seven-hour journey in a truck.

In a letter to *GUIDING* Mary described the epic visit which included a trip up the mighty Zambesi river when 'everyone was frightened to death but wouldn't have missed it for anything.'

Earlier this year she wrote again, mentioning a picnic by her disabled Rangers in the Matopo Hills in Matabeleland, made famous by the Founder.

'Guiding is my life,' she wrote. 'The Rangers are my children and my Assistant Guiders' children are my grandchildren.'



G·U·I·D·E·R·S

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YOUR LETTERS

Letters are still coming in, prompted by Sue Matthews's article querying whether the Promise should be changed.

GOD IS THERE

Having read some of the replies to the article about the Promise, I really cannot understand why it needs changing.

I am a Ranger and have been a Brownie and a Guide. I also plan to become a Young Leader, and the Brownie Pack where I help is the same one I went to — 1st Hindlip.

The Pack meets at the Baptist church hall in the village, and many of our Brownies go to Sunday school there.

As it is a church hall, there are always reminders that God is Love and God is Light.

I feel that the phrase 'To do my duty to God' is an essential part of our Promise and to change it now would show that the Movement is changing too much.

Our Brownies parade at Worcester Cathedral on Thinking Day and at our church's Remembrance Day service.

As far as I am aware, all our Brownies have heard of God. Maybe that is because we have girls mainly from two Church of England schools.

I am not a practising Christian but, having these six words in the Promise, has certainly made me realise that God is there for everybody, no matter who or what they are.

LYNNE DAVIS

1st Droitwich Rangers
Worcestershire

HE WILL HELP

I did not come from a nice, religious home. I made the Brownie Promise in a North Deptford Pack at eight, believed there was a

God and understood that I should do my best to serve Him.

In due course, the Guide and Ranger Promise followed. Since then I have had the privilege of enrolling both Guides and Brownies.

No crash courses in Christianity, just units where God was an integral part and where we were encouraged to believe that He would help us to do our best.

I have just attended the funeral of one of my former Guides who has done her best to serve God, the Queen and everyone else for some 40 years.

No way would having promised to endeavour to serve a high ideal have sustained her, her family and the considerable number of people her life has touched.

MARJORIE LEAPER

Orpington Trefoil Guild
Kent

BROWNIES CAMPING

I am very concerned to hear of pilot camps for Brownies. At this time, when we are so concerned about losing the older girls from our Guide units, surely we should be keeping the highlight of Guiding for the Guide section?

Our Brownies wait with eager anticipation for the day when they can join the Guide Company and so go to camp.

If it has all happened before in Brownies, some of the magic of Guides will disappear. And, with it, more of our older girls.

Over the years we have been very careful not to anticipate the Guide Programme in Brownies, so that there is always something new to come. Let's keep it that way.

As far as I can judge, from all the Brownies I meet on Pack Holiday, there is no lack of excitement or need for more challenge.

They all tell me they've been having a 'brilliant' time.

E ANNE PIRIE

County Commissioner
North Lanarkshire
Scotland

GUIDESPEAK

Many thanks for the article by Gillian Ellis on Guiding Jargon in May's *GUIDING*.

After rejoining the Movement two years ago, following a 20-year break, I found it very difficult to recall all the abbreviations.

I am now in the fortunate position of having two volunteers to help at the Brownie Pack I run and a copy of your article will definitely be given to them in the hope we can encourage them to become uniformed Guiders.

Congratulations on the new *HOTLINE* — a very worthwhile innovation.

NORMA BOOTH

Guider
1st Studham Brownies
Bedfordshire

STILL SPARKING

I would like to comment on the upper age limit.

There must be some rules, we don't want to have Guiders running units when they are not capable of doing so. But there is a place for older ladies, supplying occasional help and testing badges.

However, there are plenty of women in the 65 to 70 age group who have more energy than some women half their age and who can still give valuable service.

I think that the District Commissioner should be able to extend the Unit Helper's term of office by a

year at a time and the County Commissioner should be able to do the same for Guiders willing and able to carry on.

I remember my grandmother, still in her sixties, sitting with a shawl round her shoulders and feet on a stool. Today my friends are driving, travelling abroad, doing voluntary work well into their seventies, and even eighties.

Had my District Commissioner not stepped in to take on my unit, with me as an unofficial helper, it would have closed.

This would have been a tragedy, as it is the only Guide unit left in this area. We are a multi-ethnic unit with a majority of Asian girls and our attached Brownie Pack now has a waiting list.

EILEEN DORRINGTON

Ex-Guider
East Ham North, Newham

REJECTED

I am a Young Leader and have just returned from enjoying a meal to say goodbye to two retiring Guiders.

We were told to take along two games. I took a game based on the TV quiz *Win, Lose or Draw*, having spent a long time preparing it.

We bought marker pens and a box of chocolates for the winning team, which turned out to be a total waste of time.

As we are a District of adults, I thought they wouldn't want to play games like *Bunny Rabbits' Ears* and *Matthew, Mark, Luke and John*, as they are more suitable for Rainbows or Brownies. Unfortunately, some adult leaders thought these games were fun!

After the meal, my mum, who is also a Guider, suggested we play my

game. But, when I explained it, everyone just sat there in their own little cliques, apparently absolutely disgusted.

I don't have much self-confidence and it made me feel 'great' to see everyone look at me as if I was a complete idiot.

I'm sorry this letter had to be written, but it may help people realise that a 17-year-old is just as important as anyone else — you ask my Brownies! Please print this letter as it is important.

DISILLUSIONED

Name and address supplied

RANGER REUNION

SRS Forth was one of several very active Sea Ranger crews in Edinburgh, at the beginning of the Second World War. For a time, 80 Rangers attended each meeting. Later, some Rangers won their section in the National Guide Festival of Song.

Now, a few former members invite any Edinburgh Sea Rangers to a reunion in mid-October. Please write for details and send reminiscences to: Elaine McQuillan, 7 Greenhill Place, Edinburgh EH10 4BR.

ELAINE McQUILLAN
Edinburgh

HELPING THE LONELY

My attention has been drawn to the article by Jackie Tevlin on Serving the Elderly which appeared in June's *GUIDING*.

Congratulations on printing this well-researched, informative and excellently written article, which, I hope, will serve to arouse the interest of Guiders throughout the Movement and lead to a better awareness of the needs of the elderly. I am sure that the work of Age Concern suggests inviting a speaker

to identify where and when help is needed in your area.

It is the policy of Age Concern Northampton to give talks to schools, clubs and organisations and, if any Guider within the borough boundary wishes to take up any of the projects detailed in the article, I should only be too happy to arrange a meeting to discuss the project.

PETER AYRES

Advocacy/Advisory/
Visiting Officer
Age Concern,
Northampton
Tel: 0604 30052

HOME SWAP

In your March 1990 issue you kindly published my letter seeking a retired couple, associated with Guiding, who might be prepared to exchange houses with us for a period of three to four months. We also placed an advertisement in your classified columns in the same issue.

As a result we have enjoyed a wonderful experience. We arrived in England at the end of February and took up temporary residence at Brookman's Park, Hertfordshire.

We were lucky enough to have a couple of days with the couple with whom we exchanged houses, and felt immediately at home. After all, we are all involved in the Guide Movement — two as Guiders and two as very supportive husbands!

We were made very welcome, and made many Guiding contacts. We were even lucky enough to be at Pax Lodge for part of the opening celebrations — what a wonderful new Guiding home we have!

As we've travelled around — and our travels have been quite extensive — I've enjoyed meeting the Post Box Secretaries for England, Wales and Ireland. Unfortunately it wasn't possible to meet those for Scotland and

Northern Ireland, but the telephone is the next best thing!

The house — and car — exchange worked wonderfully well, and has brought home to me, more than ever, what a wonderful Guiding family we have. The bond between Guides extends across the world, so we can share our homes. That leads to more and more friendships being made, a wider knowledge of Guiding and the world generally being gained, and the sharing of skills and experiences.

I hope others will think about this type of holiday. Apart from all the advantages I've already mentioned, it does mean so much more can be done when accommodation and car hire costs are not involved. We can thoroughly recommend this system which, by the way, was not my idea but my husband's!

Thank you again for publishing my letter last year — the results have been more than we could have hoped for!

MRS JOAN BURCH

Post Box Secretary
Australia

COWS FOR UGANDA

A long civil war left Uganda with nearly all its industries, including agriculture, virtually destroyed. Most foreign breeds of cattle had been killed and local stock did not produce much milk.

In 1988, when a Devon farmer heard about this situation from a Ugandan bishop, he thought up the idea of sending in-calf Friesian and Jersey cows to help the Ugandan people recover from the devastation of the civil war.

The cows are distributed through the Ugandan Church programme. There is an agricultural adviser to train the farmers and a vet to care for the cows.

The 1st Mickleton Guides became involved in

this novel project, when the parochial church council asked the organisations in the village to help to raise £700 to send a cow to Uganda.

The Guides contributed less than five per cent, but I feel it was a worthwhile project.

We are a rural unit, who were joining with the village church, school, Mothers' Union, Women's Fellowship, Women's Institute and the Gardening Club to help, in a small way, children and families in a village in Africa.

MARGARET INGRAM

1st Mickleton Guides
Gloucestershire

HOMING TROPHY

I have recently discovered a cup which, I believe, may be a Ranger trophy. The wording is: Holloway District Rangers Sports Cup. Presented by Miss Kingsford, July 1926. Also engraved on it is: 8th Holloway, 1926; 7th Holloway, 1927 and 1st Holloway Cadets, 1928.

If this is a Ranger sports trophy and there are still Rangers in Holloway — presumably in London — they are most welcome to have back their long-lost trophy.

I collect Guiding memorabilia and purchased the small cup for that reason. But, I am quite willing to return it home! Please contact me through *GUIDING*.

MARGARET SALKELD (MRS)

5th Plymstock Brownie Guider
Devon

REBIRTH

After reading May's *GUIDING* I just wanted to let you know about our Company, I, and another trainee Guider, have recently reopened the 2nd Ilford North West Guide Company based at St Lawrence's Church, Barkingside.



More letters on page 60.

If you're tempted to take to the water, but don't know where to begin, then Dennis Connor's *Fundamentals of Sailing* video could get you off on the right tack.

sailing CROSSWORD

Lasting 74 minutes, it aims at beginners and covers all the basics: wind and weather, terminology and techniques, plus lots of common-sense advice on safety.

On the film Dennis Connor, three times winner of the America's Cup, is joined by a team of highly-qualified experts. And, if you want to know more, there are two other videos in the *Trilogy of Sail* series — *Cruising* and *The Speed Doctor* — all from RCA/Columbia.

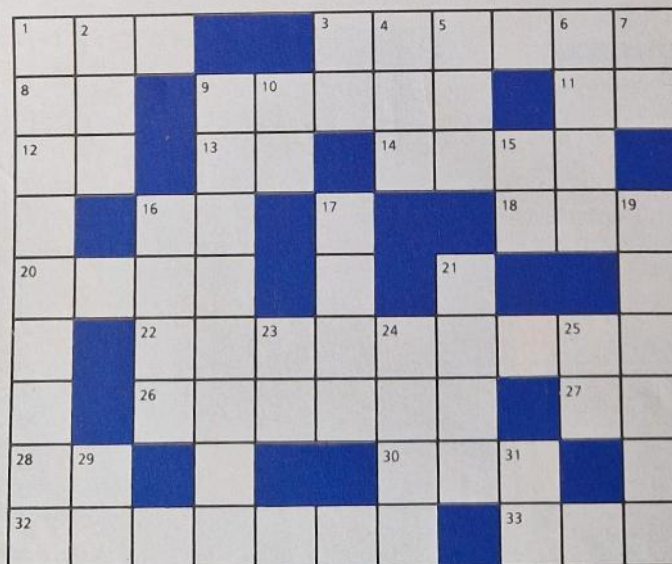
As a summertime special for *GUIDING* readers, the distributors are offering ten copies of *Fundamentals of Sailing* as competition prizes. So why not have a go at our easy crossword — the first ten correct entries opened get the videos. First clue: many of the answers have a nautical slant...

RAY HODGES ASSOCIATES



ACROSS

- 1 Buoyancy --- (3)
- 3 Sail controls (6)
- 8 Fundamentals -- Sailing (2)
- 9 Back end (5)
- 11 Pronoun (2)
- 12 -- sea (2)
- 13 Baird's box (2)
- 14 Mast top (4)
- 16 Degree (2)
- 18 Possessive (3)
- 20 Boom is one (4)
- 22 Right (9)
- 26 Alternative to wheel (6)
- 27 Doctor (2)
- 28 Exists (2)
- 30 Fishing --- (3)
- 32 Whinnied (7)
- 33 Long paddle (3)



DOWN

- 1 Interest badge (9)
- 2 Around the back (3)
- 3 South-East (2)
- 4 Princess Margaret (3)
- 5 East-North-East (3)
- 6 Defied Canute (4)
- 7 Saint (2)
- 9 -----gun (8)
- 10 Home entertainment (2)
- 15 Exclamation (2)
- 16 Crucial spar (4)
- 17 Roll up (sail) (4)
- 19 Steering device (6)
- 21 Front part (4)
- 23 Lightweight metal (2)
- 24 Knot (4)
- 25 Royal Marines (2)
- 29 Three down (2)
- 31 Mouth -- mouth ventilation (2)

Send in your completed entry, with your name and address, by August 31 to Sailing Competition, *GUIDING*, Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT. Winners will be notified by post and a full list will be published later.

RULES

- 1 The competition is open to all *GUIDING* readers except staff at CHQ and their relatives.
- 2 The Editor's decision is final.

- 3 No correspondence or communication will be entered into.
- 4 All entries must be received by August 31, 1991.
- 5 No cash or other alternatives to the prizes listed are available.

- 6 Entering the competition denotes acceptance of the rules.
- 7 Do not enclose any other correspondence with your entry.

PEOPLE *and* PLACES

MICHELLE SMITH

SANDY EVERITT



FLOWER POWER

There's nothing like a bunch of daffs to bring a spring-like smile to a female face, no matter how old she is. Just look at the roguish grin sported by this Guide.

SNAP HAPPY

Some of the happy crowd at the opening of Pax Lodge were eager to snap back at our photographer. Hope she remembered to say 'Cheese!'

TIME TO CELEBRATE

Oh yea, oh yea, oh yea... three happy leaders at the North West Region Celebration '91 party. They are (l to r) Kate Roberts, Celebration '91 Central Planning Group Chairman; Pat Mayle, Ranger Adviser for North West Region and Evelyn Hamilton, Assistant Guider with Swinton Rangers, who are all certain that 75 years is something to celebrate.

CHRISTINE WILSON



CLARE BOARDMAN



HOME-MADE MARION

The White Heather Patrol take a breather during the Ewing Johnston Challenge Day at Lorne, Northern Ireland. Over 50 Patrols enjoyed a day in 'Sherwood Forest', where they coped with challenges including cooking lunch, following a trail and making a hat for Maid Marion. Clare models their stylish effort.

LEADERS OF THE PACK

Guide Rebecca Guy and Brownie Emma-Jane Mackie tried out a vintage motorbike for size at the Wollaston St James' Scout and Guide vintage fair. Other attractions were steam and traction engines, fairground organs and a model railway, but these girls chose to dream of the open road.





A pram with a view, Jenny and friend

BABY CAMP

Catch 'em while they're young, they say, if you want a true convert, no matter what the cause. So perhaps that was one reason why Jean Noble took her baby, Jenny, to camp with her when she was being assessed for her Camper's Licence.

What with nappies, teething, bathing baby in a tent and trying to prepare baby food on a Gaz stove with no gas, it didn't make the task any easier.

Especially when Jean had to cope with torrential rain and hazards like a Guide falling into a vat of chocolate sauce.

In fact, when Jean wrote up her notes on this epic ordeal, she entitled them *Carry On Camping* because that's what it seemed like at the time — *Carry On Camping*. Only it was for real. It was Friday the 13th, too. Jean took her 10-year-old son and ten Guides to a camp at Invertrium, in Scotland. When Jenny brought their number to 14

Jean takes up the story from her notes, which she came across recently:

'Arrive at road-end — literally — to discover that the track to the camp site has been turned to scree during the construction of entrance to a new caravan site. Our lorry is well and truly stuck. Digger tries to haul it over the worst part but tow rope breaks.

Minibus driver wisely decides to go no further, so Guides abandon transport and start walking last half-mile over the fields. While construction workers sweat over problem with new wire tow rope "helpful" Guider takes photographs. Eventually arrive at camp site and tents slowly spread into shape.

We have discovered fledglings in

the toilet hut. Delightful chirping from open mouths when you enter. Droppings on the floor not so idyllic. I bath Jenny in tent, that is, in a basin in the tent and try to put her to bed at the usual time. Jenny howls.

I wish I'd never brought her. Try laying her in pram and wheeling her across field. Within minutes she is sound asleep. Guides bump the pram into tent and yet she never stirs.

All through the night she is so still I am terrified that she is not breathing and I lie awake, listening to the trees and almost wish she would cry. But ne'er a sound.

Rain during the first night. I am up, slackening guy ropes, but rain slackens

also. Hope Guides are coping. Did I remember to tell them about not touching the sides of the tent?

Saturday, the 14th. Jenny has a new tooth! Tooth number five. While she sits up in her pram, wearing hat and dressing gown bag to keep out the elements, I start the day trying to cook her breakfast over kitchen fire.

All this because I am unable to use Gaz cooker, as planned, after yesterday's demonstration of use of portable stoves, including changing of cylinders, back-fired.

Having assembled Guides outside tent and spare cylinder at the ready, I managed to leave an important valve stuck on the old cylinder, with result that all the gas leaked from the new cylinder. Luckily no gassed Guides but no demonstration and no Gaz to cook baby's breakfast.

But that morning, it seems, passed pleasantly, as Guides made gadgets and prepared lunch. With the sun shining, they whittled away the afternoon, producing a few spoons and sharpening tent pegs until teatime.

In the evening there was a treasure hunt, with carefully devised riddles set by the Guiders, thrown into consternation when the Guides were finding the clues far too quickly. Fortunately, something unexpected happened to distract them, if only for a few seconds.

Back to Jean's notes: 'A cow starts to calve right beside the hut. On the other side of the fence, to be sure, but as

close as you could wish for.

"There's the first leg", I cry. "Goodness, so it is," say the Guides. "But has clue number two something to do with a bowl?"

The joy over the calf's birth is slightly marred by growing anxiety that our excursions to the toilet hut have caused the mother bird to desert the nest — the fledglings seem terribly weak. The Guiders feel responsible for their survival and consider chopping worms to feed the fledglings. Ugh! Abandon the thought and continue thinking "poor little things".

Camp site quietyens. I make a last visit to the toilet hut and startle parent bird. Weight of responsibility lifts from my shoulders. We all sleep soundly.

Sunday, 15th. We all get into a hassle, trying to make camp site look its best for visit by Camp Adviser. Jenny has another two new teeth. Numbers six and seven. What matters a Camper's Licence compared with a mother's pride?

The girls are keyed-up on my behalf and cheer when they hear the Licence has been awarded.

There then followed a group visit, by invitation, to the home of the local laird, when baby Jenny was trundled in her pram over bumpy fields by the Guides and back to camp for a late tea, after which a chocolate sauce was made for the following day.

Drizzle then turned to torrential rain, causing plans for a camp fire to be

whittled down to a singsong around the kitchen fire where there are buckets, basins, tables and ... a pan containing chocolate sauce.

This was the scene for an impending catastrophe and Jean's camp notes describe how it happened:

'Picture the Guides gathered there in cagoules and waterproofs. Suddenly, inexplicably, one loses her wellie boot, topples backwards into a bucket, into a basin, over the table until, finally and inevitably, one hairy sock-clad foot has to land in the chocolate sauce.'

After a very wet night came Monday, 16th, morning of the strike. It was still raining and tent walls were going up and down like yo-yos at the slightest hint of a break. More chocolate sauce is made in time for lunch and finally it's "Goodbye, Invertrum".

But, as the lorry and minibus are about to draw away, there was another panic as the final entry in Jean's notes reveals:

'Where's the nappy pail? I rush to the toilet hut, rescue pail, still full of nappies soaking in solution, and bung it on the lorry, just as it is.'

Jean survived all this unscathed, however. She is currently Camp Adviser for Badenoch and Strathspey and 'baby Jenny', now with a full set of teeth, is one of her Guides at Newtonmore, Inverness-shire.

So taking baby to camp 13 years ago paid off.

DAVID JACK

Young Leader Liz Wilson began to wonder just what demanding activities were in store for her, when she found she was expected to eat six 'delicious' meals a day while staying at Waddow.

Liz plus pal had gone along to represent their County — Lancashire Border — at a UK training weekend for Young Leaders at the Training Centre near Clitheroe, Lancashire.

She recalled: 'Our trainings covered a wide variety of different topics. We spent one session learning about prejudice, and how to avoid stereotyping people. We were taught games and songs from all over the world; studied current affairs; learned how to plan and organise an expedition, and tried new crafts.

'All the training sessions were designed not only to help us in our work with our units, but also to widen our horizons to try and enable us to understand a little of human nature.

'We spent a session planning our excursion, filling in route cards with six-figure map references and compass bearings, and obtaining the permission

needed for all such outings.

'Our group chose to walk to Clitheroe "to examine the cultural aspects of the town". In practice this meant that having explored the castle, we turned our attention to the enjoyable culture of window-shopping!

'After the two camp fire sessions, we all congregated in the sitting rooms at 11pm to try and remember all the words and music we had heard, to take them back to our units.

The Country/Region Young Leader Advisers were also spending the weekend at Waddow. Among other topics, they were discussing why so many girls in the older age groups leave the Association.

'We were able to talk to them about the aspects which we felt were less appealing. We also suggested alterations in our Young Leader Scheme,

which might make the organisation more attractive, and thus encourage more girls to join. It was very nice to be able to talk directly to the Advisers, and to feel they really were listening to us.

'By far the best part of the weekend, was the feeling of warmth and friendship between us all. It was amazing that 40 complete strangers could get on so well. As we left there was much frantic address-swapping, and promises to keep in touch. I have a list of 11 new friends to write to, and plans were being made for a reunion in Lorne.'

Liz, Young Leader with the 10th Bolton (St Anne's Turton) Brownies, described the weekend as 'marvellous', adding that they'd appreciated being treated as adults with rules and regulations kept to 'the absolute minimum'. It was, she said, 'very worthwhile and great, great fun'.

STRANGERS BECOME FRIENDS

We started with ten Guides, now have 13 and have already tried our hands at sugar craft and flower arranging.

Tonight we're commencing a five week crime prevention course and will take the Police Community Liaison Certificate.

One of our Brownie Packs is also taking part and, hopefully, we are planning a celebration presentation for all involved.

VALERIE MURPHY (MRS)
Ilford
Essex

REAL REASONS

Oh, how I agree with the writer of *A Personal View* in February's *GUIDING*. We are in the middle of an Adult Recruitment Campaign, yet do we ever look at why Guiders leave — the real reasons rather than the ones given — rather than join?

I am sure that all too

often it is because of difficulties in working as a team with their fellow Guiders. Yet this is something which has rarely been tackled in a training I have attended.

It's not sharing out the jobs so that everyone's talents are used, it is sharing the planning, decision-making and responsibility.

I'm not pretending it's easy to work as a unit team, especially in the first six months or so. But that's all the more reason why trainings need to address the issue, alongside the problems of running a unit single-handed. Yes, do let's have more trainings aimed at the Guider-in-charge.

LIZ BEBINGTON

THANKS

I was in Guides for four-and-a-half years and have recently become a Young Leader.

As a Guide I gained many badges including the

Quest Scheme and Patrol Camp Permit. I took my Pack leader stripes too. I also achieved my Baden-Powell Trefoil which took an awful lot of hard work.

As a Guide I learned a great number of new skills, most of these to do with camp.

I would just like to say thank you to all the Guiders who have helped and encouraged me over the years. My Unit Guider, District Commissioner,

Division Commissioner and my mum who is also a Brownie Guider.

CATHERINE SPINK

4th Bridlington
Emmanuel Company
N. Humberside

Letters should be kept as brief as possible and the Editor reserves the right to edit any contribution. Letters must carry the author's name, address and, if possible, a daytime phone number, although this information will not be published if requested.

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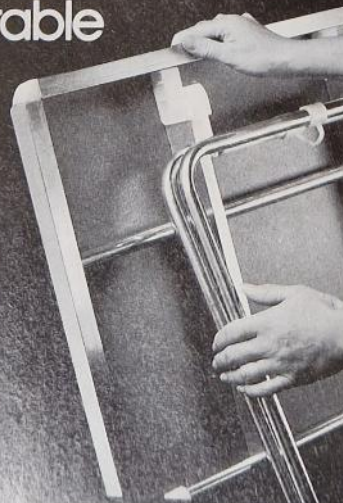
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LYNNE JOHNSON FROM WESTON-SUPER-MARE

When she is not studying for professional exams, insurance clerk Lynne devotes much of her spare time to Guiding. She is an Assistant Guider with the 16th Weston-super-Mare Company, Division Public Relations Adviser, and a member of the Association's Junior Council.

My greatest moment in Guiding was as a Ranger, coming over the final peak in the gruelling Ten Tors event. I was wet, dirty and exhausted but that sense of achievement will stick in my memory, forever.

Once a shy and reserved person, Guiding has given me the confidence to do things like travel alone around Europe, Scandinavia, Russia and America. As well as hike in the Brecon Beacons with seven men!

Brownies happened to be the thing that was going on in my village and I haven't stopped since. By the time I was a Guide, I was hooked. When my Ranger Guider left, I took over the Unit.

Rangers allowed me the chance to get involved in real team-work, leadership, and outdoor activities for the first time. The girls run everything themselves and the Guider acts as co-ordinator to offer ideas and advice when needed.

It has helped me to build my confidence, learn communication and

leadership skills, assertiveness and responsibility, all qualities that young women need today.

Leaving home for the first time could have been another stressful time in my life. But my move to Weston was made much easier by being welcomed immediately into the Guiding community. I know now that wherever I move, I can rely on Guiding to bring me into contact with people who share similar interests and aims.

I became involved in the Regional Junior Council as County representative two years ago and was then selected as Regional representative to the Association Junior Council, which was a great honour.

The Junior Council provides a valuable youthful link to the Executive Committee. I feel it is very important that as a youth movement, the younger members have a say in the way the Association is shaping up for the Nineties and beyond.

LIFE style

The Junior Council's discussions on issues relevant to Association members and to females in general have alerted me to my personal strengths and weaknesses.

I recently attended, as a Junior Council member, a Europe Committee seminar in Switzerland on the Advancement of Girls and Women in Society.

I felt proud to represent the Association, and to share the feelings and experiences of other women representing both single and merged associations throughout Europe. Guiding offers something positive for girls in traditional male-dominated societies.

In my case, I find it rewarding that they come back each week given that there is so much else on offer. My main personal challenge is to overcome my lack of experience in on-the-ground Guiding.

Being an insulin-dependent diabetic means that I should avoid stress, but I've shown that I can combine my career with Guiding, and cope.

My enthusiasm and youthful image are particularly important in my PR work in which I keep in regular contact with the local Press for constant coverage of Guiding activities.

People generally have an out-dated view of Guiding and I see it as my job to tell them what it's really about.

I would like to believe that I am now in a position to give something back to the organisation from which I have learned so much.

I was wearing my new Guider's tracksuit recently on the train to a Junior Council meeting, and someone stopped and greeted me. I knew that they recognised the uniform.

Guiding inspires girls' ambition and gives them the confidence to go out and hit society right between the eyes.

Lynne was talking to Zoë Hall. 63

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