



front FAGE

I have just been reading the Association's new resource catalogue — *Girl Guide Publications 1992* (available through Trading Service) — and thought that you ought to know about all the wonderful publications you can buy to improve your Guiding.

I was delighted at the number of resources available for Rainbow Guiders and Rainbows — our newest and fastest growing section. They need certainly not be short of colourful activity publications with the Rainbow Guider's Starter Pack, a book of 40 games for Rainbow Guides and many others.

Keeping up with Brownie Guides can be quite a job, but the GGA publishes a tremendous range of material to help you. Working with

COMMENT

girls of Guide age is one of the most challenging but rewarding jobs in Guiding. The publication of the superb *Guide Handbook* does help to make the job easier. Guiders should have a copy of *Notes for Guiders on the Trefoils* to support the changes in the Trefoil requirements.

Ranger Guiders and Young Leaders will find two pages of available resources strictly for their age group, from the useful information contained in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and Guiding to Survival Abroad, which gives essential information for parties of Rangers and Young Leaders going overseas.

There is something listed in the catalogue for everyone from Commis-

sioners and Trainers to Trefoil Guild members with books about the history of Guiding, prayers and worship, music and song ... Friends of Guiding explains how to set up and run a group of supporters for units and Districts, and even includes a sample constitution!

The catalogue contains a publications' order form, and a subscription form so you can order copies of the GGA's magazines direct from CHQ. Books can be supplied on sale or return for County, Division or District Guiding events.

Do make sure you get a copy of *Girl Guide Publications 1992*, so that neither you nor your unit are 'missing out' on anything new or vital.

JANE GARSIDE The Chief Commissioner

GUIDING

VOLUME 81 NUMBER 8 AUGUST 1992 £1.05

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a special lady

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the making of a magazine

COUNTY ON THE BEAT ON THE BEAT

FRONT

Rangers Nicola O'Dell (top left) and Vikki Watson (bottom right) of Medway Division Rangers, and Christine Tillin (bottom left) and Jennie Higgs (top right) of Strood Town Rangers, Kent, have been practising their bricklaying skills ready to build a medical clinic in Zimbabwe this month.

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Round UP



AWARD TRIUMPH

◆After years of struggling, it was a proud moment for Jillian Almond when she was presented with her Baden-Powell Trefoil.

Jillian, of the 3rd Ramsbottom (St Andrew's) Company in Lancashire, suffers from dyslexia and had difficulties learning to read and write — but she never gave up.

She earned her award by helping out at a local nursery

school, working in a hospital and assisting with a Brownie Pack.

Her Guider — her mum — Mrs Trudy Almond said: 'She had to put up with a lot of name-calling and hurtful comments during her school life and could just as easily have given up. We are very proud of the way Jillian worked.'

Now Jillian hopes her example will inspire other youngsters suffering from dyslexia.

MUSIC MAKERS

▼This talented trio won top prize in a contest held in aid of unit funds. About 60 children took part in the talent show organised by 1st Ardingly Guides in Sussex.

The young entertainers delighted the audience with a host of talents ranging from singing to joke-telling.

The winners, pictured from left, are Clare McNulty on

guitar, Alison Kewley on flute and Zoe McNulty on recorder. They won the trophy after impressing the judges with their Andrew Lloyd-Webber melodies.

The charity talent show, organised by 1st Ardingly Guide Guider Marion Hemsworth and Assistant Guider Caroline Steer, raised £60. The money will help pay for a trip to an international camp.



Round UP



DESIGN WINNER

▲A Guide's winning design was made into a poster and distributed all over Surrey to

publicise 1992 Scoutabout, an exciting activity weekend.

Although the annual event held in Horley, Surrey, was originally started by the Scouts, the local Guides are becoming more and more involved.

This year the girls leapt at the chance to join the boys in all the activities, which included archery, rock climbing, abseiling, jousting and swimming.

Corinne Foster of 8th Horley Guides won the poster competition with her eye-catching design. It was reproduced as the official Scoutabout poster to advertise the event throughout the area.

Horley Scouts District Press officer John Freebody explained that Guides and Scouts in the area work together to organise the event.

He added: 'We get some superb climbers and canoeists. In all the activities the Guides and Scouts are as good as one another.'



FLYING VISIT

▲Brown owls are under threat!
That's what a group of Brownies from Lancashire discovered after hearing a talk at their local library.

Of course, it's the feathered variety and not Brownie leaders who are giving cause for concern. The threatened birds were the subject of a lecture given by Tony Warburton and

Jennifer Thurston from the Owl Centre in Cumbria.

The two owl experts swooped on Blackburn Central Library to talk about how modern society is affecting owl populations.

Members of 1st Mellor Brook Pack were fascinated — and amazed to hear that our feathered friends love eating cat food and Weetabix!



ROPED IN

▲Liverpool Brownies literally jumped at the chance to raise funds for a good cause — by holding a sponsored skipping marathon.

The Brownies were inspired to act after reading in their local paper about Paul Morrisey who was raising funds for the hospital which saved his life.

Paul was close to death after suffering liver failure, but was saved by a transplant operation at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham.

The 405th Liverpool Pack in Speke skipped for 90 minutes at the junior school where they hold their meetings.

GOING DOWN!

▼Well they say what goes up must come down — and this

daring Guide from Suffolk is no exception. She gave abseiling a try at a special Action Plus Day held near Ipswich.

The aim of the day was to publicise the wealth of activities on offer through the new Action Plus programme designed for older Guides.

Nearly 180 Guides from all over the County joined in with a host of different activities.

While the outdoor types tried car maintenance, archery and orienteering; indoors girls sampled scientific experiments, drama and self-defence.

Organiser Pauline Alderman, Suffolk's Chairman of Programme and Training, said: 'The idea was for the girls to try out all sorts of new activities. It was a great success they had a whale of a time.'



Not many people planning a trip to the sunny island of Cyprus need to pack thermal nighties but Angela French was glad of hers when she spent two weeks there at the end of the coldest winter for 60 years.

Angela, Public Relations Adviser for British Guides in Foreign Countries, and Margaret Flinders, a Cornish Guide Guider and Ranger Guider, weren't holidaymakers. Their brief was to train Guiders, boost adult recruitment and promote Guiding.

Their tight schedule took them to Akrotiri, Episkopi and Dhekelia to meet British Army and Air Force personnel and their families. And included a 15-minute interview on BFBS.

One of the highlights of the trip for Angela, who was brought up in Portsmouth and whose father was in the navy, was a visit to HMS *Hermoine* in Limassol New Port.

Other vivid memories include visiting



Four lucky lassies share the visit to HMS
Hermoine

◆Taking part in a blind trail — the 2nd Akrotiri Company at Happy Valley

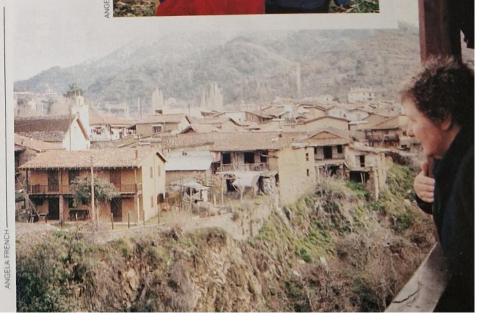
Admiring the view on a trip to the Troodos Mountains. It is taken at Kaka Petria, a traditional old town

snow-capped Mount Olympus; the warmth of Guiders and Commissioners and the friendliness of the Cypriot

Working within a military environment brings its own problems they discovered, such as trying to run a training while Tornados screech overhead.

The first weekend was spent visiting a Guide camp in Happy Valley. As a finale to their hectic trip Angela and Margaret spent a night as the guests of Commissioner Camilla Fitt and her husband, Jim. Then, before catching their flight home, they chatted over coffee with Mrs Wilma Hunter, BGIFC President on Cyprus.

On the trip home they spent 15 minutes on the flight deck with the Captain admiring the 'wonderful' view of Paris and the English Channel.



Week in, week out, for month after month, a group of Guides on Merseyside have devoted hours of their spare time to helping a little boy battle his disability.

Now, nearly two years later, they count six-year-old John Roberts as their special friend. But, at first, the girls admit they were a little apprehensive. They weren't sure what help was needed and if they could cope.

So it was with some trepidation that the Guides from 1st Hoylake and 1st Great Meols Units initially headed out to John's seaside home at Hoylake, on Merseyside.

The girls helped John do his special exercise routine and, as the months went by, have watched his walking and speech slowly improve.

John was born brain-damaged. His parents, Liz and Chris Roberts, believe this was caused by John being starved of oxygen during those vital first minutes after a difficult birth.

Brain damage wasn't diagnosed immediately but, as John got older, Liz sensed that something wasn't quite

John's brain which aren't damaged.

But this exercise programme must be slavishly adhered to seven hours a day, seven days a week. So Liz and Chris need a large army of volunteers to help John with the exercises.

They rely on the goodwill of local people who give up their free time to help. That's where the Guides came in.

It was former District Commissioner Sue Dutton who first asked the Guides to help. Most of the Guides who originally volunteered have stuck with it, even though some have since left the Movement.

Every day a steady stream of family and friends arrive at John's home to help him with the exercises. And, without fail, every week after school, the Guides spend a few hours putting John through his exercise programme.

Around eight girls are currently taking part. Two arrive each evening and spend about an hour helping John with his exercises. This includes helping John do 'patterning'. He lies on an exercise table, while the Guides move his legs and arms around and his head from side to side.

Each day has a routine of set



Guiding

right. The specialist said it was "just developmental" and that there was nothing to worry about — but Liz knew, 'Chris said.

While John's older sister Beth had instinctively started to crawl and then walk, there were massive gaps in John's development. He wasn't learning one stage properly before moving on to the next,' Liz explained.

Liz and Chris went from one specialist to another. 'Just accept that he's never going to get any better and enjoy him as he is,' one expert told them.

But the couple refused to give up. Finally, they went to the British Institute for Brain Injured Children in Bridgwater, Somerset.

John finds it hard to balance, so he walks with difficulty. And although he's bright enough to tell you what he wants, he cannot speak very clearly.

At Somerset, a special exercise programme was devised for John. Its aim is to concentrate on the parts of

activities. For John, they're often a lot of fun. Hanging upside-down from the ceiling to improve balance and crawling through a specially-made tunnel to develop hand and eye co-ordination are two of his favourites.

Each exercise has a specific purpose, but, generally, the aim is to impress a pattern on John's brain to help him learn the paths of development which lead to walking and talking.

Over the months the girls have watched John steadily improve — and they're proud to have had a hand in his progress. They feel a wonderful sense of achievement as they hear his speech become clearer and watch him take wobbly steps around the house.

Guide Laura Poland said: We really enjoy coming to help John because it's great to see him improving."

And District Commissioner Karen Green agrees. 'My daughter Emma is one of the Guides who has done this right from the beginning,' she said. 'I know she really does love John — and she wouldn't miss the exercise sessions unless she was really ill.'

It's quite a strain for Liz and Chris to have so many people in their home for hours every day. But, at the same time, they're really grateful to the volunteers who give up their free time to help out.

We have a good mix of people who give up their time for nothing, 'Chris said. 'But the people who come do get a lot out of it. John's balance and communication skills are a lot better these days.

The Guides have been very, very good. They come at the end of the day, which is probably the worst possible time. That's when John has been doing the exercises all day and he's starting to lose concentration."

'It's the attention and commitment the girls give John that really gets him through it,' Chris explained.

In fact, Liz and Chris are the first to admit that when the going gets tough,



it's the Guides' dedication that gives them the strength to continue.

I think it has been good for Liz and Chris, Karen said. I'm sure they must get fed up with the exercises, it ties up the whole day for them. Liz has told me she feels the Guides give her an incentive to carry on.

The Guides have also helped John by fund raising to help pay for the expensive equipment he needs for his exercise routines. Just recently they collected £110 after a 15-mile sponsored walk.

Thanks to all the work they've done with John, some of the girls have earned the Service Flash. They also enjoy working in the community and helping out at a home for old people.

John has progressed so well his parents are hoping he'll go to a special school in September. But, whatever happens, to the Guides he'll always be their special friend.

NICOLA WHATMORE



with help from

Mum and Dad

9



'Dear Jacky, I am sure you will be thrilled to hear that you have been chosen to go to the Senior Roundup in the USA this summer...'

The letter, dated January 1962, came from the International Commissioner at CHQ in London. At the receiving end was Jacky Neville, a County Cadet from Southend.

Thirty years on, Jacky — now Goddard but still in Southend — is a Ranger Guider, Division Commissioner and member of The Council. But it was Roundup '62 that really drew her into Guiding.

Along with five other Senior Branch members (remember the Senior Branch? — Land, Sea and Air Rangers and Cadets), she was chosen to represent the UK at Roundup, a megainternational event held in Vermont.

Apart from the fortnight's camp—attended by over 10,000 Girl Scouts and Guides—the invitation included five weeks' hospitality with American families in Florida, plus journey there and back on the liners *Mauretania* and *Queen Elizabeth*. By any standard it was the experience of a lifetime—and for Jacky, something more.

The trip to the States was quite a turning point in my life, she said. It gave me a lot of confidence. Up to then I'd been good at a lot of things but not very good at anything in particular.

But then I realised that's OK for Guiding. You can be good at Guiding by being good at all sorts of things, rather than brilliant at just one thing. Guiding gives everybody a chance. It's where everybody can shine. I think that's one of the big reasons why I've stayed on in Guiding."

At that stage, Jacky had already been in Guiding for ten years, having started as a Brownie and worked her way up through Guides, getting her Queen's Guide Badge on the way.

During the next three years, while she trained to be a home economics teacher, Jacky continued as a County Cadet, joined SAGA, took her QM's certificate, got her licence and completed the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.

Her studies over, she went back to Southend and started a Ranger Unit—and has been running it ever since, except for a three-year break when Jo, her second child, was born.

She explained: 'It's a District Unit but, in fact, we take girls from all over the Division. Ranger Units are a bit thin on the ground — it's so difficult to find leaders. Officially, we're Leigh East — you can only register a unit with a

The Goddards: Jacky, David, Jo and Tim geographical name - but we call ourselves the Phoenix. Sometimes there are just two of us, sometimes 20 we keep rising up from the ashes."

In addition to the Ranger Unit, there's the job of Division Commissioner, a job she'd been turning down for years. But then it came to the point that there just wasn't anyone else ... 'and Guiding in this area means so much to me that I didn't want to leave them stranded', she said.

Being Division Commissioner involves a lot of time and a lot of administration," she admits

The main reason why Jacky was reluctant to become Division Commissioner was time because, on top of the Ranger Unit, she has another Guiding commitment which takes 'more time than a full-time job' the Southend Gang Show.

Our Gang Show is one of the oldest joint ones. Most shows are run by Scouts, she explained, and they invite the Guides to join in. But ours is a real Scout and Guide one and has been from the beginning, in 1966.

'In fact, Ralph Reader wouldn't let us call it a "Gang Show" because it had girls in it. So we had to find another name: It's A Date. Even though the show now has "official" status, it's still called It's A Date - The Southend Gang Show.

Jacky's been part of It's A Date since 1968: in the cast — until the children came - and involved in other ways. 1 started helping with the costumes right from the start,' she recalled, 'just making a few. Then I took over the costumes and then I started helping with the dancing and the production sides ... And ended up as co-producer, with one other.

Running It's A Date is quite a challenge. The show, staged every other year during the February halfterm, has a cast of 70 to 90 - all Scouts, Guides, Venture Scouts and Rangers. Costing about £13,500 to put on, it must be self-supporting and with ticket sales of over 3,500, it always is - and even makes a profit.

Auditions start the preceding September, rehearsals take place on Fridays, and occasional Sundays, from the October, After Christmas, rehearsals become more frequent. As producer, Jacky goes to every one.

Meanwhile, back at home, she's masterminding the costumes: 2,500 items per show. Working out designs, sketching them, buying fabrics ... 'I cut out, possibly with one other person. And then these Trefoil Guild ladies come round, hear all about it and choose what they're going to make. When the costumes are made up, we assemble them here, all cast members

have their own carrier bag and a hanger.

With all these costumes cluttering up their home, how do the rest of the family cope? They probably don't notice: they're all just as much part of Southend's Scout-'n'-Guide scene as Jacky herself.

Husband David is a Sea Scout Leader at Trinity Methodist Church; daughter Jo is a Ranger, Young Leader at Brownies, and member of Trinity Scout and Guide Band; son Tim is a Venture Scout, Assistant Cub Leader and also in the band; and then there are mother-in-law, father-in-law, sisterin-law, brother-in-law and a handful of nieces and nephews

After Guiding, is there time - or energy — for anything else? Amazingly. yes. Jacky teaches textiles - design, craft, needlework - in a small private school. But only part-time, which means she's free on Wednesdays to prepare Division and Ranger meetings, and free on Fridays to think about rehearsals.

When it comes to hobbies, she lists dancing, calligraphy, collecting dolls house miniatures, flower arranging and I do a lot of sewing. I make a lot of my own clothes and I love doing crossstitch - complicated pictures with mind-blowing charts and 50 or 60 different shades of colour'

One of her most recent cross-stitch



Naturally, they're all in It's A Date. David was in the very first production and has been in every one since. It was in the show - where else? - that he and Jacky first met. And Tim went to his first rehearsal in a carry cot, aged six weeks.

projects is a sampler illustrating her 40 years in Guiding: 40 years of hard work - and fun. She's no thoughts of giving up: 'Guiding is something I enjoy and I want to pass on that enjoyment to other people.

Live Issues

Every year in Britain, thousands of battered women arrive at refuges desperately seeking help. In London alone, an estimated 1,000 women a week are battered by their partners—and those are just the ones who go to the police.

For many women home — where they should feel safe and secure — is a danger zone. But how can you discuss such a sensitive issue with your Guides? And if a colleague or a Guide who had witnessed abuse came to you for help, how would you cope?

FACE FACTS

Statistics give a glimpse of the extent of violence against women in their own homes — and the figures are shocking.

- 30 per cent of women murdered in England and Wales are killed by their partners.
- Every four weeks a woman is beaten to death by her husband or boyfriend.
- A Medical Research Council study carried out in 1987 suggested that one in four women has been physically abused by her partner.

THE VICTIMS

About half a million women in England and Wales are abused by their husbands, according to the 1989 Home Office report *Domestic Violence*.

Women married to professionals, managers and other high-earners were as likely to be attacked as those from poorer backgrounds, the Home Office researchers found.

Experts fear that the reported cases are just the tip of the ice-berg. In homes all over Britain women silently suffer physical and mental abuse from men who claim to care for them.

'Women go to great lengths to hide the fact that they are being abused because there is a stigma attached to it,' said Women's Aid Federation Press Officer Caroline McKinlay.

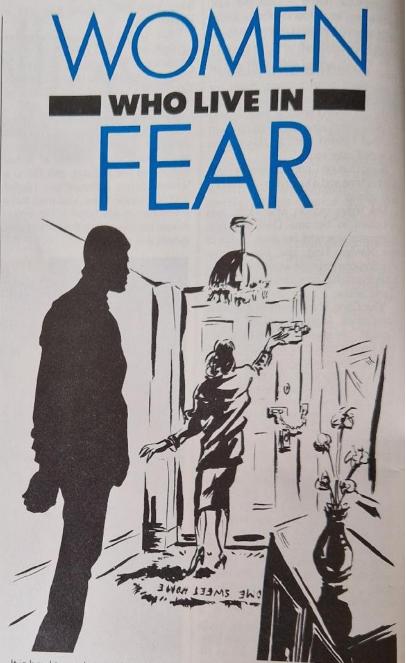
NEW LAWS

In the past, assaults on women in the home were written off as 'domestics' and not considered as crimes at all.

But powerful new laws to protect women from violence in the home are planned by the Government. Violent husbands — and wives — face immediate arrest or jail under proposals unveiled by the Law Commission.

WHY DOES SHE STAY?

A study carried out in Canada revealed that a woman will suffer at least 35 beatings before she calls the police or goes to a refuge



It is hard to understand why women stay and suffer the torment. The Home Office report offered two theories:

- women blame themselves for the violence
- women feel helpless in the face of violence and are broken down until they become passive and submissive.

Carol Mohamed is a psychotherapist at the Women's Therapy Centre which provides counselling. Carol believes that women stay for a mixture of emotional and practical reasons.

I think it is partly to do with the position of women in society. Because of the way society is structured, as a woman grows up, the role she is preparing for is to be a carer and then a mother. She learns to put other people before herself.

If you have children, and you have

nowhere else to live and no other income, you may feel that you just cannot leave."

Carol is holding group sessions for women who are or who have been in violent relationships, starting in September. For more details ring: 071-263 6200.

HELP FOR MEN

Some violent men have faced up to their problem and are seeking help. Reformed wife-beater Jim Wilson has set up a counselling group called Men Overcoming Violence (Move).

The counselling sessions help violent men face up to their problems and teach them to be assertive without being aggressive.

For more information contact Move at The Emmanuel Church Centre.

Live Issues

DRIVEN TO MURDER

Some women who have endured years of physical and mental torture at the hands of a brutal partner, finally snap and are driven to murder.

Every year in Britain, about 15 women kill their husbands, mostly against a background of marital violence.

Kiranjit Ahluwalia, after suffering ten years of violence, rape and sexual abuse, killed her husband while he slept. She poured petrol on his feet and set him on fire. She is now serving a life sentence for murder.

June Scotland had been beaten and assaulted throughout her 22 years of marriage. Eventually she killed her husband with a rolling pin. Her plea of manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility was accepted and she was freed on two years' probation for manslaughter.

Vicarage Road, Bolton BL3 5LE. Or telephone: 0204 364550.

YOUNG LIVES

Children often witness domestic violence but have little control over the situation. Some later suffer terrible guilt feelings if they didn't go to their mother's aid

The Bristol-based Women's Aid Federation runs refuges staffed with children's workers who help rebuild shattered young lives. As well as emotional support, they give practical help such as finding children a new school.

A SAFE HAVEN

According to Caroline McKinlay, 30,000 women and children use refuges every year. There is a national shortage of refuges for battered women, she said. There are only 270 women's refuges in Great Britain and these are perman-

ently full of women and children.

The fear that a violent man will arrive demanding to see his estranged wife or partner, is ever-present at the refuges.

GUIDE-LINES

If a Guide experiencing violence at home came to you for help, how would you cope?

Brownie Guider Joyce Piper is an administrator at the Tavistock Clinic in London, an NHS out-patient clinic which offers counselling for families.

She uses role play games to tackle the delicate issue with her Brownies. Kids are so loyal, they put up with an awful lot,' Joyce said. The last thing most children want is to be taken away from their parents

'It is a very delicate situation . . . it is important they feel safe to talk about it to another grown-up. I think we have to be very open and discuss the problem with children.

But Guiders must approach the issue of domestic violence with extreme caution, warns Caroline McKinlay.

You do have to be careful with discussions on marital violence because, if you are talking to a group, out of 20 people it is likely there will be someone who is in that situation,' she said.

Su Burrell is a clinical lecturer in social work/child protection at the Tavistock Clinic. 'Give the Guides the impression that it's all right to talk about it.' Su advises.

Unfortunately, it is something that children have learned to be ashamed about. Once children feel they have "permission" to talk about it, then they are more likely to come forward,' she said.

Su advises that Guiders have a discussion on a broad range of topics. with domestic violence being just one - so that the focus is not solely on this tricky issue.

Other ideas to try include:

 Get a list of all the counselling services in the area such as ChildLine, local social workers, NSPCC and display it at your meeting place.

 Have an evening making posters displaying helpline numbers.

 Invite a representative from a women's refuge or children's charity to give a talk.

 If a Guide comes to you for advice, encourage her to get in touch with a qualified adult - such as a teacher or social worker.

GETTING HELP

● Your local Citizen's Advice Bureau can help with legal advice (look them up under 'C' in the telephone book).

 The Samaritans will advise on accommodation and local services.

● Talk to the DSS and the Salvation Army about benefits and housing.

 Chiswick Family Rescue runs a 24hour Crisis Line (081-995 4430) for women, and children, who are victims of domestic, physical, emotional and sexual abuse. It offers refuge support and general legal advice.

 Or contact The Tavistock Clinic, 120 Belsize Lane, London NW3 5BA, which gives counselling to families.

HELPLINE NUMBERS

Lifeline: (0922) 774881.

Women's Aid National Helpline: (0272)

633542.

Women's Aid Federation: (0272) 633494.

TALKING POINT

The Women's Aid Federation produces information packs, books and leaflets on domestic violence, which you may find useful if you want to discuss the issue with your unit.

For more details send a sae to: Women's Aid Federation, PO Box 391, Bristol BS99 7WS

NICOLA WHATMORE

IT HAPPENED TO ME

The kind-hearted man Sarah thought she had married turned into a brutal monster on the first night of their honeymoon. She objected when he wanted to cut their holiday short. Her husband's answer was to beat and

Sarah was stunned. She had known him for more than two years and there had been no hint of such violence.

After that terrible night, the newlyweds carried on as normal Sarah's husband did not apologise. He simply assumed it was all her fault because she had argued with him.

For the next three or four years Sarah's husband hit her about once every other week. Sometimes her injuries were so bad she had to go to hospital

Once hospital staff were suspicious when she arrived with a broken arm, claiming she had fallen downstairs. But no action was taken. Sarah had four miscarriages which she now believes were caused by the beatings.

Sarah did not leave at first because her confidence was shattered and her husband convinced her that the beatings were her own fault.

After the first years he calmed down,' Sarah said. And the beatings got less frequent.

But then he started again. Finally, after ten years of abuse. Sarah could take no more. She recalled: 'I left |

because I knew that one day he was going to kill me.

Sarah walked out of the house and went to stay with a friend. Three weeks later Sarah called on her husband. 'He was in a really bad way,' she recalled. Convinced he'd changed, she stayed. But he attacked her again.

This time Sarah finally told her friends about the beatings. They had no idea, Sarah said. They still find it very hard to believe because he seemed such a kind person."

Slowly, Sarah has rebuilt her life. Now aged 39, she has remarried. The man I am now married to was a friend of one of my friends. Had he been a stranger, I would have been a lot more wary, she said.

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Camp Adviser Ann Hill risked getting egg on her face when, last year, she gave the job of quartermaster at a sizeable weekend Division camp to two 17-year-old Young Leaders.

Heather Brampton and Amanda Askins, both still at school and totally inexperienced at quartermastering. shared the post between them, catering for 64 Guides and 15 Guiders

It was a bold experiment that might have ended in all three of them having to run for cover!

But there were no food riots. Never, in fact, did any camp have more popular Quartermasters. Because the Young Leaders gave the girls what they knew they liked - not what they thought they ought to have.

Older heads shook disapprovingly when they saw the menus proposed by the two Young Leaders.

But their argument won the day. With a short camp, why get into a stew over nutrition? A little of what you fancy does you good!

The two met as ten-year-olds, enrolled as Guides together, later joining the same Ranger Unit. At 15 Heather became a Young Leader with the 4th Harlow Brownies, while Amanda joined the 1st Harlow Brownies as a Young

Heather, now Quartermaster (retired). explains here how they tackled the challenge:

6 Amanda and I were invited to a meeting to discuss plans for camp.

We were prepared to take on any task and were surprised when Ann suggested we shared the job of Quartermaster. We both love getting involved, so we took a deep breath and jumped in at the deep end.

First, we were asked to submit menus. One or two Guiders criticised but, as A-level home economics students, we were able to convince them that the meals were well-balanced and - equally important - that the Guides would like them.

Our case was that a weekend is too short a time for dietary needs to be paramount.

We both had vivid memories of being given ever-so-nourishing liver casserole and masses being wasted.

A couple of Guiders frowned on our plan to give the girls marshmallows and biscuits - after a main meal, too!

Yes, it was scandalous but we also wanted to keep boring, time-consuming chores like washing-up to a minimum.

That went down well with the girls, too, quite apart from the fact that toasted marshmallows are so yummy!

These were the menus we offered:

Supper: burger in a roll, individual

apple pies with custard

Cooking up mouth-watering menus for a weekend camp was a challenge Young Leaders Heather Brampton and Amanda Askins just couldn't resist.



Saturday -

Breakfast: Rice Krispies, eggy bread with chipolata sausages, bread, butter and jam.

Lunch: ploughman's, with French bread, cheese, pickle and tomato.

Supper: chicken casserole, with rice, frozen peas and sweetcorn, marshmallows and biscuits. Jacket potatoes after midnight hike.

Sunday

Breakfast: Rice Krispies, bacon, tinned spaghetti, bread, butter and jam.

Lunch: Scotch eggs, potato salad, tomato, cucumber, KitKat and fruit.

On Friday evening we cooked the burgers for the whole camp. The food for Saturday's breakfast was divided and put into Patrol boxes for Patrols to cook. We cooked for the Guiders.

Lunch was easy - it just had to be shared out. Supper was more complicated. As we felt that the Guides might not cook the chicken sufficiently, we boiled the chickens, then mixed the meat with chicken soup.

All the Guides had to do was to heat Super QMs: it over their Patrol fires and cook their rice. As usual, the marshmallows and Brampton (left) biscuits were a favourite with everyone.

During Sunday morning, we made potato salad for a self-service lunch. which the whole camp ate together.

The CA helped us to calculate the commodities we required and did the ordering at the cash and carry.

There was very little of anything left over. For two 17-year-olds it was a great challenge and we are grateful to Ann Hill for having given us this chance to prove we could do it.

Perhaps this will encourage other CAs to offer the experience to Young Leaders at weekend camps.

Sadly, with A-levels looming, Division camps were out this year - so no more quartermastering. In September Amanda and I are both starting training as nurses. We have no plans, however, to get involved in hospital catering!

Heather Amanda Askins

Network

CAKE COMP

▼In a bid to raise £150,000 for its urgent work with young people, the Children's Society is holding a Great Summer Cake Bake.

Groups of all ages are asked to make cakes, decorate them with a TV-stars theme, and then hold a special Cake Bake sale — with proceeds going to the Society. But before being sold, the cakes are judged and the best-decorated one is photographed.



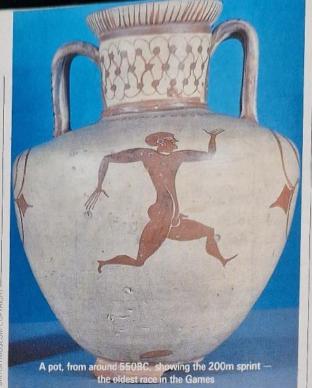
Amy Roberts, from Bristol, with the cake she made last year

Hyacinths by

At the end of the summer George Baker, alias TV sleuth Inspector Wexford, will examine all the photos and choose three winning cakes — one from each group: under-11s, 11-16s, adults.

Details of the competition appear on McDougalls, the sponsors, Supreme Sponge Flour packs. Cake Bake Organiser Kits are available from the





Children's Society, Edward Rudolf House, Margery Street, London WC1X OJL.

A GOLDEN AGE

Allan Ramsay painted the great, the rich and the beautiful of two capital cities: Edinburgh, where he was born, and London, where he later lived and became court painter to George III.

Although one of Britain's greatest portraitists, he is still not widely known for — unlike his contemporaries Reynolds and Gainsborough — much of Ramsay's work remains with the families who commissioned it.

As part of the Edinbugh Festival a major exhibition of his work — some 70 paintings and 30 drawings — is at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery from August 1-September 27.

It then transfers to the National Portrait Gallery in London, from October 16-January 17.

SUMMER ART

◆ Every other year the Barbican has a Summer Show, mounted by A D Fine Art.

This year's Show features around 500 works by contemporary British and international artists — well-established professionals as well as talented newcomers.

As in previous years, the exhibition offers enormous var-

ANCIENT GAMES

Celebrate the 1992 Olympics at the British Museum where there's a special display about the ancient Games.

Officially established in 776BC, these were held at Olympia in honour of Zeus. Early festivals featured only one competition, a running race of almost 200 metres, but others were added and the Games grew from a one to a five-day event.

The display, which includes a model of ancient Olympia, looks at the contests and also at the festival's ceremonial highlight, the sacrifice of 100 oxen to Zeus.

The Ancient Olympic Games continues at the British Museum until August 30; open daily, admission free.



Margaret Lindsay, his second wife, by Allan Ramsay

iety — landscapes, abstracts, still-lifes, oil, watercolours, prints, sculptures . . . and also, a wide range of prices.

AD 92, in the Barbican's Concourse Gallery, runs from August 1 to September 2. Admission free.

WATER ALERT

Water is in crisis. Lower rainfall plus increased demand means supplies are dwindling, lakes and rivers are drying up, and wetland habitats — with their plants and animals — are

disappearing. And there's the added problem of pollution.

That's why the RSNC has launched Water for Wildlife, a two-year campaign to promote less waste, less pollution, efficient management of resources and respect for waterside habitats.

To find out more about the campaign and what you can do send an A4 sae to Action Plan, Water for Wildlife, RSNC Wildlife Trusts Partnership, The Green, Witham Park, Waterside South, Lincoln LN5 7JR.

Network



Fun 'n' thrills on the Congo River Rapids

FAB OFFER

■Brave the Black Hole roller-coaster, shoot the Congo River Rapids, defy gravity in the Thunder Looper... or, at a more leisurely pace, visit the Victorian doll museum, watch an ice show, follow a nature trail... Just some of the attractins that make Alton Towers the UK's leading theme park.

Catering for all ages, interests — and weather (one-third of the attractions are

indoors), Alton Towers makes a great day out.

That's especially true for Guides and Brownies from August 1 to October 30. During this period, all Guides and Brownies can get in for half price: £6 — that's a £2.50 saving on the group rate and a massive £6 off the individual rate. All they have to do is book in advance on the special form which appears in this month's GUIDING, GUIDE PATROL and BROWNIE.

So, for a day to remember, get booking!

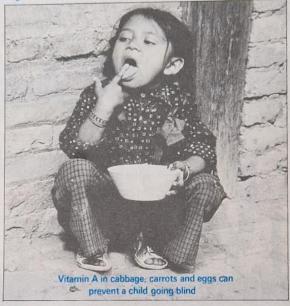
SAVE SIGHT

Every year, 500,000 children under five go blind through lack of Vitamin A. Sixty per cent of these will probably die within 12 months of losing their sight.

That's the grim message behind this year's Share-a-Meal campaign for UNICEF Week.

During the week, September 19-26, people are being urged to help in the fight against malnutrition blindness by 'sharing a meal'; asking guests to make a donation — instead of bringing flowers or wine — when they come to lunch/dinner, getting restaurants and canteens to support the scheme, organising a special fundraising meal . . .

To find out what's happening in your area and how you can help, contact Brigid Crofton at UNICEF's UK headquarters: 55 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3NB; tel 071-405 5592.



WAR HEROINE

▼One of the 19th century's most remarkable women is the focus of an exhibition now on at two London venues.

Like Florence Nightingale she worked among the wounded in the Crimean War. But unlike the 'lady with the lamp' she was forgotten by history — until recently.

She is Mary Seacole, a black Jamaican nurse and herbalist. Mary spent the first part of her adult life treating outbreaks of cholera, yellow fever and typhoid throughout the Caribbean.

Then in the 1850s — overcoming red tape and prejudice — she went to nurse the troops in the Crimea. Her courageous work in field hospitals and on the front line won her an international reputation.

The Mary Seacole exhibition, for 7-14 year-olds, is at the Florence Nightingale Museum, Lambeth, and at the Black Cultural Archives, Brixton. For further details phone 071-620 0374 and 071-738 4591 respectively.

It closes on September 1.

TOP VOLUNTEERS

▼If you know a volunteer who works tirelessly for a good cause, now is the time to nominate her for a Whitbread Volunteer Action Award.

Designed to discover and reward Britain's volunteers, the Awards are made on a regional basis: nine winners each receive £1,000.

There are also two special



Last year's Young Volunteer, 23-year-old Emma Williams, did an incredible amount for her local Victim Support Scheme

prizes of £1,000 each for volunteers aged 24 or under on September 30, 1992; one for an individual, the other for a group.

For further details and a nomination form, phone 0272 252000 or write to Whitbread Volunteer Action Awards, FREEPOST (BS6647), Bristol BS1 4YU. Nominations must be in by September 30.



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Hazel's gerbil emerged again for Patrol Time, as they decided to be kind to animals for the evening ready for a pet show the following week. That was news and certainly not what was planned at the last Patrol Leaders' Council.

They wouldn't agree to pet photographs or cuddly pets instead of real ones so, at short notice, we vetoed the idea. Not to be outdone they still had a pet show — with caterpillars in jam jars — except one who had brought a worm.

I leapt into action (verbally) to point out that putting a caterpillar in a jam jar is not exactly being kind to it, nor is throwing it back on the cabbages, when it originally came from the rose bush. A Guider's brain needs to be versatile on these things.

We thought that Hazel might take over from Vic as the disruptive influence, but it looks like that role is Julie's, now she's really settled in.

She seems to think that because her mother was a Guide she can coast along on mother's reputation and get away with anything. However, she is about to find that even a worm, or a very tolerant Guider, can turn.

The Robins didn't want a big presentation evening. But their badges and certificates came through in time for an end of term party with their parents and QM (of course) as guests.

We found we had a communication

D.I.A.R.Y OF A GUIDE GUIDER

problem when one Guide was worried because she did not have a white dress. That was after we said we expected them all to be like 'little angels' when the visitors came.

I know I resolved there would be no more summer activities, and I have a year-old Post-it note to remind me, but there seemed to be an interest in hiking, cycling and swimming. A leap into real action for the girls and their parents won't let them do these things on their own. I can understand that, but no parents offered to help.

We planned and I booked time off work, then sent out Day Permission Forms. Knowing that money is tight for the Guides, I requested payment with the forms. I promised a full rebate when/if they turn up for the activity. It

will be interesting to see if this has the desired result.

Well aware that any summer challenge issued will end up as waste paper, we still felt obliged to issue something for continuity during the holiday. So Assistant and I put a lot of thought into it, each clause is directed at a positive activity on Trefoil Challenges — to catch up on all the things they have outstanding. We then photoreduced them to postcard size — a lot less waste.

Number one on my challenge list is already done — that was to put new canvas on the deckchair. The two new books I had for Christmas might — at last — get read. The freezer is packed with ice cream, so it's look out summer ... here I come.

COUNTING **YOUR CREDITS**

The skills you possess as a Guider may be worth more than you think. The GGA is currently hoping to make it easier for Guide leaders to gain national accreditation for their training and experience.



Joan Cannadine When Joan Cannadine reached her is all set for 40th birthday she vowed that having a new career given the rest of the family the support they needed to establish their careers, she was now going to spend some time on her own!

Visiting the client services area of her local college of arts and technology, she was directed to the open learning workshop where what she saw really inspired her.

As a Brownie and Rainbow unit Guider involved in the Pack Holiday training scheme, Joan liked the idea of obtaining a food and hygiene qualification through open learning.

Working in this way, she could take a course leading to a qualification which would be useful to her in both her work in a fish and chip shop and her Guiding. By taking the open learning route, she could fit tutorials around her work schedule.

Once a part of this flexible learning environment. Joan decided there might

be other things worth exploring. It was then she encountered through the Where Now, Where Next' programme the letters APL. APL stands for

 the assessment of prior learning the accreditation of prior learning.

For the first time, Joan had to think about all the skills she possesses.

'It was frightening to discover how many skills I had, but how little I had done with them,' she admitted

The situation became clear during an interview with a carefully-trained tutor, who led Joan through the work programme and helped her to think around all the things that she does as a matter of course — whether at home. at work, at Brownies and at church.

Joan said: The interview made me verbalise information that I would never have considered. But saying it made me accept that I owned all these

By including those skills that she needs to run the unit in her personal assessment, Joan began to realise the extent of her capabilities.

They included being able to:

- communicate easily with children
- organise space, people and
- manage helpers, parents and children
- select and allocate jobs appropriately
- lead a team
- manage finances.

And, of course, not forgetting the thing that she enjoys most - cater for and feed them all. Joan was beginning to realise that Guiding was giving her more than just 150 minutes of fun every Tuesday evening!

Assessing her abilities was just part of the APL process. Gaining recognition for them would have been the icing on the cake, particularly if Joan had been able to demonstrate that she had reached a standard equivalent to one of the National Vocational Qualifications

Joan confessed: 'It was a disaster. I just had no records to prove what I had done when it came to the accreditation of my catering skills. I just did it - I didn't bother to write it down. Come my next Pack Holiday, the church fête ... everything will be recorded.

Disappointed but not daunted. Joan's confidence grew from a deeper knowledge of herself. So, five months after starting the course. Joan is all set for a career as a children's party organiser.

She will base her catering work on the experience she has gained at work and at home. And she will also make use of her time as a Guider spent organising children, mums, games

Without the staff at the college I would never have dared to do it, but it is just so right for me that I am going to love it, Joan added.

Perhaps Joan's story could be yours. The Association is hoping to make it easier for women wishing to seek accreditation through a programme similar to Joan's to present their warrant, to show the basic or core skills that they use in running a successful unit.

It will be accepted as proof that you have acquired both training and experience and should be able to be linked into an appropriate level of a NVQ

The final details are still being worked out. But it's important to realise that every leader has a wealth of skills, some of which she may never have even realised she possesses. So why not follow Joan's example - it may not lead to a new career bul feeling good about yourself could be sufficient reward.

The skills section of the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award covers a very wide selection of interests, hobbies and social and practical skills. The Award handbook states that the list is not exhaustive, but it is still fairly comprehensive.

The syllabuses range from handicrafts to communication skills. If, however, your chosen skill is not included, it is possible to submit a proposal to the National Award Office for approval.

The skills can be tackled at one of three levels, either as a beginner, or as someone with some knowledge, or as a person who has reached a more advanced stage.

It can be something you are doing in formal education, training or at work, provided there is evidence of voluntary work in leisure time.

My own skill followed these lines. It began as part of my music course at college, but finished as a very important part of my life. In fact your choice of skill, if it is something you really enjoy, can become a skill for life.

By 16 I already played the piano and the viola and sang. But I still had a yearning to play a church organ, though I didn't have the time to practise nor an instrument on which to do so. Our church doesn't have an organ, so I seldom heard one. But, when I did, it sent shivers up my spine.

At college we had to study two instruments, the major one for all four years and the other for a shorter time. My 'major' was singing and the other was to have been piano. However, I found that I could choose between piano or organ so, naturally, I chose the latter. Phone lines buzzed across the Pennines, as I contacted my Guider to check that playing the church organ as a beginner was a legitimate skill for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. She gave me the go ahead.

Learning an instrument from scratch proved to be hard work. Although I could play the keyboards easily, I had no idea what to do with my feet. If anyone had heard me practising in that first term they would surely have advised me to give up.

I didn't, however. And, by the end of the first year, I had changed to organ major.

This was because I never practised my singing as I spent too long at the organ console. In fact, if anybody wanted me for anything, they were told to look in the chapel. Other lectures just seemed to get in the way of my organ practice, and I was always receiving complaints for practising at lan o'clock at night.

My tutor was the assistant organist at the cathedral, so I was occasionally lucky enough to have a lesson in there.

SKILLS FOR LIFE

Choose a skill you enjoy to develop for your Duke of Edinburgh's Award and you could find you've gained a skill for life.

All this was an added incentive to gain Grade 6 at the end of my first year.

In my second year (1985) it was the Guides 75th birthday, and North York-

with a degree and my organ Grade 8. So, when I moved to Burnley, I was given the post of assistant organist at the parish church.



shire West had many activities planned, finishing with a candle-lit service in Ripon Cathedral.

I was very honoured to be asked to play for the services. To play the cathedral organ for an ordinary service would have been wonderful, but to play for two services with over 2,000 Brownies, Guides, Rangers and Guiders there was just amazing.

For the rest of my time at college, I continued to practise hard and left

Unfortunately, as it is structurally unsound, the church is temporarily closed. But, hopefully, we shall soon be able to return. Having chosen a skill I'd always wanted to learn, I gained a skill I'll keep for the rest of my life.

ANDREA JACKSON

 For more information on the Duke of Edinburgh's Award write to: Gulliver House, Madeira Walk, Windsor, Berks SL4 1EU; or telephone 0753 810753.

introduces her primary school class to the joy of organ playing

AMENDMENTS

At its meeting on April 8, the Executive Committee approved the following amendments to *The Guiding Manual* to take immediate effect

Section 25 Activities
25.37 Safety Rules for Joint
Adventurous Activities

Introduction

Para 6. DELETE: 'over the age of 101/2'

ADD New Rule:

25.39 Laser Strike/Virtual Reality Games

Where technology is used to simulate war games, Laser Strike/Virtual Reality Games are not a recognised Guiding activity.

NEW SERIES

Next month we'll be starting a new series in our Practical Pages based on everyday objects. For the first activities you need plenty of picture postcards. Keep a look out for those showing famous structures; scenery; different types of clouds; landmarks that can be shown by map symbols; and cards showing interesting shapes and lots of detail.

INTEREST BADGE

Brownie Pack Holiday badge: Brownies who participate in a Pack Holiday Under Canvas (during the Brownie Camp Pilot) are eligible to take the Pack Holiday badge. However, the following amendments will need to be made:

1c, point 4, to read: 'keep the tent and the space around it clean and tidy'.

3d, to read: 'know how to keep yourself safe in camp'.

GAELIC WELCOME

Rangers and Young Leaders are assured of a warm welcome in Edinburgh from November 20-22. That's when GGA Scotland is staging Failte '92... failte means welcome in Gaelic.

The weekend begins on Friday with folk singing, a Witchen Tour of the Scottish capital and ends on Sunday with a service in Holyrood Park

Saturday is devoted to activities: from mountain biking to sub-aqua diving, and kit-making to aerobics. The day ends with a civic reception at Edinburgh City Chambers and a ceilidh.

Contact your County Ranger Guider or Young Leader Adviser for booking forms.

WAGGGS VACANCIES

Two new positions have been created by WAGGGS at the World Bureau at the Olave Centre in London.

The first, executive assistant to the director, will be on a two-year, renewable contract and applicants should, ideally already be involved with the Girl Guide/Girl Scout Movement. Closing date for applications is August 28.

The second vacancy is for an assistant head of training and development and will also be a two-year, renewable contract. Applications to be received by September 30.

For full details of both posts contact the World Bureau, Olave Centre, 12c Lyndhurst Road, London NW3 5PQ. Tel: 071-794 1181.

JOB CHANGE

The new Guider-in-Charge at Our Chalet, the World Centre in Switzerland, is to be Gweneth (Gwen) Smith, the current deputy. She has also worked for some time as secretary at Foxlease.

MAKING PLANS

The Young Explorers' Trust is holding an expedition leaders' planning course for anyone who is intending to, hoping to or just interested in leading expeditions with young people in this country or abroad.

The course, which takes place from November 28-29 at Hesley Wood Centre, Chapeltown, Sheffield, will offer advice on planning, selecting members, equipment, food, member training, management of a team in the field, insurance, fund raising and safety equipment and procedures.

If you are currently plan-

ning an expedition, there will be an opportunity for you to discuss your own project with the course staff.

Accommodation will be in multi-bedded rooms and will cost £35. Non-residents pay £30.

Closing date for applications is November 14, please book early as places are limited.

Application forms can be obtained from the Course Director at 68 Ridings Fields, Brockholes, Nr Huddersfield, W. Yorks HD7.

THE ASSOCIATION'S AWARDS

GOOD SERVICE

Mrs Kathleen Chilcott Guide Guider. 5th Beddington Company, Division Young Leader Adviser, Division Duke of Edinburgh Adviser, Wallington, Greater London West. Miss Molly Hom Guide Guider,

1st Whitfield Company, County Programme and Training Adviser, Kent East.

Mrs Jane Knight Chief Commissioner, North West England.

Mrs Heather Bisset County Commissioner, Gordon.

MERITORIOUS CONDUCT STAR OF MERIT

Mrs Helen Glass Assistant Brownie Guider, 36th (St Christopher's) City of Coventry South Pack, Warwickshire.

Rebekah Reach Brownie Guide, 1st South Ashford (St Francis) East Pack, Kent East.

Holly Williams Guide, 4th Crowborough Company, Sussex East.

Miss Fiona Tanner Young Leader, 1st Noblehill Brownie Pack, Dumfriesshire

WADDOW CRAFT FAIR

Have you ever been to a craft fair and felt inspired to try one of the crafts on show? If so, why not go along to the Friends of Waddow Craft Fair on August Bank Holiday Weekend (Sunday, August 30 and Monday, August 31). It's for everyone

from Rainbows to Trefor Guild members.

There will be two days or come and try with lots of crafts to choose from plus an art competition.

The Friends of Waddow are hoping to raise £6,000 towards the Camp site Project, which will improve facilities on the camp sites.

Ask your District Commissioner for details or write to Friends of Waddow Craft Fair, Waddow Hall, Clitheroe, Lancs BB7 3LD.

INSTRUMENTS

The Association currently has the following instruments available for loan: five violins, suitable for beginners; a viola; a cello; a double bass; a piccolo and a saxophone.

For more information and an application form please contact Karen Rogers, Youth Activities Assistant, The Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W OPT.

VIDEO STARS

If you missed the ITV documentary First you've got to like them featuring Scouts and Guides at SCOUTREACH summer camps in Kent, now there's a chance to have your own screening.

A member of the team, whose work was featured in the programme, is willing to travel to anywhere in the country to show the film to interested Guiders. Or, alternatively, copies of the film can be borrowed for non-commercial use.

Project Director Bob Le Vaillant said: 'Copies have already been sent to organisations in other parts of the world.

The film perfectly complements the Scout and Girl Guides Associations' increasing concern for development in inner cities and other special needs and disadvantaged communities."

The film, part of ITV's The Human Factor series, is available from Bob Le Vaillant at the Greater London Central County SCOUTREACH Project, 28 Commercial Street London E1 6LS. Tel: 071-247 6945

a personal VIEW

Whenever I get notification of an increase in rent for the use of the church hall for my Pack meeting, I get angry. Why should I or, more importantly, the Pack, pay so much when we are a voluntary organisation and I give up my time for nothing?

Then I realise that there is no reason at all why I should expect the church authorities to subsidise the Pack. After all we chose to be a voluntary organisation. The problem is that we have let this 'voluntaryism' take over all aspects of Guiding.

As we Guiders are not paid, we do not see why we should pay for help and facilities in our work. And indeed we have come to expect subsidies. It has become almost obligatory to do things cheaply and to spend time — our time — rather than money. As a result we are denigrating ourselves and the Movement.

I have at times given talks in the course of my work. Nothing high-powered but, nevertheless, any one such talk can cost my employer over £100 if you add up the value of my time in preparing the talk, the cost of visual aids, travelling expenses and the provision of time off in lieu.

No one in the Movement would think of offering to pay if I or a colleague came to give a talk to her unit. But how often have we expected busy, professional people to come and teach first aid, lace making or country dancing? And all for just a thank you letter. This is not being careful of their time.

One Guider friend of mind once commented that Guiding was her charity. She meant that she bore all the extra costs of her Guiding; for example, her telephone calls, the use of her car to transport items to meetings or to

ferry girls around, as her contribution to the Movement.

It is not all Guiders who can, or should, afford these costs. Ideally they should be borne by the unit, which means that they become yet another charge on hard-pressed funds. This leads to further attempts to save (or earn) money, usually involving the Guider in more work.

Often it seems easier to bear these charges oneself. Yet it should not cost people money to be a Guider, particularly if, as a consequence, we either lose Guiders or cannot recruit them because they cannot afford to subsidise the Movement.

It also confines the role of Guider to those women with time or money to spare — something becoming progressively rarer in this modern world.

Another aspect of this matter is 'amateurism'. We are generally a surprisingly well-trained and capable group of people offering a very good product. But we could do better with more money. Money that would be used to find and train Guiders, and to provide back-up facilities such as centralised secretarial services, for example.

At times I find myself writing notes to parents six times on one sheet of paper so that the photocopying cost (done at the cheap staff rate at the office) is only for four copies, which I then cut up to make 24. This is not sensible or efficient. Such scrappy notes do not present myself or my unit in a particularly good light but it is a habit which I have got into because I must save money, mustn't I?

My Division does not have a number in the local telephone book. This is an appalling situation when one considers how many people we represent, and not a situation any commercial organisation would contemplate for an instant. But it's been forced on us by lack of money and facilities.

Another point in all this is that

parents today, in my experience, expect to pay. Immediately after my Pack meeting a dancing class takes place in the hall attended by some of my Brownies.

They think nothing of paying £1 per session — so what am I doing charging £7 per term, the agreed going rate in our District? And why am I always looking for cheap options and, in doing so, giving up my rare spare time? Perhaps in consequence I'm not providing sufficient variety of equipment for activities because the unit funds cannot afford it.

I wonder what B-P would have thought of all this? He taught us to pay our way and not to be reliant on others for help, especially financial help. He considered that any money needed should be earned. In his day that meant doing jobs or running moneyraising activities. Would he have approved of today's subsidy world? Yes, it's a different place and B-P would have recognised this. Today's money raising, especially for the Thatcherite generation, is in the field of marketing and commercialism, so shouldn't we be out there with the best of them?

If we charged the 'rate for the job' we do and for the good package we provide wouldn't we then be enhancing the status of our Movement and of women in general?

Guilding instead of being regarded slightly patronisingly could hold its head up high. Yes, some children might not be able to pay. But with more money and more help we could, as a Movement, afford to subsidise them and not have to rely on others and, perhaps take Guiding to groups not now represented in our Movement. Isn't this the way we should be going?

SYLVIA WOODS Brownie Guider Bedford

SIGHT FOR Balloon races, sunflower growing, threelegged rounders matches, and sponsored runs, walks, swims and climbs all kept



the money rolling in for Sight Savers '91.

Flying start: Young Leader Co-ordinator Dorothy Bottom and Rangers from West Yorkshire South get set for a balloon

Flying start: North East England's highly successful Young Leader Sight Savers '91 campaign raised more than £52,000 to help the charity carry on its work in Africa.

Rangers from Vest Yorkshire South get set for a balloon 75th anniversary.

This major service project was launched by the Region in January last year, to celebrate the senior section's 75th anniversary.

All age groups were involved, with many thousands of girls taking part, not only from North East England but from all over the UK and even abroad. A key element of the appeal was the special Sight Savers badge gained by 12,000 girls.

And there was fun galore, not only in

gaining the badge but in the many ingenious fund-raising activities devised.

Giant sunflower growing; a shorts and shades disco; a three-legged rounders match in fancy dress; sponsored climbs, walks, runs and swims; blindfold spaghetti or jelly eating — just a few examples of what the girls did to keep the money rolling in.

One unit organised a sponsored blindfold hang the washing on the line. In a balloon race held by West Yorkshire South a balloon reached Czechoslovakia.

Maps of Africa were made, some by

using donated coins. Even leaders were amazed by the enterprise and originality displayed by the girls.

The Sight Savers badge was open to Brownies, Guides, Rangers and Young Leaders, while Rainbow Units were able to gain a Sight Savers certificate. Each section had its own syllabus, graded accordingly. Many units grappled with the basics of reading and writing in Braille.

Each badge was sent out with a letter from *Blue Peter's* former presenter Mark Curry, who gave his personal backing to the appeal.

With one exception — a TV appeal — it was the largest youth appeal in the 42-year history of Sight Savers. Although a North East initiative, it spread to all parts of the UK and even as far afield as Canada and Spain.

There was a competition to find the best design for the badge and for two appeal logos, one printed on T-shirts and one on sweatshirts. The winning hit 'em between the eyes' badge design finally adopted was by Guide Julia Simpson, whose unit is based at Redcar, Cleveland.

The 'sunny' logo adopted for the T-shirts was based on a design by Ranger Linzi Thomson, of Sunderland South Division. Another Ranger, Ann Hemsworth, of the Crossgate Ranger Unit, Leeds, produced the winning sweatshirt logo.

Sight Savers is working throughout the world to prevent and cure blindness and give education and training to those who cannot be cured.

Since its foundation in 1950 the charity's programmes have restored sight to more than three million people and treated 30 million more for potentially blinding conditions — mostly in Africa and Southern Asia.

EYES

In Uganda a training centre has been set up with government help. After a year's training, ophthalmic clinical officers join an eye care team to halt the spread of blindness in urban and rural communities.

Much of the blindness in Africa is caused by parasitic diseases which can be controlled and prevented by drugs, improved sanitation and hygiene education.

One of the commonest of the diseases, onchoceriasis or river blindness, is spread by the blackfly which breeds in the rivers. It could be wiped out within ten years by using a new drug now available.

All that is required is enough money to enable Sight Savers to mount a massive prevention programme.

The first £13,000 raised by North East England's Sight Savers '91 has already been used to buy an outreach



Actors Mark Curry (right) and Frank Windsor accept the £52,000 cheque on behalf of Sight Savers '91

vehicle, based at Mulago hospital, in Kampala, Uganda.

Ugandan Guides attended a ceremony when the go-anywhere vehicle was presented to the Ugandan Society for the Blind. It now transports eye care workers to clinics in surrounding rural areas.

Another £15,000 is to be spent on a similar specialised vehicle for another part of Africa, yet to be decided.

The remaining £22,000 will help

fund a training programme for teachers of visually handicapped children in Kenya, where these children are integrated within mainstream schools, as they often are in the UK.

Sight Savers will provide transport for specialist teachers. Braille paper and Braille books. Special primary education packs will enable blind or partially sighted children to learn alongside their sighted classmates.

DAVID JACK

FINAL FIGURES

When it came to handing over the cash in May, after all the money had been gathered in, the £52,000 cheque for Sight Savers was presented twice!

Not that there was any question of it having bounced but because there were *two* presentation ceremonies — one in York, the other in Newcastle-upon-Tyne,

Girls and Guiders from all over North East England Region attended the ceremonies.

Mark Curry, who has supported the charity since he visited Malawi during his Blue Peter days, turned up at the Newcastle ceremony with co-star Frank Windsor.

Both were appearing in the comedy Charlie's Aunt at Newcastle's Tyne Theatre, so they both received the giant 'presentation' cheque on behalf of Sight Savers. It was handed to them by Rainbow Guide Jessica Weightman, of the 4th Killingworth (St John's) Unit.

The York ceremony took place in the city's new Barbican leisure complex and was attended by the then Lord Mayor of York, Councillor Albert Cowan, who had decided to make it his last official engagement.

The 'presentation' cheque — again made out for a round £52,000 — was handed to Sight Savers' Director of Special Projects Christopher Friend jointly by a Brownie from Selby, a Guide from South Shields, a Ranger from York and a Young Leader from Wakefield.

On display was an outreach vehicle similar to the one already provided by

North East England's appeal and now in use in Uganda.

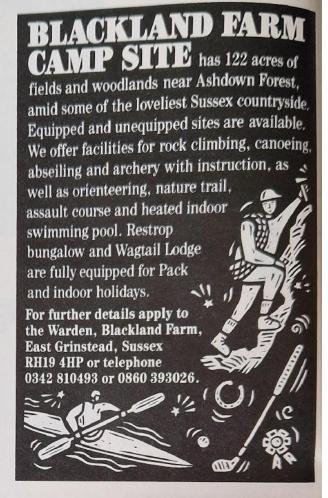
It bore the GGA emblem and the inscription which appears on the vehicle in Uganda, explaining that the money to buy it was raised by the North East England GGA.

Mr Friend revealed that the second vehicle to be provided by the appeal will be put to work among the blind of Chana

At the close of the York presentation the girls released 520 Sight Savers balloons — one for every £100 raised — in a contest to see whose would travel the furthest.

Perhaps it should have been 521 balloons because the real cheque that went to Sight Savers — reflecting the precise amount raised by the project — was for £52,122.13p.







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The question I'd like us all to consider is whether Guiding is rejecting those with physical disabilities.

The easy and, perhaps, expected response to this poignant and controversial question would be: 'Of course we're not'. But, in practice, while the Movement is no doubt seen to be sympathetic to those who are physically disabled, we could all do more to bring Guiding to those who really need it.

Think about your local Guiding network. How many physically disabled people can you recall? Ten maybe, 20 perhaps? A more accurate estimate would probably be one to five, if any

Obviously choice comes into it whether the Guide or Brownie Guider wishes to accept a disabled person into her unit, after all it is a big step to take. And the choice made by the disabled person to join in the first place, which may ultimately be influenced by parental opinion.

Choice, however, is often limited by perceived attitudes, after all would you want your daughter to go somewhere if it wasn't clear whether she was either invited or welcome?

The fear and humiliation associated with 'rejection' may be why many disabled persons don't approach the Movement. Let's face it, society in general does little to ease this fear, as it tends to prevent such people living a normal life. Does the Movement convey an image of being caring? Do we encourage the disabled to want to be part of us? Or, do we see ourselves as a select club that is open to some but not to others?

So, what do we mean by being disabled? It should be pointed out that many disabled persons are more capable and skilled in carrying out everyday and other tasks than those who are classed as having no disabilities.

The blind and partially sighted, for example, rely on their ability to touch; the deaf use their sight to lip read; those who are both deaf and blind fully utilise their other senses. Those who have a terminal illness or who are physically failing through illness, learn to rely on the parts that still function. All of these people are part of society and have a part to play within the Guide Movement.

is the Movement acknowledging he disabled in its recruitment plans? fore important still, are we taking the liative by approaching the many ocieties for people with disabilities to

CHOOSING TO CARE

show that our doors are not closed and, indeed, are open to everyone. These are important questions which should be answered.

Training is another key area. I think we probably could all admit to not knowing enough about dealing with the blind/deaf and others with dis-

We've taken one step in the right direction by appointing training officers to run workshops on coping with the physically disabled — these sessions are a vital part of the future of Guiding and are to be welcomed.

Many units undertake their own outreach programmes within their immediate locality by visiting homes/ sign language is a challenge. And appreciating, accepting and respecting others is something that, sadly, is often lacking in many modern organisations

Often, though, basic practicalities are a deciding factor in whether a unit can take a disabled girl. How many meeting places have suitable entrances for access by wheelchairs? How many toilets are suitably fitted out? Not many? But this should not stop Guiders from accepting disabled girls into the Movement. Such difficulties can be overcome — a welcoming smile and a caring approach often means much more to someone who is apprehensive.

The Movement, and indeed all of us,



Fun for all? Or is Guidina neglecting the needs of those with physical disabilities?

hospices and so on. But, all too often, the amount of work undertaken depends on the initiative and available time of the Guider. No central directive is forthcoming to encourage more people to attempt this good work.

What are the reasons why we should encourage the disabled to join us? It would provoke mutual gain learning to share and care is a very important part of growing up, learning

have a long way to go before we reach the very special people of society who are eager to join, but reluctant to approach, due to the fear of being

To return to my initial question: Are we rejecting the physically disabled? The answer, at the moment, has to be. a quite categorical ves.

> HELEN WESSELDINE Midlands Region

 Doreen Sporle, the Association's Adviser for Members with Disabilities, points out. Units all over the country are encouraging children with disabilities to join the Movement and are fully involving them.

that the Junior Council members are Movement's existence.

so concerned. They may not be aware that every County does have an Adviser for Members with Disabilities who can be contacted The Association is on the data-base of all societies dealing with disability and, of course, these 'It bodes well for the Association organisations are well aware of the

ON TILE

Next January the revised edition of the Commissioner File will be launched. Here Jill Hancock describes the behind-the-scenes effort that led to publication.

In 1991 a working party was formed to review the *Commissioner File*. We started by asking Commissioners from all over the UK to fill in a questionnaire about the *Commissioner File* and the Personal Training Scheme.

We had 263 replies which guided us in making additions and alterations to provide a file with more information about how to do the job. We are very grateful to all the Commissioners and tutors who replied with such care, thought and good sense.

The variety of replies was fascinating, from the wildly enthusiastic to the form returned completely blank! We read every word — even the form with the smallest handwriting ever seen.

Many days of hard labour followed with the four of us in the working party crouched over the replies, the present file, the *Guiding Manual* and piles of reference material.

Between us we have been every sort of Commissioner, Guider, Adviser and Trainer, so we *know* the job.

We were helped by all sections at CHQ, various specialists who were called in to advise us, and the staff at Foxlease, who looked after us during our working days. These started at 9am and lasted until 10pm, with short walks on the beach allowed for good behaviour!

The result is extra help with administration, management and dealing with people. The Five Essential Elements of Guiding are more fully explained and related to each section. Plus there's material in reply to an often-voiced appeal for help with talking about the Promise.

The file has a section called FILE-FACTS, with information on many subjects clearly set out in alphabetical order. There is a comprehensive index and, we hope, the file in its new A4-style, with its clear references, will, together with the *Guiding Manual*, form a reliable, working companion for the busy Commissioner.

We hope the message will also come across loud and clear, that flexibility is the key word, together with the Commissioner's greatest responsibility — to give tender loving care, encouragement and thanks to those in her team.

Over 60 Commissioners, together with all the CHO specialists read the original draft and we worked through each of their suggestions to produce the final draft.

We were all delighted with the 1987 edition and we hope this revised edition will be even better. We delayed publication to include the revision of the Adult Leadership Scheme, which will be launched at the same time. But we hope you find it worth the wait.

It became clear from the response to the section of the questionnaire dealing with the Commissioner Training Scheme that, when it worked well, the scheme was excellent, but in many cases there were misunderstandings. Comments such as 'What training scheme?'... and 'My tutor finally allowed me to do my job after two years'... show that all is not well in many places.

Our working party, together with members of the Tutor Group, met to try to find a way to rectify the problems. The one-to-one relationship between Commissioner Designate and personal tutor is vital. But there seemed to be a lack of understanding that the personal tutor was not there to do all the training.

Her job is to identify the strengths the Commissioner Designate brings with her, help work out the training still needed and enable her to back up their one-to-one work with training through the various channels available.

This back-up training will vary from fireside discussion and small local group trainings to County and Region training on specialist subjects like management and administration.

It is clear that, while someone to call on with problems and enquiries and with whom to work through the file is most important, Commissioner Designates found it stimulating and comforting to share ideas with other people in the same boat and find that their problems were not unique.

Two needs were identified. It is very important that County Commissioners and those helping them with appointing personal tutors should be very sensitive to the importance of matching abilities and personalities.

There is also a need for some further practical guidelines for personal tutors. A small group has now been set up to tackle this and fuller guidelines for personal tutors will follow.

The Commissioner File Working Party would like to thank all those who have helped in this project and hope that the revised file will give even more help than the 1987 edition.

JILL HANCOCK



'I haven't got a thing to wear': it's the eternal wail of every woman with an over-stuffed wardrobe and nothing that's right for that special occasion.

But statistics show that, on average, women spend over *twice* as much as men each year on clothes. So, why is it we never have anything to wear?

Are we really all such fashion victims that we'll blow a month's salary on a designer jacket without turning a hair? Or does our love-hate relationship with our wardrobes have less to do with vanity and more to do with the pressures put on us to dress in a certain way?

Bombarded by media images of perfect women wearing delectable clothes, it's no wonder we end up obsessed with the way we look. And is it surprising we're convinced that if we could only lose those extra pounds and afford that new frock all our problems would magically disappear?

According to Naomi Wolf, author of The Beauty Myth, one American survey found that 33,000 women would rather lose 10 or 15lbs than achieve any other goal. Forget being President or conquering outer space, women focus their energy on their appearance—and rightly so, it seems.

For women are judged on their appearance far more than men. Any prominent woman — be she member of the Royal Family, politician or pop star — has to endure trial by tabloid, with the newspapers focusing in minute detail on her appearance. Her figure, hair, clothes, even her accessories are all subjected to relentless scrutiny.

And women like Clare Short or Shirley Williams who refuse to play the glamour game are condemned as untidy, dowdy and downright disasters, regardless of their other achievements.

Lady Thatcher, the Princess of Wales, the Duchess of York and Norma Major all radically altered the way they dressed in response to unkind criticism from the Press.

Looking good costs money. Which is fine if you're married to a millionaire with a bag full of plastic gold to splash out on designer gear. But it puts a considerable strain on the pockets of Ms Average — who already earns far less than her male counterpart.

Most men can get away with a couple of good suits, a supply of neutral shirts, maybe a splashy tie or two and some casual gear — after all, who's looking at them anyway?

But women's fashions change much faster than men's. Hemlines whizz up and down, trouser legs widen or narrow in colours change, even

APPEARANCES

jacket lapels can alter from season to season. And nothing looks more dated than last year's hot look.

Keeping up with the Joneses — or the fashion magazines — costs women far more time, effort and money. Particularly for the woman who has to dress for success for her job and can't opt for comfy jeans or woolly tights.

Figures from the government's Central Statistical Office show that while Mr Average spends around £294.84 on clothes each year. Ms Average splashes out £625.56 — over double what her higher-earning male counterpart does.

So, what does she spend this money on? According to a survey conducted by Woman and ITV's This Morning, Ms Average buys five pairs of shoes a

pairs of tights or stockings a year—just over two pairs a month. At around £1.20 a throw, that's an annual total of £33.60. No wonder Ms Average runs up a bill of £59.80 a year on underwear and hosiery, while Mr Average only pays out a measly £9.36.

We've come a long way since the days when women wore corsets and crinolines. But we're still playing the fashion game ... and we're still paying.

When Eighties woman started making headway in the boardroom, she shrugged off the twinset and pearls and adopted the male business suit—but with a difference. That power-dressing jacket with the tough shoulder pads topped a tiny skirt, sheer stockings and, of course, high heels.



year, four skirts, two jackets, two dresses, six T-shirts, four sweaters, four blouses, four bras, one evening dress, two pairs of jeans, two pairs of trousers and 12 pairs of knickers.

Those sheer tights or stockings essential with any smart dress or skirt are a particularly impractical but costly item. Stiflingly hot in summer, they offer zero protection against freezing wind or rain. And they ladder as soon as you look at them.

Ms Average apparently buys 28



The whole ensemble gave off mixed messages. I'm powerful,' said the shoulder pads. But I'm still available,' was the message below the waist.

High heels, sheer nylons and tight skirts are the 20th Century equivalent of the Victorian corset or the Edwardian hobble skirt. They keep women in their place by restricting movement and, it seems, emptying their pockets.

Thank heavens — or rather Jeff Banks — for the new Guide uniform. Getting the girls out of restricting skirts and dresses and into wearer-friendly shorts, culottes, sweatpants and trainers must have been the best move the Association ever made.

Especially if it gets across a message for life: that women should wear what they like and feel comfortable in. After all what bloke would consider teetering along in five inch heels — apart from Gary Glitter?



ALL SYSTEMS GO

As a Brownie Guider, do you have older Brownies in your Pack who are bursting with ideas and enthusiasm and can't wait to try out something new? If so, the Brownie Go/ challenge has all the new programme ideas you are looking for.

Gol is an extension of the Brownie programme, which has been written and piloted during the last few months with a wide variety of Brownies and Guiders. It gives Brownies aged nine and over the chance to choose their own challenges and points them towards a whole range of activities. They could find themselves learning a

new sport, organising a clothes show or spending a day as a reporter at a Guide camp.

Each Gol challenge has complementary notes and a traffic light coding system to help a Brownie plan her way through a challenge. It is intended that a Brownie should work on her challenge during the meeting without constant supervision, but with her Guider's support and encouragement. She should still take part in all other Pack activities.

The *Go!* challenge booklet, which contains Guider's notes, will be available this autumn. Look out for it in Guide shops and depots.

REWS NEWS

Members of the Executive Committee at its April meeting upheld the decision to hold an autumn meeting of The Council each year taken in 1987.

Members agreed that only amendments to the *Guiding Manual* concerning policy or rules need to have their approval. All amendments should be submitted to the Guiding Manual Review Group on a special form via established channels. The amendments will normally be effective from January 1 each year and will be published in that month's issue of *GUIDING*. However, revised editions of the manual will be published every three years and the first is due in January, 1994.

Next year's Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 25 in the Merchant Taylors' Hall.

The Executive Committee expressed regret that the Girls' Friendly Society and the Townsend Fellowship have decided to discontinue affiliation with the GGA from July 1. All former GFS units, with the exception of the 1st Liskeard (GFS) Brownie Pack, were to re-register before that date. Mrs Sheila Wooldridge was thanked for her work

as GFS National Guide Director over the last ten years.

The Association had been asked for its views on the proposed national lottery and the Executive Committee agreed the GGA might be in favour, if the conditions were right.

As part of the GGA's commitment to assist the development of Guiding in the Russian Federation, it was agreed to provide support for four pilot areas — St Petersburg, Rostov, Perm and Moscow. Former International Commissioner Judy Ellis is a WAGGGS' link member for the project. A start-up kit is being produced and a bi-monthly information sheet is planned. Further details can be obtained from the current International Commissioner. Sue Taylor.

Three project officers are to be appointed to co-ordinate the development and support of Guiding initiatives as part of *Reach Out,* the revolutionary approach to Guiding highlighted in May's *GUIDING.*

It was agreed that Laser Strike/Virtual Reality Games in which technology is used to simulate war games are not recognised Guiding activities.

In future, members of Guide or Guide and Scout marching bands are to be allowed to dress in appropriate activity wear when taking part in some competition classes. They will, however, be expected to wear uniform on other

occasions, including receiving awards.

The revised Adult Leadership Scheme, which includes new procedures for warranting, endorsement and appointment, was approved. Further details will be available in due course. Each Country/Region will continue to operate its own registrations' procedure, and there will not be a single change-over date for existing warrant holders. The new warrants remain the property of the Association.

Miss Mary Willatt was chosen as the GGA's nominee for the Pax Lodge House Committee. She was also appointed as Assistant Outdoor Activities Adviser — Camping.

After renewing the Association's membership of the British Youth Council, it was decided that it was no longer necessary to carry out a triennial review of membership, as the calibre of BYC members is so high and the BYC delegation now has a much more important place within the GGA.

As 16,000 items of old uniform are still required overseas, the Trefoil Guild is setting the cut-off date for the collection scheme at October 1. Already 16,000 items have been despatched.

Mrs Margaret Banks was thanked for all her hard work as Commissioner for Branch Associations. Her term of office ended on May 31. Mrs Sheila Mathieson was appointed to take over as Adviser for Branch Associations from June 1

BEARING WITNESS

Last May, Brenda Dean — former Assistant General Secretary of the GPMU — was confirmed in the Church of England (having journeyed there via the Salvation Army and the Methodists). Shortly beforehand, on Radio 2's Good Morning Sunday, she talked about her decision and what had prompted it.

A couple of years ago, her parents celebrated their

Golden Wedding. At the usual family gathering, her mother revealed that she had never been confirmed. Several other family members, including Brenda, hadn't either. All agreed they'd like to be

Sadly, mother died soon after without fulfilling her wish, but the others kept their pact and are now 'fullyfledged' members of the Church

Confirmation is all about witness — about living one's

beliefs and being prepared to stand up and be counted (something Brenda Dean must have got very used to in her SOGAT days). Even if confirmation isn't part of your religious tradition — or you haven't got a religion — putting principles into action is basic to Guiding.

When we say we 'share a commitment to a common standard' and point to the Promise and Law, I don't believe we're pointing to an irrelevant, learn-by-heart

litany. Far from it: we're looking at a framework for growing and a springboard for doing.

Maybe we all need to remind ourselves of that from time to time and think it through — for our own and for the girls' sakes. Having a clearer vision of what that being-and-doing involves personally should help us to explore it with the girls in a more meaningful and honest way.

CD

KIMBERLEY'S CROSS

When fire broke out at her home it was quick-thinking eight-year-old Kimberley Hart who rescued her dad, PC John Hart, and the rest of the family.

Now Kimberley, a member of the 10th Bolton (St Anne's Turton) Brownie Pack has her reward. She became the first Lancashire Brownie to receive the Association's Silver Cross for gallantry.

It was last summer when Kimberley woke and smelled smoke at the family's home at Edgworth police station.

She dashed into her par-

ents' room to wake them, as clouds of black fumes drifted up the stairs from the kitchen. John and wife Susan rushed to wake five-year-old Stephen, before all four dashed through the smoke to safety.

Kimberley kept reassuring her parents and reminding them of the correct fire procedure: leave doors closed, get out and stay out and only then call the fire brigade.

Her Brown Owl, Mrs Sue Wilson, put Kimberley's name forward for the solid silver award. The award was presented by Lancashire Border County Commissioner Miss Karen Booth at an open evening organised by Sue.

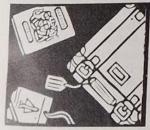


Brave Kimberley with her mum, dad and brother Stephen

News Focus

IN GUIDING SEPTEMBER

Rainbow Lifeline to Romania with love



Raising the Wind
paying for that overseas trip
Getting Out Takes Wing
visit to a butterfly park
Braving the Elements
Ranger Guider's watery
challenge
GGFF

launch of the Christmas Good Turn Appeal Full AGM Report and HOTLINE with complete Training Calendar and bursary advice.

IN GUIDE PATROL SEPTEMBER

Circus Skills

keeping those plates up in the air



Forester Badge tending trees Action Plus goes go-karting Church Architecture keeping your eyes open

Tasty Treats

no-bake chocolate cake



IN *BROWNIE* AUGUST

Faraway Foods

tempting tastes from overseas

Find the Dragon

a compass game

Irish Dancing

tripping the light fantastic

Competition

win a super Sodastream

Colour Me

national costumes

And in RAINBOW GUIDE EXTRA

Explore your Back Garden looking around Face Fun

growing a potato head



Sense Games
using eyes, nose and ears



GUERNSEY REMEMBERS REMEMBERS PART I

In October, Guernsey will celebrate 80 years of successful Guiding that has its roots in a club for 'working girls — mainly domestic servants and dressmakers' assistants'.



Guiding flourishes on Guernsey in spite of the dark years of the Second World War when hundreds of the island's children were evacuated and the occupying Germans banned the Girl Guides Association.

The spirit of Guiding was kept alive by a brave band of women who met secretly And, as soon as the Channel lales were liberated, the colours were taken out of their hiding place and the units reopened.

Today the Association is thriving

The seven girls all came from the top class of Melrose Girls' School and one of them, 90-year-old Edith Albiges, recalls: 'We endeavoured to train and perform as the Scouts did.'

This photograph, taken in Mrs Frampton's garden, shows the Patrol just before it broke up with the outbreak of the First World War. Edith Albiges is on the left in the front row.

with its own headquarters and fields in which to camp, offering an exciting programme of fun and adventure to almost 800 girls and young women.

It was the quality of the original Guide programme that led to those 'working girls' enrolling as Guides During the winter of 1911, their club had met twice a week but the organisers heard about the Guide Movement and decided that its programme had more to offer.

So, in October 1912, a committee was formed to run the fledgling Guide unit and a 'Captain on probation' appointed.

The local paper *The Guernsey Evening Press*, recording the formation of the Baden-Powell Girl Guides, listed the proposed activities as 'nursing, cooking, Swedish physical drill, physiology and kindred subjects, woodcraft — camping, swimming and boating, and, as important as anything, discipline, which means obedience to authority, self-sacrifice, sense of duty etc.'

Less than two months later nearly two dozen girls were invested, most wearing home-made blue blouses with dark skirts. They were examined by Miss Alice Mellish, the formidable head of a private school Ladies' College, who became the first Island Commissioner in 1913. Described as 'way ahead of her time', she is credited with the rapid spread of Guiding on the island.

In December 1914, three Patrols of Guides were formed at Ladies' College, becoming the first Company to be registered at Guide Headquarters in London. They met once every two weeks during term time and twice a week in the holidays. 'We all like being Girl Guides, it is such a pleasant way of learning things,' wrote one Guide in the college magazine.

By 1915 there were 196 Guides on the island and the first inspection was held against a backdrop of the First World War. The Lieutenant-Governor. Sir Reginald Hart VC, told the girls he wished they could be organised on a military system and included in a possible scheme of defence, before warning them of the 'dangerous liability of getting swelled heads'.

A treasured, delicately-painted scrapbook from 1916-17 kept by talented Kathleen Drummond records that the 1st Guernsey Company had a dog called Johnny as a mascot and won a prize for 'best treasure made out of old things'. It was a 'self-contained camp cooker' made out of a square biscuit tin, a disused mincing machine and an

old tin.

The First World War ended without the island's Guides being called on to repel the enemy and, in 1919, as representatives of the oldest overseas possessions of the Crown, Guides from Guernsey and Jersey led the march-past at the Movement's Victory Rally at London's Albert Hall.

A year later the first Ranger Unit joined the Brownies and Guides already flourishing on the island. In 1921, when King George V. Queen Mary and Princess Mary visited the island, 386 young members of the Movement lined up to greet them.

Princess Mary, then the GGA's President, inspected the Guides who paraded in the grounds of the boys' school, Elizabeth College. It was so hot some girls collapsed while waiting.

Three years later the World Chief Guide visited Guernsey for the first time. Brushing aside a formal inspection, she set about doing what she liked best — getting to know the girls.

GUIDING spoke to Miss Mary Le Poidevin who recalled those early days: I had seen girls dressed in blue but I didn't know about Guides until my cousins came to stay when I was 12—one was a Guide and one was a Brownie.'

As soon as she found out where the Guides met, Mary wanted to join. 'So it was "Oh Mum, can I go to Guides?"' she said.

My parents had greenhouses, so it was work, work, work but I usually got off to go to Guides. It was very exciting. I was an only child with parents who were getting on a bit, so it meant a lot to me.

We did the usual things, worked for badges, I've still got them.'

Mary's home is a treasure trove of Guiding memorabilia, including the air cushion she sat on in Whitehall, while waiting for King George VI and Queen Elizabeth to pass by on the way to their Coronation.

After Guides, Mary joined the Rangers. We did a lot of marvellous things in



then an active member of the Pansy Patrol in the Guide Company at the Intermediate School where she was a pupil. We went camping and I met a girl at a camp on the Isle of Wight. She went to live in Australia but we still write to each other

'Girls in those days didn't have so many interests. We were definitely more disciplined. Not quite the same as now. Then they had to be taught to show initiative, she said.

Island Commissioner from 1920 to 1938 was Mrs Arthur Bell, wife of the island's Bailiff. Her daughter, Mrs Diana de Jersey, still lives on Guernsey, having been Island Commissioner her self from 1961-69.

Island Commissioner in 1939, war was brewing in Europe.

By then Mary, Nell and Gwen had all graduated to leading units and were all soon industriously collecting waste paper for the war effort. But, in 1940, the islanders found themselves in the front line. The Germans landed and one of their first actions was to forbid gatherings of any kind. The Association was banned along with other organisations.

Anyone ignoring the edict faced 'severe measures' if they were caught. But that didn't deter the brave Guiders on Guernsey. Secret meetings were held at Winnie Harvey's home and she ran the greatest risk if the meetings

those clandestine meetings.

Mary recalled: We used to do al sorts of things. We heard that they wanted people to make things for children. So we would use up old clothes or alter them — make something out of something else.

Then we'd take them to Miss Harvey and she would arrange to distribute them to those families who were in difficulties.

We used to go in ones and twos because we were not supposed to have gatherings. We must have gone on our bicycles because there were no buses.

Nell Falla too remembers those secret meetings where they drank carrot tea. 'It was a boost for our morale. We weren't going to stop just because the Germans said we must."

After Miss Harvey was turned out of her home by the Germans, she moved into a flat and the secret meetings resumed.

Another regular was Gwen Renouf. She explained: 'Miss Harvey had to keep a very low profile, the Germans were suspicious of anyone who had been connected in any way with activities like the Guides.

As soon as the Germans landed, local legend claims that the colours were spirited away into hiding by two determined Guiders, Miss Marguerite Ross and Miss Maud Roussel.

Until their death they kept the hiding place a secret, but the colours 'liberated' after the Germans were defeated - were used until the last one was laid up at a tearful ceremony in the mid-'80s.

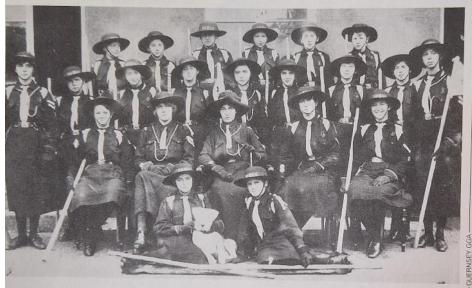
In 1945, with victory within the Allies' grasp, 17 brave Guiders celebrated Thinking Day with a Guides' Own at Miss Harver's.

Their steadfastness was rewarded in the early days of peace when the South West Region Chief Commissioner and the Chief Commissioner for England sent their thanks and appreciation. Dedicated to The Guernsey Guiders and Rangers who held together during the Occupation' the citation reads:

The Imperial Executive Committee wishes to congratulate the Guernsey Guiders and Rangers who held together during the German occupation for their loyalty and faithfulness to the ideals of Guiding, and to put on record their appreciation of the excellent work done by members of the Movement in Guernsey which has won them the admiration of Guides in all parts of the world.

NORA WARNER

Next month: How the island reclaimed its children and adapted to the post-war years.



Early days: Company which met at **Grange Lodge**

When my mother took over she had the 3rd Ladies no experience whatsoever - she College couldn't even tie a knot but she was a good administrator and knew how to delegate, Diana explained.

> There was no chance of me not being in the Movement.' Years later Diana was appointed Island Commissioner. I enjoyed it but it was a lot of hard work. My motto was: rules are handrails not handcuffs,' she said.

Guernsey had a claim to Guiding fame in the Twenties — a Company of Sea Guides was formed, thought to be the first in the world. The 9th St Martin's Company was registered as the 1st Sea Guides Guernsey. Miss Nora Cutler took over as Pilot-in-Charge but, eventually, had to give up. as she was in full-time domestic service. They were quite the happiest days of my life," she recalled later. The Company, which took the name of Orion, folded in 1926.

Guiding was very much part of island life in the 1930s but, by the time Miss Winifred Harvey — known to her admirers as Winnie the Wasp because of her narrow waist - took over as were discovered. The Island Commissioner could have been imprisoned or sent to Germany and some islanders who made that journey never returned.

No one betrayed them and today Mary Le Poidevin can smile, when she remembers how they would hide their Trefoil badges under the lapels of their coats as they slipped one by one into

ALDERNEY

The small island of Alderney is one of the five Districts with the Bailiwick of Guernsey. The first Guide Company was started on the island in 1925 and a Ranger Unit was formed the following year.

In 1939 there were six Guiders, 21 Guides, eight Sea Rangers and 14 Brownies. But the entire population was evacuated during the Second World War.

Guiding didn't restart there until 1957 when a Brownie Pack was started followed by a Guide unit.

Today the majority of the island's young girls are either members of the Brownie Pack or Guide unit.

HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAMME IDEAS FOR GUIDE GUIDERS

WADDOW: November 20-22

This training is specially designed for Unit Guiders and Assistant Guiders who would like new ideas to provide an interesting and exciting programme.

Sessions include:

- use of the new Guide Handbook
- other GGA and external publications
- adapting the unit programme
- making adaptations for disabilities.

Come and enjoy a weekend of friendship, fun and new ideas.

LOOK AFTER YOURSELF

FOXLEASE: October 16-18

If you want to learn about how to make healthy food choices, how to exercise safely (gently!) and how to relax instead of getting tense—come along

The training will cover:

- exercise: the theory
- gentle exercise: the practice
- what causes stress?
- how to manage your stress
- healthy eating what to eat and why
- how to use these ideas in your unit.

This training will be taken by a local health authority trainer.

LEADERSHIP FOR COMMISSIONERS

FOXLEASE: September 4-6

Leadership has been defined as winning the hearts and minds of people to achieve a common purpose. How effective is your leadership? How do we win the hearts and minds of our team minds to achieve the common goal of good Guiding. Can leadership be

learned or is it something we are born with.

Come and find out more about leadership at Foxlease. This training aims to assist all Commissioners gain greater awareness of the importance of leadership in their role. And to encourage them to develop confidence in determining an appropriate style of leadership.

These weekends are for any Commissioner who feels she would benefit from this type of training. It would be especially useful for Commissioners Designate.

THE PATROL IN ACTION

FOXLEASE: November 27-29

This weekend is open to all Guide Guiders, to gain fresh ideas and enable them to make better use of the Patrol system in their units.

Topics will include:

- ideas and activities for Patrol time
- Patrol Purpose Patches and Interest Pennants
- the Patrol Leaders' Council and Patrol Leaders training.

Come along and be inspired!

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

FOXLEASE: September 4-6 WADDOW:

November 10-12 (midweek)

Guiders are in a unique position to support girls in making the right decisions for life. These trainings will look in depth at relevant topics, as well as arming Guiders with a wealth of resources and ideas.

Topics to be covered will include:

- teenage pregnancy
- o child abuse
- drug awareness
- leaving home
- the wider world.

This training counts towards the requirements of the Adult Leadership Scheme (Stage III).

JUST THE JOB

WADDOW:

September 15-17 (midweek)

This training is for any adult in Guiding who, for whatever reason, wishes to embark on or return to paid employment. It will also be useful for those considering career changes.

Topics will include:

- preparing a curriculum vitae
- interviewing techniques
- effective presentation
- standards in the workplace
- o time management.

SCIENCE GAMES FOR BROWNIES AND GUIDES

FOXLEASE: October 16-18

- Are you looking for something different?
- Do you want some new ideas for your programme?

Why not come and enjoy a weekend of fun, exploring new ideas? This training is open to any Brownie or Guide Guider. However, if you work with another section many of the ideas can be adapted.

This weekend will:

- Supply you with help for those girls working on science badges.
- Give you ideas to try with the girls and to put science into your programme.
- Enable you to have a go and try something new.
- Provide you with the chance to ask that question "Why...?".

This training counts towards the requirements of the Adult Leadership Scheme (Stage III).

ASSERTIVENESS

FOXLEASE:

October 13-15 (midweek)

Do you find it difficult to say no? If so, come and practise being assertive.

The aim:

- to discover what being assertive really means
- to gain confidence in dealing with awkward situations

- to practise effective communication
- to explore how to look and behave more confidently.

These trainings are open to anyone in Guiding and count towards the requirements of the Adult Leadership Scheme (Stage III).

NINE TO FIVE

WADDOW:

November 27-29

This training is for any Ranger. Young Leader or young Guider who is going out to work for the first time.

It will give you a chance to think about how you can improve your employment prospects.

Topics to be covered will include:

- preparing a curriculum vitae
- handling interviews
- managing your time
- presenting yourself well.

THE THINGS THAT MATTER

FOXLEASE:

November 13-15

Are you aged between 16 and 25 and a member of the Association? If so, these weekends are for you!

You will be given the opportunity to explore some of the important issues which directly affect your life.

Topics will include:

- independent living
- healthy lifestyles
- developing self-confidence
- exploring relationships
- the Promise.

There will be guest speakers, discussion groups, videos, outside experts, practical activities and fun!

FAMILY CAMPING

GLENBROOK: August 22-31

For the first time Glenbrook is setting aside a camp site so Guiders can bring their families to camp.

You will need to be selfsufficient regarding equipment and food. However,

TRAINING DIARY

there will be a certain amount of activities arranged - if you wish.

Otherwise the time is your own - to do as you like. Come and enjoy a relaxing weekend in the beautiful Derbyshire countryside.

CANOEING **CLIMBING** CAVING

GLENBROOK: September 18-20

This weekend offers the opportunity to take a BCU 1 or 2 Star Certificate in canoeing, or to have a go at caving or climbing. You can try a combination of any two of these activities during the weekend.

Skilled instructors will help you learn and enjoy these sports.

ADVANCED WALKING SAFELY

GLENBROOK: November 13-15

This weekend is specially designed to meet the needs of Guiders who want to develop their skills and confidence in leading groups in upland areas.

Theoretical and practical sessions to be included are:

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

TRAINING SKILLS **FOR ADVISERS**

WADDOW: November 20-22

Are you an enthusiastic and highly-skilled Adviser, working hard to promote your particular speciality 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 a weekend training package especially for you. At the end of it you will be

o 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 effec-

This weekend is for any Adviser who would benefit from gaining basic training skills to convey her speciality to other adults.

ADAPTING PROGRAMME IDEAS FOR GIRLS IN YOUR UNIT

WADDOW: October 16-18 FOXLEASE: November 20-22

This is to help Guiders and Assistant Guiders to develop confidence and competence in trying new approaches to meet the needs of individual girls in their units.

At this weekend you can:

- 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 from and share with other Guiders.

This training counts towards the requirements of the Adult Leadership Scheme (Stage III)

FOXLEASE 70TH BIRTHDAY BONANZA

FOXLEASE:

December 29-January 3

This is your opportunity to spend five nights in a fine Georgian house and help to celebrate 70 successful years of Guiding at Foxlease, with time to enjoy the house, the forest and the surrounding area

This will be a non-uniform event open to any member of the Movement. So, if you are between 16 and 70+, write now to book a place!

Fees; just £70.00, which includes full board and accommodation. You may come for as many of the days as you wish.

There are some bursaries available for under-25s. Please ask when you apply

Activities will include:

- parlour games
- 70 challenges something for everyone
- fun and frolics for all
- tree planting
- beacon lighting to mark our entry into Europe.

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 £5 deposit and sae for Glenbrook and a £9 deposit and sae for Foxlease and Waddow.

TRAINING DIARY

FOXLEASE

23-30 Sue Stevens summer school

September

4-6 1 Leadership for Commissioners 2. Contemporary

25-27 ASA/RLSS Life saving

October

13-15* Assertiveness

16-18 1. Look after yourself 2. Science games for Brownies and Guides

November

13-15 1. Team building 2. The things that matter

20-22 Adapting programme

27-29 The Patrol in action December

4-6 Seasonal fun with music

WADDOW

August

8-15 Waddow adventure

20-Sept 2 Holiday period

September

15-17* Just the job

October

16-18 Adapting programme ideas

November

10-12* Contemporary issues 20-22 1. Training skills for Advisers 2. Programme ideas for Guide Guiders

27-29 1. Nine to five 2. Rainbow Guiders.

GLENBROOK

August

22-31 Family camping

September

18-20 Canoeing/climbing/ caving

November

13-15 Advanced walking safely

*Midweek

GLENBROOK

Bamford Nr Sheffield \$30 2AL

Tel: (Barmford) 0433 51567 EH46 7AQ

FOXLEASE Lyndhurst

5043 7DG Tel: 0703 282638

WADDOW

BB7 31D

Tel: (Clitheroe) 0200 23186 Coltishall

NETHERURD

Blyth Bridge West Linton

Tel: (Dolphinton) 0968 82208 BRONEIRION

LORNE

Craigavad Co Down BT30 OBS

Tel: (Helywood) 02317 3180

HAUTBOIS

Great Hauthois Road

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

Powys SY17 FOF Tel: (Caersws) 0686 688 204

BLACKLAND FARM East Grinstead Tel: (Sharpthorne) 0342 810

RAINBOW GUIDERS

In this holiday month the Rainbows are likely to be getting around rather more than they do in term time. And so a theme of different places, directions and distances can be tied in with their own experiences. You might want to remind them yet again about road safety ...

GAMES IDEAS

Here are some tried-andtested activity ideas your girls will love and yet learn while they're playing

TOOT TOOT!

This game was sent in by Pamela Bourne-Jones of Kingsway, Bath when we appealed for Rainbow games last year

For this game you need largish pictures of cars in different colours pasted on to card and you need some counters or straws. You could use other pictures to match whatever your meeting theme might be.

The Rainbows form a circle with the pictures in the middle. You number the girls 1,2,3 around the circle and tell them ones are red cars; twos blue, threes green, for example.

Then you call out a number: One, two, three ... two!' and all the twos run clockwise around the outside of the circle saying Toot! ... Toot!'as they go.

The first girl back to her place gets a counter and the first girl to get two (or maybe three) counters can take the car picture of her colour.

RIGHT AND LEFT

Some of the Rainbows will know their right from their left with certainty. Some will still be a bit unsure. All of them will enjoy games which use this knowledge. This version of Simon Says is a name that is always fun to play and can be used to highlight different skills.

When the leader performs an action and says 'Simon says do this, the girls do it.

But when Simon says 'Do that' anyone who does do the action misses a turn.

You can speed up the game by just saying 'Do this... do that. When you want to use the game for more specific actions like right hand, left hand and direction, change the wording to give the action first; Turn to the right, Simon says do that.' ... 'Hop on your left foot, Simon says do this.' Of course anyone who moves before Simon says 'this' or 'that' is in trouble!

HOW FAR IS IT?

Get the girls to measure the distance from one point to another in a variety of ways. If, for example, they decide to measure the width of the meeting room, they could measure it by strides or by holding hands across the room - how many Rainbows wide is it?

ISLANDS

This game can be played to music if you wish. You need some sheets of newspaper torn into the shapes of islands. These are spread around the room - which is the sea.

The Rainbows play in the sea - swimming and paddling their canoes. Then the leader stops the

calls out, 'Sharks!' Everyone leaps out on to the nearest island. The sharks swim away and the Rainbows play in the sea again.

The leader takes away an island between each call, so that the girls have to escape on to a smaller and smaller amount of 'land' each time the sharks return.

Encourage the girls to help each other on to the islands, and stop the game when another island sinking would leave some girls to the sharks! What could become a competitive game thus becomes one in which the girls help and care for each other.

PICNIC TIME

Ask the girls to bring a little snack to the next meeting a few biscuits, nuts or crisps. Arrange to have some paper cups and a drink of squash. take the girls on a 'trek' around the meeting room - and, if you can, outside as well.

When you get to the chosen picnic site - which might be back where you all started from - settle down and enjoy and share your picnic. Then ask the girls to lead everyone back by the same route by which they reached the picnic site. You

SING-ALONG

End some of your meetings with a good, old-fashioned sing-along, sitting in a circle together. You will need to teach the Rainbows some of the songs and they may know others.

Try to avoid the pop songs which they have all around them at other times and introduce them to old timers.

Here are a few you may know. Ten green bottles, This old man he played one and Old Macdonald had a farm. You will find others in some of the song books published by the GGA. Look in your Trading Service cataloque for details.

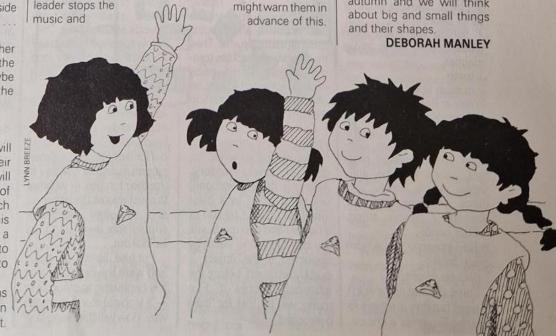
THANK YOU

Say thank you for the new places the Rainbows have visited during the holidays and the new things they have done. Say thank you for the games they have played and the friends they have played with.

Think for a short while of people far away. They may be family or friends or they may be people the Rainbows have read about or seen on television

NEXT MONTH

You will be starting into the autumn and we will think



THEME EVENING

ALL AT SEA

Valerie Gosden, Brownie Guider with the 2nd New Eltham Pack, enjoys our Theme Evening ideas. So she sent us one of her own suggestions that's ideal for an evening when numbers are going to be low.

Try shipwrecking your Pack for an evening. This is a fun activity which encourages teamwork, problem-solving and improvisation. And you don't even need to get your Items needed by the Guider:

Ropes

Hand-held water sprays 'Fish' — made from coloured paper with paper clips on their mouths

You will need to arrive early to set the scene. Turn the tables upside down on the blankets to form rafts. They should all point North to South. Equip each raft with 'survival' boxes and the other items.

Each raft has a ship's officer on it - the Sixer who makes the decisions, although passengers may offer suggestions.

Once they are safely on the rafts, use your bell to attract attention. Explain that the sinking liner will pull them down with it, unless they get away from the area quickly. The solution here is to use ice cream box lids as paddles - but they must use both lids or they will go round in a circle!

the sinking ship. convert their lifejackets back into ordinary jackets. and tell them it is warm and sunny.

Give them three problems to deal with:

1 One passenger wrenched her ankle while escaping from the sinking liner. How can the others help?

2 How will anyone searching for them see them in the middle of the ocean? The yellow streamer is the obvious solution here.

3 How soon will help arrive? Should they ration their food and drink supplies, or use it all at once?

Next tell them that night is approaching, and it is getting much colder. How will they keep warm? Turn the lights out for night-time. The Brownies must decide whether to use their torches, or whether this just wastes the batteries, and whether someone should stay awake and act as lookout.

Put the lights on again and warn the Brownies that it is beginning to cloud over — a tropical storm is on the way. How will they keep dry?

Use the water sprays to make your own storm.

During the 'afternoon', the wind rises. It is coming from the South and going towards the North, which is where they need to go. Ask if they can make use of the wind to help them to move faster towards land. They should be able to use the compass to select the correct table leg 'masts' and use curtain for sails.

Scatter paper fish and draw the Brownies' attention to them. Give one mark for each fish caught with the

NIGHT-TIME

Turn the lights out again to make it night and tell them they can hear the distant drone of an aeroplane. If you can imitate an aeroplane it will add to the effect! They must try to attract the plane's attention. Daylight (lights on). and the plane returns. How will they attract attention this time?

Next provide helicopter sound effects. You or your helper should stand on a chair in the centre of the room, holding ropes. The helicopter can only take two passengers at a time, so each group must decide who should go first, and who remain. Brownies then hold one end of the rope and are 'winched' to the safety of the helicopter.

Once the Brownies are 'rescued' give them a hot drink to help recover from their ordeal.

Our Brownies often had different solutions to the problems. If we felt they could justify their decisions then they were given the appropriate marks. We gave an extra point to the Six who thought of an idea first.

They stayed on their rafts for about 75 minutes, worked together well and thoroughly enjoyed their evening

VALERIE GOSDEN Let us know the programme ideas that work for you.



PREPARATION

For each Six you will need:

1 old sheet/blanket

1 upturned table

1 small piece of material, an old curtain will do

2 or 3 newspapers

1 cheap exercise book or other paper

1 fishing rod made from garden cane, string and a magnet

1 torch

2 dustbin liners Water in flask

1 ice cream box with lid and spare lid, containing the following: triangular bandage, crêpe bandage, plasters, antiseptic wipe, antiseptic cream, safety pins (large), sellotape, compass, scissors, 2 pencils, string,

Yellow streamer made from

Some of these items won't be used but they are there to

Explain to the Brownies that they are all passengers on a luxury liner, cruising round the world. One of them goes below deck and, on passing by a cabin with the door ajar, hears the following sounds: ...-- This is the SOS signal. It means the liner is sinking and the girls must all abandon ship. They must grab life-jackets (outdoor jackets turned inside out), quickly put them on and get themselves on to the rafts.

Give each Six 50 marks to start with and explain that marks will be awarded for good solutions to situations. Anything going overboard will be grabbed by a giant albatross (played by you or a helper) and two marks will be lost. Only one need be deducted if the object is quickly retrieved, before the albatross reaches it. Five marks will be lost for 'man overboard'.

BROWNIE GUIDERS

Set aside an evening (or a day if possible), to gather leaders together for a make-it session and you'll have a stock of ideas to draw on over the rest of the year.

MAKING MODELS

All you need for the ideas below is a good stock of card, paper fasteners, scissors, ruler and writing implements, a pile of sandwiches and a bubbling coffee pot!

Make them up as demonstration models. Then, when you need an activity idea, each Brownie can make her own.

GOOD TURN

HAND 1

Draw a silhouette of your hand on a piece of card, label fingertips with the days of the week, halving the palm for the last two days. Write NAME on the wrist. Cut out the hand and attach a wool loop to the back.

This can be used to record a week's Good Turns, writing the deed on the appropriate finger. Or use it for any Do Your Best challenge.

HAND 2

Fold a strip of wallpaper into seven rectangles and draw round your hand so that thumb and little finger touch the vertical edges. Cut out the concertina, leaving the joins at thumb and little finger uncut.

Write one day of the week on each hand. A Brownie writes completed challenges on each day's hand.

MOUSE

Draw a mouse and attach a piece of string as a tail. A Brownie ties a knot each time she successfully completes a challenge.

JIGSAW

Cut a greetings card picture into seven irregular pieces. Mark the shapes of the pieces in place on the original backing card, reversed so that no writing shows.

A Brownie can record a completed challenge by sticking each piece of the jigsaw in place till the jigsaw is complete.

Write the challenge on the card as a reminder.

TOOTHBRUSH DAILY CHART

Draw a large toothbrush outline, with seven thick tufts. Two will dovetail nicely into an A5 card. Write NAME on the handle and one day of the week on each tuft.

As a Brownie cleans her teeth, she colours in the appropriate tuft — half in the morning, half in the evening.

SPIN-A-DISC

Cut two circles of card, attaching them to each other by a paper fastener in the

JOBS CHART

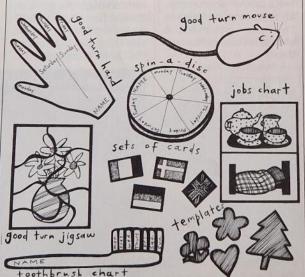
Rule a line across an A4 card, and stick in each half a picture, cut from a catalogue, representing a Help at Home task. For instance, vacuum cleaner, bath, bed, or shoes for Footpath or Road; cooker, iron or car for Highway.

Once a Brownie has chosen her Help at Home task, she selects the appropriate card and hangs it on her bedroom wall as a reminder. One of her parents can then sign it as she completes her tasks.

GAMES EQUIPMENT

Make several of these simple items and keep them in labelled envelopes to use during Journey work.

 Dominoes for almost anything — semaphore, inter-



centre. Rule the top card into eight segments.

On the top disc, write NAME followed by the days of the week, one in each segment. The writing should be upright when rotated to the top of the disc.

Attach a loop to the back. A Brownie hangs the disc on her wall and rotates it daily, writing in any challenge achieved that day.

national badges, saints and flags or Country Code.

The Law, Promise and national anthem cut into strips or individual words, for Brownies to put in the right order.

• Sets of cards to be matched up or used in Pelmanism (a system of memory training), Happy Families or any other game. One set might consist of the four

countries, emblems, saints and saints' days, of the British Isles. Or you could use international Brownie names, badges, national flags and uniforms.

 Coloured pictures of the Union flag cut into jigsaws.

● The Union flag made up as individual flags drawn on clear sheets of plastic to be placed on top of each other to show how the whole is made up. Don't forget the white borders for St Patrick's Cross in the correct proportions!

Pictures cut from old Brownie and Guide handbooks or magazines, showing girls doing things. Paste them on to small cards and provide sets of cards giving the Eight Points. Brownies match the pictures to the appropriate point. They'll be surprised how much the Eight Points overlap.

 World Badge with arrowshaped cards describing the meaning of each symbol, to be placed in the appropriate position.

 Traced pictures of international uniforms and badges. These can be photocopied for Brownies to

colour.

 Mounted cards showing items of Guiding interest pictures of Lord and Lady B-P, the World Centres, royal Brownies and Guides or UK Training Centres.

Word searches and puzzles on a Brownie theme.
 You will find plenty of these in back copies of BROWNIE magazine.

 Simple quizzes on a Guiding theme to fill in a spare moment.

Strong card templates of shapes you are likely to need; a trefoil, a toadstool, an owl, a heart, a Christmas tree, holly, leaves, flowers, trees, geometric shapes.

A day spent getting these materials organised nowwill save hours of effort later and ensure a supply of ready-to-use activity material.

GILLIAN ELLIS

GETTING OUT

DOWN ON THE FARM

Visit the South of England Rare Breeds Centre and there'll be plenty of chances to ooh and aah over the fluffy chicks, cuddly rabbits and gambolling piglets.

Old English breeds of distinguished ancestry thrive in this greenest of new tourist attractions. But the Centre has an even more important reason for existing. It provides 'proper' jobs for more than 50 young, local, disabled people.

It is the latest project developed by the Canterbury Oast Trust, which already runs two tea rooms staffed by people with disabilities. The Trust was started in 1985 by a dedicated group of parents and carers and concentrates on helping people with mental and physical disabilities. It currently runs 11 homes in Kent caring for 70 people.

The charity firmly believes that small is beautiful. It doesn't seek to spread into other counties, it doesn't employ paid fund raisers and it aims to be self-supporting.

Its Executive Director, Joe Graham, makes no secret of his view that the 90-acre Centre's prime purpose is to give work to and provide homes for disabled people.

Yes, he hopes the people living around Woodchurch and Tenterden will pop into the restaurant for lunch or buy their bread — baked on the premises — at the deli.

He'll gladly welcome the hordes of tourists he hopes will pour in to admire the 65 breeds of rare animals, and sell them a T-shirt or two from the Visitors Information Centre

But, for him, it is the chance to fulfil the needs of young disabled people that makes the hard work worthwhile.

Just like everyone else, he pointed out, people with disabilities have four basic needs: a decent plant.



live; a satisfying occupation; an opportunity to relate to their peer group and a chance to manage their own lives.

Canterbury Oast Trust chooses not to opt for sheltered workshops. The Trust wants the young people to make it in the hard reality of the commercial world and, by doing so, demonstrate to Mr and Mrs Public that they deserve to be accepted on equal terms.

REAL JOBS

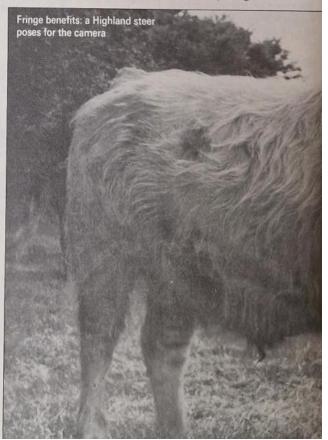
Yvonne Wanstall, the Head of Care, explained: 'Our residents want to lead their lives the same as everybody else. They don't want a pretend job to do, they want a real job. They want to be involved in the world at large.'

Of course, there are fully-trained experts to guide the mainly young workers. But it is the disabled staff who care for the animals, milk the cows, paint the buildings, cut the grass, park the cars and serve in the restaurant.

The Centre opened in time for Easter and 5,000 people

went through the gates in the first four days. The staff were delighted but there is still a long way to go before the Centre is complete.

So far £1.25m has been spent but the function centre and the four bungalows that will provide homes for 22 disabled young adults and



GETTING OUT

give them independence remain as shells. We are up to our bank overdraft limit and we still need another million,' said Joe Graham.

Ironically, once the function centre is finished, it will generate a steady income from wedding receptions and conferences.

In the first year - the Centre only closes on Christmas Day - it's hoped to attract 100,000 visitors. Entrance fees have been kept low so that visitors will keep coming back to sample the range of treats on offer.

There are four miles of nature trails and woodland walks. Visitors can also take a trip aboard the farm trailer. complete with audio commentary, and head for one of the inviting picnic spots. For young visitors, the 500 or so animals will always be the main attraction

FARM AT WORK

They will see a real working farm and be able to ask questions Traditional farming crafts will be taking place all around them.

Knowing that children like to touch as well as look, the pens in the 'kiddies corner' are specially constructed to I allow for play time with the young pigs or a chance to stroke the rabbits.

The Centre is the only one in the UK breeding all seven varieties of rare pigs on the Rare Breeds Survival Trust's (RBST) list of threatened species. And who wouldn't savour the chance to encounter a British Lop or a Gloucester Old Spot?

I was just in time to see eight Berkshire pigs bound for Japan. They'd been specially selected to start a breeding programme in the Land of the Rising Sun.

Presiding proudly over the poultry you may encounter; world expert Fred Hams, who'll boast that the ancestors of his Silver Grey Dorkings were around in Roman times and coax a new chick to demonstrate the five toes that make the bird so unusual

Chances are you'll see a new-born calf nestling up to its mother. The Centre specialises in Gloucesters, which are one of three breeds on the RBST's critical list.

The horses - sturdy chestnut Suffolks - are turned out to run free in the evenings, but are on hand to be patted by visitors during the day. There is also a lovable miniature Shetland pony.

A Highland steer peers from under his Bardot-style fringe, a snow white peacock struts his stuff, while one of nature's posers, the Bagot goat, ogles his audience.

POND LIFE

Water fowl have their own pond, which doubles as another attractive picnic spot. No problem if you forget to

goslings, fluffy chicks, bouncy bunnies, wobbly lambs

The Centre aims to concentrate on breeding the older and more traditional types of duck such as the Welsh Harlequin, Magpie and Muscovy.

The phrase 'table bird' sounds like sacrilege. But this is real life and Joe Graham doesn't attempt to hide that some of the Centre's surplus will end up on the



pack some sandwiches, the deli stocks a mouthwatering selection of pâtés and everything to wash them down with from elderflower cordial to fine wines.

Everywhere you look new life is starting - gallant menu in the restaurant. The Part of the animals are well cared for Centre's and have a happy life, he accommodation explains. Who can ask for complex which more?

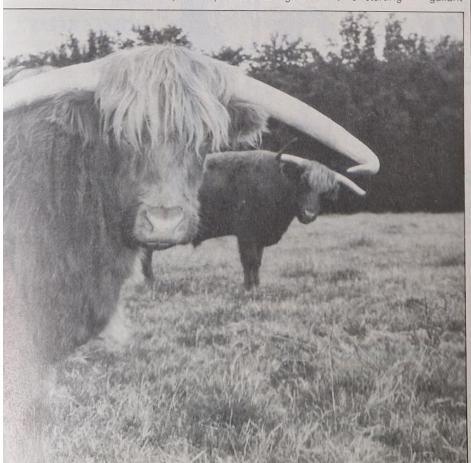
The Centre plans lots of completed special events from rare breed shows to sheep shearing demonstrations. It is open from 10.30am to 5.30pm in the summer, closing at 4.30pm in the winter. Entry costs £2 for adults and 50p for children and season tickets are available.

But you can use the restaurant or shop at the deli without having to pay the entrance fee. The cream teas are highly recommended. And there is a toddlers play area just outside the restaurant.

The Centre welcomes donations large or small. We look forward to seeing the Rare Breeds Centre become established as one of Kent's most worthy and worthwhile tourist attractions,' said Joe Graham.

NORA WARNER

 For more information write to the South of England Rare Breeds Centre, Highlands Farm, Woodchurch, Ashford, Kent TN26 3RT or tel: 0233 861493.



has yet to be

GUIDE GUIDERS

It may be holiday time but the next meeting is never far away. Perhaps you could use the summer break to make up a few quick games and quizzes for the girls. A homecraft theme can provide ideas for a wide variety of activities.

COOKING SKILLS

Produce a list of fruit and herbs which grow locally and can be used in cooking. Then challenge the girls to find samples.

Perhaps they could have a go at recipes which use them. If you have nothing suitable growing nearby, you could challenge them to match pictures to the names, so that whenever they are out and about they can recognise them.

If there is a local shop which sells exotic fruits and vegetables, organise a 'tasting' session. You may know someone who can tell the each flag into the right country on a world map. Give points for every correctly placed flag.

DIY FUN

An evening of DIY related to the Trefoils could be fun. Organise one activity per Patrol, and then let the Patrols work round and try each

You could include:

- Wiring a plug and changing a fuse.
- Taking cuttings from a plant, such as a geranium.
- Making a simple toy, such as a building brick for a small child.
- Cleaning washbasins and any other equipment to which you have access.
- Demonstrating how to mend a bicycle puncture.Learning how to turn off
- water.

 Among the parents, the Trefoil Guild, the local com-

tatting or lacemaking for beginners, simple patchwork, sweetmaking (if you have appropriate facilities) and making pretty invitations and thank you cards.

These activities will help towards Trefoils and can be built on in the coming weeks for Patrol Time and Action Plus projects.

PELMANISM

Pelmanism, a system of memory training using cards, can be adapted to create learning activities on many different subjects.

Use the symbols on the sides of soap powder packets, and on clothing labels to make a set of cards for each Patrol showing washing and cleaning symbols. Write the meanings of each symbol on separate cards. Use these for an inter-Patrol race

Line up the Patrols in the

collect its matching half. She then runs to the game leader.

If they are correct she gets a point and keeps the set. If not they are returned to the two piles.

The winning Patrol is the one which finishes all its cards first, and has the highest score.

Alternatively, the cards can be used for Pelmanism. They are spread on a table, face down and each player, in turn, lifts two. If they match, the pair is kept. If not they are put back. The winner is the girl with the most pairs when all are matched.

WORDSEARCH

If the girls enjoy wordsearch puzzles challenge them to make one for the other Patrols to try, using words connected with the home, such as cooker, fridge, washer, plumbing, cookbook, wallpaper and so on.

Set the size of the puzzle ... ten letters across and down is reasonably challenging.

HOME SAFETY

More accidents happen in the home than anywhere else. Get the girls to list all the things that could go wrong at home.

Discuss what they have listed. Then challenge them to produce posters to show the dangers and how to avoid them.

If you have a local safety officer, invite him/her to talk to the unit about safety at home.

Maybe someone could use the visit for another aspect of homecraft — hostessing.

We are sometimes accused of being an organisation which spends its time on homecraft skills. Don't try to counteract this by avoiding homecraft altogether. It still forms one eighth of our programme, and is an important life skill.

CAROL HORNE



girls where and how each fruit or vegetable grows. They may even be able to provide authentic recipes. If not, many libraries have books with suitable recipes.

Could the girls match the fruits to their country of origin? Give them slips of card on which to write the fruit name, put pins through one end to make a flag, and then challenge them to start

munity and your friends there will probably be people who can do the things you cannot. The police are usually willing to come and do bicycle checks if they have time.

HANDCRAFTS

If you and the girls prefer traditional activities, try a similar evening planned around things like simple flower arranging, crochet, middle of the room. Put the symbols set at one end of the room, and the names set at the other end

Number each girl, and make sure that there are the same numbers in each Patrol. Ask girls to run twice if necessary.

When a number is called, that girl collects a card from the symbol pile, and then runs to the other end to

FRESHWATER ACTIVITIES

This month's ideas for the GGA's Weekend of Water are supplied by Jane Mansell, Education Officer of the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority. They are taken from the Focus on Freshwater Activities Pack.

Other publications available from Lee Valley, which could be suitable for WOW activities are *No 21 Water Birds* and *No 22 Canals and Riverside History*. Both cost £4.55.

If you live in Hertfordshire, Essex or London and are within easy reach of the Lee Valley, they have lots of resource material and circular walk guides available.

The Focus on Freshwater Activities Pack contains:

- information on freshwater invertebrates
- ideas for study
- guidance notes for leaders visiting the park.

The pack also contains detailed notes on safety hazards which could be encountered when working near freshwater. Precautions to take are also explained.

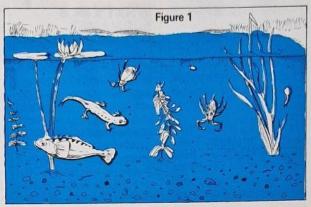
All children enjoy fishing with nets, either for stickle-backs in a stream or tadpoles in the local pond.

Within this common fascination for watery places is a great potential for enjoyable learning, not only about the immense variety of wetland plants and animals, but also about food chains, adaptations, and pollution.

Wetland habitats are among the most productive on earth. They include canals, streams, ditches and ponds, even gardens and school grounds.

These local wetlands contain hundreds of different animal species, each adapted to its particular way of life. All are easy and rewarding to study given a small amount of preparation.

All the ideas contained in the Pack can be used as guidelines for a self-led visit to any suitable area.



POND COLLAGE

A cross-section of a pond or stream can be represented on a large wall using a variety of materials of different textures and colours. Drawings or paintings of the pond animals can then be displayed in their correct micro-habitat within the pond (Figure 1).

THE ID GAME

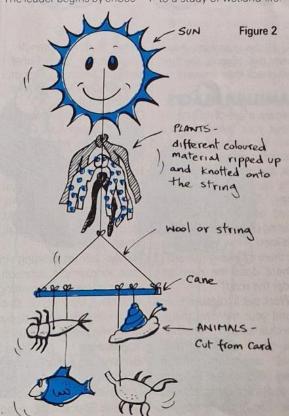
The idea of the ID Game is to focus the youngsters' attention on the features of the various invertebrate groups. The leader begins by choos-

ing one animal and giving one clue to its identity. For example: 'What am I? I have six legs'; or 'I have three tails' and so on. One answer is then taken from the unit. If it is incorrect, a further clue is given and so on, until the correct answer is reached.

The person who guesses correctly chooses an animal and starts the game again.

TREE DIAGRAMS

A tree diagram can be drawn up as a simple way of identifying the pond creatures and is a useful introduction to a study of wetland life.



FOOD WEB

The final game in the pack focuses on who eats whom?, and ends with a fun demonstration of the interdependence of the members of one habitat community.

The terms 'herbivore', 'carnivore' and 'scavenger' are explained and the creatures sorted out into one of the above groups. Plants are introduced and, finally, the sun and its importance as a source of all life is stressed

The game begins with a leader or helper taking the part of the sun. The girls all stand around in a circle and take the part of a plant or of a creature.

A leader hands the end of a ball of string (the 'energy') to the sun and then unwinds it, passing it to the plants, then the herbivores, then the carnivores.

Each stage is explained and, eventually, everyone will be connected by a 'web' of string — a 'food web'

At this point the leader introduces the idea of 'killing off some link' in the chain.

With the string held taut, the leader asks the plants to 'die' by tugging the string and then dropping to the ground. Anyone who feels this 'tug' is affected by the plants dying and they then tug the string and drop. Soon only the sun remains standing and the interdependence of pond life is demonstrated.

Each girl could make her own food chain (Figure 2).

LIFE CYCLES

The life cycles of the various pond animals can be investigated and the different stages drawn on a circular piece of card. This could be covered in sticky-backed plastic, then cut up and used as a jigsaw or covered with another piece of card to make a life cycle wheel.

 WOW '92 takes place from September 18 to 20.

THE EIGHT POINTS

THINKING FOR YOURSELF

We've all been confronted by them — bright-eyed, bouncy, incredibly alert older Brownies ready and able to tackle more advanced ideas and activities than the younger members of the Pack. To help busy Brown Owls cope with this situation we've got a new series based on the Eight Points.

When Brownies move on to Guides, they meet the Eight Points again, but under different names. *Brownies are* a cupboard door with a faulty lock, or to replace a broken key ring.

● A large handkerchief might come in handy as a carrier for berries or nuts, a bandage, a headcover in sunshine, a facecloth, or a parachute toy to amuse a child.

Prepare a quiz about things which the girls see frequently such as a 10p coin, a second class stamp, the cover of the *Brownie Handbook* and so on. When they have attemp-

WHAT'S IN A SURNAME?

Every name has an origin. Write each of the listed surnames on a card. The Brownies' first task is to sort out which names relate to various categories — trades, character, locality, family or appearance. We've done the sorting for you.

Trade: Smith, Gardener, Skinner, Tanner, Wright, Carter, Clark, Taylor, Fuller, Fowler, Weaver, Miller, their own names to the correct category.

Brownies then choose one category and list as many other names as they can think of. Next ask them to list their neighbours/relatives/other Pack members/school-friends, or any other group they wish and discuss the origins of those names.

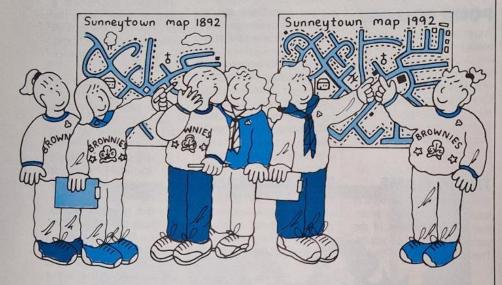
COMMUNITY KNOW-HOW

Whether you live in an old or new town, a village or suburb, your locality has its own history.

First find out the origins of your area name, and provide pictures of housing as it was in the century when your town/village began to develop. The Brownies can make posters of early dwellings, labelled with the original name of the area.

Provide a map of the locality as it was 50 or 100 years ago, and a current one on the same scale. Ask the Brownies to compare the two. From a list of Pack addresses, the girls can find out whose houses were standing then.

Locate some street maps of your area. Discuss the street names, looking for unusual names which sound as though they have a story linked to them. Give each Brownie one or two street



Wide Awake becomes Thinking for Yourself. Here are a few ways to encourage Brownies to think for themselves before moving on to Guides.

EVERYDAY THINKING

Give the girls some everyday objects, and ask them if they can think of some impromptu uses to which they could be put. For example:

A polythene carrier bag might be used as a sitter, an apron, a water carrier, a rubbish bin, to protect shoes in muddy conditions, a hat or bike seat cover in rain, a clean cover for a wound or even cut into strips to use as emergency string.

An elastic band could be used to tie back hair, to hold together a sandal with a broken buckle, to hold shut

ted all the questions, hand them the objects so they can check their answers.

FAMILIAR PLACES

Prepare a list of questions about your meeting place and its surroundings, or about the area in which you live, and see how many the girls can answer between them. Sample questions could be: 'Where are the meeting place cleaning materials kept?'; 'How many clocks are there in the High Street?'; 'Where does the river go under the road?'

Work out a treasure hunt round your meeting place, one clue leading to another. You could include cryptic clues, anagrams, sketch maps, and codes. Practise the codes first using different keys. (See opposite page.)

Archer, Butcher, Chandler, Spicer, Draper, Slater, Fisher, Barber, Mason, Farmer, Cook, Waller, Glover, Brewer, Cooper, Sadler

Character: Swift, Smart, Worthy, Goodfellow, Giddy, Moody, Wise, Keen, Bright, Hardy, Smiley.

Locality: English, French, Lytham, York (or any local town). Rivers. Banks, Ford, Grove, Downs, Brooks, Field, Moore, Castle, Bridges, Hall, Street, Towers.

Family: names ending in son, for example, Johnson, Jackson; names beginning with Mac, Mc, Fitz, O', all of which mean son; Neave (meaning nephew); Cousins.

Appearance: Whitehead

Appearance: Whitehead, Brown, Large, Short, Small, Longfellow.

Provide some blank cards so that Brownies can add



THE EIGHT POINTS

names to research for the next Pack meeting. They can share their findings.

Point out well-known buildings and monuments on the street map. Ask each Brownie to find out about one place:

- When it was erected.
- Who owns it.
- When it is open to the public, and at what fee.
- Who uses it or visits it.

Provide brochures of places of local interest and bus and train timetables. Brownies can choose and plan one or more visits, listing opening times, fees and transport availability.

Encourage the Brownies to compile a local information scrapbook, after carrying out the survey outlined below.

OUTDOOR INFORMATION

Over a period of time, the Brownies can carry out the following survey, with adult help where necessary - for example, for visits. Each Brownie could take one or two sections and pool information later.

 Where is the nearest telephone box to your meeting place/place of worship/ home/school? What coins do you need to dial the emergency services? How do you do this? How can you find out someone's telephone number if there is no directory in the box?

 Where is your nearest hospital? Does it have a transport? How do you get there in an emergency? Which door do you use to enter the hospital in urgent/ non-urgent circumstances?

 Where is your nearest post office? What can you buy there? What services do they offer? Can you pick up leaflets giving details of these services and of postal charges for UK and overseas? What times are the postal collections?

 Where can you find other post boxes in your locality? What times are the collections? Can you work out from these times which route the collection van takes?

 How can you dispose usefully of the following: bottles, clothes, paper and cardboard, toys, bedding, furniture, household goods and ornaments, books?

 When, and how often, is your street cleaned? What day is your dustbin emptied? What happens to the rubbish when it is taken away?

 What times do the buses/ trains go from your nearest stop/station to other local villages and towns? What time do they return? How much are fares for children/ adults/senior citizens to the various destinations?

CODES

Give the Brownies a copy of the codes below and see if they can work out the messages. They must decide which code

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z ZYXWVUTSRQPONMLKJIHGFEDCBA

2 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z S A F E T Y B C D G H I J K L M N O P Q R U V W X Z

Then give them these messages:

- YILDMRVH ZIV YIROO; TFRWVH ZIV TIVZG!!
- FLKBOSQRISQDLKP LK VLOHDKB LRQ QCDP FLET!
- YOUWI LLSOO NBEAG UIDES OYOUN EEDPL ENTYO FTHIN KINGF ORYOU RSELF PRACT ICE

The first two use the codes to spell out: Brownies are brill, Guides are great!" and 'Congratulations on working out this code!'. The third: 'You will soon be a Guide so you need plenty of Thinking For Yourself practice' relies on unusual breaks in the words.

- Where can you buy the following, in the daytime/in the evening/on Sunday: a cup of tea or coffee, a snack, a takeaway meal?
- Where are the public toilets? Are they kept clean and properly equipped? Are there facilities for wheelchairs? When do they close?
- What clubs and societies are available for children/ adults/senior citizens? What are the weekly or yearly fees? Where and at what time do they meet?
- Where and when do all the Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers meet in your District?
- Where are the safest places to cross the roads near where the various units meet?

- Where can a motorist fill his car with petrol? Which garages do emergency repairs?
- How many different places of worship are there in your area? Are there synagogues, mosques, churches or meeting halls? What denominations of Christian Church. for example Methodist, United Reformed, Roman Catholic, Anglican are there? What days and times are services held at all these places?
- Where is the nearest police station? Is it manned all the time? If not, when is it open?
- Where is the nearest fire station?



RANGER GUIDERS

This month it's question time. Answer truthfully and you may gain an insight into the problems that bedevil some units. Are your tent pegs bound up in red tape? . . . Are your C forms available only on delivery of the correct password? . . . Are Ranger Permits gained only by the few a month or two before they are ready to leave the Unit?

ENTERPRISE

If you answer yes to these questions, then it probably explains why your Rangers had problems with the Enterprise Clause of the Queen's Guide syllabus. The changes to this clause may well prove to be the most significant for members of Ranger Units, especially small Units.

Look through the first section (7a). Note that there is very little change to this part of the clause.

Action: Make a time-plan to show how long it might take a Ranger in your Unit to complete this essential training element of the clause. Include factors such as:

- Experience required prior to obtaining the Campcraft/ Lightweight Camping Certificate.
- Being tested by an appropriate person.
- Gaining experience before being tested for the permit.
- Gathering together a group for the Permit test.
- Gaining experience in the activity in which they are to be involved.
- Achieving a suitable qualification or demonstrating to the appropriate Adviser that they have the required skills.

How much of this could be fitted into the normal Unit programme so that anyone who asks for recommendation for the Award is well on the way to gaining this element of the clause.

the insuration of the insuration of the camp Period or is it something that Pangers only get round to doing if they

absolutely need to?

Action: Remind members of your Unit of the time scale involved in gaining qualifications. Bear in mind that a group that has worked through the Adventure section of Action Plus will be well on the way to gaining these qualifications.

SAFETY FIRST

Have you ever wondered if you are sufficiently safetyconscious? It's easy to tell the Rangers to read the safety rules or study the Consider if what you do complies with what you are asked to do.

Be honest — do you set a good example by obeying the rules that we are expected to comply with to ensure safety?

It is easy to become complacent about safety. Don't. It just isn't worth it.

Next discover if your candidates have been able to draw together the information that they need, and that they understand its significance.

would be the most suitable enterprise for each of them.
You should take into account:

- Physical capabilities
- Particular interests
- The amount of support the Unit could offer. Consider whether there is a sufficient number to make up an expedition group. Do you have the right equipment and could you afford to financially support such members?
- Local support
- Local links.

Some of the alternatives which a candidate may choose to follow may take time to organise, and may involve the Ranger attending an interview or selection session. Some may also be very expensive, or may require the participants to become involved in quite intensive fund raising.

Action: Once you have candidates for the Award, you should discuss with the Outdoor Activity Adviser the type of alternatives which are offered.

By doing this you might be able to help members of the Unit to make choices which fit in with their own life style. Some may well be able to gain sponsorship, for example, from the company for whom they work others may need to apply for grants or awards, before they can even think about some of the possible alternatives.

Gather together all the material available in the County on grants and awards. There are quite a lot, both for outdoor activities and for those members with disabilities. Collect all the information you need to help the Rangers to apply for assistance from local agencies and trusts.

There should be sufficient choice now within this clause to ensure that everyone has an equal chance to complete it, without being dependent on other members of the Unit to support her.



insurance leaflet, but it is much more important that the Rangers understand why the rules are there.

Action: Assemble all the safety rules. At the moment you may find that they are spread throughout several publications and you will need to be fairly diligent. Which means, of course, it will be even more difficult for your Rangers! Get out your most recent copy of the insurance leaflet. And:

- Check that your copies are up to date.
- Read through them very carefully.

IN TRAINING

This section of Clause 7 is the training that is required before the candidate moves on to 7b.1, 7b.2 or 7b.3, and should be completed satisfactorily according to the requirements of the County Outdoor Activity Advisers.

But the candidate will have to decide what she plans to do following on from the training in order to ensure that it is appropriate.

So look at your current and potential Queen's Guide candidates. Work out what

YOUNG LEADERS

The clause, 'Help to interest a small group of Rainbows, Brownies or Guides in some aspect of the Arts', gives you plenty of scope for different activities, from putting on a play to visiting a local art gallery. Not to mention sticking, sewing, dancing, singing... Even if you are not particularly art-minded, you should be able to find something to appeal to your unit.

FINE ART

The following ideas are starting points for possible alternatives to 'sticking and sewing'. Whatever you do, make sure it is fun!

PICTURE IT

Collect a number of copies of different famous pictures — birthday and Christmas cards are a good source. Mount them on strong card, if necessary. Have a corresponding set of cards with the name of the artist and title of the picture. Number the pictures.

Show the pictures to the girls and ask them to think of a title for each one. When they have written their answers, spread the pictures around the room with the name and title cards on a table. See how many they can match to the correct pictures. Compare their ideas with the real titles.

This could lead to a visit to an art show or gallery, a discussion of favourite pictures, or . . .

IN PRINT

You will need two sets of cards. On one set write the names of some well-known authors, modern as well as classic.

On the second set have a quotation from a book by each of the authors, together with its title. See how many cards can be correctly matched. This activity could lead to making up poems and stories, starting a unit magazine, or ...

FAMOUS FACES

Cut out pictures of famous people in the world of entertainment from magazines, newspapers and so on.

Mount them on cards and number the cards. See how many the girls can name correctly. Extra points could be given for additional information, such as characters they have played, plays/programmes in which they appear and so on.

MUSIC TIME

Play a piece of music to the girls and ask them to use their imagination to interpret the music. They may need some pointers, such as whether they think it is 'happy' or 'sad' music and so on. Could they write a story to the music... add words...

mime the story . . . make up a dance?

Challenge them to find out something about the composer. This activity could lead to a discussion on all types of music, likes/dislikes; to some girls taking Entertainer or Musician badges; staging a production...

Try making your own instruments to accompany the music.

MINUTE STORY

- Prepare several carrier bags of objects, for example, pencil, paperclip, elastic band, key, 5p piece, comb. Each bag must contain the same set of objects. Give each person a few minutes to tell a story about the items in her bag.
- This time there is only

one carrier bag and everyone is given only one item from it. When the leader points to each girl, she has to continue the story bringing in her own item.

CHICKEN LICKEN

Read the story and ask your girls to jump up, run around the story circle, flap their arms or make the noises of Henny Penny/Ducky Lucky/Turkey Lurkey and so on, as and when these names are mentioned in the story. When any inhibitions are gone, perhaps they would like to act the story/make masks/costumes/or choose/write or make some music to accompany it.

FLOWER ART

If you know someone who is adept at this art, ask her to demonstrate it to your girls. If not, ask your local WI, Trefoil Guild, Townswomen's Guild or church flower rota person.

SEWING

Perhaps your personal forte is sewing. Challenge your Rainbows to make simple needle cases — mums and grans will adore them.

The Brownies could have a go at drawn-thread work to make table napkins for Pack Holiday.

Challenge Guides to make and embroider matching plate bag, sitter and pot holder. Make a set yourself to give an idea of what can be achieved.

Haunt jumble sales to obtain plain, strong cotton or linen, the darker the better. Ask the Guides to look around at home for embroidery cottons.

If you cannot sew, or they cannot even thread a needle, try using embroidery paint which is available in most craft shops and is supposed to be wash proof.

SHEENA BOOTH/ ALWYN DARBY



COOK OUT

Rainbows can make sweets, with a lot of adult help. Brownies can mix biscuits and either cook them, if you have the facilities, or take them home to bake.

Guides can cook all sorts of things on single gas burners. Remember to protect your meeting place floor by standing the burners on tin trays, and have a container of water standing by for burnt fingers.

There are lots of easy and reasonably priced recipes around. Look in magazines, newspapers, your own bookcases, your local library. You will be sure to find something your Company can cook during meeting time, without needing too many utensils or making too much washing-up.

OBITUARY

A former editor of The Guide and The Trefoil who became a 'Guiding legend in her lifetime' has died.

The list of Vera Armstrong's Guiding achievements runs to a great many lines in GGA records and includes sterling service to the Movement both at home and abroad.

She served on both The Council and the Executive Committee, including a period as its honorary treasurer and secretary. In 1949 she was awarded the Beaver, which was followed in 1970 by the Silver Fish. Mrs Armstrong's services to the GGA were honoured in the 1975 Birthday Honours List, when she was awarded the MBE

Mrs Armstrong, who died at her Gloucestershire home on Easter Sunday aged 87, was the wife of Brigadier Edward F.E. Armstrong CBE. Not long ago Mrs Armstrong told a local reporter. 'I wouldn't have married him if he wasn't involved in Scouting!

Her own connection with the Movement began as a Brownie in Devon. The family moved to Cheltenham, where the young Vera Marshall attended the Ladies' College. Later she joined the 2nd Cheltenham Guides



Vera Armstrong — a Guiding legend

In 1928 she joined the staff at Imperial Headquarters as a sub-editor and also played tennis at Wimbledon. Later she was made editor of the weekly paper The Guide, although she preferred to be known as Captain of The Guide — it was more 'Guidey'

Soon she was travelling around the country in first Algernon, and then Gulliver - The Guide cars - getting to know her readers. She dreamed up many wonderful service projects including organising a Christmas stocking trail to provide festive gifts for poor

After marrying in 1934 Mrs Armstrong travelled to India, where she

was appointed Assistant Provincial Secretary for Bombay. During the Second World War, she became a Junior Commander in the ATS

After another spell in India, Mrs. Armstrong returned to England in 1954 and was soon actively involved in UK Guiding again. One of her achievements was to launch the Guide Friendship Fund in 1964.

For 12 years Mrs Armstrong was Editor of The Trefoil and she worked as Head of Publications at the World Bureau from 1958 to 1965.

The obvious choice to be Chairman of Fund Raising when the Olave Centre Appeal was launched in 1983. she personally answered every letter received, as well as writing articles on the project each month for the Association's magazines.

In 1966 she and her husband moved to Gloucestershire where Mrs Armstrong was soon caught up in helping the County in many ways' She founded the League of Friends of Deer Park to help support the County's HQ and camp training centre.

She became Mid-Gloucestershire Division President and, according to a colleague, through 'her inspiration and leadership enriched the lives of those who had the privilege of working closely with her'

INSTAI

Stuck for meeting ideas? Tired of repeating the same old activities? You need help from GUIDE PATROL or BROWNIE (with RAINBOW GUIDE EXTRA).

Each magazine is crammed full of instant

fun activities and great games, what every busy Guider needs, what every busy Guider needs, what every busy guider new from your transfer seems of on subscription to the control of the c





TAXI RIDE TO TERROR

When Brenda Newman decided to pay a visit to Peruvian Guide headquarters she didn't expect to face heavily armed guards with only her Guide introduction card for protection.



Perhaps it is just as well that, as the Guide Law says, a Guide has courage. Because, as GGA members go globe trotting on ever more adventurous trips, they occasionally find themselves in frightening and totally unexpected situations.

After all, who would expect a sisterly goodwill visit to the Guide headquarters in Lima to involve a nightmare journey with a mugging — or worse — lurking round every corner?

But that's how it was for Brenda Newman, Guide Guider of the 1st Kenilworth and 1st Leek Wootton Guide Companies, when, armed with an introduction card, she looked up the Peruvian Guides to say 'Hi'.

Here, she relives the horror of her taxi ride of terror.

▲As I set off for a holiday in Peru, little did I realise how difficult — and potentially dangerous — it was going to be to seek out Las Guias del Peru, in Lima

Although I was on a package tour, a free day in the capital prompted me to plan a visit and use the introduction card for which I had applied.

Unfortunately, Lima is not the safest of cities for tourists and several of us had already experienced the deftness of the local pickpockets.

Heavily armed guards are stationed at public places such as hotel entrances, banks and tourist attractions.

The atmosphere was tense, to put it mildly, and we had been advised, immediately on arrival, not to venture out at any time in groups of less than four or five, and then only if not carrying anything of value.

Some holiday destination! Mmm. when I came to mull it over, the idea of visiting the Peru Guide headquarters on the other side of the city did not seem so good after all.

However, from my room I put through a call to Las Guias del Peru and tried out my night-school Spanish. The lady who answered assured me she could understand and that she would be delighted to see me.

But I was only to ride in a taxi booked from the hotel. And she stressed I must insist, before starting off, that the hotel arranged for me to be collected by taxi at the end of my visit. I should then be safe enough!

I felt quite pleased with my newlyacquired linguistic talents but, by now, was far from sure about the wisdom of venturing forth into the city. Still, a Guide has courage... and all that, so finally I went down to reception.

My tour bag was stuffed full with rehydration powders, collected by Warwickshire's CIA team, of which I am a member, lots of badges and emblems.



plus heaps of gifts from my two units.

The hotel staff were decidedly against my making this trip but, eventually, the car arrived and I was escorted to it by four armed guards.

As a final precaution I gave some of my companions on the tour my destination address and phone number. together with a "deadline" for my return, after which, it was agreed, they would "do something"

Now, all I had to do was to get an assurance from Salvador, my driver, that he would return for me after my visit. The guards understood my concern and had a few swift words with Salvador before I was whisked away. feeling very regal as I settled back in the long black limo.

As we sped across the city I felt quite relaxed ... until we came to a halt and Salvador asked for my precious introduction card. Suddenly my heart began to pound. I became very conscious of the money belt hidden under my Tshirt. My hands became wet and then, my whole body, too.

I handed over the card and, in a flash. Salvador was out of the car and across the road, where he disappeared into a shop. I sat there terrified, as a crowd pressed against the car on both sides, peering in at me and the tour bag I was clutching.

Just as I was about to wind up all the windows and lock the doors, Salvador came lumbering back towards me. with a pleased expression. He now knew how to get there, he told me. I was furious. He had assured the guards that he knew precisely where to go and they had believed him. The card was returned and off we went.

By now the sprawling suburbs had become very seedy and I felt sick with fear when Salvador again brought the car to a stop and left me.

He raced over to some dubiouslooking men, who then pointed in various directions. I'd really had enough of this and was contemplating what I could do, when Salvador came back beaming.

At last we entered a more affluent part of the city and I began to relax slightly but then Salvador veered off to the right and we were outside the Hotel Intercontinental.

was about to try to explain that this Was not the headquarters of Las Guias del Peru when Salvador took off yet again, this time heading for the hotel main entrance. How much more of this, lasked myself, was there going to be? But my thoughts were interrupted.

The limo was surrounded by guards with guns pointing at me. They began shouting questions. I was so terrified that my sparse Spanish deserted me. There was more shouting and Salvador was hustled back into the car and ordered to drive off. I just sat, shaking like a leaf, on the point of giving up and asking him to return to downtown Lima.

We cruised around for a while, it being obvious that Salvador had no idea where to go.

Suddenly, I caught sight of a house with a bright blue door, which did not seem to be in keeping with the others. I kept peering, and then I saw it - the World Emblem, above the door. I shouted to Salvador to stop and out I got. I then had a bright idea: I would not pay him until he had returned and taken me back to my hotel.

I rang the bell. A heavily barred window was opened. Through it came an arm stretched towards me, so I thrust my introduction card into the waving hand.

Soon I could hear a huge bolt being slid and then the blue door opened. A young woman ushered me along a dark corridor and into a small room which I realised was the Guide shop. Peruvian uniforms, wrapped in cellophane, were hanging up; behind locked powders would be since there was a lot of cholera in Peru.

Having been told much about the work of the Guides in Peru, I was proudly shown the training and conference room. In the room were several flags — all under cellophane — including the World flag, the flag of Las Guias del Peru and a national flag.

On the walls were two sepia pictures of Lord and Lady Baden-Powell, together with some very old photographs of Guiding occasions in Peru. Around me the spirit of Guiding was in evidence everywhere!

Then in came a group of smiling Guiders to join us and an embarrassedlooking Salvador. Still to be paid, he had come to whisk me back to the safety of my hotel.

As we were saying our farewells, I was presented with a Peruvian Friendship Pin. Salvador couldn't figure it out at all. He must have thought we were members of some secret society!

We cruised, non-stop this time, back to the hotel. As we arrived the same guards rushed forward to escort



Brenda's introduction card caused some surprise at Peru Guide headquarters

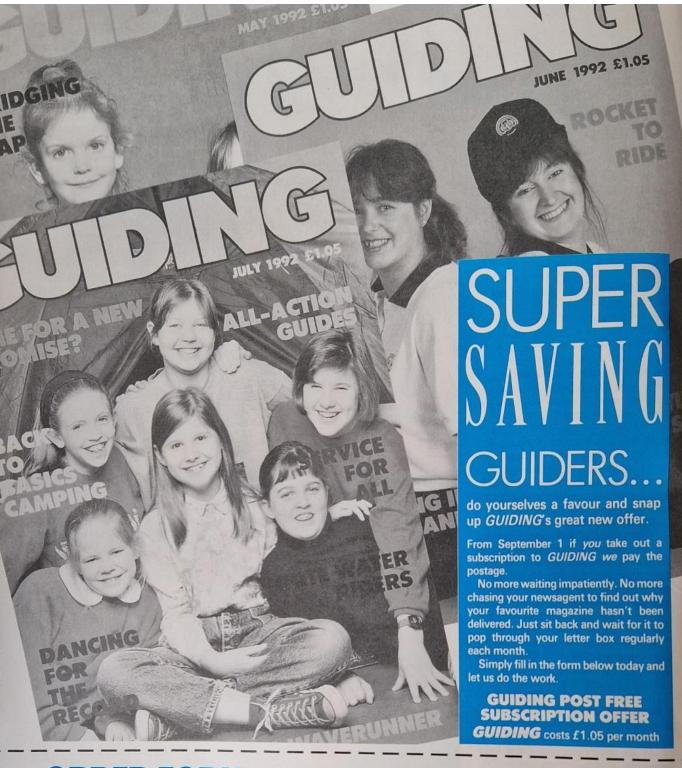
glass doors were all sorts of Peruvian Guide badges and emblems.

Then a uniformed Guider came in to greet me but, as she spoke no English, conversation was rather stilted until we were joined by the National Commissioner for Peru who, fortunately, did speak some English.

I tipped out the precious Dyaralyte powders and my other gifts. The UK badges were received with much interest and I was told how useful the

In the foyer I found almost everyone in the tour party waiting for some reason. Then suddenly it dawned on me. It was almost 6pm - the deadline for my return.

Now, whenever I look at my Friendship Pin, I recall every knee-trembling moment of that day and the risks I took. Was it worth it? Er, yes. But would I do it all again. No! 9



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YOUR LETTERS

SKIRT PLEA

The Rangers who want to wear skirts prompted three replies:

• We agree with you. We feel the uniform should allow us to wear a skirt for more formal occasions.

Ist Dunston Rangers Northampton

 Our Unit has written to CHQ asking for a skirt, as we feel it is a necessary part of our uniform in order to look smart on formal occasions.

The present uniform does not satisfy our demands.

RACHEL BROWN

Llandaff District Ranger Unit

 Why can't Rangers wear the adult skirt? I realise the style won't appeal to all, but then it doesn't appeal to all Guiders.

B HITCHEN

Brownie Guider St Annes

HURTFUL

I recently resigned as a Ranger Guider after about two years with my Unit and my warrant was duly cancelled.

I didn't expect anyone to make a big fuss of my resignation, but is it too much to hope for a thank you from the District or Division in which you've served?

My warrant arrived with an illegible cancelled stamp all on its own. Any volunteer deserves to be properly thanked, be she a Unit Helper, Guider or County Commissioner with long service.

We all give of our time and talents freely with no thought for reward. Indeed the Movement would cease to exist without the so-called ordinary Guiders who turn out week in, week out, whatever the weather, no matter how we might be feeling.

As an organisation we

cannot afford to spend time and money training our Guiders if we are then going to run the risk of losing such valuable people. A simple personal note to say Thanks for all you've done. Do keep in touch with Guiding. There's always a place for you' would go a long way towards keeping a few in the Movement.

I'm sure most Commissioners do make special efforts to write such notes, so it's only those that don't who might like to consider the idea.

Name and address supplied

IN STAGES

Brownie Guiders Grones and Sumpter took the words right out of my pen! This very point has been raised by our District tester (the local instructor at the swimming baths). Some of our Brownies are too small even to hold the coiled rope, let alone throw it.

The present syllabus allows no leeway for age or strength. May I suggest that, as with other badges, this becomes a staged badge allowing fit but small Brownies to take their Swimmer Advanced.

Weighted ropethrowing, which seems to be too hard, could either be omitted for the first stage or the length reduced.

This is a very real problem, which I hope is to be taken into consideration when reviewing this badge.

P M HARRIS

Brownie Guider Sidcup, Kent

LOW INCOME

I am the Guider who wrote about wearing the new uniform for a course and not being able to get it dry for my Monday night Brownie meeting.

A later correspondent

said she was sick of people complaining about the new uniform and I should buy two. I wrote a reply but never posted it. Now May's *GUIDING* had two quotes which echoed my thoughts and prompted this letter.

I didn't say that I don't like the new uniform, I was merely pointing out an impracticality.

As to buying two, as a family on a low income, it has taken me ages to kit out myself and daughter, buying one item at a time.

The attitude of your correspondent is, perhaps, why some people shy away from Guiding, because it seems to be run by officious middle-class women.

Poor and Inferior Cheshire

EASY TO SEE

Please keep the yellow sweatshirts. When I was a Brownie Guider, for outings and Pack Holidays I always asked for yellow T-shirts or blouses.

It's amazing how yellow stands out in a crowd, therefore it's easy to spot an enthusiastic Brownie who may have strayed from the Pack.

> M BAILEY Yate,

Anon

The Chairman of the Uniform Panel, Mrs Dorothy Hudson, tells us that there are no plans to introduce a brown sweatshirt for Brownies.

SISTERS

I too have a large unit covering a wide area. Not only do we cover ten different schools, but we also have eight sets of sisters in the unit. This certainly keeps us on our toes!

HEATHER O'HALLORAN

Guide Guider Caversham, Berkshire

PATIENCE PLEASE

I am writing in connection with the article *Drive to Live* in May's *GUIDING*.

After passing my driving test, my first days of motoring left me feeling very disheartened. The amount of other drivers who constantly hooted and shouted at me for 'taking my time' was unbelievable.

I remember putting a sign up in the back window of my car which said: 'Please be patient — I have just passed my driving test'. This worked wonders

However, it is sad to think that it has taken such a tragedy for action to be taken. I support Kate Stone all the way and hope that her campaign will go from strength to strength.

MRS MICHELLE BRADBURY

Assistant Guider 4th Lichfield Guides

CHILD CRUELTY

I read with interest the article Suffer the Little Children. However, I feel that by only mentioning the work of the psychologist, A Miller, the author presents a limited view of the current debate on childhood cruelty.

Primarily, due to the increased publicity by the media, childhood cruelty has been accepted as a social problem, which has always been present in society but not widely acknowledged, for example, in the Victorian era. This is because childhood cruelty is an inevitable part of human nature. By this I mean we all have a capacity to perform it and, if conditions are right, it can happen.

My second point concerns the relationship formed by parent and child. This involves love, as

well as hate.

However, sometimes, as with any relationship, there is a personality clash. A child who is difficult to handle and a parent who is over-stressed can lead to disaster. The child, therefore, contributes to the abusive action too. The relationship becomes strained and cruelty may result from the most loving parent.

Furthermore, the environment also has a part to play. A crying baby is easier to comfort in a warm home with good toys and facilities, than in an overcrowded home with poor amenities.

Hence, the cycle of deprivation, to which A Miller refers, is only one aspect of the current debate on the reasons for childhood cruelty. We all care, but there can be times when our feelings can become uncontrollable.

As with other social issues, there is no solution to the childhood cruelty problem, but it is important to consider alternative explanations of the debate.

MRS BEVERLEY BLUNDEN

Guide Guider 8th West Bromwich Guides

USEFUL LINK

I have been watching the current series of letters regarding canoeing with interest and feel that LINK can make a positive contribution to it.

For the past three years a canoe training weekend has been well attended and has achieved a high pass rate. Members have taken the BCU 1 Star, 2 Star and 3 Star awards.

Several course members have gone on to achieve their supervisor's award and, in some cases, the instructor's award.

LINK has a skills register of all members. (professional and Movement-related) so, if you are looking for a qualified instructor, ask your local LINK unit or County LINK Adviser. LINK's three point.

programme of training, service and social activity is well known to most. So, when you are stuck for some extra qualified help: Don't sink in the drink, Just think LINK!

HOLLY DAY

L&SE LINK Adviser

LINK's efforts have won praise from Norfolk.

Have you heard of them? Do you use them? We do! Who? LINK. They are willing to tackle any job large or small.

They have just helped at Norcamp '92, Norfolk's first County camp for over ten years, and were superb.

Many thanks to all those who came. Now you have heard of them, why don't you use them?

DI BARNHAM

County Camp Adviser Norfolk

UNDER-USED

Kim Russell's Personal View in May's GUIDING was a most welcome addition to the knowledge of particular childcare needs in the Association, in this instance, concerning dyslexia.

I hope the article will be perceived as a reference for Guiders, and indeed added to the resources of County Advisers for Members with Disabilities (AMDs). These Advisers are often under-used members of the County team (Executive Committee and/or Programme and Training Committee).

Any Guider can contact her AMD, (the address and telephone number is in the County address book) for information about disabilities from the most obvious to those such as dyslexia and other learning difficulties.

The Adviser will gladly give resource and other ideas, that is her job. She will also put you in touch with other Guiders already experienced with the happy integration of a child with a similar disability.

May I recommend most heartily the new colourful admission leaflets. I want to be a ... in packs of ten for £1.10. They are ideal for providing both parents and Guiders with information to ensure any child's successful introduction to the unit.

Out of five girls recently welcomed to my unit, I have precise details of one's hay fever and asthma, the allergens responsible and her medication, plus another's degree of visual deficiency.

All this was known before the first unit meeting, and not dragged out before the first camp or holiday. Praise be — a giant step forward for Guiders.

DOREEN SPORLE

Adviser for Members with Disabilities

GOOD VALUE

I couldn't believe the letter in May's GUIDING saying that handbooks, supplements and badge books are at inflated prices.

I have recently joined the 6th Patcham unit as Assistant Guider and am hoping to do the Adult Leadership Scheme. For this I purchased some recommended papers — what good value!

I had already bought a handbook and badge book and feel they're splendid value. The handbook is packed with ideas and information. I thought it jolly useful for anyone and interesting reading too.

I can appreciate that the uniform and books and so on can add up. But, long term, I believe you do get value for money through gaining experience, understanding and having fun doing it.

MRS FIONA HAYWARD

6th Patcham Guides Sussex

FRIENDLY SUPPORT

In May the 2nd Hounslow (St Paul's) Guides celebrated their 70th birthday with a reunion party and it was great to see so many people again. I've been leader of the Company for almost seven years but have been in Guiding since I was seven

It was due to the help and support of my Guide Captain, Jill Sharman, that I stayed in the Movement

She's always been a friend and I'd like to thank her for the grounding she gave me and for always being there.

TRACEY KING

Hounslow, Middlesex

LOST CONTACT

This is a cry for help. While serving as a Brownie Guider in Germany, our Commissioner for Hannover District, Mrs Mary Evans, has been sent Christmas cards from two other Guiders, Sylvia Gibson and Terry Ward. Neither of whom has sent her address in England so she can keep in touch.

Sylvia Gibson and husband, like myself, are no longer with the Army. Terry Ward and husband's last postmark was Andover but I'm not sure if they are still connected with the Army. I would be most grateful if they could send their addresses to either Mary Evans or me.

MRS C HUNTER 15 Manor Close Witchford, Ely, Cambs CB6 2JB

ORDINARY

I have recently received a supply of Brownie Road Safety badges. A new design, I am told. What a disappointment! The originals are colourful and attractive. These new ones, to my eyes, are merely ordinary. What do others think?

LOIS ROBERTS

County Badge Secretary Berkshire

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.

EWIGHT REPORT

You know how it is — your daughter's in Guides and someone asks 'Can you help?' That's how amateur author Felicity Thompson found herself working against the clock.

Early last year I was asked if I might edit and produce a new-style local Guiding end-of-year report for the Isle of Wight in time for April giving me just eight

Of course I said yes. What optimism! Still, once I'd said I could, I was determined I would. In the best Guiding tradition, when I promise, I keep my

The Guiders in the area were wonderful, providing me with their annual reports punctually. I suggested competitions to encourage some of the Brownies and Guides to write and illustrate what they'd been up to and everyone joined in

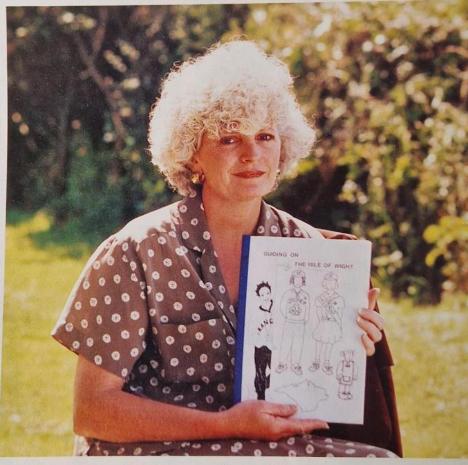
We wanted to turn the ordinary endof-year report into an entertaining publication, a magazine to encourage interest in the parents, the girls and the local community.

There was plenty to do! The local newspaper, The County Press, was very helpful, allowing us to print items and photos from their archives. I managed to locate a picture of Olave, Lady Baden-Powell taking tea at Carisbrooke 30 years earlier — and plenty of information from the previous 12 months too

My daughter who belongs to 4th Sandown Guides, began producing decorative borders for pages, and progressed into drawing for the cover picture. My husband brought me copious cups of tea!

Local shops rose to the occasion, giving us book token prizes for our competitions. Some of the Brownies, Guides and Rangers came up with photographs. The Youth and Community Centre promised we could print our efforts on their equipment.

tried out ideas on a photocopier. I rang a photographer in London and persuaded him to let us use his Photograph of the Queen Mother to ustrate an item about our girls



attending her birthday celebrations.

Tesco gave me permission to use their advertisement for collecting aluminium cans.

Contributions poured in. I stayed up late every night for two months, assembling, checking, retouching, editing

At last I managed to put everything together. The draft copy lay on my desk. The next day Jill Hallet, the District Commissioner for Sandown and Shanklin and I planned to print it. It actually took two days, but our magazine was ready. Well, nearly ready.

All we had to do then was put it Felicity shows together, all 50 pages of it. It took over the dining table and my desk. And the

Helped by Jill (again) and our County Commissioner, Sheila Low, 250 copies were collated. And what a success it was. At the AGM everyone was thrilled to see in print what a really exciting year we'd all had. We hope to do an even brighter magazine next time.

I've said I'll do it again. I wouldn't miss the fun for the world.

FELICITY THOMPSON

off a copy of Guiding on the Isle of Wight

PEOPLE MA PLACES

JESTER MINUTE

▼Fund raising can be a laugh a minute, as Guide Donna Meredith found out when she tried on a joker's costume for size during the 27th lpswich Company's jester evening. The event raised £59.56 for the Children's Society.



ON THE BALL

legend and TV celebrity Bill Beaumont presented two of his fans with their Queen's Guide Awards at Fylde Rugby Club. Assistant Guide Guider Diane tractor left and Assistant Ranger Guider Stant Lero put in a special request to track their Rd. Who is the trainer at the club, and proves good to oblige.



SOUPER EFFORT

A soupcon of Knorr's Spring Vegetable can go a long way, as Brownies Katy Raine (left) and Claire Shackleton of the 1st Cross Roads Brownies discovered. Their instant soup collection was soon on its way to Bulgaria as part of Keighley Division's contribution to the Friends of Bulgaria Appeal.

CHEQUE MATES

When they heard that a local schoolboy had cancer Cleveland Brownies Rosemary Brownlie and Emma Bennington wanted to offer a helping hand. So, with the rest of the 1st Guisborough Pack, they organised a special bazaar and raised £111 for the children's cancer ward in Newcastle Royal Victoria Infirmary.







Miss Bone was so kind to me.

'She changed my life. She taught me how to read, and so many other things. There was a teacher in the hospital, but because I couldn't move, I was just left alone.'

Lyn was born with arthrogryposis. The joints in her arms and legs are stiff and won't bend. So she can't walk and has difficulty using her hands. She spent her first years lying rigid in a plaster cast.

At the hospital where she spent those first ten years, Lyn says, the nurses were 'so cruel'. They told her the rats would get her if she was naughty. If Lyn wet the bed, she was locked up in a dark bathroom and left to scream for hours.

'I loved the Guides because Miss Bone was so kind to me.'

'I call it "the Dickens time", because it was just like something out of Dickens,' she says of those terrible childhood experiences.

As she lay forgotten on a hospital bed, Lyn listened avidly to everything going on around her. We used to have prayers in the morning and at night. I thought it was wonderful, she said.

'I knew all the hymns by heart. It was something that I could join in with because I like singing. I was just lying there but, even though I couldn't move, I could still listen and I could still speak.'

Since then Lyn has endured endless operations aimed at making her limbs more flexible. She sat up for the first time when she was 15.

It was her Guiding friends who encouraged Lyn to try and walk. The hospital staff were very strict about us going out, but Miss Bone took me on my first outing. It was her who got me out and about, 'Lyn said.

Lyn became determined to walk a few steps and it was the promise of a Guide medal that was the final incentive. I wanted to walk, so they found me some crutches, and I could just about get from A to B on them. I was awarded the Fortitude Medal — they said it was for bravery, she recalled.

Thad to walk with these crutches to get the award, and I managed it. Hoved it when my mum and dad came to see the being presented with my medal.

At first, Lyn's parents had done their best to visit but, when she was moved

to Luton, she hardly saw them. She admits she sometimes felt abandoned, but refuses to dwell on it.

They couldn't have coped with me at home.' Lyn explained. 'My father was a farmer and my mother wasn't very strong. I never really questioned my mother about that sort of thing because she'd get upset.'

After those first tottering steps, Lyn soon had new ambitions to achieve — learning to read and attending night school.

Next, Lyn found the confidence to leave hospital and start a new life. She shared a hostel with three other disabled girls. The hostel warden had to help me get up and put me to bed. Sometimes the disabled girls helped too,' Lyn said. 'But we had to do our own cooking and everything else. You have to try and get your own independence.'

Then she took a job running a sheltered workshop for disabled people in Yately, Hampshire. The job filled her life for the next 42 years — but it was hard work. She kept the books, ran the shop... in fact, whenever there was a job needing doing, Lyn did it.

In her spare time Lyn learned to drive, travelled abroad and realised a special dream: to see her favourite football team, Manchester United, in action. At the football stadium she met her heroes Bryan Robson, Alex Ferguson and Bobby Charlton.

While in hospital Lyn stayed a Guide until she was 17 and, later, helped start up a Ranger Unit in Yately. She regularly helps out at Woodlarks, a camp site in Farnham, Surrey, for people with physical disabilities.

Lyn joined the Trefoil Guild at Yately and was disappointed because the group folded. When she moved to her present home in Surrey, she inquired about joining the local Trefoil Guild and was delighted when a representative turned up on her doorstep, welcoming her to the Guild.

Lyn's warmth and cheeriness has won her an army of friends both in and outside Guiding circles. I write letters every day, as I have lots of Guiding friends all over, she said.

Although Lyn's parents are dead, she still keeps in touch with her brother and sister. She met her best friends, Dot and Gordon Kelso, on a trip to Scotland with the Guides.

They are my family now,' Lyn said. 'I go and stay with them every Christmas. They have three children who are everything to me.'

Now 63, Lyn has retired to a lovely sheltered home in Godalming. But retired is probably the wrong word! When Lyn's not manning the home's shop, she's meeting up with friends,

going to Trefoil Guild meetings or off to see a show.

When Lyn first went to the Hyden Hill Cheshire Home, she was provided with an electric wheelchair so she wouldn't have to rely on people pushing her around all the time.

She hit a snag when she tried it out for the first time, helped by a friend. Eleanor Healey. I got in it all right, but we just didn't know how it went, Lyn explained.

'Nobody told us what to do, you see. We had it switched on but it still wouldn't go. So I rang up the people who'd supplied it and they explained. Then, of course, it just went — whoosh! We were laughing and laughing.'

Lyn's independence was hard won and she's determined to hang on to it. Whizzing around the grounds of the home in her electric wheelchair, she's more likely to be bossing the nurses around than relying on them for help!

Recently, Lyn discovered she is not the only arthrogryposis sufferer. 'I thought I was the only one like this!' she said. Then she met a little girl at Woodlarks who also has the condition.

Lyn made friends with the family and the youngster's mum put her in touch with the Arthrogryposis Group (TAG). Now Lyn has found there are arthrogryposis sufferers all over the country.

Friends are amazed by Lyn's lack of self pity. Her only regret is that she didn't get a proper education. I would like to have gone to school or college, she said. I like doing crosswords and wordsearches to keep my brain ticking.

Lyn's warmth and cheeriness has won her an army of friends.

'Also, now I'm retired, I find I have time to do some drawing and I write poetry.'

She's glad that these days, most children who are disabled don't suffer as she did. They are taught to walk and I never had that chance,' Lyn said.

'I was on my back for all those years. If somebody had done something with me then, who knows?'

Yet Lyn remains optimistic and very down-to-earth. 'I'm not bitter. I just have to forget the past,' she said. 'I am leading such a nice life here — I really love it.'

Make the most of August by catching up on some of the best new books on issues which affect women.

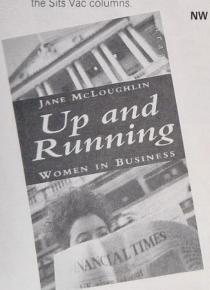
BEST COMPANIES FOR WOMEN

by Scarlett MccGwire Pandora paperback, £7.99

The perfect book for anyone contemplating going back to work or making long-term career choices. The author assesses the top 500 companies and warns that 'the rest of British employers still belong firmly in the Dark Ages'

She lists each company's attitude to jobsharing, career breaks, flexible hours, as well as whether creche facilities are provided and an equal opportunities policy pursued.

A must to have by you when reading the Sits Vac columns



UP AND RUNNING

by Jane McLoughlin Virago paperback, £7.99

Former business editor on The Guardian, Jane McLoughlin investigates whether women change business or business changes women. An important issue for the '90s with more and more women taking their rightful places in

The author has talked to women who have made it to the boardroom and looks at the ways in which businesswomen's perceptions of wormanhood have changed over the last 20

Her subjects ranged from 27 to 59, with different backgrounds and very different standards of education. But, she claims, they are all women who have made, and will continue to make, a difference to all our lives.

NW

GIFTED CHILDREN **GROWING UP**

by Joan Freeman Cassell paperback, £10.95

It is all too easy to imagine that for a young person growing up being gifted is a blessing. In a series of interviews conducted over 16 years, the author describes the experiences and reactions of a group of gifted youngsters from a wide variety of backgrounds.

A distinguished psychologist, Joan Freeman is president of the European Council for High Ability.

She demonstrates that the gifted need the right sort of educational resources and tuition to fulfil their potential and explores the boredom and frustration of those who are prevented from making full use of their exceptional abilities.

NW

BOYS WILL BE BOYS

by Myriam Miedzian Virago paperback, £6.99

The sub-title of this book is 'breaking the link between maculinity and violence. The author, a social worker, argues that many of the values of the masculine mystique, such as toughness, dominance, repression of empathy, extreme competitiveness, play a major role in criminal and domestic violence.

She points out that most acts of violence are committed by men against other men; more males are murdered and more die in wars. So it is as much in their interests as in ours to end this cycle of destruction.

Myriam Miedzian points to ways in which we can begin raising our boys so that their feelings of self-worth will not depend on how tough they are.

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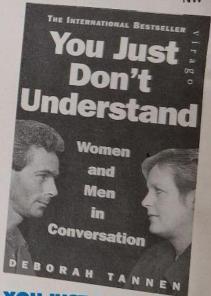
dipping into.

FUN FOR ALL SEASONS

edited by Jean Barrow The Activity Digest, £4.99

A useful selection of activity ideas for youngsters between seven and 12 grouped under the four seasons.

NW



YOU JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND

by Deborah Tannen Virago paperback, £5.99

Who hasn't ended a conversation with a man convinced that he means exactly the opposite of what he thinks he's said? The reason, says Deborah Tannen, is that men and women talk in profoundly different ways, for profoundly different reasons.

Women it seems, use language to make connections and reinforce intimacy, men use it to preserve their independence and negotiate status.

No wonder we end up at loggerheads, unable to communicate. The author does her best to make it easier for men and women to learn how to really talk to one another.

CLASSIFIEDS

CAMP SITES AND ACTIVITY CENTRES

DISCLAIMER REMINDER

Inclusion in this section should not be taken to mean that the Association has checked out and endorses the site or accommodation advertised. Guiders are reminded that they should obtain permission from they should obtain permission trom they Camp or Pack Hollday Adviser and their District Commissioner before making a booking and should complete the appropriate forms.

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Brochure from the Warden, Downe Scout Camp, Bird House, Downe, Nr. Orpington, Kent. BR6 7LJ. Telephone: 0959 72121.

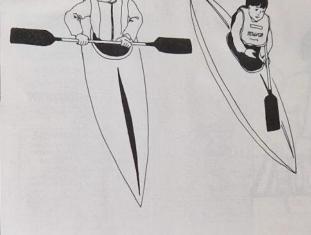
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JULIE TANNER FROM WEEPING CROSS, STAFFORD

Brown Owl of the 32nd Stafford Pack and a working mother, Julie has been made a Commandant of Staffordshire Police Force's Special Constabulary.

6As a Commandant — the first woman to hold the post in the 150-year history of the force — I am in charge of about 75 Special Constables in the force's Stafford Division.

My appointment came soon after the birth of my daughter, Jodie, so for me it was a double celebration. It was also an honour because I was promoted from the rank of section officer — the equivalent of a sergeant in the regular force — so I jumped two ranks.

lam sure that I am going to enjoy my new role immensely. I consider it to be an exciting challenge, particularly as the first woman Commandant, and my aim will be to make the Specials of my Division even more effective.

There is quite a lot of administration and management involved but I shall still be "showing the flag" by getting out and about, keeping myself aware, I hope, of what is going on in the streets and halping to ensure that there is

close co-operation between the Specials and the regular force.

It was my ambition, when still at school, to make police work my career but, at the time I left school, 13 years ago, the local force was not accepting any cadets.

So, on advice, I went into industry, undergoing clerical training with GEC, in Stafford, before changing direction and going into personnel management.

After a couple of years, however, I decided to gain an insight into police work by becoming a part-time policewoman and joining the Special Constabulary.

But, by this time I was beginning to enjoy my personnel job so much that I could not bring myself to make a career change. So I abandoned the idea of joining the regular police and stayed with the Specials. At 30, I now have 11 years' service under my uniform belt.

Style

I am now a personnel assistant at Spode, in Stoke-on-Trent, and my husband, Colin, is a systems adviser with a computer company in Birmingham. Jodie is our first child and, of course, a future Rainbow, Brownie and Guide — at the very least!

My Guiding started as a Brownie in the now defunct 7th Stafford Pack before joining the 7th Stafford Guide Company, which continues to flourish. As a Young Leader I became the 7th Stafford Pack's Tawny Owl. When I became a Guider, I took over my present Pack.

Colin gives valuable help by providing the Pack with transport for trips and Pack Holidays which we spend at Brook House, a Guide and Scout base at Burton-on-Trent.

Work in the Special Constabularies everywhere is entirely voluntary. One is expected to put in a minimum of three hours a week but, like me, many people put in far more than that and 40-50 hours a month is not unusual.

From that you will gather that we find the work enjoyable and interesting.

As for me, I am going to be fairly busy from now on. What with running a home, caring for Jodie, my career work and now my extra duties as a Special Commandant, on top of the Guiding, there isn't going to be much time left for gawping at TV soaps and filing my nails!

But that suits me and, no matter how great the pressures become, Guiding will continue to be a very important and indispensable part of my life.

I trust, too, that in good time, Guiding will give as much to my daughter as it has to me. 9

Webb lvory

FIRST PRIZE

EACH FOR 2

Play Webb Ivory's 'Word Search', and you could win £25 or even £50 for your Guide Unit.

It's so easy to play! Just study the grid below and see if you can find the hidden names of 22 countries.

Draw a circle around each one you find. (We've circled 'DENMARK' to get you started.) Then complete the coupon, ask your Leader to sign it, and send it off to Webb Ivory.

If you do not wish to cut out the entry form from your magazine, simply list the 22 hidden names and send it with your name, address and Group details to: Guiding Competition, Webb Ivory, Primrose Hill, Preston X, PR1 4WL.

The draw will take place on September 1st. The first all-correct entry drawn will win the £50 First Prize. The winners' names will appear in the November edition of Guiding.

MAY WINNERS

- Ms. A. DeFraine, 1st Oatland. £50 Ist Prize

£25 Runners-up - Mrs. Cramb, Ringwood and Poulner Trefoil. Ms. Ruse, 1st Bicknacre.

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Leader's Signature

AUGUST 28th

RULES:

1) Entry is open to all Guide Units. Each entry must be signed by the Unit Leader.

Leader.
2) Winners will be notified by post within 21 days of the closing date, and winners' names will appear in a future issue of Guiding.
3) No correspondence can be entered into reacciding. be entered into regarding the competition nor can
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