

GUIDING

A young person with dark skin and short hair is smiling at the camera. They are wearing a bright yellow raincoat over a light-colored shirt. They are holding a large umbrella that has yellow and blue panels. The background is a solid blue color.

APRIL 1993 \$1.10

**GUIDES'
WEEKEND
PAINT
JOB**

**THE
FIGHT
AGAINST
DRUGS**

**PAGE
SETTING
AT PAX
LODGE**

**RURAL
REACH
OUT**

**JUNE'S
EPIC RIDE**

**MALAYSIA
REVISITED**



PAINTING ON SIGHT

What would you miss if you lost your sight? Rainbow Catherine Williams has no doubts about what she'd miss — seeing the animals she loves.

So, when Catherine entered a competition which asked people to paint what they would miss if they went blind, she drew a picture of a horse grazing in the sun. And her evocative painting has been highly commended by the judges.

Around 500 children entered the competition, which was run by the Royal London Society for the Blind. In fact, six-year-old Catherine, a member of the 1st Donnington Unit, Chichester, only entered by accident. Her older sister Nicola, a Brownie, was painting a picture for the competition with her Pack and Catherine immediately wanted to do the same.

'She just loves drawing,' explained her mother, Jenny Williams. 'She's always drawing and painting.'

Catherine also loves horses and rides once a week at a local riding school, so she combined both interests to produce this stunning picture.

When the winners were announced, Catherine went to Dorton House School for Blind and Partially Sighted Children near Sevenoaks for the prize-giving.

'It was a big event and we had a lovely day,' said Jenny. 'I think Catherine was one of the youngest of the prize-winners. She was certainly the smallest.'

Her painting was displayed with the other winning entries as part of a fundraising exhibition put on by the school.



front PAGE

After reading an article in a 1930s' edition of *The Guider*, which originally appeared in the *Glasgow Evening Citizen*, I felt the message was still appropriate for 1993.

'May you play the good game of Guiding at the height of your form, and with increasing regard for its worth, but don't forget that it is bad for you and for your team to play any game on too small a field!

There is an increasing tendency to become near-sighted, to keep ourselves to ourselves and to discredit those who play the game according to a different set of rules from our own. Do try to remember that besides the Guide Movement there are other organisations in the world... which are doing invaluable work among boys and girls. Cut out destructive or bigoted criticism — we are all needed to help the next generation to take its place

COMMENT

wisely and well, so don't let us waste time in waging which is the most useful organisation.

Then let us ask ourselves quite frankly if we are not also a little near-sighted regarding our own personal aspect to Guiding. It may seem a strange thing to say, nevertheless it is true, that many homes have been darkened, not brightened, by the Guide enthusiast.

You as a Guider begin by joining a training class, after which you take up work with a unit and give one night a week to this, perhaps even two... Soon you get so keen that you decide to attend a more advanced training class. Next the camping season comes along and you attend a third course of trainings...

Later you discover that you are out

four or five nights in the week, and that others are being sacrificed to your enthusiasm. What about those evenings that the younger members of the family have to forgo on account of your absence? What about that friend who is not a Guide, and for whom you have no time nowadays? One of the most precious possessions in life is the sense of proportion, so cultivate yours before it is too late.

Finally, be particular about little things by all means, but don't allow the details to hamper the larger issues. If you don't quite agree with every rule, don't hand in your resignation! Time and strength are limited — let us estimate which things are most important, and concentrate upon them.

So aim for the far horizon... look wide, and good luck go with you!

JANE GARSIDE

The Chief Commissioner

GUIDING

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FRONT COVER

April showers won't dampen the enthusiasm of Brownie Theresa Logan from the 3rd Southall Pack, Middlesex. She can always take shelter under the Guiding umbrella.

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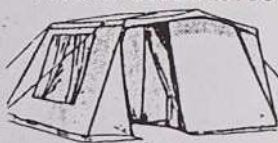
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Round UP

GO FOR IT

◀ Hats off to Brownie Laura Wilkinson all set to take part in an annual fun challenge at Halifax, West Yorkshire.

Laura, from 16th Halifax St Paul's Pack, was a member of one of eight teams of four Brownies from Kingston, Savile Park and Skircoat Green Districts. The Packs had to complete six different challenges, which included writing with pens held in their feet, a memory test and scoring goals in a netball net.

Sadly nine-year-old Laura wasn't on the winning side. The 14th and 34th Halifax All Saints' Packs tied for that honour.

FIRST PARTY

▶ With a huff and a puff these Lancashire Rainbows get ready to blow the candle on their birthday cake, at the Unit's first anniversary party.

The 15 members of the 1st Langho St Leonard's Unit tucked into the home-baked cake, at their leader Elizabeth Bond's home.

The special treat also included a bonfire and fireworks display with treacle toffee and toffee apples all round.

EVENING COURIER, HALIFAX



EVENING TELEGRAPH

Round UP

TIMELY STITCHING

It took Sister Bernard, the Mother Abbess of the Poor Clares Convent in York, 14 months to make a new standard for North Yorkshire South County, sewing every stitch herself.

The standard was designed by the County's Science and Technology Adviser, Mary York, from competition suggestions.

North Yorkshire South's County Commissioner Chris Bulmer proudly displays the standard, which was dedicated at York Minster by the Bishop of Selby.



BEACH HEROINE

Courageous Guide, Jayne Morris, shows off the Silver Cross she was awarded for saving a toddler's life.

Twelve-year-old Jayne dived fully clothed into the sea to rescue a three-year-old girl after the child lost her footing on a slipway.

The rescue took place at high tide, when the currents are at their strongest. The toddler was being swept out to sea and was very distressed," said Jayne's mother, Margaret.

Jayne, of 6th Clevedon West Company, received her award from South Avon's Commissioner Mary House, at a party celebrating her Company's 20th anniversary.



GOOD SERVICE

A Good Service Brooch was presented to Guide Guider Jennifer Milne (pictured left), during her Company's 70th birthday celebrations.

Jennifer's involvement with the 1st Bolton (St Paul's Astley Bridge) Company has spanned 39 years, first as a Guide, and later as Guider. She was presented with her certificate by Lancashire Border County Commissioner Karen Booth. "It was a wonderful surprise for her," said Assistant Guider Pauline Greenhalgh.

Over 120 people celebrated the birthday at Bolton Headquarters, which was also attended by former Guides and Guiders, including some who were with the Company when it first started.



BROWNIE BANDITS

Three Brownies turned into a human fruit machine for a day and hit the fundraising jackpot.

Masquerading as oranges, lemons and apples, Leah Carpenter, Emma Clover and Samantha Burgess from the 1st Marshchapel Pack, Lincolnshire, were raising cash for charity and to help with Pack outings at their local village hall.

Punters were invited to invest 10p a go, which was returned if they were able to pick matching fruits out of bags spun by the Brownies.



The Caribbean island
of Anguilla celebrated
60 glorious years
of Guiding last August.

ANGUILLA'S *diamond jubilee*

Last year was a special time for Guiding in the Caribbean island of Anguilla. Throughout the sunny summer months this UK Branch Association celebrated 60 years of Guiding on the island. To mark the celebrations, the Adviser for Branch Associations, Sheila M. Meson, was invited to join in.

During the last week in August, she enjoyed VIP treatment, as the Anguillan Branch Association staged special diamond jubilee events that captured all the islanders' attention.

The celebrations were given such a high profile, Sheila told *GUIDING*. The Anguillians were determined not to let the occasion pass them by.

Sheila met other Caribbean Commissioners, who had accepted an invitation from Anguilla's Commissioner, Countess Ray.

As honoured guests they were kept busy all week attending the celebrations, which included a tree-planting ceremony at the Scout and Guide HQ — the Ruth Will Auditorium — and youth seminars. The crowded programme also featured an international concert and a sightseeing tour of the island.

'It was a hectic but thoroughly enjoyable time,' recalled Sheila. Her favourite experience was taking part in a radio interview with the other special guests. 'The local disc jockey took a great interest in the Guiding Movement and asked lots of questions. I think the programme went on for longer than it was intended to,' she said.

She found that everyone had great respect for Guiding. Anguillan government officials attended all the jubilee events. 'The local dignitaries are keen supporters of the Girl Guides,' explained Sheila.

One of the most energetic supporters throughout the celebrations was the newly-arrived President of Anguilla's Guide Association, Mrs Lydia Shave, the Governor's wife.

'She took to her new role with tremendous verve and energy. Mrs Shave made sure she was at every event and activity. She was an example to everybody, and a great credit to the Movement,' Sheila said. Mrs Shave found time to host a luncheon, for Guide members and guests, at the Governor's residence.



Sheila puts
across
the Guiding
message



Tree planting for future
generations

Since the first 17-strong Guide Company was formed in 1932, the Movement has grown steadily on the island. The jubilee gave membership numbers an extra boost, and the island can now claim over 200 Brownies, Guides and Rangers.

A letter to Sheila from Countess Ray described how successful the festivities had been, not only in commemorating past triumphs but in securing the future. 'The Commissioner was very pleased at the recruitment increase since the jubilee,' Sheila said. 'The celebrations had obviously aroused the girls' curiosity, let's hope it continues.'

MARIA COOLE 7

Guiding in a

Most people like to redecorate when they move house but the 1st Dulverton Guides really went to town when they moved to a different meeting place. The Somerset unit held a marathon four-day painting party to give their new base a face-lift.

With 22 members, the unit had grown too big for the local school science room where their meetings used to be held. Guider Marion Englefield was looking out for a new 'home' and the hall belonging to Dulverton Seniors Club was mentioned as a possibility.

When Marion checked out Marsh Hall, she found it was ideal but there was one big drawback — it desperately needed a coat of paint.

It was then Marion had her bright idea — the Guides could give it a paint job themselves. 'I'm sure the Guides will love to do it,' she told the Seniors Club. And she was right.

The Guides were ecstatic about the project,' she said. 'And the Seniors Club were pleased to take us up on our offer. After the appropriate approval from our Commissioner and Camp Adviser, the wheels were set in motion.'

Getting the paint was a problem. Giving the 15m-long by 7m-wide and 4m-high hall a facelift wouldn't be cheap. Luckily Marion's husband Geoff came up with the solution. A member of Exmoor Rotary Club, he persuaded his fellow Rotarians to donate the paint — all 20 litres of it.

Four days were set aside for the job and the 1st Dulverton Guides went into action. Everyone joined in the wash-party for the big clean-up on the Thursday.

'Time-wasters are not welcome' was the motto, as cobwebs were whisked away and walls washed down ready for the first coat of paint. One group of Guides had a particularly ripping time — tearing old rags to make into cleaning cloths.

On the Friday the painting party began in earnest with the Guides divided into two shifts of eight girls each. The first shift — Dawn Paviour,

Sophie, Melissa and Caroline Norman, Rebecca Cross, Amy Pizzezy and Floss Pope — arrived at 10am to start applying the undercoat.

With time so tight, team-work was the key to success. Everyone did their bit. The shortest Guides painted as far as they could reach, while their taller friends coped with the next level up.

Marion and Unit Helpers Diane Cross and Sue Pope used ladders to get to out-of-reach areas. And Geoff volunteered to climb the 'tower' to tackle the really high bits.

'But the Guides did at least 75 per cent of the work and all the preparation,' Marion said proudly.

They also provided those essential mid-morning and mid-afternoon cuppas, while Unit Helpers Carol How and Wendy Hooper popped in at lunch- and supper-time to help with cooking.

To make the most of their painting time the Guides camped overnight in the hall, playing cards to pass the time after supper. And, like all Guides at camp, they got in a few pillow fights before final lights-out.

The floor was very hard,' Marion admitted ruefully. A real Guiding trooper, she spent all three nights in the hall.

Two curious members of the Seniors Club who popped round to see how things were going at 8.45am on Saturday were astonished to find that the Guides were not only up, dressed and breakfasted but already wielding their paintbrushes.

After their Saturday morning stint, the first shift went home for a well-earned rest and the second shift — Lindsay Ferris, Shelley Hayes, Jenna and Kelly Hooper, Kate Buckingham, Nicola Cross, Kathryn Vellacott and Melanie How — took over.

They quickly got to work sloshing on the second coat of emulsion. Camping overnight in the hall again, they painted on, with breaks for essential rations and fresh air, until 5pm on Sunday. By that time the job was finished and the hall was as smart as, well, new paint.

The whole project was most successful and enjoyed by all,' was Marion's verdict. 'Dulverton Seniors Club is very impressed and extremely pleased with



The big clean-up



MARION ENGLEFIELD

the standard of work.

'Other groups who have booked the hall have been pleasantly surprised,' she added. 'Very favourable comments have filtered back to us.'

In fact, the Seniors Club members were so pleased with their new hall that they gave the Company a brand-new badge box as a thank-you gift.

DIANA WALLACE

ction



MARION ENGLEFIELD



Painting
in progress



MARION ENGLEFIELD

Tackling those tricky bits
round the window



Spot on!: the first shift gets to work

Counting the cash
raised by a
Blue Peter sale

*Bringing Guiding to girls
in a rural area near Bath
as part of the GG's Reach
Out initiative has proved
a real challenge
for Rosemary Yarker.*

When the Yarkers sold the hotel they had been running for eight years, it left Rosemary Yarker with time on her hands, energy going to waste and an emptiness to fill.

As she adapted to her new life in a country village near Bath, Rosemary realised that something was missing from community life. There was no Brownie Pack or Guide Company, certainly no Rainbow or Ranger.

Having been part of the Move 'since birth', Rosemary decided it was up to her to do something. It was just the sort of challenging role for which she'd been searching.

Then she heard about Reach Out, the Association's red tape-cutting initiative to take Guiding into areas where a special need has been identified. And she's been able to continue her personal project as part of the scheme.

Nearly 18 months later, 51-year-old Rosemary admits setting up and keeping going units for Rainbows, Brownies and Guides has been even more of a challenge than she'd anticipated.

'But I've found it very enlightening and enjoyed it very much,' she insisted. 'It is a very challenging and worthwhile exercise, which has to be carried out at a very local level building on personal contacts.'

Finding the right sort of adult help is proving an on-going struggle. By this time Rosemary had expected to be able to step back from hands-on Guiding. She'd hoped to be just background support. Instead she has found herself sometimes trying to run both Brownies and Guides on her own.

One of the stumbling blocks has been persuading people to make a regular commitment. They seem to be afraid that if they do offer to help, we won't let them go,' she said.

'I've tried to stress that we want people to help when they can and do what they are able.

'But, for the children's sake, there does need to be some adult who attends every meeting. Ideally I feel it is up to the generation below mine. My disciplinary standards and outlook may be too old-fashioned, too severe for this generation,' she explained.

ROSEMARY REACHES OUT



At last —
my very own set of wheels!



Anyone fancy a cake?

Rosemary has recruited two Rainbow Unit Helpers and a Brownie Unit Helper who has a demanding career, which doesn't always allow her to make the meetings on time.

However, a rota of mothers willing to help out providing continuity for the girls is being set up. 'I think this is the greatest breakthrough of the project so far,' said Rosemary.

It has proved difficult to organise suitable help at Guide meetings apart from a Young Leader.

Finding future leaders looked promising when Rosemary began her publicity campaign to discover whether there was a demand for Guiding in the Norton St Philip area.

She'd found out that there was no Guiding for about 20 square miles and that the two nearest units were full. A questionnaire circulated widely brought

on a display covering Guiding history as well as the current Programme. Out of the 60 people who attended, nine offered some assistance but none of the ten prospective leaders she'd targeted was able or willing to get involved.

Two further meetings open to girls as well as their parents were held and a Rainbow helper was recruited.

However, all three events raised much needed start-up funds. Rosemary believes that it would be much easier to get this type of project off the ground if a central fund was held at either County or Region level to help with essential expenditure.

Rural areas obviously have different problems to those experienced in inner cities. Children travel long distances to school and there is usually no public transport.

Guides began with five girls and only 'spasmodic' adult help but Rosemary managed to recruit a Young Leader, who had been a Guide for six months when she was ten!

Although she had 16 girls eager to be Brownies, she couldn't find any helpers at first, so the Pack didn't start until the autumn. The Pack has to be restricted to 12 although there is a waiting list.

Once meetings got underway Rosemary was confronted by the practical difficulties of running units with whatever 'untried, untested and uncommitted help that could be mustered'.

Her answer was on-the-job training where possible, with the Brownie Unit Helper using an adapted version of the Open Learning Scheme pilot.

Rosemary believes that one of the greatest challenges in the development of adult helpers new to the Movement is, that 'with new units and girls, there is no established tradition with which to demonstrate the ethos of Guiding.'

The units, which are not registered, meet only in school term time. So far they haven't felt ready to join in with Division or District events. But a series of profile-raising outdoor activities was held during the summer holidays.

When first planning the units' activities, Rosemary hit a snag — she needed to make them exciting to attract and hold the girls but realised possible helpers would be put off, feeling 'I couldn't possibly do that.' A classic Catch 22 situation for which she has no solution.

Making church activity boxes, holding a table top sale — an indoor version of the boot sale — and bulb planting have proved that the units have a part to play in local community life.

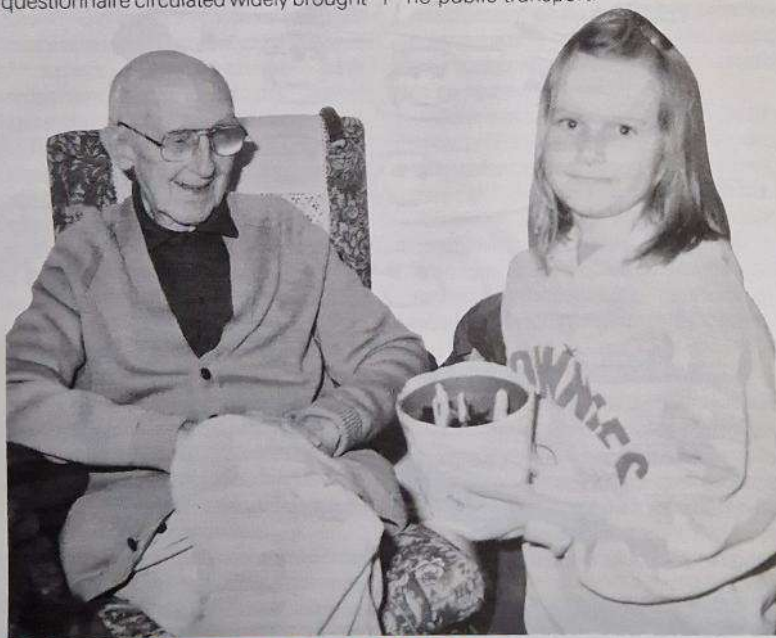
Uniforms are gradually being acquired — the philosophy behind Reach Out is that no one should be excluded because they haven't got the right clothes.

Rosemary remains convinced that if Guiding is to grow in the UK, it 'must be easily approachable, welcoming, flexible and receptive to offers and ideas'.

However, time is running out for the fledgling units. Rosemary and her husband are to open another hotel this summer and she questions whether she will be able to carry on, unless she knows she has regular, reliable help for all three units.

There are plenty of children waiting to join and you can see how the ones who did join have benefited,' she said. 'Isolation can be a problem for these children and it's good for them to have a chance to mix with children from different backgrounds and circumstances than their own.'

NORA WARNER 11



Delivering spring bulbs to cheer the residents of a local home

in offers of help, as well as establishing that 36 girls were keen to join Guiding.

Rosemary was surprised to discover that hardly any of the women contacted had been Guides themselves or knew much about the Movement.

Her objectives were to recruit leaders to assist in opening Rainbow, Brownie and Guide units and to train them to take over the running of the units. Her own qualifications are impeccable — as well as having run her own nursery school, Rosemary holds a training licence and has started new Guide and Brownie units in other places.

She blanketed the area with posters, submitted articles to the local papers and the parish magazine, and organised a 300-leaflet drop to advertise a coffee morning at her own home.

Helped by local friends and two experienced Guiders, Rosemary put

Once a meeting place was chosen, transport difficulties was one of the reasons it was decided to hold all meetings on the same evening starting with Rainbows. Now Brownie and Guide meetings are held at the same time, which allows for some joint activities.

One Guide has since had to leave the unit because the driver in her family died and two other Guide-age girls haven't even been approached because they have no way to get to meetings.

Before the scheme was up and running two would-be Guides grew tired of waiting and joined a town unit. That stung Rosemary into opening her first units on April 30 last year.

She began Rainbows with two helpers and eight girls. This has since been increased to 12 with a waiting list.

Hardly a day goes by without a drug story in the papers, backed by horrifying statistics. And it is the young who are most at risk.

THE DRUG

Experts believe that nearly 30 per cent of youngsters between 15 and 25 have tried drugs. A survey carried out by jeans company Wrangler in December found that the number of under-25s who have taken drugs in Britain has doubled over the past three years. There are reports of 12-year-old 'crack dealers' using mountain bikes to deliver their deadly merchandise.

Ecstasy, the 'hug drug' popular at rave parties, is regularly used by around 500,000 people, according to the National Drug Intelligence Unit.

Experts estimate that the amphetamine-based drug has already claimed 20 lives — the first abuser to die from Ecstasy use in Britain was just 16 when she died in 1989.

So what can we, as concerned citizens, whether parents or Guiders, do to help tackle this problem?

The Princess of Wales at a recent media seminar marking European Drug Prevention Week argued that drugs were used to overcome feelings of anger and instability. Parental affection could give children a firm emotional base, she said, and 'stem the flood of vulnerable souls' towards addiction.

But that's not the whole story. Later during the seminar a woman told of her devastation when her much-loved daughter became an addict. She too felt anger — anger at the lack of support she received from official sources, as she battled against her daughter's addiction.

As speakers at the conference, attended by delegates from all over Europe, made clear, the truth is that drug abuse is not a simple issue and there are no miracle cures.

The bad news is that there are no sure fire ways of preventing initial use of illegal drugs,' confirmed Nicholas Dorn of the Institute for the Study of Drug Dependence (ISDD).

WOMEN AND DRUGS

Drug abusers come from all walks of life — no one can simply assume that this is an issue which does not affect them. And, as an Association concerned with the welfare of young people, we have a special responsibility to know the facts. Particularly as, so far, comparatively little attention has been focused specifically on drug abuse by girls and young women.

Seoniad Wright of DAWN (Drugs and



Alcohol Women's Network) said: 'It always seems to be much more hidden when women get into drugs because of the way society sees them as carers. It's seen as a big stigma.'

Jenni Rees, a 19-year-old single mother who works with YouthLink Wales, pointed out that many people mistakenly believe that girls are less likely than boys to take drugs: 'It's the old thing... "Girls don't do that — they've got more sense".'

She would like to see more basic information on drugs made available specifically for young girls. There should be something for young girls and women, so they know where they stand,' Jenni said.

As abusers, young girls face special problems. The whole issue of women in general being dominated by men becomes more enhanced in a drug-abusing situation,' explained Seoniad. 'And there is always the fear that

young girls might turn to prostitution for the money.'

Some researchers fear that the weight loss associated with the use of Ecstasy may be welcomed by image-conscious young girls. Drug abuse can prevent menstruation, leading girls to believe they cannot become pregnant. And babies born to addicted mothers can 'inherit' the addiction.

PREVENTING HARM

Drug prevention initiatives are crucial but they can back-fire if they aren't pitched in the right language and form. One government anti-heroin poster featuring a young boy became a pin-up for teenage girls.

Adolescence is a time for experimentation. And, with pop groups like The Shamen singing 'Ezer good' on *Top of the Pops*, drugs have become part of youth culture. As the Princess of Wales said: Telling children not to

UG WAR

do something or trying to frighten them off, as all parents know, almost certainly has the opposite effect.'

Experts agree that scare tactics don't work but simply providing information may not be enough. Telling a 13-year-old how cannabis is manufactured won't help when a friend offers her a sweet-smelling cigarette to help her 'relax'.

'Drug education is about knowledge and skills to minimise drug use and drug-related problems,' said Nicholas Dorn. 'Government advisers believe that the best bet is to use a combination of tactics — giving accurate facts, enhancing social skills, and making sure that no one over-reacts.'

Many agencies work to combat drug abuse in Britain. Some target abusers to minimise harm, others aim to reduce demand for drugs by educating the potential user. Many will be happy to provide information or speakers. The following is just a selection.

TAKING THE INITIATIVE

To coincide with European Drug Prevention Week, the Department of Health ran a nationwide competition 'Acting Against Drug Misuse'. It aimed to raise awareness among school children by asking them to put forward ideas for a short video on drug misuse.

Twelve winners were finally selected from over 2,500 storyboards entered. Secretary of State for Health, Virginia Bottomley, and Minister for Health, Brian Mawhinney, hailed the competition as a 'great success'.

TACADE — The Advisory Council for Alcohol and Drugs Education — provided support material for 'Acting Against Drug Misuse'. Established in 1969, TACADE's aim is 'to educate for health and fight the misuse of alcohol and other drugs' within a broad framework of health issues.

As well as working on specific projects, like a current initiative which provides animation workshops for young offenders, TACADE produces two skills programmes for use in schools.

Based in Manchester, **Lifeline** focuses on preventing drug-related harm. It produces a range of innovative literature using street language.

Its 'Peanut Pete' leaflets, distributed at raves, offer safety advice. They warn, for instance, that 'E' may be 'cut' with other drugs, including heroin. And

that raving on 'E' can induce fatal heatstroke.

Youthlink Wales is a peer-led organisation which provides workshops, community projects and training, using material produced by young people.

YouthLink's Veronica Wilson explained: 'We think young people should be at the forefront of looking at these issues because they are the ones with the most understanding of what is happening in the community.'

'We feel many messages are much more potent when they come from the young people,' she added. 'We found that young people really, really wanted to be involved.'

Other initiatives include the Maze Project in Tower Hamlets which asked youngsters to design anti-drug posters; the Fast Forward Drug Prevention Project in Scotland which uses peer education to challenge young people's attitudes; and the Scarrel Road Project in Stirling which provides a safe, drug-free environment for women abusers.

OFFERING GUIDANCE

As a Guider you can offer positive role models and alternative activities. By building up a supply of resources, you can make accurate information available and provide a space where these issues can be discussed.

Many Guiders find it best to tackle

ADDRESSES

SCODA (the Standing Conference on Drug Abuse) can give you details of drug agencies. Contact them at 1 Hatton Place, Hatton Garden, London EC1N 8ND; tel: 071-430 2341.

The Institute for the Study of Drug Dependence (ISDD), 1 Hatton Place, Hatton Garden, London EC1N 8ND; tel: 071-430 1991.

Re-Solv (the Society for the Prevention of Solvent and Volatile Substance Abuse), 30A High Street, Stone, Staffordshire ST15 8AW; tel: 0785 817885.

YouthLink Wales, 91A Cardiff Road, Caerphilly, Mid Glamorgan CF8 1FQ; Tel: 0222 885711.

The GGA Training Team is happy to answer queries and advise on resources. Trainings can also be organised for groups of Guiders, Young Leaders or Rangers. Contact the team at CHQ on 071-834 6242.

the issue of drug misuse within the wider topic of healthy living.

You could:

● Put up posters and make leaflets available.

● Play the *Uppers and Downers* game, available in the *High Profile* pack, price £8.99 (including p and p) from the Publications Unit at ISDD.

● Use stories, for instance incidents from a TV soap, to bring up the issues naturally.

● Show a video.

You should be aware of your legal position, particularly if you are running an open social event, like a disco. The local police can give you guidance. You are under no obligation to disclose names to the police, but it is an offence to allow anyone to use drugs on premises where you are in charge.

'Any adult can respond to a young person's illegal drug use just by talking, or by taking and disposing of the drugs (for example, down the toilet), without involving the police,' said Nicholas Dorn.

They may, however, wish to have this action witnessed by a colleague and to inform a senior worker of the action taken. The one overwhelming legal obligation is to take urgent action to stop premises being used for the smoking of cannabis.

For safety's sake watch out for anyone taking alcohol and illegal drugs in the same period of time. If you discover anyone unconscious or drowsy and suspect drug abuse, place them in the recovery position, call an ambulance and collect any tablets, powders or anything which has been used to take the drug and give them to the ambulance driver.

IN PROPORTION

Finally, it's important to keep those scary statistics in proportion. Youngsters are more likely to die in road accidents than of a drug overdose. Legal drugs — cigarettes and alcohol — kill more people than heroin, crack or cannabis.

And, according to Nicholas Dorn, 'The good news is that most (though not all) illegal drugs use is self-limiting. A minority of young people persist with drugs over the longer term.' Many abusers stop of their own accord, and relatively few go on to form a life-time habit of drug abuse.

DIANA WALLACE 13

golden opportunity

Trying for GOLD: Assistant Guider Rachel Towner



Make the most of Guiding's international opportunities and go for GOLD, advises Rachel Towner, Assistant Guider with the 6th Whitstable Company, Kent.

GOLD, or Guiding Overseas Linked with Development, is an opportunity for any Ranger, Young Leader, or young Guider to work closely with a Guide Association in a needy country, helping them with a special project.

These projects, as the name GOLD suggests, are strongly linked to development, possibly including teaching English, primary health care, food production, and nutritional knowledge.

To go for GOLD you first have to attend a selection, or International Opportunities (INTOPS), weekend held at one of the Training Centres. Don't let this put you off. Although your ability to cope is being assessed, you don't feel you are under a microscope. Quite the opposite.

Having only been an Assistant Guider for a short time, when it came to finding out more about overseas opportunities, my first thought was to approach my Guider. She suggested I contacted the International Adviser at CHQ, who sent me details of a forthcoming INTOPS weekend. I returned the forms, and I was in.

Soon I was sent details of how to get to Foxlease by road and rail. We were all expected to make our own way. 'Is this the first test?' I remember thinking to myself.

This weekend was special for me in two ways. Not only was it an interesting insight into myself (I found I was a better follower than I expected to be), it was also my first visit to Foxlease.

We were not staying in the house, as Guiders on another course had that privilege. Our home for the two nights was a converted coach house. As we found our allotted bunks, scenes of past Pack Holidays flashed before me.

The first thing that struck me on the Friday evening was how quickly total

strangers talked and laughed together, as if they'd known each other for ages. Names were learned, Guiding histories swapped, and we settled down for the evening.

At 22, I was one of the older members of the group. This didn't pose any problems but, as the projects were explained, I realised working full-time could be a difficult obstacle to overcome. The projects ran from a fortnight up to six weeks and my 20 days holiday wouldn't stretch that far.

After the first meal our work began and with three Guiders to lead us through the many tasks ahead, we had our time cut out. With a mixture of team role-plays, small group discussions and outside activities, the hours soon slipped away.

Unfortunately, the best teamwork can break down when you're pitching a tent blindfolded. For half an hour we wrestled with canvas, that, to our blind eyes and inadequate hands, seemed at least the size of a parachute. Even with helpful hints from our organiser, the pitching had to be abandoned. When I took off my blindfold and saw our pathetic attempt, I had to laugh.

Although we didn't quite succeed, we had learned many things. I'm sure the secret of good teaching is to learn without feeling you are in a classroom and this was certainly the case here.

By the time the Sunday afternoon arrived I'd been a contestant on *Call My Bluff*, an immigrant farmer in a rain-forest, a UN health worker teaching the importance of birth control to natives, and a member of a delegation attending the WHO conference.

Such strong friendships had been made that, when it came to saying goodbye, we swapped phone numbers and promised to keep in touch.

The weekend aims to give you a taste of what working on a project entails. People do live in very basic conditions, where the climate is humid, health risks are high and there is no escape to an air-conditioned unit. You have to expect to live very much as the natives do.

When I embarked on my plan to try for GOLD, I was hoping to see Guiding at its best: a youth organisation working with a great purpose and sense of realism in the 1990s.

Sadly I was not selected after the weekend, but I have no doubt that those chosen fitted the bill and had a wonderful and interesting time.

However you feel at the end of the weekend — exhilarated, shattered or can't wait for more — remember you tried your best. And if, at the end of the day, you are offered GOLD, go for it.

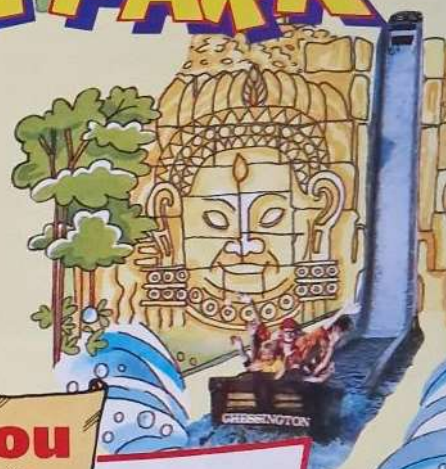
RACHEL TOWNER



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One entry price per person gives you unlimited use of the rides and special attractions.

Discounts available for groups of 15 people or more plus special rates for groups of 500 or over, one free leader per 10 children and advance ticket payment available

We are open **27 March - 31 October 1993 10am-5pm/6pm (Times vary).**

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On the following dates our 1992 special rates are held for 1993:

children (4-14 years) £7.00, adults

£8.00, a saving of £3.50 per person, plus one leader

free for every 10 children in their charge.

Guides and Brownie Days:

Sat. 8th May

Sat. 5th June

Fri. 30th July

Sat. 18th Sept.

Network

NICE WORK

► If you are bored with sand, sea and sunbathing holidays, try a working holiday instead this year.

The National Trust's working holidays are cheap and, as well as exploring new places, making new friends and enjoying yourself, you'll be making an invaluable contribution to the environment.

The 1993 National Trust Brochure lists more than 420 conservation holidays throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The holidays have proved so popular, extra projects have been added this year. The projects are for anyone aged over 17, and there's a special enterprise in Devon for volunteers aged over 50.

The National Trust Acorn Projects and other Working Holidays 1993 brochure is available free. Send a sae with a 34p stamp to: Acorn Projects Brochure, PO Box 12, Westbury, Wiltshire BA13 4NA. Tel: 0373 826826.



Enjoy a working holiday

FUNDRAISERS

► If you know a caring youngster with an outstanding record for fundraising, there's still time to nominate her or him for Britain's 1993 Webb Ivory Young Fundraiser of the Year. Headed by Cliff Richard, the awards aim to reward the work of amateur fundraisers with cash prizes for their favourite charities.

For a nomination form write to Cliff Richard, c/o Interface PR, Brook House, 77 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2EE, or call the Webb Ivory Hotline on 061 237 3771.

The closing date for nominations is April 30.

OUR HEROES

► Do you know any brave budgies, courageous cats or heroic hamsters, who have survived serious illness or injury against all odds? They could be in line for the Heroic Pet Patient Award, launched by the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals.

The award is aimed at animal lovers whose pets have received veterinary treatment for an illness or injury in the last 12 months.

The seven winners will each receive a specially commissioned oil painting of their heroic pet, and the overall winner gets a trophy, a long weekend break for two and a supply of pet food.

Write for an entry form to: The PR department, PDSA, Whitechapel Way, Priorslee, Telford, Shropshire TF2 9PQ or contact your local PDSA veterinary centre.

PDSA hero Rebel survived a road accident

FREE FOR ALL

► Looking for new ideas to raise funds? The new, 56-page colour *Fundraisers Handbook* is available free to anyone involved with making money for a good cause.

It's packed with ideas for spring and summer fêtes and bazaars, and includes advice on how to organise to ensure a successful fundraising event. The handbook also contains products you can buy and resell to raise funds.

For a free copy write to: Baker Ross Limited, Unit 53, Milmead Industrial Estate, Mill Mead Road, London N17 9QU. Or ring 081-808 6948.

SANDWELL ROAD SAFETY UNIT



Service with a smile — 8th West Bromwich Brownies at the launch of the new pack

STAY SAFE

▲ Sandwell Council's Road Safety Unit has published a new version of their Road Safety Pack for Brownies.

Over 30,000 copies of the original pack were sold. The new version features characters wearing our new uniform.

The pack, which is supported by McDonald's, includes leaders' notes to back activities and games designed to help

Brownies working for the Road Safety badge.

Brownie Packs in Sandwell get their copies free but other units should send a large sae plus a cheque payable to Sandwell MBC for £1.05 to Sandwell Road Safety Unit, Wigmore, Pennyhill Lane, West Bromwich B71 3RZ. But check first with your local authority, who may be able to supply free copies.

BAKER ROSS



KAREN BERNARD ASSOCIATES



Natural goodness from Ahava

the annual Living Crafts event at Hatfield House, the Marquis of Salisbury's historic Hertfordshire home.

This year the event is being held on May 6-9 and around 250 different crafts will be on display. Write for details to: The Curator, Hatfield House, Hatfield, Hertfordshire. Tel: 0707 262823.

SUPER SHAMPOO

◀The mineral-rich waters of the Dead Sea are reputed to have special properties which cure illnesses and keep your body beautiful and healthy.

That's why the sea's natural minerals have been used in the new range of Ahava shampoos. They all contain henna conditioner and are designed to care for the scalp, while gently cleansing your hair.

We have 20 Ahava shampoos (worth £6.45 each) to give away to the first readers whose names are drawn on the closing date, April 30.

Just send your name and address on a postcard, stating whether you'd prefer an anti-dandruff or oily hair formula, to: GUIDING/AHAVA Shampoo offer, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.

don to Brighton.

For a National Bike Week Event Organisers Guide, posters and leaflets, ring: 0203 559823. Or contact the Cyclists' Touring Club on: 0483 417217.

CRAFTY PEOPLE

▼Where can you watch a decoy duck being carved or a straw beehive being made the traditional way? At the Living Crafts fair, of course!

Crafty people from all over Europe and the US will be getting together in May for

Making traditional willow baskets



PDSA

HATFIELD HOUSE

PEDAL POWER

●Cycling enthusiasts please note — National Bike Week starts on Saturday, June 12. And June 16 has been designated National Bike to Work Day, when campaigning groups up and down the country will be encouraging workers to commute by cycle.

Sunday, June 20, is the day of the National Bike Ride, when super-fit cyclists, including members of the British Heart Foundation, will be attempting to cycle from Lon-

RARE BIRD

▼Look closely at our photo of the White-winged Wood Duck. It is one of the five most rare ducks in the world.

A team backed by the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust has just spent four months living rough in Sumatra rainforests searching for this elusive bird. The natives call it Spirit duck because of its wailing cry.

You don't have to trek so far, of course. The Trust has a small group of the ducks at its



centres at Slimbridge, Gloucestershire; Washington, County Durham; Martin Mere, Lancashire and Llanelli, Wales.

It runs eight centres in the UK and anyone who becomes a member qualifies for free entry to all of them.

For more details contact: The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust, Slimbridge, Gloucestershire GL2 7BT or phone 0453 890333.

A rare sighting — the White-winged Wood Duck

SPACE AGE

●You never know, there could be a budding young astronaut in your unit!

Helen Sharman, the first British space traveller, was a Guide in Sheffield, and there's every possibility one of your girls could have a great career in science ahead of her.

We've news of an opportunity for young people to explore the fascinating world of space science. The Space School at Brunel University holds residential courses during school holidays. Summer Space 1993, for young people aged 16 to 18 is on August 9-16. There is also a course at Easter for 14-16-year-olds.

For more information contact: Brunel Institute for Bioengineering, Brunel University, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 3PH. Tel: 0895 271206.

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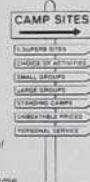
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GET ORGANISED

The GGA is introducing a new system of unit
administration which has been specially designed
to streamline record-keeping and cut time
spent on administration to a minimum.

The following items will be available from GGA shops or Trading Service from May 1993.

62190 General Guiding Record of...

An A4 sheet for the girl or young woman to record her
progress through the Guiding sections.

62133 GGA Register Sheet

An A4 register sheet which can be used to keep a record
of attendance and/or money collected. Available in tear-
off pads of 25 sheets with a front page which explains
how to fill in the sheet.

63156 Rainbow Guiding record of...

For the Guider to record the progress of each Rainbow.
Available in tear-off pads of 20 sheets on green paper.

60145 Brownie Guiding Record of...

For the Guider to record the progress of each Brownie.
Available in A4 tear-off pads of 20 sheets on yellow
paper.

60509 Guide Guiding Record of...

For the Guider to record the progress of each Guide.
Available in A4 tear-off pads of 20 sheets on blue paper.

62240 Guiding Record of...

For any young woman of 14+ to record her progress in
Guiding. Available in A4 tear-off pads of 20 sheets on
turquoise paper.

63230 Trefoil Badge Record

For the Guide to record the stages of the Red, Yellow,
Green, Blue and Baden-Powell Trefoil Badge Awards.
Available in A4 pads of 20 sheets.

62141 Six/Patrol Roll Book

One A6 booklet to replace the Six Roll Book and the
Patrol Roll Book.



A MAN'S EYE VIEW

This month a new writer gives us the male point of view in our delightful series.

Being known in our household as a collector of anything and everything, I suppose it was natural that my other half, Tawny of the 23rd, would nominate me tester for the Collector's badge.

I accepted this duty with pleasure having been nicely primed with a couple of pints of best local ale. However, as the day grew near, the true responsibility of my task became horribly apparent — what if I had to fail someone?

I had already received my briefing when the day finally dawned. Was it to be stamps and coins, I enquired. I was convinced I could ask intelligent questions on those. Tawny shook her head.

'Cigarette cards, perhaps?' I ventured.

'Abigail collects cocktail sticks and Pippa collects cheese labels,' said Tawny, with a challenging air and a weak grin. 'I'll leave you to it.'

I took a deep breath and started my testing with Pippa.

'So these are your cheese labels, Pippa?'

'Yes.'

'They're a very attractive collection, aren't they?'

'Yes.'

'That's an unusual one, isn't it?'

'Yes.'

Something told me I had to alter my line in questioning, so I picked out a particularly exotic looking label.

'Now where did that come from?' I asked brightly.

'Sainsbury's,' came the reply. Obviously a change of tactics was required yet again.

'Do you know what you call someone who collects cheese labels?' I'd heard a definition of the word fromologist on a quiz show the day before and decided to show off a bit.

'A cheese label collector,' replied Pippa patiently.

It was time to make one last effort: 'Are there any particular difficulties collecting cheese labels, Pippa?'

I could tell by the expression that a whole sentence was on the way — progress at last!

'Yes, sometimes when you try and get the labels off, the silver foil breaks and some of the cheese oozes out and dries on the paper. They're rather messy and horrible, so I've left those ones in my bedroom.'

The thought of Pippa's bedroom piled high with slowly ripening labels was not a pleasant one. Nor was the vision I had of Pippa's mum going about her weekly tidy, crawling on all fours wearing full protective gear and a gas mask.

High time, I decided, to move on to cocktail sticks. Abigail was talkative, very talkative. This cocktail stick comes from Blackpool, that one's from Disney Land and the set of six from Auntie Eileen in Scunthorpe,' she droned.

'Tawny Owl got this one from the pub!' she went on. All in the line of duty, I felt sure.

A pause of breath and then Abigail was away again. It was with some relief, after 15 minutes of Abigail's 'World guide to cocktail sticks' monologue, that I saw Tawny march in wearing a decisive 'time up' expression.

Later she asked: 'Will you do that again some time?'

'Anytime,' I mumbled, trying to disguise the uncontrollable trembling that seemed to have set in.

That night I dreamt of a grand parade of a thousand Brownies led by two little figures, one holding a staff and the other a large, colourful shield.

As they drew closer I realised they were the biggest cocktail stick and cheese label you could imagine. And the two leaders, grinning from ear to ear and wearing their badges with pride, were Abigail and Pippa, naturally.

Notices

THE ASSOCIATION'S AWARDS

GOOD SERVICE

LAUREL

Mrs Judy Morris — Ranger Guider, 18th Croydon Unit, District Assistant, Norbury, Croydon.

Mrs Olga Olsson — Former Guide Guider, 7th Keighley Company, WYNCHES Fund Raising Chairman, West Yorkshire North.

Miss Angela Thomas — Assistant Brownie Guider, 5th Saltash Pack, County Commissioner, Cornwall.

MERITORIOUS CONDUCT STAR OF MERIT

Miss Kate Allery — Ranger, Beeston and Chilwell Unit, Nottinghamshire.

Elizabeth Bradbury — Guide, 3rd Burntwood Company, Staffordshire.

Miss Janice Culley — Guide Guider, 7th West Bridgford (St Luke's) Company, County Outdoor Activities Adviser, Nottinghamshire.

Joanna Faulkner — Brownie Guide, 1st Eastgate Pack, Berkshire.

Mrs Patricia Jerome — Guide Guider, 1st South Ruislip Company, District Commissioner, South Ruislip, Middlesex North West.

Miss Loraine Sparkes — Rainbow Guider, 1st Cayton Unit, North Yorkshire North East.

GALLANTRY

SILVER CROSS

Lynne Kirker — Brownie Guide, 68th Belfast Pack, Belfast.

TV STARS

Tune into ITV on Easter Monday and you'll see a team of Guiders take on a gang of roofers in Granada's popular quiz *Busman's Holiday*. Look out for the behind-the-scenes story in May's *GUIDING*.

HEALTH CHEQUE

Save the Children Week is a national fundraising effort which starts on Sunday, April 25. Events will be taking place all over the country, organised by local representatives. This year



SEDAN CHAIR RALLY

The Sedan Chair Rally at Gilwell Park — Chingford, London — is under new management. The first of these new rallies will be held on the weekend of September 24-26.

The event will bring together Venture Scouts, Ranger Guides and Sea Rangers aged between 15½ to 20 with, of course, warranted leaders, for a challenging, entertaining and action-packed weekend.

The aim is for a team of three to seven members to

design and construct a 'sedan chair' able to transport one member of the team over a set course with incidents along the way.

There will also be sporting events on the Saturday, including table tennis, volleyball, football and other non-competitive events, such as archery, as well as a disco. Various films will be shown throughout the weekend.

For further information and an initial response form please contact Cali Kemp at 7 Wilstone Close, Yeading Hayes, Middlesex UB4 9RL, enclosing an sae.

the theme is health and the idea is to raise money for health projects both overseas and at home.

More than 14 million children die every year before reaching the age of five. Many more are undernourished and lack safe drinking

water. In this country homelessness and unemployment can mean stress for parents and an unhealthy start in life for children.

Money raised during Save the Children Week will be used for health projects like clinics in Somalia, training

for health workers in Pakistan and women's health groups in the UK.

If your unit wants to get involved, contact your local Save the Children (the number will be in the phone book) or write to Save the Children Week, 17 Grove Lane, London SE5 8RD; tel: 071 703 5400. Posters and leaflets are available.

CLOSED SHOP

The CHQ London shop will close at 11.30am on Saturday, May 15 to enable the staff to attend a colleague's wedding. We are sure members will understand and apologise for any inconvenience.

RALPH READER MEMORIAL FUND

The Ralph Reader Memorial Fund was set up ten years ago, to help the individual young person who may be in need and whose family may be having difficulty in raising the money required.

Considerable demand was made on the fund in 1992 and the administrators would like to stress that no 'block' grants of any kind can be considered. This includes the submission of a number of individual forms for the same project. Grants will not be given to a party of people merely to reduce the overall cost.

Full details of the relevant circumstances must be given and the application form has now been revised to allow for supporting comments from the appropriate leaders and Commissioners. Further information and forms from Mr R E Meyer, 113 Northdown Road, Welling, Kent DA16 1NT.

THANKS ALL

Thank you to everyone who sent in copies of the pattern for a Guide cardigan requested by Ann Warner in February's *GUIDING*. In fact, we've had so many replies that Ann is unable to answer them all personally but has asked us to pass on her thanks.

The National Pentathlete Award, run by the Central Council of Physical Recreation (CCPR) and sponsored by Butlins, offers youngsters a chance to try out new sports within a structured scheme. And its simple structure and jargon-free approach make it easy for even the most unsporty Guider to run.

The Award should complement existing Guiding activities and encourage those girls who are interested in sport to diversify their interests.

Participants, aged five to 16 plus, are challenged to reach the appropriate standard in five different sports, thus obtaining pentathlete status. They can choose from 15 sports, with standards set by the national governing body for each individual activity. Students can try for bronze, silver and gold certificates within each age level.

Simple to administer, the scheme uses jargon-free language, which makes it ideal for a willing but non-specialist volunteer. She can administer the award along the attainment levels offered, while a more skilled coach can add coaching hints and advice.

Since the launch of the Award in January 1992, the CCPR has sent around 20,000 tutor packs to teachers, youth workers, uniformed organisations, sports development officers and leisure centre managers.

The sports currently involved are: athletics, badminton, cricket, orienteering, snooker, soccer, table tennis, trampolining, basketball, hockey, archery, fitness, netball and swimming.

SPORTING CHANCE

Tutors should hold the appropriate qualifications in swimming, archery and trampolining before offering those sports in the Pentathlete scheme. The remaining 12 sports can safely be organised by a non-specialist.

Brownie Guider Heather Baxter is one satisfied customer. She has been running the Pentathlete Award for a group of over 20 Brownies in Huddersfield, Yorkshire.

'From the outset the Brownies were very keen to try the new sports as part of the Pentathlete Award,' she said. 'The activities involved were so varied and interesting, yet within the capabilities of the girls. Even the youngest and most unsporty members took part with relish, learning how to do squat thrusts and shuttle runs.'

'The wide range of sports opened up a whole new challenge to many girls,' she added. 'We certainly hope to build on our abilities by working through the silver awards next year.'

Guiders using the scheme can also make direct contact with the governing bodies using the information provided



Cricket for beginners

in the tutors manual. Most governing bodies will be delighted to supply details of their own more detailed award schemes.

For details of the National Pentathlete Award please contact: The CCPR, Francis House, Francis Street, London SW1P 1DE; tel. 071-828 3163.

DRIVE TO WIN

In February's *Getting Out* we featured the adventures of Ranger Samantha Sykes at Brands Hatch. Now you can win a chance to 'burn rubber' at a famous racing track.

Earlydrive, the company that gave Samantha her trial spin, is offering a free driving lesson at either Brands Hatch or Oulton Park to the Guide, Ranger or Young Leader who wins our motoring competition. But remember you must be at least 4ft 10ins tall — so that you can reach the pedals — to take part.

To enter, all you have to do is answer these five questions and send them on

a post card to Earlydrive, GUIDING, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT by April 30. The first all-correct entry drawn on that date will be the winner.

QUESTIONS

- 1 What colour are a car's reversing lights?
- 2 Do you use full beam headlights in foggy conditions?
- 3 What is the sequence of traffic lights?
- 4 In which direction do you drive around a roundabout?
- 5 What is the top speed permitted in the UK?



Your chance to get behind the wheel

● Some of the prices given in February's article have since been changed, ring 0474-872331 first for details before planning a visit.

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Guides Days Out: 19 June and 25 September 1993

London Zoo's special Guide Association days out on 19 June & 25 September 1993 start at 10am and offer:

- Exclusive admission rates of £3 per person (advanced booking essential)
- Exciting zoo trail competition with prizes for the winners

- Free guided tours (limited basis only) and free events throughout the day; 'Animals in action', 'Feeding times' and exciting 'Animal encounters'
- PLUS cafés, restaurants and huge gift shop all in the Barclay Court piazza.

YES, I would like to make an advance booking: Date of visit (please tick ✓): 19 June ☐ 25 September ☐

Name

Name of unit

Address

Postcode

Number of adults in group

Number of under 16s in group

Do you wish to reserve a guided tour Yes ☐ No ☐

Please find enclosed full payment with this order £

(Payable to Zoological Society of London)

Guides/93

**POST TO
GROUP VISITS,
LONDON ZOO,
REGENT'S PARK,
LONDON NW1 4RY**
Tel 071 586 3910

Nothing stops former Chief Commissioner Dr June Paterson-Brown when she makes up her mind. So she wasn't going to let a little thing like a broken leg permanently interfere with her plan to cycle across Britain from the toe of England to the tip of Scotland.

ON HER BIKE

The ride was merely postponed for six months until June's leg healed, although she did, reluctantly, have to miss out on her winter skiing holiday this year.

It was while skiing in Switzerland in March last year that 61-year-old June broke her leg and had to be air-lifted home.

House-bound at Hawick for three months waiting for the badly-displaced spiral fracture to the femur to mend, June admitted she was 'very disappointed' to have to cancel the cycle marathon originally scheduled for last September. But she was already planning to be back in the saddle ready to tackle the 932-mile ride next month.

For June is very keen to raise money for The Prince's Trust, which helps young people — particularly disadvantaged youngsters — to improve their lives.

June, a trustee and former vice-chairman of the Trust, said: 'GAA projects have benefited from grants from the Trust. I'm hoping units will support this excellent cause, but I'd like them to feel they can keep half what they raise for their own needs, if they wish. That way I'll be helping Guides as well.'

June got the idea of making the ride, which means daily stints of up to 55 miles, from a friend. 'She had meant to do the ride with her husband, but he had to pull out because he got another job,' June explained.

'My friend went anyway and cycled alone from Land's End to John O'Groats. She's just a wee slip of a thing, so I thought if she could do it, I could, too. And I decided Peter could do it as well!'

Peter, 62, this month and a retired GP, agreed but chose his own charities — CHAS, the Children's Hospice Association Scotland, unlike England. Scotland has no children's hospice, the first is to be built in the next 12 months and will cost £9m to build and run; and REACT, Research Education and Aid for Children with Terminal or Potentially Terminal Illnesses.

'I hadn't cycled for years,' June admitted last year, 'but I knew doing housework keeps me pretty fit.'

However, she did switch to a special diet, went running 'from time to time' and the dog got taken for lots of walks. Her preparation was going well until



Charity riders — Peter and June Paterson-Brown hope for some easy riding

early last year, but then came the skiing trip that ended in disaster.

A mother of four with two granddaughters — 'future Rainbows' — June declares she's now fit again and raring to ride. 'I'm looking forward to seeing some of the lovely countryside and visiting parts of England I know nothing about. I really only began to find out about England when I became the Chief Commissioner,' she added.

Sticking where possible to B roads, the trip will take the daring duo through Cornwall, Devon, Avon, Gwent, Hereford and Worcester, Shropshire, Lancashire and Cumbria.

Crossing the border into Scotland, they will then cycle through Dumfries, Roxburghshire, Selkirkshire, Peeblesshire, Midlothian, West Lothian, Fife and Perthshire.

Then they will follow the A9 through Inverness-shire, Ross and Cromarty,

Sutherland and Caithness.

The couple have spent £1,000 on two 21-gear mountain bikes and expect to be three or four weeks on the road. They plan to leave Land's End on Monday, May 10 taking the B3315 for Newlyn and Penzance.

'We'd be very pleased to see any members who want to cheer us on or cycle with us anywhere on the route. We'd also like to receive any recommendations of places to stay overnight,' June said. She can be contacted by writing to her at Norwood, Hawick, Roxburghshire TD9 7HP or by phoning 0450 72352.

There is a sponsorship form on the following page. The Paterson-Browns would like to know the total amount the ride raises. So, if you do keep some cash for unit funds, please remember to include the details on your form.

NORA WARNER

LAND'S END TO JOHN O'GROATS CYCLE RIDE SPONSOR FORM

The former UK Chief Commissioner, Dr June Paterson-Brown and her husband, Dr Peter Paterson-Brown, are to attempt to cycle from Land's End to John O'Groats to raise money for three charities – The Prince's Trust, the Children's Hospice Association Scotland (CHAS), and the

Research Education and Aid for Children with Terminal or Potentially Terminal Illnesses (REACT). Units may retain up to 50% of each donation for local funds but sponsors should be told in advance. If you wish to sponsor either or both cyclists please complete the form below.

NAME

UNIT

[illegible]

All forms and money to be returned to Cycle Ride, c/o The Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road London SW1W 0PT by June 30. Cheques for the nominated charities should be made out to 'The Cycle Ride'. Money donated to the local unit should be retained by that unit.

Please indicate which charities you are supporting:

☐ The Prince's Trust☐ CHAS☐ REACT

This form can be photocopied.

The three countries chosen this year to benefit from the Girl Guide Friendship Fund's Summer Appeal — Rwanda, Grenada and the Ivory Coast — have one thing in common. Their economies have all been badly affected by the drop in prices for their produce, such as coffee and cocoa, on the world markets.

Rwanda is one of Africa's smallest countries, about one third the size of Scotland, and lies just south of the equator. It is known as 'the land of a thousand hills' because much of the country is covered by mountains.

In Rwanda the deteriorating economic situation is affecting all levels of society, including young girls who are being forced to leave school prematurely in order to find employment and bring in some money for their families.

As a result, many girls are missing the opportunity to develop to their full potential and some are, reluctantly, accepting work that does not utilise their talents and abilities.

It is likely that many will spend many years in a frustrating and unrewarding work environment unless something can be done to change the situation.

The Guide Association in Rwanda,

AID FOR RWANDA

acutely aware of the effect this problem can have on girls, organises vocational training programmes, which enable girls who miss out on school to become financially independent.

At the Association's headquarters in the capital, Kigali, some 50 girls attend classes in craftwork, gardening, baking and literacy. The Association would now like to extend their work into another area, a town called Gikondo.

Here they are planning to set up a multi-purpose room where some 30 girls can be taught embroidery, dress-making, childcare and home economics, as well as other skills to equip them to earn a living.

The room will also provide a safe environment where girls can meet and offer recreational facilities for young people in the area. For those who never completed their primary school

education, literacy classes will also be held in the room.

The Association also plans to encourage the girls to form co-operatives in their local communities, so they can support one another once they are trained and earning money.

It has been estimated that a total of £8,000 is needed to pay for the room and the GGFF is being asked to contribute towards the £3,850 required to purchase seating and 20 sewing machines.

Any donations for this project should be sent to the GGFF, c/o Rosemary Mills, General Secretary's Department, The Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT. Cheques should be made payable to GGA(GGFF) and a sae included for a receipt.

SUE SHAW

The Executive Committee, at its January meeting, called for 'the practice of applying local Bye-laws' to cease 'immediately'. The ban was requested by the Guiding Manual Review Group, who discovered that local Bye-laws were persisting in some areas in spite of the introduction of the *Guiding Manual*, which was supposed to have 'put a stop' to the practice.

The Chief Commissioner has received a reply to the message of sympathy sent to the Queen following the fire at Windsor Castle. Members also learned that a letter of thanks had been received after flowers were sent to our President, Princess Margaret, when she was in hospital suffering from pneumonia and a telemesssage had been sent to the Princess Royal on her marriage.

Ysanne Haywood, one of the GGA's World Conference delegates, has been elected by postal ballot as the Association's Europe Region nominee for the WAGGGS Youth Committee.

The Crisis Committee, introduced in 1985 after the Crystal Palace Rally and renamed The Chief Commissioner's Committee in 1987, has been reformed. The Committee's role is to deal with a crisis or catastrophe at once, if there is no time for the full Executive Committee to meet. It was felt that the original membership was too restrictive. In future the nucleus of the committee

will be the Chief Commissioner, the Public Relations Adviser and the Chief Executive. They will appoint other members — one of whom is likely to be a Country/Region Chief Commissioner — with expertise relevant to a particular incident.

Members learned that the appointment of Mrs Sheena MacLaren from Scotland as a member of the Girl Guide Friendship Fund has been confirmed.

A painting by the Founder's sister, Agnes Baden-Powell, is now hanging in the Council Chamber. It was given to the Association by the previous owner's son, who found it among his father's possessions.

The Director of Guiding Activities, Mrs Pat Ledwith, was thanked for her excellent work on the Reach Out initiative. Members were told that the pilot scheme will last for three years and other Countries/Regions are interested in similar projects.

Alison Buchan is to chair the newly-formed Membership Committee whose other members will be: Jackie Clifford, full-time Training Team; Deborah Constable, an Association BYC delegate; Margaret Courtney, Association Archivist; Anne Faull, Executive Committee; Karan Foord, Junior Council; Julie Limbrick, CID representative and Della Salway, Council member.

A small group has been formed to consider projects submitted as possible

EXECUTIVE NEWS

Association entry for the Olave Award. Its members — the Chief Commissioner, the International Commissioner and the Chief Executive — will decide whether any of the projects put forward by the Countries/Regions reach the required standard.

The Chief Commissioner is to attend the Caribbean Link Conference in Antigua this month.

Jean Eburne is to take over as Chairman of the Awards Committee. Dr Martin Cottier has been appointed as its medical adviser and Jill Kendall joins as an elected member. Other new appointments announced include: Shirley Strong, GGFF Chairman; Karen Tricker, Outdoors Activities Adviser (from May) and Daphne Barton, Trading Panel Chairman.

Several existing appointments were extended for two years: Josef Bird, remains LINK Chairman; Eryl Evans continues as Guide Adviser and Catherine Bartlett carries on as Religious Advisory Committee Chairman.



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Liverpool 1, 14 Faraday Street, Manchester, M1 1FS, who can
supply all your Guiding requirements.

G4



Assistant was looking very cheerful at the thought of four solid walls and a roof for our Easter holiday, instead of our usual leaking tent, as we discussed our plans. We both remember waking very early one morning on one holiday and being deeply thankful we'd slept on lilos, which were about four inches tall, as the water all around us was only two inches deep.

However, I then reminded her that four solid walls is also a great noise retainer when all the Guides are in action. That soon damped down her enthusiasm. She's planning to wear fluffy ear-muffs — uniform colour, of course — and not only because it will be cold at Easter.

Claire was told that her name will be held on the reserve list pending an improvement in behaviour. Her mother was not impressed, but I pointed out the wording on the form says that she can be sent home. I've previously objected to that sentence, but not any more. I should send belated apologies and thanks to the form compiler!

At work I've insisted for many years that the attendance chart needs separate colour coding for Guide camps or holidays. After all, in no way can they be called real holidays. This always gives everyone a laugh but has, at last, gained me some sympathy.

A colleague recently stayed with friends in the Welsh hills for a weekend and reported back the saga of his walk.

He thought they'd meant a walk down to the pub. Well they did, but it was five miles each way through fields and sheep, in the wind and rain.

He was not impressed that they'd spent a whole day doing a journey which would have taken less than half an hour by car. Looking at me he said in amazement: 'You do that sort of thing for fun?'

I did explain that with the Guides we don't actually go to the pub, but the rest of the scenario is similar: the spring of the turf, the call of the curlew and the freedom! He looked blank and vowed 'Never again.'

I had a similar experience with my neighbour (she of the yellow wellies with matching rubber gloves) when she and her husband expressed interest in a walking weekend.

Yes, she did know what youth hostels were, so a colleague and I

booked a foursome for a weekend of 'gentle' walking.

Due to work commitments we travelled in two cars, which was just as well — their car was full of emergency rations including the silver cocktail shaker in a giant picnic hamper. They survived the Friday night and Saturday, then headed for home — also vowing 'Never again.'

I began to wonder whether it's only Guide Guiders who like walking. Their friends only do it once, and their Guides only do it under protest!

We have a night-hike, or rather dark hike, planned for Easter. It's only a couple of miles, but it's through thick woods and undergrowth on narrow paths and it seems to take forever.

I must have a word with QM, as it's surely her turn to walk this year. And it must be my turn to keep the building warm and make supper.

D·I·A·R·Y

OF A

GUIDE GUIDER

JUNIOR COUNCIL *calling*

FIRST ANSWER THREE EASY QUESTIONS

1 Are you aged between 16 and 25 years?

2 Are you interested in the future of Guiding?

3 Do you care enough to speak out?

If the answer is yes to these questions, then you may be

just the person for the Junior Council.



WHO?

We are an enthusiastic group of young women, four from each of the Countries/Regions with two members representing British Guides in Foreign Countries and two from the Branch Associations.

WHAT DO WE DO?

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

WHAT IS INVOLVED?

We meet for two weekends a year and maintain a link with our equivalent bodies in the Countries and Regions.

There are also other groups and committees we are sometimes asked to sit on. Each member serves for four years.



WHY YOU?

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

If you would like to know more please complete and send off the slip below by June 1, 1993.

Please send me the Junior Council Information Pack.

Name (please print) _____

Unit _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

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

YOUR COUNCIL

Although all Guiders should know that The Council is the governing body of the Girl Guides Association, few would claim to be really sure what that involves or to know who serves on the current Council.

MICHELLE SMITH



The Chief Commissioner Jane Garside (left) Chairman of The Council, and Chief Executive Hilary Williams, who attends meetings in her capacity as Secretary to The Council

The Council is concerned that it is perceived to be remote from grassroots Guiding and has asked *GUIDING* for help in breaking down these artificial barriers.

Over the next few months we will be introducing The Council and explaining its role within the Association.

We begin by asking The Council's Chairman, The Chief Commissioner, the questions you've always wanted to ask but haven't had an opportunity to do so.

Q: Can an ordinary Guider really serve on The Council?

A: There are no ordinary Guiders — they are all special and, of course, they can serve on The Council.

Q: So how would I put myself forward for election?

A: There are two basic routes. The first is through the Country/Region structure. You would need to let your District Commissioner know you were interested, unless she approached you, of course. The second is through a current Council member. Both these methods are governed by the Association's Charter and Bye-Laws but don't let that put you off.

Q: How long does an elected member serve?

A: Three years, but she is eligible for re-election for a further three.

Q: Is there any limit to the times a member can serve on The Council?

A: No. But if an elected member serves

for six consecutive years, there must be a three-year gap before she is eligible to stand again.

Q: Are all members of The Council elected?

A: No. In addition to the President, there are 14 ex-officio members of whom two (The Chief Commissioner, and the Chairman of the Trefoil Guild) are elected to their office and 11 are appointed by the Chief Commissioner (the nine Country/Region Chief Commissioners, the Chairman of Finance and the International Commissioner) and one appointed by The Council (the Treasurer).

Q: What is the relationship between the Executive Committee and The Council?

A: The Council is the governing body of the Association. The Executive Committee is the Committee of The Council and manages the business of the Association.

Q: Does The Council just rubber stamp what the Executive Committee has decided, or does it sometimes reject

the Committee's recommendations?

A: The Council takes major strategic decisions. The Executive Committee is empowered to make some decisions on behalf of The Council.

Q: Can we really claim to be a democratic organisation if the decisions are taken by people who haven't been voted into office?

A: Yes, because of the 54 Council members only the three already mentioned are not elected. Only two voting members of the Executive Committee are not elected — the Treasurer and the Chairman of Finance.

Q: Are there any occasions when decisions are taken by The Council without the Executive Committee having discussed them first?

A: Yes — strategic decisions which are the business of The Council, as explained earlier.

Q: There are 54 members of The Council, does that make it difficult for everyone to feel able to express an opinion?

A: Experience shows this isn't so. Debates are extensive and wide-ranging, so anyone wishing to become a member must feel able to enter into debates.

Q: How does The Council vote — by show of hands or secret ballot?

A: Both, depending on the issue.

Q: Are meetings always held in London?

A: Yes. It is not practical to hold Council meetings elsewhere.

WORKING FOR OUR FUTURE

A series of six workshops designed to publicise the work of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) and the 1993 World Conference is being held.

The first was due to take place in Birmingham on March 13, bringing together members of Midlands Region and representatives from the other eight Countries and Regions.

Planned and led by Pauline McKie and Sue Taylor, the workshop established a format which is likely to be followed at the other venues. They are:

- April 3** North West—Preston
- April 17** South West — Bristol
- April 18** London and South East — Pax Lodge
- May 15** Anglia — Huntingdon
- May 22** Wales — Broneirion

The 28th World Conference will be held in July at Nyborg, when the hosts are the Joint Committee of the Girl

Guides of Denmark. The UK delegation is eager to really represent grassroots views at the Conference and so delegates are attending the various workshops to hear what members have to say on the agenda issues.

One issue certain to prove contentious is admitting boys to Guiding. Six overseas associations in Germany, Belgium, France, Spain, Greece and Brazil have, for a number of years,



admitted boys into some of their units and partial evaluation of the experiment has already taken place.

The Conference theme — Today's Challenge — Our Future — will prompt delegates to question how WAGGGS can promote change, while continuing to preserve the Guiding traditions.

Many of the 118 member countries are likely to urge WAGGGS to increase its membership as well as playing its part in world issues and effectively promoting the role of women in world society. WAGGGS is, of course, already committed to the advancement of girls and women.

The workshops will explore these ideas as well as looking at the structure of WAGGGS and the relationship between WAGGGS and WOSM (the World Organisation of the Scout Movement) at both world and regional level.

They will also explore whether WAGGGS can be both a feminist and an educational youth organisation, and if the roles should be given equal importance.

If you want to:

- learn more about WAGGGS
- find out the relevance of the World Conference to the GGA
- express your views on some of the Conference issues

... there is still time to attend a workshop near you. Contact your Country/Region office for more details.

FERRY TO FLANDERS

A heavy snowfall put a stop to the 'Flemish Fling' weekend planned by Rangers, Young Leaders and Guiders in North East England as part of Celebration '91. Many couldn't even get to Hull to board the ferry.

But it takes more than a little snow to daunt GGA members, so the travellers decided to try again in 1992. The venture was re-named the 'Belgian Break' and this time the destination was Zeebrugge.

The trip wasn't to be totally trouble-free though. The party nearly didn't make it on to the ferry. During the time-lapse between the original plans and the final trip, the fully-fledged EC

had come into being and the rules governing visitors' passports had changed.

No one in the party knew so there was general panic as people raced back to the desk to be officially stamped in before boarding.

Luckily, all 150 members of the party made it on board, ready to while away the trip asleep in their cabins or making the most of the onboard entertainments. Some cinema buffs opted for a movie — or four, while a group of Rangers from Leeds County persuaded the Purser to let them play in the toddlers ball pool.

The Purser was kept pretty busy. He also arranged for Lindsay Ashburner

from Durham South to be invested on the bridge by North East England Chief Commissioner Pat Cliff, with the Captain in attendance.

Narrowly beaten to a berth in Zeebrugge by a gas tanker, the ferry had to wait while the port was closed and the tanker discharged its load. Finally the party was free to spend seven hours wandering the cobbled streets of Bruges, fuelled by an occasional pit stop for a cappuccino and a mouth-watering Belgian bun.

Groups of Rangers explored lace shops selling exquisitely worked goods, from table-cloths to babies clothes, and, of course, the chocolate shops. 'How does anyone stay thin in Belgium?' they wondered.

For those who had shopped to a stop, there was the option of a pony and trap ride round the old town or a trip down the canals.

Then, after one last snack, it was back to the ferry for the early evening sailing. Later, there were some very bleary-eyed folk to greet the dawn over Hull, as the ferry pulled into berth.

GILL FOX

General Secretary,
North East Region

Sybil Canadine, one of the earliest Guides and the first woman high jumper to clear five feet, has died.

GUIDING

PIONEER DIES

When 10,000 Boy Scouts gathered at the Crystal Palace Rally on September 4, 1909, they were joined by a handful of girls wearing 'Girl Scout' uniform. One of these early pioneers was Sybil Canadine, who died last December.

That demonstration marked the beginning, not only of Guiding, but of Sybil Canadine's long and fruitful involvement with the Movement. A gifted organiser with immense energy, she held many appointments and worked tirelessly to promote the Association. She was awarded the Silver Fish in 1967.

Born in 1897, Sybil's Guiding career officially began when she was enrolled in the 1st London Company in 1910. She remained a member of the Movement until her death.

A talented athlete, Sybil was the first woman in the world to clear five feet. British High Jump champion from 1918 to 1934, she was also a strong swimmer and was asked to swim for Britain in the 1936 Berlin Olympics but couldn't afford to compete.

Always a keen Guider, she ran units in many different areas as well as promoting Guiding on an international level. In 1922 the Baden-Powells asked her to visit the United States to help organise the first National Camp. This visit started a lifelong association with the North American Girl Scouts.

She also spread the Guiding word in Malta, where she was Island Commissioner; in Egypt, where she set up the International Committee in 1924; and in Hong Kong, where she designed a new standard to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of the Hong Kong Association.

In England Sybil held many different appointments in several Counties, among them Camp Adviser, Chairman of Training, Division, District and County Commissioner. As well as bringing up her own children — Wendy and Peter — with her husband Ronald, she was guardian to her brother's two sons and foster mother to evacuees.

Paying tribute to Sybil in January at a Service of Thanksgiving held in Christ Church, Cheltenham, Margaret Dale, Gloucestershire County Commissioner, told the packed church: 'Sybil represented the beginning of Guiding, and for her Guiding did not cease throughout her life.'

She recalled: 'Sybil came to Gloucestershire in 1961 following the



Sybil Canadine — 'an inspiration to all of us'

death of her husband. And, knowing of her reputation as a keen Guider, a Brownie Guider invited her to become her Tawny Owl — not knowing that she was to be County Commissioner.

'Sybil was a great believer in the Patrol system as a method of getting things done. She believed that small is beautiful and worked hard in Gloucestershire to divide large Divisions into smaller, more manageable groups. She was also a great delegator, believing that it was important to involve others.'

Betty Jones, a close Guiding colleague who gave a reading during the service, remembers Sybil with affection. 'We all respected her greatly,' she said later. 'But she worked us all to death!'

Throughout her seventies and eighties Sybil continued her work both at home and abroad. Margaret Dale spoke of one particular visit to the USA in 1979 where Sybil helped train Guiders in indoor and outdoor activities: 'During

the last four days of that trip she travelled 1,000 miles; was televised four times; made two radio broadcasts and spoke at two meetings a day. Not bad for a lady of 82!'

In his address Canon John Harwood, former Vicar of Christ Church, described Sybil as someone with a gift for getting things done.

'Soon after her arrival here, the Vietnamese Boat People were given sanctuary in Britain,' he said. 'A number came to Cheltenham and found, as you would expect, some difficulty in coping with the language and life.'

'It was Sybil who alerted us to this social need. It was Sybil who organised a Christmas collection and parcels — wrapped and labelled in her own flat and distributed to the Boat People.'

During the celebrations for the 75th anniversary of Guiding in 1985, Sybil was in great demand, giving many Guides and Brownies a vivid, first-hand glimpse of Guiding history. As ever she was, in the words of Margaret Dale 'an inspiration to all of us'.

Margaret added: 'Throughout her life Sybil Canadine remained true to the Guide Promise. She showed us the way. May we all follow that way faithfully and never lose the vision, the excitement or the spirit of Guiding which she typified.'

Pioneering days:
Sybil (sixth from right) at the Crystal Palace Rally in 1909

Trading from back rooms and Guide hut cupboards, the GGA depot system is a sales success story many commercial firms would envy.

TRADING

As all good Guiders know, Guiding has its own way of dealing with lots of life's little problems.

But few of the solutions developed over the years can be as efficient or as effective as our depot system.

Sometimes described as Guiding's version of the 'Tupperware party', it is a matchless way of giving members the chance to stock up on uniform, books, badges or anything else they need.



Harpenden and Redbourn Division gets ready for business

without an expedition to one of the Association's big city shops.

Most of the top-selling lines are supplied by our own Trading Service, whose motto is, of course, 'When you buy from the Movement, we all benefit'.

It is able to supply at prices which enable the depots to make a very welcome profit. As you will be aware, if your County or Division has its own trading operation, the profits can be used to help local units by giving them 'discounts', or rebates.

The County of Hertfordshire is a typical success story. It has no less than 13 depots.

They range from purpose-built stores, with display cabinets, impressive turn-overs and full-time staff, to a 'please phone first' once-a-week sale from cardboard boxes in a private house.

Valerie Morey was a member of the Uniform Panel until 1991 and, as County Badge Secretary, has encouraged the setting up of depots in Hertfordshire. Here, she lets us into a few trade secrets.



Volunteers offer service with a smile at West Division's depot

❊ In 1991 four of our depots made a profit of more than £3,000 and six others weren't far behind.

This was by virtue of the discount on purchases given by Trading Services.

We started in a small way and gradually expanded, from three depots in 1970, to six by 1980 and 13 by 1991. Now each of our nine Divisions has at least one depot, with the more scattered, rural Divisions having two or even three.

Some depots started in a room or a private house or from a cupboard in a Guide or Scout hut. Only the three smallest are still run from homes, although even these make enough money to be worthwhile.

Most of our depots have been successful because they were given loans by the Region, the County, or both, to get them off to a good start.

These loans enabled them to buy sufficient stock of fast-selling lines, like the uniform, to meet local demand and build up their turnover quickly.

The use made of the income from the depots varies, but every penny goes to give us better Guiding.

One Division has a camp site to maintain. Two others have Pack Holiday or activity centres. Some depots divide profits between Districts or units, while others give discounts on purchases, or help with the cost of trainings, international opportunities, or the hire of premises.

All depots open at least once a week, during term time, and several open twice a week.

They are staffed by a mixture of Guiders, Trefoil Guild members and Friends of Guiding, often assisted by Guides, Rangers and Young Leaders.

In addition to GA uniform, books and equipment, all our depots have a comprehensive stock of badges. The larger ones also stock things like writing and drawing paper, pens, Plasticine and glue, bought in from Hertfordshire County Council's Supplies Department or Scoutaid, for example.



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IG PLACES

Our flourishing depot at Letchworth, which made a profit of about £3,000 in 1990-91, began in 1968 as a lock-up room, with stock kept in boxes.

It started as a Scout shop but a few months later began also to stock Guide goods.

In 1989 it moved into purpose-built premises, equipped with glass-fronted counters, draper's drawer units and shelving, either given or bought second-hand. All this gives the shop a highly professional look.

converted stable block and has never looked back. Sales have increased every year.

Another of our "star" depots is the one at Ware, which started with loans from Anglia, as well as our County. It operates modestly from cupboards in the Scout hut but finished 1991 with a profit of about £3,000.

The depot at Hemel Hempstead started in 1979 in a kiosk inside the local Guide headquarters. It now operates from lockable steel cabinets in the

who give their time to make our depots so successful, seem to love the work.

As one of them told me in a report: "The depot has become a social meeting point, where Guiders exchange ideas and information... We do enjoy running the depot. It is very rewarding to see a delighted new Brownie in her uniform, or to supply a hard-working Guider with just the right books, badges or equipment she needs."

Money is tight for lots of parents these days, of course, but we've proved



Business is booming for Letchworth depot

It is, in fact, used by units from neighbouring Counties but has actually turned away some of this extra trade because the business was becoming embarrassingly large!

At Welwyn Garden City we have another highly successful Guide and Scout shop which turned in a profit of more than £3,300 in 1990-91.

It started in a small lock-up room at Welwyn Scout headquarters in 1973 as a joint venture, with separate records, and has operated that way ever since.

But, in 1984 it moved into a specially

main hall of the HQ and, on Wednesday evenings, it becomes a very busy place, with at least four people serving.

When demand for the new uniform was at its height, there were as many as nine serving. The profit for 1990-91 topped £1,600.

But, considering it operates from boxes in someone's dining room, dealing mainly with phone appointments, our Royston depot performs remarkably well. With minimal overheads, it cleared £1,000 in 1990-91.

Every one of the dedicated band



BRE McDERMID

that there is still enough around to keep out depots humming.

So, if trade's a bit slack in your County or District, this might be the time to look for new business.

But not on our patch, please! ☺

Shelves stacked with Guiding stock at Welwyn Garden City depot

Open Door

BLOSSOM TIME

'April is Easter' said the yellow memo on my desk, a reminder from the Editor about this month's Open Door. Of course, April and Easter don't always go together — March shares the privilege — but when they do it's a happy coincidence.

April, from the Latin *aperire* to open, lives up to its derivation. It is the month when spring — urgent and irresistible — awakens the world from winter and brings it bursting into life.

Fields are a green haze of young corn; flowers fleck gardens, wayside and woodland, unfolding buds crowd the hedgerows; while trees shimmer with new leaves and showering blossoms.

In pagan times, nature's rebirth was celebrated with a festival honouring the dawn goddess Eostre. Centuries later, Christianity borrowed the season, and the name, to commemorate the Resurrection with its promise of life and new beginnings.

But, however we perceive Easter — pagan festival, Christian celebration or simply,

joyously, springtime — one of the season's most evocative images must be those showering blossoms.

Loveliest of trees, the cherry now

Is hung with bloom along the bough.

And stands about the woodland ride

Wearing white for Easter-tide...

(A E Housman, 1859-1936)

Traditionally, blossom symbolises hope and renewal — the very essence of spring and of Easter. It also exemplifies the overwhelming beauty of nature.

Spring blossoms are here today, gone tomorrow — reminding us that our time for living and loving, doing and dreaming, is limited. Reminding us to make the most of today.

This vision of our mortality, glimpsed through the delicate petals of almond, apple, cherry, pear... is reflected in an age-old Japanese custom. When the cherry blossom first appears, people promptly take time out to go and enjoy the fresh blooms — to stroll among the trees or sit under them.

CD

News Focus

SILVER FISH SURPRISE

When the guest of honour goes home before her colleagues spring the surprise they've been hatching, it calls for some quick thinking and fast talking.

For what Pauline McKie didn't know when she made an early exit from a special camp, was that she was due to be presented with the Silver Fish by the Midlands Chief Commissioner, Margaret Wright.

Pauline, who is the Association's Community Involvement and Development Adviser, was off the next day on a WAGGGS-sponsored trip to Georgia and had lots to do first.

Friend and close colleague International Commissioner Sue Taylor explained. 'We

knew she had gone to her sister's for a meal but didn't know the address.'

However, someone thought they knew where Pauline's brother lived. After some knocking on strange doors, brother David was located. He supplied his other

sister's phone number but, by this time, Pauline had left for her own home.

'I rang her there and insisted I had to talk to her very urgently face-to-face,' explained Sue. 'I reminded her that Ruth Black was going to be presented with

her Laurel Award and suggested it was essential Pauline was there. I had to do a fair amount of arm-twisting.'

Pauline allowed herself to be persuaded to return and so was able to receive her award in person, after all. The camp at Beau Desert camp site was part of a GOLD project attended by Greek Guiders.

The following day, Pauline set off to Georgia as planned to train Russian leaders who are trying to restart Guiding after it was banned under the Communist regime.

There was more excitement to follow. So that more of her colleagues could share in the great occasion another — more formal — presentation was staged at Staffordshire's AGM, with Margaret Wright once more handing over the award.



Pauline McKie (left) accepts her Silver Fish from Margaret Wright, Midlands Chief Commissioner, at Staffordshire's AGM

Coming Next

IN GUIDING MAY

Children of the World
their future in our hands
Snap Happy
taking fabulous photos



The Pied Piper Trail
raising money for children
Busman's Holiday
Guiding's team effort
Wet Weekend
camping in the rain

IN GUIDE PATROL MAY

Send in the Clowns
theme evening ideas
Down on the Farm
visiting Britain's city farms
Get Knotted
tips for the Knotter badge
Ice and Easy
making ice lollies

Walk this Way
hiking hints



IN BROWNIE APRIL

Reacting in Time
measuring reaction times

Diving in
learning to dive
Cat's Cradle
playing string games
Spice of Life
cooking with spices

AND IN RAINBOW GUIDE EXTRA

Rainbow Rabbit goes to a park
Round the Bend
active board game
Tangram Teasers
Chinese puzzles
Out and About
Nature games

HIGHLIGHTS

AN AWESOME ADVENTURE

WADDOW

July 31-August 6

For Guides and their Guiders. What about a camping experience with lots of activities to try... canoeing, dry skiing, tenpin bowling, archery, self-defence?

Guide Patrols and individual Guides will be welcome. The cost of the week will be £40 for girls and £24 for accompanying Guiders. This will cover site fees and most activities, but not food or travel between home and camp.

For further information or to book contact the Guider-in-Charge.

WADDOW WALKING WEEK

WADDOW

August 7-14

This very popular week at Waddow is now in its eighth year. The aim is to provide a varied programme of walks in delightful countryside ranging from gentle strolls to moderate excursions into the hills. Seriousness is discouraged. Bring friends and partners if you wish or give yourself a break and abandon them.

Also available if numbers warrant it: swimming, cycling, archery.

HOLIDAY WEEKS AT WADDOW

WADDOW

August 19-September 2

Come and relax and enjoy the peaceful surroundings at Waddow. Good food, comfortable beds, enjoyable company — we supply the food, the bed, evening entertainment and a coach trip each week. You make your own programme.

Waddow is situated in the lovely Ribble Valley and is within easy reach of the Yorkshire Dales, Peak District, Trough of Bowland, the Southern Lakes and many historic towns. Visit the markets and the mill shops

or just relax in Waddow's extensive grounds. Husbands and non-Guiding friends are welcome.

THE ROLE OF THE COMMISSIONER

FOXLEASE

June 11-13

WADDOW

November 26-28

For all Division and District Commissioners to take a fresh look at their role in Guiding. We aim to help Commissioners to be more effective in their role.

Topics will include:

- Leading your team.
- Exploring the Five Essentials, including commitment to the Promise.
- Managing the GGA Leadership Scheme.
- Increasing confidence in taking group decisions.

Division Commissioners — why not bring two or three of your team?

JUST THE JOB

WADDOW

July 2-4

FOXLEASE

October 5-7 (midweek)

These trainings are 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 to be covered will include:

- preparing a CV
- interviewing techniques
- effective presentation
- standards in the work place
- time management.

ENVIRONMENT

FOXLEASE

July 9-11

This weekend is open to any Guider, Adviser or Commissioner who is interested in finding out a bit more about the environment and activities to use in the Programme.

This weekend will provide you with:

- a variety of ideas and activ-

ities to try with your unit

- a chance to try some hands-on environmental work
- opportunities to explore the beauty of the surrounding countryside and learn more about the natural history of the area.

HAVE FUN WITH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

WADDOW

July 2-4

FOXLEASE

October 29-31

Escape to one of our 'stately homes', but don't think you've left all your problems behind. You'll encounter plenty when you get there!

The questions 'How?' and 'Why?' will be on your lips as you puzzle your way through the weekend.

With your problems solved, you will depart with a great sense of achievement, back to your Brownies and Guides, ready to challenge all your young investigators with conundrums, and pass on the skills you have acquired.

Come and have fun with us in the beautiful surroundings of one of our Training Centres.

STANDARD FIRST AID COURSE

FOXLEASE

May 28-31

WADDOW

May 28-31

This four-day course will lead to successful candidates gaining the British Red Cross Standard First Aid Certificate.

This is a useful qualification for those adults wishing to act as First Aiders at camps and holidays. You will be trained by the British Red Cross Society throughout the weekend and, on the final day, there will be an examination. The certificate is valid for three years.

Guiders wishing to gain this qualification for use at work may also gain the First Aid at Work Certificate.

For details of costs for the

course and accommodation, contact the Guider-in-Charge.

THE PROMISE IN ACTION

FOXLEASE

July 9-11

It is generally accepted that discussing the Promise can be a daunting experience. How does one avoid appearing judgemental? Are there 'standards' at which we should aim?

The Promise is at the heart of everything we do in Guiding. This weekend course will endeavour to develop our confidence in sharing it, using a wide variety of pertinent and relevant techniques.

Who is it for?

This weekend is for... YOU!

THE GGA LEADERSHIP SCHEME THROUGH OPEN LEARNING

FOXLEASE

May 21-23

What's it about?

Open Learning is a method of learning about a subject at home. It is often used when it is not practical to attend a college or equivalent. For the past three years, a small group of interested Guiders have written, and with the help of others, piloted, training material to be used for Open Learning within the GGA.

Who is it for?

This training is for anyone who could make use of this material. You might be a District Commissioner who has Guiders who cannot attend trainings because of their pattern of work, their family circumstances or where they live. You might be an experienced Guider who feels that such people live in your area, and that you could help by acting as 'tutor' to those using open learning material. You might be a Chairman of Programme and Training, or a trainer.

TRAINING DIARY

and interested to know about the material — and to help with future developments.

At the training there will be an opportunity to see and use the *Training at Home* package, and to share its use as a method of training the Guiders of any section as they seek to bring Guiding to the girls.

TEAM BUILDING

FOXLEASE

September 3-5

WADDOW

July 9-11

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

- How can we build effective teams?
- How can we engender and maintain team spirit?
- Do we understand enough about the way effective teams function?
- How can we help to ensure that the contribution of each team member is recognised and valued?

These weekends at Foxlease and Waddow will explore all these issues.

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

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

TRAINING SKILLS FOR ADVISERS

WADDOW

July 9-11

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

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

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

CAVING, CLIMBING AND CANOEING

GLENBROOK

June 18-20

September 17-19

These weekends give you a choice of climbing on the rock faces or exploring underground formations while caving.

Alternatively you may wish to use the whole weekend to practise canoeing techniques in order to gain BCU 1 or 2 star certificates or further qualifications.

At all times patient, experienced instructors will be with you to develop skills in these activities.

BRONEIRION OUTDOOR SKILLS

May 14-16

Stuck for ideas to get your girls outside in the summer months?

Short of outdoor skills for your weekly meeting or for camp and holiday activities? This is the weekend for you.

It's for Rainbow, Brownie and Guide Guiders.

PATROL IN ACTION

May 29-June 2

Four days of fun for a real Patrol learning to live and work together. Many exciting activities will help them to extend their skills, increase their confidence and make the Patrol into a real team.

HAUTBOIS

CRÈCHE FACILITIES

To enable young mums to attend weekend trainings, we offer crèche facilities for two weekend trainings each year. For 1993 these will be: August 6-8 — First Aid in Guiding.

September 10-12 — District Team.

The crèche is led by a qualified person with one or more helpers and caters for children of 4½ to 11.

Leaflets giving further details on the crèche and the First Aid course are available on request.

District Team weekends are for groups of seven Guiders, including their District Commissioner. Emphasis is on team work and planning District events but some section training is also included. They are especially valuable in discovering how to make the most of your District.

LORNE MUSICAL MADNESS

May 14-16

Do you have a guitar lying in the corner of your house that you've always intended to make time to play? Do you fancy the idea of learning a new musical instrument? Maybe your feet are itching to try a new dance, or you fancy yourself as a new Emma Thompson (who?).

Stop wasting your time thinking, get out your booking form and book yourself into the Musical Madness weekend at Lorne (or the Third Encounter of the Musical Kind, as those in the know have named it!).

Don't be one of those who in June 1993 will be full of regrets.

Book now — you'll never be the same again! Interested? Then contact the Guider-in-Charge, Lorne.

NETHERURD

LIGHTWEIGHT CAMPING FOR GUIDERS

14-16 May

A chance to experience lightweight camping in the beautiful Scottish Borders, without feeling that the girls have more ingenuity in pitching a lightweight tent, or preparing exciting camp meals, than you have.

Training will be given in all aspects of the art of lightweight camping.

- pitching
- packing equipment
- preparing meals and the lightweight kitchen.

The weekend will allow you to test your newly developed skill with an overnight camping expedition.

All meals will be provided including Sunday lunch and afternoon tea.

For further details contact the Booking Secretary at Netherurd.

GLENBROOK — Bamford, Nr Sheffield S30 2AL. Tel: (Bamford) 0433 651567.

BRONEIRION — Llandinam, Powys SY17 5DE. Tel: (Caernarfon) 0686 688 204

HAUTBOIS — Great Hautbois Road, Coltishall, Norwich, Norfolk NR12 7JN. Tel: (Norwich) 0603 737357.

FOXLEASE — Lyndhurst, Hants SO43 7DE. Tel: (Lyndhurst) 0703 282638.

WADDOW — Clitheroe, Lancs BB7 3LD. Tel: (Clitheroe) 0200 23186.

LORNE — Station Road, Craigavad, Holywood, Ulster BT18 0BP. Tel: (Holywood) 0232 423180.

NETHERURD — Blyth Bridge, West Linton, Peeblesshire EH48 7AQ. Tel: (Dolphinton) 0968 82208.

BLACKLAND FARM — East Grinstead, Sussex. Tel: (Sharpthorne) 0342 810 493.

RAINBOW GUIDERS

Spring is in the air and the Rainbows will probably be livelier than ever. Encourage them to put their energies to good use in some high-spirited games. You may even be able to take them outside to play for part of your meeting.

GAME GIRLS

The games suggested here are chosen to give opportunities for the girls to work together in pairs and groups.

Jump the snake

You'll need a long piece of rope — such as a clothes line. Two girls (one at each end of the rope) shake it along the floor so it wriggles and writhes like a snake. The other girls try to jump over the snake without touching it. Anybody who touches it takes over at one end of the rope. Make sure the girls look after each other, and don't try to trip anyone!

Centipede race

This is a very different 'creepie-crawlie' game! It is best played on softish grass or a sandy area. The girls work together in teams of four or more, each team becoming a 'centipede' — or it could be a caterpillar.

They go down on hands and knees one behind the other, then link up by holding the ankles of the girl in front.

After a short practice, the centipedes move up to the starting line.

On the word 'Go', they shuffle off towards the finish about 20 metres distant.

If a centipede splits, it has to stop and link itself up again before it can move on. The first two centipedes could join forces with the losers in the first race and have a run off between giant centipedes.

Catch each other

This is a game which requires quite a lot of concentration and quick thinking. Divide the girls into three teams: Giants, Elves and Wizards.

Giants move with their hands held high above their heads to make them very tall; Elves crouch down and hold up their hands as ears; Wizards wave their hands in front of them as if they were making a magic spell.

With each team on its 'home base', let the Rainbows practise their movements for a minute or so, before they go into the chasing part of the game.

Giants can only capture Elves; Elves can only capture Wizards; Wizards can only capture Giants.

Anyone caught off her home base joins the team of her captors and takes over their movements and prey.

the middle of a circle of players. Each player decides what 'tree' she will be: oak, ash, maple... Or you might like to play using flower, bird or animal names.

The forester throws the ball up in the air and calls out the name of a tree. That tree runs up to catch the ball before it touches the ground.

If she misses, she becomes the forester. Widen out the circle as the game progresses to increase the challenge.

Stretching time

Make the girls aware of each part of their bodies and how they work using a number of varied exercises.

other ideas of ways to stretch.

MORE IDEAS

Some time ago Rainbow leaders up and down the country sent in games and activities which their girls enjoyed and which we shared through this page. We'd like to tap into your ideas again — so please write to the Editor of *GUIDING* describing your Rainbows' favourite activities. Don't forget to tell us your name and the name and location of your Unit.

THINKING TIME

In a quiet moment, perhaps at the end of the meeting,

LYNN BREEZE



Target tag

This is another form of catching game, using a soft ball (make one from a rolled-up pair of socks or gloves).

Two players work together as 'It'. They catch others by throwing the ball so it hits another player. The girl who is hit swaps with the 'It' who threw the ball.

Down in the forest

You need a largish ball for this game. And you might like to have a book of trees — or other nature book — at the meeting, so the girls can choose what they will be and learn a bit about it.

The 'forester' stands in

Standing well apart from each other in a large circle, let the girls follow activities demonstrated by the leader such as:

- Swinging arms round and round like a windmill, thinking about how shoulder joints and muscles work.
- Squatting down and standing up, thinking about knee joints and noticing which parts of the body do the hard work.
- Clutching and unclutching fingers, thinking about how they work.
- Swivelling the head around and around, thinking about how the neck works.

Find out if the girls have any

suggest the Rainbows say thank you for their strong, healthy bodies and for all the lively fun they can have.

Think for a moment about children who are less lucky and about how we can help. Think too about elderly people who cannot run and play as the girls can and of ways in which we all can make their lives easier and more pleasant through our own energies.

NEXT MONTH

In May we will treat the theme of spring in a different way, looking at the idea of growing.

GETTING OUT

POTTY ABOUT POTTERIES

Outings are always popular with the girls, it's the leaders who find it a headache thinking of new and inexpensive places to visit. Obviously, the venue chosen has to provide a fun day out but, if it can also be educational too, then that's an added bonus.

We tracked down a working pottery museum which welcomes school parties and other organised group visits.

water for mixing. Nearby counties were successful farming areas and provided a ready market for pots to use as containers. But Staffordshire pottery was mainly used in households as a huge improvement on the wooden receptacles popular in earlier times.

Most people have heard of the two men who founded great companies in the Potteries — Josiah Spode and

MAKING POTTERY

Clay cannot be used straight from the ground, of course. It needs to be refined. Because it needs to travel some distance, the clay is dry on arrival at the factory. Here it is mixed with water, minerals and chemicals in the 'sliphouse' by a machine called a 'blunger'. The clay is then mixed in a 'pugmill' to remove any air bubbles after the water has been absorbed

'Casting' is the most popular method of producing pottery. Liquid clay known as 'slip' is poured into a hollow mould made from absorbent plaster of Paris. When sufficient clay has built up inside the mould, the surplus clay is poured away. When the mould is removed the seam is 'fettled' away using a sharp knife. Any other rough bits are removed by a wet sponge.

When the pottery has dried, it is fired, glazed and decorated using a variety of methods.

The whole process of making pottery can be seen at Gladstone on a daily basis. People are also invited to 'have a go', if they want to. Demonstration clay is recycled at the end of every day ready to be used again.

VICTORIAN DAYS

The Gladstone Pottery Museum is set in a Victorian pot bank with four giant bottle ovens, a cobbled yard and a steam engine.

Warehouses have been converted into galleries where the story of Staffordshire pottery is told.

The museum has reconstructed scenes such as a typical potter's kitchen, his bedroom and office of about 100 years ago. Every day potters demonstrate the traditional skills in the original workshops.

Although none of the famous household names ever owned the factory, Gladstone remained a typical, though un-modernised, medium-sized pot bank until its closure in the 1960s.

Rescued by a specially-formed charitable trust, the site is now being conserved as the Industrial Museum of the British Ceramic Industry.

There are many things on show at the museum as well as the walk-in bottle ovens. There is a cart which would have delivered coal to the kiln and clay to the clay bins. You can see barrels used to



GLADSTONE POTTERY MUSEUM

Floral jewellery is still made by hand

Gladstone Pottery Museum is at Longton near Stoke-on-Trent, which was one of the famous Staffordshire pottery towns. It helps to know a little of the history of the area before looking round the museum.

THE POTTERIES

Novelist Arnold Bennett wrote about the Five Towns. There were in fact six — Stoke-on-Trent, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Burslem, Fenton, Hanley and Longton.

North Staffordshire became such a popular place to make pottery because it was rich in all the natural ingredients. There was plenty of clay for making the pots; salt and lead for glazing;

Josiah Wedgwood. Early pieces from their companies reach astronomical sums at auction. And dinner services from both companies today grace many top tables.

At one time the skyline of the potteries consisted of bottle ovens everywhere you looked. Now the story is very different. The combination of pollution, overpopulation, poor housing conditions and a lack of general amenities has now been resolved.

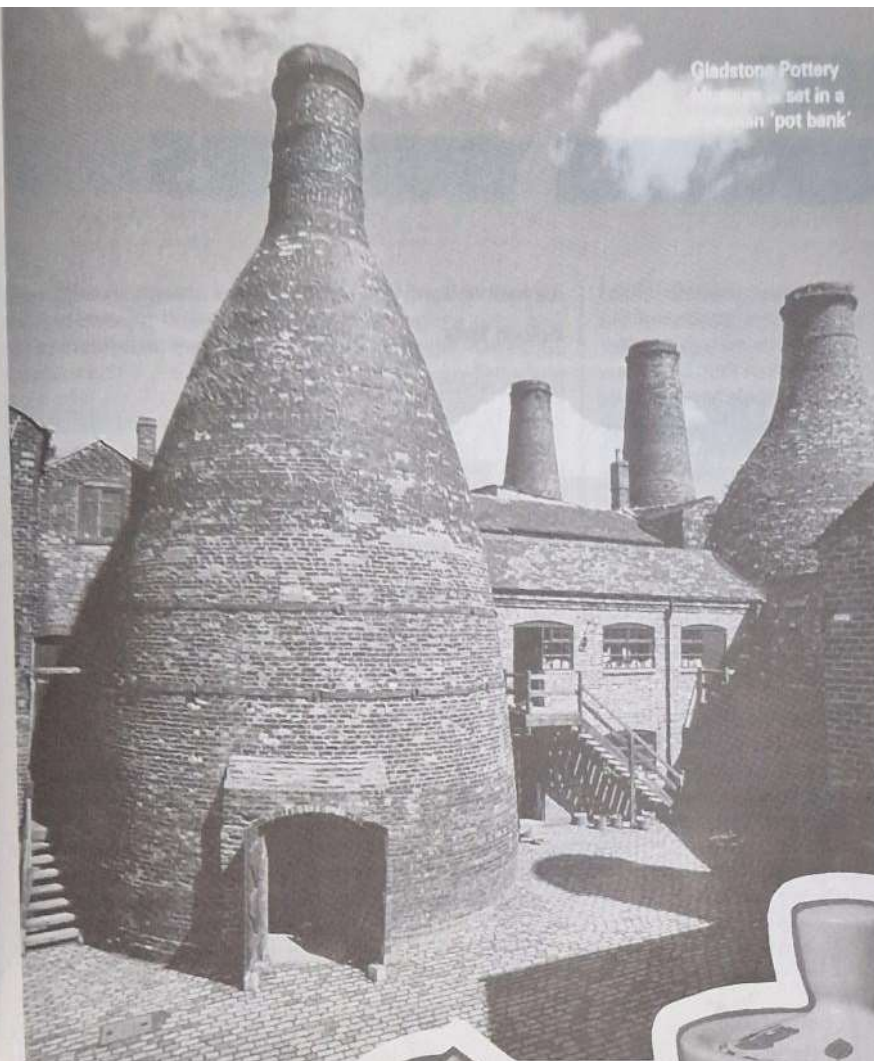
The slums have been cleared, new houses have been built, and many of the old pot banks have been demolished. Where once there were hundreds of bottle ovens, there are now only a handful, but still they remain characteristic of the area.

in a filter press.

'Throwing' is the expression and the method used by keen amateurs for making cylindrical shapes such as pots and vases. But it is not generally used in factories today, because it takes a great deal of skill and each piece is unique.

'Flatware' such as plates are made by pressing a sheet of soft clay on to a mould and 'jiggering' the underside with a profile tool. 'Holloware' such as cups and bowls are also made this way but they use a hollow mould and a 'jollying' profile tool.

Floral jewellery is still made by hand as no machine is able to produce the same result.



Gladstone Pottery Museum is set in a Victorian 'pot bank'

GETTING OUT

ADMISSION

Gladstone is open to the public each weekday from 10.30am to 5.30pm, and Sundays from 1pm to 6pm. Last admission is 45 minutes before closing. It is closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and on Mondays from November to February.

Parties of 20 or more should book in advance and are eligible for a concessionary rate. Tour guides must be pre-booked and are available for a fee.

Prices range from: Adults, £2.75; students, senior citizens and wheelchair-users, £2; to children at £1.50.

All proceeds are used to run the museum which is an independent charitable trust. Access for the disabled is not easy at present, so phone first if special arrangements are needed.

The final product, after firing, glazing and decorating

pack the finished wares and the steam engine.

There is even a fine display of Victorian loos which were made in the factory, and a working replica of the first flushing toilet made for Queen Elizabeth I.

Baths were once made here too and a display can be found in the sanitary-ware gallery. The tile gallery contains examples of the type of ceramics made here and elsewhere in the late 1800s. There is also a small collection of fire-surrounds and hearths which were popular at the time.

When you see the potters at work don't be afraid to take pictures. Japanese tourists are forever capturing them on video without even asking, so the men and women won't mind a snapshot or two.

The Gladstone shops sell gardenware, floral jewellery, reproduction Victorian items and other souvenirs made on the premises, and there is a tea shop.



PUBLICATIONS

Publicity leaflets, posters, notes for group leaders, worksheets for all ages and glossaries are all available at Gladstone as part of their educational support. It is

worth noting that the museum doesn't mind packed lunches being eaten in the tea shop.

There are a number of publications available in the shop at reasonable prices ranging from 35p to £1.25.

For further information on the museum, please contact The Curator, Gladstone Pottery Museum, Uttoxeter Road, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 1PQ. Telephone (0782) 319232/311378.

DIANE WOOD 39

BROWNIE GUIDERS

Most Packs have their favourite games, and there's nothing wrong with repeating them frequently. But don't get so stale that you never introduce a new game. One every couple of months is about right.

It's also useful to have plenty of games up your sleeve which need little or no equipment. All you need for the games listed below are table tennis balls, polyboxes, balloons, a watch with a second-hand and a pack of cards.

GAMES GALORE

Do This, Do That!

This is a version of Simon Says, in which the leader performs any action she likes, while saying 'Do this!' or 'Do that!' Brownies must copy her actions if she says 'Do this!' but not if she says 'Do that!' Anyone making a mistake is out and helps the leaders spot mistakes until the next round.

Stay Put!

Sixes equipped with table-tennis balls each stand behind a line opposite a polythene ice-cream box. The girls take turns to throw the ball into their own box. The Six gains a point each time the ball bounces in and stays there. The fun and frustration of the game is that the ball often bounces out. All Sixes play simultaneously.

Row, Row, Row Your Boat!

Each Six squats one behind the other, hands on each other's shoulders, at one side of the 'lake'. At a signal, they hop or shuffle forward — if anyone falls over, the boat has capsized. First boat to reach the opposite shore intact is the winner.

Just a Minute

Brownies are asked to stand quietly while the leader

counts out seconds aloud to give them an idea of the 'feel' of one minute exactly.

They must then face away from the clock, hands behind their backs. The leader says 'Now!' and Brownies begin to estimate one minute. When each Brownie thinks a minute has elapsed, she sits quietly on the floor. Leaders note the Brownie who has estimated most accurately. The girls will soon learn not to take too much notice of each other.

Tortoise Walk

Brownies line up with their backs pressed to the longest wall of the room. At a signal, they must start moving as slowly as possible, their aim being to reach the opposite wall last. Anyone caught standing still is out!

the balloon up longest wins!

Balloon Walk

This is a simple Six relay race in which Brownies take turns to walk a set route holding a balloon between their knees. If the balloon is dropped, the player must stand still while the Sixer replaces it.

Balloon Volleyball

Two Sixes sit on the floor opposite each other about a metre apart. The leader throws the balloon to one Six. They must try to knock it over the heads of the other Six without moving from their places.

If a goal is scored, or after two minutes' play, the game stops. Another round begins with the balloon thrown to the opposing team.



Blow It!

Sixes cluster together, each Sixer with a balloon. At a signal, the Sixer throws the balloon up and the Six must keep it in the air, just by blowing on it. No touching is allowed. The Six keeping

Ankle-ball

Each Six sits on the floor in a line, with legs together in front of them and the Sixer at the end of the row. The leader balances a tennis ball on the ankles of the Sixer. At a signal, she passes it to the

next player, using only ankles.

If the ball touches the floor at all, it must be sent back to the Sixer, who starts again. The first Six whose ball reaches the other end gains a point and the second round begins.

It's a good idea to start the process from opposite ends alternately, or the ball may never reach some people!

Pack Patience

Make sure that all the Brownies understand two of the rules of the best-known version of Patience:

● red and black cards are placed alternately on each other

● the lower, adjacent number goes on top of the higher one, so that cards are piled up as follows (starting at the bottom): Red King, Black Queen, Red Jack, Black 10, Red 9...

Sixes stand in lines at one end of the room, while a complete pack of playing cards is scattered face-up on floor or table at the opposite end.

At a signal, one Brownie from each Six runs to find a king, runs back to her line, and sits on the floor, with her legs apart.

The next Brownie in each Six must find a queen of the other colour. She sits between the legs of the first player and so on.

It's as well for a leader to check that the cards have been correctly chosen as the Brownies sit down, or other Sixes might be unable to continue.

If you prefer, two Sixes can combine to make one larger team, in which case, two teams can race to build downwards from king to deuce (two).

GILLIAN ELLIS

Don't forget to order **BROWNIE** from your local newsagent or through direct subscription from **CHQ** for your girls. The magazine is a supplement to the handbook.

BONNY BUTTONS

The infinite variety and availability of spare buttons makes this a particularly easy meeting to organise.

OPENING

A variation on the curtain ring and string game — thread a button on a thin piece of string long enough to be held by all the girls sitting in a circle.

One girl is 'it' and she stands in the middle, while the others pass the button along the string. 'It' has up to a count of ten to try and guess where the button is. If she guesses correctly, she has another turn. If not, the girl who has the button in her hand becomes the next one to do the guessing.

ACTIVITIES

Match the Buttons

Put various pairs of identical buttons in a box. Each girl takes it in turn to be blindfolded and to sort the buttons into their matching pairs, while the others time her to see who can sort the buttons the fastest.

An alternative is for the whole Patrol to be blindfolded and go searching for matching buttons at the same time. This can become very confusing, especially if two girls start off with identical buttons!

Button Sew

Ask the girls to correctly sew on three different types of buttons, for example, one with four holes; one with two holes; one with a shank. Then let them try sewing on a button blindfolded, or using only one hand.

CRAFTS

Dorset Buttons

Use a brass curtain ring and some fine wool. Start by sewing buttonhole stitches all round the ring, making sure that the 'ridge' of the stitch is at the back of the ring. When the ring is completely covered, sew six evenly spaced 'spokes' right across the ring.

Starting in the middle, backstitch tightly over and under the spokes. Work your way outwards until the whole of the ring is filled. Fasten off the wool securely at the back of the button.

Button Prints

Experiment with different designs, shapes and textures of buttons, using an ink pad or paint covered sponge, to create a pattern or pictures of people, animals, flowers and so on.

out of the circle. The first pair to empty the circle are the winners.

COMPANY ACTIVITIES

Lose Your Button

Two girls, each holding seven buttons, chase the rest. Anyone caught must take a button, but can then chase and catch someone else to get rid of the button.

When one of the original two catchers has no buttons

Girls can change the number of buttons in their hand at any time. After a given time, girls return to their Patrol corner. The winner is the Patrol with the most buttons.

Find the Buttons

Buttons are all put in a pile in the middle of the floor. Patrols are in Patrol corners and each is given a number. The leader describes three or four buttons which she wants. For example, she



PATROL GAMES

Button Races

Try some different races with buttons, for example, flipping a button with another button — like tiddlywinks; pushing the button with your nose; flicking the button with finger and thumb. And any other ingenious methods you or the girls can think of!

Clear The Circle

Draw a chalk circle on the floor about one metre in diameter. Put about 25 buttons in the circle. Two girls stand facing each other across the circle and bounce a ball backwards and forwards to each other while trying to knock the buttons

left, she shouts 'Stop'. Anyone holding a button loses a point for her Patrol. The game continues with two new catchers.

Odds or Evens

Each girl has ten buttons. They walk round with some — any number — in one hand with the rest in their pockets, and ask someone from another Patrol: 'Odds or evens?'

The other girl has to guess whether the challenger has an odd or even number in her hand. If she is correct, the challenger hands over two buttons. If incorrect, the challenger takes two buttons from the other girl.

could ask for a red button with four holes; two silver buttons; and a green button with two holes.

She then calls out a number, and the girls with that number run to collect the correct buttons.

The winner gets a point for her team and the leader chooses a different combination of buttons and calls out a new number. Overall winners are the Patrol with the most points.

PAULINE WAINWRIGHT

● **Next month:** You'll need lots of small balls of different coloured wool. Mainly double knitting but some 3-ply and chunky wool are also needed.

COPING WITH

ORGANISING A PET SHOW

Most girls are fond of animals but Brownies and Guides are encouraged to care for animals as well as liking them. One option of extending the girls' knowledge in a fun way is to organise a pet show and National Pet Week (May 1-9) provides the ideal opportunity.

Many Guiders are reluctant to contemplate such an event because they have visions

with a view to holding the show at a later date.

Cats, dogs, hamsters, gerbils, rabbits and guinea pigs are, realistically, the only creatures suitable to bring to a hall. But even those girls who do not have suitable pets to bring along can still be encouraged to take part.

Some Guides and Brownies may own, or be involved with, horses and ponies.

Another alternative is to allow a girl to exhibit a relative or neighbour's animal, especially if she helps with its care. But be sure she really does understand how to look after it, as strange surroundings can unsettle the most placid pet.

It is essential, without making it too obvious, to find out exactly what each girl is going to bring with her. From those entering live animals Guiders need to know the colour, coat length, age, likes and dislikes, plus any tricks the pet can do, so that the classes of the show can be organised around the animals.

For those entering in the other sections, Guiders still need to have some idea of what is to be exhibited.

Official-looking entry forms are easy to produce (see example) and the girls enjoy compiling and filling them in. The information thus culled ensures that all participants can be awarded a small prize or rosette.

CLASS ACT

Once the Guiders have a clear idea of the types of animals likely to be involved, the classes can be organised. Bear in mind when doing this, that it is safer to make it unnecessary for animals to be removed from their cages. Even very friendly cats, rabbits and hamsters will take fright in unfamiliar places. Their young owners can be taken unawares and maybe not quick enough to prevent their pet from escaping.

If you explain this aspect very clearly and firmly during preparation time, the girls will see that their pets will feel much happier in their cages than if they are lifted out among strangers.

Each animal can be entered in a number of different classes and these should be geared to fun. The animal with the largest patch on its back, the smallest animal and the largest, the

one with the longest fur, the longest ears, the longest (or shortest) name... all these and many more are quickly and easily judged.

Each well-organised show has different classes depending on information provided by the entrants.

KNOCK-OUT

There can be 'knock-out' classes, as long as the different categories of animals can be kept well segregated. These may produce some surprising results such as the animal which sits still longest — those that have gone to sleep don't count! Or the one which can sit-up-and-beg longest, which is often won by a gerbil.

The class for the animal which wags its tail fastest is, believe it or not, sometimes won by a cat. And it isn't always a dog that wins the class for the animal which lets the judge shake its paw with the least persuasion. Many rabbits are surprisingly good at this.

It is, perhaps, wise to avoid having a class which asks the judge to select the animal she would most like to take home. This is very subjective, and many children have been reduced to tears because their pets haven't been chosen.

Provided no class takes too long, or is taken too seriously, the evening can be absorbing. Select judges with care and emphasise that the accent must be on fun and each girl has to go home with at least one award.

Ensure that you have enough judges to keep the evening flowing smoothly. Two or more classes can then be arranged to take place simultaneously.

Classes covering photographs, scrap books, exhibitions of stuffed toys and animal ornaments can be judged by everyone. Give spectators and exhibitors voting forms with instructions



Keep dogs on a lead at all times

of having a catastrophe on their hands. They conjure up pictures of irate parents claiming compensation for pet mice eaten by someone else's pet cat. Or they worry about the prospect of uncontrollable dog fights and hamsters escaping into the building's foundations.

However, with careful planning and good preparation in meetings before the event, a pet show can be an enjoyable, accident-free evening.

The actual event can take place during National Pet Week, or the preparatory work could be done then

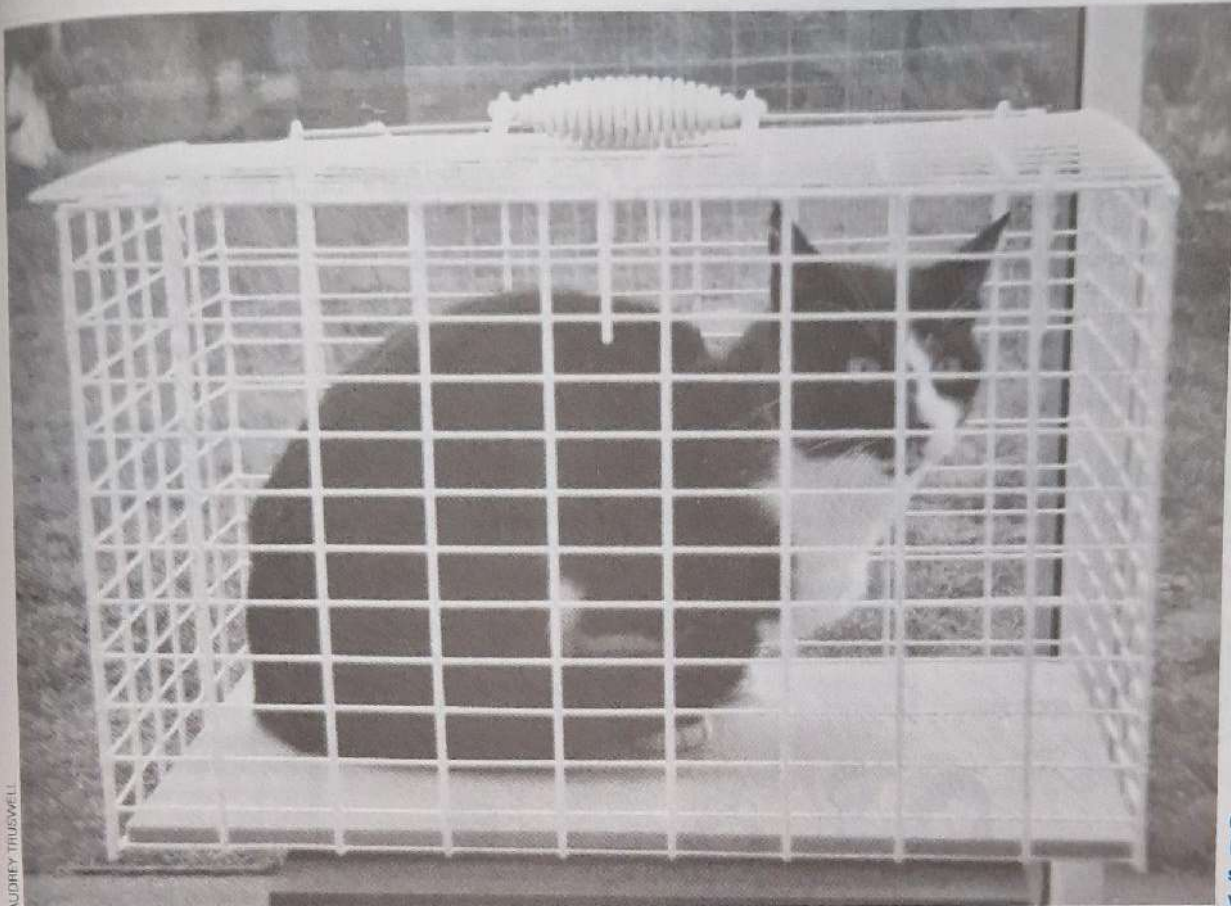
Obviously they can't be included unless you are holding the event in a field, but these girls can be encouraged to take part through photographs of their pets and displays of rosettes and horse ornaments.

ANIMAL TOYS

Many girls who do not own an animal have large collections of animal toys.

Special classes can be included for them, so that they feel that they are taking part in the proceedings. Animal scrap books are also a possibility.

AUDREY TRUSWELL



Cats will be happiest and safest in a wire cage

AUDREY TRUSWELL

on as they arrive, and collect them in at a given time.

This makes everyone feel that they have taken part in the show and it is an easier matter for a couple of responsible people to sort out the winners.

SPECIAL PRIZES

Within these classes there should also be special prizes or certificates for the largest, the neatest and the best labelled exhibits, to make sure that everyone feels their efforts were worthwhile.

It is, of course, essential that there are enough adults to give adequate supervision on the night. As well as using the services of the girls' parents and asking the local Rangers, LINK and Trefoil Guild to assist, you could also approach your local animal rescue group.

The group will probably be very interested in helping with the preparatory work, too. Someone may be available to come and give a talk to the girls before the event. Volunteers from the group might be willing to help with the judging.

The arrangement of the hall is all-important. Make sure that each category of animal is well segregated from the others, and that the girls know in advance exactly where to take their pets.

Insist that all animals, except dogs, are brought in a wire cage not a cardboard box. Animals have been known to nibble through cardboard at the most inconvenient times. This rule must be emphasised for cat-owners. Many think that because their cats live with dogs, they can carry them quite safely into a room where there are strange dogs. A sure recipe for disaster.

If dogs are going to be shown they **must** have an adult nearby each one **all the time**. Children trying to separate sparring dogs can get very badly bitten. And, of course, the dogs must be on leads all the time. I'd recommend you encourage parents to accompany girls who bring dogs.

A pet show often sparks off an interest in the animal-related badges and in animal welfare. For follow-up work

maybe someone from your local animal rescue centre or an Inspector from the RSPCA would come along to talk about the correct way to care for each species.

Many young people crave for a pet without fully appreciating exactly how much of a commitment it is. A qualified animal expert can often make them see things in the right perspective.

National Pet Week's theme

this year is 'Friends for Life', and it would be nice to think that during that week a special effort could be made to encourage young people to take a long-term view of caring pet-ownership.

AUDREY TRUSWELL

● Further information about NPW can be obtained from PO Box 101, Northwood, Middlesex HA6 3RH. Tel: 0923 836333.

ENTRY FORM FOR PET SHOW

Organised by

LIVE ANIMALS section

NAME OF PET _____ AGE _____

TYPE OF ANIMAL _____

COLOUR(S) _____

SPECIAL MARKINGS _____

TYPE OF COAT: long/short/shaggy/curly

TYPE OF TAIL: stumpy/wavy/short/long/curly

FAVOURITE FOOD _____

FAVOURITE TREATS _____

BEST TRICKS _____

OWNER'S NAME _____

You will be asked to select your choice of classes to enter your pet when the lists are available.

Give any other interesting information about your pet on the back of this page.

GUIDE GUIDERS

Now that the evenings are getting lighter, and the weather improving, Guiders' thoughts should be turning to getting the girls out of doors. The Easter school holidays also give an opportunity to plan Patrol expeditions, so make sure the girls are ready.

BE PREPARED

Have a quiz to see who knows what items to take on walks in order to 'Be Prepared' and so on. You could play this as Pictionary. Each Patrol needs a large sheet of plain paper and a felt pen. One girl from each Patrol

points in picture form. Provide one illustration to start them thinking.

Could they make up a game which teaches the Country Code to younger children? Perhaps the Rainbows or Brownies would find a well-made, simple game useful. If girls are working on Action Plus ideas, then a game like that would help them with their leadership section.

ADVENTURE

Girls looking for adventure in Action Plus might also plan a ramble for their Patrols. The Walking badge, which

would help towards the Trefoils, so check them out.

EGG IDEAS

If the girls decide that they would rather be indoors, then focus the meetings around Easter. Fabergé made beautifully decorated, jewelled eggs for the rich and powerful of his day, perhaps the girls could try their hands at making more humble versions.

They will need blown eggs. To blow an egg, pierce a hole at both ends with a pointed darning needle. Putting your mouth to the top hole, carefully blow the con-

their mothers and grandmothers as love tokens.

Another traditional Easter game is egg-rolling. All you need are the decorated eggs and a suitable slope. It's fun, but messy... and it does waste the egg.

SPINNING EGGS

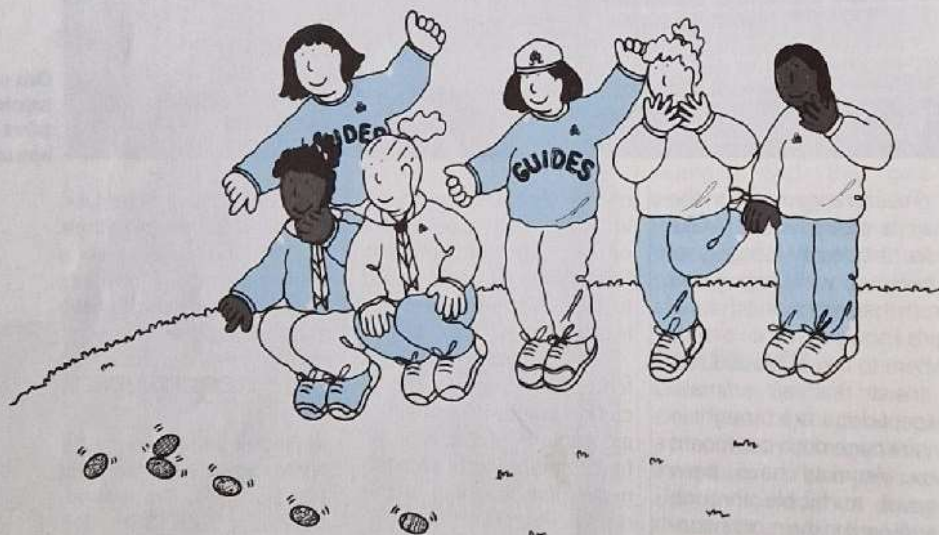
Do the girls know how to tell if an egg is cooked or not, by spinning it? Look back to December's *GUIDE PATROL* and you will find both the method and explanation. Try it and see, then get the girls to try it too!

Easter eggs are always popular. They can be made using chocolate, and moulds. If you have a sugar-craft guild locally they might be willing to help you to have a go at this with the Patrols, as long as you have the facilities. It is one of the ideas suggested for the Action Plus creativity section.

Finally, you might try making Easter biscuits. The basic recipe can be found in most biscuit and cake recipe books. They are a rich biscuit made with currants and, traditionally, they are eaten to break the fast of Lent. They would also use up some of the eggs!

If cookery is not possible or appealing, then try the sort of challenges which face the teams in the Great Egg Race.

Use your imagination to dream up things to do. Creating models such as high towers to balance marbles from straws; constructions such as bridges from paper which must bear a heavy load; and moving items which are suspended, without breaking or spilling them, given minimal equipment, are all ideas to try.



goes to the game leader, who whispers the name of a useful item for a hike to her. She returns and draws a picture of the item. Whoever guesses what she is drawing, draws the next and so on.

If one girl always guesses correctly, then get the Patrol to take it in turns to be told an item. Your list could include boots, waterproofs, spare jumper, first aid kit, map, compass, reserve food, lunch... On pages 63 and 87/88 of the handbook, there are suggestions of what is needed.

The Country Code is also in the handbook, page 64. Challenge the girls to make a poster which shows all the

is one of the staged badges, includes planning and going on walks. If the girls choose this activity, perhaps they could be challenged to complete the appropriate level of the badge.

This is also a good time to check that compass and map skills are still sharp. Page 72 of the handbook has a suggestion for a string sculpture, and there is another idea in *PAC 1*. The *Patrol Interest Cards* also contain suggestions for compass and map games and activities.

These can be tried in and around most meeting places, especially when the evenings are lighter. All of these skills

tents through the bottom hole into a small basin.

It sounds impossible but, with patience, it does work! The egg shell, once it has had a few minutes to dry, can be carefully cut, creating hollow shapes such as a baby-cradle.

It can then be painted, varnished and lined with fabric, with 'gems' added to make it look luxurious! If the shell shatters, use the bits to make a collage instead!

If blown eggs sound too complicated, simply hard-boil the egg and decorate it. Romanian children do this at Easter, working symbols of peace and love into their designs. They give them to

KATE TAYLOR

GUIDE PATROL is available by direct subscription from CHQ or by placing a regular order with your local news-agent. But it is not available through Trading Services.

FUN FILLERS

It's a common problem, there's not enough time for the activity you've planned but it's too early to finish the meeting. If you keep this page of quick filler activities handy you've an instant answer. No equipment is needed.

RAINBOWS/BROWNIES

Sharing

Girls tell the unit the nicest thing that happened to them that week. Or, girls sit in a ring and each, in turn, says something nice about the girl to her left.

Number Groups

Girls run around the room till the leader calls out a figure, then separate into groups of that number. Anyone left over collects a penalty point.

Sound Effects

The leader tells an impromptu story bringing in plenty of noises for which the girls must supply sound effects: animals, birds, cars, trains, aeroplanes, wind, rain, hail, walking, running, crying...

Fly, Tiger, Fly

The leader calls out 'Fly, bird, fly' and the girls run round flapping their arms. She then says: 'Hop, frog, hop', so the girls change to hopping. The leader changes the instruction every so often, and then slips in a false order such as 'Fly, Tiger, Fly'. Any child who obeys the false order is given a penalty point.

BROWNIES/ GUIDES

Right Where We Are

Without any warning, girls are asked to sit down with eyes shut. The leader asks questions about the meeting room. For example, the number of chairs/windows/doors; the colour of walls, floor/curtains... The first girl to raise her hand answers. Points go to Six/Patrol.

Pacing It Out

Girls line up along the shorter wall of the meeting room and are asked to estimate how many paces they'd take to reach the opposite wall, placing heel to toe all the way. Because of varying foot sizes, this is a personal guess. A leader records all estimates before starting. Girls then check their estimates by pacing the course.

round the circle, building up the description.

Chinese Whispers

Players sit in a circle. One whispers a sentence to her neighbour, who repeats what she thinks she heard to the next girl and so on round the circle. The last person says the sentence out loud. A variation on this can be that number one writes a

leader changes to a new sound and everyone must follow suit.

When the group has become used to doing this, one person is sent out, a new leader chosen, and a sound started. The 'detective' comes in and must identify the leader, who changes the sound frequently. You can substitute rhythmic actions for sounds, if you prefer.



I Went to the Shops

This game is best played in Sixes/Patrols. The first player says 'I went to the shops and bought...'. She then mimes, for instance 'a hairbrush'.

Player number two repeats this and adds her own mimed purchase, for example 'a hairbrush and a hula hoop', following one action with another, building up the actions round the ring.

This can become hilarious, especially with three or four groups miming different things at the same time.

Odd Bods

Girls sit in a ring and the leaders says, pointing to her ear, 'This is my elbow'. The girl to her left repeats this and adds another part of the body, again pointing to the wrong place, and so on

three letter word on the back of the girl next to her and so on.

Clap It

Players sit in a ring. The leader claps a rhythm which the next player copies and passes to her left. When the third girl is clapping the leader claps a different rhythm to her neighbour who passes it on along.

Each rhythm is passed round the ring, all the clapping going on at the same time. The leader always starts the new rhythm as soon as the third girl is clapping the last one.

Follow the Leader

The leader starts a sound, for instance buzzing, humming or whistling, and everyone joins in. Soon the

GUIDES

Middle Year Resolutions

Guides in Patrols, or as a unit, are invited to make a personal 'Middle Year's Resolution' to improve in whatever way they see fit. Tell them you'll ask about progress in one month's time!

Shabby Cabby

Players in turn each think of a rhyming couplet then define it to the group without using the actual words. For example, 'Shabby Cabby' would be described as 'a poorly-dressed taxi driver', while 'The Queen's policemen' would be 'Lizzie's Busies', and 'Hood's Tasks' would be 'Rob's Jobs'. Couplets must rhyme exactly in each syllable.

RANGER GUIDERS

Ranger Guiders are a very stable and resilient group of people. Many stick with their Unit for years coping with the inherent highs and lows. They soldier on when the Unit is not so successful as well as when it goes well. They cope with fluctuating numbers and offer rock solid support whether the Rangers plan a highly active programme or a more quiet one.

SUPPORTIVE

Where there are two or three Guiders running the Unit, then they can support one another through the troughs, and share credit for the successes.

Now check to see how many of these qualities you listed: Sense of humour, patience, honesty, open-mindedness, empathetic, adaptable, friendly, understanding, firm, impulsive, slightly crazy, committed, energetic, young, knowledgeable and modern.

Were there other points that were significant for you?

Activity: Ask the Unit what sort of person they want as a leader. Write down their ideas. Now compare lists. Are they similar or not?

If you are going to look for new leaders you need to know what you are looking for and what the Rangers see the Unit as needing.

you advertise in the local Press, church magazines or local authority bulletins?

Maybe you could advertise on the noticeboards of nurses homes, colleges, universities, schools, factories, libraries, community centres, benefit offices, youth centres. Or could you get someone to sponsor an advertisement in the town centre, on a bus, on local commercial radio — a couple of days might be all you need?

However, straight advertising may not be the best approach. First you may need to let the local community know what Ranging in the '90s is all about.

One way would be to arrange that the local Press and radio gets flooded with information about your activities and successes, so that the name of the Unit becomes as familiar as the local football team.

If you follow up information about a going concern, with a positive request for more help, it's quite likely you will attract those who like to be involved with successful events.

LOCAL RADIO

Rangers who are well prepared and have something exciting and different to talk about can be highly effective on local radio. And if they end with — 'We need some more help in order to do still more ...'

Perhaps the Rangers could go searching themselves. They could try:

- parents
 - other family members — sisters, aunts, cousins, brothers with particular interests, for example climbing, canoeing
 - teaching/lecturing staff with whom they are in contact
 - older friends within the community/at their place of work or of worship.
- Make sure they know the sort of person they are looking for and that there will be

something worthwhile going on should an interested person choose to visit the Unit.

MORE IDEAS

Another idea would be to tap into other organised groups in the community. The Trefoil Guild is a good source of extra support, particularly one with younger members. They may enjoy doing similar activities to the Rangers, or may be able to take over as leaders.

An obvious source of leaders would be members of a local LINK group. If there are strong connections between the Unit and LINK, then maybe some former members would be happy, after having a period away, to come back as leaders.

Remember people grow in different roles and, although someone as a Ranger may have seemed quite unsuitable, she may do really well after a break.

There may be members of the local Scout Group who would be happy to join you. Ex-female Venture Scouts might bring a different perspective to the Unit. So it may be worth trying to tap into the mailing list of the Venture Scout Unit.

The B-P International Guild of Former Scouts and Guides might be a source of contacts.

Finally, you could contact former members of the Unit, if your contact list has been updated at regular intervals. That's assuming, of course, former members stay in contact rather than disappearing never to be heard of again.

Working alone with a Unit is a lonely business. In order to get additional, effective help you really have to plot and plan, using those contacts most likely to come up with the goods.

Always remember that you need to discuss these plans with your Commissioner, so that she too can offer some support in the search.

CHERYL TARBUCK



However, where a Guider is working alone, she has no one to share with, no one to spin new ideas off.

Ideally even the smallest Unit should have two Guiders, or a Guider and a Unit Helper. So how do you set out to find more leaders for this age group?

First decide what you are looking for in a leader.

Activity: Brainstorm on to a single sheet all the personal attributes an adult working with this age-range needs. Don't look at our suggestions until afterwards.

Activity: Draw up an advertisement for:

- a new leader for the Unit
- a Unit Helper.

Now prepare a job description, giving what is expected of someone in these roles. What you want them to do, what the Rangers want.

When you, and the Rangers, know what you want, then the next step is to start looking.

ADVERTISE

You should decide where you would advertise for voluntary youth workers. Could

YOUNG LEADERS

It is always useful to have a stock of games which need little or no equipment and can be used to fill in odd moments during meetings. For instance, when you are waiting for a group to finish an activity or if your Guider is busy.

TRIED AND TESTED GAMES

The games on this month's page have been contributed by various Young Leaders over a number of years as tried and tested ideas. Some are obviously more suitable for Rainbows than Guides or Brownies, but many games can be adapted to other age groups.

Make a note in your games book of any which might appeal to your unit, and try them out. Perhaps you could send in your unit's favourite game for a future article.

HEDGEHOG

You will need: A large coat or blanket; Brownies; a space in which to run around.

The Brownies run around the room. When the leader shouts 'Hedgehog', each Brownie curls up in a ball with her eyes closed. The leader covers one Brownie with the blanket or coat, and the others have to guess who is hidden.

Two or more Brownies can be covered up to make the game more challenging. This is a good game to play to help newer Brownies learn each other's names.

WHO'S MISSING?

All the girls sit in a circle. Two are chosen to leave the room. Everybody changes places except one girl who hides somewhere in the room. The two outside come back in and must say who is missing. When they have guessed correctly, two more have a go.

There are a number of variations for both these games. The one you choose

will depend on how well your group knows each other.

Try to ensure that new Brownies who may not know many of the group are not left out. For example, they could describe the missing person, even if they do not know her name.

BIRTHDAYS

All the players stand in a circle. The leader calls out the name of a month. All the players whose birthday falls in that month stand in the middle of the circle. A bean bag or soft ball is thrown between the players still in the circle, aiming to hit the players below the knee. Once they have been hit they are out. When all the girls with birthdays that month are out, another month is called, and so on until all the players are out.

may not move their feet or bend their knees.

The team getting most members through in a given time wins.

ZOO TRAIN

Brownies stand in a line behind their Sixer and are numbered. One is the engine, two, three, four and so on are different animals in trucks. Chairs are placed at the other end of the room, one in front of each Six.

When a whistle is blown, the 'engines' start off by themselves, 'chugging' around the chairs and back to their places. The second girl joins on and together they run round the chairs, each making the noise of the engine or their animal.

The train then collects number three and runs again. This continues until all the

if anyone laughs or smiles.

She tries to catch that player by pointing at her while she is still laughing or smiling. That player then becomes it.

This game should be played fairly quickly to encourage self-control.

COLOUR CIRCLE

Rainbows stand in a circle with a bean bag in the centre. Choose three or four colours of the rainbow and give each girl a colour. Repeat them round the ring, for example, red, blue, yellow, red, blue, yellow and so on.

The leader starts off by calling out one of the colours. All the players with that colour run round the outside of the circle and back through their own space.

The first player to pick up the bean bag chooses the next colour.

RAINBOW MONSTERS

Equipment: A large sheet of paper per group (lining paper is ideal); a selection of coloured felt-tipped pens, with each girl in the group holding a different colour.

The leader calls out instructions such as 'A large green head'... 'Two red eyes'... 'A long blue nose'. The Rainbows holding the correct colours add to the drawing of their group's 'monster'.

When all the pictures are finished, compare them.

MUSICAL PICTURES

Give each Rainbow a sheet of paper and a pen or pencil. Play some music while they start to draw a picture. When the music ceases, they stop drawing and move on to the next sheet of paper to the left and continue to draw when the music starts again.

● For more games ideas see pages 37 and 40.

SARAH LENTON



SUBMARINES

The players divide into two teams, with one team blindfolded. That team forms a line across the room, holding hands and with feet astride, so that one girl's left foot just touches her neighbour's right foot.

The other team tries to crawl through the gaps between the legs without being touched.

The players in the line

'animals' have joined in.

The 'train' which finishes first wins, but each player continues making her own noise until the game ends. This is a very noisy game.

LAUGHING GAME

The players sit in a circle with the one who is it in the middle. It makes a funny gesture or face or sign, then looks around quickly to see

As a major youth organisation the GGA has an important role to play in Britain's youth service.

A 'mission statement' was drafted which was circulated for comment to all the organisations involved. The

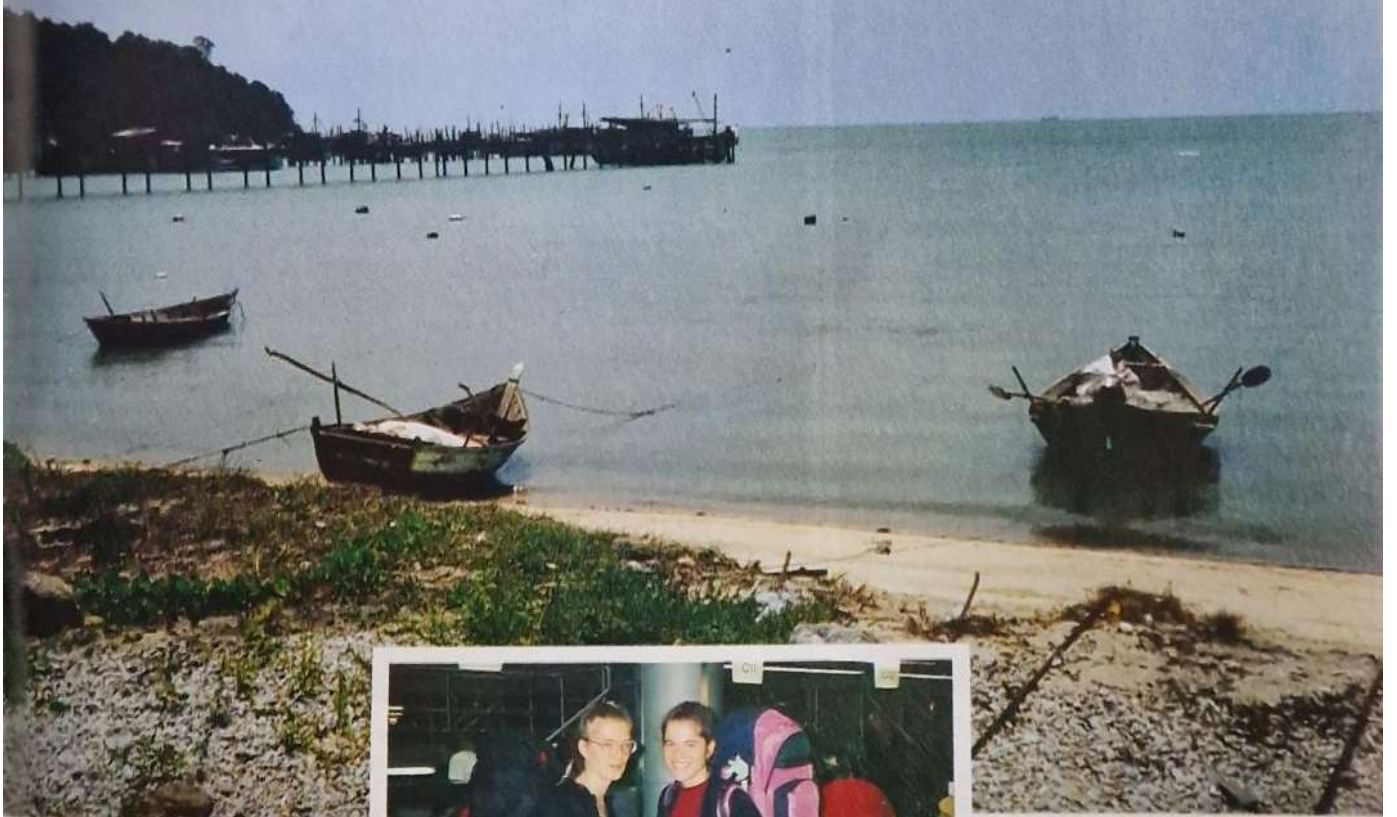


- youth clubs
- drop-in centres
- detached work in different areas . . .

led by paid, part-time and full-time youth workers.

The Government now wants to see successful organisations such as ours working and sharing with other voluntary groups and with the statutory sector to improve the choice for young people and the quality of the youth work they are offered.

SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY



Take-off time for Anna (right)

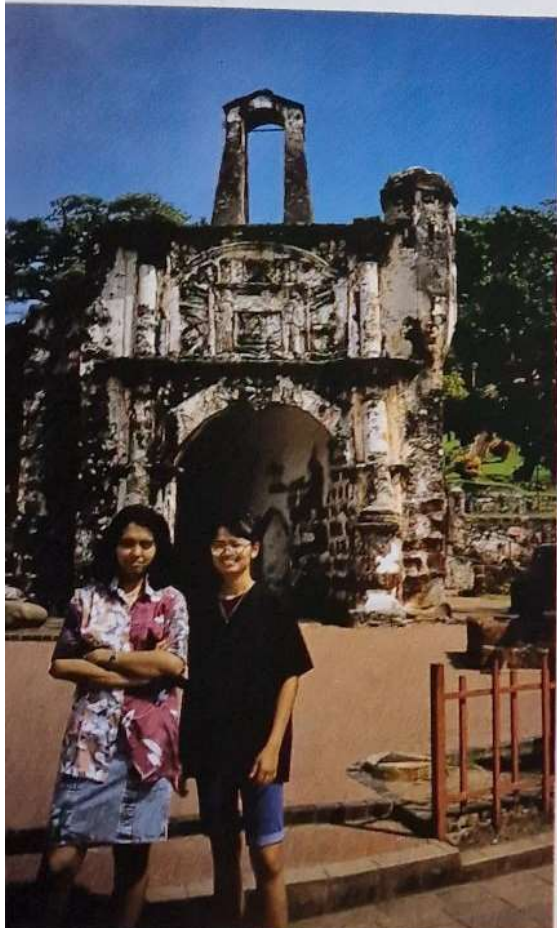


A picture postcard beach in Penang

'We'll meet again' was Guide Anna Bever's pledge to the friends she made during an international camp in Malaysia in 1989. Three years, and a lot of saving, later she kept that promise. ▽

ONE WORLD

Her first big foreign trip — to Malaysia — proved to Anna Bever, then only 15, what every seasoned globetrotter in Guiding knows: Not only can you make friends all over the world but, with home hospitality, gain a far deeper insight into a foreign culture and different way of life than any package tourist.



Reisha Thomas (right) and a friend outside the fortress gatehouse in Melaka

Anna found new friends, stayed with a 'foster family' and kept in touch on her return to Bocking, in Essex.

Last summer, as a Ranger and Young Leader, she went back to sample more of Malaysia's tropical delights and to renew the links she had made. Anna is now busy reading medicine at Cambridge but managed to find time to give this account of her 'sentimental journey':

“In 1989 I was lucky enough to attend an international jamboree in Melaka, Malaysia. It lasted a week — long enough for me to make a lot of new friends.

Since then I have kept in touch with them, including the mother of my “foster family” in Kuala Lumpur, where I spent a week after the camp.

We told each other we would all meet again, but I don't think they really believed that and were probably quite surprised when I announced my inten-



The Thomas family with Doggy and Gingo

tion of returning.

I had been saving for two years, the money I earned as a Saturday assistant to fund the trip, then there was cash I received as presents for my 18th birthday. My travelling companion was Juanita, a friend from schooldays, whose family paid her expenses as a coming-of-age present.

We had arranged to spend almost a month in Malaysia and, through correspondence with friends, I had organised accommodation in various other places, as well as in Singapore.

The outward journey was an experience in itself. Well on in the flight it was announced that, as “a precautionary measure”, we would be landing in Sri Lanka. We thought little of this until, at Colombo airport, not only did the runway come into view but also six fire engines and three ambulances!

It seemed we'd had an engine fire and were landing on just two engines.

However, we landed safely and had no need of the emergency services.

Then began what turned out to be a 19-hour stay in Colombo. The first six and a half hours were spent in the departure lounge, with many rumours but no hard news. Eventually we were taken to a hotel.

We spent the remainder of our time either at the hotel, at the airport — or travelling between the two. We used roads crammed with every imaginable form of transport, from lorries to trishaws and bicycles to buffalo carts. In all this time we managed to snatch just three hours' sleep.

We arrived a day late in Kuala Lumpur. We were met by my “foster mother” of 1989, Akmar Rashid, and a chauffeur, who drove us to the Rashids' luxurious home — complete with maid — in a suburb of the capital, where we were to stay for five days.

The Rashids are pure Malay. Azrul,

the father is a very successful lawyer. There are three children: Joe, 18, now studying in America, and two girls, Atrina, 12 and Azril, six, who both attend a European school in the city.

While having a highly western lifestyle, the Rashids are practising Muslims and "Mum" hopes to make a pilgrimage to Mecca.

The children wear western dress, such as T-shirts and jeans, all the time. "Dad" wears a suit to work but traditional flowing clothes at home, like "Mum".

They were kind and generous hosts and we greatly enjoyed our stay,

about £175. What a good idea — it actually works!

Eating and drinking in many public places also carries heavy penalties, and even chewing gum is prohibited. It caused annoyance on the MRT when "parked" by youths.

But, in addition, there is a total ban on an exotic fruit called durian. In all public buildings and on the MRT you must not even be *in possession* of it due to its extremely pungent smell!

We returned to Malaysia by air-conditioned express bus. Our destination was Melaka, where we were to

generation as your own parents, is "Uncle", or "Auntie".

Mr Thomas — "call me Uncle, please" — is Indian and "Auntie" is Chinese. The children are regarded as Indian, taking the race of their father.

Raj Kumar, 25, the eldest son, is working in a bank to pay his way through night school. The second son, Prem 22, is half-way through a psychology degree course, planning to complete it at an American university.

My friend, Reisha, who is my age and a Malaysian Ranger Guide, is studying for the equivalent of A-levels. She hopes to become a lecturer in English literature like her father.

Finally there is Pearliska, usually called "Pearly". She is seven and attends a primary school.

The family are Catholics, as are most of Melaka's population — the result of the Dutch, Portuguese and English influences in previous centuries. Perhaps you are wondering how the family came to be called Thomas.

It appears that one of their ancestors was Dutch and his first name was Thomas. When asked his name he would simply say "Thomas", to avoid the inevitable difficulties with his Dutch surname. He became known as "Thomas Thomas" and so Thomas eventually became the surname inherited by his descendants.

Melaka is an historic city and Reisha and her friends took us to all its "sights". We had a trip on the river and visited a rubber plantation.

On my first visit I had been steered away from traditional food but now I feasted on Malay, Chinese and Indian dishes. My chopstick technique improved rapidly and I was proud to eat my first Indian meal straight off a banana leaf!

The Thomases threw a party for Juanita and me when they discovered we had both celebrated our 18th birthdays since arriving in Malaysia. There was even a Black Forest gâteau.

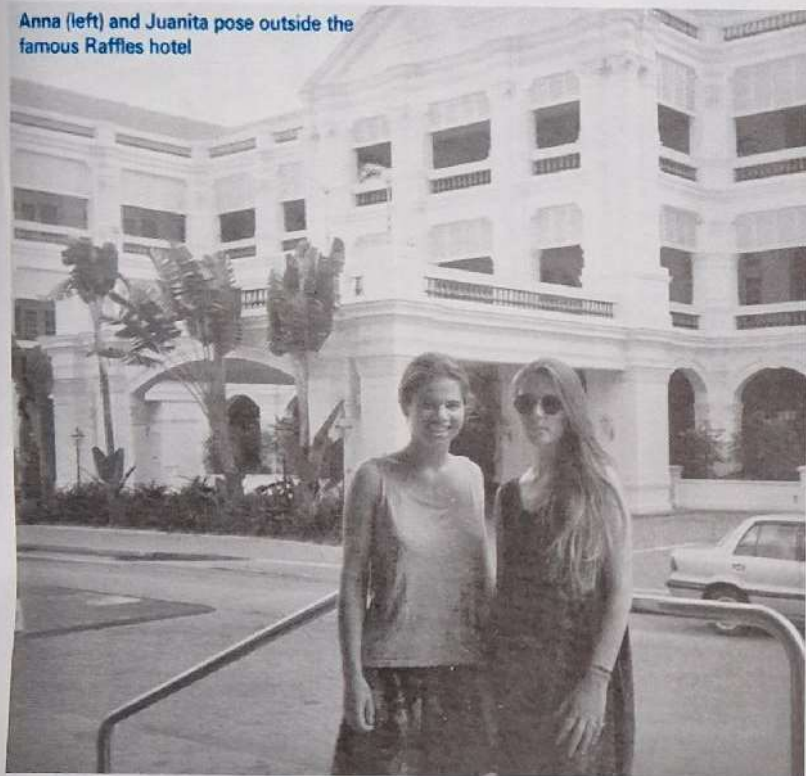
After eight days we were off to Penang — a ten-hour night drive north on a cold coach, with very little sleep.

But I was determined to see it for the first time. We spent a couple of days exploring the island and two more lolling on the picture postcard beaches. Then we headed back to Kuala Lumpur to spend our last two days in Malaysia with the Rashids.

We were sad to leave this beautiful tropical country and its kind, generous people, some of whom have little but are still ready to share.

Through Guiding, I had enjoyed not just a wonderful holiday but a marvellous experience. ♡

Anna (left) and Juanita pose outside the famous Raffles hotel



sightseeing, shopping and using the sports facilities of several country clubs to which the Rashids belong.

Then Juanita and I took the shuttle flight to Singapore — a mere 35 minutes. We stayed with a Chinese friend of my Mum, Lim Ming; her brother, Shyong; his wife, Selina; and their 13-year-old daughter, Sharu.

The house, in a suburb in the north of the island, was designed inside and out by Selina. They, too, had a maid, who came from Sri Lanka.

We did a lot of sightseeing during our five-day stay, travelling by bus and MRT — Mass Rapid Transport, a monorail.

The "sights" included the Tang Dynasty City, the tiny island of Sentosa, reached by cable car and, of course, Raffles, the famous luxury hotel.

Everywhere we went we were struck by the cleanliness of the city. Dropping litter in Singapore can result in a fine of

stay with one of my friends from the 1989 jamboree, Reisha Thomas, and her family in their "kampung" house.

After staying in two quite luxurious homes, we wondered what to expect of this wooden house on stilts. But the love we received here from the family more than compensated for the more modest facilities.

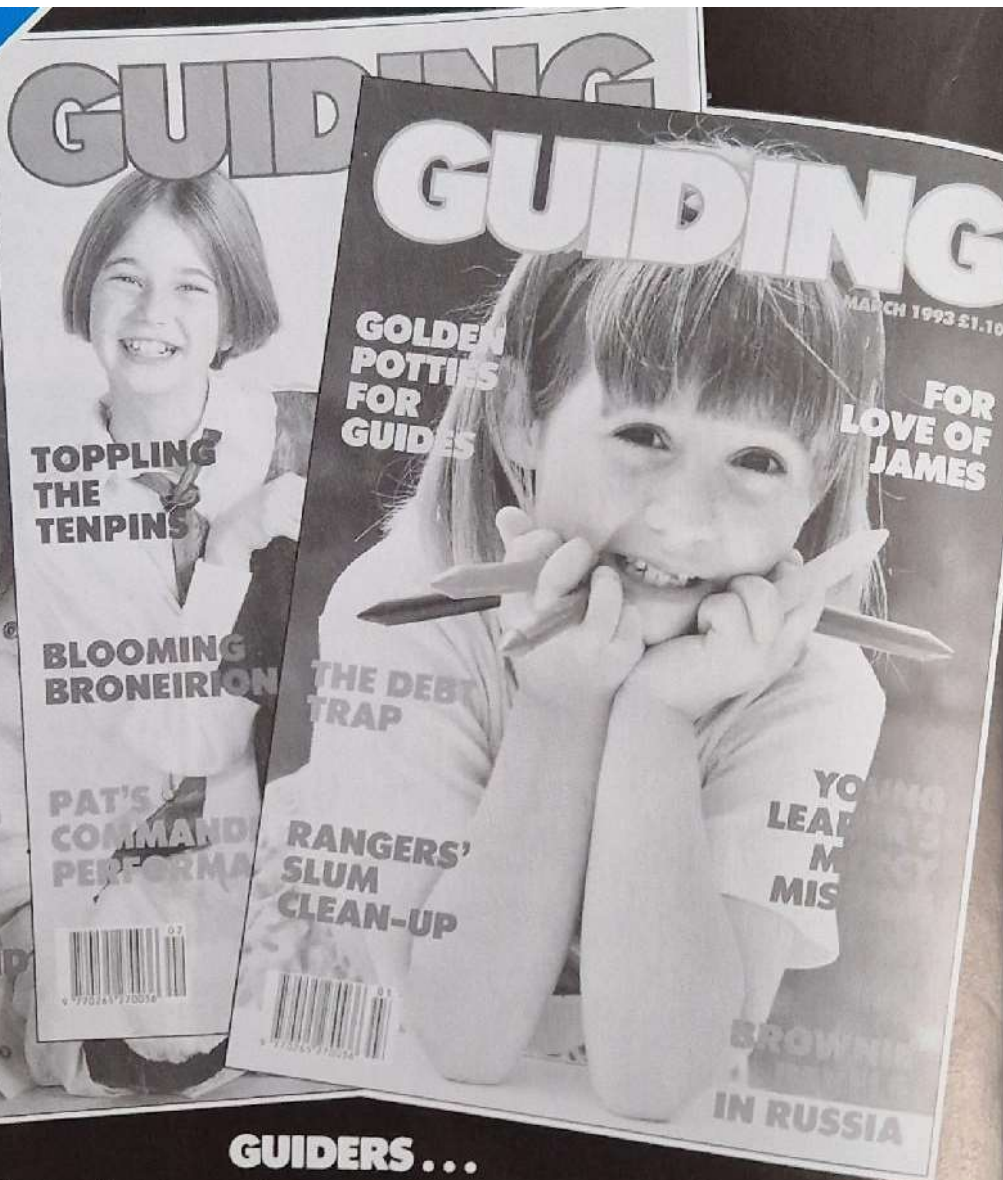
In the Thomas household pets, we soon learned, were not just pets — they had a role to play.

The geese, Jeckyl and Heckyl, for example, kept snakes away. And the dogs, Doggy and Gringo, not only kept the rats away but iguanas, as well.

All over the walls were the geckos — small, sand-coloured lizards, too numerous to count. They ate the mosquitoes. Unfortunately, they took no interest in the cockroaches on the kitchen floor, but we became accustomed to these.

The traditional way of addressing a friend's parents, who are of the same

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YOUR LETTERS

● The letter *Ban It* in February's *GUIDING*, which told of a mother's concern over the fact that her daughter's Brownie Pack celebrated Hallowe'en, has aroused comments from our readers.

FALSE GODS

Your anonymous correspondent asks for Hallowe'en to be banned. I, too, am a committed Christian, Sunday School teacher and so on, and yet I disagree with most of what she has written.

Most of our Christian festivals have taken over practices from pre-Christian worship, yet we surely don't feel mistletoe and Christmas trees will encourage worship of Satan rather than Christ, or eggs encourage worship of Eostre rather than the risen Lord.

Why, then, should ducking for apples or wearing traditional fancy dress obliterate our obligation to praise and thank God for the contribution all his saints, known and unknown, have made to his work?

If, as I believe, your correspondent is concerned that Hallowe'en fun may add to the worship of false gods, surely one of the best ways to begin exposing fake belief is by ridiculing it. This is precisely what a fancy dress party and silly games does.

I agree, entirely, however that the obnoxious practice of 'Trick or treat' has no part in the fun — it is 'demanding money with menace' tarted up to look like childish fun. And we must do everything to emphasise that nothing excuses intimidating others into giving the demander a reward.

So, I say: dress up as skeletons, cats, witches, spiders, apples — whatever you like, but

never ask people for favours nor threaten them if they don't comply.

Finally, thank you for including more letters in the magazine. I find these a useful and interesting forum.

GRACE READER

Brown Owl
2nd Fallowfield Brownie
Guides

HOLY EVENING

I am also a Christian and a Brownie Guider but, instead of banning Hallowe'en altogether, I think more emphasis should be put on the true meaning — 'Holy Evening'.

I tell the Brownies that if it was Christmas Eve they wouldn't dress up as witches or ghosts, and Hallowe'en is just as holy. They know I don't approve of 'trick or treat'-ing, and I advise them not to go.

Some of our activities around Hallowe'en have included a Light Party where the girls (and friends) dressed up as good biblical characters and saints, and had a disco and a games evening focussed on the saints, as All Saints Day follows.

We can't force our own doctrines down our Brownies' necks. There is nothing wrong with apple bobbing and other silly games, so long as the focus is away from evil and towards good and light, fun and happiness.

MRS SALLY BEAMAN

Brownie Guider
2nd Asfordby Pack
Leicester

FULL SUPPORT

In response to December's *A Personal View* about the lack of parental support for some units. We feel we must respond on behalf of the parents of our Brownies.

During the five and a half years since the opening of our Pack we could not have asked for better parental support, whether for transport, fundraising, open evenings, parties or any event.

Although under no obligation to attend our annual sponsored walk, most of our Brownie families chose to show their support for us and their daughters by walking with us, making our group very large and great fun.

As Guiders we all try to get to know our girls' parents and involve them when we can.

At our recent District Meeting we had full support from all the units in our District to send this response.

ROSEMARY SCOTT

Assistant Brownie Guider
4th Watton Brownies

TESTAMENT OF FRIENDSHIP

I am one of Denise Driver's Unit Helpers. Your article in January's *GUIDING* told little of the Guider she is, and how caring and understanding she is. I have severe learning difficulties. When she came to live in Yorkshire she took me off the streets, away from bullies and involved me in Brownies, church and a lot more.

She understood me. Some others treat me as stupid. But Denise doesn't. She let me organise games and, because I'm not allowed on GGA training, she has organised a couple of Saturdays to teach me things about Brownies.

Denise is great with handicapped kids. She has had many kids with special needs and not one of them has left Brownies without gaining something.

She plans wonderful programmes. If ever there was an award for caring and kindness, Denise should have it because, even though she suffers a lot of pain, her Brownies never suffer. The best friend I have.

KAREN GRAY

Unit Helper
11th Dewsbury Brownies

GOING STRONG

Between Christmas and New Year, I happened to visit a friend who was staying for a few days at Pax Lodge. As I entered, I admired one of the Christmas decorations on the door, a large green felt 'tree' with numerous decorations attached, presumably as an Advent Calendar.

Then my eye caught a name tape at the bottom and I was thrilled to discover that this tree had been made by the 36th Cheltenham (St Nicholas) Guides. Thrilled because I started this Guide Company 23 years ago and it is clearly still going strong! And also because my own interest in international Guiding is paralleled by theirs.

I should love to have contact with the Company again.

ANN MUNDAY (Beaver)

Grove House
Leighton Park School
Shinfield Road
Reading, Berks RG2 7DE

NORTHERN GRIPES

As the Christmas festivities drew to a close I sat down to read December's and January's *GUIDING* I was both impressed and enthused by the exciting international aid and developing programmes the UK has been working on in Eastern Europe and further afield.

Keen to participate in such an event, I scanned the pages for information on how to apply, only to be deflated and disillusioned. The selection weekend is to be held at the end of January at Foxlease. This effectively prevents me (and a large slice of the rest of Britain) from participating.

I am a working woman living in northern Cumbria. I would have to take Friday and Monday as holiday (two out of my precious 21 days, five of which are used at Guide camp) in order to travel all day in each direction. If I drove, I would be both shattered and considerably out-of-pocket in petrol costs. It is even more expensive to travel by train (if one exists), plus it's a Friday, so no saver ticket!

I feel that the Association needs to think deeply about its regular assumption that the entire Guiding population is in the Midlands or South of England, and that the training world revolves around Foxlease.

No-one living and working north of Birmingham can feasibly attend these events on the *chance* of being selected.

Let's have accessible, central (geographically!) events and selection, or Regional selection — or something else fairer! Please!

SALLY ELLIOTT
Guide Guider
Cumbria

● **INTOPS weekends, where members of the GOLD teams are chosen, are held alternately at Waddow and Foxlease.**

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

The Eight Points in December's *GUIDING* includes an Emergency Telephone chart giving service numbers. We Guiders in the Dengie area

feel it would be useful to record that when dialling 999 you can ask for the Coastal Guards. This could be useful information, particularly as there is a Water Rescuer badge for Brownies.

MYRTLE ESSERY
Purleigh District
Commissioner

SEW-ON SOLUTION

I agree with Geraldine O'Loughlin from 1st Bridgewater St Mary's Brownies regarding sew-on badges for Guiders' qualifications. This would be an ideal solution for those Guiders who take the time and trouble to keep their training and interest up to date.

ROSEMARY D POUPARD
Guide Guider
2nd Bury St Edmunds
(St Marys) Company
County PR Adviser &
Country LINK Adviser

CHALET IDYLL

One of the best kept secrets in Guides must be Our Chalet in Switzerland. Can I urge all those involved in its work to continue to avoid advertising its existence and its facilities? I want to be sure that when I want to go again I can just as easily secure a place in this mountain idyll.

My wife (a Guider in Kent) and I went to Our Chalet and had a week's skiing in January.

Five days for the price of seven was certainly a good start. When I complained to Gwen Williams, the Guider-in-Charge, that there was insufficient snow she immediately arranged for us to have four consecutive nights of snow with gloriously sunny days in between — the best snow we've had in eight years.

Vicky, the activities leader, and her volunteer helpers (this year from Sweden, Denmark and Loughborough) provided

expert and patient ski coaching in both morning and afternoon as well as laying on evening activities.

So what's the catch?

I can honestly say that there isn't one! The only problem seems to be that too few people use the Chalet so there is concern over its financial future.

Use it!

BRIAN ARROWSMITH
Stocklard Green
Kent

FOOD HABITS

I am currently studying for my A-Levels and I would be most grateful if I could receive comments on 'How the recession has affected people's eating habits'. This is for an investigation for Food Technology (Home Economics/Domestic Science). This forms part of my final grade. I would welcome comments from all over the country and from a wide age range.

EMMA LOUISE HODGE
Conifer Cottage
33 Owlsmoor Road
Owlsmoor
Nr Camberley
Surrey GU15 4SD

RED TAPE RULES

As a non-uniformed member of the Movement I am amazed that any uniformed members remain. It can only be out of loyalty and love for their units.

I have been in the Movement almost continuously since joining as a Brownie at seven and a half, through Guides, Cadets, Brownie Guider, Guide Guider, District secretary and treasurer. I still take as active a part as possible.

Unfortunately, over these years, I have seen the red tape grow, until it has reached unbelievable levels and is now causing

contradictions between appointed Advisers.

Only recently a Guide Guider's holiday licence was approved with the comment, from County, that footballs should have been purchased from unit funds.

Six weeks later a Brownie Guider, applying for a Pack Holiday licence, was criticised by Division for buying craft equipment for the holiday from unit funds!

Another unbelievable situation arises after finishing a term of office as a District Commissioner. On being appointed one is discouraged from continuing to hold a unit warrant, so as to maintain impartiality.

However, having been on call every hour of the day, Sundays and Bank Holidays included, one is told that, on completing one's term of office, retraining is necessary before holding another unit warrant. What about all the trainings and events organised, run and attended as District Commissioner? Do these count for nothing, or is everything learned as a Commissioner no longer relevant?

I can only assume that retraining will help you to forget all the red tape which threatened to strangle you as a Commissioner and teach the grass-root rules necessary to run a successful unit again.

I am the first to agree that we need rules but it would be nice if they were standard throughout the Movement and not dependent on the individual's attitude.

NAME AND ADDRESS SUPPLIED

Letters should be kept as long 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.

With cases of food poisoning on the increase, it's essential to follow strict hygiene rules when catering at camp or for fundraising events.

FOOD FACTS

Look on any supermarket's shelves and you'll find a vast range of bottles, cans and boxes of cleaning materials. Whatever job we have to do, there's at least one special preparation available.

So you'd expect no bugs to flourish in our squeaky-clean homes. But the bugs are biting back. Our higher standards of cleanliness means that our resistance to the organisms that cause tummy troubles is weakening.

The result has been a steady increase in the number of reported cases of food poisoning over the last 20 years. Press horror stories of guests struck down at weddings and the risks involved in going to work on an egg left readers concerned but confused.

In 1991, the Government introduced new legislation to strengthen and update the law on food safety and consumer protection — the Food Safety Act 1990.

Although it was primarily aimed at those working in the production, processing, storage, distribution and sale of food, its rules also apply to non-profit making organisations.

Obviously, the act doesn't cover food prepared and eaten at home but people selling food at charity fundraising events do need to comply. They should, of course, follow the most stringent rules of good hygiene and anyone wanting specific guidance is encouraged to contact their local environmental health department for advice.

Guiders who find themselves responsible for feeding their units as well as their families naturally turn to the Association for advice. It is widely-acknowledged that the GGA sets high standards for good hygiene practice. The *QM's Handbook* is a good starting point for anyone contemplating outdoor catering on any scale.

It is when catering for meals at camp or during Pack Holidays, or providing refreshments at open evenings and special events, that Guiders have to be particularly vigilant.

It is up to them to make sure that the girls know and practice the basic rules of hygiene. It is a good idea to set aside part of one or more meetings to explain the potential dangers of poor

hygiene and stress the ten golden rules below.

- 1** Always wash your hands before handling food.
- 2** Wash your hands thoroughly after using the lavatory.
- 3** Tell someone at once if you have any skin, nose, throat or bowel trouble.
- 4** Ensure cuts and sores are covered with waterproof dressings.
- 5** Keep yourself clean and wear clean clothing.
- 6** Do not smoke near food. Never cough or sneeze over food.
- 7** Clean as you go. Keep all equipment and surfaces clean.
- 8** Prepare raw and cooked food in separate areas. Keep food covered and either refrigerated or piping hot.
- 9** Keep your hands off food as far as possible.
- 10** Ensure waste food is disposed of properly. Keep the lid on the dustbin and wash your hands after putting waste in it.

One of the factors that increases the risk of upset stomachs at camp is that some of the deadliest bugs live in the soil. So it's particularly important to be extra careful at camp.

All the kitchen area surfaces should be checked and, if necessary, thoroughly cleaned, before preparing any food. A good tip is to clean as you go. That way all the equipment and surfaces will always be fresh.

Food should be stored in cool boxes, if there is no access to a fridge or freezer. Where possible have fresh food delivered daily to the site or arrange to have it collected.

Hot food should be piping hot right through and waste should be disposed of at once. If in doubt, throw it out is an excellent motto.

When washing up use very hot water and change it frequently. Tea towels should be changed regularly and washed and dried between use.

Hair should be kept tied back and the no-smoking ban rigorously applied. Never cough or sneeze over food and avoid absentmindedly touching your mouth, nose, hair or clothing while preparing food.

When tasting don't lick the spoon



and continue stirring, make sure it's washed before it's used again. And, of course, any food that falls on the floor goes straight in the bin and any dropped utensils must be washed.

Government guidelines do not recommend anyone eating food containing raw egg. This applies particularly to the elderly and children who may be more vulnerable to those bugs. That means missing out on fondant sweets such as peppermint creams for summer fêtes and autumn bazaars.

With food the old adage, 'Better safe than sorry' really does apply.

Camp catering — make sure the girls practise basic hygiene rules

NORA WARNER

PEOPLE *and* PLACES

BANG ON

► Rainbow Amy Bannister of 1st Bistre Unit made sure the demolition of Connah's Quay power station in Deeside went with a bang. She helped to launch a fundraising raffle, which offered the winner the chance to set off the explosion. Around £2,800 was raised, some of which will be used to help Czechoslovakian Guides attend an international camp in Clwyd.



JENNY CHARLWOOD

ACTION SINGALONG

▲ When it comes to breaking down communication barriers there's nothing like a good old-fashioned action song. Here's Guider Mary Thorne from Norwich suiting the actions to the words with a group of local children in Taxco, near Our Cabaña in Mexico.

GLAM GANG

► Eyes right, mouth open and use those lungs! Brownie Shelley Stannard and Cub Scout Tom Slegg gave it everything they'd got at the Bramford Gang Show in Ipswich. The show was a runaway success, thanks to the enthusiasm of its 50-strong cast and the producer, 26-year-old Guider Bridget Harvey.



EAST ANGLIAN DAILY TIMES



PETER HUGHES

CULTURE CLASH

▲When Assistant Brownie and Ranger Guider Sue Danks from Surbiton visited a combined Scout and Guide Troop meeting in Jakarta, she taught the youngsters how to sing *Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes*. No wonder Phillips Supt of Indonesia's Gerakan Pramuka is looking a mite confused. But the Indonesians got their own back when they

retaliated with their own version — in Indonesian, of course. Then it was Sue's turn to look bemused.

DOGGONE IT!

▼There'll be no cat and dog fights here! Brownies Rebecca Mooney and Kathleen Bray of the 118th St Mary Redcliffe Pack in Bristol were keeping the cuddly toys well under control at a fair held to raise funds for their unit.

NATIVE SPIRIT

▼Deep in darkest Berkshire something is stirring. The 'old guard' are on the warpath again. And County Pack Holiday Adviser Sue Glover was taking no prisoners at a licence training for friendly natives at Thirtover.



SUE KIDD



BRISTOL EVENING POST

SETTING **THE** PACE



Adding a touch of colour: Tamara Kabonava (left) and Svetlana Korotkevich wearing the traditional costume of Belarus with Nina Medkova from Russia



Poland's Teresa Tarkowska, Maria Kuczma and Marzena Rogalska

Guide leaders from 13 former Iron Curtain countries felt the warm embrace of the great sisterhood of world Guiding at Pace 92, in London, last November.

They came in from the cold as guests of WAGGGS for the Programme of Activities in Central and Eastern Europe, or Pace — a busy four-day event at Pax Lodge.

One of the main objectives was to allow them to gain, at first hand, insight and understanding of the aims and methods of WAGGGS by meeting members of the World and Regional Committees and World Bureau staff.

And, through a visit to the World Bureau, they were able to see for themselves the resources that could be on tap to help them in their work.

The delegates came from: Belarus, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Russia and Slovenia.

They arrived on a Thursday in squally rain — not quite the weather for the optional guided walk round Hampstead, offered as a starter.

But, with heating turned well up, they received a cordial welcome at Pax Lodge from World Bureau Director Jan Holt; Barbara Beevor, of the World Committee for Central and Eastern Europe; Rosie Dunn, WAGGGS Executive for the Region; and other staff.

The next day they learned, among other things, about 'Our Vision' — the World Association's optimistic but pragmatic view of Guiding's future in Central and Eastern Europe.

After a conducted tour of the World Bureau the visitors had their chance to show, in a 'market place', something of the culture of their homelands and what their organisations can now offer world Guiding.

Included in the day's programme were three workshops: Activities for Girls, Management of Time and Resources and 'Spiritual Dimension'. These workshops were 'two-way', with the delegates — required to have a grasp of English — taking part.

'Spiritual Dimension' was a workshop designed to illustrate what is meant by this fundamental principle of Guiding and show how this aspect could be integrated into programmes.

UK Trainer Monica Carden explained how, with efficient management Guide

*Pax Lodge played host to Guiders from
Central and Eastern Europe during
the four non-stop days that made up Pace 92.*

leaders 'can have time for ourselves and reduce stress by planning and delegation ...'

Judy Ellis, link for the Russian Federation, offered ideas on a wide range of activities not needing much equipment.

After evening visits to local Brownie and Guide units, the delegates even managed to squeeze in a swift 'London by Night' tour.

The following day took in 'What's What in Europe?' — a sort of news round-up to show how Guiding and Girl Scouting was now progressing in the countries represented, with the visitors helping to complete the picture.

Then came a session on effective communication, a round table on adult recruitment and, after lunch, three more workshops.

Leslie Wright, WAGGGS head of Communications and Public Relations, explained what public relations — an unfamiliar Western concept to some, no doubt — are all about. Her workshop included a practical session to show how Guiding activities can be made widely known.

How to keep track of the cash was the theme of Kirsty Gray, the Europe Committee's Financial Adviser, in her 'simple guide to financial matters', for those who may be struggling to keep the books straight.

Rosie Dunn took the floor again, this time with Valérie Wirtz, External Relations Executive, to explain the techniques of working effectively with other organisations and the benefits.

Pace 92 was aptly named. It pounded along, leaving little time for lounging — or lie-ins, for that matter!

Even on the Sunday it was breakfast sharp at eight, as usual, and noses to the grindstone at 9.15. Only after another non-stop morning, ending with lunch, were the representatives ready to return home.

By all accounts, they went back heartened and enthusiastic, having learned a thing or two.

And Pace 92 also paid good dividends to WAGGGS and world Guiding generally, as Rosie Dunn explained:

‘The invitations were extended to top decision makers and the event was designed with a very busy programme to ensure that it would be really

HAPPY FAMILY

As everyone knows, it is always better to grow up as part of a supportive, happy family — like WAGGGS!

Which is why all these associations, isolated for far too long, are anxious to join, or re-join as soon as possible.

Seven of the countries represented were, in fact, founder members of WAGGGS in 1928 but had to drop out after the 1939-45 war when, during the Stalinist era of the 'cold war', the Communists abolished or took over youth organisations and used them as a means of political indoctrination.

Poland has a complicated history of Girl Scouting, dating back to 1911 and, until recently, Poland had as many as six separate organisations — all mixed sex — but some with separate units for boys and girls.

By far the largest, ZHP — the Polish Scouting Union — was formed when several associations merged in 1918.

It was through ZHP that Poland joined WAGGGS at the first World Conference in 1928 but its membership lapsed after the 1939-45 war.

In 1949 ZHP was 'liquidated' but re-emerged in 1956, only to suffer further setbacks in the political turmoil. Today, ZHP is thriving once again, with a membership of more than 600,000 girls and boys. Although it is granted-aided by the Polish Ministry of Education, it is free to provide traditional Scouting and Guiding.

All the other Girl Scouting groups have either disbanded or merged with ZHP's only remaining 'rival' — ZHR. These two survivors will work along side each other under an 'umbrella' federation.

worthwhile and instructive, both to them and to WAGGGS. There was so much for all of us to learn, so no one wanted to waste time.

Not only was it a chance to get to know one another better and for the representatives to become better acquainted with WAGGGS' aims and methods, but for everyone to gain a better understanding of each other's work, aims and difficulties.

Together, we were able to consider the development of Guiding and Girl Scouting throughout Central and Eastern Europe.

Just as we'd hoped, Pace 92 turned out to be a forum for sharing experiences, planning for the future throughout the vast area and — very important — to increase understanding of the spiritual dimension of Guiding.



There was a warm welcome from Barbara Beevor, World Committee Representative for Central and Eastern Europe. Lady Beevor is also Chairman of the UK Trefoil Guild

Stefa Gedgaudas and Daiva Merkienė (left) from Lithuania find plenty to smile about at Pace '92. For six years Stefa, who joined the Lithuanian Girl Scouts in 1939, was Chief of those in exile



Eventually, we hope, the Associations in all these Central and Eastern European countries will be members of WAGGGS and part of the great family.

That is still some way off but if Pace 92 helped to hasten that day, it was worth all the effort from everyone.

HAPPY LANDINGS

Leaping from a plane may not be the easiest fundraising method. But GGA members always love a challenge.

There was only one attitude the three members from Anglia Region who



The sky's the limit for Mary, Julia and Chris

volunteered to make a parachute jump for charity could adopt — Don't think it ... do it!

Mary Layzell, District Commissioner for Linleighbridge, and Guiders Julia Lawrence and Chris Daniels, also from Linleighbridge in South Beds Division, agreed to join three of Chris's children and some of their friends to raise money for Cancer Research.

Here Chris describes how they conquered their fears and took to the air:

It was with some apprehension that we set off on a sunny but windy Saturday morning. We arrived at the training centre wondering whether we had the courage to do it. But, as Guiders do, we kept on going.

The training was extremely positive and quickly dispelled a lot of our doubts. We spent the day learning how the equipment worked and what to do in the case of an emergency, such as the parachute failing to open!

That afternoon we learned how to land from various angles and control the 'chute itself.

The actual jump was ... "WOW". Fortunately, we did our jump at the same time but, for some reason, we were unusually quiet on our way up!

We were expertly led by the jump

master and it was simple, really. Step out on to the wing with a Force Ten gale blowing.

Wait for the word jump and try to obtain the star fish position before commencing the count. Sounds easy doesn't it — what a joke!

Mary decided that she'd had enough of hanging around and managed to pull her 'chute open before even leaving the plane. As for the count, it was more like a scream from Julia. At least the ground heard her, even if the jump master didn't.

Having left the plane, you are suspended in mid-air for about a second. It actually seems like hours, but the views were well worth it.

My landing could be described as spectacular, my knees still haven't recovered.

Walking ten foot tall and discussing our parachute stories — a more daring version of fishermen's tales — we returned to Leighton Buzzard to collect our sponsor money. We expect to have raised over £1,000 for the Cancer Research Campaign.

If you want an exhilarating experience why not adopt our motto: Don't think it ... do it. At least once anyway — for charity.

CHRIS DANIELS

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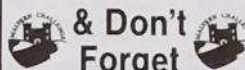


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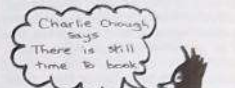
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ROSIE DUNN FROM WEST HAMPSTEAD, LONDON

At just 25 Rosie is WAGGGS Executive for Central and Eastern Europe, at the World Bureau, London.

When I first saw this job advertised, I was immediately attracted to it. But I was so appalled by the thought of having to live and work in London that I did not apply.

Then, while on a flight to Heathrow from Strasbourg, where I had been attending a youth conference, I was persuaded to change my mind.

So I completed the application form on the train from London to Nottingham, my home town. And am I glad I did! Because the job, which I started in January, last year, has turned out to be every bit as challenging and exciting as I had hoped!

Furthermore, even being in London is not quite as bad as I'd imagined.

At 25 I am thrilled to be actively involved in the development of the new Europe and, perhaps, one of the attractions of this job will be visiting the many parts of my vast "domain".

I am very conscious, however, of the responsibility I have been given. I must provide the support needed by those who are now rebuilding Guiding in countries where it was snuffed out by Communism many years ago. And by

those struggling to establish Guiding where it never was before.

This means Russia and all the other republics in what used to be the Soviet Union — including the Moslem countries of Central Asia, like Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan — as well as the former communist countries, such as Poland and Romania.

Throughout last year I concentrated on Central and Eastern Europe. This year I hope to be travelling more widely to get Guiding firmly established in the republics of Central Asia.

Where Guiding is being re-established in countries with a long history of the Movement, it is, in some cases, being promoted with programmes based on concepts that were current 50 or more years ago.

One of my tasks will be to ensure that, where this is happening, the programmes are relevant to the needs and expectations of girls in these countries today.

However, I am well aware that, in this age of what might be called "high-tech Guiding", the traditional elements of a programme, which have their

LIFE style

roots in the social culture of a country, can still have a value and should not necessarily be discarded and forgotten.

As for my own Guiding background, it could hardly have been more traditional. I was brought up at Sherwood, near Nottingham, where I was not only a Brownie but a third generation Brownie! Both my mother and my grandmother were Brownies.

After being a Guide and Ranger, I went to university to read law and economics.

While there, I began to represent Midland Region on the GGA delegation to the British Youth Council, which meets twice a year. I was later elected vice-chairperson of the BYC.

In this capacity I was responsible for maintaining contacts with national youth councils in other countries of Europe, including East-West links.

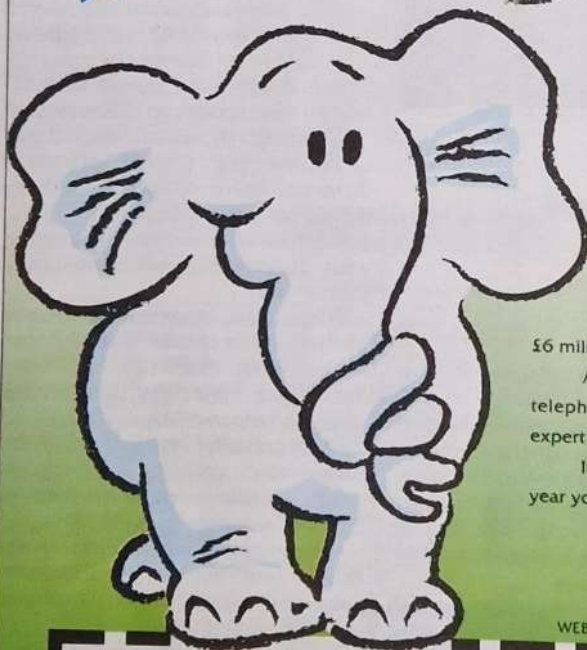
This involved visiting countries like Russia and Hungary, so I became interested in the European dimension of youth work and Guiding.

After university I spent a year as a volunteer at a free legal advice centre in an inner-city area of Nottingham. I then took a paid job at Nottingham University's student advice centre, giving advice on financial and legal matters. I wanted to discover, from practical experience, whether I would enjoy a career in law.

It was while I was at the advice centre that I saw my present job advertised. Well, you know the rest — that's where you came in.

And, as I hope you've gathered, I have no regrets. Being WAGGGS' Executive for Central and Eastern Europe is far more exciting than being a career lawyer could ever be.

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