

IRVINE

# GUIDING

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**GLENBROOK'S  
SUCCESS  
STORY**

**GOING  
DUTCH**

**LEARNING  
TO LISTEN**

**ULSTER: THE  
UNDISCOVERED  
LAND**

**CHURCHYARD  
LIVES AGAIN**

**FLYING  
THE FLAG**





A photograph of three children smiling and posing in front of a large green tent. The child at the top has blonde curly hair and is wearing a yellow shirt. The child in the middle is wearing a yellow baseball cap with a logo and a yellow shirt. The child at the bottom is wearing a white baseball cap with a yellow band and a brown shirt. The background shows green foliage and a blue rope.

**Guiding  
is...  
finding  
room  
for all.**



# front PAGE

The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts gives so much to girls and women in 129 countries throughout the world and, on February 22, we had a wonderful opportunity to think of all the members of this huge family.

I am writing this on the train returning home after attending the Thinking Day/Founder's Day Service in Westminster Abbey on February 18. Wreaths and a posy were laid on the memorial stone by Guides and Scouts in memory of our Founder and his wife, our World Chief Guide.

It was a perfect day with blue skies and brilliant sunshine, the blue and gold reflecting the 'World' colours and those of the Brownies and Guides present. Westminster was alive with 5,000 members of The Guide and The Scout Associations, who had travelled from all over the UK to attend the three services held simultaneously in the Abbey, Westminster Central Hall and St Margaret's Church.

## COMMENT

It has been an early start for everyone. I met a party of Guides and Guiders from Anglesey who had left home at 4am!

The theme of the services was PEACE, the WAGGGS' initiative launched at the World Conference in 1993. We were invited to think particularly of the Guides and Scouts throughout the world whose countries are not at peace. Mrs Audrey Dralega, who gave the address, asked us to remember that peace does not begin around the table at the United Nations; it begins with you and me. She also made the important point that peace does not only mean freedom from war but also freedom from injustice.

Peace banners were carried in all the three venues during the services and these were composed of over 1,000 peace pictures/collages sent in by

Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers throughout the UK. Thank you for your tremendous response to our request - it was quite overwhelming.

We were joined by many visitors from other countries. And I was particularly proud to invest three Rangers in a quiet, poignant moment around the Memorial Stone at the end of the service.

The community singing, the dancers, the readers, the wreath bearers, the colour parties, the singing of the *World Song* and the very professional Scout and Guide Orchestra, who almost raised the Abbey roof with their superb rendering of Elgar's *Pomp and Circumstance*, made the day a very special one for all who were there.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to that small band of volunteers and staff who organise these services year by year and give so much pleasure to so many.

**JANE GARSIDE**

The Chief Commissioner

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## FRONT COVER

Rebecca Karn had a splashing time while enjoying a spot of canoeing with her unit, 1st Wadhurst Guides. For the full story, turn to page 8.

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO  
WEBB IVORY FOR  
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## EASTER BONNETS

► Brownies and Rainbows made these stylish bonnets and went on parade at an Easter fair held by their District, the Princes Risborough District in Buckinghamshire.

District Commissioner Anne Phillips said: 'It was a lovely day, a fun way to raise funds for the District. The girls were all very enthusiastic despite the difficulties we are experiencing finding Unit Guiders.'

## TIME FOR A TONIC

▼ Striking the right note are Emma Cooper, Lorna Phillips, Jenny Rutter and Kim Bostock from 2nd Barnton Brownie Pack who took part in an amateur variety show to raise money for Cheshire's Northwich Infirmary.

The one-night medley of comedy, song, dance and musical routines was organised by a group of Tapmobility fans from Comberbach to help buy a cystoscope for the infirmary's minor injuries unit.



BUCKINGHAM FREE PRESS

## BOWLED OVER

▼ The 1st Hook Norton Guides won both the sporting and Guiding activities sections of the Cherwell Division Patrol Day at Horley camp site near Banbury in Oxfordshire.

However, the Forget-me-Not Patrol, which includes Jane Bruton (11), Belinda Sal-

ter (10) and Abby Grandison (12) (pictured), lost out to the White Rose Patrol, although they scored at bowling.

In all, 80 girls from 14 Guide Companies took part and the Mayor of Banbury, John Giddings, handed out the trophies.



BANBURY GUARDIAN



TONY CLYBY, CHRONICLE NEWSPAPER



## Round UP



HAMILTON ADVERTISER

### A PIECE OF CAKE

Guides and Brownies from South Lanarkshire helped actors Tony Roper and Jimmy Logan cut a birthday cake to celebrate Save the Children's 75th birthday.

The fundraising party was held at Chatelherault Country Park in Hamilton.

### CHEQUE MATES

A sponsored walk by more than 100 Rainbows, Brownies and Guides from Chaddesden District raised over £900 for the Macmillan Nurse Trust Fund in Derbyshire.

Community nurse Sister Barbara Oakley is pictured receiving a cheque from Brownies Lindsay Steel, Emma Harris and Kathryn Siviter.



DAVID BOCKING

### GUIDE DOGS

Members of Sheffield's West Division spent three days helping delegates at the Circle of Guide Dog Owners' conference in Sheffield.

The 36 girls took the guide dogs out for exercise, and showed the delegates around.

The conference was at Sheffield University's Ranmoor Hall.



DERBY EVENING TELEGRAPH



BRITISH GUIDES CYPRUS

### SWEET CHARITY

British Guides in Cyprus have been munching their way through tubes of sweets to raise money for the Cypriot Infant Welfare Clinic and a crèche for working mothers in Limassol. The Rainbows and Brownies ate the Smarties and refilled the tubes with coins.

Pictured left to right are Helen Barker, Commissioner for British Guides in Foreign Countries; Betsy Tomaritis, president of the Infant Welfare Clinic; Pat Pitman, District Commissioner for Episkopi; and Judith Gault, County Commissioner for British Guides in Cyprus, when a cheque for the £58.30 raised was presented.



*Lending a helping hand is what Guiding is all about as some expatriate Scouts found out.*

The challenge was made by a Scoutmaster and only in jest, but Hazel Weston, a British Guide in France, set to work and surprised everyone - including the Chief Scout - by making a magnificent flag for an expatriate Scout Group.

It all started at a Remembrance Day service in Notre Dame, Paris, where Hazel, then not quite 12 and attending the service with her BGIFC unit, asked Adrian Seccombe, Assistant Scoutmaster of the 1st Bougival Scout Group why his troop hadn't got a flag.

Hazel was told rather pointedly by Mr Seccombe that this was because they had been unable to find anyone who was 'capable of making one'.

Enough said! To Hazel, whose brother, Graham, was a member of the Group at the time, this was indeed a

# FABULOUS flag

challenge fit for a Guide. So, with some help from her mother, she set her nimble fingers to work and produced a standard for the 1st Bougival Scouts.

When the flag was ready Hazel formally presented it to the Group in the presence of the Chief Scout, Garth Morrison, at a special meeting of the Scouts' French District, held at Chantilly, about 30km north of Paris.

The Chief Scout admired Hazel's work and congratulated her on taking up what she had regarded as a challenge to her as a Guide.

The flag was then used at the enrolment of some new Scouts into the 1st Bougival Group, which is associated with the British School of Paris.

Hazel's unit is the 1st Maisons-Laf-

fitte Guide Company, based at Maisons-Laffitte, a western suburb of Paris. Hazel's Guider, Clare Smith, said: 'The flag was beautifully made and looked in every way as if it had been made professionally. In recognition of her achievement Hazel has been awarded her Guide Service Flash.'

**Next month: a glimpse of what life is like, in school and out of school, for a BGIFC Guide in France - by Clare Smith.**

**Pictured with the new standard are: Hazel Weston, Assistant Scoutmaster Adrian Seccombe and Adrian's son, Christopher**



GILL SECCOMBE



# Guiding in a

Guides in Sussex East will get a chance to try canoeing during taster sessions at a County Water Appreciation Day to be held on April 22. The event will take place on Bewl Water, a beautiful man-made facility on the borders of Kent and East Sussex. But one adventurous unit has already discovered the delights of canoeing on this magnificent stretch of water, which is right on their doorstep.

GUIDING was invited to join the 1st Wadhurst Guides on one of their watery evenings last autumn. The girls had been meeting at the sailing club on the shores of the lake every Friday evening throughout the summer.

This part of the High Weald is an area of outstanding beauty and Bewl Water has a marvellous setting, woods back the pebbly shoreline and there are tempting stop-off points.

As the late evening sun polished the water, we watched confident girls, carrying bright red canoes, picking their way down to the edge. Their Guider, Jeanette Smith, explained: 'I am sure it

Now a keen canoeist, Sue first took to the water to please her Guides. 'They kept saying "Can we go canoeing?". They only meant at the local swimming pool but, when we tried it, the canoes always seemed to be booked,' she explained.

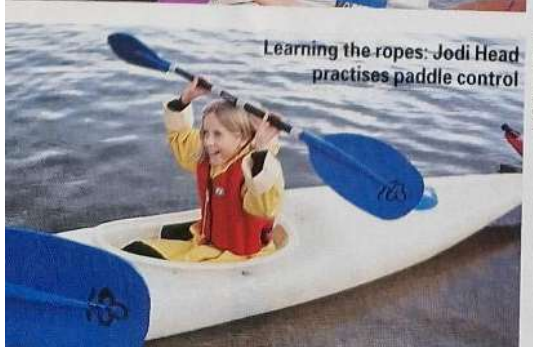
The remedy, Sue decided, was to sign up for some lessons at Bewl Water Canoe Club. She passed her One Star



Petra Bones learns how to get back into her canoe



Sue Green helps Rebecca Karn into her canoe



Learning the ropes: Jodi Head practises paddle control



Keen canoeists head for the water



is a first for any Guide unit to have the use of such facilities for their weekly meetings.

'We based our programme entirely upon outdoor activities covering many badges but, principally, the Boatswain badge.

'There are 24 girls in the unit and they've loved coming here on summer evenings. They didn't have to do canoeing - we did have a couple of girls who tried it once and didn't like it - as there is usually something else going on as well, such as pioneering or making gadgets. This setting is wonderful for all sorts of outdoor activities.'

Jeanette isn't keen on canoeing herself, she prefers sailing. That's also possible on Bewl Water and Jeanette expects some of last year's canoeists to opt for sailing sessions this year. There are Royal Yachting Association (RYA) recognised instructors on hand to give expert tuition.

The unit used four canoes belonging to Bewl Water Canoe Club and four loaned by their County, Sussex East, under the watchful eye of Sue Green, Guide Guider with the 2nd Jarvis Brook and 1st Rotherfield units.

certificate and was hooked.

Sue took her Two Star test the following April at a Scout, Venture Scout, Guide and Ranger Guide canoeing and sailing weekend. 'We spent three nights under canvas, which can be cold at that time of the year - and so can the water,' she recalled.

But she had a great time and found herself playing games out on the water knowing she was going to go in... and laughing about it.

Her next achievement was a charity paddle down the River Medway and, in 1993, she became qualified to super-



# ction

vise other canoeists. 'We can take eight canoes out on the water at once, or 16 if the rescue boat is on the water,' she said.

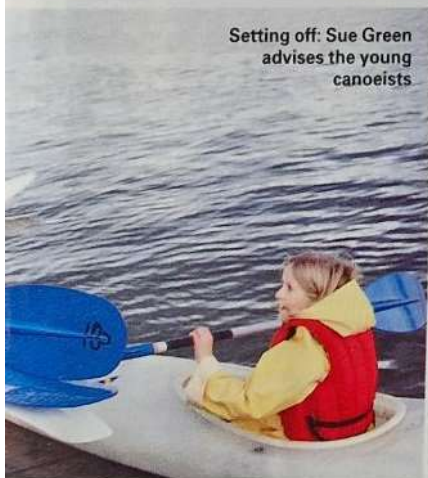
Sue is very keen to see more Guides using the facilities at Bewl. The girls she teaches aren't worried about getting wet, she explained. They all wear thin layers of warm clothing under yellow cagoules and are equipped with buoyancy aids.

'We teach them what to do if they do fall in. They are shown how to right the canoe and climb back in. Their main fear is of being trapped, and we soon show them that can't happen,' she said.

As I watched, 14-year-old Eleanor Rose took an unexpected bath and came up smiling. 'I was trying to get out of the boat on to the pontoon. I just lost my balance and fell in,' she said.

Hannah Causer (12) joined in: 'It's really good. We all get wet but no one minds,' she said.

Setting off: Sue Green advises the young canoeists.



'Getting wet's OK,' 11-year-old Rebecca Karn agreed. 'When I first tried to get in, I pushed the boat too far and fell off the side as I tried to scramble in. It didn't put me off.'

One girl who had so far escaped a ducking was 11-year-old Jodi Head. 'This is my fourth time. I haven't fallen in yet,' she said proudly.

Sue Green is convinced that the special weekends for Guides and Scouts, like the one she attended, are a wonderful introduction to canoeing and sailing. 'The weekends are brilliant,' she said. 'They provide superb tuition and

Scout, Venture Scout, Guide and Ranger Guide canoeing and sailing weekends are held regularly throughout spring and summer.

The weekends are open to boys and girls over 13 years old, who are members of the Movement in Kent, Sussex East or Greater London South East. GUIDING's visit to Bewl coincided with the last weekend of the season.

Michael Owen, a Scout leader from Chislehurst, said: '1995 will be our 18th year. I have been involved for about 15 years. We are a RYA recognised teaching establishment.

'Some of the young people who come here for the weekend go on to become instructors. If they are prepared to work everyone can go home with some qualification.'

It costs £2 a night to camp on the site and campers must bring their own tents. Guides under 14 having consulted with their District Commissioners (as laid down in the Guiding Manual 25.21) need to be accompanied by a leader but she doesn't have to take part in the water activities.

Grants may be available from District or County funds towards the cost of courses. This year it cost £20 to sail and £14 for basic canoeing.

For further details contact the Bookings Secretary, Michael Marks on 01892 542233.

the youngsters get lots of time on the water, as well as listening to lectures.

'A lot of other skills can be developed through canoeing and sailing - you learn about team work, sharing and having fun, and that sometimes you just have to get on with things.'

Jeanette agreed. 'I've noticed an improvement in their Guiding generally,' she said.

Some weeks later I met up with the girls again. This time we were standing around a camp fire in a field. Candles flickered in the smoky night air as the girls received their Boatswain badges from the retiring District Commissioner for Wadhurst, Margaret Oliver.

NORA WARNER

The County Water Appreciation Day is being organised with the help of Bewl Water Canoe Club. Girls will also be able to take a trip on the ferry and see conservation work in progress and fishing pens. Guiders will be invited to ride in the rescue boat.

All the canoeists wear thin layers of warm clothing and are equipped with buoyancy aids





# CHURCHYARD

## TRANSFORMATION



The workers: 15th Hull (Church of the Ascension) Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

HULL DAILY MAIL



Digging for victory: conservation group English Nature helped out with a £500 grant

*It won't be long now  
before 'June is  
busting out all over'  
in the long-neglected  
churchyard at  
Calvert Road,  
Kingston upon Hull,  
North Humberside.*

10

Birds will be singing and bees will be buzzing as the butterflies flutter in the newly-created wild flower garden. Frogs will croak and soon there may even be bats in the belfry.

The grounds surrounding the Church of the Ascension which, for the best part of 30 years, have been a sorry sight of inner-city dereliction, are being transformed into an oasis by the Guiders, Guides, Brownies and Rainbows whose units are attached to the church. Brownie Guider Marjorie Smith reports:

'The Church of the Ascension is situated on a busy main road. The land surrounding the church is the only space left in what is now a very built-up inner-city area.

It is a pleasant place in which to sit, play and enjoy the world of nature. It's not a formal garden with manicured lawns and regimented flower beds, like a municipal park, but a wildlife garden.

Well, that's what we had in mind, but how should we go about it? How could we transform a piece of land that, to my knowledge, had not been touched for 30 years and had been used as a rubbish tip and for bonfires?

A lot of the junk, as we were to discover, had sunk out of sight, having

been covered with soil, grass, brambles and nettles that grew as high as the tallest Brownie.

A chat with Gordon Scaife, a prominent member of the Watch Committee of the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, pointed us in the right direction. He advised us on financing the scheme and what and where to plant.

By then we knew in detail what we wanted: a pond for frogs and newts, with a fence around it for safety and some paving; a bird garden; a butterfly garden; a wild flower garden, which would also attract moths and bees; a staggered hedge of about 150 bushes, and, of course, the tools to do the job.

We applied to English Nature for a



Guiders Sylvia Featherstone, Kathleen Brocklesby and Marjorie Smith with some of the junk that was cleared

HULL DAILY MAIL

ANDREW J. FAYRE



grant under the Living Churchyard scheme, outlining our plan. In due course a grant for £500 came our way but little did we know what we were letting ourselves in for.

We sought advice from a local environmental group and two members came to see us. They looked, pondered, stroked their chins, had a second look and, finally, said that the nettle roots would have to come out and that they would get back to us.

Meanwhile, we leaders decided that during last year's summer break we would continue to meet on our usual night for all sections - Wednesday - and begin the work.

The Rainbows, Brownies and Guides were told that volunteer helpers would be very welcome to just turn up on any Wednesday when they felt like lending a hand. The response was about 50 per cent, which we felt was quite good.

First, the nettles. We could at least chop them down but when we did so - ouch! The local chemist almost ran out of calamine lotion. The biggest "sting" was yet to come, however.

Beneath the nettles we found masses of ash from 30 years of bonfires. Never before had I seen so much ash. It all had to be dug out and laboriously sifted to make sure we got rid of all the nettle roots.

From our grant we had equipped ourselves with good quality garden forks, spades and other basic tools - all leading brands. But the going was so tough that it wasn't long before we had two broken forks and had to prepare ourselves for further "casualties".

There was so much rubbish hidden in the soil we often had to make several attempts before a fork could be persuaded to go in.

There were old jugs, chipped mugs, cracked teapots, furred-up kettles, lots of rusty, bent cutlery, a bedstead, an old barbecue, an extractor fan, masses of broken glass and china, bricks and breeze blocks galore plus a large metal window frame. The window frame was about eight inches below the surface and we had to dig completely round it to get it out.

Two tons of junk were eventually extracted. We know that because the contractor we hired the skip from told us - it was the weight recorded at the weighbridge.

The local environmental group returned to dig out the nettle roots from a particularly hard piece of ground. They also dug up a stretch of land where a hedge was to be planted. The group worked very hard and saved some grateful onlookers from getting still more blisters.

Summer turned to autumn and,



although we were still unearthing junk, it was clear that we were winning and could now turn our attention to more pleasant matters like ordering trees, bushes, shrubs, wild flowers from a specialist grower and 56lbs of daffodil and crocus bulbs.

We consulted a local botanist, who came along, took samples of soil and advised us on what kinds of wild flowers to plant and where to place them.

For our big hedge we bought dog-

catch a few tadpoles and release them in our pond.

The Cubs, whose Pack is also attached to our church, were busy making bat boxes. There had always been the odd bat or two around but, with bat boxes installed, we hoped there would soon be lots more.

We decided that if the bats failed to show up, we'd seek further advice. Meanwhile, our "bat patrols" were keeping a sharp lookout, with their fingers crossed!

It's been a long, hard slog, involving many blisters, nettle stings, bramble scratches and lots of backache, and it's not finished yet. What's more, we realise we've given ourselves a task until the end of our Guiding days - the jungle, having been overpowered, must be kept at bay.

But, for now, we're putting all this out of our minds. Nothing is going to spoil the tremendous pleasure we and the girls are going to get this summer from our very own living churchyard.

**MARJORIE SMITH**



The creators of the living churchyard at Calvert Road were the 15th Hull (Church of the Ascension) Rainbow Unit, Brownie Pack and Guide Company. They were Rainbow Guider Sue Hearfield, Brownie Guider Vanessa Baker, Tawny Owl Marjorie Smith, Guide Guider Sylvia Featherstone and Assistant Guide Guider Kathleen Brocklesby.

English Nature is a Government-funded body with statutory powers, which advises on national nature reserves, sites of special scientific interest and conservation issues. It is able to make grants for approved schemes. For details contact: English Nature, Northminster House, Northminster Road, Peterborough PE1 1UA.

◀From left: Rebecca Taylor, Catherine Hesp and Annabell Dobson in the skip which was eventually filled right up

Proud moment: Kingston upon Hull Lady Mayoress Mima Bell at the official 'first planting'



Bullying, exam anxieties, boyfriend troubles, abuse at home, family breakup... many young people face problems like these every day, but who can they turn to for help? *GUIDING* looks at why many youngsters are no longer turning to adults when they have problems and what Guiders can do about it.

# SEEN BUT NOT H

Recent research reveals that many young people refuse to share their personal problems with anyone. Even those who are willing to discuss them with adults have no faith in their problems being understood let alone solved.

Last December, as part of its 'A Cry for Children' campaign, the NSPCC published *Children Speak* - research covering young people's problems, pre-occupations and their attitudes towards adult support and advice. One of the report's key findings was that a significant number of youngsters do not turn to adults - or anybody - for help with personal matters. When asked whom they would confide in, over a quarter of those questioned gave answers like:

'No one. You have to try and sort things out yourself before it gets worse. There's no other way.' (girl, 14)

'I just talk to myself, to get it out of my system. There's no point in talking to anyone else...' (girl, 10)

'It sounds a bit silly, but I talk to my dog. The only problem with the dog is that he keeps walking off.' (girl, 10)

About the same number said they would discuss personal difficulties with a close friend, but recognised that confiding in people of their own age was more about sharing a problem than solving it. Except for some of the older teenagers, they did not expect their peers to come up with advice let alone answers.

The remainder said they would talk to grown-ups, such as their mum, aunt, family friend, neighbour or teacher, but often only as a last resort. In many cases they, too, had reservations about confiding in adults.

## MISTRUST

There are various reasons why youngsters have such a suspicious attitude towards adults.

To begin with there is the issue of confidentiality: how safe is my secret? Is teacher gossiping in the staffroom? Has mum told the woman next door and is she spreading it about the street?

Frequently, because of an earlier breach of confidence - which probably seemed insignificant to the adult but

people become wary of adults and don't believe promises that they 'won't tell anyone'. So, rather than have their trust betrayed, they choose not to give it in the first place.

The confidentiality question is particularly pertinent and requires very sensitive handling in cases of domestic violence and abuse. In these situations, children, through fear or shame, may choose silence to conceal what is really happening.

Comments made by children who appear in *The Hidden Victims*, a new report on children and domestic violence from NCH Action

for Children, make the reasons for being secretive painfully clear:

'A child ain't going to tell you everything while they're still in a situation for fear of being beaten up because of it.'

'I was frightened of telling anyone... it would have been worse because I wasn't 16 and... perhaps, they would have taken me into homes.'

'My teacher tried to find out but I didn't let anything slip. I didn't want anyone to know, because I was embarrassed at the fact that it



We all need  
someone to  
confide in

NCH ACTION FOR CHILDREN (POSED BY MODELS)



## EARD

was going on, so I tried to cover it up.'

An equally crucial factor behind children's reluctance to talk is their perception that adults do not listen properly. Adults appear to be too busy and too preoccupied to take in the facts, let alone register the child's feelings. If adults don't listen, how can they understand? And, even when they do claim to understand, it is invariably from their own viewpoint – not that of the child.

### REACTIONS

This distorted perspective brings its own problems. Without a proper grasp of what is troubling the child, adults can get things out of proportion and over-react, often adding to the child's distress. Or they can devalue the youngster's concern by trivialising it: 'Parents don't take things seriously. They just tell you to grow up'. (girl, 14)

Another reason for not confiding in adults is the presumptuous way in which many of them then take over. Youngsters claim that if they tell an adult about a difficulty, the matter is subsequently taken out of their hands.

Instead of listening, talking through, evaluating options, exploring solutions... adults tend to take action without consultation. Or, just as inappropriately, they tell the child what to do without any discussion.

Many youngsters admit they want advice and guidance – but as a preliminary to making their own decisions. If that is not feasible, then they want to be involved in those decisions.

'Sometimes we know what to do, sometimes not. We should listen to adults and think about what they say, but then we should be allowed to make our own choices. We've got to learn to do that sometime anyway.' (girl, 11)

'If you're given advice, it should be "maybe" not "you must", and they should tell you better why they think something is a good idea.' (girl, 10)

### WHY TALK?

As the BT ad keeps reminding us: 'It's good to talk'. And this is just as true for young people as it is for grown-ups. They need to share their experiences and anxieties, to get things off their

chests, to seek advice and information, to explore choices and decide on a course of action, and sometimes even to instigate action by others.

But if youngsters choose not to confide in adults, they are limiting their options and cutting themselves off from those who are often best placed to help them. That vital channel of communication between child and adult must be kept open.

### GUIDING'S ROLE

Guiding provides a unique environment for developing child-adult relationships. To begin with there is the crucial question of trust. The word 'trust' appears in the first Guide Law and is fundamental to Guiding's ethos. Through their leaders' example, the girls learn that trust is not just about words, but also actions, and that it is built around respect and commitment.

Trust underpins 'caring for the individual' – one of Guiding's Five Essentials. In the Guider-to-girl context, this involves taking a genuine interest in the girl and her concerns, being ready to listen – confidentially – and being supportive without being directive. For some girls, Guides may be the 'safest' environment they know – in terms of being able to trust. For the care and acceptance shown by their leaders may not exist for them elsewhere, not even in their own home.

Once a framework of trust has been established, young people are more likely to talk about personal matters if they feel that the adult is really listening. This means:

- Paying attention to what they're saying and also to their actions and behaviour. Younger children, especially, cannot always express themselves easily in words.
- Giving the child your full attention, not listening with half an ear while you do something else.
- Giving the child plenty of time. If you rush in with comments you won't hear what she is saying, and may even miss out on the full story.
- Trying to understand the child's viewpoint. A child's idea of what is important may be very different from the one you hold.
- Being non-judgmental and, where

necessary, distinguishing between the child and her behaviour. In such cases, although you do not like whatever misdeed she is telling you about, reassure the child that you do still like her.

Another of Guiding's Five Essentials – decision making – also has a role in encouraging your girls to share their problems with adults. Through the Guiding programme they learn to discuss issues, evaluate options and make considered choices.

The fact that they are used to thinking for themselves makes them more confident about turning to adults for support and advice. Because they know how to make decisions and negotiate their own course of action, they are less likely to be 'taken over'.

Youngsters want and need the



NCH ACTION FOR CHILDREN (POSED BY MODELS)

concerned friendship of adults. If they are to grow up happily and safely, there must be effective and supportive communication between the generations. Many aspects of the Guiding programme can contribute to this and it is up to leaders to make sure that the girls in their care never feel on their own with no one to turn to.

CATHERINE DELL

### FURTHER INFORMATION

*Children Speak*, by Ian Butler and Howard Williamson; commissioned by the NSPCC and published by Longman; £11.95. Available from bookshops.

*The Hidden Victims – Children and Domestic Violence*, £9.95 (inc p&p). Available from the Information Office, NCH Action for Children, 85 Highbury Park, London N5 1UD.

Information leaflets, covering aspects of child-adult relationships, are available free from A Cry for Children Information, 42 Curtain Road, London EC2A 3NH. Send A5 sae.

▲ Trust is crucial to the talking-listening relationship



*If you think you'd  
enjoy the thrill of  
abseiling, the chill of  
Luxembourg's rivers  
and the smell of  
smoked chicken, then  
Trappers Camp  
may interest you –  
says Guide Guider  
Kate Maryon.*

Kate was so impressed by last year's Trappers Camp that she persuaded the Dutch organisers to change the dates this year so more UK members can attend.

Trappers Camp is an adventure camp for both sexes held annually in October in the Netherlands and Luxembourg. It is based on the requirements of the Dutch Trappers and Athletics badge and tests endurance in a responsible setting through athletics and outdoor pursuits such as caving, cycling, mountaineering and rafting.

The camp is for 15 to 20-year-olds and a taster and information weekend is being held at Blackland Farm from April 15 to 16 for any girls in the UK who are interested in the camp but unsure whether they will be able to cope with the challenges.

Kate, who is 23 and a Guide Guider with the 2nd Coxheath unit, acted as a leader at last year's camp. She enjoyed it so much that she persuaded the organisers to put back the dates for this year's camp to October 21-29 to accommodate school half-term holidays in this country. Kate described the camp for GUIDING:

‘Picture a clear night sky pinpointed with stars. Clusters of people chatting and laughing are seated huddled around blazing wood fires waiting for their tin can billies to boil and foil-wrapped fish to cook.

We can hear the rustling, creaking sounds from the forest all around us. But they're almost drowned out by the babble of international banter that never ceases.

Anyone who appreciates being in the fresh air, mixing with friendly people, taking exercise and overcoming challenges would enjoy this camp.

It focuses on the basics of outdoor living: survival in the wild; adventure and sporting activities; and physical

and mental challenges.

The campers worked in pairs and undertook a testing week involving an athletics programme, fitness training and instruction in survival techniques such as dead man's crawl, stalking, abseiling, first aid, lifeline throwing and raft building.

They also encountered various challenges for which a sense of humour was essential, such as preparing fresh chickens ready for eating, night hikes and crossing rivers while carrying kit. Afterwards 120 or so campers travelled by coach to Luxembourg for four days of adventurous activities.

In Luxembourg the pairs walked, with kit, between bivouacs, navigating with the aid of detailed 'coded' route books. There were surprises waiting en route: natural obstacles to be overcome by caving, climbing, river crossing or rafting and not-so-natural ones, such as an assault course and leaders with brain-teasing challenges.

At night campers regrouped at their sub-camp's bivouac to eat, swap stories, plan routes and, of course, sleep in their

'no-star' home-made tents.

Points are awarded for everything, from someone's 100-metre time to how he or she coped with preparing nettle and clover cuisine. These points can lead to the coveted Trappers or Athletics badges, or indeed the prized Trappers Trophy.

However, it is still possible to enjoy the Trappers Camp experience without aiming for points. The staff are supportive and won't force anyone to do anything they don't want to, although many points can be gained just by having a go.

If you think you'd enjoy the thrill of abseiling, the chill of Luxembourg's rivers and the smell of smoked chicken, then Trappers Camp could interest you – it is a unique experience and one you are not likely to encounter in the UK.

● For more information contact your County International Adviser, Region Headquarters, or Kate Maryon direct at 43 Linden Road, Coxheath, Maidstone, Kent ME17 4QS. Tel: 01622 747761.

Dead man's crawl was just one of the survival techniques practised at Trappers Camp

## DUTCH courage

KATE MARYON



# GREAT OPPORTUNITY

*It's here, the opportunity you've been asking for: an Overseas Project for members of the Association who are over 30.*

The new scheme, to be known as BRIDGES (Building International Development with Guiding Experiences) and which is to be run by the Association, will focus on projects requiring a certain level of maturity and experience. Its aim is to provide a unique experience of community involvement work overseas.

And you could be just the type of person we are looking for!

## FLYOVER WEEKEND

FLYOVER will provide information and training on community development, community involvement and overseas projects.

If you are over 30 and are wondering whether this weekend will appeal to you, ask yourself these questions:

- Do you want to be part of a Guide Association project overseas?
- Are you flexible, adaptable and a good team member?
- Are you in robust health?
- Could you cope with working in poor conditions where driving is hazardous?
- Could you cope with drinking a fair amount of strong alcohol? (teetotalers are not obliged to drink alcohol, however.)
- Do you want to work in different communities and cultures?
- Could you spend three or four weeks in Russia in Autumn 1995.

If you can answer yes to each one, then BRIDGES is waiting for you!

A FLYOVER weekend will take place in Derbyshire from May 19 to 21 and could lead to the opportunity of a life-



PAM COWIE

time. For an application form, fill in the coupon below and send it to: Linda Crichton, BRIDGES, Guiding Activities, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.

An example of a previous project: Ranger Guider Jenny Keyte at a leper settlement at the Sangam Guide World Centre in India, where women are learning spinning and weaving to help them become self-sufficient.

phone helpline. Service offers advice, information and support to people with epilepsy, their friends and carers. Cost of running this service is £15 per call.

If your unit like to walk locally or, better, organise one of its walks to find out more,



SUE COOPER



# Network

## TEA'S UP

► As part of his £5 million appeal for kidney research, Sidney is organising a Great British Tea Festival during the first week in June. And he wants people up and down the country to hold tea parties – anything from tea and biscuits to a Mad Hatter event – with the aim of raising £250,000.

If you want to help Sidney and have a tea party, call him on 01480 454828. Twinings will supply groups of 30 or more with free tea. Sidney's Kidney Appeal is the fund-raising department of the National Kidney Research Fund and the Kidney Foundation.

BRENDAN KELLY



Sidney with Christopher Hawking, Chair of the tea festival

## CLASSIC CHOICE

► Louisa May Alcott's ever-popular story of the March family, *Little Women*, and its sequels, *Little Men* and *Jo's Boys*, have just been re-issued by the original publishers, Little, Brown and Company. The paperbacks have delightful cover designs and are available singly at £4.99, or all three together in a boxed set at £14.99.

If you are wondering what's happened to *Good Wives*, don't panic. In this edition it appears as the second half of *Little Women*.

We've got ten boxed sets to give away. To win one just answer the following

▼ In the Hayfield, c.1890, by Cristabel Cockerell

BERKSHIRE ASSOCIATES, LONDON

Winners will be the senders of the first ten correct entries drawn after the closing date, April 30.

developed in Britain. More than 100 artists are represented, including Monet, Sisley, Pissarro, Conder, Lavery, Sargent, Steer...

in Britain  
Barbican  
recorded  
0171 588

-21, the  
Museum  
of arts  
tors of all

ages. Special events include storytelling, film shows, craft workshops, shanty recitals and touch tours for people who are visually impaired. In the nearby Queen's House, lace and fans are on view.

The Museum is open daily. For festival details phone 0181 312 6608.

## TRAIN TIMES

► A restored air-raid shelter, staff in tin helmets and gas masks, freight train demonstrations... all part of Didcot Railway Centre's special VE event on May 7-8. As a reminder of the blackout, the locomotive will sport its wartime canopy, a cover hiding the engine's fire from enemy planes. For further information, including entrance fees and party rates, call 01235 817200.

► No. 3822 in operation

Young people get a close look at the exhibits in the new Activity Room



NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM



## NEW IMAGE

▼ Are you into DTP? If you're producing your own leaflets, posters or newsletters but are short of illustrations, *positive images* has the answer.

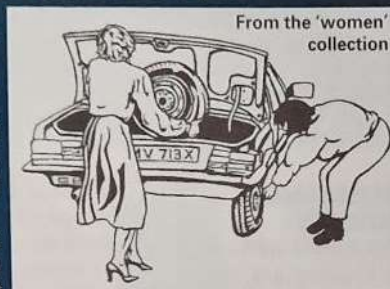
*positive images* produces disks, in either Mac or DOS format, of illustrations for DTP use. Each disk, costing £23.50, contains 20 illustrations on a theme: women, the elderly and race (ethnic minorities shown in everyday situations).

Once purchased, the illustrations can be used freely in non-commercial publications. Further information from *positive images*

on 01422 845874.

**GUIDING** has one collection to give away. Send your name, address, daytime phone number and choice of collection (women, race or elderly) on a postcard to **GUIDING/positive images**, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.

The winner will be the sender of the first card drawn after the closing date, April 30.



From the 'women' collection

MARIE SHIELDS/POSITIVE IMAGES

phone the Walk hotline on 0113 243 9393 or write, with sae, to Walk Organiser, BEA, 40 Hanover Square, Leeds LS3 1BE.

## SUPER SNAPS

► Search for Adventure! That's the theme of a photo competition organised by the Lincolnshire Outdoor Adventure Forum. Entries, black and white or colour prints, must show people enjoying an adventurous activity such as caving or canoeing, walking or windsurfing.

The competition is open to photographers everywhere of all ages and closes on May 31. For further details, send a sae to Chris Cole, c/o Inner Visions, PO Box 9, Retford DN22 7GZ; or phone 01777 702913. The Forum is a voluntary organisation promoting outdoor adventurous activities.



NANCY ROACH

## STAMP COLLECTORS

● If you collect stamps don't miss Britain's first International Stamp Exhibition, at London's Wembley Exhibition Centre from April 27-30. Aimed at every philatelist, from beginner to expert, Stamp '95 will feature an exciting range of events, displays and talks. Special attractions include Postman Pat, a free valua-

tion service, the late Freddie Mercury's collection, a design-a-stamp competition and a free 'start-up' pack for interested youngsters.

Entry to the exhibition is free but visitors do have to register. To avoid registration queues on the day, get your ticket in advance by phoning the Stamp '95 hotline on 01423 461353, or by writing to Stamp '95, 5 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood BH24 3SH.

▲ Safety counts when climbing



MICHAEL NEW

## WILLING WALKERS

► On Sunday, May 21, people all over Britain will be taking part in the 1995 Walk To Beat Epilepsy. The walk is to raise money to fund the British Epilepsy Association's freephone helpline.

The service offers advice, information and support to people with epilepsy, their families, friends and carers.

The cost of running this service, available on 0800 309030, is £15 per call.

Would your unit like to join in a walk locally or, better still, organise one of its own? To find out more,

SUE COOPER

Best foot forward





# Notices

## PEACE PACKS

The collection and distribution of Peace Packs via the Body Shop and its foundation is getting underway.

Members are reminded that the Peace Packs can only be handed in to their local Body Shops on specific days, as the shops have minimal storage facilities.

Details of which dates have been set aside for your area are held by Countries and Regions (except Ulster, which is not covered by the scheme).

Units located on borders between Countries and Regions may find it easier to deliver their packages to the shops nearest to them, rather than stick to Guide Country or Region boundaries. But they must check dates and times first as they vary.

## FAMILY CAMPING

Here's a chance for you and your family to camp in the heart of the New Forest during the school holidays. A Family Camp is being held at Foxlease, the Association's Activity and Training Centre, from August 5 to 25.

Bring your own tent/trailer tent and chemical toilet (some flush toilets are available).

It costs £5 per family tent per night but, for a small additional sum per head, you can use the covered heated swimming pool each day and take part in other organised activities such as canoeing, archery and mountain biking.

For more information contact the Manager, Foxlease, Lyndhurst, Hampshire SO43 7DE. Tel: 01703 282638.

## MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Chief Commissioner, the Scottish Chief Commissioner, the President of the Scottish Guide Association and the Chief Executive were among Association members from all over the UK who attended a memorial service for the five members who died following the Glasgow bus crash last September.

The service, held on January 29 at the Church of Scotland's Wellington Church, was led by the Rev Eileen Manson, former

County Commissioner for Renfrewshire.

The families, relatives and neighbours of the Drumchapel Guides and Guiders who died — Lauren Cullen (14), Catherine McKnight (10), Margaret-Ann Riddick (10), Mary McGreskin (39) and Rena Dougall (47) — were present, together with members of the various emergency services that assisted after the accident.

Also in the congregation were Donald Dewar, the Labour MP for Glasgow Garscadden, and an official from the Scottish Office.

## BLINDNESS SURVEY

Members of the Association in England are invited to take part in a special survey being carried out during the week beginning April 23.

The Church and Blindness Survey will provide an opportunity to help others while also learning about your local churches.

Its aim is to discover whether there are Braille and large-print hymn books available for visually-impaired worshippers and to raise awareness of the need to provide such visual aids in all churches.

Church and Blindness is a group dedicated to making sure that these facilities are available in every church, irrespective of denomination, by the end of 1996.

Survey forms for those units or individuals who wish to take part are available from County Advisers for Members with Disabilities.

## MISS MARY JACKSON

Miss Mary (Thirza) Jackson of Cretton in Northamptonshire has died. A former teacher of drama and speech training, Miss Jackson was Deputy Drama Adviser in the 1960s and produced *A Carnival of Badges* at Wembley Pool as part of the Association's 1960 Golden Jubilee celebrations.

When she was a Guide, the Princess Royal starred in

a version of Cinderella that Miss Jackson wrote for the Buckingham Palace Guide Company in 1962.

## THE ASSOCIATION'S AWARDS

### MERITORIOUS CONDUCT STAR OF MERIT

**NATALIE KEAN** — Brownie Guide, 5th Ashton upon Mersey North Pack, Greater Manchester West.

**JUDITH HOLMSHAW** — Guide, 5th Carlisle (St James') Company, Cumbria North.

**MISS JENNIFER WOODS** — Young Leader, 2nd Hale (Methodist) Guide Company, Greater Manchester West.

## SHORT TERM INVESTMENT SERVICE

The monthly interest rate after deduction of management commission.

<b>October</b>	<b>4.250 per cent</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>4.400 per cent</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>4.531 per cent</b>

An additional 0.5 per cent per annum is paid for deposits of £5,000 and above.

## TRUST FUND

On December 31, 1994, the value of a share in the Scout and Guide Trust Fund was:

<b>For selling purposes</b>	<b>311.11</b>
<b>For buying purposes</b>	<b>326.94</b>
<b>Income yield</b>	<b>3.52 per cent</b>

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



**Brownie Kelly Edwards helps put together a Peace Pack for refugee camps in Africa**

Remember that all packs must be in boxes the same size as those used to hold five reams of A4 photocopier paper.

They should be correctly labelled showing the sex and age range of the children for whom the goods are intended. Odd items not correctly boxed cannot be accepted.

## LINKING UP

Andrea Atkinson is taking over from Jo Bird as Chairman of LINK International Fellowship.

LINK's summer LINK-Up will be held over the Easter Bank Holiday weekend at Cuffley in Hertfordshire. Anyone who wants to attend should contact the LINK Office, The Guide Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.





**Given that almost every member of my wife's family between the ages of 16 and 60 is involved in voluntary youth work, I suppose it was inevitable that I should find myself drawn in.**

It was during a lull in the conversation at one of these Scout-Guide conventions – sorry, family gatherings – that I allowed myself to be talked into the temporary role of Assistant District Commissioner (Cub Scouts). While this sounds impressive, the fact that there is no equivalent role in Guiding is an indication of how important the post actually is. But with the role came a training obligation I couldn't ignore.

Having just begun working towards her Trainers Licence, Rosemary was delighted when my course details arrived. 'I have to see another organisation's training system in operation,' she announced. 'I wonder if I could come along too?'

It took just a few quick phone calls to arrange. And that's how one weekend in December we found ourselves bound for the local Scout camp site.

The tutor had referred in a letter to 'one or two things that Rosemary could help with' and, within minutes of arriving, it suddenly dawned on me that Rosemary was going to be one of the tutors at the weekend.

I knew I was right when she got a warm, comfortable room to herself while I was allocated a place in a

draughty dormitory with a large number of other Assistant District Commissioners (Cub Scouts), all of whom appeared to belong to some national snoring association.

The only member of this band who seemed incapable of dislodging the roof tiles with his nocturnal rumblings instead turned out to be the world sleep-talking champion.

Saturday morning dawned with me in a state of semi-comatose exhaustion, having managed considerably less than the recommended seven hours for a growing lad of my age.

It was somewhat ironic that, during the session on health, we dealt with the importance to young people of a good night's sleep at camp.

It also became apparent that tutors have different dietary requirements from lesser mortals. Rosemary and her colleagues sat by the radiator tucking into a hearty breakfast, while I was relegated to the Scott of the Antarctic end of the hut, where the gastronomic offering was clearly intended to be an example of 'what not to feed young people under any circumstances'.

After we'd done the washing-up for the tutors, it was time for the outdoor environmental awareness session. Young people, apparently, are concerned about their natural environment, although I didn't notice too many of them wandering about in the snow that morning. They were too busy watching David Attenborough on video in a warm room, probably the

## A MAN'S EYE VIEW

same one where Rosemary was, at that moment, drinking coffee with her tutoring colleagues.

As I stood clutching my leaf identification book, watching one of my group try to find a tree that had defied autumn, I discovered I'd lost the feeling in my toes. Even this incident failed to win sympathy from my wife, although I did get a brief mention during the first aid session on exposure.

The final straw came the following day when I was trying to function on the three hours sleep I'd had in two days. Rosemary ran a session on visual displays and produced, as an example, one that I had spent a whole weekend working on for one of her trainings. 'And here's one of mine that I prepared earlier,' she began in her best *Blue Peter* voice.

We would have had our first marital 'meaningful conversation' in the car going home, if I hadn't fallen asleep.



# Don't throw away a chance to raise some extra cash.



It's fun, it's quick, it's easy and it's a great way to raise money. It's aluminium drinks can recycling.

All you have to do is get your organisation to collect and bag all those aluminium cans that are normally thrown away. Then, take them to your nearest aluminium recycling centre or mobile van. There you will be paid on the spot, in cash, for all the cans you've saved. It's that easy.

And with well over 6 billion aluminium cans being consumed every year, you should discover cans wherever you look. There are already many groups who are collecting enough cans to raise thousands of pounds every year.

Don't waste time and don't waste money. Start recycling aluminium cans today. It keeps litter off the streets, it helps save natural resources and it raises money for you.



## Recycle aluminium cans *for cash!*

**LOCAL CALL RATE**  
**0345 888333**  
.....  
**FOR YOUR NEAREST  
RECYCLING LOCATION**

ALUMINIUM  
CAN  
RECYCLING



ASSOCIATION LTD.



# Guide and Scout CO-OPERATION

The Joint Consultative Committee, which is reviewing the progress made towards co-operation between The Guide Association and The Scout Association, has produced a report — **Monitoring Co-operation**. The report is based on interviews with The Chief Commissioner and The Chief Scout, questionnaire returns from 130 County and Area Commissioners, informal talks with volunteers and staff of the two headquarters and 40 responses to requests in *GUIDING* and *Scouting* magazines for Guiders and Scouters to write in about their experiences of co-operation.

The statement of intent agreed by the two Associations in 1989, can be summarised as: To re-affirm our joint traditions and sharing of common aims and methods, while recognising the constitutional independence of the two Associations; and to welcome the opportunity of giving public recognition to our mutual interdependence in many aspects of our work with young people. To believe that co-operation between us is one of the principal ways of achieving the widest spectrum of provision for young people and maximising their access to high-quality Guiding and Scouting.

The evidence indicates that this has been accepted by many members of the two Associations.

County Commissioners indicate that contracts have been re-negotiated since 1990, usually as personnel change. Almost all say that they meet with their opposite numbers at regular intervals, sometimes with a formal agenda, frequently each with a list of items for discussion.

In Germany there is an agenda at British Guides in Germany meetings containing items from British Scouts in Western Europe. Additionally, there would appear to be many telephone conversations providing mutual support to the Commissioners. These regular contacts are reported to be so suc-

cessful that County Commissioners now need to have a good reason for not meeting together.

Examples of co-operation developing between Counties out of contracts include North Yorkshire Scout and Guide Togetherness Week in October, whereby units who carried out the challenge to hold a co-operative activity received a certificate signed by all the County Commissioners.

Eccles Scout District and Guide Division had an Environment Extravaganza in 1993 in which units investigated issues and presented their findings at a joint exhibition.

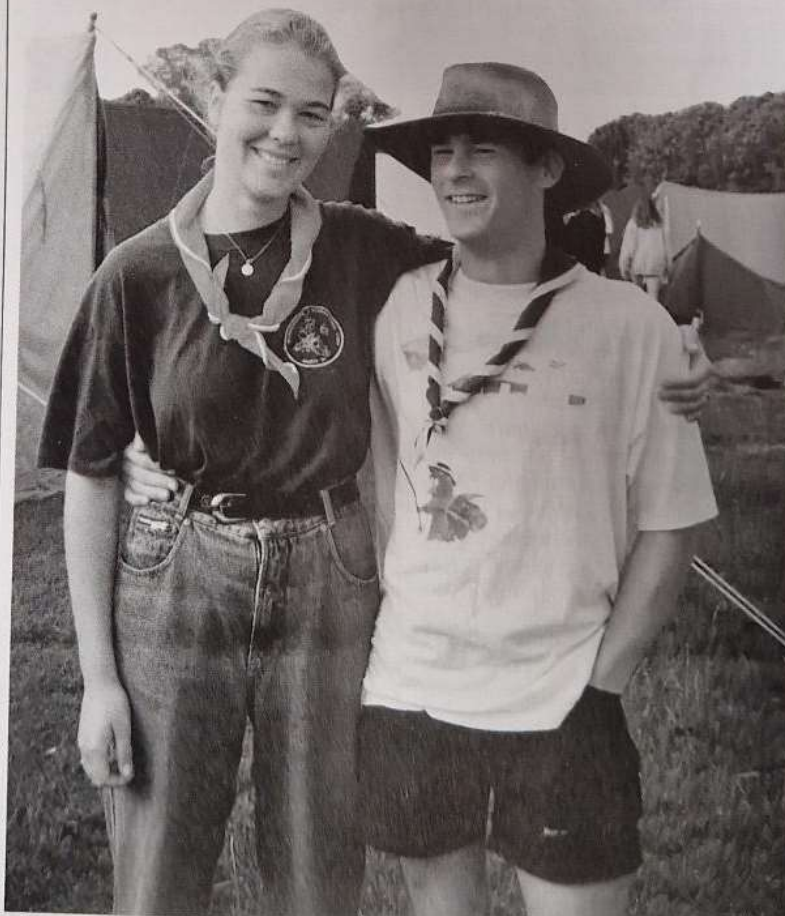
The picture of cross-representation with Counties is more variable: it happens most with programme and training and outdoor activities. Some

Division and District Commissioners have regular meetings and there is the usual round of joint Senior Section events, annual general meetings, church services, presentations and Scout Fellowship and Trefoil Guild meetings.

There are joint international camps, bi-monthly newsletters, joint stands at Eisteddfods and other county shows. Cross-representation is more likely to be effective when linked to joint activities than to mere attendance at yet more meetings.

The Chief Commissioner is a member of The Scout Association Council and invited to attend the Committee of The Council; The Chief Scout is, ex-officio,

**Co-operation will help us provide for a wide spectrum of young people**



GILLIAN ELLIS





CYRIL SELBY

Examples of co-operation include joint international camps, bi-monthly newsletters and joint stands at county shows

a Vice-President of The Guide Association Council and, as such, attends meetings of The Council but is not a member of the Executive Committee of The Council. To some of those who are aware of this, it appears somewhat inequitable.

Volunteers and staff at the two Headquarters now appear to have, at a personal level, much more contact. Cross-representation on Programme and Training Committees and their sub-committees is regarded as a considerable success.

The Public Relations Advisers and the Archivists meet with their opposite numbers and the Chief Executive Commissioner (Scouts) and the Chief Executive (Guides) had a joint meeting with the National Trust about Brownsea Island.

The two Associations co-operate on projects such as the National Scout and Guide Symphony Orchestra. The joint work of the Secretary of The Scout Association and the Legal Consultant to The Guide Association on Charity Commission matters has provided clear evidence of the benefits to be gained by working together.

Nevertheless, neither Association appears to wish seriously to address the question of whether jointly provided services to the two Associations could be a more efficient and cost-effective way to serve their membership. Many County Commissioners fail to understand why the two Headquarters are unable to offer services jointly. A way of overcoming these apparently insurmountable structural resistances might be to have commonly-provided services on an agency basis.

Family Groups: there is still a lack of clear understanding about what these are but, where they exist, there is an almost unanimous response by County Commissioners that this facility should be promoted and made known more widely.

The groups themselves are most enthusiastic, but still complain that

they are unable to be registered as such with each Association. There are others without a formal constitution, but the result of 'long-standing relationships'. (The JCC has recommended that a registration certificate for Scout and Guide/Guide and Scout Groups be produced.)

The Guide Association is a single sex organisation run by women for girls and The Scout Association presently is still a predominantly male young member organisation open to girls and with a mixed leadership. The Guide and Scout Working Party attempted to address the issue of co-education, but its recommendations were not accepted.

Since the publication of the report, the two Associations are now in a position to assess the first response to the potential admission of girls to all sections of The Scout Association should they so wish. In the light of the present gender profiles of each Association, it is not easy for either to realise its aim in respect of the full personal and social development of its members.

We have received little evidence of Joint Units in any section. We think that the concept has been used in one or two rural areas such as South Lincolnshire. At a time when we often have difficulty in some areas in recruiting suitable leaders, we can offer better quality Scouting/Guiding to the children by pooling our resources. We consider that this form of working should be made more widely known.

Work has been carried out by the two Associations, leading to the new *Joint Safety Rules* but our responses indicate that 'rules' are still seen as a major deterrent to joint camping and adventurous activities. Lists of consultants for Interest/Service/Proficiency badges have been exchanged.

Many Counties are organising joint 1st Response trainings, but other joint training provision is very limited, with a little for Commissioners and

less for Trainers. Differences in programmes are seen as a major obstacle to joint leader training. The message from this is clear: provide something jointly of common value and it will be welcomed and used.

County Commissioners reported that co-terminous boundaries (even where, for example, two Guide Counties exactly match one Scout County) are advantageous. They commonly work together in response to local authorities, many mentioning Councils for Voluntary Youth Services. The Commissioners have indicated that they would like to see more effort made in matching our boundaries, and that if there were to be changes to local government structure then these would pose challenges to the two Associations.

It appears that little preparation has been made at local level as to how to meet these challenges. Many County Commissioners asked that our boundaries be reconsidered, if local government boundaries change. Guidance and support from Headquarters was requested, and some have suggested that there should be a joint facilitating group from the two Associations working with the County Commissioners of the affected areas. (The JCC recommended a checklist of issues which should be discussed in preparation for the implementation of local government reorganisation.)

The Joint Consultative Committee has had the two Programme and Training Committee Chairmen added to its core membership, and the additional members for each meeting are carefully chosen to reflect the items being discussed. It has been meeting at least twice a year and performs a useful informing and negotiating body.

In respect of international Scouting and Guiding, we see that it is a moderately effective method of co-operation which still enables each Association to contribute to its international body. The JCC has helped us in difficult circumstances by providing a jointly agreed approach to some of the European issues of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts and World Organisation of the Scout Movement.

The County Commissioners' Conference of 1990 was a truly joint conference meeting the criteria of the recommendation and setting an example for co-operative working. An overwhelming majority of County Commissioners think that when there are appropriate issues for joint discussion, there should be another conference.

LOIS M R LOUDEN  
ALLEN J WARREN



Big changes have been taking place at Waddow, the Association's Lancashire Training Centre. And, next month, members will have a chance to inspect the improvements at a Family Fun Day.

Pauline McKie, a member of Waddow Management Committee, told **GUIDING** how the project began: 'During the 1980s a revolution started to take place in Guiding. Everyone, it seemed, wanted sophisticated camping facilities providing flush toilets and showers, parking for cars and minibuses and some electric lighting.'

Although these amenities may seem basic requirements to some members, it wasn't an easy or cheap option for Waddow. Pauline explained: 'It may not seem much to ask but it was an expensive and ambitious project to provide such facilities on top of a craggy hill like Wade's Hill at Waddow.'

However, the money was eventually raised and, early this year, lorries and JCBs arrived at the Waddow estate.

Completion of the work was carefully timed so that the toilet/shower block could be officially opened at Waddow's Family Fun Day on May 29 - Bank Holiday Monday.

Pauline said: 'For those of us who are involved in Guiding, it is something very special. But it's not often that we get the chance to share our enjoyment with our family members. So why not bring your loved ones to our Family Fun Day?' The day begins at 11am and ends at 4pm with the opening ceremony timed for 2.30pm.

There will be lots to do. And when visitors are tired of sampling the displays and sideshows, they can enjoy a range of refreshments including cream teas.

'We have to make a small charge to cover costs,' Pauline explained. 'Anyone who wants more details should send an A5-size sae to the Secretary at Waddow Hall.'

## FAMILY FUN

The Family Fun Day is only the beginning of the good times at Waddow this summer.

From August 5 to 12 Waddow will be staging its tenth Walking Week and organisers are determined to celebrate in style. There will be a special dinner, and other evening entertainments planned include tenpin bowling and a quiz night.

The programme of walks will be pitched at various levels of difficulty and one long-distance walk will be included. Both newcomers and 'regulars' will be welcome and the week is, as ever, open

# welcome TO WADDOW



MARGARET THOMPSON

to partners, family and friends.

Although the week is now a popular fixture, it began by accident. In 1986 a weekend training had to be cancelled and, to fill the gap, Guiders were invited to visit Waddow with their families for a few days' walking.

It was quite a revolutionary idea at the time, as it was unheard of for non-members - especially men - to stay at a Training Centre and play a full part in the activities. However, the event was so successful that all the walkers returned the following year - this time for a whole week. Some come back every year.

One of them, Jim Roberts, explained what draws him year after year: 'The most important point is the informality. The walking is never solemn. The emphasis is always on the freedom to do what you like at your own pace. Nothing is compulsory.'

'Many first-time visitors to Waddow are surprised at how much wild countryside there is close to England's old, industrial heartland.'

'Newcomers are always welcome and within minutes feel as if they too have been there for years.'

'Although we are hoping that as many

as possible of the people who have been to a Walking Week in the past will join in the celebrations, it will be more than just a trip down Memory Lane. There will still be plenty of room for newcomers who will keep the event as fresh as ever.'

**Many first-time visitors are surprised at how much wild countryside there is**

## AWESOME ADVENTURE

Another repeat event this summer is the Awesome Adventure, now in its third and final year. It takes place at Waddow from Saturday, August 19 to Friday, August 25. Guides and their Guiders, Guide Patrols and individual Guides will all be welcome, whether or not they are experienced campers.

There will be lots of activities for them to try, including canoeing, dry slope skiing, tenpin bowling, archery, wide games, rafting, climbing, overnight expeditions...

The week's camping will cost girls £46 and accompanying Guiders will pay £25.

**For further information on these events or to make a booking, write to the Secretary, Waddow Hall, Clitheroe, Lancashire BB7 3LD.**



# HELP for REFUGEES

**Hundreds of thousands of refugee children face a grim future in camps and temporary settlements all over the world. They are victims of war and persecution who have fled their homelands. Many are hungry and afraid after becoming separated from their families in the desperate dash to safety.**

Members of the Association all over the UK have been putting together Peace Packs in an attempt to help some of these innocent victims. The packs are to be distributed to refugees in three African countries: Mauritania, Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast).

**GUIDING** has been looking at the work of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees UNHCR in each country. This month we focus on the last of the three – Côte d'Ivoire.

More than 30,000 Liberian refugees crossed the border between their homeland and Côte d'Ivoire in just two weeks early in 1994. They travelled in small groups, with tattered bundles on their heads. Most of them were covered in mud and their clothes were

reception centres to help the refugees as they arrived. The Liberians have not been accommodated in camps but have been absorbed into local villages.

Most of the refugees are in the south-western areas of Tabou, Guiglo and Danané, where they share a common language and heritage with the local people.

But the latest influx of refugees has been a further drain on the area's meagre resources.

Father Jean Charrier, the priest at the small Catholic mission in Tabou, described how they are coping: 'The refugees are sleeping in the classrooms, under the verandas and even in the church tower.'

working hospitals or schools.

Even if the Liberians did decide to go home they would have to find a boat to take them across the River Cess or the River Cavally, which form the border between Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire.

The roads are poor and in need of repair, and many bridges need to be rebuilt. The journey home would be difficult and dangerous.

More than half the Liberian refugees are under 18. Some of them have been seen playing war games in the streets of Tabou because they have nothing to occupy their time. They left home with nothing and have no facilities or materials to help them learn.



damp, as the rough paths they walked on were slushy from seasonal rains.

These refugees joined about 250,000 Liberians who had already found refuge in Côte d'Ivoire since the outbreak of civil war in Liberia in 1989.

With the help of UNHCR, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire set up several



Saber Azám, the UNHCR representative at Tabou said: 'We have appealed to the African sense of hospitality, but this has been stretched to its limit.'

UNHCR is trying to get food and aid to the refugees, but the area is difficult to reach and trucks of food and provisions take some time to arrive over the terrible roads. The people exist mainly on rice, flour, maize and vegetable oil.

The refugees are living a hard life and would love to return to their homes and their country. Unfortunately, the fighting in Liberia has continued, so it is not safe for them to return. Most of the crops have rotted in the fields because the war has prevented people from harvesting them, and there are few

## PACKED FOR PEACE

● These Cumbrian Brownies helped produce 32 Peace Packs after a magnificent fundraising effort. The 2nd Seascale (Methodist) Pack are pictured making shiny kites to sell at a coffee morning which helped buy items to put in the packs.

Our members' Peace Packs will help give these refugee children the education they so desperately want, while they wait for a chance to go home.

Anyone who wishes to find out more about the refugees' plight should write to UNHCR, Public Information Section, Peace Pack Project, PO Box 4427, London SW1P 1UR.



**ARE YOU...** caring,  
rational,  
**observant, open-minded,**  
useful, **inspirational,**  
**naturally talented,**  
never lacking energy,  
**calm,** cool and collected, **under 26,**  
**impressive** jolly, *and* lively

**Then you may be just the person for the Association Junior Council.**

### WHAT IS THE JUNIOR COUNCIL?

We are a body of young women aged 16-26 whose aim is to promote the views of young women within The Guide Association on a range of issues.

### WHAT IS INVOLVED?

- We meet two weekends a year where participation is essential by all.
- Links are encouraged with all Country and Region Junior Councils.
- Members have to be prepared to attend additional meetings for other groups and committees if invited.

### WHO CAN JOIN?

The Junior Council is made up of an enthusiastic group of young women, three from each of the Countries and Regions with two members representing BGIFC and two members from Branch Associations, all serving for three years.

MICHELLE DRAYCOTT



**If you feel you have the qualities necessary to participate in the decision-making of The Guide Association's future then this is your chance - fill in the slip below.**

### TEAR-OFF SLIP

To: Elizabeth Anderson  
Committees Executive  
The Guide Association  
17-19 Buckingham Palace Road  
London SW1W 0PT

**Please send me further information about the Association Junior Council.**

Name (please print) .....

Address .....

.....

.....

Postcode ..... Country or Region .....





## ONE LUMP OR TWO?? HAVE A FUND-RAISING TEA PARTY FOR US!

The Down's Syndrome Association needs your help to organise a Giant Tea Party on June 15th, 1995. We intend to make it one of the UK's biggest ever tea parties with tea drinkers around the country brewing up on the same afternoon to raise funds for our £1 million Jubilee Appeal.

If you could organise a Tea Party on our behalf you would be actively helping us to help those with Down's syndrome reach their full potential and make a worthwhile contribution to the community.

If you would like further information, please contact our fund-raising department on tel:

**0181 682 4001**

### DOWN'S SYNDROME ASSOCIATION

HELP FOR PEOPLE WITH DOWNS SYNDROME  
Reg. Charity No. 265872



*For some it's the fashion...  
For Debra Turner it was a nightmare.*

You may be aware what the treatment for Leukaemia can do. Debra will never forget — she fought and won but during that time sufferers and their families need support. Leukaemia CARE offers its caring support by befriending, providing discretionary financial assistance for travel to hospital and additional costs arising from the illness; caravan holidays for that essential break from treatment. Both young and old can suffer so please if you can help Leukaemia CARE.

**Help us to care for them**

All funding is derived from voluntary sources

**Leukaemia CARE**



14 Kingfisher Court, Venny Bridge, Pinhoe, Exeter, Devon EX4 8JN  
Tel 01392 464848 Registered Charity 259483

G/4/95



## NETHERURD HOUSE Scottish Training Centre

Netherurd lies amid the Border Hills of Peeblesshire, 25 miles from Edinburgh and 42 miles from Glasgow.

**Ranger Bothy** — For smaller groups wishing an indoor holiday, the Bothy is the ideal location. This converted potting shed provides all the necessary facilities for a group of ten.

**Campsites** — We have four main sites: Farm, BP, Bryland and Tennis Court. All are fully equipped with patrol and guider tents, fireshelters and kitchen equipment. In addition, we have two fully equipped patrol sites; Bridge and Crossroads, ideal for girls wanting to do patrol camp permits.

**Outdoor Activities** — Archery, Abseiling, Canoeing, Raft Building, Pioneering, Ropes Course, Adventure Trail and much, much more.

Please contact us on: 0968 682208, Ref Guiding

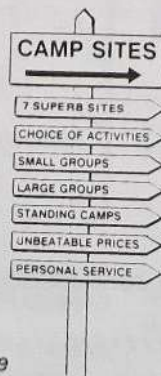


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'What did you do last time you couldn't use St Oswald's church hall?' I asked Emma.

'Went carol singing,' she replied. Well, of course, that was a good idea for the third week in December.

# My Girl's

## A GUIDE

This was March. And our church's lettings officer had just phoned.

Hesitantly he broke the bad news: 'I'm terribly sorry... there has been a bit of a mix up... I'm afraid I've let the church hall... to the RSPB... for a slide show... this Friday evening... could the Guides find another venue?'

What was I to do? Count up to ten? Remind myself of the seventh Guide Law and resolve to be cheerful in all difficulties? Listen to Emma?

'When my Patrol came round,' she reminded me, 'we had refreshments in the loft, and then went to the supermarket. Why don't you do that?'

Emma had served lemonade and biscuits to the five Kingfishers in our loft. I heard afterwards that Madeleine hadn't cared for the lemonade and had emptied it into the header tank. For a long time afterwards the hot water had a distinctly lemon fragrance.

The idea of 20 Guides in the loft of our little terrace house didn't appeal.

I called Julia, my Unit Helper, to let off a bit of steam. 'What about an incident hike?' I suggested, after getting it all off my chest.

'Do you remember the evening it

poured with rain? Elizabeth didn't even bring a jacket never mind a mac, and I had to wait for over an hour at the last checkpoint because they all took a shortcut and went straight home,' she reminded me firmly.

'Mm,' I murmured sympathetically.

'Or that one we went on last autumn?' she continued. 'It got dark during the last 20 minutes and we'd only three torches between us. We were terrified someone would twist her ankle crossing that ploughed field.'

I broke in: 'Was it a ploughed field?' I do so like to be accurate.

'Well, rough pasture then,' she sighed and added accusingly: 'which was just as bad.'

Obviously a hike wasn't going to be on the agenda.

'They loved ice skating,' I ventured.

'But we'd need a coach to get us there,' Julia pointed out. 'If only they'd given us a bit of notice, there are all sorts of things we could have booked.'

My next idea was met with even less enthusiasm. 'The roller rink's closer to home, it's only a bus ride away,' I suggested.

'I've heard it's terribly noisy. We'll try it, if you like. But what a pity we can't interest them in something quiet... like bird-watching.'

I remarked that, as it was the RSPB who was displacing us, maybe the Guides should be invited to attend their meeting instead.

Julia at last sounded interested when I mentioned Emma's suggestion of the supermarket.

So I prepared a quiz on environmentally-friendly products, and a shopping list of items needed for camp.

I called at the supermarket on the Thursday to warn the manageress we were coming. She was off sick on the Friday when we arrived.

The assistant manager greeted us with surprise... and suspicion. Clearly he thought we were a large party of shoplifters ingeniously disguised in Guide uniform. We departed 25 minutes later to mutual relief.

The remainder of the evening was spent on the local recreation ground, playing team games amid flurries of unseasonal snow.

Still, it had to be better than meeting in our loft!



# FRIENDS OF BGIFC

*Would you like to join the  
Friends of British Guides  
in Foreign Countries?*

*BGIFC is a very active part  
of the UK Guiding family.*

## FRIENDS OF BRITISH GUIDES IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES APPLICATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Tel No \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Connection with BGIFC (if any) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Guiding experience, if any. Please indicate whether  
current or previous \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Languages spoken \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Any skills available to BGIFC, for example Trainer,  
administrative, clerical, frequent traveller \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please list any countries you visit frequently, or  
know you will be visiting, with dates, if known  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I enclose my annual subscription, minimum £5  
sterling (£6 for two Friends living at the same  
address). Cheques to be made payable to Friends  
of BGIFC, please.

Having started in 1911 with one unit in Portugal, BGIFC has grown to a membership of 7,000 with Rainbow Guides, Brownie Guides, Guides, Ranger Guides, Young Leaders and Guiders in 41 countries.

Members of BGIFC make the same Promise, follow the same Programme and wear the same uniform — with adjustments for different climates and cultures — as Guides in the UK. Those who move from one country to another welcome the continuity of being able to go from one unit to another. So that when everything else changes in their lives, Guiding remains friendly and familiar.

BGIFC is organised in much the same way as a UK Country and Region. It has its own Commissioner, Helen Barker, and a secretariat based at Commonwealth Headquarters in London. But BGIFC still needs the help and support of other people, and this is where the Friends of BGIFC have a role to play.

Anyone can become a Friend of BGIFC — you don't have to be a member of the Association — and it is open to men and women alike. A warm welcome is offered to anyone who is interested and would like to support the work.

The Friends' aim is to support and encourage BGIFC in any way they can. To date, ways of doing this include both practical and financial support. Practical support can include assisting with the preparation and organisation of BGIFC events. Friends also give administrative help in the BGIFC office when it is needed, and as Commissioner Tutors under the Commissioner Training

Scheme and as Trainers for BGIFC in the UK or overseas.

Sometimes they act as 'postmen', taking greetings or bringing back news, or they co-ordinate the Adopt-A-Unit Scheme, which links Friends with units or Districts overseas. Other activities include promoting BGIFC by giving talks or telling others about its work, and encouraging others to join the Friends.

Giving financial support to BGIFC can mean grant aid to BGIFC members paying for resource materials and gifts to be taken abroad by the BGIFC Commissioner or Trainers; administering various Funds on behalf of BGIFC; or paying annual subscriptions.

Friends pay a minimum subscription of £5 per year — there is a Family subscription of £6 for two or more Friends living at the same address. Friends of BGIFC receive four BGIFC newsletters per year — a Friends' Section is incorporated in the April and November issues; a BGIFC Annual Report; a personal membership card, and an invitation to the annual get-together to meet other Friends, as well as the people the Friends are trying to help. BGIFC Guiders returning to the UK are entitled to *free* associate membership of the Friends for one year after their return.

If you are interested in becoming a Friend, please fill in the application form and send it to Dorreen August, Secretary, Friends of BGIFC, The Guide Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT, together with your cheque (except in the case of associate members) made payable to Friends of BGIFC.



# a personal VIEW

**'Volunteers are an important part of the cement that holds society together.' These are the words of Sir Michael Angus and they aren't just polite platitudes. As Chairman of Whitbread PLC he backs his views with his company's cash.**

He was speaking at a luncheon given to honour the winners of the Whitbread Volunteer Action Awards. It was, he explained, the 12th year that the Awards have been made, adding that he continued to be impressed by the quality of the entries.

Here I think his British reserve was showing. Impressed? Amazed, humbled, inspired... he could have used a litany of complimentary phrases and still been unintentionally guilty of damning with faint praise.

What we had been listening to was proof of the triumph of the human spirit over desperate difficulty and intolerable adversity.

Not only had the winners given their time, energy and total commitment to helping others, but most had been responding in a positive and glorious way to their own tragic experiences.

There was the young woman – an ex-Guide – who was anorexic for many years but had fought back from the brink to set up a helpline to counsel other people suffering from eating disorders.

An older woman, who was sexually abused as a child, had set up a project to support other 'survivors', realising that many victims of sex abuse suffer mental illness as adults.

Who could help but admire the parents whose children's ill health or death had spurred them on to fight for a better deal for others, rather than sink into understandable despair?

As we watched these apparently ordinary people go up to collect their awards from Princess Michael of Kent, it was impossible not to feel a surge of uplifting emotion. The world couldn't be such a bad place after all, could it? Not when there were such

good people in it.

If anyone has ever wondered why giving, traditionally meant to be its own reward, needs any official recognition, I'd like to introduce them to the chap who sat next to me. A pragmatic businessman and one-time Scout leader, he positively glowed with pride when his wife went up to collect her award.

He wanted the world to know and

voluntary work. Open only to over-55s, it was won by Ranger Guider Mary Huggard.

This year the Association didn't have a member in the winners' line-up. But it didn't matter. For the awards, whoever wins them, underline the vital importance of the work done by volunteers like ours and the rest of the tireless, unpaid, unknown and largely unnoticed



WHITBREAD VOLUNTEER ACTION AWARDS

acknowledge her bravery in striving to encourage fellow cancer sufferers by setting up Creative Arts Against Cancer. Many patients and their families will echo the message of a poem in the summer edition of the group's publication *Patchwork* - 'Poetry is a healer'.

This brave woman had been a Guide, as she reveals in 'Locker Booty'. Inspired by a spell in hospital, she wrote:

'My Guide camping badge  
has stood me in good stead  
as I live on this  
six foot by two foot patch  
for ten days  
I wish I'd remembered my Swiss  
Army knife.'

In 1993 a new category of awards was created for older people involved in

army of folk committed to helping others. And they raise volunteers' public profile, as Princess Michael pointed out.

She admitted finding their achievements 'very, very moving', particularly the way in which they'd used their own tragedies to be of help to others. One winner had told her: 'If I didn't do this my life wouldn't be worth living.'

No one who attended the ceremony could be in doubt about the difference volunteers make to the lives of those around them. It's a lesson that should be preached to a wider audience.

**NORA WARNER**

\*An extract from Judith Thwaite's 'Locker Booty' published in *Patchwork*. She can be contacted on 01260 274269.

**Ranger Guider Mary Huggard, a winner in 1993's volunteer awards, with Sir Michael Angus and Princess Michael of Kent**



# FUNDS & FRIENDSHIP

**The Guide Friendship Fund enables UK members to uphold the sisterhood of world Guiding in a practical way — enabling Guides to help other Guides. Money raised by our members is used by the GFF to help associations on the other side of the world and units in the UK. Here are some recent examples:**

The Guides in Tanzania are involved in community issues and the Tanzanian Girl Guide Association press contact, Nancy Mwendamseke, has helped organise a programme of training and recruitment. To help her with this work, Sister Mary Stella, who lived in Tanzania and worked with the Guides for many years, has been asked to go out for three months to help provide

the groundwork for this campaign.

Sister Mary thought she had 'retired' from world travel to a peaceful Surrey convent. But as she is fluent in the local language and knows the country well, it was agreed she was the best person for the job. The Guide Friendship Fund was happy to assist with the cost of her travel to Tanzania, where she will work with the Guides for three months.

At Ngara, in the north of the country, there is a camp for Rwandan refugees. The Guides, though hampered by lack of funds, are seeking ways to give assistance. One of their more unusual plans is to hold a competition for the best soup recipe for refugee camps, bearing in mind the limited facilities and ingredients. The winning recipe will then be introduced to the camps.

When Sister Mary returns in the summer, it is hoped she will bring with her lots of detailed news about what's happening in Tanzania.

There is also positive news from the Guides in Zimbabwe, another association recently supported by the Guide Friendship Fund. Caroline Plastow, representative for the British High Commission in Harare, was asked to 'present' a cheque from the GFF — the actual money had gone by bank transfer some months before. Caroline wrote to say how impressed she was by the Guides' commitment to public service and their range of community initiatives.

One of their latest projects is an income-generating scheme for women, which grew from a previous adult literacy campaign. The women believed that if they were to make a success of any business venture, they would have to be able to read, write and do basic bookkeeping.

The scheme began with money raised by a group selling chicken mesh and fencing they'd made by hand. When demand began to outstrip supply, the Ministry of National Affairs provided the women with money to buy a machine to help them.

The women were then able to build their own shop and expanded into fencing accessories and advertised for new staff. Now men who were previously sceptical of this scheme are queuing up for jobs.

The Guide Friendship Fund is not only concerned with helping overseas. Guide groups in the UK can also benefit, and have received help towards projects such as repairing meeting places, replacing damaged equipment and organising seminars. The Guide Friendship Fund is about Guides helping Guides wherever they may be, so if your unit needs a helping hand, consider finding out if the fund can assist.

Next month the GFF launches its summer appeal focussing on helping another part of the Guiding world.

Tanzanian women counting the proceeds at the end of the day



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WORLD ASSOCIATION OF GIRL GUIDES AND GIRL SCOUTS



## RAINBOW DAY

The word 'Easter' conjures up visions of eggs, spring blossoms, lambs, candles, chicks... However, in some communities, rainbows play a part at Easter-time too.

The rainbow, born of sun and rain, must be one of nature's most wondrous phenomena — an arc of magic colours reaching across the sky.

It is hardly surprising, then, that from time out of mind rainbows have been part of mythology the world over. Frequently they are associated with the divine, often

perceived as linking earth and heaven.

To the Polynesians, for example, the rainbow is a ladder leading up to paradise. Similarly, the North American Indians call it 'the pathway of souls'.

Long ago, on opposite sides of the globe, people in Scandinavia and Japan revered the rainbow as a bridge linking them to their gods.

The ancient Greeks even deified the rainbow as Iris — the rain goddess and divine messenger who sped between heaven and earth along the rainbow route-way.

In the Christian tradition the rainbow is equally rich in significance. Going back to its biblical origins — when God 'set his bow in the cloud' at the end of the flood — the rainbow announced a new relationship between God and creation. Affirming the start of a new era, it symbolised God's promise of friendship and the vision of peace and hope for the future.

The Easter rainbow brings the same message. It reminds us of new beginnings, new life and, underlying everything, the security of God's everlasting friendship. The

promise of peace and hope for the future are there, too.

Just as the rainbow arches across the rain-grey sky signalling the storm's end, so the miracle of Easter breaks through the darkness in our lives — our doubt, fear, weakness, sorrow, shame, confusion — and leads us forward into light.

This month, if you're making preparations for Easter — like designing cards, painting eggs or decorating a cake — why not add a rainbow?

CD

Open  
Door

## MAKING WAVES

More than 100 licensed amateur radio enthusiasts set up stations for this year's Thinking Day on the Air, allowing Brownies, Guides and Rangers to speak to their counterparts in the UK, Europe and beyond.

Girls scanned the airwaves and sent Thinking Day greetings to Guides and Scouts around the world. They also arranged badge swaps and recruited new pen-friends.

Over the past ten years Thinking Day on the Air has become an established part of the annual Scout and Guide Thinking Day celebrations. The event also serves as a way of introducing Brownies and Guides to amateur radio.

In Chancetonbury District in West Sussex, 15 Brownies and eight Guides gained their Radio Communications badges. Under the guidance of local radio ham, Tony



JAMES CLEVETT

Leigh, who is Chairman of the East Sussex Scout Association, they made contact with Guides in Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Finland, France and Italy.

Local radio ham and Scouter Tony Leigh makes sure the girls are on the right wavelength

District Commissioner Margaret Sparham said: 'The event was very well attended.

We enjoyed very good links and everyone got a chance to talk'.

News  
FOCUS

## IN MAY'S GUIDING

### At the Palace

Guiding celebrates

### A Guiding experience

Plans for CHQ centre get underway

### Charity Cyclist

Pedal power pays off

### Forever Friends

Staying on in Guiding

### Space Travellers

Out-of-this-world games

### Special Offer

Cut-price theme park tickets

### Amazing!

Make a magic bag

## IN APRIL'S BROWNIE

### Twelve Traditions

One custom a month

### Fun Food

Make an Easter cake

### Discovering...

All about eggs

### The Crawl

An intriguing legend

### Make and play

Skittles and solitaire

### Brownies Round the World

Liberia

### Traditional Teasers

Puzzles to try

## AND IN RAINBOW GUIDE EXTRA

### Rainbow Rabbit

Join the Easter egg hunt

### Chasing Games

Playing 'touch' or 'it'

### Great Bakes

Super scones

### Surprise Surprise!

Make a birthday card

### Super Story

The Gingerbread Man

Coming  
NEXT



# *the* **Dark** **Horse** *Venture*

**Imagine a version of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award exclusively for over-55s. A scheme to stretch participants mentally and physically, stimulate interest in new activities, give service to the community and recognised by an award of which the recipient could be justly proud. It's a concept with obvious appeal for anyone approaching the end of active Guiding or Scouting.**

Well, there is such a scheme. Called the Dark Horse Venture, the enterprise was founded in 1987 by retired teacher Mary Thomas to persuade older people to continue to have goals in their lives.

Mary admits she was appalled at the waste of talent she saw all around her. Retired people, she insists, should never think of themselves as 'over the hill'. Another expression she dislikes intensely is 'passing the time'. It's banned from her vocabulary.

'Time is for filling with pleasure, activity and endeavour,' she says firmly. 'Most of us have never even tried to find out what hidden abilities we have and to set that dark horse free!'

These days many people retire early and some will have up to 30 years of active life ahead. The scheme Mary founded encourages retired people to use their time profitably.

At first, the greatest difficulty encountered by the organisers of the Dark

Horse Venture was the lack of confidence displayed by many over-55s.

'The awful thing was convincing people they had something to offer,' Mary said. 'People think so little of themselves.' These difficulties are steadily being overcome. In the eight years since the Venture began, many mature men and women's self-esteem has been raised and their lives have been enriched.

Challenges are chosen from four categories: Giving and Sharing, encompassing volunteer jobs; Generations Working Together, encouraging contact with young people both individually and in schools, youth groups and churches in order to develop relationships and share interests; Learning and Doing; and Exploring and Exercising.

The Dark Horse Venture does not provide tuition. Everyone who takes part must seek out his or her chosen course. Over a year, participants must devote 100 hours to a new pursuit, under the guidance of an assessor of the member's choice.

After assessment on each activity, a certificate may be awarded, according to progress and performance. There is no limit to the number of certificates a member may gain. Anyone gaining certificates in any three categories earns a Gold Seal Certificate.

A recent innovation is the Violet Certificate for work on an inter-generation project, instigated to show youngsters how older people spend their leisure time.



People from all walks of life have already achieved an amazing variety of new skills through the Dark Horse Venture. Here are some examples:

● **Margaret Gold, who is 60-plus, has shared quilting, patchwork and embroidery skills with a group of elderly ladies who live in sheltered accommodation in Liverpool.**

● **Sixty years after leaving school, Toxteth-born George Cross has begun a new lease of life as an artist, writer and local historian.**

● **Sheffield septuagenarian Gladys Wilkinson has tackled organ-playing, decoupage and word processing, fund raising, hospital visiting, and work with Age Concern and the Sheffield Adult Schools' Union, despite suffering several strokes.**

● **Benita Moore of Yorkshire has also overcome physical limitations by mastering swimming and diving, and has since founded two activity groups for senior citizens.**

The Dark Horse Venture has far-reaching effects. Gold Seal recipient Doreen Ranson, of Kent, joined a group





◀ Trefoil Guild member Mary Coulter with her first Gold Certificate

▲ Fun and friendship: Mary enjoys a canal walk with two Trefoil Guild friends



◀ Jill Biddle gained her Dark Horse Venture Certificate after teaching art and technology to youngsters

committed to relieving distressing conditions in St Gheorgh, Romania, and has made five trips to the village, taking some 38 tonnes of food, clothing, toiletries and medical supplies.

Guiding is full of 'dark horses'! Trefoil Guilds all over the country have

been enthusiastically tackling challenges for years. Joan Miller, District Commissioner for Trentham in Staffordshire, has taught arts and crafts to senior citizens, helped Save the Children, painted watercolours and walked the Staffordshire canals.

Peggy Hewitt, President of Stoke South Division and Staffordshire County Trefoil Guild Chairman, took up quilting to gain one certificate.

Leicestershire's Charnwood North Trefoil Guild Chairman, Jessie Wainwright, has become an expert in punch craft, using it to decorate hundreds of varied articles. She has also staffed a hospice shop and become a globe-trotter, notably to Thailand, where, as well as seeing the famous Bridge on the River Kwai, she had the moving experience of travelling on the Burma-Siam 'Death Railway', on which her late husband had laboured as a prisoner of war.

Some challenges turn out rather differently from expectations. Pat Law, of Central Birmingham and West Bromwich Trefoil Guilds, originally

offered to knit babywear for Oxfam. But she ended up agreeing to produce two full-sized jumpers per month.

As Pat's existing involvement with the church and Trefoil Guild keeps her pretty busy, she has to snatch odd moments to fulfil her commitment, even taking the garments to bed with her. Then, if she can't sleep, she does a few rows before sleep overtakes her.

Pat has also researched wild plants and is now an expert on their edible and medicinal properties. However, she is less than enthusiastic about potato and hawthorn salad with tansy flower omelette. Her local heritage project produced 12 large books of comments, postcards and photographs, which have been much in demand for library and school projects.

Jean Young, Birmingham Trefoil Guild Chairman, is a splendid example of what determination can achieve. Having never knitted or sewed, she tackled tapestry, persevering through 'blood and tears'. Her first effort, she said, resembled a rubbing rag, but she is now the proud possessor of a satisfactory tapestry.

One Dark Horse Venture turned out to be aptly named. Stechford Guild member Margaret Moore, after volunteering to help at a country park, was somewhat taken aback to find herself put to work with the horses.

City-bred Margaret hardly knew one end of a horse from the other and admits to being slightly daunted by the fact that the horses towered well above her neat 5ft frame. For her next challenge, Margaret plans to try bell-ringing.

Birmingham is well represented. Patricia Hudson, associate member of Central and Highbury Guilds, helps at adult literacy classes, and Jill Biddle, a Brownie and Guide Guider, teaches crafts in school. Margaret Corden, of Central and Erdington Guilds, took up

flower arranging in 1993, just in time to show off her new skills at the County flower festival, using the Trefoil's Golden Jubilee as her theme.

In contrast to the Birmingham group, Mary Coulter, of Edgware Trefoil Guild, has worked alone for her Dark Horse projects, although she now hopes to



GILLIAN ELLIS

▲ Joan Miller (left) and Peggy Hewitt wearing their Dark Horse Venture badges

interest others in the scheme.

Tackling three projects simultaneously, she restored an elderly friend's garden; studied natural history inspired by the family of foxes who frequented her garden; and took up rambling, making many new friends in the process. Mary's first Gold Certificate was presented last April by the Mayor of Barnet. She is now working towards her second Gold Certificate by learning counted cross-stitch, doing secretarial work for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution and conducting a choir. 'I have absolutely no qualifications,' she confessed, 'but the audiences haven't rushed screaming from the hall yet!'

Mary's lone achievements demonstrate that you don't need to be part of a group to widen your horizons, and that the venture is ideal for individuals.

'My overwhelming feelings about my projects,' Mary told *GUIDING*, 'are that I'm stretching myself, learning much, making new friends and having fun!'

Dark Horse Venture organisers believe loneliness is a crime against the person and see the scheme as a form of preventive medicine. So, whatever your age or circumstances – whether or not you are looking for the challenge and achievement which the Venture offers – why not extend the Guiding hand of friendship, this time clutching a Dark Horse leaflet? It may change a life.

GILLIAN ELLIS

Registration is simple: write to the Dark Horse Venture, Kelton, Woodlands Road, Liverpool L17 0AN. The only cost involved is £5 for a Personal Records Journal.



# RAINBOW GUIDERS

These popular Easter customs, traditional games and fun springtime activities will keep Rainbows entertained throughout April.

## SPRING ACTIVITIES

Bring a large notebook or scrap-book to the meeting, to be used as a weekly diary of changes in local wildlife during spring. At your first meeting in April, note down the girls' observations on the state of flowers, trees, birds and other wildlife at this time of year.

Return to these notes each week and record any changes. Note differences in the amount of change when the weather is warm, cold, or wet.

## EASTER CUSTOMS

The shops are full of Easter eggs at this time of year. But do your Rainbows know why we give each other chocolate eggs at Easter?

Eggs represent the new life which comes in the spring. In the past the eggs given as Easter gifts were not made of chocolate, but were real. They were often decorated with lovely colours and patterns.

Show the girls how to decorate their boiled eggs for breakfast. They can draw a face or a pattern on the egg in pencil before boiling it in water coloured with vegetable dye. Or, they can

each bring a hard-boiled egg to the meeting and paint decorations on to it.

## TRADITIONAL GAMES TO PLAY

At each meeting during April, teach the girls these traditional games that their parents — or grandparents — may remember playing:

### SQUEAK PIGGY

The Rainbows sit on chairs in a circle. One Rainbow is blindfolded. She is then led to the circle of Rainbows and sits upon the lap of one, asking 'Squeak piggy squeak'. The Rainbow who has been sat upon then makes a sound for the blindfolded girl to identify. If the Rainbow is correct, someone else is chosen to wear the blindfold.

### HONEY BEAR

The Rainbows sit in a circle and one is chosen to be the bear who lies in the centre with a 'pot of honey'. All the Rainbows chant:

*Isn't it funny how a bear likes honey?*

*Buzz, buzz, buzz  
I wonder why he  
does, does, does  
'Mr Bear, Mr Bear, your  
honey's not there!'*

After chanting the first four lines, one Rainbow is chosen to be the 'honey thief'. She then creeps up to the 'honey pot', picks it up carefully and runs around the outside of the circle.

The 'bear' wakes up, discovers the honey pot is missing and chases the thief, still running around the outside. The thief, having run once around the circle, returns and places the honey pot in the centre.

The game is repeated with another bear and a different honey thief.

### JACK BE NIMBLE, JACK BE QUICK

*Jack be nimble, Jack be quick*

*Jack jump over the candlestick*

The Rainbows sit in a circle and the 'candlestick' is placed in the centre. The name of a Rainbow is chosen and she responds by jumping over the candlestick and back again, before returning to her original place in the circle.

The game is repeated using the name of a different Rainbow each time.

### O'GRADY SAYS

This is a game which really shows who's paying attention. The leader, 'O'Grady', stands in front of the group

and the others have to do what she says. For example:

- 'O'Grady says sit down'
- 'O'Grady says touch your nose'
- 'O'Grady says clap your hands'

Everyone follows her commands — unless she omits the words 'O'Grady says' and just gives a command. Then anyone who performs the action is out. The game goes on until there is a winner.

You might play this with all the girls first and then divide them into smaller groups so they can take turns to be the leader.

## TWIST THEIR TONGUES

Here are some old-fashioned tongue twisters for the girls to try:

- Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.
- Sister Susie's sewing shorts for soldiers.
- Red leather, yellow leather.
- I can think of six thin things and of six thick things too.

Do the girls know any other tongue twisters?

## QUIET TIME

Think about all the people over the years who have played the traditional games you have enjoyed together. Say thank you that these games have been passed down from one generation to another for us to enjoy.

## NEXT MONTH

Our theme next month, linked closely to the season, is to be gardens.

DEBORAH MANLEY





# BROWNIE GUIDERS

**BROWNIE** magazine's theme for this month is traditions. Everyone in the Pack will enjoy these activities based on country customs which traditionally take place in April and May.

## EASTER EGG HUNT

In America, Brownie Girl Scouts use special dyes to colour hard-boiled eggs on Easter Saturday. Traditionally, mum hides the eggs around the house or garden and the children hunt for them on Easter Sunday morning. Your Brownies could use felt-tipped pens to decorate the eggs at one meeting, then you could set up an egg hunt on your last meeting before Easter.

## EASTER BASKETS

American children collect the eggs in brightly coloured baskets. Show your Brownies how to make their own:

- 1 Cover a shoe box with crêpe paper;
- 2 Staple a strip of strong, folded card on to the shoe box to make a handle;
- 3 Using templates, draw and cut out contrasting coloured paper bunnies, chicks and eggs to decorate the basket;
- 4 Line the basket with tissue paper or strips of crêpe paper.

## EASTER EGG ROLLING

If you have a grassy slope near your meeting place, try egg rolling, an ancient Easter Monday tradition. Each Brownie writes her name on a hard-boiled egg, then all the eggs are rolled down the slope. There's no need to start together, so each Six could take turns, thereby increasing the suspense! The owner of the egg which travels the farthest wins a small chocolate egg.

## EASTER EGG NESTS

Melt cooking chocolate in a bowl over a pan of hot water and stir in some crumbled Shredded Wheat. Give each

Brownie a little of the mixture in a cake paper case and show her how to mould it into a nest shape using her thumbs. Leave the nests to cool and fill them with chocolate mini eggs.

At this stage, as half of April's meetings are lost to school holidays, you may be thinking about May.

Why not hold a special May Day meeting? Invite the Brownies to come to the meeting wearing summer dresses. On the night, they can make special head-dresses, have a hobby horse parade and choose a May Queen.

## HEAD-DRESS

- Measure a strip of thick paper on thin fabric to fit each Brownie's head comfortably and write the girl's name on the back.
- Staple or glue the strip into a circle.
- Cut flower shapes from scraps and glue them to the circle.
- Attach long, narrow ribbon or crêpe paper streamers.

There are two ways to choose your May Queen. One is to give each Brownie a token and tell her to give it secretly to the girl she would choose as Queen. The girl who

receives most tokens is elected.

Or, put all the head-dresses on a table so that the names can't be seen and invite an impartial judge to choose her favourite.

## HOBBY HORSE

In some villages on May Day, a hobby horse parades through the streets to welcome the summer. The villagers dance behind the hobby horse, singing and banging drums. For a hobby horse parade, ask each Brownie to bring a soft-bristled broom from home. Anyone who can't do so could bring a 'drum' instead and be one of the dancing villagers.

- Cover the broom head with a white polythene bin liner, bunching and tying the corners to make ears.
- Glue on two black paper circles as eyes.
- Tie on an old belt for reins.

In some rural areas, May Day is known as Garland Day. Garlands made by country folk can be simple bunches of spring flowers with trailing ribbons or, possibly, decorated hoops with a small doll in the centre. Brownies will love making both the dolls and the hoops over two or more meetings.

## THE DOLL

- Draw a face on the pegtop and glue on wool 'hair'.
- Colour 'shoes' on to the peg feet.
- Cut half a white doily 20cm (8in) in diameter into the shape shown.
- Cut a piece of floral-patterned wrapping paper into a semicircle 15cm (6in) in diameter as shown.
- Glue the doily 'petticoat' round the neck of the peg.
- Glue the paper 'dress' over it.

## THE HOOPS

- Cut plenty of flower and leaf shapes from crêpe paper.
  - Bend two very thin wire coat hangers into circles.
  - Wind the green crêpe paper strips tightly around the wire, securing at intervals with lengths of sticky tape.
  - Push one hoop through the other at right angles, keeping the two hooks side by side.
  - Wind the green crêpe paper around both hooks together and tie on a thin ribbon.
  - Decorate the hoops with flowers and leaves.
- Suspend the doll from the hooks and you have a traditional May garland that will last for a long time.

GILLIAN ELLIS





## THEME EVENING

# STORIES AND GAMES

This month's theme evening is based on *Little Women*, a story about family life in 19th-century America. The ideas are based on some of the activities in which the characters in the book took part.

Give the activity ideas to each Patrol a week in advance, so they can choose which to do, make preparations and sort out the equipment they will need.

### LITTLE WOMEN

by Louisa May Alcott

The *Little Women* in the story were a family of four girls who lived with their mother in America in the 1860s during the American Civil War. Their father had gone away to serve in the war as a chaplain. The family were facing up to being poorer after their father lost money trying to help an unfortunate friend. The sisters were called Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy March.

#### Melodrama

Ask the Patrol to prepare a melodrama, either based on

Jo's play in Chapter II, or one they have invented. If they choose to invent a play, they will have to think up a story line. A typical 19th century melodrama had a handsome hero, a beautiful heroine, a kindly or stern heroine's father, and a wicked squire.

Other characters, depending on the number in the Patrol, could include servants. Remind them that melodrama involves extravagant actions, emotions and speeches, as well as costumes — so they can really go 'over the top'.

#### Fashion parade

Everyone in the Patrol should dress in a Victorian-style party dress, such as those worn by Meg and Jo in Chapter III. They can borrow books on costume from a library, and could also experiment with hairstyles and use accessories such as flowers, hair ribbons, jewellery and gloves.

#### Patrol newspaper

The March girls had a secret society based on the Pickwick Club and produced a weekly newspaper. This is described in Chapter X and contains poems, stories, letters, news items and advertisements. Ask the Patrol to produce a similar newspaper depicting a week in their own lives.

#### Traditional cooking

Chapter XI describes Jo's disastrous attempt to prepare a meal, which consisted of overcooked asparagus, underdone potatoes, tiny pieces of lobster that she had no idea how to cook, bread burnt black and lumpy blancmange made with strawberries which had been sprinkled with salt instead of sugar!

The Patrol could try some traditional American food. Favourites in the US include blueberry (bilberry) pies, doughnuts and waffles with maple syrup — which can be bought in this country.

Or the girls could make some delicious American-style chocolate cookies. Here's a simple recipe. All you need is a single burner on which to boil the ingredients.

#### Chocolate cookies

You need 215g (8½oz) oats, 350g (14oz) sugar, 1tbs cocoa, 125g (5oz) condensed milk, 225g (9oz) butter, 1tsp peanut butter and a few drops of vanilla essence.

Put the sugar, milk and cocoa in a pan and bring to the boil. Boil for one and a half minutes. Remove from the heat and blend in the butter, oats, peanut butter and vanilla essence. Drop spoonfuls on to greased paper and leave to set.

#### Croquet

When some English friends came to stay with Laurie, the boy next door, the girls went out with them for a picnic. One of the games they played was croquet. Try to obtain a set of croquet mallets, balls and hoops — you can buy inexpensive beach sets.

Alternatively, the Patrol could make an indoor course by using six cardboard 'hoops' stuck to the floor with Blu-tack, golf balls and ordinary mallets with pieces of dowelling lashed to make longer handles.

Look in your local library for a book describing the





# THEME EVENING

basic rules of croquet and the layout of the field. Or play a simplified version aiming to get the ball through the six loops.

## American folk songs

The girls loved to sing around the piano while Beth played for them. There are many folk songs originating from the American Civil War. The Patrol could learn and sing some of the songs, accompanied on the piano, if a pianist is available, or by a recorder to imitate the fife used at the time.

Civil War songs include: *Battle Hymn of the Republic* (John Brown's Body), *Marching Through Georgia*, *When Johnny Comes Marching Home*, *Dixieland* and *Shenandoah*.

## GAMES

Play some of the games which the girls enjoyed in

*Little Women*. Here are two examples.

### Rigmarole

One person begins a story about any nonsense she likes, and tells it for as long as she pleases, only taking care to stop at some exciting point. The next person takes it up and does the same.

The story in the book starts with the sentence: 'Once upon a time a knight went out into the world to seek his fortune, for he had nothing but his sword and his shield...'

A variation on this game is to give each girl a piece of paper on which the name of an object is written. The story begins in the same way, but each girl has 30 seconds to speak and must bring in her object at some

point during her continuation story.

### Tell the truth

Give each Patrol the following questions written on separate pieces of paper. Each girl has to pick out one piece of paper and answer the question on it truthfully.

The questions (adapted from Chapter XII) could include: Who do you admire most and why? What do you most wish for at the moment? What virtues do you admire most in another person? What do you hate most? What do you most wish that you could do? What do you like most?

### CLOSING: WHAT'S MY FAULT?

The four girls were aware of their own faults. Meg said: 'I

think too much of my looks and hate to work'; Jo said: 'I'll try to keep my temper and not to be rough and wild'; Beth said: 'Mine is envying girls with nice pianos and being afraid of people'; and Amy simply said: 'I am a selfish girl'.

Ask each girl to think privately of her own faults before finishing the evening with a prayer asking for help in overcoming them.

PAULINE WAINWRIGHT

• *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott is available as a Puffin paperback for £2.99, or as a two-book volume containing *Good Wives* from the original publisher, Little, Brown and Company, for £4.99. See page 16 for details of how to win a boxed set of Alcott's novels about the March family, which includes this volume.

It is also available as a Collins audio double cassette for £5.99.





# PRACTICAL PAGES

# GUIDE GUIDERS

You don't need to be an Einstein to present your Guides with some enjoyable science activities. These science games, activities and experiments are simple to set up and easy to explain.

## FORMULA FOR SUCCESS

Try these activities during evening meetings or at camp. All the activities can be linked to make up a wide game if you base them on a theme such as A trip to Nursery Rhyme Land. This will make the activities appear less threatening to girls who may be intimidated by the word 'science'.

Prepare in advance a simple passport for each Guide, providing a section to record each visit made in Nursery Rhyme Land.

The nursery-rhyme character and site for each activity can be given in a variety of codes which should be supplied along with a code breaker sheet at the beginning of the game. Each Patrol should be directed to start at a different point on the circuit of activities outlined below.

### 1 Bobby Shafto

Equipment: corks, metal paper clips, cocktail sticks,

small squares of paper to use as sails, a water supply, a magnet, three or four large stones to place in a deep plastic tray or roasting tin, and two or three bricks to support the stones and the tray, when it contains some water.

Give these instructions on a card to the Guides: *Bobby Shafto has gone to sea. Can you make a sailing ship and sail it around the course without running aground on the rocks or getting your fingers wet.*

The idea is that the Guides make a ship from the cork, cocktail stick and paper with a metal paper clip keel, which is floated in the tray of water. They then guide the ship around the course marked out by the stones inside the tray, using a magnet placed under the tray. Encourage the girls to try and solve the problem themselves, but give them some help if they are finding it difficult.

### 2 The Three Bears

Equipment: a teddy bear, lots of old newspaper, one metre of sticky tape per Patrol and a small bowl of cold porridge.

Instructions: *Make a table which is strong enough to hold Baby Bear's bowl of porridge.*

### 3 Cinderella

Equipment: six to eight empty milk bottles, a funnel, a bucket of water and a pencil, or something similar to use as a beater.

Instructions: *Warn Cinderella that it is time to leave the ball by playing the midnight chimes.*

Varying the levels of water in the milk bottles will make them sound different notes when tapped with a pencil. The Guides should be able to play a simple composition on their bottles. However, don't be too optimistic that you will find it easy to name that tune!

### 4 Peter Pan

Equipment: a small doll or lego person in an empty yoghurt pot in the centre of a chalked circle about two metres in diameter. If chalk is unsuitable, you can form the circle from lengths of string, paper clips and elastic bands.

Instructions: *Tiger Lily has been kidnapped by pirates and is being held prisoner in a crocodile-infested pond. Can you rescue her without becoming the crocs' dinner?*

While standing on the edge of the circle the rescuers need to use an elastic band linked by paper clips to at least three lengths of string. Each length is held

by a Guide and, working as a team, they should be able to expand the elastic band and lower it over the yoghurt pot, which can be lifted out of the pond to safety.

### 5 The Man in the Moon

Equipment: string, drinking straws, balloons, a small basket, sticky tape and a lego person.

Instructions: *The Man in the Moon has come tumbling down. Can you send him back into space?*

The solution is to construct a rocket propulsion device using a balloon connected by a drinking straw to a long piece of cord, which is tied to two sturdy uprights such as fence poles (see Fig 1). The blown-up balloon will shoot along the taut cord when released, thus transporting the Man in the Moon in his basket, comfortably suspended from the balloon.

You can use any nursery rhyme or fairy story. More ideas for science-based activities can be found in children's science books available in any good bookshop or library. Look out for *101 Great Science Experiments* by Neil Ardley. This superb step-by-step guide is published by Dorling Kindersley, priced £10.99.

CAROL SMYTH

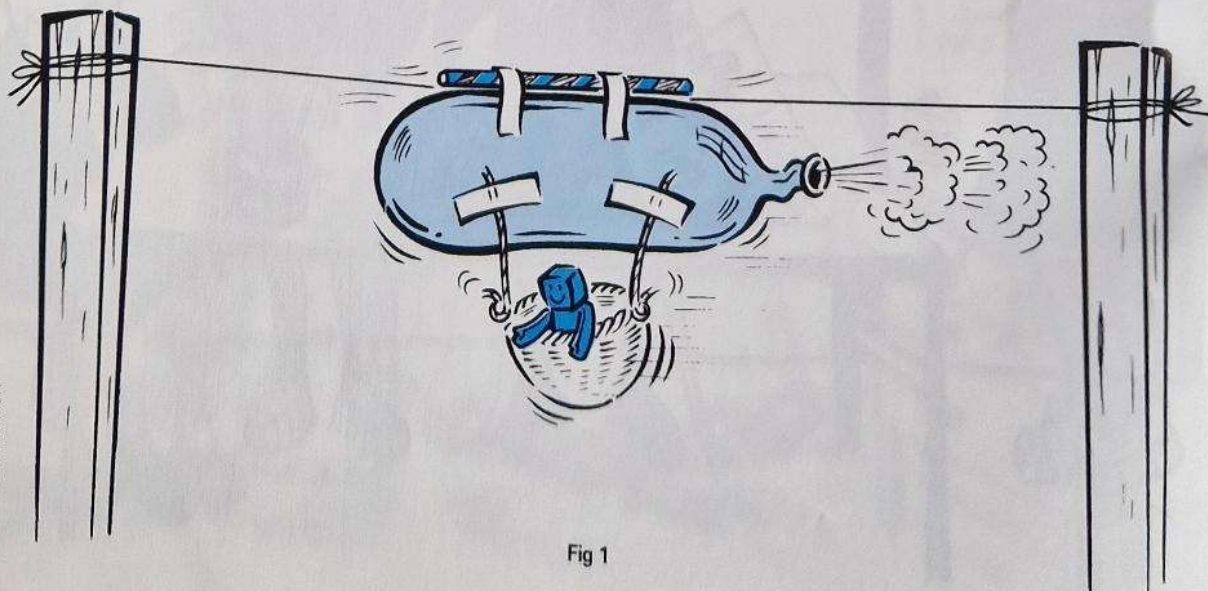


Fig 1



# STAY SAFE

**Child Safety Week runs from July 3 to 9. Sponsored by the Child Accident Prevention Trust, its aim is to encourage people to raise their awareness of safety issues. Here the Trust's Susan Pinckney suggests ways to increase the girls' safety know-how.**

## RAINBOWS

### In the kitchen

There are many dangers lurking in the kitchen and young children should be made aware of them. Make up a large drawing of a 'nightmare scenario' kitchen, with pictures of pans boiling over, knives left lying around, pools of water on the floor and so on. The Rainbows can spend some time looking at the drawing and spotting the dangers. Encourage the girls to talk about what they thought was dangerous.

### Hot or cold?

Put out an assortment of objects, such as matches, kettles, bottles of milk and ice cubes. Ask the Rainbows whether each object is 'hot or cold'. Then point out, for example, that a kettle full of water is not always hot. Ask them if they know how to tell when it is hot. Explain that matches aren't hot when they're unlit and that the glass front of an oven isn't hot most of the time, but it is when the oven is on. Remind the Rainbows to think before they touch objects.

## BROWNIES

### How do I...?

Children aged between seven and eleven are old enough to be taught safe ways to carry out potentially dangerous tasks. Many children of this age are starting to become involved in daily household tasks and are keen to try new things that they perceive as 'grown-up'. Show them the safe ways to carry out these tasks. For example:

- **Lighting a match.** Explain why we should never play

with matches and demonstrate how to put them out safely. Also show the girls where matches can be safely stored.

- **Using a knife.** Again, point out places where knives should be stored. Explain why knives and other sharp objects should be handled with care.

- **Making a cup of tea.** This involves a number of skills. A kettle should not be filled too much as this makes it very heavy. Also talk about using plugs and sockets, pouring boiling water safely and taking care when carrying a full cup or mug.

- **Using an oven.** Girls should understand the oven controls, beware of hot surfaces and use oven gloves when handling hot dishes.

### Safe journeys to school

Talk to Brownies about their journey to and from school. Ask them to draw a plan or map of their route (see Fig 1). This should include short cuts, all roads, crossings, bus journeys and so on. Discuss how they can stay safe when out on the roads. Do they always use proper and/or safe crossings? Talk about safety on buses and trains, for instance sitting down whenever possible and keeping away from doors.

Ask the girls to swap their plans and work out the safest way to travel to school from each other's drawings.

Girls who travel to school by car can think about how they stay safe in the car by using car seats or seat belts and then consider how they would get to school or the local shops safely on foot.

The subject of personal safety could be introduced as well, if there are any short cuts such as paths through parks or underpasses on their routes.

## GUIDES

Children and young people with younger siblings need to be aware of the dangers

facing young children. Having passed this stage themselves, they may need reminding of the more common hazards. They may also be baby-sitting either for their own families or for friends, so it is important for them to be reminded about safety in the home.

### Doing a safety audit

Ask the Guides to consider their own homes. Are their homes really safe? How could they be made safer? Do the Guides follow basic safety advice every day? Do they always remember to store potentially dangerous items such as detergents and sharp knives out of reach of younger children? Do they ever leave objects lying around where they, or others, might trip over them? Are they careful with hot drinks?

Get the Guides to draw up a plan showing how they and their families would escape from their homes in the event of a fire. Get them to draw a floor plan and work out escape routes via

doors and windows. Then they should work out a family fire drill to practise both in daylight and at night. This is important because the black smoke a fire produces can obscure vision even on a sunny day.

### Confessions

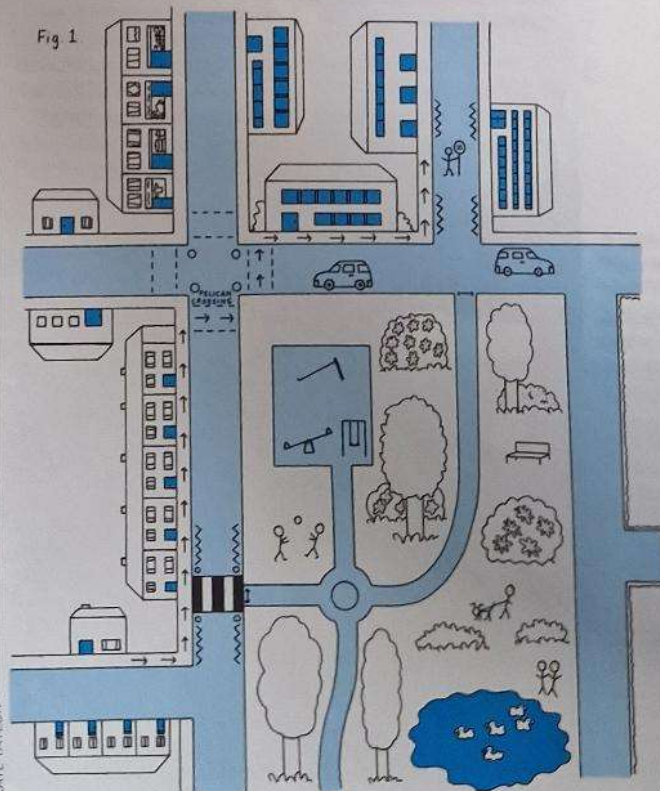
Ask everyone to own up to one safety precaution that they know they should do, but — for whatever reason — don't.

Give the Guides a few minutes to think about it. Guiders could start the ball rolling themselves with a suitably shame-faced confession of their own.

Encourage discussion and see if you can come up with a list of good resolutions.

- The Trust produces a Safety Starter Pack, which costs £5. Send cheques, payable to Child Safety Services Ltd, with orders to Child Safety Week (SP), 4th Floor, Clerks Court, 18-20 Farringdon Lane, London EC1R 3AU.

Fig 1



KATE TAYLOR



## GETTING OUT

# IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Few people in mainland Britain realise the potential of Northern Ireland as a holiday destination. But with large areas of open country and a marvellous coastline, the province offers a wealth of opportunities, including walking, cycling, pony-trekking, water sports and bird watching.

Those of you who live in or visit Northern Ireland will be already in no doubt about its potential for holidays, but not many Guiders in the UK consider visiting this beautiful area when planning a family break or a unit camp or holiday.

What are they missing? A marvellous coastline, mountains and moorland, a district of lakes, wooded glens, quiet roads and the Ulster Way — a way-marked footpath around the periphery of the province.

Then there's the hospitality of the locals, good food — and lots of it — and a range of accommodation to suit

everyone from backpackers upwards.

And all this is available just across the Irish Sea, which means it won't cost you a great deal of time or money to get there. Weekend visits are feasible for those living close to ports and airfields serving Belfast, Larne and Londonderry.

There are fast and frequent catamaran and ferry services from Scottish ports to Belfast (costing from around £50 return), plus an overnight ferry service from Liverpool.

If the thought of bobbing about on the Irish Sea makes you as green as a shamrock, then consider flying instead. The cost isn't prohibitive (from £80-£90), and you save time and money that you would have spent on travelling to a ferry port.

With flights available from international and other major airports you should be able to find something which is suitable.

Once in Northern Ireland,

express bus services link towns that don't boast a railway station, and coach tours are also available for sightseeing. There are seven-day rail runabout tickets, plus bus cards for unlimited travel, either within Northern Ireland or for use on both sides of the border.

### WHERE TO STAY

Budget accommodation is easy to find — if you take your tent you'll find plenty of sites which are run privately or by the Forest Service, local councils and the National Trust.

There's a comprehensive leaflet produced by the Northern Ireland Tourist Board (NITB) which lists these sites, their facilities and prices.

You could camp at a farm for a night or two if you are too far from a designated camp site. Don't hesitate to ask a farmer for permission to camp in a field if you're backpacking.

There is another NITB leaflet devoted to self-catering cottages and bunkhouses, with details of facilities and prices. What it doesn't say is that the prices may be negotiable in the low season.

The Youth Hostel Association of Northern Ireland (YHANI) has seven hostels open for most of the year — these can be booked by groups. You don't have to be a member to stay in one. But, if you decide to join (or automatically become a member by staying for six nights), you'll only have to pay £5.95 per night (£4.95 if under 18). The Belfast hostel is more expensive (£5.95/£7.20).

It's also worth joining one of the international youth hostelling associations to qualify for discounts on ferry fares as well. There's also the advantage of a travel/accommodation package with accommodation for six nights and a seven-day bus pass for £52.

The Causeway coast cliffs are even more impressive than the Giant's Causeway itself

ALEC SCARSBROOK

If you are planning to walk the Ulster Way the Causeway Coast is a good area to begin

ALEC SCARSBROOK





# GETTING OUT

## WHAT TO DO

Northern Ireland covers about 14,100 square kilometres (5,500 square miles), but most of the 1.6 million population live in the larger towns and cities, leaving plenty of empty spaces in between. In these empty spaces you'll find large tracts of open country, bog and field, mountain and moor, plus miles of coastline to explore and enjoy.

The Ordnance Survey's Northern Ireland 1:250,000 Holiday Map gives an overview of the country, with tourist information crammed on the reverse. For walking or cycling you'll need larger scale maps of the area you've chosen. The 1:50,000 scale Discoverer series are sufficiently detailed for most but for the dedicated 1:25,000 user, there are maps covering the Mourne, Lower Lough Erne and Upper Lough Erne.

There's tremendous scope for walking and backpacking, either along the 920-kilometre (570-mile) Ulster Way (ask NITB for their leaflet on accommodation en route), or on way-marked trails in forest parks and on National Trust land.

## FOOT PATHS

Local councils also produce booklets describing walks in their areas — ask for these when writing to the local tourist information centre in the area that you intend to visit.

The right-of-way situation is very different to that in England and Wales, with no footpaths shown on the Ordnance Survey Maps. However, there's still plenty of choice within the way-marked trails (detailed in NITB's leaflet on walking).

The Ulster Way takes four to five weeks to complete, which is why people generally walk only sections of it. Choose your sections carefully, as nearly 100 kilometres (60 miles) of it follows roads — quiet roads admittedly, but still foot-achingly hard.

One area where you are released from the way-mark is in the Mountains of Mourne, south of Belfast.

This area of outstanding natural beauty provides plenty of walking on well-established footpaths and old quarry and farm tracks. The nearest railway station is at Newry and the nearest large town is Newcastle, a popular seaside resort.

Another fine walking area is to the north, along the Causeway Coast in Antrim. Here you'll find the famous Giant's Causeway, a World Heritage site and rightly so. The cliffs behind are even more impressive than the Causeway itself and are easy to view from a path carved out of the cliff side which curves around the coast.

## ULSTER WAY

This is a good area in which to begin a section of the Ulster Way, following it eastward to Fair Head (owned by the National Trust), then turning south along the coast to the nine Glens of Antrim. There's a youth hostel and camp site at White Park Bay near the Giant's Causeway, and plenty of camping and bed and breakfast accommodation to be found in the villages at the mouths of the Glens.

For the more energetic, Northern Ireland's quiet country lanes and tracks are ideal for cycling and pony-trekking. There are numerous centres offering riding, water activities and cycling which are not as expensive as you might think. For example, YHANI's riding weekends cost £52 including accommodation, food and tuition.

The area to head for if water-based activities and sports attract you is Fermanagh's Lakeland, where the river Shannon broadens to form two huge loughs, Lower and Upper Lough Erne. If weekend activities (from £80 all inclusive) are beyond your budget, you can arrange tuition and equipment hire directly with the various activity companies in the area.

Strangford Lough will ring a bell with bird watchers. It's an internationally important inland lough, providing a feeding and breeding site for numerous wildfowl, waders and other seabirds, in addition to sheltering seals.

The island-dotted lough is popular with fishermen, wildfowling and holiday-makers too, so a wildlife scheme, managed by the National Trust Northern Ireland Region, is in place to ensure that the interests of the human and wildlife inhabitants don't clash.

If you need no introduction to bird life then you'll be able to devise your own bird watching holiday with the help of the NITB information.

All in all, whether holidaying from a base or travelling around by foot, cycle or vehicle, you should be able to arrange a holiday to suit your pocket by studying the many helpful brochures produced by NITB and tourist information centres in county towns.

Once you've visited you'll be hooked by the place and will go back again and again.

**ALEC AND VAL  
SCARES BROOK**

## USEFUL ADDRESSES

Northern Ireland Tourist Board, 11 Berkeley Street, London W1X 5AD. Tel: 0800 2822662.

Youth Hostel Association of Northern Ireland, 56 Bradbury Place, Belfast BT7 1RU. Tel: 01232 324733.

Independent Holiday Hostels, UCD Village, Belfield, Dublin, Ireland. Tel: 00 353 1 260 1634.

For competitive prices for travel and travel/accommodation packages.

Enjoy Ireland Holidays, Ainsworth Street, Blackburn,

Lancashire BB1 6AZ. Tel: 01254 692899.

Leisure Breaks, 33 Dove-dale Road, Liverpool L18 5EP. Tel: 0151 734 5200.

For walking tours for groups only:

Martin Joyce, Sports Travel International, 109 Old County Road, Crumlin, Dublin 12, Ireland. Tel: 00 353 1 454 5135.

For the latest on the walking scene:

*Walking World Ireland*, a quarterly magazine, is available from 288 Harolds Cross Road, Dublin 6W, Ireland. Tel: 00 353 1 492 3030.

Bus/train services:  
Ulsterbus. Tel: 01232 333000.  
Rail: Tel: 01232 899411.

Lorne House and estate in Northern Ireland is the only Guide Training Centre with views of the sea. It is owned by the Ulster Guides and is situated near Holywood between Belfast and Bangor.

Joan McCulloch, Guider-in-Charge for the past eight years, says: 'Lorne's well used by Ulster Guides. But we'd love to share it with more people from mainland Britain and abroad. It's worth crossing the water to see what we have to offer.'

For more details contact Lorne House, Station Road, Craigavad, Holywood, Ulster BT18 0BP. Tel: (Holywood) 01232 423180.

It takes four to five weeks to walk the 920-kilometre Ulster Way



ALEC SCARES BROOK



# RANGER GUIDERS

Our journey through the octants of the Look Wider programme ends with an exploration of the Personal Values and the Leadership octants.

## PERSONAL VALUES

The Personal Values octant allows the Rangers to ask vital questions about themselves such as 'Who am I? ... Why am I who I am? ... Is that who I want to be? ...' in an attempt to explore what motivates them. If they don't like what they find out, they are encouraged to think about how they can change. The octant is also about how the Rangers interact with people in all aspects of their lives: school, work, home and social activities.

Personal Values has a close link with the Independent Living octant and the other octants of the Programme. It is essential that Rangers in their Look Wider Group (Ranger Unit) discuss what activities they wish to count for each octant.

One of the ways to answer some of these important questions is to allow the Rangers to work out their own personal action plans in an effort to establish what they want to achieve both short-term and long-term in

their lives.

Page one of the Personal Value octant describes one method of doing this, although it is possible that the Rangers may opt for other methods. There is a short questionnaire on page four of the octant, which makes a good basis from which to begin.

The whole of the Look Wider programme is centred around the individual Ranger. The pace and level at which Rangers will undertake this octant will differ. The ideas in the file are intended to encompass the whole of the age spectrum, and it is important that, as Ranger Guiders, we recognise this fact.

We should be aware that tackling issues such as talking about beliefs, coping with crises, service rendered, debates on controversial issues or trying out the self-awareness and personal effectiveness audit may require careful handling.

However, it is not all serious intellectual thinking in the Personal Values octant. There can be a great deal of fun in drawing a life map, playing trust games, organising a dinner party or planning an inter-rail holiday for three weeks. All these will help Rangers on their voyage

of discovery to establish who they are and why they are as they are.

## LEADERSHIP

The Leadership octant includes Making it Count, the basic leadership syllabus for 14-16 year-olds, and the Guide Association Leadership Scheme for 16-18 year-olds. The Look Wider file contains both the syllabus for Making it Count and the Guide Association Leadership Scheme. Both can be purchased independently and cost £1.95 each.

Of course, not every Ranger will wish to undertake these schemes, and this octant also gives these young women a chance to explore some of the common basic principles of leadership. Ideas range from developing committee knowhow and identifying different types of leadership techniques, to trying out survival skills and passing them on to others.

Being able to tackle craft work or other activities is quite different to being able to pass on such skills to others. Baden-Powell recognised this many years ago. He encouraged all the young people who wished to be involved in Scouting and Guiding to learn how to

be leaders. He wisely said that 'leadership is an art to be practised'.

Leadership skills are not only useful in Guiding. All our Rangers are involved with other organisations or bodies, and the basic leadership skills that are encouraged within Guiding will prove very useful indeed on their journey through life.

The progression through the Leadership octant begins with recognising five qualities which a good leader should develop:

- Being able to decide what the aims of the group are and having a sense of direction.
- Helping members of the group work together as a team.
- Being accepted by the group as a leader.
- Setting a good example for members of the group to follow.
- Inspiring members of the group to do their best.

By the end of phase 3, it is hoped that the Rangers will have discovered this for themselves and, perhaps, will have added a few additional qualities of their own. It is possible that by progressing through the three phases they will have gained for themselves a qualification in leadership.

Embarking upon the Look Wider programme is rather like beginning an exploration into the unknown. Undertaking a challenge in one particular octant may lead to the development of new skills or interests. None of the octants stand in isolation. Indeed, while working through the programme the Rangers will discover that many of the octants overlap.

The key to success is the continued emphasis on the individual nature of the programme, the acceptance that the time, interest and resources of each Ranger is different, and never forgetting to make time for fun.

**BARBARA O'DONNELL**  
Ranger Adviser





## YOUNG LEADERS

Whether you work as a leader with Rainbows, Brownies or Guides, on occasions you will have to produce ideas for games and activities with a particular purpose. Often these can be based on well-known or traditional games. The activity should be fun and suitable for the age and abilities of the members of your unit.

### SUITABLE GAMES

Here are some ideas which you could adapt to suit your unit, and which may also help you complete some of the clauses of the Guide Association Leadership Scheme, or Making It Count — especially the Me as a leader in Guiding section.

Snakes and ladders is a well-known game and is simple to play. By making up your own board and adjusting the traditional game slightly, you can create a useful, multi-purpose activity.

Choose thick card for your board and divide it into 100 squares. Usually in snakes and ladders the bottom of a ladder and the head of a snake are on different squares, but when you add the snakes and ladders to your board, they should both occupy the same squares.

Make these squares a different colour and number the rest of the squares in the normal way, not forgetting to include a starting and a finishing square.

You now have a resource which can be used as the basis for a variety of teaching or testing games.

Before using it, you will also need to prepare a set of question cards. For example, you could have sets on world Guiding, map signs, different badges or the section handbook. Or you could have some kind of physical challenge, such as skipping, throwing, catching a ball... the choice is very wide and varied.

Whatever your questions, the game is played in the traditional way with dice

and counters. When a player lands on one of the coloured squares, she has to turn up one of the question cards. If she answers the question correctly, or completes the challenge, she moves her counter up the ladder. If she gets it wrong, she moves down the snake. The first player to the finish wins.

You may need someone to read out the questions and monitor the answers, depending on the ages and abilities of the girls.

If the game is to be played by the whole unit at the same time, you could make several game boards. But one, very large board, which can be placed on the floor, is much more fun.

### BIG BOARD

You can make a big board from a plain, plastic tablecloth, squared off using water-proof/permanent marker pens. In this case, use one counter for each group of girls.

You could also vary the symbols used. For example, Rainbows could adopt raindrops and rainbows instead of snakes and ladders. Or you might be able to find wrapping paper with pictures which you can cut out and stick on.

There are, of course, other well-known board-game formats which could be adapted, such as ludo or Trivial Pursuit.

As you will spend time preparing the equipment, it is sensible to make it as durable as possible. One way to do this would be to cover the game boards with sticky-backed plastic.

Most of you will have played beetle at some time. On page 80 of the *Guide Handbook* there are details of a variation on the traditional game using different knots to build up the beetle. The body and head should be made of thick card, or plastic cut from margarine tubs or similar containers,

to make it last longer.

You could build up other shapes using the same principle. How about edible 'faces' for Rainbows? The faces can be built up using sweets and icing on a plain biscuit. Try and make sure the faces fit into the theme for your meeting, such as clowns or animal faces.

### CHALLENGING

You could also dispense with the dice altogether, and earn parts of the beetle by completing different challenges. For instance, skipping 30 times backwards would allow a player to draw the beetle's head; throwing and catching a ball five times would secure a body and so on. The choice of challenges would depend on the type of unit.

Making dominoes is a useful way of teaching/testing particular skills or knowledge, with questions and answers on the dominoes instead of numbers.

Skittles, card games like snap and happy families, bingo and certain TV game

shows can be adapted to suit your purposes. Why not stage a swop shop at a Young Leader group meeting, and see how many variations that you can come up with?

Don't forget that the girls in your unit are individuals with varying needs and abilities. You may have to adapt a game or an activity for a girl whose movements are limited, or has difficulty using her hands, or has sight or hearing problems. Other girls may have problems with reading and writing.

Your County Adviser for Members with Disabilities will be able to give you lots of useful help and advice in this area.

Remember, if you have to adapt an activity to enable a certain girl to join in, you shouldn't draw attention to her particular disability. You should never forget that a unit is composed of individuals, and that no one should be restricted while following the Programme.

**SHEENA BOOTH**  
Young Leader Adviser



JULIE CARPENTER



## COPING WITH

# RUNNING A MEETING

**Most Guiders are familiar with organising unit meetings and keeping control of a lively bunch of youngsters. But what happens when you're called upon to run a meeting for adults? It's a totally different ballgame!**

When a Guider is asked to head a team, either as Commissioner, Adviser or chairwoman of an ad hoc committee, the job will involve presiding at a series of meetings, which, perhaps, may be your first experience of such a task. Your team members may or may not be known to you and, either way, the prospect can be a bit nerve-racking.

As with so many aspects of Guiding, thorough organisation is the key to success. An invaluable aid to any chairwoman is access to a photocopier. Some Districts, Divisions or Counties have one. If not, possibly your place of work, church or local photo shop will provide copies at a reasonable cost. These must be paid for with committee funds, *not* from your own pocket.

Assuming you can obtain photocopies, prepare an agenda a couple of weeks

before the agreed meeting date and send each committee member a copy. Of course, if you have a committee secretary, she will do all this for you as part of her job. In which case, you should either plan the agenda together, or give her details in good time so they can be circulated.

An agenda should look something like this:

### MEETING OF THE JUBILEE CAMP HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

**Tuesday, April 4, 1995 — 7.30pm — 89 Grange Avenue, Stenbury**

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of the last meeting.
3. Matters arising from the minutes.
4. Any further response to our request for hosts?
5. Allocation of guests to home hospitality.
6. Welcome arrangements at a) airport b) city centre.
7. Entertainment for Wednesday evening.
8. Aerobics afternoon.
9. Date and venue of next meeting.
10. Any other business.

Whatever your agenda, try to allow time at the end of the meeting for unscheduled items under any other business as there's usually plenty. But always schedule the most important issues early on the agenda, so, if time does run out, less pressing matters can be put back until the next meeting.

### PREPARATION

The golden rule is that committee rooms should be warm and, if possible, reasonably comfortable.

If the meeting is to be held in your home, make sure everyone has somewhere comfortable to sit, and that the room is neither too cold nor too hot.

If family members are at

home, it's a real help if they agree to answer the doorbell and telephone, both of which will probably ring frequently throughout the meeting.

Prepare the room by setting out a fresh copy of the agenda with a pencil and some paper by each place. Many committees, especially District and Division Meetings, will be snowed under by a bundle of informative leaflets, usually referred to as 'bumph'.

You can deal with this in one of two ways: either read out each item and invite committee members to make notes. You could provide copies for everyone but, if there is much bumph — and there usually is, it will increase your expenditure.

However, photocopying does save a great deal of valuable meeting time. If you provide a complete set of bumph, clipped together in the same order, for each member, you can guide the group swiftly through the information, drawing attention to each point without dwelling on it.

Any point which requires discussion should form part of the agenda, rather than the bumph batch. Be warned — *never* give out bumph with instructions to 'read it later at home'. Your members may never get around to opening the bundle.

### THE MEETING

Meetings never start at the planned time. Allow about ten minutes for exchange of greetings, hanging up coats, settling down and some general chat between friends who may not have met recently.

However, you'll be creating an unfortunate precedent if you allow meetings to begin a lot later than the stated time. It will soon get around and the group will become ever more casual about being punctual.

Committee members should be made aware from

the beginning that *your* meetings start promptly, and certainly no later than ten minutes after the stated time.

Guiding is fortunate to have a recognised signal for silence which is acceptable to adults as well as young people, so use it when you have to.

As an alternative, the traditional gavel is a great little instrument. It may provoke merriment at first but, as chairwoman, ignore the titters and tap it as often as is necessary to bring any unruly chatters to order.

At first, you may feel reluctant to assume authority, but you *must* do so. You are in charge and group members must accept your direction and authority in the matter of procedure. This doesn't, of course, entitle you to impose your will on policy decisions. The committee is a democratic institution where everyone's opinion must be respected. You are there to keep order and to ensure everyone has a fair hearing *before* decisions are taken by vote.

Keep to the agenda, introducing each point in turn and, politely, fending off attempts at diversion. Inevitably, lively discussion leads the group off at a tangent but, as soon as it seems that you are losing sight of the subject in question, call a halt and bring the meeting back to the point. When this happens, jot down valid side issues for further discussion under any other business.

### RECORDS

Minutes — the *minutiae* or details of a meeting — must be taken to provide an accurate record of proceedings for future reference. They should give facts as concisely as possible, omitting the general discussion which is part of any meeting.

They must record clearly decisions and conclusions reached, together with the names of members who

Many committees will be snowed under by informative leaflets known as 'bumph'.



GILLIAN ELLIS



have agreed to undertake specific tasks. While it's unnecessary to refer to your friends as Mrs, Miss or Ms, you may like to add their surnames to what is, after all, an official record.

The finished product should always be couched in formal language, written in the third person and in the past tense. It is a record of events, not a chatty vehicle for opinions or further suggestions.

It should read something like this:

## **Aerobics afternoon — Friday, May 26, 1995**

*Joy Graham volunteered to meet instructor at station and take her to camp. Jane Bairstow agreed to arrange a team of Guides to serve cold drinks. Pam Curtis was asked to give the vote of thanks to the instructor.*

Rather than:

## **Aerobics**

*I'll meet JW from train. Pam thought we should say thanks formally to the instructor so said she'll do it. (PS Forgot to arrange drinks. Can Jane organise her Guides for that? Joy)*

Chairwoman and secretary should sit together for ease of communication; it's the chairwoman's responsibility to ensure that the secretary knows what is to be minuted, and in how much detail.

If you have no secretary, you can take and circulate minutes yourself, but it's not to be recommended.

## **PACE YOURSELVES**

Mentally divide the number of discussion subjects into the time available, and try to keep the meeting moving. Your goal is to reach any other business at a reasonable hour — certainly well before 10pm.

If time is against you, firmly shelve the remaining points until the next meeting. Remember that most young Guiders need to get home early. Many have young child-

ren, others need an early night because they have college next day and some don't want their partners to feel that Guiding is taking up too much time.

Serve coffee and biscuits only when you have called the meeting to a close, so everyone can relax for informal chats or leave, if necessary.

Try not to serve refreshments during a meeting unless it has gone on for a long time as this will hold up proceedings. The promise of coffee and home-made cookies at the end is a great spur to keep the meeting moving!

## **POST SCRIPT**

You, or your secretary, should type up the minutes as soon as possible, while you can still understand those scribbled notes. Try to match recorded decisions to agenda points. The minutes should look something like this:

## **MINUTES OF THE 3RD MEETING OF THE SILVER JUBILEE CAMP HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE held on Tuesday, April 4, 1995 at 89 Grange Avenue, Stenbury**

### **PRESENT**

Joy Graham (in the chair)  
Margaret Adams  
Jane Bairstow  
Pam Curtis  
Pauline Stone  
Shirley White

1. *Apologies for absence* were received from Diana Perry and Jill Mason.
2. *The Minutes of the last meeting*, having been circulated, were agreed as a true record and signed.
3. *Matters arising from the minutes*
  - a) Peter Jay has agreed to meet the French group in minibus.
  - b) Our application for a County grant was approved.
4. *Hosts* — three more families have responded, bringing the total to 26.

Work through each separate item in the same way.

Form the habit of high-

lighting action points; you can either rule a column down the right-hand side of the page and type each name next to the relevant issue, or you can add a separate section, as follows:

## **ACTION POINTS**

*Joy: April 16 — see Jill about guests' departure times. Ask Division Secretary about instructors' expenses.*

*Friday, May 26, 2.45pm Collect Jennifer Prior from station.*

*Jane: Friday, May 26, 3pm Aerobics. Team of Guides to serve cold drinks.*

*Pam: Friday, May 26 Prepare vote of thanks for aerobics instructor.*

*Shirley: Devise welcome banner for guests. Print thanks cards for host families.*

Circulate a copy to each person as soon as possible, certainly before the first action point is due.



## **LOW-TECH**

If you don't have access to a typewriter or a photocopier, invest in a large conference-type writing pad and write the agenda in bold pen so that everyone can see it during the meeting.

Keep a book in which minutes are written up neatly and legibly. Instead of circulating minutes, you must then read through them at the next meeting, which is very time consuming, before all who were present agree the minutes are correct and can be signed by the chairwoman.

So remember:

- Always be well prepared for the meeting.
- Start on time.
- Keep members to the point.
- Finish early
- Circulate minutes, immediately.
- Deal with your action points.

If it seems daunting at first, you must just take your courage in both hands and assume command. Then hang on to it, you are in control.

Try to keep the meeting moving — and don't serve coffee and biscuits until the end!



# THE GUIDE PROMISE

'I promise that I will do my best:  
To love my God,  
To serve the Queen and my Country,  
To help other people  
and  
To keep the Guide Law.'

## DIFFERENT FAITHS

Ask the girls what images they have of God and write their descriptions on a board or a flip chart. This will be quite interesting if you have girls with different faiths in the unit.

Use this to demonstrate that, because none of us really knows what God is like, each of us has a different image which is influenced by the faith background from which we come. For example, some girls may picture God as a loving father, while others may visualise him as an all-seeing judge.

Other girls may have no image of God at all. Explain to them that everyone comes to an understanding of God at different times in their lives and they might only understand when they are older. The important thing is that they should do their best to learn what it is to have a religious faith.

On the board or flip chart, list the religious faiths that the girls know, but include

the words 'No faith'. Ask for a volunteer to speak for a few minutes about the practical aspects of her faith.

Stress the importance of searching for faith and how the commitment to love my God means seeking to know more about one's faith.

Challenge each Patrol to find out about another faith. Recommend that the girls try the new Faith Awareness badge. For a free booklet outlining the syllabus of this new badge send an A4 sae to Guiding Activities, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.

## POTATOES GAME

You will need one potato for each girl and a sack or black bin bag to hold the potatoes. Everyone sits around in a circle. Give each girl a potato and ask her to look at it and get to know it very well. Collect up all the potatoes, put them into the sack, shake them up and then empty them all out on to the floor or a table.

Ask them to pick out their own potatoes. Discuss:

- How easy was it to find your potato?
- What made it easy/difficult?
- What does this tell you about potatoes?
- What can we learn about groups of people from this experiment?

This is a useful exercise to show how we are all the same under the skin and share characteristics just like potatoes, which are all mostly brown, roundish and knob-bly. However, it also shows that each individual is unique, and has qualities which can be identified in a crowd. It is important to remember this when we are thinking about different beliefs.

## PATROL CHALLENGE

Ask the Patrols to build up a collection of items that remind them of the Promise and Law. These may include poetry, newspaper articles, sayings, quotations or stories. Then at a meeting where you are going to think about the Promise and/or the Law, call on a Patrol to lead the discussion using the material the girls have collected.

## OUT AND ABOUT

Here are two activities to try out of doors or at camp:

## Magic Spot

Tell the girls to visit a favourite spot on their own, within the area you are using. Ask them to sit quietly and write down their feelings. This shows them how to become spiritually aware.

## Trust

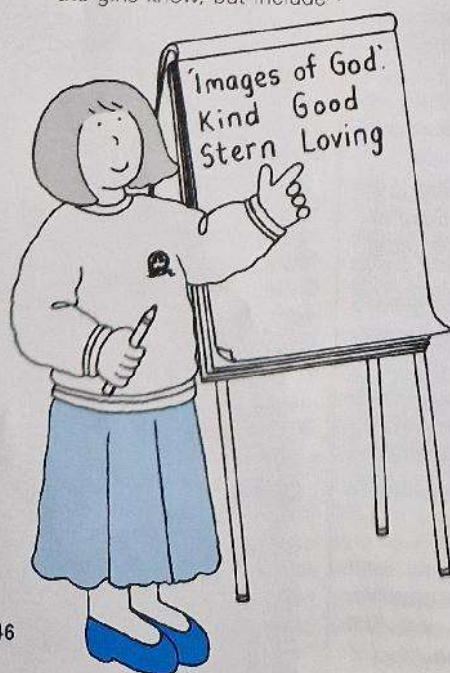
Find an area where there are several trees. Organise the girls into pairs — one of them should be blindfolded. The girl who can see leads her partner by a winding route to a tree, which the blindfolded person is allowed to feel for a few minutes. Then she is led back to the starting place by an equally roundabout route.

Once the blindfold is removed she tries to identify the tree. The girls swap places and repeat the exercise. The aim is to teach girls about trusting and depending on one another.

## KEEPING THE GUIDE LAW

Many older Guiders never forget the mnemonics they used to help them memorise the Guide Law when they first made their Promise. Today we have other ways to help girls remember. Challenge each Patrol to produce a short play to help the girls remember and understand the Law.

MARGARET HIRST





## UPDATE ON 1995 CALENDAR

All Guiders may apply direct to the Training Centres for any of the Trainings listed below using the application form in this issue of *GUIDING*, or by letter.

### FOXLEASE

**April 28-30**

Training issues for all

**May 5-7**

- 1 New Guiders
- 2 Commissioners

**May 5-8**

Four-day first aid course

**May 12-14**

- 1 Training in the Rainbow section
- 2 How to remain sane and still be a unit Guider
- 3 The Promise in action

**May 19-21**

Cheap and cheerful activity ideas for Guide and senior section Guiders

**May 26-30**

- 1 Family walking
- 2 Family holiday period

**June 2-4**

Intermediate walking safely

**June 9-11**

Experienced Guide Guiders (10+ years)

**June 22-27**

Friends of Foxlease

**July 23-August 6**

Holiday period

**August 7-24**

The world visits Foxlease

**August 24-29**

- 1 Heraldry weekend
- 2 Walk the New Forest
- 3 Paper sculpture workshop

**September 1-3**

Make and take ideas for Brownie and Guide Guiders

**September 8-10**

Intermediate walking safely

**September 15-17**

- 1 Look Wider
- 2 Musical fun for all
- 3 Life saving course

**September 22-24**

- 1 PR recruitment and marketing
- 2 Fun with science games

### WADDOW

**April 21-23**

Ideas for theme meetings for Rainbow and Brownie Guiders

**April 28-30**

Vacancy for County, Division or District

**May 26-31**

Family walking

**June 2-4**

Cheap and cheerful activity ideas for Guide and senior section Guiders

**June 9-12**

Friends of Waddow

**June 16-18**

Programme ideas for Brownie and Guide Guiders

**June 30-July 2**

- 1 Commissioners
- 2 New Guiders

**July 14-16**

- 1 Seminar preparing for the 4th UN Conference on Women in Beijing, China, September 1995
- 2 Making the most of your District - outdoor bias

**July 21-23**

- 1 Programme ideas for Rainbow Guiders
- 2 Experienced Brownie Guiders (10+ years)

**July 24-August 4**

Guiding holiday period

**August 5-12**

Walking week

**August 13-28**

Holiday period

**September 1-3**

- 1 Knowing me, knowing you, exploring values and attitudes
- 2 Make and take for Brownie and Guide Guiders

### NETHERURD

**April 7-9**

Working towards outdoor unit meetings

**April 28-30**

News flash - County PRAs

**May 5-7**

- 1 Training for Country and Region Rainbow advisers
- 2 Art is craft and much more

**July 14-19**

Walking for pleasure or towards a qualification

**September 1-3**

- 1 Commissioners - building on your experience
- 2 Prospective and tutors

**September 8-10**

Is your District a team? Come lay, strengthen and build on your foundations

**September 15-17**

Come and try - ideas for an action packed term

**September 22-24**

County Programme and Training Advisers

**September 29-October 1**

Rainbows

### HAUTBOIS

**April 21-23**

Help Guides to Thrive in '95 - a training

to respond positively to concern over declining numbers in this section

**May 12-14**

Learning to lead in the out of doors

**May 27-31**

Hautbois heritage week

**June 2-4**

Hautbois Patrol Leaders and their Guiders

**June 9-11**

Prospective Trainers

**June 30-July 2**

Made to measure

**July 15-16**

Summer make and play days

**September 1-3**

First aid in Guiding

**September 8-10**

District team

### LORNE

**May 5-7**

Trefoil Guild break

**May 12-14**

Musical madness

**May 26-28**

Tutor weekend

**June 9-10**

Trainers weekend

**September 29-October 1**

Towards your warrant

### BRONEIRION

**March 31-April 2**

- 1 Prospective Trainers
- 2 Commissioners

**May 5-7**

- 1 Environmentally yours
- 2 Camping for Brownie Guiders

**May 12-14**

Brownie and Rainbow Guiders with crèche facilities

**June 2-4**

- 1 District Commissioners - managing the Leadership Scheme
- 2 New Guiders - Leadership Scheme Part 1

**July 8**

D of E training day

**July 9**

Guiders and Senior Section fun day

**September 8-10**

Rangers with their Guiders

**September 15-17**

County Commissioners training

**October 20-22**

Outdoor activities

### GLENBROOK

**May 12-14**

Come and try it, abseiling, climbing, archery, etc

**November 10-12**

Advanced walking safely



# TRAINING DIARY

## MUSICAL MADNESS

LORNE

May 12-14

A lighthearted training for the musically inclined. You do not have to be an expert.

## BROWNIE AND RAINBOW GUIDERS WITH CRÈCHE FACILITIES

BRONEIRION

May 12-14

If you have a young family and no one to leave the children with, here is your chance to experience the fun, friendship and stimulation of a residential training. The programme will allow you time with your children and during training sessions they will have fun while being supervised by child care experts.

## FIRST AID COURSE

BLACKLAND FARM

May 13-14

The course is designed for those without any first aid training. Short of a first aider for camp? This could be the answer. Recognised by the Mountain Leader Training Board for Mountain Leader and Single Pitch Supervisor awards, renewable after two years.

## HERITAGE WEEK

HAUTOBOIS

May 27-31

Come on your own, with a group of Brownies and Guides, your family or Trefoil Guild friends. Come for the day or stay overnight for activities

linked to the history and traditions of the centre and its surroundings. Leaflet available.

## THE PROMISE IN ACTION

FOXLEASE

May 12-14

Explore the Promise and its relevance to Guiding and to life. Go from the weekend with confidence in your ability to provide a Promise-centred programme for the girls in your unit.

## PROGRAMME IDEAS FOR BROWNIE AND GUIDE GUIDERS

WADDOW

June 16-18

Wondering what to do with your unit on long, warm summer days and evenings (or even on cold, wet ones)? Try some of the following and adapt them to suit your unit: scavenger hunts, orienteering, map reading, archery, mountain bikes, grass sledging, parachute games and more.

## TREFOIL GUILD BREAK

LORNE

May 5-7

Belfast Trefoil Guild extends a hearty invitation to any Association Trefoil Guild member who would like to see our beautiful countryside and enjoy the famous Ulster hospitality among congenial company at their spring weekend.

## THEME MEETINGS FOR RAINBOW AND BROWNIE GUIDERS

WADDOW

April 21-23

Discover how to add fun and imagination to your meeting through the use of themes. Opportunities to try out activities, exchange ideas and invent themes which capture the imagination.

## WEEKEND VACANCIES

WADDOW

April 28-30

October 6-8

December 1-3

FOXLEASE

December 8-10

Any group, any number, all welcome. Contact the manager urgently for details.

## PATROL LEADERS AND THEIR GUIDERS

HAUTOBOIS

June 2-4

Open to all or some of your PLs and one or more Guiders. The PLs will learn new ideas for Patrol time and take part in exciting activities such as canoeing, abseiling and climbing. Guiders learn more about the Patrol system.

For full details of future trainings, send a sae to the Manager of the appropriate centre. Applications to attend any of the trainings mentioned should be sent to the Manager, enclosing a £15 deposit and sae. Cheques should be made payable to The Guide Association.

## APPLICATION FORM

Please use this form for any of the trainings listed and post it to the appropriate centre.

To the Manager ..... I wish to book 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / ..... place(s) on the following training:

Title ..... Date .....

I am a Rainbow/Brownie/Guide/Senior Section Guider, Commissioner, other .....

Accommodation Preference: Single ☐ Name .....

Twin ☐ Address .....

Shared ☐ .....

Ground Floor ☐ Telephone .....

Name of Additional Applicants .....

I enclose a non-returnable deposit of £15 per person and a large SAE. Please make cheques payable to The Guide Association.

Signed ..... Date .....

### FOXLEASE

Lyndhurst, Hampshire  
SO43 7DE.  
Tel: 01703 282638.  
Fax: 01703 282561.

### WADDOW

Clietheroe, Lancashire  
BB7 3LD.  
Tel: 01200 23186.  
Fax: 01200 27460.

### LORNE

Station Road, Craigavad,  
Holywood, County Down,  
Northern Ireland BT18 0BP.  
Tel: 01232 423180.

### HAUTOBOIS

Great Hautbois Road,  
Coltishall, Norwich, Norfolk  
NR12 7JN.  
Tel: 01603 737357.

### NETHERURD

Blyth Bridge, West Linton  
Peeblesshire EH46 7AQ.  
Tel: 01968 682208.  
Fax: 01968 682371.

### BRONEIRION

Llandinam, Powys,  
Wales SY17 5DE.  
Tel: 01686 688204.  
Fax: 01686 688098.

### BLACKLAND FARM

Grinstead Lane,  
East Grinstead, West Sussex  
RH19 4HP.  
Tel: 01342 810493 or  
01860 393026.  
Fax: 01342 811206.





The delegation from St Lucia show off their stunning costumes

# CARIBBEAN

## *celebrations*

By a most fortunate coincidence, Guiding was introduced into Trinidad and Tobago in the same year that Brownies were started in the UK - 1914.

Fortunate, that is, for the lucky British team selected to jet off to the Caribbean to take part in the celebrations to mark the 80th anniversary of Guiding in these two neighbouring sunshine islands.

It was cold, wet and windy when the team left Gatwick, led by Helen Riley, Division Commissioner for Winchester.

She was facing a busy round of 80th birthday Brownie parties on her return but, meanwhile, there were other distractions such as calypsos, steel bands, snorkelling among beautiful tropical fish and swimming.

Helen describes the trip that revitalised her just in time for the Brownie celebrations that were held in slightly less exotic Winchester: ▷



Super suntan! Alison and Helen say a fond farewell to their hosts Brian and Pamela O'Farrell at the airport





HELEN RILEY

▲ Some of the dedicated team members

► The Trinidadians show how to really calypso!



▼ A demonstration of exotic flower arranging at camp



HELEN RILEY

Our first dose of the sun came in Barbados, where our 747 made a brief stop for re-fuelling and a change of crew. Out came the sunglasses, on went the shorts. About an hour and a half later we were over the Caribbean Sea, watching the sharks and enjoying our first glimpse of Tobago's beautiful scenery.

Soon, we were over the swamps of Trinidad and landing at Piarco airport, where we were relieved to see two figures in Guide blue waiting to meet us.

Members of the host families were there, too, to claim "their" girls and take them to homes in various parts of the island. We were not to meet again as a team until we joined the camp.

It was 6pm and already pitch dark but still incredibly warm, when assistant leader Alison Clarke and I were ushered into a car by our hosts, Brian and Pamela O'Farrell. Then we were treated to our first experience of Trinidadian driving - no seat belts and straight through all the red lights!

Brian is Irish and a keen rugby player. His wife is a Trinidadian. Neither were in the Movement but because Pamela had a friend in Guiding, they were hosting Alison and I for a couple of days before the start of the camp.

The O'Farrells live in a lovely house on an old coffee plantation in the rain forest. The air was much cooler but it was incredibly noisy. The crickets and frogs made a dreadful din. And, when they stopped, the birds started. In addition, there were several cockerels which seemed to crow not just at day-break but throughout much of the night.

We were made very welcome and introduced to the "family", which included four dogs, a parrot, two turtles, 7,000 hens and 3,500 chicks.

When the team was reunited on

HELEN RILEY



arrival at the camp, we all had a bit of a culture shock. For a start, there was the armed guard, which patrolled the camp day and night. Then there was the camp site, which was soon to become a building site.

This bare and dusty clearing had two trees and, literally, about three blades of grass. Water was in short supply, due to the pumps not being up to the job.

Here we were, on this loaned site, when the Trinidad and Tobago Association had a beautiful, permanent camp site on the edge of a cool rain forest, by the beach at Salybia, Trinidad. Unfortunately, it wasn't large enough to accommodate the 250 campers expected for the celebrations.

Our lovely comfy beds at the O'Farrells were replaced by rock-hard ground and ants, which crawled over us during the night. Alison was in a sub-camp where the ants really went to town. Apart from biting with great relish, some even accompanied her home in her rucksack.

But a few hardships couldn't detract from the wonderful time we all had, meeting people from all over the world. Countries represented included Bermuda, Australia, Canada and the United States, as well as other parts of the Caribbean such as St Lucia, St Vincent, Barbados and the Netherlands Antilles.

From the "sister" island of Tobago, however, there was only one delegate, a Guide leader, and no girls at all.

The reason, we learned, was that they could not afford to attend. This was sad, we thought, because it was their anniversary, too. And, after all, Tobago was only a 20-minute flight away - costing £30 return - or a cheaper six-hour ferry ride.

If only I had known in good time I am sure that with the help of good Guiding friends, I could have raised enough extra cash to enable some of the Tobago Guides to join us.

The UK contingent was the largest and we were split up, with some in each of five sub-camps. But, with only about 250 people in the camp, we often met. Everything ran on time, and we were even dragged out of bed at 5am on "outing day" for a 9am departure!

We split into groups for a variety of outings. Some went to Trinidad's famous and extraordinary pitch lake, where the pitch seeps out of the ground and is then exported all over the world.

My group went to the Wildfowl Trust sanctuary in the south of the island. Others went to a spectacular waterfall, while some even managed to witness a Hindu cremation.

A few days later I was able to make a

"private" visit to the pitch lake. Amazingly, within this phenomenon is another lake, this one being of clear water covered with beautiful blue and very deep pink lilies.

We learned to calypso - some better than others - and sampled local food, including very hot "roti". On camp open day our team cooked a "traditional" UK dish: potato cakes. Well, we couldn't think of anything else to cook on one small gas ring!

Four leaders from Middlesex, on a private visit, helped us with our very under-rehearsed morris dance at the evening entertainment. They got the crowd going so much that our many mistakes went unnoticed and we ended up doing two encores.

One of the camp service projects was to paint a school. The girls did this while all the leaders went to meet the Mayoress of Port of Spain. Poor girls - it was lovely to get out of the heat for a while and drink gallons of iced grapefruit juice. In her welcoming speech the Mayoress apologised for the litter in the town. We were familiar with the problem, of course, but it did seem to be worse there than in the UK.

On the last day of camp we were all taken to the capital again for a big parade. It was, in fact, the only event that did not start on time. We were hanging around in the heat for an hour and a half because the police had failed to turn up to escort us and stop the traffic. They said they thought the event was to be the next day.

When, eventually, we did get going, we were given a great reception and no one seemed to mind marching in the midday sun for an hour.

After the parade the girls went on a shopping spree while we leaders were

taken to the President's house for lunch and long, cool drinks made from freshly squeezed grapefruit which had been picked from the garden. The President's wife, Her Excellency Mrs Noor Hassanali, is Patron of Guiding in Trinidad and Tobago.

Our last night at camp was carnival night when we had to "jump up" and dance. Perhaps the least said about that, the better, but we tried. Next morning came the very emotional closing, when we exchanged gifts, promised to write and presented our national flags as mementoes of a happy visit.

During our final days on the island we managed a quick visit to Tobago, where some had their hair braided and we ate crab and dumplings. The highlights of a wonderful day there included a trip in a



**Helen and assistant leader Alison Clarke visit Guide headquarters in Port of Spain**

**Division Commissioner Helen Riley is also a Guide Guider and Ranger Guider at Twyford, near Winchester. Others in her team were: assistant leader Alison Clarke (23) from Clwyd, Wales, member of the Junior Council; Young Leaders Nadia Amey from St Albans, Kirsty Carswell from Saddleworth, Lancashire, Caroline Gibbons from Portsmouth and Sarah Greef from Bristol; Guides Julia Robinson from Keswick, Cumbria, Sarah Morton from Lightwater, Surrey, Fiona Moorhead from Bangor, Co Down, Karen Egerton, from Lisburn, Co Antrim and Amy Gibson from York.**

glass-bottomed boat to the Buccoo reef and snorkelling among the beautiful fish, and swimming in the "nylon pool", named by Princess Margaret because that was how it appeared to her - like a great piece of nylon fabric.

It isn't a pool, in fact, but a gorgeous blue patch of sea, with white sand on the bottom and, of course, is very warm. It is a couple of miles from the shore but the water is only waist deep.

Back in Port of Spain we visited Guide headquarters - a small converted house. There was a bucket with a notice, asking for donations to re-paint the building. We left 100 TT dollars (about £12), which we hoped would buy them a fair amount of paint.

All we have now are our photographs and our memories of two lovely islands and a lot of friendly people. If our hosts will forgive me, there is just one thing I would prefer to forget: the dumplings that came with the crab.



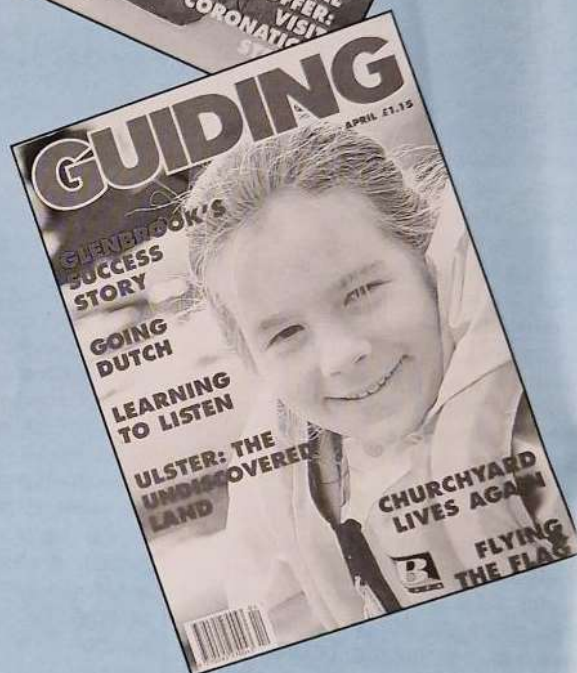
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# YOUR LETTERS

The return of the rainbow to the youngest section's uniform has met with mixed reactions from readers:

## WELL DONE

How pleased I am to see the rainbow back on the girls' tabards. Well done to all those who made the point so strongly.

We're all very happy as our section did not like to see the rainbow disappear.

**MRS J A BROUGHTON**

1st Barron-on-Humber  
Rainbow Unit  
South Humberside

## PRICE RISE

I am very pleased that it has only taken 13 months to bring back our rainbow. However, I am also rather disappointed.

The launch in February's *GUIDING* suggested a price of 90p, notably more than the old triangular badge, yet with no more colours. At our District Meeting the price mentioned was 75p, still more than we used to pay.

Today I have received the badges from our badge secretary costing £1 each. They are made of felt and not even bound!

Much poorer quality, for higher prices — is this the new Guide Association?

**LINDSEY COATES**

Rainbow Guider  
1 St Mary Cray  
Kent

## DISGUSTED

I have just received my first order of the new Rainbow badges and must say how disgusted I am with them.

At £1 each, in addition to the Promise Badge at 51p, the youngest members of our Movement are expected to pay more than any others.

Surely, if every Rainbow has the right to wear the badge, then it ought to be

embroidered straight on to the tabard?

The badge is woven on green felt. Felt is well known for shrinking when washed.

Rainbows wear a variety of coloured tabards, which means some will be adding an extra band of green to the Rainbow.

I am sure the children will be thrilled to get their rainbow back, but I am sure there are others who will be very disappointed with the latest change.

**OLGA OLSSON**

Division Badge Secretary  
Keighley  
West Yorkshire

● As many units make their own tabards it was decided to provide a separate badge. When February's *GUIDING* went to press it was anticipated that the price would be 90p.

## SUPPORT

Sue Tyrrell, whose experience with ME described in October's *GUIDING* prompted letters from other sufferers, writes:

I hope everyone who is still suffering will get all the support they need. I was very grateful for all the letters I received letting me know I wasn't alone.

I have just become Public Relations Adviser for Wiltshire North. It really feels good to know that our County Commissioner has enough confidence in me to ask me to fill the position.

**SUSAN TYRRELL**  
Swindon

## TAKE A VOTE

The existing Guide Laws, although slightly altered in 1968, are one of the few remaining traditional links with the mothers,

grandmothers and, possibly, great grandmothers of the present generation of Guides, and should remain unaltered.

Does The Guide Association really believe that *everything* should be altered in order to go forward?

Although I see that the old-fashioned word thrift has been mentioned in the suggestions for rewriting the Laws, could the real reason for these changes be the modern trend of profit before people?

Each time our badges, logos, rules, programmes, Promise and now, presumably, Laws change, most uniform items and current publications become obsolete.

I suggest that each Guider included in the 1995 Census should have the chance to vote on whether the Laws are changed or remain in their present form.

**ENID JONES**

Bushbury District  
Wolverhampton

## QUESTIONS ANSWERED

I read with concern the letter from 'Busy Young Leader' in March's *GUIDING*. I would like to make the following points to all YLs in her position.

It is OK 'just' to help with a unit as a registered Young Leader. Look Wider and the Leadership schemes are there if you want them (*Guiding Manual*, p22 6.6b) but don't dismiss them — the work you do week by week in the unit is part of those schemes.

The Guide Association Leadership Scheme can be started by a Young Leader or Ranger at the minimum age of 16 and is exactly

the same as that followed by anyone over 18.

Young Leader meetings are not compulsory but are encouraged, so that you can meet and exchange ideas with others of your own age.

Finally, you are appreciated and Guiders 'higher up in the ranks' do know how busy you are. Please carry on enjoying your Guiding and the work with your unit.

**SHEENA BOOTH**

Young Leader Adviser

## SATISFIED CUSTOMER

I just want to say how happy I am with the new *Brownie Handbook*.

After having taken part in the pilot scheme two years ago with my Brownies and now seeing the final result, I am pleased with the changes and how much more realistic and up-to-date the challenges are.

The new handbook is a lot brighter and easy to read. All the challenges are easy to find with the colour-coded headings at the top of the pages.

The hints pages at the back of the book will not only be helpful to the Brownies but also to all the leaders in the unit.

Congratulations to the Working Party involved: looking at the final result I can see why it takes so long to put something like this together.

**KAREN SMALE**

Brownie Guider  
5th Potters Bar Pack  
Hertfordshire

## INEQUALITY

Could someone please explain why The Guide Association is so far behind the Cubs and Scouts with regard to male



leaders?

We are quite happy to use them as Unit Helpers but, when it comes to warrant holders, we say no thank you.

We have an excellent Unit Helper, who happens to be male, and we have had to open a second Rainbow Unit because we only have two warrant holders.

Surely, if we wish the Movement to grow, we should be looking toward the 21st century and total sexual equality, allowing a male warrant holder to work alongside two female warrant holders. Instead we are turning away perfectly able leaders just because they are the wrong sex.

If we don't adapt we will continue to close down units because of the lack of dedicated female leaders.

For many of my Rainbows my Unit Helper is the only male contact that they have on a regular basis and they adore him.

If we can have male teachers in lower schools, what is the problem in Guide units?

**ANN ROGERS**

Rainbow Guider  
Northampton

## PATRONISING

As a Unit Helper of some years standing and a regular reader of *GUIDING*, I was surprised that *Men in Guiding* (January's issue) should be written in such a patronising fashion.

I assist my wife running our Guide company which we have found, with the marvellous assistance of our District Commissioner and the other Guiders, to have been a most rewarding experience.

Much of the pleasure has not only derived from involvement with a successful Company, but the support and friendship I receive from Guiders in the District, who, I am delighted to say, treat me and the other men

significantly involved locally, as equals.

Guiding for my wife and I has been a lot of fun and hard work. Although, when things become fraught, my wife is quick to remind me that our joint involvement in Guiding — to save our then leaderless Company — was my idea!

Clearly the involvement of men in Guiding needs to be handled carefully. With this essential principle in mind, I was surprised the article included reference to the counselling of Guiders with problems.

While the article referred to Guiders in this context, to include such references in an article discussing men in Guiding I believe is a mistake and confuses the role of men dedicated to Guiding.

The counselling of Guiders must be the preserve of a trained female Guider. This is an important area for Guiders and surely should not be left hidden in an article discussing men in Guiding.

**EDWARD THOMPSON**

Unit Helper  
1st East Barnet Guides  
Herts

## DRIVING ALONE

As an Assistant Brownie Guider I read *GUIDING* every month and was particularly interested in our Chief Commissioner's comments in February, describing the unhappy circumstances she found herself in when she had a puncture.

Each year the RAC deals with over one million breakdown calls from its 2.2 million female members and is constantly developing positive initiatives to look after the motorists at risk.

Women drivers most likely to be worried about breaking down are those who are single and/or have dependent children. One in three women no longer drive alone at night because of the fear of rising car crime.

The RAC was the first motoring organisation to introduce a policy of giving priority treatment to lone female members and deals with 17,000 lone female priority breakdowns a month and 204,000 priority calls a year.

**ALYSON JARVIS**

1st Poynton (St George's)  
Brownie Pack  
Cheshire  
and Public Relations  
Assistant with the RAC

## HELPING HUNGARY

Thank you for an excellent magazine. Through a previous letter I have received a tremendous amount of support in my efforts to help re-establish Guiding in Hungary.

Last June we were able to send them a Patrol tent, which cost — including transport — £362. This was very much appreciated and was immediately put to use.

Since then we have sent, via groups who were going on holiday to Budapest, two consignments of Guiding books and magazines.

I now have another collection of books ready to go, so if a group is going to Budapest this year and is willing and able to take some with them perhaps they could get in touch with me through *GUIDING*.

**DORIS BELLINGER**

Kent

## GOOD ADVICE

As a result of reading an article in *GUIDING*, the Glyndwr Division, Clwyd, visited the Manchester Science Museum. Five busloads of Guides and Brownies went and some were inspired to tackle the Science Investigator badge, or even to produce a newspaper.

We are a far-flung rural Division, stretching about 40 miles from north to south. To cope with

transport costs we have adopted a system of charging everybody the same amount and pooling our resources so that it does not always fall hardest on those who travel the furthest.

Unfortunately, I was not able to go to Manchester, but I have just read another article in *GUIDING* about Wigan Pier...

**PEARL WHITAKER**

Denbigh  
Clwyd

## HIGH FLIERS

The 1st Mickleover Guides have had a wonderful 12 months of achievements. I have been the leader for nearly 15 years, and I think this has been the best year.

At a presentation ceremony in March last year ten Guides were awarded their B-P Trefoil Certificates and another Guide received her Commonwealth Award.

In February this year another six Guides received their B-P Awards and ten of the older Guiders were presented with their Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Awards.

The rest of the Company have been busy completing badges and challenges and working with their Patrols.

I think this has been a wonderful year, don't you agree?

**UNA RATCLIFF**

Guider-in-Charge  
1st Mickleover Guides  
Derby

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.



# TIME travel

*If you are looking for a magical day out with your family or unit then GUIDING can help.*

We've got together with Granada Theme Parks and Hotels Limited to offer a super reduction on admission to Camelot Theme Park and Rare Breeds Farm in Lancashire.

For two weekends – June 17 and 18 and September 16 and 17 – Granada is offering the readers of *GUIDING* and their families cut-price admission to Camelot, which is just off the M6 at Charnock Richard, Chorley near Preston.

Using the special voucher below – photocopies are not acceptable – up to four people only pay £5.50 each, a saving of up to £6.49 per person!

At Camelot this year youngsters will be able to watch rare breeds of sheep, goats, pigs, cows and horses being fed at the new rare breeds farm.

It is the first themed farm, complete with medieval costumed characters, ever to be built within a theme park.

Two major new rides have been introduced this year to the enchanted kingdom of Camelot.

Excalibur swings visitors back and forth until it eventually rotates through 360 degrees. The Sorcerer is an exciting, new roller coaster guaranteed to turn even teenagers' pink knuckles white.

Then there's the ever popular Rack, Europe's only split coaster ride, as well as the Tower of Terror and The Beast.

Camelot scores with young children because of the live entertainment such as jousting tournaments and Merlin's magic shows, which make this Arthurian theme park one of the country's best days out for all ages.

For Guiders who want to take their units along to Camelot, we've negotiated an even better deal.



▲ Taking the plunge on the Camelot Cascade for a wild and watery time

◀ To horse! Let the joust begin

Admission for groups of over 12 will be only £4.99 per person. But you must make an advance booking by first contacting Phil Reed, the Group Sales Manager, on 0161 828 5242.

As an extra bonus we've got passes for two free family days out at Camelot to give away to readers who can answer the following questions:

- 1 What was the original Excalibur?
- 2 Sooty, Sweep and Soo have a little friend. What is his name?

Answers on a postcard please to *GUIDING* Camelot Competition, The Guide Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT by April 30.

The winners will be the senders of the first two correct entries drawn after that date.

They will be able to take up to three other adults (or a combination – two adults and one child for example) to Camelot for a magical day out.

## VOUCHER

Present this voucher to gain admission for up to four people to CAMELOT THEME PARK at £5.50 per person - a saving of £6.49.

Valid only on June 17 and 18 and September 16 and 17, 1995.



A special rate of £4.99 applies to groups of 12 or more who book in advance.



This voucher cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.



# PEOPLE *and* PLACES

## NEW HEIGHTS

► With a nonchalant wave Sophie Kent becomes one of the first Brownies in Wirral County to try abseiling. She admitted: 'When I got to the top I was a bit frightened. But once I got over the top I enjoyed it a lot.'

PATRICIA TURNER



EVENING SENTINEL, STOKE-ON-TRENT



## BRIGHT SPARKS

▲ Three 1st Norton Guides from Stoke-on-Trent fulfilled a burning ambition when they passed a fire test and earned their Fire Fighter badges. Firemen were impressed by the girls' commitment and enthusiasm during their regular lessons at Stoke-on-Trent fire station.

56

## HEAD BANGERS

► Katy Rogers (right) had to duck smartly when she went sailing with Jenny Reynolds at Desborough Sailing Club in Shepperton. They were two of eight West Hoathly Guides to gain Royal Yachting Association (RYA) awards.



## DEAD TIRED

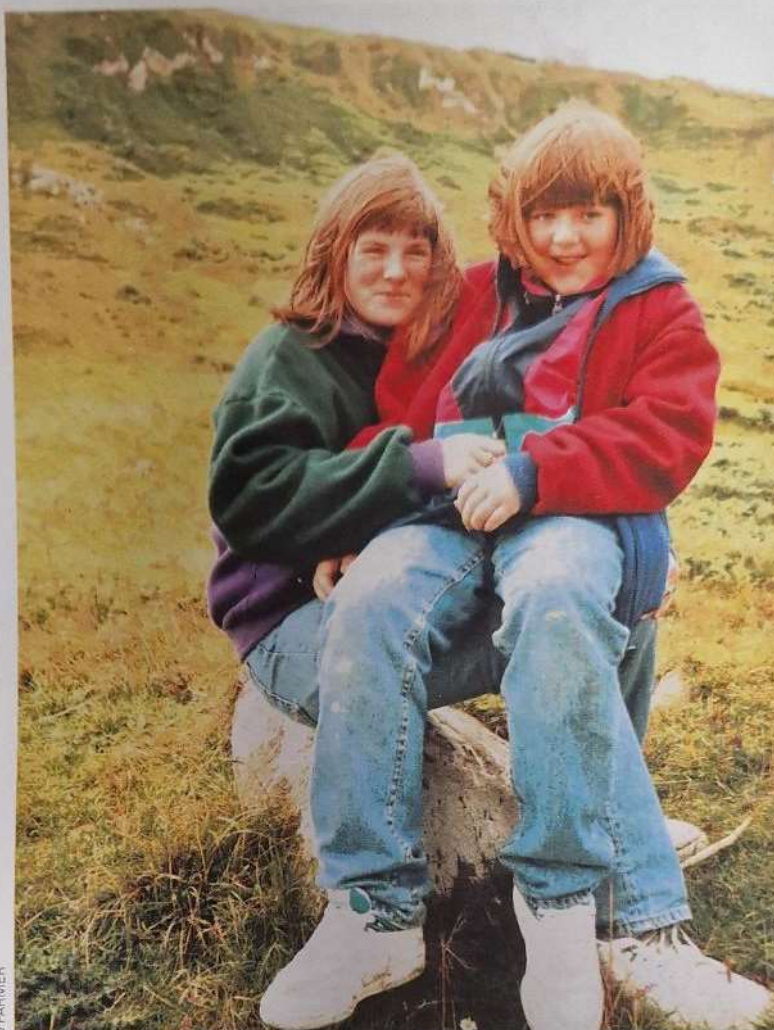
► Visiting a Neolithic burial site at Whitepark Bay, Co Antrim left two 2nd Bangor Guides in need of a breather. So when Karen Totton found a suitable seat, Christine Hagan was quick to collapse on her lap.

## BEST BUDDY

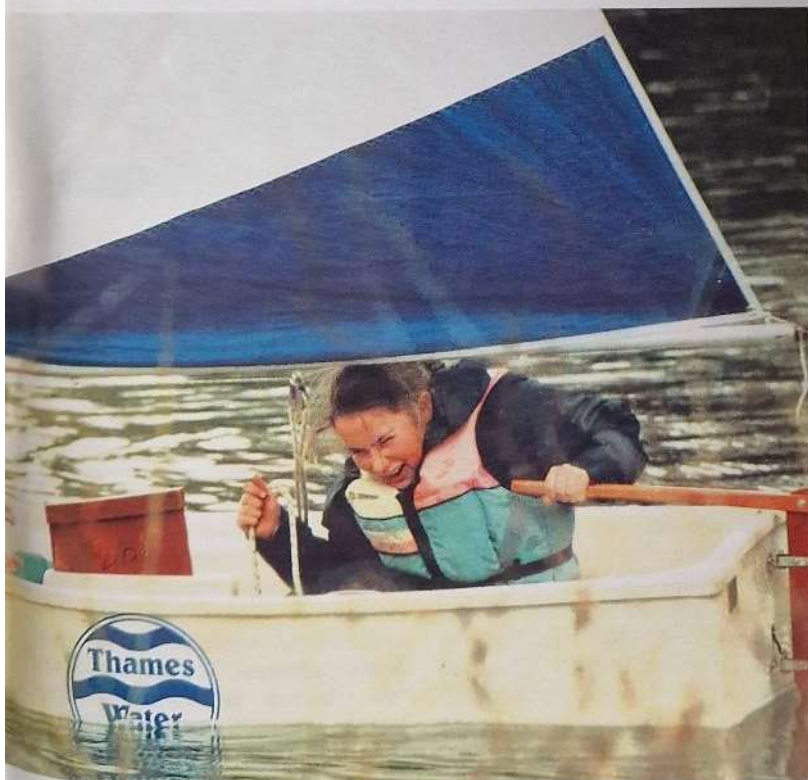
▼ Who's your friend? Brownie Emma Hooper cuddles up close to her new furry friend at the Cholderton Rare Breeds Farm, while on Pack Holiday with the 4th Southampton South Brownies.



D. FARMER



CHRISTINE WILSON



SHARON TURTON

## CARRIED AWAY

▼ Rainbow Annika Clarke persuaded Brownie Nicola Allmond to give her a piggyback on a visit to a nearby leisure centre. The girls from Newcastle-upon-Tyne were asked to report on the Fun Day for their local evening paper.



DEBBIE OWENS

Don't forget to keep sending in your photos of Guiding life. The best picture each month wins £10.





Glenbrook House stands in nine acres of parkland

*Glenbrook, the popular Outdoor Activity Centre leased to Derbyshire by the Association, has been successfully run by the County's Guiders for the past year.*



Everything tastes better outside. Young Friends of Glenbrook prepare supper at one of the five camp sites

Yet when the County Commissioner Margaret Day and the former County Commissioner Pat Taft were handed the keys on April Fool's day last year, they could have been forgiven for wondering what on earth they were letting themselves in for, as County Camp Adviser Meryl Simpson points out:

"Visiting or helping at a Guide Centre is one thing, but now Derbyshire was to be responsible for Glenbrook "lock, stock and barrel". The County had accepted total responsibility for the buildings, grounds, equipment, activities, bookings, finance, promotion and security.

Members rallied round and, when Glenbrook was temporarily closed last April, working parties weighed in with

great enthusiasm to give the place a spring clean. Our target was to have it ready for our first guests due at the May Day weekend.

Glenbrook had been operated by the Association as an Activity and Training Centre since it was bought in 1967. Nestling in the heart of the Derbyshire Peak District, the facilities and activities on offer have been enjoyed by members of the Movement of all ages drawn from many parts of the UK and abroad.

On the retirement of Miss Betty Carradus, the Guider-in-Charge, in March last year, Derbyshire agreed to undertake the management of the Centre on a leasehold basis.

For some years Derbyshire had been pursuing the idea of acquiring a further

site to complement the existing facilities at Pax Hoh camp site near Carsington reservoir and Pax Tor Holiday House in Darley Dale. Glenbrook provided us with a marvellous opportunity to do so in the north of the County.

So, although it was with a great sense of stepping into the unknown that the County Executive took on this new challenge, Derbyshire was confident it would make a success of this venture.

Under the chairmanship of Pat Taft, a management committee has been established to direct all aspects of the Centre's activities. The appointment of Alys Allardyce as resident Warden/Manager, together with considerable volunteer support and help from the Friends of Glenbrook, has ensured a



# Lightful DERBYSHIRE

flying start to this new venture. A successful first year's operation leaves us looking forward now to building upon our efforts.

Glenbrook is located in Hope Valley, midway between the popular villages of Castleton and Hathersage, and within a few miles of Ladybower and Derwent reservoirs. As part of the Peak District National Park the area offers visitors a wealth of activities and visits to places of interest to choose from.

The beautiful site embraces nine acres of parkland with attractive lawns, established woodland and shrubs. It has its own stream, adventure course and camp fire circle. A nature trail and orienteering course have been established, and there is scope for conservation projects around the site.

There are five camp sites located around the grounds and these are available with or without equipment. There are also limited indoor toilet and shower facilities for campers and facilities for emptying chemical toilets. A wood pile is maintained and cooking on the open altar fires provided is encouraged.

The indoor accommodation covers a range of facilities for varying groups of people. Glenbrook House, with its pleasant lounge and dining room, offers comfortable, self-catering accommodation on two floors with bunk beds for 30 guests. Central heating and hot water are included in the hire charge.

On the second floor a self-contained flat can accommodate a further ten guests. The house and flat can be booked together or separately, depending on minimum numbers, and both provide a comfortable base for a holiday or training.

The Derwent building offers pleasant accommodation for 32 people and is self-contained, with dormitories, toilets/showers, a kitchen and a large activity room. It also has toilet and shower facilities for people with disabilities. This is a popular venue for Peak Holidays but is equally suitable for training.

The site shop is in Derwent. As well as sweets, ice creams and souvenirs, the shop also sells photographic

mementoes of the Derbyshire Peak District, which are proving very popular.

Also within Derwent is a self-contained holiday flat which can sleep four, and is available for letting throughout the year to members and friends of Guiding and Scouting. This offers an excellent base for a "quiet" weekend in Derbyshire, but it is also available for longer periods.

archery, pioneering, badge making, an adventure course, stream dipping and various other sports and trails. Off-site there are opportunities to enjoy walking, climbing, weaselling, caving, riding, cycling and swimming.

You can bring your own instructors, or hire the services of one of Glenbrook's small group of instructors. Activity equipment is available for hire but Glen-



The distinctive Derwent building accommodates 32 visitors and can be used for training or as a holiday base

EMMS PHOTOGRAPHS

The accommodation at Glenbrook is well used at weekends, but midweek bookings from both Guiding and non-Guiding organisations are welcome. Accommodation during the week may also be booked on a daily or evening basis for meetings, conferences or trainings.

Glenbrook has even been used for a wedding reception - a marquee was put up and the happy couple and their wedding guests camped in the grounds.

The Peak District around Glenbrook is blessed with a vast range of places of interest for the young and not-so-young. On-site activities include



EMMS PHOTOGRAPHS

brook is unable to lay on transport.

If visitors exhaust all the outdoor attractions they can always hop on a train and visit the largest shopping complex in Europe at Meadowhall near Sheffield!

The Warden/Manager will be only too pleased to discuss and advise on accommodation, activities, places of interest, equipment and prices. Details will be sent out on request.

We are looking forward to welcoming old friends at Glenbrook and introducing new ones to the numerous delights of Derbyshire.

**Glenbrook has its own stream providing an ideal opportunity to practise pioneering projects**

**If you would like to find out more about what Glenbrook has to offer, telephone Alys Allardyce on 01433 651567, or send a large sae to Mrs Allardyce, addressed to Glenbrook, Hope Road, Bamford, near Sheffield S30 2AL.**



# SAILING *to* SUCCESS

**Following the success of a watersports weekend for Guides in Gloucestershire, a similar event has been planned for Guiders and will be held from June 3 to 5.**

Last year's event run by the County was aimed at beginners. In all, 23 Guides spent a September weekend at Gloucestershire's Outdoor Activities Centre in South Cerney.

Four sports were on offer — windsurfing, dinghy sailing, canoeing and rafting — with tuition provided by qualified instructors.

Each girl was kitted out in a wet suit from the Centre's extensive store and provided with a life jacket and safety helmet, safety being of prime concern at the Centre.

Groups of five or six Guides were allocated an instructor and, during the weekend, every Guide was able to try all the watersports, the majority of them for the first time.

They learned how to paddle a raft, how to build one and also what happens if it is not built properly.

Jennifer Pezet, County Boating Adviser, said: The dinghy sailors learned

that rigging sails can be fun; that boats are a lot slower when they are full of water; that a good helmet prevents the boom from hitting your head; and that a dinghy does not have brakes.

'As for the windsurfers, once they had mastered the art of standing upright on a board, they disappeared in a straight line downwind until they reached the far side of the lake, from where they were later towed back in convoy by the instructors.

'By the end of the weekend, fears had been overcome, confidence had been gained and everyone had enjoyed the fun. It was truly marvellous to see the improvement after two days' intensive instruction and encouragement by the patient instructors, who were all first class.'

Due to its success, Gloucestershire County has decided to make the watersports weekend an annual event — this year's will be held from September 15 to 17. The County highly recommends this type of 'Come and try it' weekend to other Guiders.

**Wet suit brigade: Gloucestershire Guides kitted out for a watersports weekend that included windsurfing and canoeing**



JENNIFER PEZET



# CLASSIFIEDS

## DISCLAIMER REMINDER

Inclusion of advertisements in this section should not be taken to mean that the Association has checked out and approves the site or accommodation advertised. Guiders are reminded that they should obtain permission from their Camp or Pack Holiday Adviser and their District Commissioner before making a booking and should complete the appropriate forms.

## CAMP SITES AND ACTIVITY CENTRES

**Baden-Powell House Hostel**  
Queen's Gate, London SW7 5JS  
Tel 0171-584 7031

Comfortable group or private family accommodation for up to 112 residents in single, twin and multi-bedded rooms. Self-service restaurant for residents and non-residents. Also meeting and seminar rooms for conferences, work shops and social functions. Location is ideal as a base for exploring London, educational visits, West End shopping, theatre going etc.

Enquiries to RECEPTION

## BLACKWELL COURT INTERNATIONAL SCOUT CENTRE

Set amidst 50 acres of beautiful Worcestershire countryside, in the Heart of England Blackwell Court offers excellent camping facilities for all Scouts and Guides.

The large range of on-site activities include: archery, pioneering, abseiling, shooting range, rafting, grass sledding and heated swimming pool. Instruction available for most activities. Canoeing is available at our Water Activity Centre at Pikes Pool.

The Camp site offers excellent toilet, shower and wet weather facilities including a well stocked Provender. Also available indoor accommodation, the ideal Centre for Pack Holidays.

Within easy access to all the major motorways and railways, Blackwell Court is ideally situated for visits to the many nearby popular places of interest including Alton Towers, Cadbury World, Stratford-upon-Avon, Worcester and Warwick Castle and is only 2 hours travelling time from the centre of London.

Near to Blackwell Court is Pikes Pool set in 50 acres providing ideal camping facilities for the more experienced camper.

So are you interested in using Blackwell Court for your Brownie Pack/ Guide Camp in 1995? Please don't delay in contacting us for further information from Blackwell Court International Scout Centre, Agmore Road, Blackwell, Nr Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B60 1PX or telephone on 0121-445 1285. Or please visit us at Map Ref: Sheet 139 (Metric) 995716.

## Fordell Firs - Activity Centre of the North

A delightful 30-acre site situated in the Kingdom of Fife, but just 15 miles from the centre of Edinburgh. Easy access by train or bus - Inverkeithing is a mainline station on London-Aberdeen line.

The centre is open all year. A modern, fully centrally heated accommodation chalet sleeps 36, or our smaller chalet sleeps 18.

Ample camp site spaces for small or large groups. Camping equipment may be hired.

Activities include archery, shooting, abseiling, assault course, pioneering, field studies. Contact Warden for full details.

**National Scout Activity Centre, Fordell Firs, Hillend, Dunfermline.**  
File KY 11 SHA Tel: 01363-412704  
Fax: 01363-414892

## Kingsdown

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Kingsdown offers all this and more.

Phone or write for details:  
Charlie Leadbetter,  
Kingsdown International Scout Camp site,  
The Avenue, Kingsdown,  
Deal, Kent, CT14 8DU.  
Tel: 01304 373713

**SUFFOLK.** Small hostel and camp site. Special rate for The Guide Association. Hostel 19 beds plus annex 7 beds, sole use £25 per night, £150 per week. Guides camping 50p per person nightly, £3 weekly. Leaflet available. Telephone 01284 828297. Mr Copey, Minks Croft, Alpheton, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 9BP.



**Hawkthirst Adventure Camp**

Full details from  
The Manager, Hawkthirst, Kielder Water,  
Nr. Hexham, NE48 1QZ.

## CRICKET CAMP SITE

**Bursledon, Hampshire**  
A beautiful camp site set in 400 acres of Country Park close to the M27 with good facilities for full Troop or Patrol camps. Situated 10 minutes walk from the River Hamble.

Activities available are Canoeing, Abseiling, Archery, Rifle Shooting, Caving, and soon, Climbing, Flush Toilets, Showers, Hot Water, Pack Holiday Centre (open to schools).

Write for brochure to:  
Mrs Joan Veal (ADC Camp Site)  
ITCHEN SOUTH DISTRICT  
SCOUT CAMP SITE,  
12 Barton Drive, Hedge End,  
Southampton, Hants SO30 2FF

## BUCKMORE PARK SCOUT CENTRE

Maldstone Road, Chatham ME5 9QG.

Scout camp site. Training ground and Activity Centre. Swimming, Skating, BMX, Shooting, Archery, 5-a-side, Tennis, Karting, Climbing, Orienteering, Abseiling etc. Open throughout the year for Summer Camps, Weekend and Week's Camps, Pack Holidays, Conference facilities.

Brochure available (large SAE) from:  
The Warden. Tel: 01634-861295/8  
Fax: 01634-844553

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Worcester Rd, Hagley, Stourbridge  
DY9 0NW Tel 01562 882151 (24 hrs)

## WALESBY FOREST SCOUT CAMP



Camping, indoor accommodation, activities etc.  
Full details from resident Warden David Liddle, Walesby Forest Scout Camp, Brake Rd, Walesby, Newark, Notts. NG22 9NG.  
Tel: 01623 860202 Fax 01623 836376

## DRUM HILL - DERBY

17 hectares of mixed woodland and fields, 2 Pack Holiday Centres, Mains toilets and showers, Storm hut for Cub Camps.

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National Tramway Museum, American Adventure and Alton Towers within easy reach.

Phone 01332 831233 or write  
PO Box 153 Derby DE23 6YB

## DOWNE CAMP SITE

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\* Secluded woodland sites for Patrol camps or large open sites

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\* Activities include: Archery, Assault Course, Climbing Tower, Forestry, Orienteering, Pioneering, Rifle Range, Swimming.

Details from: The Warden,  
Downe Scout Camp,  
Bird House, Downe,  
Nr. Orpington, Kent  
BR6 7LJ  
Telephone: 01959 572121  
SAE please.

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Louise Bolwell, Head of Centre, Cuffley Camp Outdoor Centre, Carbone Hill, Cuffley, nr. Potters Bar, Herts EN6 4PR  
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HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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\* Auchengillan is a 65-acre international Scout Centre in central Scotland with excellent camping facilities and with panoramic views of the surrounding hills and Loch Lomond.

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\* Many on-site activities are available including archery, abseiling, rifle shooting, orienteering, cycle hire and grass sledding on the U.K.'s longest Cresta Run, Brownie Adventure Fort, quad motorbikes as a supplement to traditional Guide skills.

\* There is a swimming pool, shop and laundry on site.

\* The Centre is an ideal base for touring and is next to the West Highland Way.

For information please contact Andy Wilson, Centre Warden, Auchengillan, Blanefield, Stirlingshire G63 9AU. Tel: (01360) 770256. Fax: (01360) 771197.



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Site adjoins 360 acres of public woodland.  
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Further details from:  
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Tel: 0171 584 7031 Fax: 0171 590 5103

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Shop Lock Cottage, STOCKTON,  
Nr Rugby, CV23 8LO. 01926 812093

GWENT, ABERGAVENNY. Guide Centre adjacent to park, fully equipped, refurbished, 24 children plus adult accommodation £1.50 pp pn. Heathcote 01873 857620

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LAKE DISTRICT, KENDAL, CUMBRIA. Self-catering hostel. Dormitory with bunks sleep 8. Leaders dormitory sleeps 2/3. £40 per night. Brochure from WYCA, 95 Stricklandgate, Kendal, Cumbria. Tel 01539 722368

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GUIDE books, badges, stamps, memorabilia bought/sold. Ask for current details/catalogue. Hoggarth, Thornewyate House, Glaisdale, Whitby YO21 2QU (01947) 873338

**CAMP FIRE BLANKETS**

Blankets with full instructions for Folded, Poncho or Cloak style Camp Fire Blanket, plus starter pack of badges. £10.95 plus £3.50 postage.

Camping and Outdoor Centre  
27 Buckingham Palace Road,  
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(0171) 834 6007

ATTENTION. Brownie Guiders Totems (Toadstools) manufactured in red fibreglass with white spots and green detachable stems — 18ins high. £33.50 including packaging/postage. Cheque with order to Mr E. W. Booth, "Barbon", 43 Bagslate Moor Road, Rochdale OL11 5XT Lancs. Tel: 01706 421156 or 65591

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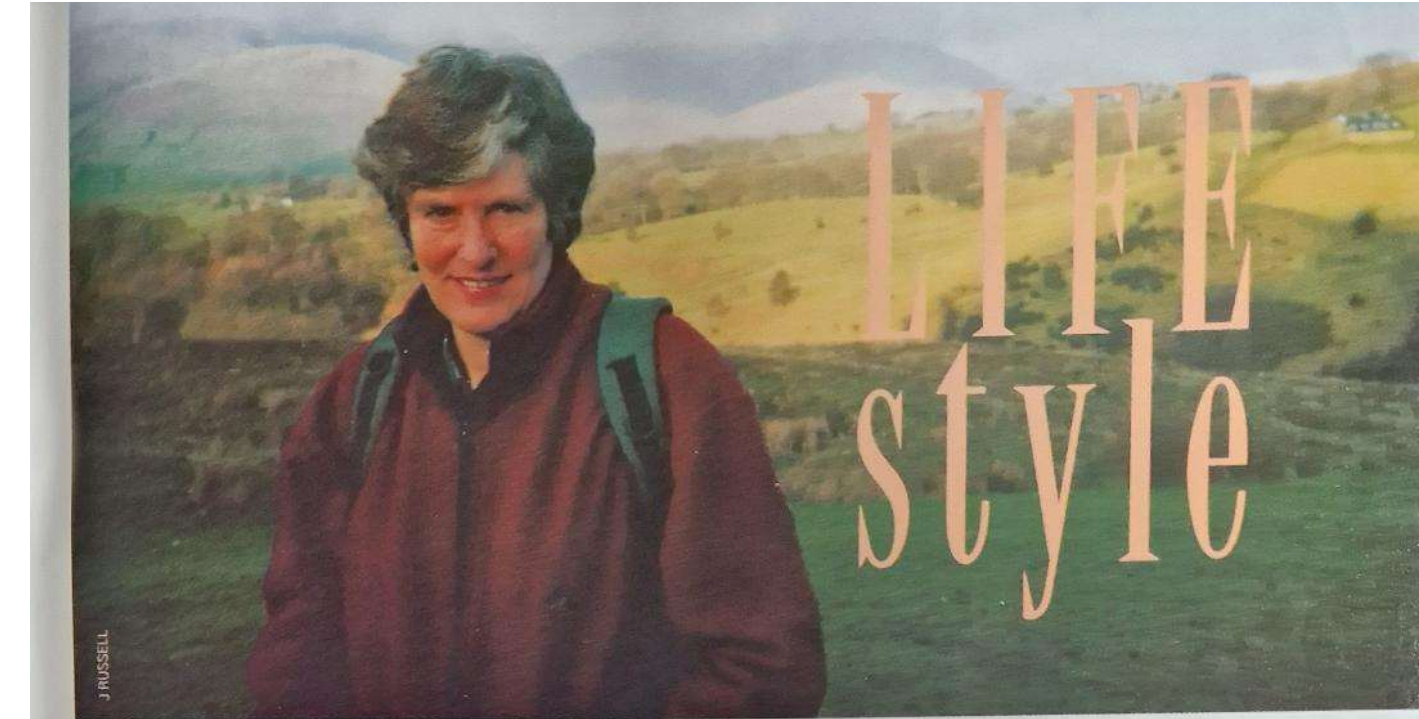
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# LIFE style

J RUSSELL

## HILARY RUSSELL FROM WALTON ON THE NAZE, ESSEX

**A Guide Guider, Hilary has enjoyed leading walking holidays for the past five years. It provides a break from her hectic life as a special needs teacher.**

‘A good basic training, like the one Guiding has given me, is invaluable. I loved Guides as a girl - I think it was the outward nature of Guides that attracted me. I probably learned more through Guiding than I did at school.

It has led me into my work with Country Wide as a hostess and walks leader. Five or six times a year I spend a week at one of their beautiful houses enjoying walking areas, interesting company, good food... and it's all expenses paid.

I'm a teacher by profession. I trained as a physical education teacher, but I've taught children of all ages and abilities in senior and primary schools. At the moment I'm teaching children with very special needs. It's a challenge and a change from mainstream teaching.

I've just heard that my book on supply teaching is to be published, so I'm busy answering last-minute questions.

I've been a warranted Guider for over 15 years now and am currently with the 2nd Frinton Company, in Essex. My interest in rambling started by chance when I and a Guider friend decided to go to a weekend training at Glenbrook, the Association's Training and Activity Centre near Sheffield, about seven years ago. It sounded fun but, being fairly ignorant, we had no idea how busy and intensive the course would be.

I learned a lot about map reading, route planning, compass work and safety precautions, and it whetted my

appetite for leading walks. I started a monthly rambling group, along with my husband, Jerry.

I wanted to learn more and so I attended another excellent training weekend at Glenbrook, returning eager to take the rambling group and my Guides out hill walking, especially while we were at camp - I'm a real camping Guider, as the girls will tell you.

Jerry and I published a book all about walks in the local area. He's a retired art teacher so he was able to do all the illustrations. That was in 1988 and so I suppose it's about time we revised it.

I never get bored with walking. Some people might think it sounds tame, but I am an athlete, having played netball and basketball at County level, and I know it can be as demanding as you want it to be. The best thing is it's free, anyone can take part.

On our first Country Wide holiday - the company organises walking holidays - in 1988 Jerry and I went to the Lake District. I made a point of carrying the relevant walking maps and following the route. I was always checking with the leader where we were. I think I made quite a pest of myself.

Back at home our monthly rambles were now very popular with around 20 to 30 people attending. They suggested Jerry and I should apply to Country Wide to become leaders. So we did, and were invited to go on an assess-

ment weekend at Hope in Derbyshire.

The weekend was like the ones I'd attended at Glenbrook. There were lectures, route planning walks and programme planning sessions. The difference was that each applicant was being assessed on knowledge and leadership and communication skills. My Guiding background had equipped me well for the assessment, and for the responsibilities that followed after we were accepted.

Our first week as leaders was at Shanklin, on the Isle of Wight. We led and assisted with walks and organised evening entertainment. This included dancing, slide shows, quizzes and games, many of which I'd adapted from ones we'd played at Guides.


My experience as a Guider has taught me to adapt quickly and overcome any situation that is thrown at me. Recently, at a Country Wide centre an elderly lady was in danger of choking. I immediately followed first aid procedures. Because I was a Guide I have been trained in what to do, so I acted instinctively and she was fine. The lady wrote to Country Wide to thank me for saving her life!

My daughter, Tamarisk, is also reaping the benefits of her Guide training. She gained her Queen's Guide Award as a Guide, and now at 24 is training to be a doctor. She is doing her "elective" in Papua New Guinea, and says her Guiding background is helping with this challenging placement.

As for me, I have been leading walks for Country Wide for five years now. I have met hundreds of people from many different nations and enjoyed over 24 weeks of walking. So thank you Guiding training. It has certainly opened doors to another interest for me.



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