

GUIDING

MAY 1993 £1.10

**SEND
IN
THE
CLOWNS**

**PAYING
THE
PIPER**

**WATER
LIFELINE**

**CLASSROOM
IN AFRICA**

**MEET
THE COUNCIL**

**TAKING A
BUSMAN'S HOLIDAY**



**Guiding is....
tackling any chore, willingly**



front PAGE

The problem of juvenile crime throughout the UK is causing serious concern. Far too much crime is being committed by young people, and these young people are, quite rightly, the subject of special anger and frustration.

The country as a whole needs a coherent programme to tackle juvenile crime and the conditions in which to produce that programme. There needs to be an emphasis everywhere on civilised conduct and standards of behaviour based on mutual consideration and respect.

In order for children to mature into self-disciplined adults, capable of loving and being loved and of showing consideration for others, they need from parents a constant combination of love and discipline. Unqualified love but firm guidance on values and behaviour. The disintegration of the family unit is said to be the main cause

COMMENT

of much social unrest and misery.

As Guiders, we have always had the responsibility for the development of many of 'tomorrow's mothers'. We must speak out in defence of and sustain the 'traditional' family values, which have been repressed and eroded over the past years.

How else can we break the cycle of violence which leads battered children to become batterers and discourage adolescents from indulging in drink, drugs and steadily rising crime?

In providing opportunities for girls and women to develop the self-respect and confidence necessary for them to achieve their full potential, we must always stress the importance of the role of the child rearer, as well as that of the career woman.

One of the most commonly used

statements — 'I am only a housewife' — must be eradicated. Women in society provide the impetus for change. It is women within the family who are involved with health, education and community issues that concern their families. Women today still take the greater responsibility as carers of children and the elderly, as well as making tremendous strides in the workplace.

The GGA, as the largest voluntary organisation for girls and women in the UK, has a unique opportunity to help girls and women in a way that no other organisation can — as guardians of traditional values. It is the duty of each and every one of us as Guiders to grasp this opportunity now — or accept part of the blame when disasters occur.

JANE GARSIDE

The Chief Commissioner

GUIDING

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MAY 1993 £1.10

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FRONT COVER

Facing the music for our cover are Young Leaders (from left) Sarah Klempau, Angela Rhodes and Nicola Hoad from Weald Division, Kent. They experimented with different instruments while piloting the new 15 Plus programme.

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Round UP

SUPER GUIDER

◀ Ciss Duffield got a huge surprise when she retired as Guider of 3rd Blackheath (St Paul's) Company, Halesowen. Her Assistant Helen Webber masterminded a surprise party to mark the occasion. It was attended by over 200 of Ciss's Guiding friends and colleagues, some of whom she had not seen for 20 years.

'The party was a complete shock!' said Ciss, who received many presents, including an engraved rose bowl. During her 53 years Guiding in Halesowen, Ciss also served as Assistant District Commissioner and then District Commissioner of Leasowes.

FANTASTIC FRIEZE

▼ These Warwickshire Rainbows scooped first prize in the annual 'Kenilworth in Bloom' children's art competition with their 'fantastic' frieze.

The fantasy theme inspired the 6th Kenilworth (St John's) Unit to create a colourful underwater scene, complete with mermaid. Their masterpiece is due to be displayed in the local library. The Unit received a cash prize and packets of seeds, as well as certificates.



Round UP

OWL-LESS

► Desperately seeking a Brown Owl — that's the message from Surbiton Brownies Kathryn Stewart (left) and Jessica Smith.

The two nine-year-olds are both members of the 2nd Berrylands (Emmanuel) Pack, which has been without a permanent Guider for nine months now.

District Commissioner Miss Pound, who already runs the 1st Berrylands Pack, has been acting as their temporary Brown Owl. 'I hope to find a replacement soon,' she said. 'The 22 girls are so enthusiastic, they deserve a full-time Brown Owl.'



GOOD TURN

◀ Members of the 8th Crumpsall (St Anne's) Company have been fund raising in aid of the only children's hospice in Greater Manchester.

Crumpsall District members, from Rainbows to Rangers, raised £50 for Francis House, a seven-bed hospice, by hosting quiz and games evenings.

Guider Jayne Tyrrell (far left) said: 'The girls were fascinated by the hospice's good work, and they intend to keep on raising funds for it in the future.' The cheque was accepted by Sister Aloysius.

TEA PARTY TREAT

► Former Guiding members were special guests at a Thinking Day tea party held by 1st

Norton and Hemington Pack.

The former Guides brought their badges, photos and camp blankets along, so the present Avon Brownies could compare them with current badges and uniforms.

The Pack, formed by Rosemary Yarker as part of the Association's Reach Out initiative (featured in April's *GUIDING*), ended the party by singing camp fire songs with their new friends.



GOLDEN SILENCE

◀ Silence is golden for the 2nd Westerleigh Pack, who raised £123 for the RSPCA with a sponsored silence.

When the Pack, all RSPCA members, first suggested the idea to their Brown Owl Heather Page, she was rather surprised. 'They're usually quite lively,' she said. But she had to admit that the event was a quiet success: 'It was a peaceful hour for me!', she added.

Robin Bush from the RSPCA's Bristol Branch, who collected the cheque at a Pack meeting, spoke to the girls about RSPCA work, leaving them 'determined' to raise more funds.

*A new era began in
Forfar's Guiding history
when the town's new
Guide headquarters was
officially opened.*

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

After five years of fund raising the opening of Forfar's new, fully-equipped Guide headquarters was an event worth waiting for.

In 1986, Forfar Town District began collecting cash to replace the existing rented centre. In all they raised nearly £45,000 — a quarter of the cost of the £177,000 building. The remainder was financed by grants from the Scottish Office Education Department and Tayside Regional Council.

A Brownie's father got the fund raising off to a fun start when he volunteered to let the Pack cut his hair. Over the years other successful events included a Golden Oldies disco, a fashion show and a bingo tea.

The most successful event was the 1991 Christmas Extravaganza. We raised £4,000 in just one day,' said District Commissioner Lesley Bell. 'We ran all-day stalls and had a visit from Santa. In the evening there was a very enjoyable dance. It was a great way to end all those years of fund raising.'

The Tayside centre, built behind Forfar's St Margaret's Church, was opened by former Deputy Scottish Chief Commissioner Dorothy Bruce-Gardyne, at a gala ceremony during which hundreds of balloons were released. Mrs Bruce-Gardyne praised the hard work of the Members and the generosity of the townspeople.

The Guides and Brownies of the past must have engendered a tremendous amount of goodwill for the project to be supported so enthusiastically in this town,' she said.

The centre, she explained, would mark a new era in Forfar Guiding history. 'A tremendous amount has been invested in this building and, I am sure, it is going to pay very large and lasting dividends.' After the opening ceremony, the building was blessed by the Minister of St Margaret's, the Rev John Birrell.

The next day local people were eager to tour the new premises and see for themselves the outcome of all that fund raising.

The townsfolk showed a great interest in the building, because it's not only an asset for Guiding but also the whole community,' Lesley Bell said. 'When it's not being used by the Movement,



▲ New beginnings for Forfar: former Deputy Scottish Chief Commissioner Mrs Bruce-Gardyne (fourth from left) opens Forfar's new Guide headquarters



◀ Balloons away as Forfar celebrates a landmark in its Guiding history

we hope other youth groups and associations will benefit from it.'

The centre provides a home for the town's two Rainbow Units and five Brownie Packs, plus three Guide Companies. The County Commissioner Mary Ramsey hopes the centre will act as an incentive, bringing more girls into the Movement.

Angus County's paperwork will be handled at the centre, which provides two halls, a meeting room, kitchen and

residential accommodation for visiting Members, showers, toilets and facilities for people with disabilities plus ample storage space.

The modern, well-equipped centre is a considerable improvement on their previous rented base in Forfar's former police headquarters. By 1985, the three-storey building was in a poor condition and too small to cope with the District's needs.

MARIA COOLE 7

Guiding

Down in the forest not just something but a great deal stirred when about 600 of Gloucestershire's Rainbows, Brownies and Guides got on the trail of the Pied Piper.

The girls — from 75 units scattered all over the County — were accompanied by Guiders, members of the Trefoil Guild, mums and dads and, in many cases, the family dog.

Between them, in just five-and-a-half hours on one glorious July Sunday, the walkers covered 3,000 miles of the woodland paths in the 22,000-acre Forest of Dean.

It was a case of 'children walking for children', as their slogan said. For the girls, all sponsored, were tramping through the trees to raise money for Gloucestershire's much-needed new children's hospital.

Some were made up as bewhiskered rats, in keeping with the 'Pied Piper' legend, and a few even sported tails.

The Guides were first to follow the Piper, starting in the morning on their route of eight miles through the trees. Early in the afternoon off set the

Brownies for a four-mile circuit, taking in the Mallard's Pike beauty spot.

Then it was the turn of the Rainbows. Having been assured that there was no danger of encountering a Teddy Bears' picnic that day, they tackled the good mile around the Forest of Dean's Arboretum.

Just in case of mishaps, 'walk wardens' and first aid personnel kept a discreet watch through the foliage on any girls walking alone. But there were no lost babes in the wood and no nasty accidents.

In fact, unlike those in the fable, every single one of them returned safely in good time for a 'tea' of ice cream or beefburgers, followed by an open-air service of thanksgiving.

Some complicated calculations then revealed the amazing news that, between them, walkers had covered a distance of 3,000 miles. And no-one had complained of blisters!

After more arithmetic came an announcement that sent great whoops of delight whistling through the trees and the wildlife fleeing for cover.

In just one day the Pied Piper walkers had raised a staggering £6,853



MALCOLM ROSSER

▲ 'Rats' from the 3rd Wootton U
▼ Appeal chairman Peter Hickman accepts Brownie Katie Stringer, Rainbows Sian Willi

► Putting their best feet forward: (from left) Carole White, Alison Scott and Joanne Parry of 1st Forest Green Guides



MALCOLM ROSSER



ROBERT YOUNG

in action



Edge Brownies follow the Piper's trail monster cheque from Ruth Jordan and walkers and Hannah Kyte, and Guide Elizabeth Rollinson



for the children's hospital.

The leaves were on the ground and turning to mulch before all the money had been gathered in. But, by the time a cheque for this amount had been handed to appeal chairman Peter Hickman, extra donations had brought the grand total raised by Gloucestershire County to more than £7,000.

Mr Hickman, a Gloucester businessman, was unstinting in his praise. He said: 'It would be an understatement to say I was delighted. I was over the moon and tremendously impressed by the efforts of the girls.'

'We have a long way to go to reach our target but this was a splendid shot in the arm to help us on our way — just what the doctor ordered.'

Gloucestershire Guiding's involvement with Pied Piper was largely due to Ruth Jordan, Division Commissioner for Forest of Dean North. She explained why she was keen for the Guides to help: 'At Gloucester Royal Hospital the children's wards date back to Victorian times and cannot accommodate the modern equipment needed to treat very sick children.'

It was realised more than ten years

ago that a new children's hospital was the only answer but, as in so many other parts of the country, the health authority simply does not have sufficient resources.

Now the community has got together to launch this appeal, which Gloucestershire Health Authority is supporting in various ways.

I felt very strongly that the County's Guides should also be involved because, when we were struggling to raise £65,000 to enlarge and improve our headquarters at Cowley, near Cheltenham, we received a lot of help from local firms, as well as from individuals and local organisations.

This area has since been very badly hit by the recession, with high unemployment, many firms struggling to survive, or even having gone out of business.

In better times people were so good to us that when Pied Piper was launched I felt it was our chance to return some of the kindness we received from the community.

It seemed, too, so apt that children should walk for children.'

DAVID JACK

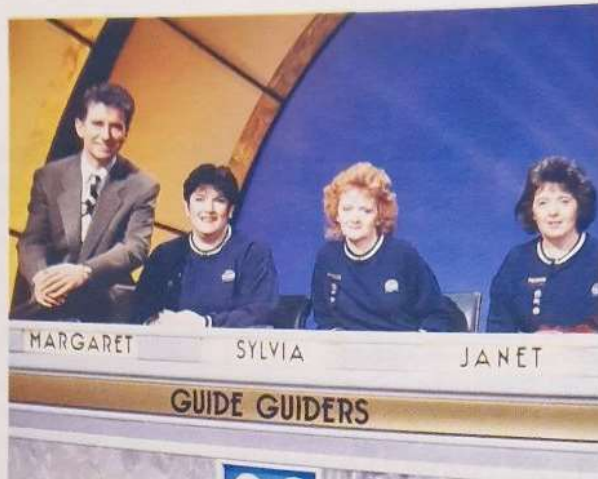
◀ Just who is taking who for a walk here?



MALCOLM ROSSER

*Taking a Busman's Holiday turned three
Southport Guiders with a taste
for quiz shows into TV stars for a week.*

WOR



TV champions: Margaret, Sylvia and Janet on the box

Three Guide Guiders from Southport went on *Busman's Holiday*, the Granada TV quiz show with a difference, and not only won a week's holiday in Cyprus but beat all comers with their high score.

But the hardest test, as the Guiders were to discover, came on the island when, while being filmed by TV cameramen, each had to milk a goat!

Guide Guider Margaret Lawler and her two Assistant Guiders Sylvia Sawyer and Janet Holden, of the 71st (St Teresa's) Southport Company, formed the first all-Guide team to take part in the long-running quiz series.

The 26 teams of three who take part in each series are picked for their specialist knowledge in a particular occupation or hobby.

Two teams compete each week and the Guiders' opponents were three roofers. One of them was heard to say before the contest that the Guide team 'stood no chance'.

For a start, however, the roofers hadn't reckoned with ace quiz teamster Sylvia Sawyer.

She is captain of Upsteps, a pub quiz team named after a pub of that name, near St Teresa's, her Guide unit's church in Southport.

Sylvia takes up the story:

'I watch a lot of quizzes on TV and, when I saw the previous *Busman's Holiday* series in 1991, I thought it would be good for Guiding if we could get a Guide team involved.

So we sent off an application but heard nothing more until Easter, last year, when Granada wrote, asking if we would like to re-apply.

We filled in the new application form they'd sent us, while on a coach, with a party of Guides and mums, on a day trip to Blackpool.

This time it worked — we were on *Busman's Holiday*, flexing our mental muscles for the big fight.

We had to go to the TV studio in Manchester at the end of October, when the 1993 series was being filmed, to meet our opponents — the three very confident roofers.

Other teams — all meeting different rival teams — included Navy pilots, mounted police and seaside landladies.

In our contest we each had to



Ready for anything — three pristine dairymaids before they tackled their goats

KING HOLIDAY

answer questions about our own speciality — Guiding, of course, in our case — and about our opponents' speciality, roofing, as well as on geography in a "span-the-world" round.

I, for example, was asked to give the recommended ratio of adults to girls in a Guide unit. I gave the correct answer which, as we all know is one to 12.

We were allowed to confer for a "team" question — but had no need to do so. The question was: how many World Centres are there and what is the name of the one at Pune? Well, that didn't take much thinking about, either!

The roofing questions were rather more taxing, but we managed to cope with puzzlers like: what is a metamorphous igneous rock? Answer: slate. Fancy not knowing that!

In the geography round we were beaten by the clock. The buzzer went just as I was saying that Barcelona was the capital of Spain's Catalonia province. I only got as far as saying "Cat."

All 13 bouts were run off and filmed within a week. Soon after this, the 26 teams were invited to a party in Manchester, where we learned that, with 48 points, the Guides' team had the highest score.

This was the icing on the cake because, by now, we knew that our prize was not a weekend in Boulogne, as had been hinted, but a glorious week in Cyprus.

We were hosted by the 2nd and 4th Famagusta District and Limassol Guide units, who gave us a really wonderful welcome.

But we hadn't finished with *Busman's Holiday* yet — oh no! The TV crew were still following the three of us around, even into the Troodos mountains where we each had to milk a goat.

As dairymaids we were all total novices and found it a lot trickier than the hardest part of the quiz.

First, however, we had to do a bit of acting by pretending to have breakfast by the pool at our hotel in Limassol as several Cypriot Guides burst out of the hibiscus and handed me a message from their Guider-in-Charge.

I read it aloud to camera: "We have gone away for a few days. Please look after the Guides for us."

The message went on to explain that

we were required to introduce the Guides to some of the traditional crafts of Cyprus, including sea fishing and making goat's milk cheese.

But first we had to persuade the goats to part with the milk! So we three, wearing brand new uniforms on loan from CHQ, took about ten girls up into the mountains to do just that. I vaguely expected the goats to have been shampooed for us, with polished horns and hooves, doused in deodorant

far too small for my liking and returned with a catch that was, well, pathetic is the word for it.

But it didn't matter, although the TV crew was still filming. To keep them happy we swelled our catch with a load of fish supplied by one of the professionals from a plastic bag!

With the Cyprus Guides, we grilled the fish and our halloumi over a camp fire, as the cameras continued to roll.

This looked very authentic although,



"Please look after these Guides" — the Cypriot Guides arrive at the hotel to challenge the Guiders

and, perhaps, lightly tranquillised.

They weren't. They were just as nature intended — mucky, smelly and short-tempered.

Margaret was the first to "strike milk" which she managed to do unscathed, although her smart new uniform was later to become entangled with an anchor when we went fishing.

While Janet was trying to get to grips with things, she slipped and fell in the "guano". And, as I concentrated on the underlying problem with my goat, unbeknown to me, another beast started eating my uniform.

Our only consolation was that the Guides, all being town-dwellers, seemed to find the milking just as difficult. Still, eventually, we got the milk, which we helped an old lady to stir as she made it into the famous halloumi cheese. The process took only five hours.

Our fishing was a failure. We put to sea with an "old salt" in a boat that was

when we asked the Guides to sing us one of their traditional songs, to our astonishment they sang *Kum Ba Yah*.

At the end of a wonderful week, after our TV shadows had departed for another assignment, the much-travelled Guides of Cyprus put on a beautiful slide show for us at an international evening, held in our honour.

The Chief Commissioner for Cyprus then made Margaret, Janet and me honorary Cypriot Guides, Second Class and presented us each with a badge and — horror of horrors — a goat bell!

From start to finish, *Busman's Holiday* was non-stop fun although, to be frank, I have no desire to milk any more testy, bearded beasts.

Fortunately, too, none of us from the 71st Southport Company was anywhere near CHQ when those uniforms arrived back, chewed, torn and smelling of fish and goats.

SYLVIA SAWYER 11

Providing all the world's children with adequate nutrition, clean water, basic health care and primary education is no longer an impossible dream. It could happen by the year 2000. *GUIDING* looks at UNICEF's 1993 report *The State of the World's Children*.

This week 250,000 children died. A further 250,000 will die next week, and the next... and every week throughout the year. They are the victims, not of some headline disaster, but of on-going malnutrition and disease.

That brutal reality is all the more shocking because it is unnecessary. One quarter of the world's children — the poorest quarter — do not have to live in the shadow of death. Child malnutrition, preventable disease, and illiteracy could be eradicated this century — for just \$25 billion a year.

Just \$25 billion? Put into perspective, that figure rapidly dwindles. It is half what Europeans will spend on cigarettes this year, cheaper than the budget for Japan's new Tokyo-Kobe highway, less than the cost of the Ataturk Dam now under construction in Turkey, and not as much as Americans spend annually on beer or Europeans on wine... There's little doubt that the world could look after its children — if it really wanted to.

The \$25 billion is UNICEF's estimate for:

- controlling major childhood diseases
- halving the rate of child malnutrition
- bringing clean water and safe sanitation to all communities
- making family planning services universally available
- providing every child with a basic education.

These were five of the principal goals agreed at the 1990 World Summit for Children. Following the Summit, most countries pledged themselves to achieving these goals and many have drawn up national action plans.

Yet there is concern that these plans may never get beyond the drawing board. For many governments, meeting the needs of the poorest and, politically, the least significant, is not a priority.

BREAKING THROUGH

In *The State of the World's Children*, UNICEF argues that governments must make it a priority — and now. Never have conditions been so favourable for making a breakthrough against this 'last great obscenity'.

Factors contributing to these favourable conditions include scientific advances, new technologies, improved communications, and the development of outreach services — all these are

CHILDREN A CHALLENGE FOR

interlinked with falling costs.

In Africa, for example, the cost of providing clean water has been halved and is now about \$20 per person a year. While in countries as far apart as Bangladesh and Colombia, the annual cost of providing a basic education now also stands at only \$20 per child. Action is affordable.

A heartening example of what can be achieved is the immunisation programme. In September 1991, laboratory tests confirmed that a two-year-old in Peru had been paralysed by polio. Since then, no further cases of polio have been recorded anywhere in the western hemisphere.

In the other half of the world, however, polio still paralyses over 100,000 children each year. Paradoxically, that tragic statistic represents dramatic progress.

At the beginning of the 1980s, only about 20 per cent of the world's children were immunised. By 1990, immunisation levels had risen to 80 per cent.

They have now reached 85 per cent, saving some three million young lives each year, not just from polio but also from the other main vaccine-preventable diseases: measles, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and TB.

SUCCESS STORY

This on-going success story shows that basic health care can be made available to all, and that even the poorest developing countries can make progress in this area.

Thanks to the immunisation programme, under-five deaths from measles have been cut by two-thirds. Yet the disease is still one of the three big child killers. The other two are pneumonia and diarrhoea. Together, these three account for 60 per cent of child deaths in the developing world and they are also responsible for much of today's child malnutrition.

'All three diseases,' says the report, 'could now be prevented or treated by means which are tried and tested, available and affordable.'

Measles vaccine costs less than 50 cents a child. Pneumonia — killing 3.5m under-fives each year — can normally be controlled with a short course of antibiotics costing 25 cents. Diarrhoeal diseases, claiming 3m young



A clean start for the day at an Indian

victims annually, could largely be prevented by use of oral rehydration therapy — almost cost-free.

The report highlights two other low-cost strategies which would have a spectacular impact on children's health. Vitamin A deficiency, which blinds 250,000 children each year and threatens up to 10m with illness and death, could be controlled, either by slight changes in diet or by six-monthly capsules costing only a few cents.

Similarly, iodine deficiency — the world's biggest single cause of mental retardation — could be eliminated globally for less than the cost of two fighter planes.

POVERTY CYCLE

Disease and the other issues targeted by *The State of the World's Children* and

THE WORLD



UNICEF PHOTO BY T. S. NAGARAJAN

Centre offering pre-school and health care

contribute inexorably to the poverty cycle. In the words of the report: '... the insidious "inner cycle" of malnutrition and disease which leads to poor mental and physical growth; which leads to poor performance at school and at work; which leads to reduced adult capacity for earning an income; which leads to poor and often large families who are vulnerable to the malnutrition and disease that close the cycle and allow the current of poverty to flow from one generation to the next.'

By giving children a better start in life, UNICEF aims to break that cycle. By targeting the merciless evils of malnutrition, disease and illiteracy, it is addressing some of the most fundamental causes, as well as the most acute symptoms, of poverty.

It is, of course, governments that must finance the revolution on behalf of the world's children. UNICEF suggests that two-thirds of the \$25 billion total could be met by the developing nations themselves, with the other third coming in aid. This would mean 20 per cent of all international aid and 20 per cent of developing countries' budgets being allocated to basic needs.

The present situation falls scandalously short of this. On average, the governments of the developing world devote only ten per cent of their budgets to meeting the basic needs of their peoples.

When it comes to international development aid, less than ten per cent is spent on primary health care, water, sanitation, food, primary education and family planning. That ten per cent represents \$4 billion — less than half the amount the donor nations spend each year on sports shoes.

POPULAR SUPPORT

As well as challenging governments to act decisively, UNICEF — unusually for a UN body — is calling for popular support. 'Nothing less is needed,' says the report, 'than a movement that will begin to exert the same kind of pressure on behalf of children as has been brought to bear on behalf of the environment'.

In recent years, the worldwide campaign to protect the environment has led to crucial changes on an international scale. The momentum behind the campaign — especially in its vital early stages — comes not from market forces or political influences, but from public awareness and concern.

UNICEF wants the peoples of the developed world to know more and care more about basic needs, so that they can exert the same level of pressure over the welfare of children as they have over the planet's.

GUIDES CARE FOR OTHERS

As Guides, when it comes to 'knowing more and caring more' about basic needs we have a unique advantage: WAGGGS. Through our membership of the World Association, we can learn more about the relevant issues and support specific programmes. Also, GOLD and twinning schemes enable Rangers, Young Leaders and Guiders to take part in international development projects. (For a first-hand account of a GOLD team at work see page 16.)

In many parts of the world, member organisations of WAGGGS are actively involved in 'basic needs' projects. For example:

- In Behala, India, Guides and Rangers opened a Well Baby Clinic for mothers and children from a local slum area.

Among other services, it offers free immunisation.

- Guides in Panama help migrant Indian children to attend school by providing necessities such as shoes and clothing. They also raise funds to buy books for the children.

- Kenyan Guides can work for a Child Immunisation Badge. The syllabus includes helping at a hospital or health clinic, and passing on immunisation information to pregnant women and mothers of young children.

- In Bophuthatswana, South African Guides are involved in community development, undertaking projects like oral rehydration therapy and the construction of a children's playground.

- Colombian Guides took part in a health education programme, teaching families about immunisation and the prevention of illness.

- Twinning brought young adult members from Australia to Bangladesh where they worked alongside Bangladeshi Rangers and Rovers. Their work included oral rehydration therapy, sinking wells for safe drinking water, installing simple latrines and instructing villagers in hygiene measures and immunisation.

WAGGGS has special links with the UN and its agencies and gives practical support to various campaigns. *Help Children Grow* was the WAGGGS/WOSM/UNICEF child health project which contributed to the success of immunisation in the 1980s.

The current WAGGGS/UNEP venture *Water is Life*, is designed to create water-awareness among women and children. WAGGGS also publishes a series of World Issues booklets to encourage girls and young women to learn about and take action on contemporary concerns. Two titles are so far available: *Street Children, Struggling Against the Odds* and *AIDS — A Cause for Concern*.

Finding out about WAGGGS's work and supporting its initiatives, fund raising for charities like Save the Children and Cafod, organising a relevant awareness project, perhaps based on *Water is Life*, are all ways of learning more about basic needs.

Ways of taking up UNICEF's challenge to become involved and to help 'achieve one of the greatest goals that humanity could ever set for itself — the goal of adequate food, clean water, safe sanitation, primary health care, family planning, and basic education for virtually every man, woman and child on earth'.

CATHERINE DELL

- *The State of the World's Children 1993*, UNICEF, is published by Oxford University Press, price £4.

Network

CASH CHALLENGE

► Brownies, Guides, Rangers and other GGA members found all sorts of ways to travel a mile last year supporting the Macmillan Mile Challenge. The organisers were delighted with their significant contribution to the £423,000 raised.

The money was for the Macmillan Nurse Appeal which seeks to fund more cancer care nurses, mostly for work in hospitals. Top-class cricketer David Gower is patron of this year's Macmillan Mile Challenge and you are invited to join the fundraising fun between May 8 to 16.

The rules are slightly different this year. Now individuals can register as well as groups, and sponsorship forms are provided. So you can ask friends to each sponsor you £1 for your mile, if you want.

To register, contact Lynne Hawkins on 071-867 9256 for an organiser's pack. Or write to: Macmillan Mile Challenge, 15-19 Britten Street, London SW3 3TZ.

GOOD TIMES

▼ Don't you sometimes wish you could bottle up all those special moments in your life and preserve them forever?



David Gower's proud to be a Macmillan miler. Will you be joining him?

caption cards and two Fuji E180 blank video tapes, in an elegant presentation case.

The kit is available in the UK only by mail order, priced £14.95 including postage and packing from: Kingly Vision, 25 Ganton Street, London W1V 1LA. Telephone: 071-439 9226.

ZOO NEWS

► London Zoo in Regent's Park is offering cut-price admission for Guide leaders on two dates this year.

On June 19 and September 25 leaders pay only £3, that's a £2 saving on the normal £5 adult entrance fee. Guides, Brownies and Rainbows will pay £3 — the usual child's entrance fee for groups.

Extra activities have been laid on specially for our members during these two days, including a zoo trail competition and Animal in Action shows.

To qualify for the special rate, you have to pay and book in advance. For more details ring London Zoo on: 071-586 3910 and ask for the group sales co-ordinator.

HAPPY DAYS

● Younger members who took part in the 1992 painting competition run by the Royal London Society for the Blind helped make the event a great success. Regular readers will remember Rainbow Catherine Williams' stunning painting, which was highly commended and featured in last month's *GUIDING*.

In fact, the event was so popular, organisers are planning another this year — and,

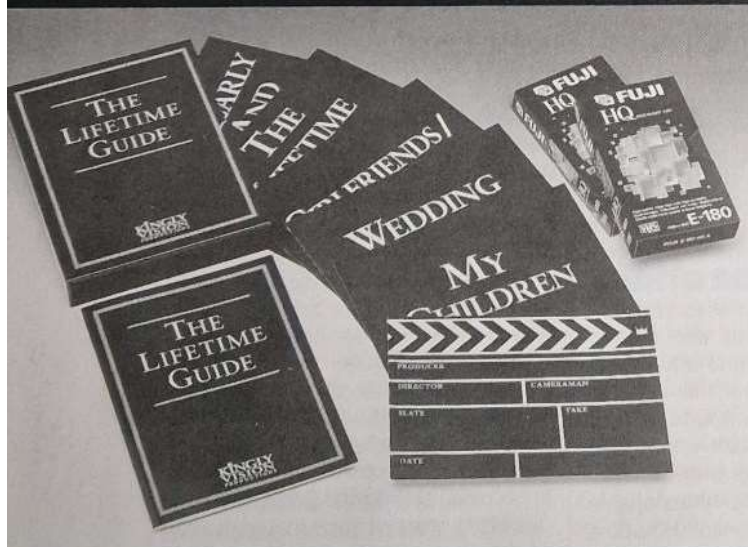
Youngsters love Dilberta, the Asian elephant



of course, all young members are welcome to enter.

This year you have to submit a painting or drawing entitled *Happiness*, and all prizewinning entries will be exhibited at the Dorton Art Exhibition, Kent for two days in October.

For an entry form write to: Area Co-ordinator, Dorton House School, Seal, Nr Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0EB. The closing date is June 30.



Well, you can with a camcorder. Now there's a *Lifetime Guide* to help you get the most of those happy days.

The *Lifetime Guide* is a do-it-yourself guide to keeping a record of precious moments and special occasions. The 14 set contains a script, set of

We have *Lifetime Guides* to give away to the first three readers whose names are drawn on May 31. So send your name and address on a postcard to: *The Lifetime Guide* Offer, *GUIDING*, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.

NEW AGE

◀ You may be over 50 but you're certainly not over the hill! That's the message from Age Resource, a campaigning group which helps older people channel their energies into having fun and helping others.

Look out for those active over-50s during Age Resource Week which starts on May 24, when members nationwide will be publicising all this age group has to offer.

For more information write to: Sandie Barr, Development Manager, Age Resource, Astral House, 1268 London Road, London SW16 4ER.



An interest shared — pupils from Herimatage School meet Mary Bezzina and Florrie Jupp

AGE RESOURCE

GREAT GIVEAWAY

► The Royal Tournament at London's Earl's Court promises to be as spectacular as ever this year. The show runs from July 20 to July 31 and there's a special Guides/Scouts matinee performance on Friday, July 30.

The 103rd Royal Tournament takes Victory at Sea as its theme. A cast of over 2,000 service men and women will include 80 Moscow sailors who will provide traditional Russian music and cossack dancing.

Tickets cost £17, £13 and £9 with special discounts for children, OAPs and groups of 20 or more.

Call the box office for details on 071-373 0100.

We have two sets of family tickets (four tickets) to give away to the first lucky winners whose entries are drawn out of the bag. Just send your name and address on a postcard by May 31 to: GUIDING/Royal Tournament Offer, The Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.

KESTREL COMMUNICATIONS



FREE WHEELING

● Fancy a holiday on wheels this year? The Bicycle Association has just published a leaflet on cycling holidays. Called *Holiday by Cycle*, it lists cycling holidays available in Britain, Europe and beyond.

For a free copy of the leaflet send a sae to: *Holiday by Cycle*, Bicycle Association, Starley House, Eaton Road, Coventry CV1 2FH.

UNICEF-UK



STAR APPEAL

◀ UNICEF has set up a fund in memory of Audrey Hepburn who died in January. As a Goodwill Ambassador for UNICEF, the international film star dedicated the last years of her life to the welfare of the world's children.

The Audrey Hepburn Memorial Fund is for specific UNICEF projects for children in Africa. It will focus on helping youngsters with particularly tough lives, such as street children and young war victims.

If you want to contribute, please send cheques, payable to UNICEF — Audrey Hepburn Memorial Fund, to: UNICEF-UK, Freepost, London WC2A 3BR.

Help children in Africa with the Audrey Hepburn Memorial Fund

Gallop to the rescue — the Kings Troop

PRINC

Providing 'water for life'

was the task of a

GOLD project team

who travelled to

Thailand last year.

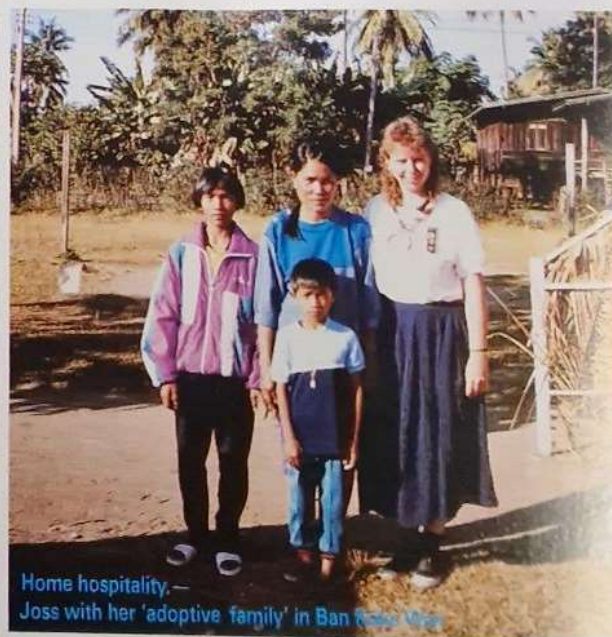
In the land of *sai sin* every Guide needs to know that water is the *Prince of Life*. Because clean water, even when it has to be sparingly used, is the giver of life itself, the provider of good health.

So, when a UK team went to Thailand last December to share a GOLD project with the Thai Guides, their work-theme was 'Water Is Life'.

The team was the second to take part in a programme spread over five years, teaching the Guides how to work effectively with villagers to improve hygiene and health.

GOLD GROUP

Digging for life —
the pipeline ditch
gets underway



Home hospitality —
Joss with her 'adoptive family' in Ban Kuan Muang

CE OF LIFE

Brownie Guider Joss Benison, from Cumbria, who took part in the first expedition, was leader of the team which included: Guide Guider Lynnie Colburn, from Sussex East; Ranger Guide Jenny Hurst, from Staffordshire; Guide Guider Andrea Nicholas, and Assistant Guide Guider Karen Scott, both from Hampshire West.

Karen, a Queen's Guide, who is reading medicine at Southampton University, describes how Team No.2 tackled the project.

Our aim was to spend two weeks in the North West of Thailand working with Thai Guides, our theme being "Water Is Life". They would then teach people in the village of Ban Koke Wan.

We were to spend a week travelling around the country, looking at other projects and experiencing the different climates and cultures.

At Bangkok airport we were met by Daranee, General Secretary of the Girl Guides Association of Thailand (GGAT). She is affectionately known as "Pee Tong", the "Pee" meaning "elder sister".

We found Bangkok very hot and humid and we were terrified by the standard of driving.

The three-week programme presented to us by GGAT was packed, leaving us very little free time. Later in the trip we were to find this lack of time for ourselves quite stressful.

In the evening we flew to Korat and then went by minibus to Surin, in the North East. For the next two weeks we were based at the GGAT training centre in Surin, which we found very comfortable, in spite of the heat.

The next day we went to meet senior Guides at Lahansai, where a training camp had been set up in the grounds of Lahansai school. We were to work with the girls, both at their school and in the village.

They greeted us very warmly — in fact, a little too warmly for our liking. They wanted us to enter the camp by crawling through a tunnel of bushes. But it overhung a muddy ditch, swarming with red ants so we politely declined and entered by another route.

In camp we met a group of Guides and their leader from Bangkok. We thought they might be difficult to work with, being more mature and Westernised than the local girls. But they were a great help, as they spoke reasonably good English and acted as interpreters.

These days at camp were very intensive, both for us and the Guides.

We started by introducing the idea of Patrol work — a concept that even the Thai leaders found very difficult to grasp, which meant hours of patient explaining to get them to understand. When the message had finally got through, we felt a great sense of achievement.

Guiding in Thailand is very much like school teaching, where girls sit in rows and are talked to through a PA system. To help them understand, we spent a lot of time playing games and having discussions in Patrols.

After four days we returned to Surin for a rest and to plan our service camp at Ban Koke Wan.

Our first two nights at the village were in home hospitality and even this proved to be a challenge. Communication was difficult and bathroom facilities were, well, very different!

Most of Ban Koke Wan's water comes from two wells. Our first task was to lay a pipeline from an electric pump to the camp and the school.

All the Guides worked hard, helped by the village men. The co-operation was wonderful and we felt quite part of the village life. Just to see the delight of the children when the water was turned on made it worthwhile.

The first part of the camp involved teaching the Guides about water so we introduced the *Prince of Life*, a sort of wide game in which the Guides try to discover who the prince is. The prince is, of course, water.

In the second stage the Guides taught the village children all about "Water Is Life" and the children enjoyed this immensely. We felt the day had been a great success.

The villagers could not have been more welcoming and, when they invited

us to join them in a visit to their temple, we were given *sai sin* — sort of white string tied to our wrists — as a symbol of welcome and to ward off evil spirits.

A lot of chanting and water-sprinkling followed, and then everyone ate together. We left Ban Koke Wan feeling we had achieved a lot.

With the hard work over, it was time to unwind and just look around. Before leaving Surin on the night train for the capital, we dined at a restaurant where performing elephants provided the cabaret.

On a day excursion from Bangkok, we went to see an ex-pat Englishman's "cobra show", in which he "wrestled" with the snakes. It was not a pleasant sight and we hurried away.



While in Bangkok we tried to visit the Royal palace, but, due to horrific traffic, it took us two hours to go five miles — and that in a temperature of nearly 40 degrees!

Yes, we'd had some challenging situations on this trip, when we'd been too hot and too tired, but this was one we could duck with honour.

We'd faced up to the rest, so we went home feeling that we'd made a worthwhile contribution to Guiding and its work in this fascinating country.

KAREN SCOTT

Expedition leader Joss Benison

GGFF

The second country featured in the GGFF's Summer Appeal is the Ivory Coast in West Africa.

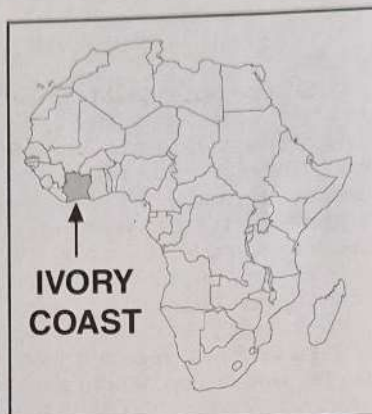
As the West went into recession early in the 1980s, the prosperity of the Ivory Coast withered. Exports fell, industries closed and unemployment soared to 45 per cent of the working population.

Today, in spite of severe budget cuts, the economy continues to deteriorate. The benefits of an increased output in cocoa and coffee have been negligible because the price of both these cash crops on the world market continues to fall.

These difficulties affect all levels of society, including young people. For example, many families are unable to find the money to support their teenage children through higher education.

This forces many young people to seek paid employment in situations which are often not in their best interests. Students whose studies take them away from home are even more vulnerable, as they have to find accommodation far away from their families.

But, without an education, it is almost impossible to find meaningful work. The members of the Ivory Coast Girl Scouts Association recognise that young women are particularly vulnerable, and are actively working to support them as they make the transition to the adult world.



One major project involves the setting up of a Social and Training Centre in the town of Agboville, 80km from the capital Abidjan.

The centre will provide accommodation at an affordable price and will train school-leavers in income-generating skills. This will enable students to continue their studies without the strain and worry of financial con-

siderations, as well as give young, unemployed women the opportunity to learn some worthwhile skills.

Work has already begun on the centre. Last August, with help from various experts, a team of young people embarked on the initial building work. Eventually, it is hoped to complete two buildings. The first will contain dormitories with adjoining bathrooms and a leader's apartment. The second will house the training centre.

The Girl Guide Friendship Fund hopes to contribute to the £5,000 needed for the first phase of the building programme. This will cover the cost of building the leader's room including painting, plumbing and providing electricity, doors and windows.

Any donations for the project can 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).

THE BIG CHILL

Fund raising was a chilly affair for a dozen Cheshire Guides who slept rough in a self-made 'cardboard city' during one of the winter's coldest nights.

With the temperature below freezing, the sponsored sleep-out by members of 6th Congleton Company raised £200. The cash will go to Childhope, an international organisation helping homeless children, and the St Mungo Association, which supports the homeless in Britain's inner cities.

Kept warm by a blazing camp fire and wrapped in their winter woollies, the girls pitched their cardboard boxes outside the home of Guide Roz Unsworth.

During the early morning, the spectacle — a common sight in cities — aroused the curiosity of the local police force. But they were satisfied the 'homeless' fundraisers had permission to use the front garden, and even made a donation.

The Guides believed the only way to understand homelessness was to sleep rough themselves.

'It really made us realise what it feels like to sleep rough, and how difficult it must be to pick up any semblance of normal life,' said their Guider, International Commissioner Sue Taylor. 'We were tired and dirty after just one night. Imagine what it must be like to live like this.'

Although most of the girls only slept for a few hours, everyone was keen to repeat the event — but preferably in a warmer climate.

The experience was extremely worthwhile, despite the cold weather, said Sue. 'Although next time, we've agreed to sleep out during the summer — hopefully as part of the national sleep-out event sponsored by the St Mungo Association in June.'

MARIA COOLE

The 6th Congleton Guides chill out for charity



A MAN'S EYE VIEW

'The message is, "She'll need wobbly eyes for Wednesday".'

'OK, Joan,' I replied, 'I've written it down and I'll pass it on.' Quite what it meant I wasn't sure. Perhaps it was a Guiders' night out — going to see the Chippendales maybe! But I have learned through experience never to try and understand these messages for Tawny. My role is just to write them down with no questions asked.

The fact is that the phone always seems to ring when I'm 'home alone', so being chief message-taker has become quite a vital role.

Another thing I've learned — at least 50 per cent of Guiders were christened Joan, 40 per cent are Margarets and most of the rest are Jeans or Madges.

So there I was, just settling down to watch the football, and the wretched thing goes again. It's Madge. 'Just tell her the tiger came out all right, but we'll have to try something different with the monkey because its fur blew off and the elephant keeps falling over.'

'Perhaps he should take more water with it,' I ventured.

The silence at the other end of the phone was deafening. I buried my pathetic attempt at humour and simply wrote down the message. When Tawny read it later, I realised it must have been in code because she understood it instantly.

'Is that right?' I asked.

'Yes, I knew pipe cleaners wouldn't work. Did she say anything about a giraffe?'

I had to admit she hadn't.

'Good. They probably decided on the rhino — it'll mean less toilet rolls anyway.'

By now, utterly confused, I wandered back to the football, while Tawny nipped next door on an errand. Just two minutes to go in the match and the score was nil-nil.

Ring, ring goes the phone. It was Madge again. She'd forgotten to say that they'd decided against the giraffe. 'Very wise,' I murmured. 'You can take it easy on the toilet rolls then.' The

minute I said it I wished I hadn't, and I made a little note on the pad for future reference: Madge — no jokes!

I got back to the television to hear the commentator just summing up. That certainly was the most astonishing finish to a game we've seen — 88 minutes without a goal. And yet the final result was three-two. That winning shot was surely the goal of the season.

I put my coat on and headed for the Dog and Duck with the chap from next door, who I knew would tell me what a great game it was.

As we walked I pondered on the sacrifices we new men must make. And I kept telling myself it was all for the good of the Brownies.

So the messages still keep coming in, and I keep on taking them. They range from the sublime to the ridiculous. But there's still one about a sausage dog, a ping pong ball, a hat pin and the District Commissioner that I puzzle over to this day.

I was sorely tempted as I wrote it down, but I didn't say a word — it was Madge on the line!



JANE ECCLES

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ALL ABOVE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

Regular readers will remember we wrote about the new Scottish Forum in *Watch This Space* in February 1992. This began in September, 1991 as a two-year experiment to replace the Junior Council (Scotland). If our first article was positive and hopeful, this one is even more so because we can proudly report that the Scottish Forum is operating successfully. As the deadline draws closer, evaluation of the Forum is very encouraging.

There is a lot to tell as so much has been happening. In April last year we held a meeting in Glasgow with guest speakers from The Body Shop, Oxfam, Friends of the Earth and Childline Scotland. As well as discussion and debate, the exciting *Take the Initiative* pack was launched.

By our third meeting in Edinburgh last October, it was evident that Forums were being established in Counties throughout Scotland. The theme of this meeting was *Be All You Can Be*, and the event featured talks and workshops covering a wide variety of topics including self-assertion and vegetarianism. The GGA's representative on the British Youth Council spoke at the meeting.

The enjoyable *Crystal Maze* in the afternoon involved working in teams to complete all sorts of weird and wonderful challenges. There was a long and heated discussion on the published proposals for changes to the *Promise and Laws*, the ideas from which are in *Forum Fax Four*.

Forum Fax, the newsletter of the Scottish Forum, is the major line of communication to Forum members. It allows us to reflect on past meetings and events and to inform members of forthcoming attractions, such as the meeting taking place this month.

We are being more adventurous this time and holding a weekend event at Netherurd, the Scottish Training Centre. There really will be something to suit everyone as activities include drama, outdoor opportunities, food, crafts, and improving one's self-image.

Meanwhile, the Scottish Forum, as an active body, is being noticed. One of our most significant achievements is being offered a place for a member to attend the Scottish Programme and Training Committee meetings. This allows direct, two-way communication between the Committee and the Forum. And proposals made at the Edinburgh meeting for reduced census rates for students were put to the Association



SCOTTISH SUCCESS

Junior Council at 1992's autumn meeting at Pax Lodge.

The hugely-successful Training Roadshow currently touring the whole of Scotland has been an excellent opportunity for the Scottish Forum to gain a higher profile. It offers a chance to be directly involved in a project which is proving that young women in Scotland are getting a buzz out of Guiding. We hope the enthusiasm generated at the Roadshows will help to strengthen County Forums throughout the whole country.

We are finding that these Forums are taking different forms to fulfil the particular needs of each County, which is how it should be. Some Forums meet for discussion and action about issues related to Guiding, some help organise County events and others publish County newsletters. But they all have two things in common:

● They have a direct input into the Scottish Forum via the two representatives

drawn from each Scottish County.

● The members are enthusiastic and motivated.

And it works!

We know it is working because we are getting results. The Scottish Forum is being recognised and being used. One example is our service as car park attendants and helpers at the Fun Days held at Netherurd last year. And we have plans to help in the running of *Challenger '94*, a camp for members with disabilities.

The Scottish Forum has a short, but mainly sweet, past, and a present which is always geared to the future. Members give a lot and our success means we get a great deal in return. The secrets of our success? Faith in our aims, belief in ourselves, enthusiasm and, most important of all, enjoyment.

HAZEL ANDERSON
SHONA BINNING
FIONA AITKEN
FIONA MACLELLAN

Notices

FRIENDS MEET

The annual meeting of the Friends of the Four World Centres will be held at Pax Lodge in London on November 6. Although the meeting will begin at 2pm, visitors are welcome to arrive at any time from 11am onwards.

'Friends' offer support and help to Guiding's four World Centres — Sangam, Our Chalet, Our Cabaña and Pax Lodge. We were able to give each World Centre £350 last year, said Secretary Marie Ruiz. 'Our efforts were much appreciated, as they need all the help they can get.'

New members will be very welcome to attend the meeting but should contact Mrs Ruiz for further information at 37 Davenant Road, Oxford OX2 8BU, tel 0865 58293. Anyone wanting lunch, which costs £3, should also contact Mrs Ruiz.

THE ASSOCIATION'S AWARDS

GOOD SERVICE

LAUREL

Miss Eva Holden — Assistant Guide Guider, 42nd Oldham Company, Lancashire South East.

MERITORIOUS CONDUCT STAR OF MERIT

Mrs Caroline Wright — Assistant Guide Guider, 5th Ripon Moorside Company, North Yorkshire West.

BADGE LOSS

Does anyone have a 'spare' 1976-style, metal Queen's Guide badge? Mrs D Brownbridge is looking for one to replace the badge which was among items stolen from her daughter's home in a recent burglary.

'My daughter was deeply upset about the loss as she now has two small daughters of her own, who, in time, will be introduced to Guiding, and she was hoping to show them the badge,' said Mrs Brownbridge.

She can be contacted at: Tyn-y-Wern, Ynyslas Borth, 22 Dyfed SY24 5JL.



GARDEN PARTY

The Friends of Glenbrook are organising a 'Party in the Garden' to celebrate the centre's 25th birthday, and all members of the Association from Rainbow to Trefoil Guid member are invited to attend. The party will be held on Saturday, July 17 between 2 and 5pm.

A varied programme is planned including sideshows, crafts, bouncing castle, circus workshop, maypole dancing and many other attractions. There is no admission

charge, but a nominal charge of 20p will be made for the various activities.

Afternoon teas will be served and hot dogs, ice cream and a tuck shop will also be available — all at moderate prices.

To help with catering and organising parking facilities, the organisers need to know by the end of May approximate numbers and mode of travel, for instance coach, mini-bus, car...

See you there!

ON THE MOVE

The Manchester Guide and Scout Shop is moving from Faraday Street to Unit 10 on Piccadilly Approach. The new shop, situated on the approach road to Piccadilly main line railway station, will be much more convenient for customers.

It will be particularly handy for train passengers and users of the new Metrolink, which has a terminus in the station. There is plenty of car parking nearby and many bus routes serve the area.

A final date for the move is not yet available but it should be early this month. If you are planning to visit the shop during May or

June please telephone Jackie Birch, the manager, on 061 236 3191 before you travel to check if the new shop has opened.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

The Friends of Hautbois are arranging a special weekend to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the official opening of Great Hautbois House, the Anglia Region Training Centre.

It will take place from May 28 to 31 and includes a camp for small groups of Guides, Action Plus, Rangers/Young Leaders, LINK members, Guiders or Trefoil Guild members. Each

camp is to be self supporting and attractions include a camp fire and night exercise.

On the Saturday there will be a day out for Brownies and the highlight of Sunday will be a musical concert and birthday tea.

For further details contact the Guider-in-Charge, Great Hautbois House, Coltishall, Norwich NR12 1JN. Tel: 0603 737357.

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.

SHORT TERM INVESTMENT SERVICE

The monthly interest rate after deduction of management commission:

Dec, 1992 ... 5.938 per cent
Jan, 1993 ... 5.938 per cent
Feb, 1993 ... 5.094 per cent
An additional 0.5 per cent per annum for deposits of £5,000 and above.

TRUST FUND

On February 28, 1993 the value of a share in the Scout and Guide Trust Fund was:
for selling purposes...288.51
for buying purposes...303.15
income yield...3.45 per cent
The income yield is based on the previous two dividends paid and the price on the date stated.

SAYING THANKS

During UK Volunteers Week, June 1-7, voluntary groups all over the country will be celebrating the 23 million volunteers who give their time and energy to UK organisations. Perhaps you would like to throw a party or stage an event to thank your volunteers. It's the perfect occasion to publicise your work and perhaps recruit more volunteers.

For more information contact The Promotion Unit, The Volunteer Centre, 29 Lower King's Road, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire WD18 2AB, tel: 0442 873317.

When I was asked to write an article on the subject of nationalism and race discrimination, I reflected upon my own feelings about the recent developments in Germany. I am deeply hurt by them and I am shocked that it is possible to, once again, display brutal racism.

It is time to create and use networks of all democratic forces, when people are hunted like animals, because if we are silent, we are in agreement.

There is no doubt that right-wing extremist thought, which was almost forgotten, is slowly growing again and cannot be ignored because it is conquering certain parts of society. Fear is taking over, and even ordinary people are scared to lose their high standard of living. The way they simplify a highly complex problem is to condemn asylum-seeking people as plunderers of the social security resources of the country.

It is impossible to focus here on all the possible reasons for the present disturbing developments in Germany and other countries, but it seems that a mixture of fear, lack of prospects and frustration, especially among young people, is nurturing the longing for simple solutions and a strong authoritarian hand.

We are all experiencing tremendous changes within society and values have totally changed. Restricting standards have been largely rejected, but, on the other hand, capitalism has also done away with social ideals.

Approximately 60 per cent of young Germans say that money-making is the most important thing in their lives. Right-wing extremists, in particular, conform to the capitalist system. Economic power has been proved to be

the dominating system and, within this system, people fight and win battles, proving their system to be better than others.

In this Darwinian way of thinking, solidarity has no place — only the strong survive. Those who are on the lower rungs of the ladder are making scapegoats of those on the lowest rungs — the asylum-seekers, the disabled, gypsies...

All this goes hand in hand with the devaluation of established organisations such as the church, political parties and trade unions, whose authority is shrinking. Structures like farming communities, workers' organisations and religious communities are either severely diminished, or in the process of dissolution. This also affects all traditional youth organisations, including Guiding and Scouting.

The replacement for these are individualism and de-socialisation. Even the highly praised economic system is being questioned since the destruction of the environment is too evident to be denied. The search for an ever-increasing standard of living becomes questionable and an attractive ecological life style has not yet been found.

In the workforce, people experience helplessness since production is dictated by an international market and depends on world development. The individual feels powerless and in fear

of developments which overrule everyone. In this environment rage is growing, as is the call for an authority which can reverse this dilemma, and a scapegoat is quickly found.

It is not coincidental that nationalism and right-wing extremism are developing together in former Eastern Germany. This may be explained by the fact that young people have lost the figure-heads they identified with, because many teachers and leaders of the youth movement have been discredited because of their political past. The breakdown of socialism was also a breakdown of all youth work, and many young people fell into a vacuum.

Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting have a chance and a duty to use their international networks to inform and help their members in their provision of an international education. This will prevent simplifying generalisations, the search for scapegoats and the hatred of people of other races, nationalities and beliefs.

If we take on this urgent challenge of today, we will be creating a better world tomorrow.

MARIA KÜPER

● Maria Küper is Educational Officer, County Freiberg, Pfadfinderinnenschaft St Georg, Germany. This article was written for, and first appeared in *Euro Focus's Viewpoint* section. The magazine is a WAGGGS publication.

a personal VIEW

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

mud LARKS

Dedicated Guides, Rangers and Guiders waded through knee-deep mud wielding rakes, spades and forks to clear away debris during a weekend conservation project at Great Hautbois House.

The project was organised and led by GGA Environment Adviser Cilla Oates,

who is also Conservation Adviser for Hautbois. As part of Cilla's long term plans for the Anglian Training Centre, the girls cleared away accumulated sludge and rotting vegetation from the cut used for canoeing.

But the weekend wasn't all hard graft. On the Saturday evening the budding conservationists explored the 'wind power' of windmills, helicopters and other mobiles powered by 'puff'.

The next conservation course at Hautbois is scheduled for November. Applicants, who must be over 11 and prepared for hard work, should contact the Guider-in-Charge for details.

GILLIAN ELLIS



Willing conservation workers get stuck in, ignoring the mud

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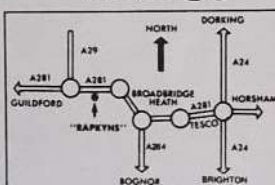


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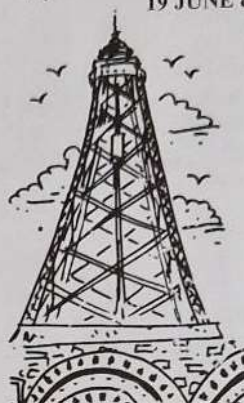
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ANTHEA WHITEWOOD



After every camp we say 'Never again, we'll holiday next time'. And after every holiday it's the reverse. Generally I suppose they come out equal. My washing machine can't tell the difference between camp/holiday and Thinking Day. Both events involve anything resembling uniform going through the wash.

The only difference is that after all the Thinking Day activities everything looks as if it's been slept in. After an Easter Holiday, when we were the first in the building so it was cold and damp, it *had* all been slept in!

Our holiday dominated April and it was one of surprises — mostly pleasant ones. It seems that everyone enjoyed it because they're already talking about next time.

But it started off with, 'I'm not allowed to eat...', and we began to wonder how many of them had been absent on menu-planning evening.

Then followed, 'I'm not allowed to do...', covering anything involving fresh air or exercise. The health forms grew quite worn as we thumbed through them before replying: 'It doesn't say that on your form'.

The next surprise was that Claire didn't get sent home. We were close to it several times but, when we actually mentioned it, we were told that there was no one at home — the rest of the

family had gone away. That was not on the health form either.

Sunday morning, QM took one Guide to the Catholic church, while Assistant and I took the rest to the Church of England. The Guides were mainly 'don't knows' and that was the church in walking distance.

We asked for back-row seats when the Vicar came over on Saturday evening to talk through the service book with the Guides. Yet, next day we found we were guests of honour in the front row.

However, at the risk of being accused of blasphemy, we declared our Easter miracle was that the Guides were little angels throughout the service. They even charmed the rest of the congregation — average age, 100 — with polite conversation afterwards.

They used up their whole week's

supply of good behaviour in that one morning, but it was worth it.

Young Leader slept out in a tiny tent for one night with Mandy and Tracy who, at very short notice, decided it could be an Action Plus activity. Of course, all the others wanted to try it. They changed their minds after survival day, when we headed for the woods and they felt the temperature.

We added 'Bring your own Easter egg' to the holiday kit list then found that most Guides were having computer games instead. Easter eggs, it seems, are only for children. We were, therefore, surprised at how quickly they all turned back into children for an egg hunt organised by YL.

In fact, we'd thought it might be a disaster, but it was the only time Assistant and I didn't have to eat the leftovers!

D·I·A·R·Y

OF A

GUIDE GUIDER

Certain roles within Guiding bring with them membership of The Council, which is the governing body of the Girl Guides Association, but the majority of the 54 members are elected, initially for three years.

The ex-officio members are mainly the Country/Region Chief Commissioners headed, of course, by The Chief Commissioner, Jane Garside.

At present the other Chief Commissioners are: Paula Hewitt,

Anglia; Hilary (Billy) Everett, London and South East; Margaret Wright, Midlands; Pat Cliff, North East England; Jane Knight, North West England; Gillian Robertson, Scotland; Helen Snelling, South West England; Susan Hogg, Ulster and Ruth Griffith, Wales.

The Chairman of the Trefoil Guild, currently Lady Beevor (Barbara), is also an ex-officio member of The Council.

The Chief Commissioner appoints two further members — the International Commissioner, at present Sue Taylor, and the Chairman of Finance, currently Bridget Towle.

The Council itself appoints the Honorary Treasurer, currently Edward Holding, as a Council member.

There are four invited, non-voting members: Jenny Ashmore, Chairman of the Association's Junior Council; Helen Barker, Commissioner for British Guides in Foreign Countries (BGIFC); Maureen Reid, the Chairman of Programme and Training and Sheila Walker, the Public Relations Adviser. Mrs Barker is also an elected member — her election preceded her taking over as Commissioner for BGIFC.

The President of the Association, Princess Margaret, usually chairs both the morning and afternoon sessions of the Annual General Meeting and, occasionally, attends the autumn meeting.

INTRODU THE

ING...

COUNCIL

The composition of The Council changes a little each year at the Annual General Meeting — held this year on May 25 — when some members' terms of office end. For example, elected members Catriona Boyce and Sheena Schlegel will both retire after serving for two terms. The elected members are drawn from every section of Guiding. Some are elected by their Countries/Regions, others by The Council itself. Here we take a brief look at their backgrounds.



HELEN BARKER △

Elected by The Council when Chairman of the Friends of British Guides in Foreign Countries (BGIFC), Helen is now BGIFC Commissioner. She is also Chairman of Hautbois House Committee, a non-Executive Director of the Ipswich Hospital Trust and Chairman of the Governors of an independent girls school. Helen is 52 and married with three grown-up children. She has been a District, Division and County Commissioner in Suffolk.

MYRA BELL ▽

A Trainer, Division Commissioner and a Brownie Guider, 60-year-old Myra was elected by Anglia, where she has been both Adviser and Co-ordinator for Programme

and Training. Married with a son, a daughter and one grandchild, she has experience of Guiding in Malaysia and Hong Kong.



HILARY COOPER △

A deputy headteacher in East Durham, 36-year-old Hilary was elected by North East England. She is a Ranger Guider and the Outdoor Activity Adviser for North Tyneside County and North East England, as

well as holding a training licence. Keen on sport, Hilary was one of the founder members of the Junior Council.



CAROLYN COWLEY △

Married with two teenage daughters, 45-year-old Carolyn does not hold a Guiding appointment at present. She works as a civil servant and is currently studying with the Open University. She has been a Brownie, Guide and Ranger Guider.

ELIZABETH CRAIG ▽

At present 58-year-old Elizabeth doesn't hold a Guiding appointment. However, she has been a County and District Commissioner, as well as a Guide and Ranger Guider. A farmer's wife with four children and two



grandchildren, Elizabeth was elected by Ulster.



FIONA DALGLISH △

Also from Ulster, Fiona is a community pharmacist and a Guide Guider. Her connection with the Movement began as a Bunny — Northern Ireland's equivalent of Rainbows. Fiona, now 26, went on to become a Queen's Guide. She co-ordinated the 15 + pilot in Ulster.



ANNE FAULL △

Managing director of a family property company, 55-year-old Anne is a member of the Association's Finance Committee and Guides Cymru Finance and General Purposes Committee. Elected by The Council, Anne is Chairman of the Broneirion Fund Guide Liaison Committee, a Guide Guider and Chairman of the County Guide Training/Activity Centre Management Committee. She is married with three grown-up children.



ELIZABETH FERRIER △

From Scotland, 53-year-old Elizabeth is the Country's Programme and Training Adviser. A recently retired head teacher, she has also served as Young Leader Adviser for her home County, Dunbartonshire, and as Deputy Programme and Training Adviser for Scotland. She enjoys reading and travelling.

ELIZABETH (BETTY) FINDLATER ▽

Elizabeth is a member of the Council for Scotland and elected by Scotland to The Council. The 51-year-old law secretary from Linlithgow has held many appointments in Guiding, including Guide and Ranger Guider; District, Division and County Commissioner; and has

been both Camp Consultant and Public Relations Adviser for Scotland.



GILLIAN (JILL) HANCOCK △

Formerly Hertfordshire's County Commissioner and Chairman of its Programme and Training Committee, Jill was chairman of the recent Commissioner File Working Party. A Trainer and County Guide representative on Hertfordshire Council for Voluntary Youth Services 62-year-old Jill was elected by Anglia. Married with two grown-up children, she has been a Brownie and Guide Guider, as well as Regional Deputy Chief Commissioner.



JACQUELINE (JACKY) GODDARD △

Serving her second term for Anglia, 48-year-old Jacky has been a Ranger Guider since 1967. A part-time teacher, she is also a Division Commissioner and the director/producer of the Southend Scout and Guide Gang Show. Her husband, son and daughter share her dedication to the Movement.



STELLA GOLDSMITH △

Sussex East's County Commissioner, 59-year-old Stella is married with two daughters and two grandchildren. Formerly an English teacher, she is currently studying drama. Elected by London and South East, her other Guiding jobs have included Brownie Guider, Trainers' Tutor, District Commissioner and Programme and Training Adviser.



DEBORAH (DEBBIE) KEIGHLEY △

A metallurgist at BNFL, Sellafield, 36-year-old Deborah has been a Brownie Guider since 1980. She is Chairman of Cumbria North Programme and Training Committee and a Trainer for North West Region, which elected her. Married with no children, she was a member of Cumbria North Finance Committee and handled the PR for Calder Division.

JILL KENDALL ▽

An Assistant Brownie Guider, 57-year-old Jill was elected by South West England. A holiday cottage owner and operator, she is married with two children and is Community Involvement and

Development Adviser for Cornwall. Her former appointments include District, Division and County Commissioner, as well as having been a Brownie and Guide Guider.



DENISE KING △

A former Association Junior Council Chairman, 26-year-old Denise is WAGGGS' Europe Region Executive. Denise, who was elected by The Council, has been an Assistant Guide Guider and a Ranger Guider. She was a member of the GGA's delegation to the 27th World Conference.



SUSAN (SUE) KIRBY △

Guides Cymru's Public Relations Adviser, 46-year-old Sue is also PRA for her home County, Gwent and led the first official UK party to Byelorussia in 1991. Elected by The Council, she is a Ranger and a Brownie Guider and enjoys mountain walking. A nurse, Sue is a member of the theatre team at the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport.

JANE LILLEY ▽

A member of the Tutor Group Committee, Jane is also a Guide Guider and Trainer. Elected by Midlands Region, she is the Region's Programme and Training Adviser. Married with no children, 46-year-old Jane manages the communications department in a large



industrial company. Her lengthy list of previous appointments includes serving on *The Guide Handbook* Committee and the Trefoil Badge Committee.

**AMANDA MEDLER ▴**

Amanda is Chairperson of the Association's delegation to the British Youth Council (BYC). She was elected last year by The Council. A Guide Guider, she is County Chairman of the Young Guiders' Forum. Living in Northwood, Middlesex, 27-year-old Amanda works as a computer programmer/analyst.

**PATRICIA PARRY ▴**

Chairman of Ty Clwyd Centre and Camp Site Management Committee, 57-year-old Patricia was elected by Wales. She is currently an Assistant County Commissioner, having been a Division Commissioner and Clwyd's Outdoor Activities Adviser. Married with two grown-up children, she took early retirement from a teaching post.

**ALISON PLUMMER ▴**

A housewife and part-time teacher in further education, Alison was elected by Scotland last year. She is an Assistant Guide Guider, a Trainer and Chairman of the City of Glasgow's Programme and Training Committee. Alison is 34, married to an architect, and has two young daughters.

BETTY RODERICK ▽

A County Commissioner from Central Glamorgan, Betty was elected by Wales. Mother of six, 59-



year-old Betty is married to a solicitor. She is a Guide Guider and, occasionally, works in a shop, although she trained as a teacher. Her previous Guiding jobs include Arts Adviser for Wales and Division Commissioner.

**DELLA SALWAY ▴**

A Trainer, Assistant Ranger Guider and Division Young Leader Adviser, Della says she has 'a very supportive husband'. Elected by The Council, 31-year-old Della is a bank manager. She has been a Brownie Guider, a BYC delegate, Chairman of Devon Junior Council and a Division PRA.

**RUTH SARA ▴**

Director of Studies and Head of Science at a secondary school, Ruth is the Association's Science and Technology Adviser. She is also a Guide Guider and Avon South's Programme and Training Adviser. Ruth, who is 45, was elected by South West England and has been their Arts Adviser and Music Consultant, as well as a Ranger and Assistant Guide Guider.

CAROLINE (CAROL) SELWYN-JONES ▽

The Association's Outdoor Activities Adviser, Carol was elected by The Council. She is also an Assistant Division Commissioner and a Division Young Leader

Adviser. A teacher from Hull, 43-year-old Carol was North East England's OAA, a Division Camp Adviser and PRA, as well as Guide and Ranger Guider.

**MARGARET SINCLAIR ▴**

From North East England, Margaret is a Guide Guider, a Trainer, Durham South's Training Adviser and member of the Training Review Group. She is also a member of the working group for the *Guide Handbook* and chairperson of the working group for the Adult Leadership Scheme. Margaret teaches maths and is Head of Sixth Form.

**PATRICIA (PAT) TEAGLE ▴**

Guides Cymru Deputy Chief Commissioner, Pat was elected by Wales. She is a County Commissioner and a member of the GGFF. Aged 60, she took early retirement in 1989, after working as a field officer and home economist with British Coal. Married with four stepsons, her many Guiding roles include being a Unit Guider for 40 years and PRA for Wales for 15.

The women who sit on The Council have so many commitments and interests, it has been only possible to mention a few of them.



**KATHLEEN (ANNE) △
THOMPSON**

Former head of a girls' PE Department, 57-year-old Anne was elected by North West England. She is a Division and County Young Leader Adviser. Married to a dental surgeon, Anne has been the Region's Arts Adviser, as well as a District and Division Commissioner.



PHYLLIS THOMPSON △

A civil servant, Phyllis lives near Newcastle-upon-Tyne and was elected by North East England. She is a Ranger Guider, Trainer and Division Commissioner. Aged 50, Phyllis has been a Guide Guider, Region and County Young Leader Adviser and the Region's Programme and Training Adviser. For a year she was North East England's Community Development Adviser.

**PATRICIA (PAT) ▽
TILLEY**

Elected by London and South East, Pat is a Brownie Guider, Trainer, Tutor, and the Region's Training Adviser. A financial adviser, 45-year-old Pat has been the Region's PRA, a Ranger Guider, Division and District Commissioner, and Assistant Region Programme and Training Adviser (Brownies).



**CONSTANCE (CONNIE) △
TOPPING**

Constance was re-elected by The Council last year. A Guide Guider, Division Commissioner and Middlesex East's International Adviser, 55-year-old Connie has been involved in Guiding in Kiribati, Malawi (formerly Nyasaland) and Zambia. Married with four children, she works for the Engineering Council.

JUDY UPTON ▽

Married with a daughter and a son, Judy is a school governor. Elected by North West England, 47-year-old Judy is a Division Young Leader Adviser, a County Programme and Training Chairman and an Assistant Ranger Guider. She has also been a Guide and Brownie Guider, as well as a District Commissioner.



SHEILA WATSON ▽

Elected by Midlands, Sheila is County Commissioner for Birmingham. A housewife and former teacher, Sheila is 48. She has been a Brownie and Ranger Guider; District and Division Commissioner; Camp Adviser and District Assistant. Sheila is a magistrate and a school governor.



JANE WILSON △

The former County Commissioner for the Bailiwick of Guernsey, Jane was elected by South West England. She is also the County Walking Adviser. Married with two children, Jane is 55. A former primary school teacher, now a housewife and Rainbow Guider, she has been a Guide Guider and Assistant Brownie Guider.



JOANNE WINTER △

A teacher, 29-year-old Joanne was elected by Ulster. She is a Ranger Guider, County Assistant Duke of Edinburgh Adviser and a Trainer. Her previous appointments include membership of Ulster's and the Association's Junior Council, delegate to BYC and Assistant Guide Guider.

Rainbows love Rainbow Rabbit

Here's what one Bury Rainbow wrote:

'Dear Rainbow Rabbit

*I'm having a great time at rainbows it
would be even better if you were there...'*

Look for Rainbow Rabbit in *RAINBOW GUIDE EXTRA*, an eight-page supplement in each month's *BROWNIE*.



CLAIRE'S CHATTERBOX



Liberation for Claire now that she can speak

Being born with cerebral palsy left Claire Penny unable to speak or walk, but it didn't stop her becoming an enthusiastic member of her Brownie unit, the 1st Alveston Pack, at Derby.

Now Claire can join in the chatter at meetings — thanks to the Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers of more than 200 units throughout Derbyshire County, as well as local Trefoil Guilds.

They raised the money to buy Claire her own electronic 'chatterbox' which does the talking on her behalf. All she has to do is to touch the right keys and out come the words.

Who cares that they come with an American accent instead of pure Derbyshire? That's only because the machine was made in the United States.

All that matters is that Claire, a bright ten-year-old, can speak up at Pack meetings and enjoy being a Brownie all the more.

It came about almost by chance and ended with the County doing a great deal more than raising the £3,800 needed for Claire's talking aid, as Joan Creasey, the 1st Alveston Pack's Brown Owl explains

At Christmas, 1991, the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides of the 1st Alveston units had a bring 'n' buy to raise money for Claire's school.

When the headmaster came to accept a cheque for £100 he brought with him a *Liberator* machine — a wonderful gadget through which, by touching the buttons, Claire could "talk" to us.

The £100 was to be used towards another machine for the school, which had only six of these devices between 28 children unable to speak.

How wonderful it would be, we thought, if only we could provide Claire with a "voice" of her very own, which she could bring with her to Brownie meetings!

However, the £3,800 price tag was somewhat daunting. How long would it take us to raise that kind of money?

When Sandra Noon, the not-easily-disheartened Division Commissioner for Derby South, learned what we had in mind, she suggested a Division challenge to raise £5 per head — enough to buy a *Liberator* for Claire. Division Treasurer Janet Herbert suggested that this could be broken down to a mere 30p a head, if we were to extend the challenge to the entire County. We decided to do both!

The 30 units in Derby South Division had a week of sponsored silences at unit meetings and organised various other events. These, together with the Division Commissioner's sponsored slim, raised more than £4,000

Trefoil Guilds, Districts and Divisions — more than 200 units in all — responded by sending a week's "subs", or by holding events to raise cash. This brought in another £2,750.

Outside the Movement, individuals and groups who heard about the "Give Claire a Voice" appeal sent donations, some as a result of a report in our local newspaper, the *Derby Express*, which was extremely helpful. Our fund was also chosen to be among the beneficiaries of the Mayor of Derby's charity appeal.

The final result was a grand total of £9,228. So not only did Claire get her "voice" but Charlotte Fell, a deaf Brownie in the 1st Chaddesden Pack, was given a radio microphone hearing aid.

This left almost £4,580 for Aspley Wood School to buy another machine and help towards a third.

Even then we hadn't quite finished. One unit in the County did not realise that our appeal had closed and continued fundraising until they had more than £200. So we were able to send this to the school as a "bonus".

It had all gone like a really good camp fire which, once well alight, blazes away, spreading warmth and happiness just where it's needed.

JOAN CREASEY

WET

WEAT

No Guider worth her warrant would throw in the towel because it rained rather a lot during a weekend camp.

Think of the shame of it — crawling back home with soggy tents, already mouldering in their bags, having failed to toast even one marshmallow!

It doesn't bear thinking about but... how well could *you* cope with an *annual* camp when, for almost a week, if it wasn't drizzling non-stop for hours on end, it was chucking down stair-roads, with a Force Four wind to boot, as you watched the grassy sward turn to a quagmire?

If you haven't taken that 'test' yet, read all about it from Guide Guider Helen Welsh and boost your confidence. Helen and her assistants had the lot when they took the 36th Cheltenham Guides to annual camp but everyone came through it all — swimmingly.

High up, with a view of more than 50 miles to the Malvern Hills, and surrounded by trees, the site we had chosen looked perfect. And it was as flat as a pancake, so no rolling out of tents this time.

The 16 girls and three leaders were still hauling up the food and equipment when the rain started.

Although there were a few first-time

Easy rider Dipsha Patel
squelches round
the mountain
bike circuit

*Just what do you do when non-stop
drizzle and howling winds threaten to
rain off your camp? Stay resourceful,
resilient and cheerful, of course.*

Keeping dry under canvas:
Zoe, Sarah, Claire,
Mary and Louise
take cover



HER WINNERS

campers, they soon learned how to pitch a tent in a hurry. Within 15 minutes we at least had one place in which to keep our kit dry, while we carried on pitching.

After the chores, it was the swimming pool and then a tasty, hot chicken casserole to warm us up before the rain started again.

Emma was most helpful. To reduce the amount of washing-up she cleaned out the custard pan with her spoon. And, before the steaming hot cocoa came round at bedtime, everyone actually had a wash. So that was good.

I don't believe Guiders who tell me their Guides go meekly to sleep at lights out. But why do mine keep going until at least 2am?

However, a couple of wellie-booted sorties in the rain finally brought a bit of quiet.

Next morning Rosie and Zoe demonstrated how to cook breakfast without getting smoke in your eyes: wear swimming goggles!

Then it was the abseiling wall or the mountain bike course and, for that important hour, we were so lucky. It was only drizzling instead of coming down in buckets.

When we went back to the camp site to make our gadgets oh, goody, goody

— we were able to sit in the mess tent and keep dry. Well, not get any wetter. Then, at last, we were able to get all the bedding up off the ground.

By the afternoon the mountain bike course was deliciously squelchy so, except for Sarah, who fell into the nettles, and the mud seizing up the gears, we all had a grand time.

That night, still determined to beat the elements, we ate our dinner in the woods. Not an awful lot of rain managed to reach us through the sheltering trees.

Then the girls faced a dilemma. The big camp fire going on below our site looked so warm and drying but, finally, they opted for our "mystery activity" and were delighted to discover it was "natural skin-cleansing", done with yoghurt and cucumber slices.

The second night was a humdinger. The heavens opened, the rain lashed down, the wind howled. From time to time I stuck my nose out of the tent to check that the rest of the camp site was still there!

My midnight tour of inspection and call for "silence in camp" went by the board because, due to a badly-swollen ankle caused by a fall, I couldn't get one of my wellies on.

Wednesday dawned wet and windy. To bolster up morale we let breakfast merge into elevenses and just kept on munching.

I took Sarah to hospital because she had reacted badly to a wasp sting. In the warm, dry casualty department I was hoping for a lovely, long wait — several hours would have been nice, but in 15 minutes, worse luck, we were back in the rain again.

We had a good idea for a reduced washing-up lunch: mobile kebabs. Everyone has a long skewer and files in line past a table in the mess tent, piled with cheese and ham cubes, black cherries, tomato and cucumber chunks, and pineapple pieces.

Load your skewer and eat, while making your way to the end of the line again. Keep on circulating until everything's gone.

By now most of the girls were past caring about the wet but our "lovely flat site" didn't drain at all well. In fact, it was fast turning into a quagmire.

The Guiders decided to summon muscle. Up the hill came a wonderful bunch of Venture Scouts to help us

move all the Patrol tents, so that at least the girls would be dry that night. We laid walkways of wooden pallets.

Incredibly, some parents turned up for our open evening, when the girls showed off their circus acts in the worst rainstorm of the week.

With the girls safely in bed, Anne and I decided to take up the offer of cocoa with some Welsh Scouts camping nearby. We dragged our wet, cold, muddy selves to this haven of a marquee, with electric lighting, gas heaters, a huge indoor gas kitchen and dozens of snug — and possibly smug — Scouts, drinking cocoa.

We enjoyed an hour of hot drinks and home-made cake without the slightest pinprick of conscience before squelching back to our soggy site, while telling each other several times: "That's not *real* camping".

On Friday something extraordinary happened: the sun came out! So, it was all systems go. On the rifle range some girls actually hit the target while, on the assault course, there could be no chickening out with those Scouts watching. With the archery there was plenty of style to be seen even when the arrows went hopelessly wide.

This action-packed day ended with a torchlight hike and another round of cocoa, leaving us ready for a good night's sleep and fit to face whatever our final day might bring.

And what *did* it bring? More rain, of course.

Thanks to weatherman Bill Giles, however, we knew that our best chance of leaving with dry tents was to get 'em down early. So, apart from the mess tent, we had everything away before the heavens opened up again.

That meant another indoor lunch but we had enough hot ashes for our camp favourite of baked bananas, with Smarties, marshmallows and chocolate.

Not a bad way to finish up. We arrived home damp and muddy — but in triumph.

Because we'd won! It was as if the elements had challenged us and, just as Guides should, we had remained resourceful, resilient and cheerful.

By making an extra effort, we had managed to make this incredibly soggy camp — too wet for a camp fire — into a fun event and that gave us enormous satisfaction. ♡

HELEN WELSH

33



36th CHELTENHAM GUIDES

Open Door

THE GOD MINDSET

Just before Christmas I went to see *Once in a while the odd thing happens*, a play about Benjamin Britten. That same evening, when I got home, I switched on Radio 2 and found myself listening to an interview with Humphrey Carpenter, Britten's biographer.

Some days later, a 'what's on' mailing from the Barbican included details of the forth-

coming 'Festival of Britten' — a celebration of the composer's life and work. And the next weekend, a Christmas concert at my local church finished with Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols*.

Was Benjamin Britten really getting greater coverage than usual? Probably not. Rather, because of the play, I had become more sensitive to his name and his music. And, once we've been made aware of some-

thing, we tend to notice it. If we then actively look for it, we notice it even more.

You can prove this to yourself right now. Put *GUIDING* down for a moment and think 'yellow'. Look around the room and find things that have yellow in them: flowers, book-jacket, cushion cover, magazine picture, sweet wrapper, tissue, train ticket, pencil...

Instantly, yellow stands out — just because you've

become aware of yellow. You've put yourself in a 'yellow' mindset.

Maybe it is like that with God, too. If there are times when the spiritual seems absent from our lives, perhaps it's because we've switched off and lost our sensitivity. But, if we get into a 'God' mindset and start looking, we could find the spiritual isn't so elusive after all. The fact is that God doesn't disappear. **CD**

News Focus

NEW HOME

Wivenhoe Scout and Guide Association has much more room to move these days. In fact, it has doubled the size of the Scout and Guide headquarters. It took 15 years of hard work by leaders and a strong parent-based committee to reach 'It's Finished Day', when the building was reopened.

'It was quite an undertaking,' said Mrs Bonnie Hill, Wyvenford District Commissioner. 'Almost all the work was carried out by volunteers from the foundations up; and a new pitch roof was put on to cover the hall.'

Local authority grants helped raise the £30,000 needed.

At the opening the Mayor of Colchester, Coun Mrs Mary Frank, unveiled the brand new hall sign and Wivenhoe's Town Mayor, Coun Mrs Ann Quarrie, cut



Members of the Wivenhoe Scout and Guide Association

the ribbon at the main door. Later everyone joined in a sing-along and tea party.

The new building can accurately be described as a powerhouse of Guiding and Scouting with Rainbows, Guides, Scouts, Beavers,

Cubs and Venture Scouts all making use of the space.

The extended building has a games hall and a carpeted hall which is called the Ruth Munson Room. This is a tribute to a retired Guider who has already given 70

years to Guiding and is still extremely active.

The HQ also contains a leaders' room/second activity room and fully fitted kitchen. It has recently been passed as being suitable for Pack Holidays.

Guiders and Scout leaders worked together on the project. Mrs Hill said: 'We have a unique liaison with the Scouts — we are very much a team. Without one another we couldn't operate or have raised the funds needed.'

The association has a committee chosen from leaders and parents and there is a separate fundraising committee operating all the year round. Mrs Hill said: 'The main committee makes sure leaders do not have to worry about finances. It leaves leaders free to concentrate on the main objectives in their unit, their programme and the boys and girls who come in droves each week.'

Coming Next

IN GUIDING JUNE

Women at Work
inequal opportunities
Hit the Road
Scotland's roadshow
Pounding the Beat
top Merseyside
policewoman
Family Connections
Gill Clay follows in family
footsteps

IN GUIDE PATROL JUNE

Forever Friends
make a friendship bracelet



Fun and Fruity
fabulous fruit dishes
Playing the Game
cricket for girls
Flowers in the City
a city nature trail
Independence Day
plan a party

Working with Wood
badge hints

IN BROWNIE MAY

Blooming Lovely
crafty ways with flowers



Froggy Facts

all about frogs
Birds and Bees...
the pollination game
Garden Glories
what to look for in a garden

AND IN RAINBOW GUIDE EXTRA

Rainbow Rabbit in the Park
Which Tree?
matching leaves and twigs
From Far Away
plants from across the globe
Sweet Treats
nest cakes

HIGHLIGHTS

KNOWING ME KNOWING YOU

FOXLEASE
June 11-13

Introducing trainers to the new *Vat Pack* — not finance, accounts or budgets but standing for: Values, Attitudes and Training.

One of the aims of Guiding is that its membership should reflect the diversity of cultural, religious, social and political lifestyles within the UK. To this end, adult leaders need to be aware of their own attitudes, the attitudes of those around them and how these are influenced by their environment.

The pack contains ideas and resources to help trainers explore these issues with adult leaders.

The Knowing Me Knowing You weekend will allow you to use activities from the pack and consider the emotions they may evoke and how to handle them.

DEMOCRACY, POLITICS AND GUIDING

FOXLEASE
September 24-26

Guiding prides itself on being a democratic organisation, allowing participation by individual members at all levels.

Politics is a dangerous word — so they say — but being political means 'making informed choices about matters which will affect you and other people in society'.

According to the *Guide Handbook* 'politics is life!' (page 54). As the largest organisation for girls and women in the United Kingdom, should the Association have a point of view on some issues, for example, *The Rights of the Child*?

- How can the Association support its point of view?
- On occasions, 'Is our silence deafening'?

The weekend will include lots of opportunity for discussion and debate. There will be a presentation by a

keynote speaker; workshop sessions on skills such as negotiating; communicating and challenging the status quo; games — including a simulation game.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

WADDOW
June 22-24

These trainings will provide an opportunity for all Guiders to explore further the issues affecting the lives of young people today.

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

Topics to be covered will include:

- teenage pregnancy
- child abuse
- drug awareness
- leaving home.

GUIDE ADVENTURE

FOXLEASE
August 16-20

An opportunity for members of the Movement aged 12-plus to get a real taste for adventure.

The weekend will include:

- preliminary training followed by a canoe trip down the Beaulieu River
- archery training
- swimming in the covered, heated pool
- a full day's trip across the Solent to the Isle of Wight in sailing dinghies.

All of this and the opportunity to spend four nights in the splendid, Georgian Foxlease House.

THE COMMISSIONER'S JOB

ONE DAY TRAINING
GLENBROOK
June 29 and 30
WADDOW
October 19 and 20

Commissioners — are you unable to give up another weekend? Do other com-

mitments mean you can't attend a residential training? Then this is for you!

Using the new *Commissioner File*, the day will aim to help Commissioners be more effective in their Guiding role and will include:

- managing the GGA Leadership Scheme effectively
- exploring the Five Essentials as instruments of quality control
- increasing confidence in taking group decisions.

Come on any day. Cost — £7.50 (including lunch) uniform will not be required.

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 return with a great sense of achievement 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.

CAVING, CLIMBING OR CANOEING

GLENBROOK
June 18-20
September 17-19

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

You may do either activity for both days or one on Saturday and the other on Sunday. Or you may wish to use the whole weekend to

practise your canoeing techniques in order to gain a BCU 1 or 2 star certificate or further qualifications.

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

AN 'AWESOME' ADVENTURE

WADDOW
July 31-August 6

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

Guide Patrols and individual Guides will be welcome. The week will cost £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 places contact the Guider-in-Charge at Waddow.

FAMILY CAMPING GLENBROOK August 21-30

This summer Glenbrook is setting aside a camp site for Guiders to bring their families to camp.

You will need to be self-sufficient regarding equipment and food. You may come for all or part of the period, as suits you.

There will be a certain number of activities arranged — if you wish. Otherwise, the time is your own — to do as you like.

For further details contact the Guider-in-Charge at Glenbrook.

HOLIDAY PERIOD FOXLEASE July 22-August 2

Have you ever wanted to explore Foxlease or the surrounding area? To enjoy the tranquility of the New Forest?

TRAINING DIARY

To relax in the grandeur of a large country house?

Here is an opportunity to spend time:

- walking
- swimming
- reading

or just chatting with friends in a holiday atmosphere.

There will be a chance to visit places of local interest — but most of the time is yours to fill as you wish.

The holiday is open to Guiders, husbands, families, Trefoil Guild members, Rangers, Young Leaders and overseas Guides or Girl Scouts.

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR RAINBOW AND BROWNIE GUIDERS

FOXLEASE

September 3-5

This weekend will help you to plan practical programmes with an international theme.

Who is it for?

Rainbow and Brownie Guiders who want to increase their knowledge of the World Association and how to pass it on to their units.

Topics to be included: games, songs and crafts from around the world.

TRAINING SKILLS FOR ADVISERS

WADDOW

July 9-11

Are you an enthusiastic and highly skilled Adviser, working hard to promote your particular speciality?

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 visual aids with confidence
- use small group work effectively.

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

GUIDING IN THE DISTRICT

WADDOW

September 17-19

FOXLEASE

October 15-17

Successful Guiding in the District depends on an enthusiastic team working well together.

This weekend offers the opportunity to get to know others in your District in a relaxed friendly atmosphere.

There will be opportunities to:

- Find out how you can be more involved, and what support you can receive through the District team.
- Increase understanding of how your District functions, including the importance of effective communication and delegation.
- Look at local resources and the help available to the District to develop Guiding, and in planning events.
- Increase understanding of how the Five Essentials of Guiding develop through the sections from Rainbow to Ranger.

For full details of future trainings, send a sae to the Guider-in-Charge of the appropriate centre. Applications to attend any of the trainings mentioned should be sent to the Guider-in-Charge, enclosing a £9 deposit and sae for Glenbrook and a £10 deposit and sae for Foxlease and Waddow.

NETHERURD WALKING WEEK

August 19-26

A chance to explore the beautiful rolling countryside of the Scottish Borders and to enjoy the breathtaking scenery with the help of local 'guides'. You return to Netherurd in the evening for one of the cook's specialities, and sit in front of a log fire planning for the next day.

This holiday is for all members of Guiding groups of all walking abilities. You are free to stay for all or part of the week.

There is also the possibility of trying your hand at abseiling, canoeing, archery, raft building or some other adventurous activity too.

For further information contact the Bookings Secretary at Netherurd.



HAUTBOIS DIVISION TEAM

July 30-August 1

An opportunity for the Division Commissioner and up to nine of her team to meet others doing the same jobs elsewhere and exchange ideas.

Training sessions will include teamwork and leadership skills, Guiding administration, making meetings work, Queen's Guide and B-P Trefoil, and communicating new ideas.

TREFOIL GUILD GOLDEN JUBILEE CAMP

August 27-September 3

Members and associate members from every part of the UK are very welcome to

join us for this celebration event. Accommodation can be booked in the house or under canvas.

A wide choice of activities, ranging from slide talks to abseiling, are being arranged. Outings by car and boat also feature in the programme. A leaflet is available on request.

If you would like to come but the dates are inconvenient why not join the house party (details below).

PRE-CELEBRATION HOUSE PARTY

August 21-26

This relaxed, do-as-you-please holiday period could also include an optional service project to prepare for the camp.

BRONEIRION JOURNEYS AND TREFOILS

June 4-6

Basic training for Brownie and Guide Guiders in using the handbooks and encouraging their members to reach their full potential through the challenge of the programme.

SCIENCE — YOUR EVERYDAY WORLD

July 16-18

Learn how to turn your kitchen into a laboratory. Are you still having trouble with science? Are the badges a nightmare for you? Lay your fears aside and come and learn that science is fun! Yes, fun!

For both courses apply to the Guider-in-Charge, at Broneirion.



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

BRONEIRION — Llandinam, Powys SY17 5DE. Tel: (Caersws) 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 EH46 7AQ. Tel: (Dolphinton) 0968 82208.

BLACKLAND FARM — East Grinstead, Sussex. Tel: (Sharpthorne) 0342 876 493

RAINBOW GUIDERS

Summer is almost here and the Rainbows will be aware of things growing all around them. Encourage them to think about how things grow — plants, animals, themselves — and to notice the changes around them.

WALKABOUT

Take the girls out for a walk in the neighbourhood. Have a nature guidebook with you and read bits from it to the girls.

Help them to identify the birds and plants they see. Ask if anyone has seen baby birds learning to fly.

Are any of the Rainbows able to name the flowers they see around them. They may be lucky enough to spot a butterfly. Find out if they know its name and how a butterfly develops.

When you return to the meeting place, draw the things you have seen. Try to remember together all their different names.

COUNTRY LAW

If you live in a country area, talk through the Country Code with the Rainbows. Discuss the reason for each part of the Code. Ask why they think each rule is important to farmers, animals and wildlife and other growing things.

OUR TREE

The Rainbows could 'adopt' a tree near their meeting place and visit it at regular intervals through the year.

They might make a book about their tree, drawing pictures and writing descriptions, stories and poems about it.

Dry a leaf from the tree between pieces of kitchen paper placed under a weight. Let the girls examine the leaf carefully and see its structure. Compare it with the leaves of other trees.

Make a bark rubbing from the tree with paper and a wax crayon. Compare it with the bark of other trees.

Can the girls recognise other trees of the same kind? Watch out for birds visiting your tree — do the girls know their names?

Have a picnic under your tree at one of your summer meetings.

GARDENING

If you are lucky enough to have access to a bit of land — an allotment or small garden area — the girls might like to make a little garden. Remember that someone will have to be responsible for it during the summer holidays — ideally the Rainbows themselves.

BE OUR GUEST

Ask the park gardener or someone who works at a garden centre, market garden or a florist to attend a meeting as the Rainbows' guest to talk about what he or she does.

Perhaps one of these people would invite the girls to visit them at work. If so, try to prepare the girls first for the occasion so they understand and have thought about the person's work.

WATCHING

Help the girls to observe signs of growth. Talk together about what they have noticed about plants growing. For instance: buds turning into leaves or flowers; the changes of colour as things grow; the different plants that flower in the gardens; how the grass grows longer and needs cutting.

What signs do they notice of animal life growing? Have any of them seen frog spawn change into tadpoles and then little frogs? Has anyone watched a puppy or a kitten change and grow? Do any of the girls have a baby brother or sister? What changes have they noticed in him or her?

What signs do they see of

their own growth? Discuss how they grow out of shoes and other clothes; their teeth change; their hair and nails grow and need cutting.

Talk about how they weigh more now than they used to do. Point out they can reach things they once could not and achieve things they could not a year ago.

How are they growing in responsibility? Are there activities they are now allowed

1: (having decided among themselves): We'll have (name of girl in side 2) for nuts in May (repeat) on a cold and frosty morning.

2: And who will you send to fetch her away, fetch her away on a cold and frosty morning?

1: (having decided) We'll send (name of a girl from side 1) to fetch her away, fetch her away, on a cold and frosty morning.



or expected to do, which they weren't even a few months ago?

NUTS IN MAY

Introduce the Rainbows to the old game *Here we come gathering nuts in May*. The girls form two equal lines facing each other, with a line between them marked by a scarf or hanky.

The sides take turns to link hands and skip towards the centre, singing:

Side 1: Here we come gathering nuts in May (repeat) on a cold and frosty morning.

Side 2: Whom will you have for nuts in May? (repeat) on a cold and frosty morning.

The chosen girls on each side have a tug-of-war across the centre line. The one who gets pulled across joins the other side for the rest of the game.

QUIET TIME

At the end of the meeting let the girls say thank you for all the things that grow around us: for the plants and flowers, the trees, the birds and animals. Say thank you for helping us to grow strong and healthy ourselves.

COMING NEXT

Next month we are going to think about adventure and how we can help the girls to enjoy new experiences and learn new things.

HOME IN ON HAUTOBOIS

In the second of our series that takes a fresh look at the Training Centres, Gillian Ellis visits Norfolk and gets an invitation to a birthday party.

GILLIAN ELLIS

May 28 is a red letter day for Great Hautbois House. That's when a party is planned to celebrate the Victorian mansion's fifth birthday.

Confused? It is just five years since Anglia Region opened Great Hautbois (pronounced Hobbs) House as the 'youngest' Training Centre, although it was built in the mid-1800s.

To celebrate, a whole week-end of celebrations are planned. They will include a camp, Brownie day out, night exercise, concert, birthday tea and special service project... and everyone's welcome! I, for one, will definitely be there.

NORFOLK LIFE

Of course, there won't be room for the entire UK membership. But you can visit Hautbois at other times, either with your unit, fellow Guiders or family and be certain of comfort, warmth, friendship and a rewarding glimpse into Norfolk life.

Great Hautbois House is proud of enchanting decor and delicious home cooking. Any group may book, as long as a full programme is planned for its members. There is accommodation for 30, which includes an excellent ground floor, twin-bedded room for anyone with a disability and/or carers.

Of the eight camp sites, one is reserved for light-weight camps. Another, within view of the house, is especially suitable for unaccompanied youngsters. Most sites have access to flush toilets and there are coin-operated showers and hair-driers.

Some sites take 20 campers, others 40. There's a picturesque camp fire circle, and the land lends itself



Hautbois offers enchanting decor and delicious home cooking

to wide games and pioneering, with materials for altar fires available. Sites may be booked either partially equipped or unequipped.

If you're a family or small group wanting to self-cater, but not to camp, Pantiles is for you. An attractive bungalow in Hautbois' grounds, it can accommodate six, two using folding beds.

There's a sitting room, kitchen, bathroom and separate lavatory, night store heaters, plus an open fireplace for a cosy wood fire.

Plans are underway for modernisation, so Pantiles may be closed briefly this year, but do enquire. Prices are very reasonable.

ADVENTURE FUN

Hautbois aims to encourage adventurous activities and several are available on site. Water fun is favourite. The River Bure and a Cut (classified B1) flow through the grounds.

There is equipment on site for rowing, canoeing and raft building. Archery, abseiling, volleyball, outdoor badminton, an obstacle course and orienteering courses are also provided.

Sessions are run by local instructors, or you can bring your own, provided their qualifications are suitable.

Ask for a booking leaflet.

Besides activities at Hautbois itself, there's plenty to do, even if you haven't a car. Reaching Hautbois by public transport is easy. Buses run from Norwich (Monday to Saturday approximately two hourly until 17.40) to Horstead and Coltishall.

A train will take you to

200 birds of prey. It is home to kestrels; owls; sparrowhawks and the rarer goshawks; peregrine falcons; eagle and snowy owls; harris and redtail hawks.

Closed on winter Mondays only, the centre is open daily from 10-3pm (later in summer) with flying displays on the 'odd' hour, weather



Make the most of the picturesque camp fire circle

Hoveton/Wroxham, which is a little further away, at similar intervals. Advance arrangements can be made for collection from train or bus by the ever-helpful Hautbois staff.

BIRD LIFE

Once established, you'll enjoy a visit to the East Anglian Falconry Centre — within reasonable walking distance — where you can see over

permitting.

At Frettenham, less than an hour's walk from Hautbois, there's another haven — the lovely Redwings Horse Sanctuary. Here, on Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday afternoons from Easter to mid-December, visitors can see over horses, mules, donkeys and ponies rescued from neglect and/or slaughter.

Other local walks lasting up to two hours are sus-

gested in *Guide to Coltishall and Great Hautbois*, price 30p, available in Holy Trinity Church, close to Great Hautbois House.

You should visit the church anyway, if only to admire the wonderful, tapestry-covered hassocks, all depicting various Guide badges.

STEAM TRAINS

In summer, the Bure Valley Narrow Gauge Railway is a major attraction. From Coltishall Halt, a short walk from Hautbois, a 30-minute ride takes you to the historic market town of Aylsham, the railway's operations centre, and a paradise for steam enthusiasts. Or ride in the other direction to Wroxham, heart of the Norfolk Broads.

From May to September, one to three-hour boat trips tour the River Bure and Broads at prices ranging from £4 to £6 per adult, slightly less for children.

Wroxham also boasts 'the largest village store in the world'. True, I suppose, but it is in several sections with crossroads running through the centre!

From the Bure Valley station, a coach runs to Wroxham Barns, two miles north of the village where skilled craftsmen work in their 18th century barn workshops. Admire the pottery, jewellery, stained glass, book binding, knitwear, boatbuilding and perfumery, and sample the pickles, honey and whole foods. There's also a play area, traditional summer fun-fair and, of course, tearoom.

You can stroll around the barns free of charge, but there's a catch, naturally. Your group can handle and feed calves, hens, pigs, goats and lambs at the Junior Farm but that will cost you £1.50 per head.

You might enjoy taking a service train from Wroxham to Sheringham, on the North Norfolk coast. Besides the obvious attractions of beach and sea, groups of 20-plus can check out SPLASH, a tropical leisure pool, at special party rates obtainable through Great Hautbois House.

Open daily in summer

and school holidays from 10am, the centre has a 50-metre water slide, wave machine, sun terrace, shop and cafeteria.

NORWICH CITY

If you want to explore local city life, a pleasant walk from Hautbois takes you to The Recruiting Sergeant, Horstead, to catch the bus to Norwich, an ancient city simply brimming with things to see. However, this journey wouldn't be suitable for very large groups, as most buses on this route only hold 30 passengers.

Norwich is a lovely city, full of old winding streets and dominated by a Norman castle. The superb castle museum will appeal to all

for the others. A child's pass to all 16 museums in Norfolk costs only £1.20 with unlimited entry, excluding the Castle battlements and dungeons. An adult pass is £6.

Details can be obtained from The Tourist Information Centre, Guildhall, Gaol Hill, Norwich NR2 1NF (0603 666071), or the Museums Service (0603 223624).

You could also visit St Julian's Church, where the 14th century hermit, Julian of Norwich — the first woman to write a book in English — lived in a cell attached to the church.

MUSTARD SHOP

In Bridewell Alley, you'll find the celebrated Mustard Shop, with its fascinating Mustard

ages will love the Bear Shop on Elm Hill!

One to three-hour boat trips, operated by Southern River Steamers, leave from Elm Hill on spring and summer afternoons.

CATHEDRAL

Don't miss the beautiful, 11th century cathedral, where you can see the Bishops' ancient throne; 15th century misericords; Noah's Ark on the choir roof; and the grave of the patriot, Edith Cavell.

Norwich Divisions' HQ is at Pulls Ferry, Ancient Cathedral Watergate. Hautbois's Guider-in-Charge can, sometimes, arrange for Guide groups to visit and maybe picnic there, if the weather's



Norwich is full of old, winding streets

ages, featuring displays of giant fossils, Egyptian mummies, art and natural history.

It also boasts the world's largest teapot collection! And you can take a guided tour round the battlements and dungeons.

Another fascinating museum is the Bridewell, where Norwich's history comes alive. At the Strangers' Hall, near the market, there are costumes, toys and dolls of a bygone age.

There is also the Royal Norfolk Regimental Museum near the castle, and St Peter Hungate Museum, where you can try brass rubbing and see church treasures.

St Peter's is free, except for the brass rubbing fee, but there is a small charge

Museum. For those who like mustard, it's a treasure store, and for those who don't, it's still fun!

Or visit the Puppet Theatre, where you can join in puppet-making workshops by prior arrangements (ring 0603 629921); or Dragon Hall, a medieval trade hall, (adults £1, free for children).

Do make time to see the curiously named Tombland, the ancient Saxon market place, and the Cathedral Close where Nelson was at school. Victims of the Great Plague are buried in nearby Tombland Alley. Round the corner you'll find Elm Hill, where quaint houses and cobbled medieval streets abound. Craft shops thrive here and youngsters of all

unsuitable for lazing in Castle Meadow or Chapelfields gardens.

If you plan a coach trip, the choice is wide. The coastal resorts of Great Yarmouth, Wells and Cromer offer countless attractions.

Inland, there are Penshorpe Waterfowl Park; Langham Crystal; Norwich Aquapark; Sports Village; Superskate and Aviation Museum; Banham Zoo; Thrigby Hall Wildlife Gardens; Bottle Museum and Bee Gardens.

For information about Hautbois itself, write to Ruth Brown, Guider-in-Charge, Great Hautbois House, Coltishall, Norfolk Hautbois is a real home — you'll love it

GILLIAN ELLIS

BROWNIE GUIDERS

Brownies enjoy growing things, which makes this a good time of year to include a planting session. Of course, you can buy packet seeds, but there are inexpensive ways of producing interesting plants.

GROWING TIME

Root vegetable tops make an attractive indoor garden. Slice 1cm from the top of some carrots, swedes, turnips, beetroots and parsnips. Trim off any existing leaves and stand the slices in a tray on the window-sill in just enough water to cover the bottom of a tray. Water often.

Miniature trees can be grown from the pips of citrus fruit. For the best results, use potting compost rather than garden soil. Make drainage holes in the bottom of a small, plastic tub and fill it three-quarters full of compost. Soak pips overnight, scatter several in the tub and cover with compost.

Moisten with luke-warm water, and put the pot in a plastic bag, tied loosely at the top. Keep the pot in a warm, dark place. Then, when shoots appear, take off the bag and stand the pot on a sunny window-sill.

Fruit stones can also be grown by the same method. Always plant three or four, as a 25 per cent success rate is a realistic aim. Don't discard the bag until there are three leaves on each shoot. Date stones are good to begin with, while hard plum and peach stones need to be squeezed gently in a nutcracker until just cracked before you plant them.

For both pips and stones, keep compost moist but not swamped. When three pairs of leaves have grown, transplant plants to individual pots. They should be established in about six weeks.

FAST FORWARD

If the Brownies can't wait that long, try this quicker, visually interesting idea. You'll

need a 5cm-thick pineapple top from a fruit with healthy green leaves — combine this exercise with a fresh fruit salad-making session!

Scoop out the flesh, not touching the core, and dry the top for 48 hours. Put the pineapple top in a jar of water, resting the leaves across the rim with the core suspended in the water. This will give the Brownies the chance to see how both roots and new leaves grow week by week.

If you or your fellow Guiders have green fingers, you'll probably have plants at home from which cuttings can be taken. Cut from healthy, fully-grown plants, just under the leaf where it joins the stem.

post with the essential drainage holes.

Each Brownie can take home a pot with written instructions to stand the cutting in good light, and to keep it damp but not drowned!

TASTY HERBS

The Brownies might enjoy growing a herb garden. Fill plastic tubs (again with drainage holes) with compost to within 1cm of the top and sprinkle on sage, basil, thyme, mint and parsley seeds. Cover with a thin layer of compost, stand pot on a window-sill and water lightly about every three days.

making sure the compost is kept moist but not soggy.

the appropriate time of year, is also a good way to grow baby trees from acorns or conkers. But these need soaking for 24 hours first.

SPEEDY SEEDS

If you want a really speedy growing activity, there are always the old favourites: mustard and cress, alfalfa and mung beans. Mustard and cress grows fast on damp cotton wool. Try growing it in the shape of an initial, a symbol such as the Trefoil, or in a face-decorated eggshell as 'hair'. Give the Brownies a choice and they'll probably think up some more ideas.

Mung beans or alfalfa are fun to grow in a jam jar. Having soaked the beans overnight in water, seal the jar with muslin secured with a rubberband. Then drain off the water through the fabric.

Stand the jar, fabric side down, in a dark place overnight, and every day wash the beans, then repeat the process. They'll be ready to eat in a few days and full of vitamin C!

Finally, the big one! Brownies never tire of the magic of growing sunflowers — they shoot up so fast and are so colourful. But be quick, because they should have been sown in spring and here comes summer.

Sunflowers need a sunny spot and a tall stick for support. Sow them about 60cm apart and keep them well watered. Tell the Brownies when they've enjoyed the beauty of the flowers, the heads can be cut off. Next remove the seeds, dry them in the oven. They can be eaten either on their own or mixed with cereals.



and take the cuttings to the meeting.

The Brownies can place them in water and watch week by week until plenty of roots have grown. Transfer them to small pots of com-

Bulbs make an attractive display. Besides the obvious way of planting, you can also balance them over jars of water so that the Brownies can see root growth as well as shoots. This method, at

Don't forget to get your **BROWNIE** from your newsagent or the direct subscription **CHQ** for your girl. The magazine is a supplement to the handbook.

GUIDE GUIDERS

During this month, many Counties offer, as part of their annual training calendar, a time to learn about camping. It should remind us that the girls also need to be trained for this highlight of their year.

CAMPING QUIZ

Camping has a language of its own, with its guys and dolls; runners and pegs; altars and grease traps... To get new Guides used to these confusing terms you could try a quiz. For example, you could write on a card 'A guy is...' and then give a choice of three possible answers.

A follow-up activity could be giving them a picture of a tent and a series of labels which they must attach to the correct part. Or asking them to draw and label a tent of the style you use.

If you prefer, organise a beetle game in which throwing a six gives you the right to draw a tent shape. The various parts can be added at subsequent turns — with different numbers allocated to the various parts. For example: 5 — main guys; 4 — side guys; 3 — pegs...

You can decide whether one five gives all the main guys or only one of them! It really depends on how long you want the game to last!

When they are really familiar with the parts, they will easily follow instructions to pitch and strike the tents. And, if you use Icelandic-style ridge tents, the *Guide Handbook* has a good description of what to do in chapter five.

GET KNOTTED

Another skill which is particularly useful in camp is knotting. Yellow Trefoil clause 3H lists knots with which the girls should begin.

These knots are illustrated in the handbook and there are also several good knot books available through Trading Services.

When they have mastered

the knots, a game can often help them remember the technique. There are three games suggested in the handbook (see page 80). There are also ideas for challenges involving knotting.

If more than one Patrol is practising this skill, you could have inter-Patrol races. Each girl can be given a number and wins points for her Patrol if she can tie the knot requested.

Alternatively, make sure each girl has cord for knotting and three dried peas or the equivalent. Ask them to find a partner and challenge them to tie a particular knot.

full-size with safety rules observed, or in miniature), swings, and any other constructions they dream up using rope and poles.

They will also be able to create gadgets which will make life in camp more comfortable. The handbook, chapters four and five, the *PIP* and *PAC* cards, *Action Plus* and the *Ranger Resource Pack on Pioneering* all have ideas worth trying.

LIGHT MY FIRE

The third skill which is camp-related, although not exclusively practised at camp, is fire-lighting. Ideally, if the

cook spaghetti strands until they can be bent enough to tie knots.

● Tie a string across all the Patrol fires, at a height of about 15cms. See which Patrol can sustain its fire long enough to burn through the string first. The fires can then be used to toast bread or marshmallows.

● Challenge the Patrols to make a hot drink, given the ingredients for it plus matches, a tin, some wire, a piece of foil and access to water.

Most girls enjoy being outdoors, and trying their hand at firelighting. If you can't use these ideas at your



KATE TAYLOR

The first to tie the knot correctly wins one of her partner's peas. The girls then change partners, finding someone who has the same number of peas left. The same knot can be repeated, or a different one used.

If they run out of peas, they can still take part playing against anyone else who has no peas. The fastest knotter is the one with the most peas when the game is over.

PIONEERING

When the girls have mastered the basic knotting skills, they will have the confidence to move on to other things, such as pioneering.

They can make rope bridges, ladders, rafts (either

girls are going to Patrol cook at camp, they should be competent at lighting fires before they go, but not everyone has the facilities for practising!

If you can find wood, but have no waste ground for a fireplace, you could try lighting the fire on tin-lids about 30cms square. They can be raised off the ground on bricks or non-flinty stones.

Barbecues, either bought or made, are also useful. On these the traditional favourites — sausages, burgers and so on — can be cooked.

Here are some fun activity ideas using fire, which do not cost too much.

● Make a simple pot with an empty tin, and then challenge the girls to boil water and

meeting place, perhaps you could plan a day out, or use them while at camp or on holiday.

Encourage the girls to take a look at the Camp Preparation Pennant, the Pioneer Pennant, Outdoor Cookery and the Knotter badges, as well as parts of other badges such as Survival and Challenge.

Open up the outdoor options to the girls, and get them to participate.

CAROL HORNE

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

TRY THIS

A MUSICAL STORY

Rainbow Guiders often worry that there just aren't enough programme ideas offered for their relatively-new section. So, this month, we've devoted our Try This page to a musical activity designed especially for Rainbows.

Shakers can easily be made from a few dried peas, lentils or rice in an empty washing-up liquid container. Secure tightly and allow the Rainbows to decorate if you have time.

Different fillings will give

character plays her part when that name is mentioned.

Once upon a time a little black cat (triangle) lived all alone in a big, old house. The only friends he had were the tiny grey spiders (rice shakers) who lived in

little black cat (triangle) walked down the road.

It began to rain and the little black cat (triangle) was cold. He went to lots of houses but no one wanted to come and live in the big, old house. In one cottage there was a fierce, shaggy dog (drum) who chased him away.

At last, at the end of the village, the little black cat (triangle) saw a tumbledown cottage and heard children (pea or lentil shakers) laughing. He went up the path and a smiling, kind woman (tambourine) opened the door.

The kind woman (tambourine) said she would gladly come to live in the big, old house. 'I must bring all my children (pea or lentil shakers) and my pet grey spiders (rice shakers),' she told him.

Soon all the children, pots and pans (pan lid cymbals), pet grey spiders (rice shakers) and the kind woman (tambourine) were loaded into an old car. The little black cat (triangle) sat beside the kind woman (tambourine) to show her the way. The sun shone and the children (pea or lentil shakers) sang and even the fierce, shaggy dog (drum) wagged his tail as they drove past.

The tiny grey spiders (half shakers) were peeping through the windows of the big, old house and saw them all (shakers, pan lids, tambourine) coming, and they were happy again. 'Hurrah!' they cried (vigorous shakers).

The kind woman (tambourine), the children, the little black cat (triangle) and all the spiders (all the shakers) lived together very happily. The fierce, shaggy dog (drum) became friend and came to play with everyone (all instruments) and the sun shone every day.

A S GIBSON-POOLE
Sussex West



Rainbows and their Guiders can perform a very simple story (for themselves or an audience) using musical instruments for the 'voices', with the Guider reading the narrative. Of course, even such a simple performance has to be carefully rehearsed. Here is the musical story of *The Black Cat and the Grey Spiders* as an example. You and your Rainbows can create others.

Make and collect some musical instruments: two types of shakers (for instance, peas, lentils or rice), saucepan lids, drums and so on.

different sounds, for instance peas or lentils rattle loudly, while rice makes a much softer sound. Drums can be made by stretching material or a section of tyre inner tube over a box and securing tightly.

A triangle, bells, and tambourine add to the fun.

Decide which instrument is the voice of each character in your story. For example, triangle for the cat, tambourine for the kind woman, shakers for spiders...

Settle the Rainbows in a circle with the instruments. As you tell the story each

the cracks in the floorboards.

One day the little black cat (triangle) said to the spiders (shakers): 'I am so lonely I shall go to look for a kind woman (tambourine) to look after me.'

'No, no!' said the spiders (vigorous shakers). 'A woman will want to sweep us out into the cold.'

In spite of all the spiders (rice shakers) could say the little black cat (triangle) left the big old house to find a kind woman (tambourine). The tiny grey spiders (shakers) watched sadly as the

WOOL GATHERING

Most of us have odd balls of wool lurking around in knitting bags or work boxes. Here's a chance to have a clear out in a good cause.

OPENING

Give each Patrol identical 'shade cards' — about ten different coloured short lengths of wool stuck down to a piece of card. Challenge them to find objects — possibly natural objects — that match each shade as nearly as possible.

ACTIVITIES

Pixie and Giant Knitting

Try both kinds of knitting. Pixie knitting uses cocktail sticks and thin wool, while giant knitting is done on broom handles with thick wool.

Map Measuring

Use lengths of wool to measure distances on street maps, road maps and OS maps. Give the girls a list of distances to measure — preferably between places that involve the wool having to be taken round various bends and corners.

CRAFTS

Wool Pictures

Use double knitting wool in different colours. Design a picture or pattern on a piece of card, or you could use wallpaper that is already patterned or embossed. Paste only the part you are going to work on.

Lay the wool on the paste, using a matchstick or cocktail stick to push it into place. Use circles, lines, zigzags, scrolls or squiggles to fill in the shapes or figures — whatever best suits the pattern or picture.

Woven Mats

First make a 'loom' out of a square of stiff cardboard, approximately 10cm square. Along each edge of the card make marks every half a centimetre. Cut small — half-centimetre — slits at every mark.

Use double knitting wool and push the end into the first slit at the top left-hand side. Take the wool across the card to the first slit on the opposite edge, down through this slit and back up through the second slit. Finally take the wool across the card to the second slit on the top edge.

Continue doing this until you reach the last slit at the other end of the card. These are the 'warp' threads.

Now thread a wool needle with another length of wool. Hook this into the first slit on the right-hand side of the card and then thread the wool under and over the warp threads (see figure 1).

When you reach the left-hand side, take the wool through the slit and up through the next slit, then start weaving back across the card.

Make sure that you go the opposite way under and over the warps. When your weaving is complete, slip the loops out of the slits.

PATROL GAMES

Get out of this

Play this in pairs. Each girl needs a length of wool about one metre long. They should tie the wool round their wrists — not too tightly — as shown in figure 2. The challenge is to release themselves without untying the string.

In case none of them manage it, the solution is to make a loop in one person's string, pass it through the wrist loop of the other person then over the hand.

Woolly Words

Each girl needs a piece of wool about 30cm long. There should also be a box with cards containing each letter of the alphabet. One girl picks a letter from the box. They all then have 20 seconds to make a picture with their wool showing something beginning with the chosen letter.

COMPANY ACTIVITIES

Each Patrol has a ball of wool — the wool should be the same length as the meeting room. The first girl runs to the end of the room holding the end of the wool. The ball of wool is held and allowed to unwind by the second girl. Number one then turns and runs back to her team, winding the wool into a new ball. She hands the ball to number three and number two then does the running and so on.

buy another one at a cost of three nuts.

At the end of the game, the Patrol counts up its number of nuts — one point for each, and tails — three points for each.

Catch a Patrol

Each girl has a metre-length of wool — preferably fairly thick and not too easy to break! At a given signal, each Patrol has to join its wool together and then try to encircle the next Patrol, who are trying to encircle the next Patrol and so on.

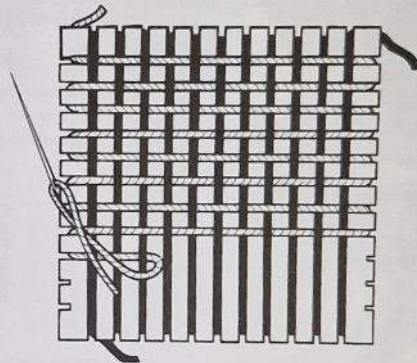


Figure 1

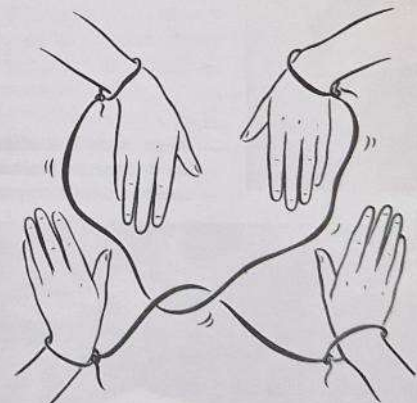


Figure 2

Squirrels' Tails

Each girl has a 'tail' — a piece of wool about 30cm long — hanging from the back of her belt or waistband. In the middle of the room are a pile of 'nuts' — buttons, dried peas and so on.

The girls start off in their Patrol corners and the aim is to acquire as many nuts as possible, and at the same time to catch others' tails. Anyone losing her tail can

No deliberate breaking of wool is allowed but in the chaos it could snap!

PAULINE WAINWRIGHT

● Next month: matchboxes and matches. Each girl needs four or six identical matchboxes for one of the crafts and each Patrol needs about three. About a further 20-30 boxes are wanted for Company activities, plus an inexhaustible supply of used — or safety — matches.

COPING WITH

HAPPY SNAPPING

Half the fun in doing something a bit special — whether it's going on one of those epic once-in-a-lifetime trips halfway round the world, or simply having an outstandingly good camp a few miles down the road — is in letting your pals read all about it in *GUIDING*.

Most of you can tell a good tale when it comes to the 'When we were kayaking in Kamchatka' stuff. It's only

when it comes to taking *good* photographs that so many readers fail to do their stories justice.

All too often we at *GUIDING* are left shaking our heads and wondering how we can illustrate a cracking yarn to give it the 'show' it deserves.

Now that summer is coming great picture opportunities will be presenting themselves, only to be lost

when someone muffs it.

So, at our invitation, Lesley Williams, Dorset County's official photographer, discusses the problem and offers a few tips that could sharpen-up your skill with a camera, and enable you to return with a real scoop.

Lesley, whose pictures have often appeared in *GUIDING*, is not a professional photographer — she works in a bank. But she is an accomplished lenslady, able to give as good an account of herself as many a full-time snapper.

If your snaps are not so hot forget the list-making and read Lesley's advice on getting picture-minded. It could make all the difference to that article about your Big Trip appearing.

If you want to improve your photography, start by taking a critical look at some of your past 'masterpieces' and work out where you went wrong.

A duff snap isn't a waste of film if you can learn something from it. But if you simply toss it aside, without another thought, as so many people do with their failures, then it really is a dead loss.

IN FOCUS

Obviously, to get a nice, sharp picture, the subject needs to be properly in focus — even the most inept snapper knows this. But often the photographer fails to decide, before pressing the button, what the subject is to be.

If, for example, it is to be three Ranger Guides in front of the Taj Mahal, then you must ensure that it is they who are in focus. The Taj Mahal must look after itself and, being some distance away, will be slightly out of focus and not so clearly defined in the picture. That, however, will be fine — so long as the Rangers are sharp and clear.

Buildings, even beautiful buildings, need a few people

around to give the picture some vitality.

A humble hut in an African leper colony may bring back wonderful memories for you but, for your readers, it's just a hut. So why not arrange for one of the patients and a couple of your party to be looking out of the window?

And something like a window can help to frame your picture — make it more interesting. A pretty tree or shrub alongside your subject can give the picture a pleasing, leafy look.

BACKGROUNDS

An awful lot of pictures are ruined by the background. Always take a look through your viewfinder before you press the button. It may only take a moment to move that hideous, plastic rubbish bin. Or you may be able to miss it completely by changing your camera angle slightly.

Watch out for a bush that could appear to be sprouting from someone's head, or that drainpipe which seems to be connected to her ear.

With indoor photography, beware of wallpaper and upholstery with 'busy' patterns, or colours that clash with uniforms.

The foreground is equally important, so always make sure there is nothing ugly in it to mar your picture or make it look ridiculous. What's that frying pan doing on the ground? Get those shabby trainers tucked out of the way!

By all means take a photograph of the entire party on the trek for 'posterity'. However, if you want your picture to get into *GUIDING*, take some close-up shots of small groups — three or four at the most.

FIRST PERSON

Remember, too, to get someone to take a snap of you. This is essential for a 'first person' article, by you, about your adventures. You'd be surprised how many authors



X Although the distracting messy background is crystal clear, the real subjects of this photograph are out of focus. Plus the photographer has made the classic error of positioning the Brownie so a tree appears to be growing out of her head.

✓ Much better. The subjects are in focus and positioned against a plain background.



A confused, messy picture with faces bleached out by the sun.



Take a close up of two colour-bearers against a plain background and you have a much better picture.



forget to do this!

Action shots can be great, but it's no use attempting the impossible.

Say, for example, you want to take a picture of Guides canoeing and the only vantage point is a bridge over the river, 50 metres away. Hopeless, in all probability.

So what can you do? Maybe get into a boat and draw alongside. Or, perhaps,

find a place on the river bank, where a couple of girls, with dripping paddles held aloft, can grin into your lens after the event.

All this is about giving *thought* to your photography and about the *composition* of your pictures. I am assuming that you have passed the stage of beheading people, slicing them in half or chopping off their feet.

IN THE LIGHT

And, of course, you are well aware of the golden oldie rule: keep the sun behind you, more or less.

That, however, often means screwed-up eyes, or sunglasses — prompting the question 'Who on earth is that?'. But, perhaps, you could change the camera angle and move the girls so that they do not have to out-

stare the sun.

You can put them under an awning or a tree, out of the fierce glare, so long as they are still bathed in plenty of light.

Remember, too, that 'woolly' pictures are not only caused by being out of focus. A lot are spoiled by 'the shakes'.

Practise holding the camera steady. Stand, feet slightly apart, camera in both hands, elbows tight to your sides. If that doesn't work, improvise with something to act as a camera stand.

Watch out for foreign bodies! Make sure your lens is dry and really clean, with no sticky finger marks or dead flies.

Just before you click that shutter — hold it! Has a finger strayed too near the lens, or has the breeze wafted a wisp of your hair over it?

Above all, remember that your attempts at photography should be fun and this should show in your pictures.

Be quick on the draw, ready to shoot that priceless scene — the water party sloshing its way back to camp with over-full buckets, or those Guides trying to float that rickety raft.

But, should you miss the winning shot, don't give up. Explain exactly what you want and get the girls to re-enact it. Play 'film directors' — you'll be surprised at what you can do!

Use colour film only. It's always a better bet if you want to get into print. Never give your film to 'dodgy outfits' to develop, especially abroad. Bring it back home and use a reputable processor in the UK.

Protect your prints, or slides, with cardboard when sending them through the post. Don't use paper clips or write on the back of prints with a ball point pen. Number the prints lightly in pencil and write captions on a sheet of paper.

Got all that? Right — off you go and have a great time. But don't you dare come back without at least one absolute stunner of a picture!

LESLEY WILLIAMS 45

Use people to add interest to a photograph of a famous landmark or building.



RANGER GUIDERS

Did you know that the revised GGA Leadership Scheme is now published, and that all adult members are involved in it? If you are a well-established leader you may feel that this is yet another change. It's all there in print, but what does it really have to do with you? After all, you will just go on meeting in the same way as before. And, if there is a Ranger Guider training, you will go but, if not, then you will manage.

LEADERSHIP

If you are new to the leadership role, you will be working through your leadership training

through with your Commissioner what you have achieved and what you are hoping to go on to next?

Completing Stage One of the Leadership Scheme will now lead to a warrant — not for you as a Ranger Guider, but for you as an adult leader. Have you considered what that might mean for you and for young women in your Unit who are involved in leadership training?

The warrant means that you are a trained leader, that you have achieved the required standard, and have the necessary knowledge to be an adult leader in the

skills and to grow in understanding of the Promise and the principles of Guiding.

ISOLATION

While you are working towards Stage One and Stage Two, there is every reason to stay in close contact with your Commissioner. But if you have been leading for some time and, perhaps, feel a bit isolated, it can be easy to let things slip.

Action: Review the trainings that you have attended over the last five years. Has it been possible within your County to attend Ranger Guider trainings regularly?

Do you feel limited by the training opportunities available in your own area?

Action: Check through the training opportunities advertised in *GUIDING*. Ask your Commissioner if she has copies of the 'fliers' relating to events at the Training Centres. If not, contact your Programme and Training chairman. Ask your Division training representative to find out about the training programmes for Ranger Guiders in neighbouring Counties.

Try to have variety in your training. If local trainings always seem to use the same material and ideas, make sure you put forward positive suggestions.

QUALIFICATIONS

Do you feel that gaining a further qualification is going to be too much of a commitment? Do you feel the qualification might be nice for you, but that you might not use it within the Unit?

Remember that Rangers are very much on the move, they are growing and changing all the time they are in the Unit. If your enthusiasm for your new qualification shows through, it's likely that someone else will want to have a go and take the opportunity to use the skills that you've developed.

Action: Decide what you would like to do. Decide if that is possible. Talk your plans through with your Commissioner.

Further action: Get up and go. Those who have been Ranger Guiders for some time will probably be working at Stage Four of the Leadership Scheme — the stage which relates to strengthening your skills.

Ranger Guiders are working with girls in the transitional years — from childhood to adulthood, which is a stormy and exciting time. Are you constantly preparing yourself to be a significant part of that scene?



ing and will be able to look carefully at what you have achieved so far. With the help of your District Commissioner you will be able to link this into the newly structured Leadership Scheme.

Activity: Whatever the stage you have reached in the training programme, are you maintaining your personal record book? When did you last enter anything into it? Have you made a note of the last training session you attended? Have you talked

Association, wherever you happen to be within the UK, or in areas within BGIFC. You will never be required to repeat Stage One.

But it also means that, as a warranted Guider, you are aware of your own responsibilities to the girls and young women with whom you are working. You are, therefore, committed to train specifically to work with one section of the Association, and then to continue to train in order to update your knowledge, to extend your

Have you attended regularly? Have you gained new information that you have used with your Unit? Have you had the chance to learn new skills? Has there been an ongoing theme or pattern to these trainings?

Stage Three of the scheme involves you in *Building on your Skills*. There are two parts to this — attendance at a minimum number of training sessions, and either gaining a further qualification, extending an existing skill, or learning a new one.

YOUNG LEADERS

Sometimes it can be difficult to think of new ideas for activities. The task becomes easier if you choose a particular theme, then list anything which would fit into it.

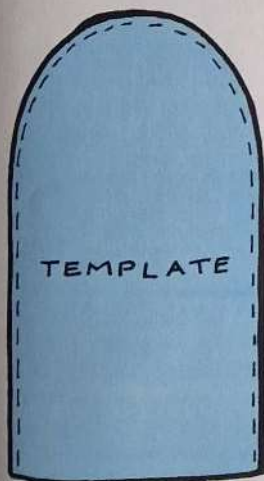
THEME IT

For example, have you ever thought how many words or phrases contain 'hand'? Try writing down the first ones which spring to mind. Now challenge the Guides or Brownies in your unit to see how many they can think of, or use a dictionary to see how many others you can find.

One of the first phrases you may think of, especially if you are working with Brownies, is 'Lend a Hand'. The following is an activity to help the Brownies think about helping others.

LEND A HAND

Cut out pictures of household objects, people and so on. Then stick them on to pieces



of card — old mail order catalogues or magazines are a good source of pictures.

Place the cards face down and muddle them up. Each Brownie in turn picks up a card and mimes a good turn which she could do, using the object on her card. Once it has been guessed correctly, the next Brownie has a turn.

Brownies could also make a Lend a Hand chart by

drawing round their hands on a piece of paper and writing their good turns on the hands.

Do you use your hands as you talk? How many times have you caught yourself describing something with your hands while on the telephone? People who have speech difficulties often have to communicate with their hands. Perhaps you could learn, and then teach your unit, the manual alphabet or some other form of sign language. Or maybe you could arrange for someone



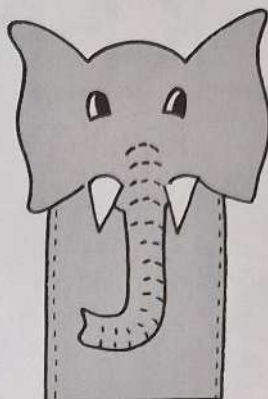
to visit the unit to teach the girls instead. Contact your County Adviser for Members with Disabilities if you need any help.

It isn't only those with speech problems who need to use their hands as a means of communication. Blind people may use Braille, or other aids, which rely on touch. Could you find someone to show you some of the aids available?

HANDS ON

Could you cope if you were forced to use your 'wrong hand' for writing and so on? Try having a 'wrong-handed' evening in your unit, featuring various activities such as writing your name, spreading bread and butter, cutting out, sewing on a button... with the hand not normally used.

This is a useful exercise in helping everyone to understand the difficulties faced

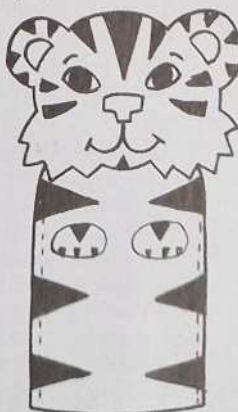


by someone who has limited use of her hands.

Finger painting is a lovely, messy activity for Rainbows. You can buy special finger paints from toy shops. Do not forget that you will need newspapers or plastic to cover tables, and each Rainbow will need an apron to protect her clothes!

Another type of hand painting is practised in India. This involves painting intricate designs on a hand with henna. Could you find someone to demonstrate this to your unit? The henna stains the skin for some time, so you may find that the girls prefer to draw round their hands on card, and put the designs on these.

There is a famous painting of *Praying Hands* by Albrecht Dürer. The story of how it came to be painted can be found in *Sharing*, a GGA publication. Perhaps you could find a copy of the picture and use it and the story to help your unit add to its collection of prayers.



For Rainbows and Brownies, simple prayers can be written on cut-out hand shapes.

HAND PUPPETS

Have the girls in your unit tried making hand or finger puppets?

For each hand puppet you will need an old, clean mitten or sock, wool, pieces of felt for eyes and mouth, glue and scissors.

Take the mitten or sock and glue on strands of wool for hair. Cut out features from scraps of felt and glue in place. Add other items such as hats to make different characters. Could the girls lend a hand using the puppets?

For finger puppets you will need felt scraps, wool, glue, needles and thread.

Trace the template on to



thin card and use it to cut two pieces of felt.

Place the pieces of felt together and sew around the edge. This makes the basic puppet. Faces and hair can be added from scraps of felt and wool to make different characters.

Brownies may like to 'dress' their puppets in the uniforms of overseas Brownies, or to represent the characters in a story. You could also cut out heads to make different animal puppets.

Using these suggestions, you could cover most of the Eight Points with a 'hands' theme. You should also find that the activities will fall into several of the clauses of the Young Leader Scheme!

THE LONG WEEKEND

When BGIFC Guides in Jakarta decided to camp under canvas for the first time they knew they were in for a long, hot weekend.



DINAH FELL

▲ Cooking under canvas is a cinch for Catriona Light



► Even the heat didn't put Carolyn Azancot off her food

Indonesia has just about everything you don't need for camping — like poisonous snakes, massive mosquitoes — with bites to match — and a vast variety of other stinging, nibbling pests and creepy-crawlies that get into almost everything, except the camp fire.

But, as if to compensate, this hot, humid land on the equator also has lashings of bamboo.

It grows like grass all over the splattering of islands that make up Indonesia and, being so smooth and straight, it's absolutely ideal for making superb gadgets.

Which is what the girls of the 1st and 2nd Jakarta BGIFC Guide Companies discovered when, in sweltering heat, last November, they camped under canvas for the first time.

The two units are based at the British International School in the Indonesian capital.

Their foray into snake country was, for various reasons, a memorable experience, described here by Dinah Fell, Assistant Guider with the 1st Jakarta Guides.



DINAH FELL

Bamboo gadgets make washing-up easier for Navita Jain

After school the Guides piled into two buses, with all their bags and bedding rolls and were deposited at the Cibubur Scout camp ground, which is the Indonesian national Scout and Guide camping centre.

For the first time we were to spend an entire camp under canvas and the aim was to do so for four days.

"Easy", I hear all you expert campers in Britain cry. "What's the problem?"

Well, firstly there's the heat that makes things difficult and uncomfortable. Then there's the slight problem of the rain. Not the sort of stuff you get in the UK, even in what you'd call a downpour.

Here, each raindrop is huge and heavy and descends in giant buckets. Had it rained at night we would have found ourselves swimming among the floating bedding and groundsheets.

We weren't too worried about the rain in the day time, as we had all our equipment off the ground, supported

by the wonderful gadgets we were able to make with bamboo.

It is so plentiful that we were able to use lovely, straight, smooth bamboo poles of regular length for all our gadgets. They make the most fantastic washing-up stands!

However, there are other things in Indonesia that also occur naturally, such as poisonous snakes, massive mosquitoes and very annoying flies.

This was one of the reasons why we hadn't taken the Guides camping under canvas before.

So this camp was an experiment, to find out how well we could cope. And, as with all well-prepared trials, it worked out well.

We must confess to breaking a Guide Law by killing a snake, but we took the view that a dead snake was better than a sick Guide!

The mosquitoes were a real problem. Despite dowsing ourselves in repellent, by the end of camp, we all looked as if we had a bad dose of chicken pox. One blessing was that, here, we didn't have pesky gnats to contend with.

To keep our minds off the heat, which came near to being unbearable — especially in the mornings — we kept ourselves busy with orienteering, camp duties and games, including lengthy water fights in the camp ground's pool.

Although inexperienced, the girls coped remarkably well with camping in these conditions.

They threw themselves wholeheartedly into camp life, enjoying doing all kinds of things which they had never had an opportunity of doing before, like cooking over an open fire, sawing and chopping wood, and simply living out of doors.

The camp was a great success. In fact, one parent later reported that, according to their daughter, it was "the best thing" she had ever done.

Ignoring the heat, the natural hazards and the pests that plagued them, the girls reflected the true spirit of Guiding in everything they did during that long, hot weekend under canvas.

The GGA should be proud of their British Guides in Foreign Countries and especially proud of those in Indonesia!

DINAH FELL

Jakarta's BGIFC Guides are looking for penpals. Write to: Dinah Fell, c/o British International School, PO Box 4120, Jakarta 12041, Indonesia.

They would also love to attend a Guide camp in the UK when they return to their home towns this summer. Details of camps and kind invitations should be sent to Dinah at the address given above.

arena
THE ACHIEVERS

BE A CLOWN!

When it comes to clowning around, Guider, artist and clown-enthusiast Debbie Crawte knows all the tricks of the trade. ▷



Clowning around:
Debbie with three of her
Guides-turned-clowns



Mad about clowns —
Guider and clown-painter Debbie Crawte



The 9th Clacton Guides enjoy
designing their own 'motley' and
slapping on the 'slap and tricks'

It's always a laugh a minute for the 9th Clacton Guide Company. That's because their Guider, Debbie Crawte, is mad about clowns! Debbie's enthusiasm for clowning around has spurred her Guides into action. They've been designing their own clown costumes, putting on clown make-up and learning new magic tricks.

A 34-year-old fine arts graduate, Debbie meets clowns and paints their portraits on her travels around Britain's clown conventions. And she juggles the demands of Guiding, her three children and a part-time job as an art tutor at the local adult education college in Essex.

It was the clowns' bright and bizarre outfits that first attracted Debbie's attention. 'I copied a couple of clowns

from photographs I found in magazines,' she explained. Then she heard about the Joey Grimaldi Memorial Service, where clowns gather once a year to pay their respects to 'the father of clowns'.

Debbie recalled: 'I met a lot of clowns there and they said if I wanted to find out about clowns, the ideal place was the Clowns International Clown convention held annually in Bognor. That was five years ago and I've been going ever since.'

'A mixture of clowns go — both professionals and amateurs. It's lovely because they have workshops where they all teach each other magic tricks, balloon-twisting and make-up.'

There are a lot of different styles of clowning. Party clowns do magic, while circus clowns are a bit over the top with a more slap-stick style.

The shows at conventions are fantastic, bringing together clowns from all over Europe. In 1991 a joint convention was held with the World Clown Association, which meant Bognor was invaded by 400 American clowns.

Their costumes are immaculate — if you can see any skin on an American clown, the children won't believe it really is a clown, so they have to be really covered and wear gloves.'

Behind the painted face of a clown lies a complex character, Debbie's discovered. 'Once I'd met clowns, I realised how their characters differ,' she explained. 'It is lovely to paint them and to try and get to the character behind the costumes and make-up. The more I sketch and paint clowns, the more I am getting to know them.'

'Make-up forms part of the clown's character. In a circus act, the white-faced clown is a serious person. He's the one who does everything right, while the other clowns mess it all up.'

Debbie is commissioned to paint portraits by the clowns she meets at clowns international conventions, where she usually has a stand. As well as the portraits, she sells cards, keyrings and clown prints. But, so far, Debbie's clown mania hasn't turned out to be much of a money-spinner.

'I sell a bit, but not usually enough to cover the price of the stand in the first place,' Debbie said. 'But the stand is your "shop window". You have to be there and let all the clowns see you.'

'It would be very nice if I ever made some money out of it! But I have to pay for the stand and then there are accommodation and travel costs — and I don't usually sell enough to cover it all.'

Debbie is a new Guider, bringing

lots of fresh, original ideas to a popular and established unit in Clacton, Essex.

'I was a Guide in Ashstead, near Epsom, where I grew up,' Debbie explained. 'And, I am ashamed to say, I only got one badge — in art! Now all my Guides are very keen to get badges. They love them.'

Debbie married at 19 and, after graduating from Croydon College of Art, moved to St Ives in Cornwall where two of her three children, Jennifer 10, Ben 7, and 18-month-old Katy, were born.

'We loved it down there, but the work situation was bad,' Debbie said. So, after about seven years, they moved back to Essex where work prospects were better, and Debbie returned to Guiding when Jennifer started Guides.

Two ladies had been running the unit for years and reached the stage where they didn't want to stay on for much longer,' Debbie said. They had been trying to find somebody to take over for a couple of years.'

Once they found Debbie, things moved quickly and she found herself running a 22-strong Guide unit. To start with I thought: 'Oh no, what have

FUNNY FACTS

● Joseph Grimaldi is regarded as the father of clowns. Joey was the first to paint his face — and he entertained audiences by wearing silly clothes, singing songs and leaping unexpectedly from trap doors yelling: 'Here we are again!'

● The Joey Grimaldi Memorial Service is held on the first Sunday in February at Holy Trinity Church, Beechwood Road, Dalston, London E8.

● The Clowns Gallery is a treasure trove of clown memorabilia. It is part of Holy Trinity, the Clowns' Church in East London. You can visit on the first Monday of each month, 10am-4pm.

● In 'clown-speak', a clown costume is called 'motley', make-up is 'slap and tricks' and belongings are 'props'.

I done?' I think I was trying too hard to do what the previous Guiders had been doing. I was thinking I had to carry on in some way.

'But now I think I have just got to take things slowly and build up. At the moment I am organising a couple of weeks in advance, rather than thinking about the next couple of months. It will take time to get more organised.

'My husband wasn't too keen on me

doing Guides to start with — because he thought I was already doing too much. But he doesn't mind now and is happy to look after the other children while I am at Guides.'

Debbie's Guides were eager to try out lots of new ideas when she introduced them to the wacky world of clowning. 'It was nice, getting them interested,' Debbie said. They had some fantastic ideas and designed all their own costumes and make-up.

This year we are taking part in a Guide show, and we're going to do a song from the musical *Barnum*, which, of course, is all about a circus. The girls have already started making their costumes.'

If you're always on the look-out for new ideas to try at meetings, send off for the clown fun-pack produced by Elizabeth Morgan — better known as Fizzie Lizzie the clown.

The pack costs £1.50 and is crammed with ideas to help you hold your own clown evening. It includes clown ruffs, pompoms and masks to make; clown food recipes; quizzes and word searches. For more details ring Lizzie on: 071-723 3877.

NICOLA WHATMORE

Debbie's brought lots of fresh ideas to the 9th Clacton Guides





THE SPACE FOR COMFORT...

Bradcot mess tents provide a new dimension to outdoor activity and the flexibility of construction is proving to be a very popular aspect of their design.

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THE GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION LONDON & SOUTH EAST ENGLAND REGION GENERAL SECRETARY

SALARY £17,000 p.a.

The Girl Guides Association is a registered charity with a voluntary membership of girls and women totalling nearly 800,000 throughout the United Kingdom.

London & South East England Region, covering Sussex, Surrey, Kent, Middlesex and Greater London, with Headquarters close to Wandsworth Common Station, is seeking to appoint a General Secretary from 1st October 1993 upon the retirement of the current holder of the post.

Reporting to the Chief Commissioner and Executive Committee of the Region, the General Secretary is responsible for personnel appointments and for the management of a small office of staff who support the work of the voluntary membership of 101,000.

The successful applicant will be able to act without supervision, meet deadlines, and will be required to work some evenings and weekends. Duties will include servicing Committees and liaising with both the general public and membership.

Applicants should have organisational skills and have a knowledge of computers.

Experience within the Girl Guides Association would be a definite advantage.

Interested candidates should apply for an application form and Job Description from:-

Mrs D. Maxwell Scott,
The Girl Guides Association,
London & South East England,
3 Jaggard Way,
Wandsworth Common,
London SW12 8SG.
081 675 7572

The closing date for receipt of completed application forms is 14th June 1993.

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For further details apply to the Warden, Blackland Farm, East Grinstead, Sussex RH19 4HP or telephone 0342 810493 or 0860 393026.



YOUR LETTERS

● The letter *Ban It* in February's *GUIDING* has provoked three more comments from readers.

OCCULT DANGER

I am a committed Christian too and have been a Brownie Guider for 14 years. I stopped doing Hallowe'en activities about eight years ago, when our Minister pointed out how these activities could lead young people into the occult. At that time I also wrote to Guide Headquarters about my concern as Hallowe'en articles were featured in *BROWNIE*.

I try to point out to my Brownies that knocking on doors to 'trick or treat' is not the kind of thing a Brownie should do. And also, that in this society, it is not safe for them to do this.

J HEMBROW

Brown Owl
6th East Barnet Brownies
Herts

DEALING WITH THEIR FEARS

Brownies need educating in ways to avoid the occult, not just closing their minds to it. Our society is full of evil. The best way of protecting children from this is by sensibly warning them of its existence and ways to avoid it.

Our Pack had a fancy dress party and played games for Hallowe'en. The girls had fun and, I am sure, learned a lot about this festival. Hilary Lee-Corbin's book *Hallowe'en*, in the Celebration series, was very useful and gave clear facts the Brownies could understand.

I do not agree that these activities allow the children to believe witches, ghosts and so on are harmless. Fear of the unknown is worse than knowing how

to deal with that fear.

Here the power of prayer is a very strong tool. I feel it is a shame to close our minds so completely by imposing a ban.

As for 'trick or treat' — who lets children roam the streets unsupervised, especially on dark nights? Not a Brown Owl I'm sure. Our close is full of children and 'trick or treat' was carried out without incident. Parents had approached the neighbours beforehand and kept a close eye on their charges.

The Brownie Law says: 'A Brownie thinks of others before herself...' Need I say more?

MRS V K VALLOW

Assistant Brownie Guider
Ipswich

ALTERNATIVE PACK OPTION

Many people share the concern of the writer of *Ban It*.

The Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Leicester has produced an *Alternative Hallowe'en Pack* for use with young people, which gives ideas for activities for celebrating Hallowe'en as the Eve of All Saints' Day with the emphasis on the Saints.

If any Guider would like a copy, it can be obtained from the Mothers' Union Office, Diocese of Leicester, 5 St Martin's East, Leicester LE1 5FX at a cost of £2 including postage. Please also send an addressed A4 size envelope, 9 x 12½ins.

DOROTHY S WAKEFIELD

Melton Mowbray Division
Leicestershire

● A Personal View in December's *GUIDING* prompted a heartfelt admission and tips for encouraging support from parents.

THOUGHTLESS PARENTS

I am also a Brownie Guider in a 'nice' area, full of 'nice' families with two cars parked outside their 'nice' detached houses.

There are many occasions when I tire of minding their children, with little or no thanks from the majority of parents. But then I remember when my girls were Brownies and how I just accepted everything that happened at Brownies and didn't appreciate — or even realise — the time and effort that goes into each activity.

My daughters also went on Pack Holiday and Guide camp. I paid the money and thought of the peaceful week I would enjoy while they were away. I can honestly say I never gave much thought to the sort of week the leaders would have!

Now I am a Guider and I realise how thoughtless I was. So I try to be patient and understanding with other thoughtless parents. I don't always succeed, but I console myself with the thought that maybe, in years to come, another Brownie mum will become a Guider and say her thank you in a practical way.

S RANDALL

Brownie/Guide Guider
Chalbury
Wimborne

ENCOURAGING SUPPORT

Perhaps we are lucky in our area that the girls who come to us as Guides have encouraging parents. But we work hard at parental support and it brings dividends — in the form of friendship and support.

I work nearly full-time myself, so my policy is as follows:

When a parent approaches me for her daughter to join, I make it quite clear that I can only run the unit with the help and support of parents. If they are unable to help at meetings from time to time perhaps they could help with transport or in some other way. No one refuses.

I keep our numbers down to 16, so the girls know each other well. They know that if they want to join they must be committed. I insist they ring me or their PL if they can't attend a meeting.

Subs are paid once a half-term. Needless to say, a parent is treasurer. We send a newsletter every term or so. Another parent types and photocopies it.

When we go away, two parents usually do the food shopping, while another comes to help with the weekend. Once a year we have a parents' meeting, coinciding with an enrolment and Trefoil badge presentations — nearly everyone comes.

Perhaps the welcoming of new parents is most important. I try to have something the other girls can get on with at the beginning of the meeting with our Assistant, so I can give new mums a little time to get to know them. Or I try to visit them at home.

The girls actually think their mums are letting other people down if they don't pull their weight, but some prefer their dads to help on the outdoor activities. Even those with younger children or health problems find a way to be supportive.

We are a very happy group, like an extended family.

JOY HANSON

Guider
1st Dartington Guides
Devon

● The debate over the Brownie Swimmer, Swimmer Advanced and Water Rescuer badges continues:

IN THE SWIM

I am a Brownie Guider and I also run a swimming club. I find the syllabuses for all three badges are just about right. I have been teaching swimming for 25 years.

The Swimmer badge should be an easy badge for Brownies, providing the National Curriculum is in force at the school they attend.

I only have to say to my Brownies that I intend taking the Pack to a leisure pool in three months' time but I won't take any Brownie who has not got the Swimmer badge, and they are clamouring to learn to swim.

I don't think there is any Brownie that cannot be taught the Water Rescuer badge. I teach six at a time — when one class has passed I take another six.

They understand not only the principles of survival, but also about not putting themselves in danger while carrying out a rescue. I know when my girls have passed that they could carry out a rescue if the need arose — without thinking twice.

The Advanced Swimmer badge has been designed so that if swimming is the the Brownie's interest it is within easy reach.

Any seven to ten-year-old can throw a ball or reach with a pole, and can coil and throw a rope with practice. If we save even one life by having this badge, we will have achieved our objective of encouraging Brownies to grow into responsible adults.

J JONES

Southampton, Hampshire

SLAVE LABOUR

I would like to know if any other Young Leaders feel as I do at the moment.

Today was our Division Thinking Day celebration

The Guider I was with and I expected that, as Young Leader, I would supervise the Rainbows and Brownies at various activities. Instead I was called into the kitchen to make tea and coffee for all the Guiders present. This was not what I objected to.

A friend and I carefully made a list of who wanted what and then found that in all the rush of organising the event the tea and coffee had been left behind. We eventually got tea and coffee and set to making it.

Just after starting, we were bombarded by Guides and Brownies with irate messages from Guiders who had not had their drinks. We eventually gave all the Guiders their drinks and washed up.

What I objected to was the attitude of the Guiders. Of the 30 present we received no more than five thank yous. I felt that we were running about like slaves for the Guiders instead of helping the girls as we were supposed to.

I am working for my A-levels at the moment and feel that I would have had more fun and my time would have been spent more rewardingly if I had stayed at home. After all — isn't *fun* what Guiding is about for everyone?

Young Leader
Wales

OPEN TO ALL

The correspondence on the topic of payment by Guiders for camps and holidays seems to run and run, but there is one point which I have not yet seen expressed.

Plans for any camp can only be pursued once the key adult staff have committed themselves to the roles of leader, quartermaster and first aider.

Sometimes the best (or only) person for one of these jobs simply cannot afford the cost. If those Guiders who can afford it do pay — how much

worse the other(s) will feel, than if the local tradition is simply that nobody offering to fill one of these three key roles ever pays.

Extra Guiders and others, both adults and children, all pay something — usually the full extra cost incurred. This applies to all whose presence is not strictly necessary to the camp, but is useful — whether these be Guiders' children, families, activity instructors, or those gaining experience.

I used to camp in another Region with a different group where everyone simply paid in full — we could all afford it. Now I realise that different situations require different responses. Although I could still afford the camp fee, I do not pay it — because, when the accounts are discussed by the leadership team, that could embarrass my friend who cannot pay. There are many other ways of contributing to the holiday finances, for example, donating petrol.

Guiding is open to all. It is flexible for many situations — very rarely will it be appropriate to prescribe one universal response as the only correct answer — some Guiders do live and work among constraints that others can scarcely imagine.

Name and Address supplied

SERVICE SYSTEMS

With reference to the letter 'Long Service Program' in January's *GUIDING* — in our Division we have a Warrants and Registrations Secretary. She looks through the Division Records just prior to our renewal of Promise service, when these awards are presented, to see which Guiders are due for their Long Service Bar.

As a District Commissioner I, too, kept a card index system (which had been handed over to me by my predecessor)

with details of each Guider's records, taken from her application for a warrant.

Should these details not be to hand, the District Commissioner could ask, through the District meeting, if any Guider thinks she is due for her Long Service Bar and then check with her Division or County Warrants and Registration Secretary.

JOAN COBHAM

Assistant Division
Commissioner
Southend West

SQUARE CELEBRATIONS

The 1st Stewarton Guide Company is 75 years old this year. Our Company was registered on August 18, 1918 and to commemorate this we are planning a year of celebrations.

One of our ideas is to make a quilt out of various squares, each square depicting a facet of Guiding. We hope that other units celebrating an anniversary, especially a 75th anniversary, will be able to contribute a square to this quilt.

Each square should be an 8ins x 8ins finished square. This should include a ½ inch seam allowance. The square can be patchwork, embroidered or appliqué. We already have squares featuring a camp fire, the four World Centres and the World Flag.

If you require any other information please call: 0560 84138. We would like to hear from any other Companies who are celebrating their 75th anniversaries, even if they do not wish to contribute a square to the quilt.

MISS K A SHARP
Guider

Letters should be kept as brief as possible and the Editor reserves the right to edit any contribution. Letters must carry the author's name, address and, if possible, a daytime phone number.



Plucky Laura keeps smiling

Guide Laura Peggs, of Stockton-on-Tees, has been awarded the North East England Chief Commissioner's Award for the fortitude, courage and cheerfulness with which she has faced two devastating blows in her 14 years.

The first came when Laura, then a Brownie, was only nine and her mother died from a lung disease.

Less than a year later Laura was rushed to hospital for an emergency operation, when she was found to have a huge brain tumour that had spread to her tonsils.

After several more operations Laura

still manages to keep smiling, although she has since lost the sight of her right eye as a result of the pressure of fluid on the optic nerve.

It's been a long, hard fight but, with the help of her Dad, who has brought her up alone since she lost her Mum, Laura's winning through and back into Guiding in a big way.

'She's a plucky girl and does her best to join in all activities — including camps,' said Isobel Nelson, Guider of Laura's unit, the 4th Fairfield Guide Company.

Laura received her award from the Chief Commissioner, Pat Cliff, in a

LAURA'S COURAGE

special presentation evening at St Patrick's School, Fairfield, meeting-place of the 5th Fairfield Brownies.

Since it was on a Monday — 'Brownie Night' — the Brownies were able to watch the ceremony, along with the Guides.

The Chief Commissioner's Award is given for service, conduct or behaviour of exceptional merit in various fields, including courageous behaviour.

When the Mayor of Stockton heard about Laura, he was so impressed that he invited Laura and her father to the Mayor's Parlour for a chat.

For a girl born only at the end of the '70s Laura has what many would regard as an unusual hobby.

She is fascinated by the history of the Second World War and has spent more than three years researching the subject. Laura hopes that her special interest may eventually lead to a career as a historian.



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PEOPLE *and* PLACES

OWL HUNTERS

▼ Just look at those grins! This bunch of go-getting Brownies from Saintbridge District, Gloucestershire, had just been challenged to tie up their Brown Owl — they could hardly wait! Hope they gave her a head start...



LIZ WHITE

TOY TIME

▼ Rainbows and Beavers in North East London donned toy costumes to tread the boards during Winchester Road Scout and Guides' song and dance extravaganza, *Showtime '92*. The sell-out production raised nearly £2,000 for local units and their church.

PAM HAYES



JOHN DICK/VISIONS PHOTOGRAPHY



BONNY BONNET

◀ Pretty as a picture — that's Brownie Jennifer Cator wearing her summer bonnet to celebrate the start of the sunny season. Jennifer swapped her baseball cap for more seasonal headgear while on Pack Holiday with the 1st South Killingholme Brownies from South Humberside.

STRIP SHOW

▼ Introducing 'The Chippalatos'! These brave boys stripped down to their bare essentials to make Guide Dawn O'Connor's day, when they presented her Baden-Powell Trefoil Award. Dawn, of 2nd South Queensferry Company, Edinburgh, had jokingly requested The Chippalatos for her presentation ceremony. The budget didn't stretch quite that far, so she got a home town troop instead.

JENNIFER BARNETT



STONE WALLED

▲ It's a bit different from Greece! Greek Guiders Katerina Loiza (left) and Evelina Nousia learn the art of scrambling over stone walls in the Peak District. They were taking part in an expedition during Argosy '92, a GOLD exchange project.

SPECTACULAR

▼ Guides Carolyne Hesby and Charlene Nineham don't mind making a spectacle of themselves if it's for a good cause. Together with other Guides, Brownies and Rainbows from North East Portsmouth District they contributed over 100 pairs of used spectacles to a collection for the needy in developing countries.

LINDA MERCER



THE NEWS, PORTSMOUTH



Sugar cane on the Kapar
Plains, Kenya

IN AT THE DEEP END

Ranger Hazel Wilkins was thrown
in at the deep end when she
spent three months
teaching in Kenya.



A class outside the school with their teacher Mombi
and paper birds made by Hazel

Taking charge of a class of boisterous young children for the first time can be a testing experience for a young, newly-qualified teacher, as any seasoned professional will tell you.

But when Ranger Hazel Wilkins, from Bournemouth, first walked into a classroom as an assistant teacher, she was not in Britain but in a remote part of Kenya, where the children fired questions at her in Swahili.

Talk about being thrown in at the deep end! And not having any training, let alone previous experience, didn't help either.

Most of the children could, in fact, be coaxed into speaking English but they spoke it in such a way that, until she got the hang of it, Hazel still needed an interpreter.

But Hazel thoroughly enjoyed her three-month stay at the school and

mission settlement run for unwanted and orphaned Kenyan children by an English couple.

Even so, she has no plans for a teaching career. She aims to become a doctor like her mum. Her work in Kenya was a residential project for the Duke of Edinburgh's Direct Gold Award. Since then Hazel has also been on a Raleigh International expedition to Malaysia.

Here, Hazel describes the Kenyan visit that left her not only with treasured memories but a sense of personal satisfaction.

I was born in Kenya while my parents were working there in 1972 but was only a year old when we returned to England.

I had long wanted to visit Kenya and this was made possible by my parents' friends, John and Esther Green, founders

of the Testimony Faith Homes, near Eldoret, Western Kenya.

Last year, which I took off before going to university, they invited me to stay at the Homes and help at the nursery school which they also run.

The first thing I had to get used to on my arrival was the accent. Although people were speaking English, I could hardly understand a word until my ears became "tuned in".

At the Testimony Faith Homes I was greeted by about 30 young children who rushed up to give me the usual handshake and to introduce themselves. They thought it was hilarious that I couldn't understand Swahili. Actually, they could all speak English but had to be persuaded to do so, some being very shy at first.

The Homes consist of Testimony House, where I stayed with John and Esther, and Jacaranda Cottage, run by houseparents Joshua and Miriam, she having been brought up in the Homes.

There were more than 90 children, mostly boys, in the Homes. They were either orphaned or abandoned by their parents and some of their stories are quite tragic.

In the case of four brothers, for example, their mother killed their grandmother in an argument. Their father when he discovered this, then killed their mother, before killing himself.

It was good to feel part of an effort to give children like these the love and care they deserve. In Kenya the need is certainly very great.

The Homes are Christian-based and rely on the support of friends in the UK to fund everything from food and clothing to education for the older children. Recently, it has been possible to build a nursery school and primary school for the younger children.

I slept in a small hut. In the mornings I was invariably woken by the children playing outside — or even coming into my room to investigate my belongings. I had no need of an alarm clock!

At first I felt isolated when they spoke to each other in Swahili. Soon I was attempting to speak it — producing fits of giggles. But, by the third month, I was able to joke with them in Swahili, which really helped us to get on.

The food, though basic, was very nutritious and probably did me a lot of good, although I must admit I missed my chocolate bars!

Breakfast was bread and butter; lunch was bread or maize and beans. In the evening we all ate together around long tables with only about two knives, three forks and six spoons per table.

The main meal was either a meaty soup, with chapatis made by the older boys, ugali and sukuma wiki — a tasteless maize porridge and a vegetable like a cross between kale and seaweed — or rice with lentil stew.

In the evenings I could not sit down without being colonised by two or three children on my lap, demanding games. At first this was easy, but then I began to run short of ideas and I had to be quite inventive to keep them happy.

The nursery school was for both Homes children and children of local families, who had to pay for them to attend. My main job was to help teach the four to seven-year-olds.

When I arrived they were working towards an exam for entry into the primary school. It had a good reputation in the area and competition was strong. However, I felt it was hard for such young children to be under pressure and I did not enjoy being one of the invigilators for the exam.

Each of the seven classes in the nursery school had its own Kenyan teacher and about 20 children. I

Three times a week the whole school would go into the field for games and dancing. I tried to join in all of these but I found *In and out of the bamboo forest* much easier than tribal dancing!

When I was free, I helped with jobs such as harvesting the maize; picking the maize off the cob, shelling peas; making chapatis; cleaning the kitchen — and chasing out cockroaches!

I visited several of the teachers in their homes and was surprised by how small they were — just one or two tiny, dark rooms for a family of, perhaps, seven or more, in which to live, eat, sleep and cook. Floors were of stone and there was no electricity. But the furniture was comfortable and covered with beautiful crocheted covers.

Once I went to a small village with a German missionary and stayed the night in a traditional mud hut, with dirt floor and thatched roof.

For breakfast we were served matumbo and maziwa lala, which is tripe and sour milk, with bits of charcoal in it. I gathered this was



Hazel battles with the undergrowth in Malaysia during her Raleigh International trip

visited each class in turn, at first just observing and helping, before actually teaching.

Although I had no previous teaching experience I was able to learn a lot from the other teachers — particularly the way they managed to keep the children quiet! I was able to produce some new ideas for craftwork, such as making birds for them to colour.

We also made masks and did leaf and potato printing. I taught some new songs and introduced the phonetic alphabet.

considered a real delicacy and I thought it would be impolite to refuse. When, however, I forced down one mugful, my mug was promptly refilled!

I learned a lot during my stay in Kenya — including quite a few words of slang Swahili! After three months I felt so much a part of the scene that I did not want to leave.

It has to be said, though, that when I got home, my first bar of chocolate really did taste good! ☺



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The job includes — implementing the development plans for training and outdoor activities — overseeing the care and maintenance of the training and activity equipment and facilities — liaising with Trainers to ensure they have the information and equipment they require — providing local information for visiting groups, to enable them to design exciting programmes — caring for the self catering areas of the Centre — supervising the work of the Outdoor Activities Assistant — being a member of the Centre's management team, with some general management duties — being resident for two weekends out of three, and for some week nights each week, and working unsocial hours.

The successful applicant will — have experience as a GGA member and of GGA camping — have experience of maintaining outdoor activity equipment — be interested in outdoor activities and have a proven skill in at least one specific area — be willing to extend their skills through training — be able to work alone and as part of a small team — hold a driving licence (because of the location of the Centre, you will require your own transport).

This non-resident job includes — maintaining and repairing camping and other outdoor activity equipment — increasing the range of equipment available — co-ordinating requests for the provision of activities — ensuring that equipment and facilities are ready for visiting groups to use — ensuring that equipment is properly stored — acting as activity instructor when appropriate.

Letters of application should be sent to The General Secretary, The Girl Guides Association (Scotland), 16 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh EH3 7AH by 30 June 1993.

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IMPORTANT

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All copy is subject to the approval of the Association or its agents which reserve the right to refuse, cancel or suspend any Advertisement. Advertisements for the sale of secondhand clothing, other than uniforms, cannot be accepted. Uniforms for sale should not be sent to CHQ, advertisers will receive communications direct from applicants. Advertisements for camp sites, activity centres and Pack Holiday Houses must be countersigned by the County Camp Adviser indicating that in her opinion the site/centre/house is satisfactory. Advertisements for camp sites, activity centres and County Camp Adviser (Signature) _____

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The Girl Guides Association of ...

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ANGELA THOMAS, FROM PLYMOUTH

County Commissioner for Cornwall, Angela is head teacher in charge of the hospital teaching service in the Plymouth area.

“My friends call me “semi-detached” because I live and work in one County and do my Guiding in the County next door.

I consider myself to be very fortunate, not only do I enjoy my work as a hospital teacher but I love my Guiding job too, because the County is so friendly and supportive.

Guiding started for me at Falmouth, my birthplace, where I was a Brownie, a Guide and then a Cadet — equivalent to a Young Leader — before going to college in London to train as a teacher.

While at college, I gained my first warrant with a local Company becoming a Lieutenant or, in today's terms, an Assistant Guide Guider.

My first teaching post was at a secondary school in Enfield, North London. It could have been described as a baptism by fire after the serenity of Falmouth.

Again I became involved with Guiding locally, becoming an Assistant Brownie Guider, an Assistant Guide Guider and a Cadet Captain.

Then, by contrast, I had a spell at a public school for girls in Plymouth, where I started a school Guide Company and was appointed County Cadet Lieutenant for Cornwall.

I then landed a job as head of

physical education in a girls' school at Caine, the town which in those days was famous as the home of Wiltshire bacon.

Occasionally a pig earmarked for rashers would go on the run and we would watch as men in white coats tried to catch it.

Here, I started a Brownie Pack in the junior department, a separate building from the senior school.

It was in October, 1972 that I spotted an advertisement in *The Times Educational Supplement* for a job that seemed to have been created for me — teaching at Plymouth Hospitals School.

As a student, I had hovered between medicine and teaching before deciding on the latter. This job really appealed to me because it seemed to be a delightful blend of the two.

So I applied, explaining that I could not be free at the time they required. I didn't hold out much hope but I was invited for an interview and not only offered the job but told that they were prepared to wait.

I never thought then that I would find myself as deputy head or, when the teaching service was extended to include all the hospitals in the Plymouth area, a head teacher.

LIFE style

I've never looked back. Instead, it could be said, I now look down — my office, at Derriford Hospital, Plymouth, is on the 12th floor.

Unlike some head teachers, I am not tied to my desk, dealing only with “admin” but out on the wards some of the time, with my two full-time and one part-time assistants.

And it's wonderful — I just couldn't imagine a more satisfying, fulfilling job, helping hospitalised children to catch up on lost schooling and ensuring that they do not fall too far behind.

Where appropriate, we work to the national curriculum, but one has to be a jack of all trades because our patient-pupils range from five-year-olds to students of 18.

During the 1991-92 academic year we had 1,233 children on the hospital school register although, of course, most remained on it only a matter of weeks.

One of the delights of the job is receiving the many little tokens of love and appreciation from those who have been discharged.

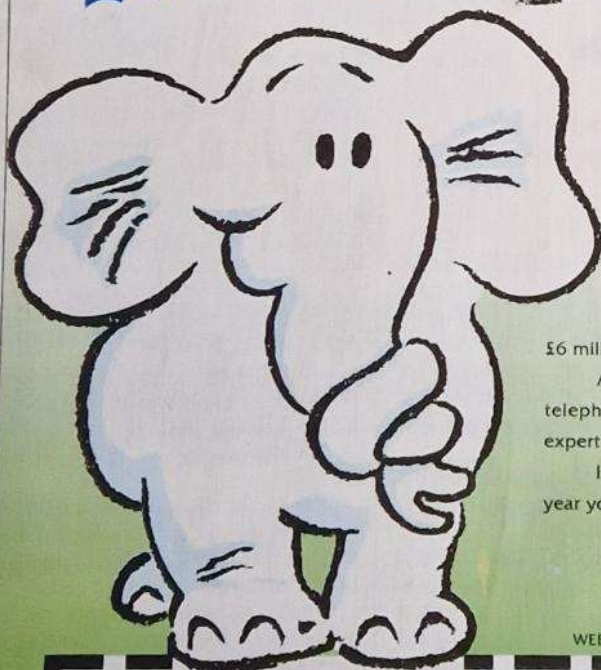
When I returned to Plymouth 20 years ago I resumed my Guiding in Cornwall because it is “my” county.

I became an Assistant Brownie Guider, first in Liskeard and now in Saltash, travelling to meetings from my home in Plymouth. I have been fortunate enough to hold five County and three Region appointments.

This year I hope to attend my 100th Guide camp! A big surprise recently was to be presented with a Laurel Award and to be invited to attend a Commissioners' conference in New Zealand in October.

The county motto of Cornwall — “One and All”, truly describes our Cornish Guiding family so, with this, and my wonderful job, I have the best of both worlds. ♡

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