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comment



In July this year, the 29th World Conference of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) will take place in Canada.

Recently, I spent a week in Latvia working with Trainers from five Central and Eastern European countries. I could not help but be impressed by the strength of feeling that these people have for the World Association.

For them it means support, freedom of choice, friendship, belonging to the wider world, a chance to be independent and make their own decisions, and a great deal of fun. Things that may have been missing from their former lives, which they have found through Guiding, that we may take for granted.

The World Conference not only gives us all the opportunity to be informed of what is happening in World Guiding, but also to contribute to its future.

Of course, we cannot all go to World Conference workshops. By the time you read this, the national workshop will have taken place and those who attended will be preparing for similar workshops within Countries and Regions.

The main issue for the Conference is likely to be a review of the structure of the organisation with a view to improving communications and effectiveness.

This might sound a little boring but, with a number of side issues and different opinions, the debate could be lively.

Finance underpins almost everything. Future plans and the proposed goals of WAGGGS will, no doubt, have to be settled before the Conference is over.

The future of World Guiding depends on the successful outcome of the World Conference. I believe it is important that we take the trouble to find out what's happening and, if possible, to become involved.

So why not make the effort to attend a World Conference workshop? There is likely to be one somewhere near you.

Pauline McKie

Leader

World Conference Workshop

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Jean Oldfield — Lancashire County's resident artist

front cover

One of the great things about Guiding is trying out exciting activities such as rock climbing - wearing all the correct safety gear - as this month's Guide cover girl discovered.



31 ideas—19 pages of great ideas for you and your unit

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CHESTER CHRONICLE



What a hoot!

The 1st Tarvin Brownies from Cheshire are raising money to adopt their own barn owl at Chester Zoo, which breeds birds to release into the wild.

The girls visited the zoo with their Brown Owl, Helen Wilson, where they learned that the barn owl is becoming an endangered species as a result of the disappearance of its habitat. They have since raised £40 towards the £120 sponsorship needed.

Here, Roni Wilkinson, Emma Thomas, Danielle Wilkinson, Jodie Robinson and Yolanda Taylor bring their own owl friends along to a fundraising meeting.

Successful scorers

Kathy Driskell (left) and Andrea Brownless from the 3rd Berkeley Guide Company in South Humberside were delighted to receive their Baden-Powell Trefoil awards from Scunthorpe United footballer Chris Hope.

Both girls are keen supporters of their local team and were thrilled by the surprise presentation, which was arranged for them by their District Commissioner, Kathy Thompson. Both girls are now Young Leaders.



NORTHERN ROCK BUILDING SOCIETY



SCUNTHORPE EVENING TELEGRAPH

And mother came too

When Jennie Thake (left) renewed her Promise at the Bishop's Stortford Trefoil Guild's admission ceremony in Hertfordshire, her mother, Flossie Matthews (centre), kept a watchful eye on her.

Mrs Matthews was Jennie's Brown Owl when she made her Brownie Promise. Also present was Miss Dorothy Taylor (right), who was Jennie's Captain when she made her Guide Promise.



MAUREEN VERNON

Hands up for our Vivienne

North Tyneside Division

Commissioner Vivienne Barke has run a Guide unit for the last 18 years. Yet she still finds time to do her day job so well that she has been chosen as employee of the year by her employers, Northern Rock Building Society.

A property sales unit office manager in Doxford, Sunderland, 36-year-old Vivienne lives in Cullercoats with her husband Mike.

She has recently completed her banking examinations.

in brief

Still running after 80 glorious years

Reminiscences flowed to a musical accompaniment at the 1st Saltburn Guides' open evening in Cleveland to celebrate their 80th birthday.

The Company - which never disbanded, even during the Second World War - has kept a record of every leader that it has ever had.

Guider Marguerite Barber and her assistant, Julia Watson (left), showed off their 1915 registration certificate, while the Guides made music for their guests.



Crafty capers at 50th anniversary party

The 1st Chilvers Coton (All Saints) Guide Company from Nuneaton in Warwickshire celebrated their 50th birthday with a day of crafts and games, followed by tenpin bowling and a church service. The girls polished off a lunch of pizza, jacket potatoes, coleslaw and apple crumble, and still had space left for a slice of birthday cake and a cuppa later.

Here (from left), Emma Mayoll, Gemma Wilson, Sarah Gilmour, Guider Margaret Buckby, Amy Broomfield (in front), Piglet Guider Helena McCormick and Emma Probybn take a few minutes off from preparing the celebration lunch.



Holiday afloat was a brilliant success

Ten Guides from the 1st Blairgowrie unit in Tayside, and their Guider and Unit Helper all agree that their half-term holiday aboard the Nolly Barge was 'brilliant'.

Taking advantage of an urban-aid-funded project available to a wide range of groups, the Guides travelled on the Forth and Clyde Canal to Kirkintilloch in Strathclyde.

'This holiday afloat gave us all a taste of group living in a new and exciting but safe environment,' said Guider Eileen Tilbury. 'It cost only £30 per girl and I would thoroughly recommend it to other units.'

The Nolly Barge Project is based at Flat 1F, 151 Westercommon Road, Possil Park, Glasgow G22. Tel: 0141 336 7859.



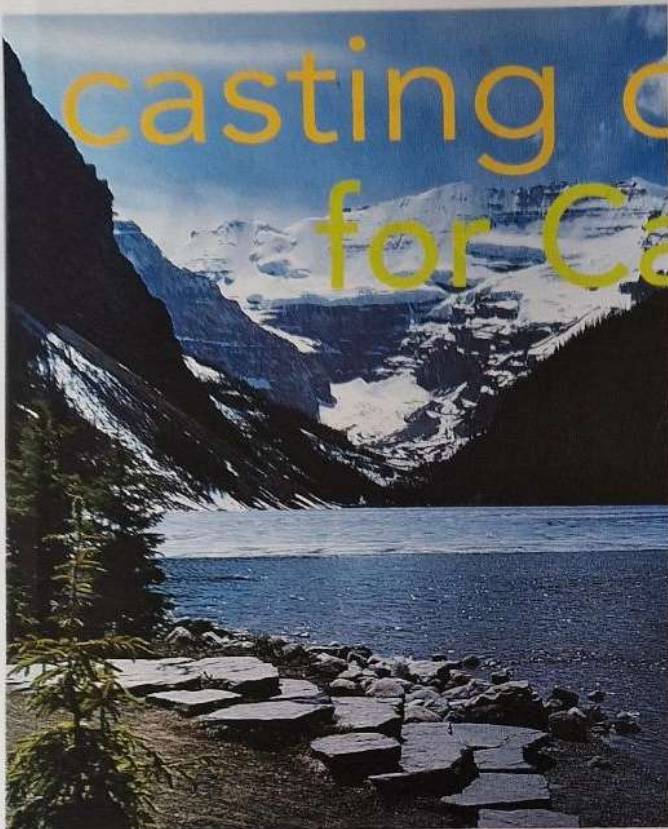
snippets

ON SONG Around 2,000 adult members of the Movement attended a service to celebrate Christmas in York Minster organised by the North East England Guide Association. The guests included The Chief Commissioner and Country and Region Chief Commissioners.

MONOPOLY The 4th Wokingham Guides from Berkshire have discovered an ambitious and exhausting way to raise money for charity. They divided into teams and gave themselves just six and a half hours to race around London, visiting all the actual places on the Monopoly board. **PARACHUTE JUMP** Two Giffnockhill Ranger Guides from Strathclyde, Lynne Bissett and Lorna Paterson, performed a sponsored parachute jump along with members of Eastwood's Beaver and Venture Scouts,

and raised £600 for the Princess Royal Trust For Carers. **A RECORD?** Miss Mary Weatherill, the first official Brown Owl of the 1st Redcar Brownies from Cleveland joined the Pack to celebrate the 75th anniversary of its formation. Miss Weatherill was also celebrating her 96th birthday. **TAKE THAT-ATHON** The 1st Paston Ridings Guides from Peterborough in Cambridgeshire forced themselves to listen to 12 hours of Take That and raised over £150 for Children In Need. **BAG PACKERS** In order to raise money for their Pack and a local wildlife hospital, members of the 1st Whittlesey Brownies in Cambridgeshire lent a hand packing bags at an Asda supermarket and were able to buy some new computer software to produce posters and newsletters for their unit.

casting off for Canada



Snow-capped mountains and sparkling water are a typical Canadian vista

Can you imagine a room containing about 500 people, representing 134 national organisations and as many countries? Can you imagine trying to communicate with them in only three official languages?

Can you picture a situation where policies will be agreed upon and plans made for the next three years and beyond? Can you appreciate it continuing for eight days?

If you can, then you will understand the challenges to be faced by The Guide Association's delegation when its members attend the 29th World Conference in Nova Scotia, Canada in July.

The UK delegation will consist of two official delegates and five observers, who will actively participate in the conference on behalf of our Association.

Currently, they are in the middle of preparations for the event, which involves the assimilation of large amounts of paperwork which seem to be arriving almost daily.

Discussions will focus on the 'Ways of Work of the World Associ-

ation of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS)'. The delegates will be expected to ensure that, as a world organisation, WAGGGS continues to work in an effective way, which will meet the needs of women in the 1990s and beyond.

This was a recommendation passed following the last World Conference in Denmark in 1993.

Other topics under consideration will range from the future Regional structure of WAGGGS, to the welcoming into full membership of new associations, such as the Association of Belarussian Guides and the Western Samoa Girl Guides Association.

You may have already attended one of a series of World Conference workshops held around the Regions this year, which provided members with an opportunity to meet a number of the

delegates and contribute to the discussions.

The Guide Association delegates to the 1996 Conference are:

- Margaret Wright — Chief Commissioner
- Sheran Oke — International Commissioner

The observers representing the Association are:

- Jacqui Dixon — Finance Committee member
- Elizabeth Ferrier — Programme and Training Committee Chairman
- Jenny Leach — North East England Chief Commissioner
- Deborah Constable — Ex-Chair of The Guide Association delegation to the British Youth Council
- Jan Annin — a County Commissioner and a former Region International Adviser

The delegation is also supported by a team of reserves. They are:

- Sue Fortunka — a Region Trainer
- Jane Smart — a former Region International Adviser
- Barbara Darwood — a County International Adviser
- Sue Lomas — a Region CID Adviser.

A report of the event will appear in an autumn issue of **GUIDING** ■

Every three years, the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) holds a conference. This year delegates meet in Canada

By Sheran Oke

International Commissioner

Soldiers in period costume entertain tourists at the Fortress of Louisbourg in Cape Breton County, Nova Scotia



MARGARET WHITTAKER

terrific two

Out of
uniform but
still in the
Movement,
the Washer
twins go
Guiding on...

Having clocked up 92 years' Guiding service between them, you'd have thought the Washer twins, retired Bristol Guiders Ruby and Beryl, might have been glad to take a final bow and put their feet up.

Not a bit of it! Aged 66 in May, they're busily Guiding away as members of the Trefoil Guild, with their own event-packed personal programme for 1996.

In June, for example, if all goes according to plan, the twins will join a patchwork and quilting training at Foxlease.

Right now, they're immersed in their work as 'refreshment co-ordinators' for the AGM of South West Region's Trefoil Guild, which takes place in Bristol next month. They have to orchestrate all the catering to be provided by the Guild throughout Avon North County — quite a big job.

And, apart from being involved in similar events and activities, they are both continuing as treasurers for their old units, while Beryl also carries on with her job as County Badge Secretary.

Yes, the 'terrific twins' — not the 'terrible twins' — of Bristol just can't stop Guiding, although their start was a bit of a disaster.

When they were nine, Ruby and Beryl attended a Brownie meeting but 'didn't like' Brownies, and came away pouting. A year later, however, they both became enthusiastic Guides and never looked back.

Both were first warranted in 1949, Ruby as Tawny of the 145th Bristol (St Aldhelm's)

Brownies and Beryl as Assistant Guider with its sister Guide Company, in which they had both been Guides.

Beryl went on to take over the Company and was warranted in 1951. Ruby became Brown Owl in 1958, having started a Guide Company in Bishopsworth, Bristol, in 1952 and a Ranger Unit in 1955. Beryl also formed a Ranger Unit at St Aldhelm's in the same year.

The twins remained as Guiders with the St Aldhelm units until they retired last year, having completed 46 years' service.



It was hugs all round for Ruby (left) and Beryl Washer at the surprise party thrown to celebrate their 46 years as Guiders



some

Beryl obtained her Camper's Licence in 1952 and Ruby in 1955. At that time, when going *anywhere* abroad was considered 'adventurous', Beryl began taking her Guides for summer camps in Western Europe every alternate year.

Ruby added her Pack Holiday Licence in 1966, taking her Pack away every year after that. For the last six years of her 'reign', she took them on holiday *twice* a year.

'During her latter years, Ruby had Brownies in her Pack whose

grandmothers had been Guides in my unit,' Beryl explained.

Beryl served as a District Commissioner from 1969 to 1979 before becoming County Duke of Edinburgh's Award Adviser for the next seven years. After a short break she became Bristol South West Division Commissioner, a job she had until the twins retired last May.

Ruby served two five-year stints as a District Commissioner, first at Bristol Withywood and then at Bishopsworth. She then had a 'year off' before becoming

District Commissioner for Bristol Smythe Park in 1980. She remained in this

post until February last year.

'Well,' she said, 'you know how it is. They just couldn't find anyone, so I carried on "temporarily" until I'd done 15 years!'

The Washer twins were 'long servers' even in their professional lives. In 1952, 22-year-old Ruby went to work in an old-fashioned grocer's shop, the kind where the butter was 'patted' and biscuits were sold loose from 7lb tins. Eventually, the shop became a mini-market, but Ruby stayed on to complete 38 years behind the counter.

As for Beryl, she received the Scout Medal of Merit and Bar in recognition of her many years as an assistant and, later, manager at the Scout shop in Bristol.

The twins almost achieved some war service, too. In 1945, as 15 year-old Guides, they helped to scrub out St Aldhelm's church hall, the unit's HQ, which had been used as a morgue for air raid victims. 'It may sound gruesome, but we had to get rid of bloodstains,' Beryl recalled.

In 1993, Beryl and Ruby were both presented with the Silver Sea Stag — Avon North County's highest award for service.

On their retirement as Guiders last year, the twins — born May 4, 1930 — were escorted through a 'guard of honour' and given a standing ovation at a surprise party attended by more than 200 leaders and other guests.

As Valerie Williams, now in charge of Beryl's Guide unit, put it: 'When it comes to service, the twins are a hard act to follow.'

Who's who? Telling the Washer twins apart has puzzled Bristol Guides for 46 years and it still seems to keep 14-year-old Lisa Jones guessing. For the record, Ruby is on the left



BRISTOL UNITED PRESS

Life really
begins when
you join the
Trefoil Guild

too busy to make tea!

Words and photos by
Gillian Ellis

Many Guild members
enjoyed the outdoor
games held at Lorne
during the summer



These days no-one really believes that the main function of the Trefoil Guild is to make tea, but you might be surprised at how many statements about our senior members are wide of the mark:

- You have to be over 65 to join the Trefoil Guild...Wrong.
- Only ex-Guides can be in the Trefoil Guild...Wrong.
- The Trefoil Guild is only for women...Wrong.

Anyone who is 18 or over can join the Trefoil Guild. Full membership is open to those not currently holding a Guide Association unit appointment card or Commissioner's warrant or a Scout Association warrant. Those who do hold such cards and warrants may become Associate members.

So what exactly is the Trefoil Guild and what is its purpose? The Trefoil Guild is a branch of The Guide Association. It exists to establish and maintain links with Guiding. And it aims to provide fun, friendship and activities, as well as support for the Guide Movement and the community.

There are now around 1,100 local Guilds in the UK and new groups are being formed all the time. Unless you live in a very

remote area, there's bound to be one within your reach.

Most Guilds usually meet monthly. Speakers, outings, craft and service all figure in the average Guild programme. Chairmen try to ensure that varied, balanced programmes reflect the Eight Points and the Guild's aims, meet individual needs, encourage members' full participation and give a positive

occasionally for absent Guiders.

They also provide a valuable home hospitality service for overseas guests and for young people attending interviews for employment or university.

The Trefoil Guild is administered from London through its main office at Commonwealth Headquarters in Buckingham Palace Road. And the main channels of communication are very similar to those of The Guide Association.

There are nine Country and Region Chairmen acting as links between the Central Executive Committee and the County Chairmen, who hold meetings for the officers of

their local Guilds.

Just as in Guiding, an annual Census is taken on Thinking Day, when each of the 22,000 members pays an annual subscription.

The Trefoil Guild belongs to the International Fellowship of Former Scouts and Guides (IFOFSAG), a



Members get together for Lorne's summer house party

image of the Trefoil Guild.

If that all sounds too dauntingly serious, don't worry — most meetings are just plain fun.

Trefoil Guild members support units in many ways. They help with meetings, camps, County Days, Brownie Revels and badge testing, by sharing skills and standing in



For Guild members Mary Coulter (second from left) and Joan Rees, the Tribute and Promise march past was particularly exciting



Lady Juliet Townsend, President of the Trefoil Guild

worldwide organisation through which members can take part in social and cultural activities and support Guiding and Scouting.

The 50,000 members in 35 organisations which make up IFOF-SAG have opportunities to meet at events in many countries and 97 UK Guilds are twinned with their overseas counterparts.

This year, many Scout fellowship and Trefoil Guild members will attend IFOF-SAG's 21st World Conference at Montegrotto in Italy.

The Trefoil Guild celebrates Fellowship Day on October 25, the anniversary of the formation of IFOF-SAG in 1953.

Trefoil Guilds and Scout Fellowships share celebrations, and many local Guilds hold County gatherings. Collections taken for the Fellowship Day Fund provide money for international Guiding and Scouting projects or emergencies.

Lady Juliet Townsend, an experienced former Guider, is President of the Trefoil Guild, having taken over from the first President, the Founder's daughter, Betty Clay. Lady Juliet is in her second year of office, as is Jill Hancock, the Trefoil Guild's National Chairman.

Jill's first year included masterminding the Trefoil Guild's part in the Tribute and Promise Parade, commemorating 50 years of peace. Jill and her team organised a superb

display of Guiding's contribution to the war effort which was greeted with enthusiastic smiles and waves from the crowds lining the Mall.

Although the march past was particularly exciting, less unusual Trefoil Guild activities give just as much pleasure. Members often take short holidays with Guild members from either their own locality or other areas.

The Guide Association Training Centres are well used by the Trefoil Guild. Games, quizzes, craft, dancing, discussions, pantomime and a pirate trail were on offer when Guild members from Scotland and Wales visited Netherurd. Hertfordshire Guild members staying at Foxlease investigated house, grounds and surrounding forest, and took a trip to Brownsea Island.

Weston-Super-Mare Guild, Avon South, took an autumn break at Great Hautbois House. Members, who have degrees of disability, enjoyed a lively programme of outings, craft and leisure and presented

Yorkshire Guilds also chose Waddow for a 'Rose and Thistle' break, when outings to local beauty spots included a day coach trip around the Trough of Bowland.

When you join the Trefoil Guild, fun and friendship are guaranteed. Activities take all forms. Isle of Man Southern Guild recently held a surprise 90th birthday party for Lily Newnham, who believed the decorations and food were in someone else's honour until an ode in her honour was read out.

If you imagine challenge is only for the young, think again. Many Guild members are developing a whole range of new interests and skills through the Dark Horse Venture, an achievement scheme for over-55s. Anyone can join, and many Trefoil Guild members are busy amassing Dark Horse Awards as fast as they can.

The Trefoil Guild's logo is that of all the sections, on a red background, and members wear their badges on a red tab. Though the



Trefoil Guild chairman Jill Hancock takes a well-earned rest at the Tribute and Promise parade

a special *Songs of Praise* service at Holy Trinity Church.

There was plenty of fun at Lorne's summer house party last year, when members, family and friends exercised, played games, saw slides of *Hooley '94* and explored the area's attractions. Anyone with any energy left could try archery or a range of crafts.

Waddow was the venue for Warrington, Sunderland and Isle of Man Guilds' action-packed holiday, which included exploring the area and country dancing. Scottish and

Trefoil Guild is officially non-uniformed, red has become its identifying colour and many members wear bright red T-shirts.

The vividness of its chosen colour reflects the lively, strong image of an organisation that is definitely going places.

That's why, if you want a cup of tea, you may well have to make it yourself. These days, Trefoil Guild members are much too busy tackling the latest demanding challenge of the 1990s to have time to put the kettle on. ■

the great hunt

Is fox-hunting
a necessary
part of
country life?
GUIDING
outlines the
cases for and
against

By Catherine Dell

Whenever fox-hunting comes into the conversation, opinions polarize. Within the unit, there will be strongly-held views, shaped as much by Christmas-card hunting scenes and cuddly toy foxes as by fact. Without taking sides, **GUIDING** sums up the conflicting views.

The case for...

Pest control

The fox, however handsome, is a ruthless killer. In rural areas, it can cause considerable damage, taking lambs, poultry, piglets and game birds. Even Beatrix Potter's Mr Tod was a rascal!

Faced with this menace, farmers and gamekeepers protect their livelihoods in two ways: first, by installing anti-fox measures such as electric fences and alarm systems;

ods, although effective, require training and skill. Inexpert shooting, for example, leaves animals injured rather than dead. And snares and traps, even when used properly, cause stress. If hunting were abolished, more foxes would be killed by these methods, or by illegal means such as poisoning.

For its part, hunting claims far fewer foxes a year – around 20,000 – but it is highly selective. On the whole, it kills old and infirm foxes. These are often the ones that attack livestock, as they are too weak to catch rabbits and other wild prey.

In certain parts of the country, hunts are called out by farmers to target individual foxes which have been causing problems such as taking lambs. The scent of the fox is followed from the lambing field until

the animal is located and killed.

By keeping the fox population at a level acceptable to the farming community, hunting not only controls foxes but it also protects them.

Instant death

Hunting is not cruel. Although the chase might last for several hours, for most of that time the fox does not realise that it is

being pursued. The hounds are following the animal's scent, beyond its sight and hearing.

Only towards the end does the fox become aware of them. Even then it behaves calmly and is not seized with terror. As an animal with no natural enemies, it has no instinc-

tive fear of predators.

When a fox is caught it is killed quickly – usually by a single bite to the back of the neck – by just one foxhound. Once the fox is dead it may be given to the pack, but not while it is still alive.

If a fox goes to ground the hunt is over. However, a farmer may insist that, having got so far, the fox should be killed. In this case it is dug out – generally with the help of terrier men and their dogs – and shot.

Sport for all

As a sport, hunting is increasing in popularity and is open to everybody. In addition to supporters on horseback, large numbers of people follow the hunt on foot – and by car. Whether riding, walking or running, followers have an energetic day in the fresh air and – since hunting takes place, with permission, on private land – they enjoy unparalleled access to the countryside.

Because followers are kept well behind the hounds, many of them never even glimpse the fox. And, in general, when it comes to the kill, only the hunt staff are present.

Conservation

Hunting, like other field sports, makes a significant contribution to conservation – and has done for centuries. The New Forest in Hampshire, for example, was originally a royal hunting ground. Today, hunts own and manage woodlands; and play a large part in keeping bridleways open and maintaining fences. Hunting farmers plant scrub, copses and hedgerows, providing shelter for all kinds of wildlife.

Employment

Estimates suggest that 33,000 people make their living, directly or indirectly, out of hunting. Some, such as stable staff and terrier men, rely totally on hunting. Others, such as vets, blacksmiths and boot makers, work in associated trades and professions.



Fox-hunting is a traditional part of country life

and second, by controlling the fox population – around two thirds of sheep farmers, for instance, operate some form of fox control.

The most widely used control methods – shooting, snaring and trapping – account for at least 150,000 foxes a year. These meth-

T. SHEVEZI

ng debate

The case against...

Libel

The fox's reputation for killing livestock is exaggerated. Studies show that only 0.5 per cent of lambs are taken by foxes, whereas up to 24 per cent die of starvation, hypothermia and disease. But, because foxes often scavenge these carcasses and leave the remains near their earths, they – rather than bad shepherding – get blamed for the deaths.

Foxes are not a great threat to chickens either, since 98 per cent of Britain's poultry is shut away in battery units. However, they will attack free-range birds if they are not adequately protected.

When it comes to arable farming, the fox is more of a friend than a foe. Its natural diet includes rabbits, voles and rats, which are all pests among crops.

Too many foxes?

Research indicates that the fox population depends on the year-round availability of food and self adjusts accordingly. When food is scarce, fox numbers drop. When it is plentiful, they increase.

Similarly, the fox population self adjusts to persecution. In areas with a high mortality rate through hunting and other controls, vixens produce more cubs to restore the population to its previous level. Conversely, where mortality rates are low, vixens have smaller litters – or even none at all. The net result of fox control is an unnaturally young population, with overall numbers remaining the same. If the killing stopped, there would not be an explosion of foxes.

Not a sport

Most people see sport as a contest between equals. In hunting, however, the protagonists are far from equal: on one side, a frightened wild animal; on the other, around 30 hounds and, maybe, as many as 300 people of all ages –

some of them on horseback.

A fox's natural response to danger is to take refuge underground, but in a hunt situation this is not allowed. The night before the meet, all possible escape routes – such as earths, badger sets and drains – are blocked off in the area to be hunted.

This strategy forces the fox to keep on running as far and as fast as it can.

Because hounds are bred for stamina rather than speed, they can sustain a prolonged chase. During the first hour or two the fox outruns them. Then, as fatigue sets in, the hounds catch up with it. For such an animal, which has no natural predators and which is therefore unused to pursuit, the chase is an exhausting and traumatic experience.

The next, and final, stage is just as terrifying. Sometimes the fox is killed by the leading hound, but often it is savaged to death by the pack – with several dogs tearing at its body at once.

If, in the course of the chase, the fox manages to find an unblocked hole and 'goes to ground', it may be left alone. Alternatively, it is either dug out or baited underground by terriers. Most hunts have special terrier men with their dogs to carry out this task. Once the fox is forced to the surface, it is normally killed – but it is sometimes made to 'bolt', so that the hunt can continue.

Trespass

When the hunt sets out, hounds, horses and followers form an orderly group. But once the fox breaks

cover, hounds and riders take off in hot pursuit.

The hounds, with their noses down, chase after their quarry wherever it runs. Despite efforts by the whippers-in to divert them, they will frequently follow the fox across roads and railway lines, through pri-



ERIC ASHBY

vate gardens, down village streets... And in Britain's crowded countryside accidents inevitably occur.

Reports exist of damaged cars, train services disrupted, flower-beds trampled, fences broken, pets maimed... The hounds themselves are often injured, sometimes fatally, and horses and riders have been hurt, too.

A young fox comes out of its earth

Find out more

For further information about hunting send a large sae (A4 size) to British Field Sports Society, 59 Kennington Road, London SE1 7PZ.

For more information about the anti-hunting campaign send a sae to League Against Cruel Sports Ltd, 83-87 Union Street, London SE1 1SG.

coming next

IN APRIL'S GUIDING

Caring Guider

Top social worker award for Community Involvement and Development Adviser.

How safe are you?

A disturbing personal experience prompted a Guider to question our safety consciousness.

Glad we weren't there!

A tale of camping disasters that just went on and on and on.

Try these...

When two Trainers challenged Guiders to come up with ideas, they wrote enough to fill a book.

Europe for you

News of a programme for 16-22-year-olds to help them discover 'Europe to the full'.

Natural investigators

Activities to help Rainbow Guides satisfy their curiosity and answer all those 'but why?' questions.

Recipe for true Guiding

The first in a series examining the central role of the Five Essentials.

Win a weekend away

Sharp-eyed readers will love our Training Centres quiz.

Crafty coiling

Rope table mats make perfect gifts and sell well at all types of fundraising events.

Badge swop

Latest swops for avid collectors.

IN APRIL'S BROWNIE

Fantastic fun food

Have a spring celebration and make our special Easter sandwiches, jazzy jewelled eggs and an egggy hen!

Lots of bounce

Brilliant ball games to try.

Fabulous prizes to be won

Two super competitions.

Star gazing

Constellations to see at night.

Make a torch

From bits and pieces you can find around the home.

Great inventions

A special board-game based on inventions through the ages.

...AND IN RAINBOW GUIDE EXTRA

A thing of beauty

How to make and decorate your own fluttering paper butterfly.

Great games to play

All based on using your senses.

Through a magnifying glass

Can you spot what Rainbow Rabbit is looking at this month?

Super story

Debbie and the dinosaurs.

Just for fun

Test your knowledge of animals by deciding how they move around.

open day

The third Open Day will be held at CHQ on
Saturday, April 13 from 9.30am-4pm

This year we're opening on a Saturday to make it easier for women with weekday responsibilities to attend. And also to take advantage of any cheap weekend travel deals.

All departments will be open to visitors and staff will be on hand to answer questions.

Visitors must be over 16. If you are able to come, please let

Margaret Moore know by ringing her on 0171 834 6242 ext 216, or by dropping her a line at 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT, as it helps if we know names and expected arrival times.

Try combining your visit with a tour of the new Guide Heritage Centre — the admission charge is £2 per person. Sorry but we cannot acknowledge phone messages or letters.

an award for Amy

Amy Simpson is the first winner of the Changemakers section of the Whitbread Volunteer Action Awards. It is aimed at young people in secondary schools who take positive steps to benefit their communities and is run in association with the National Youth Agency and the Volunteer Centre UK.

Since 1992, 14-year-old Amy has acted as the voluntary pupil leader of Selsdon High School's Environmental Project.

In that time, as co-manager of the project, Amy, who lives in Croydon, Surrey, has dealt 'tactfully and effectively' with her local authority's environment sub-committee – Care for Croydon – and inspired fellow pupils to be concerned about environmental issues.

She has written and filmed a

recruitment video, organised regular open evenings, set up a Year Five Environment Day and now runs a 'Care for our trees' scheme.

Amy, who said she was 'absolutely thrilled to win', was a Brownie with the 3rd Addington Pack, but didn't become a Guide.

She returned to the Movement through a request on the notice board at Selsdon Baptist Church. Now Amy helps with the 10th Selsdon Brownie Pack and wants to become a Young Leader.

She was presented with her award by Princess Michael of Kent at a celebration lunch given by Whitbread, who have been backing the scheme for 13 years in order to



HARRISON COWLEY PR (BRISTOL)

A Brownie Pack helper has won a top award for volunteering

Amy Simpson shows off her award — one of volunteering's 'oscar's'

honour many outstanding examples of volunteering.

Sir Michael Angus, Chairman of Whitbread, described volunteers as 'unsung heroes and heroines' working tirelessly to help others.

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Romans alive!

For girls studying the Roman age at school, activities at the Museum of London this month could bring their history studies to life.

The new Roman London gallery, which contains displays of nearly 2,000 objects, incorporates a reconstructed street scene and, until March 31, actor/interpreters will be on hand to answer your questions.

Workshop days include Roman fashion and make-overs (March 17), and Roman-style reading and writing (March 31). Quick March (March 10 and 24) is an exciting demonstration of Roman military drill and equipment.

For more details phone the information line: 0171 600 0807.

Roman oven-to-table ware



MUSEUM OF LONDON

Welcome for walkers

If your good-weather activities include walking, it will certainly benefit you to have a copy of *The Rambler's Yearbook and Accommodation Guide 1996*. With over 2,300 B & B and self-catering

addresses, and masses of excellent advice, this could prove to be £4.99 well spent.

The Yearbook is available by post (add £1 p&p) from the Ramblers, 1/5 Wandsworth Road, London SW8 2XX.

The Rambler's YEARBOOK AND ACCOMMODATION GUIDE 1996



A selection of nickel-free Aimicci jewellery



Symbol of safety

Almost one in four women suffer from nickel allergy, yet nickel is still used in most costume jewellery. Reactions to it range from itching and tingling to severe dermatitis.

Now, however, those with sensitive skin can be sure they are buying jewellery that is nickel free by checking whether it carries a special symbol of safety. The symbol has been produced by the Sheffield Assay Office and the mark guarantees that a particular range of jewellery is nickel free.

Already, three leading costume-jewellery brands have been awarded the right to display the mark: Aimicci, Boots Solutions and the Country Casuals jewellery range.



CAROLINE EVERSFIELD PR

Answers on tap

Here's a chance to win a complete reference work worth £268. The *Tree of Knowledge* is a comprehensive encyclopedia that builds up week by week. It comes as a 24-page magazine, each costing £1.50, providing an up-to-date reference for the whole family.

Tree of Knowledge covers everything from science and technology to art and man. Each instalment can be stored in special protective binders.

By answering the following question correctly you could win the complete set:
● Which one of the following locations is not the site of a volcanic eruption?: St Helena, Fujiyama, Nagasaki.

The ten runners-up will each win the first five issues, or, if they already have them, the five issues beginning in May.

Send your answer plus your name and address on a postcard to: *Tree of Knowledge*, GUIDING, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT to arrive not later than March 31. The winners' names will be drawn after the closing date.

Swim for Britain

Any time between now and the end of May you can take part in the Uncle Ben's Swim for Britain Initiative, which aims to raise £200,000 through sponsorship to send the British swimming team to this year's Olympic Games in Atlanta, USA.

The organisers are offering a special competition for Guides and Brownies. The units will be able to keep 30 per cent of the money that they raise for their own use and there will be prizes for the top fund raisers, both units and individuals.

The winning Brownie Pack and Guide Company will each receive a trophy, a selection of Uncle Ben's goodies (T-shirts and water bottles) and certificates. The winning individual will win a track suit and a certificate. A celebrity swimmer will visit the winning group to talk about exercise and healthy eating, and each participant will receive a certificate.

If you'd like to take part, call Freephone 0800 106012 and leave your name and address. Uncle Ben's will send you details of your nearest swim.

On the rails

Jaded commuters apart, most people are fascinated by the history and romance of the railways. At York's National Railway Museum there is a children's activity centre, a royal carriage display and video, plus model-railway and turntable demonstrations.

Adults will appreciate the exhibitions of art by members of the Guild of Railway Artists. A special 'Women at Work on the Railways' exhibition is currently open and continues until March 31.

Also this month, from March 15-24, the Museum will stage its National Science Week, featuring a family trail, workshops and displays, to show how science has contributed to our network of communications.

The museum, which is located in the centre of York, is open from

Monday to Saturday, 10am to 6pm, and Sunday, 11am to 6pm. Admission is £4.20 for adults and £2.10 for children aged 5-15.



NATIONAL RAILWAY MUSEUM

Calling busy bees

Helping bee-keepers in Zimbabwe to carry out their work in a more productive and environmentally-sensitive way, and to market their produce effectively, is one of the worthwhile projects currently being undertaken by Intermediate Technology.

This charity works to enable poor people in the Southern Hemisphere to develop and use appropriate skills and technology in order to take control of their own lives.

If your unit would like to hold a Honey Tea event to raise money for the project, a free information pack is available from Anne Pilling, Appeals Officer, Intermediate Technology, Myson House, Railway Terrace, Rugby CV21 3HT. Tel: 01788 560631.



Uncle Ben's

SWIM FOR BRITAIN

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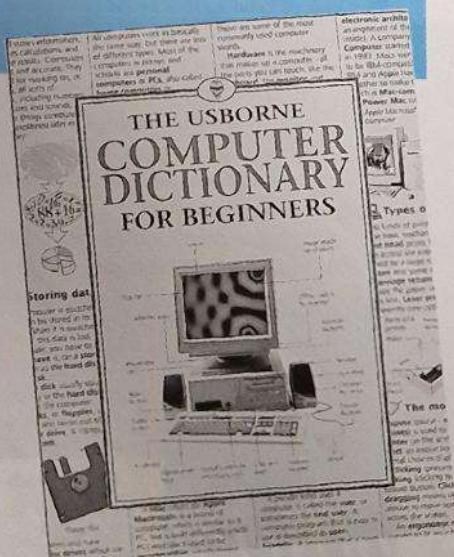
Help us raise £200,000 to send the British swimming team to the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, USA.

Knowing a CAT from a mouse

Computers are a fact of modern life, but when you're on the lower slopes of the learning curve, you'll need a simple, comprehensive guide such as the *Usborne Computer Dictionary for Beginners*. The book costs £5.99 in paperback.

The dictionary covers all aspects of computers, including their history, design, sound and music, the Internet and various types of software.

Ten lucky *GUIDING* readers will receive a free copy. To be in with a chance of winning one, send a postcard to 'Computer Dictionary', *GUIDING*, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT by March 31. The first ten names drawn after that date will be sent a copy.



notices

Take action

Action First is a camp for Action Plus and 13-14 year-old Guides. It will be held at Foxlease, the Association's Training and Activity Centre in Hampshire, from June 21-23.

Participants are welcome to come alone or, preferably, with a group of two or three others.

The camp will be action-packed and includes a visit to a leisure centre, wide games, an optional night walk in the forest, sweet making and aerobics. Some meals will be cooked centrally, some by campers themselves and some on Trangia stoves.

The cost, including the leisure centre visit and most of the food and activities, will be £16 if you are bringing your own equipment, and £18 if you are using Foxlease's.

For further details and an application form, write to: Miss C Davies, Foxlease, Lyndhurst, Hampshire SO43 7DE.

Association Awards

GOOD SERVICE LAUREL

Mrs Frances Drake

Deputy Chief Commissioner,
London and South East; County
Commissioner, Greater London West

MERITORIOUS CONDUCT STAR OF MERIT

Miss Joanne Evans

Brownie Guide, 3rd Bridge of Weir
Pack, Renfrewshire

Best foot forward

This year's Waltham Walk takes place on May 18-19 and, as usual, teams of Guides will be welcome to enter. It is organised by the Boys Brigade and sponsored by Vango.

The route covers over 30 miles and can be used for Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze and Silver Award expeditions.

Teams of three will start the walk through the Essex and Hertfordshire countryside from Wethersfield, camp overnight near Great Leighs and finish at Felsted.

There are three categories: Veterans for anyone over 19; the Main Event for 15-19 year-olds; and the Mini Trek for 12-14 year-olds.

For further details, call Michael Wilding on 01285 861416 or Graham Farnfield on 0181 527 4532.

Wrong area

In January's Notices Mrs Stella Goldsmith was described as being Brownie Guider with the 7th Packham Pack. Her unit is, in fact, the 7th Patcham Brownies.

Bargain offer

You can join the Youth Hostel Association of England and Wales (YHA) for half price if you become a member of The Guide Association's Senior Section in 1996. And, if you achieve the Queen's Guide Award this year, the YHA is offering you free membership for a year.

For more details and an application form, please contact Gillian Cruickshank, Guiding Services, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT, enclosing a sae.

Short-term investment service

The monthly interest rate after deduction of management commission was:

October	5.575 per cent
November	5.782 per cent
December	5.602 per cent

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

Trust Fund

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

For selling purposes	364.73p
For buying purposes	383.31p
Income yield	3.33 per cent

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

Obituary

The death has occurred of Mrs Winifred (Deda) Othwaite from Thackley, near Bradford in West Yorkshire.

When England was split into six Regions, Mrs Othwaite was appointed as the first Chief Commissioner for North East England. She later became its first President.

Letty Hanson, North East England General Secretary from 1971 to 1986, said: 'The foundations upon which North East England was built are a living memorial to a truly remarkable lady; an example to all in the Guide world of living out every part of the Guide Promise and Law.'

Mrs Othwaite was never a Guide, but she made the Promise as an adult in 1954, and her first appointment was as Division Commissioner for Bradford East.

In 1963, she became County Commissioner for Yorkshire, West Riding North West.

Young views at Westminster

'Young People: A Force for Change' is a two-day conference held on March 22-23, and organised by the National Youth Agency, Changemakers and the Directory of Social Change.

The conference will focus on the achievements of young people and explore new avenues of community involvement.

The conference, at Church House in Westminster, is supported by the British Youth Council, the Federation of Youth Action Agencies, the Prince's Trust Volunteers, Community Service Volunteers and Whitbread plc.

Final celebrations

Catholic Guiders are invited to join Westminster Catholic Guild at a buffet lunch on Saturday, March 9 at Our Lady of Victories in Kensington, London. The event, which will run from 12-4pm, is the last in the Guild's celebrations to mark the 50th anniversary of its formation.

Further details from Kathleen Mulvey on 0181 806 1712.

On the trail

The youth section of the British Association for the Advancement of Science is holding three activity days:

● On March 15 and 16, two BAYSDAYS are being held at London's Science Museum. Call 0171 973 3060.

● Manchester Metropolitan University is holding a session on fingerprinting and genetic detection in Crewe on March 16. Call Annette Smith on 0161 247 5212.

official

The Forward Policy Group (FPG) is described by our youngest member as the 'Pick-n-Mix' group.

Unlike some other working groups, it is not made up of a fixed number of representatives from Countries and Regions.

But it does cover a wide spectrum, having representatives from Country and Region Chief Commissioners; elected members of the Executive Committee; Advisers; and also from the younger members of the Movement.

Some senior staff are also members of the group, plus the Chief Commissioner Margaret Wright.

The chairman is Collette Stone who does her best to keep this group of forward-thinking people in order — and to the point!

So what is our remit? In 1992 the Association set out its Vision Statement and Objectives — the way forward for our girls and women. The seven main objectives were:

- To widen our membership
- To ensure our Programme is enjoyable and challenging
- To encourage participation in decision-making
- To ensure all adult leaders are fully supported
- To adapt the structure to meet the needs of its members
- To identify and make effective use of resources
- To be an influence locally, nationally and internationally

Since then, members have all been working to achieve these objectives in their Countries and Regions, many of them have outlined the methods by which they hope to move Guiding forward in your particular areas.

Counties have responded through training, with recruitment campaigns, by tailoring committees to meet present needs, by seeking commitment and advice from all Guiders, by improving communications and so on.

The Association, as a whole, has moved forward and the task of the FPG is to help to ensure that the Association continues to grow and contribute to the advancement of girls and women, in line with its Vision Statement.

The group looks at issues which

the way ahead

The Guide Association is on course to achieve its seven objectives

By Jane Lilley



The Forward Policy Group aims to ensure that the Association continues to grow

The Association's Vision Statement and Objectives outlines the way forward for our girls and women

may form future policy. For example, in response to a questionnaire prepared by the FPG, most of our committees have identified strategies by which the Association can achieve its seven objectives.

We are currently working on a survey and study of the committee structure of the Association. We all want our committees to be Guide effective, time effective and cost effective. And the FPG has been charged by the Executive Committee to undertake this task on their behalf.

What this means to you as members is that there is a group with the responsibility, the time and the expertise to look in-depth at a wide



variety of issues, which, we hope, will help to ensure a healthy future for Guiding in the UK. ■



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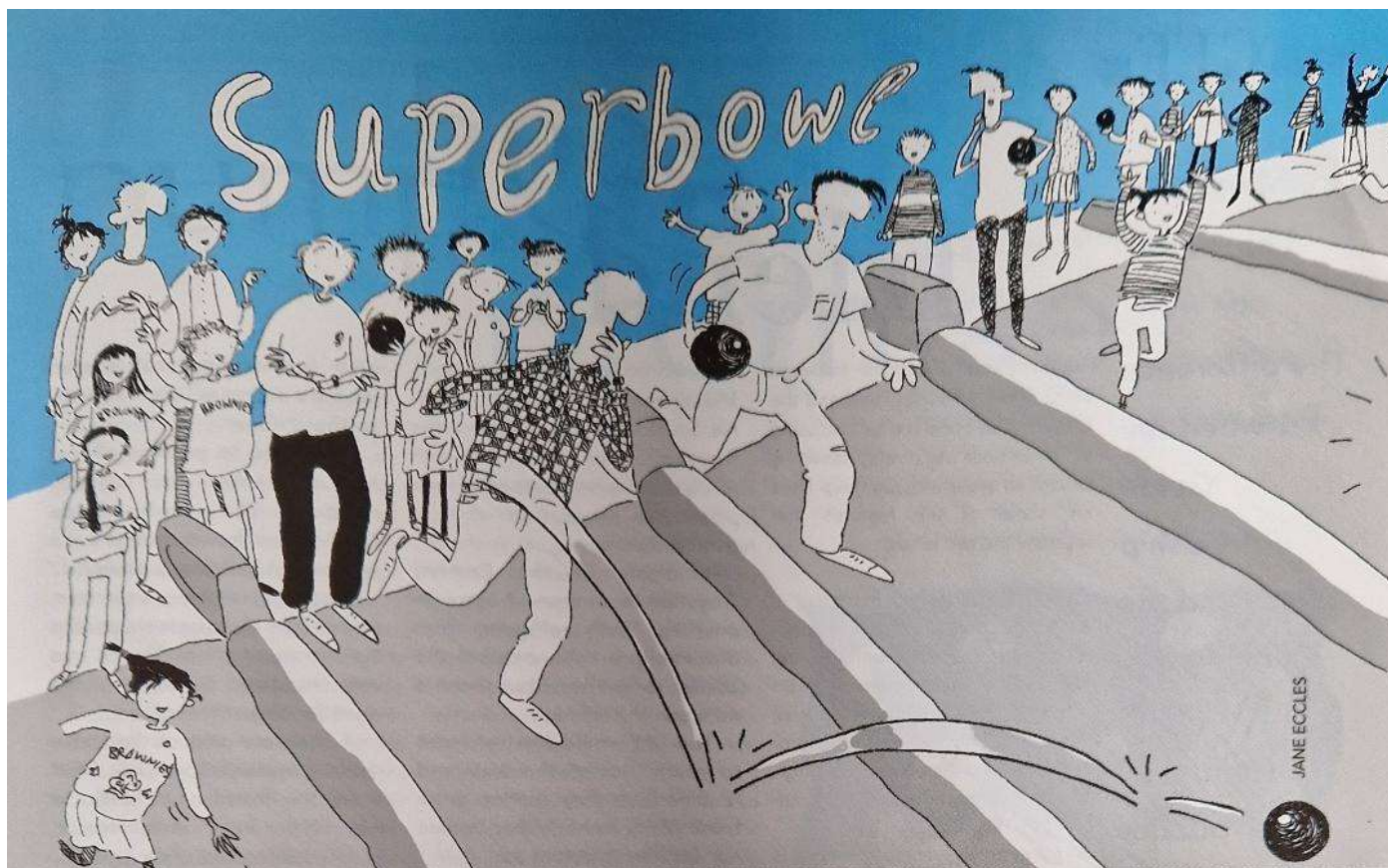
We recondition used laser printer toner cartridges and drum kits and every time you send 10 of these to us at no cost to yourself you can earn up to £60. Over 100,000 are thrown away every month so it shouldn't be difficult. For further details and a Guide Association project pack telephone 01749 679679 and ask for **GUIDE FUND RAISING**.



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JANE ECCLES

Back in the Swinging Sixties, when tenpin bowling was a trendy new pastime, I could hold my own with the best of them. So the 23rd's first visit to the local superbowl was surely a chance to impress. I certainly made my mark, but not quite as I had hoped.

I couldn't really imagine our giggling group of four foot nothings having much success with a ball that weighed almost as much as they did, so I resolved to pass on a bit of experience and offer a few tips. Not to mention playing my trump card — knowing how to score. As it happened, though, that turned out to be my first setback.

Twenty years ago, if you'd mastered the mysteries of scoring, you were undoubtedly instant Mensa material. I remember a certain Deirdre Braithwaite being so impressed by my mathematical genius that she once agreed to dine with me after a game.

Whatever happened to all those Wimpy bars, I wonder? Of course, in those days, I couldn't even afford a trip to a Berni Steak House!

Imagine my surprise when I discovered that today's scoring system is fully computerised. In spite of Tawny's assurance that it was 'so

easy that a seven-year-old child could understand it', we were both left scratching our heads.

It was just as well that seven-year-old Gemma was on hand to explain it all: 'Just press this, enter your name, use the selector, activate the auto-score and away you go.'

I expressed my gratitude for her helpfulness, restraining an impulse to demand: 'Do you know your 12-times table and the capital of Venezuela?', in an effort to bolster my wounded pride.

It was definitely time to start bowling and to ponder the strange inflatable tubes on either side of the lane. Apparently, they put these in for young parties nowadays so they don't bowl into the gully... guaranteeing a hit on the pins every time. I seem to remember that laughing at people teetering into the sidelines was half the fun in the old days.

We certainly displayed a variety of styles. Most of the balls trickled down so slowly that we wondered whether they'd ever reach the pins. Rebecca let one go backwards and Tessa, who is extremely well made, hurled the ball down with such power that she might merely have been playing marbles.

Not to be outdone, I decided to

a man's eye view

make my last ball a real screamer. Unfortunately, I must have released it a fraction too soon, because it hurtled down the lane like a bouncing bomb. It shot clear over to the next lane, where a rather expert-looking chap was about to bowl. By an amazing piece of luck, it clattered into the pins and down they went... my first ten of the night!

Needless to say, the manager came over for a quiet word, much to the amusement of the gathered throng. 'In all my years, no one's ever done that before,' he said. 'It's supposed to be impossible.'

Well, I did set out to make my mark, and it's not everybody who can say they've achieved the impossible. I think I'll leave the tenpins to the younger generation. Crown Green bowling here I come. ■

good friends

The difference between the Guide Friendship Fund and the Thinking Day Fund frequently puzzles members

By Rosemary Mills
GFF Administrator

Grasping the difference between the Guide Friendship Fund and the Thinking Day Fund can be confusing at first as both use money raised by Guides to assist with Guiding. Here are some of the features that separate the two funds:

Guide Friendship Fund

- It is the UK Guides 'own' charity.
- It has a committee with Country and Region representatives, who select the causes to be supported; allocate money received; and promote the fund throughout Guiding.
- All its administration costs are met by CHQ.
- All money given to the fund is donated to specific causes which are published in *GUIDING*.

Thinking Day Fund

- It helps fund WAGGGS and its work, which includes trainings, regional events and the development of Guiding.
- It is an integral part of WAGGGS' ongoing budget and is not used for specific projects.

Helping refugees

The 1994 Friendship Fund Christmas Appeal raised money for Guide

Associations working with refugees. Money was sent to Namibia, Tanzania, South Africa, Zimbabwe and the Rwandan Guides in exile. The South African Guides sent a report of their project, an extract from which is published below:

'Namakgale in the Eastern Transvaal is an area of extreme poverty. Many refugees from Mozambique have crossed the border to live here, but there is no work or homes.

The UN would like refugees to return "home", but their land is mined so they cannot grow food. Many have neither homes nor families to return to.

There is no government provision for caring for under-sixes, so a local Catholic mission and the Guides, run by Mrs Maureen Kirk, are doing the best they can themselves. A local employer is providing some financial help.

A pre-school is being equipped and GFF money will be used to provide kitchen equipment. Mrs Kirk is

also supporting local women who are acting as "day mothers" to the children.

Materials to provide shelter for a crèche are urgently needed. The local Guide Division has donated tents but a permanent building is essential.

When this report was written, shelter from the sun was a priority. But at the end of last year the area was devastated by some of the worst flooding on record.

A complete copy of the above report is available from CHQ. Send a sae to: Rosemary Mills, Guide Friendship Fund Administrator, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.



THE GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA



THE GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

The school is to have new kitchen equipment paid for with money donated by the GFF

The GFF Christmas Appeal raised money for this pre-school in South Africa

pumpkin promise

Guider Mary
Minns tells
how she
baked five
girls in a pie

Not since Cinderella went to the ball has there been such a fairy-tale enrolment ceremony.

There were no ugly sisters, no mice to turn into six white horses or a rat to become a coachman, but there was a fairy godmother — Guider Mary Minns, with a pumpkin big enough for five Guides to climb into and make their Promise.

To add to the magic, the girls joined the 1st Longham Guide Company, in Dorset's Ferndown District, at night, in a wood, by the flickering light of pumpkin lanterns.

Mary, who likes her Guides to have 'really memorable' enrolments, explains how she managed to conjure up the giant pumpkin without the aid of a wand:

“My dad, John Rigler, who glories in his knack of growing big carrots and onions, decided last year to take part in an annual contest run by *The Load of Hay*, a pub at Fordingbridge, for the biggest pumpkin.

He started growing one by a copse he owns, near Hampreston village, where my parents live. Longham, where I was a Brownie and a Guide, is the next village.

Dad tended the pumpkin as if it were a monster baby. He fed it on what he called "Factor X", made to his own, secret formula, and wrapped it in one of Mum's coats at night to keep it warm. In the hot weather, it was guzzling 40 gallons of water a day.

The pumpkin grew to an enormous size and three of its runners grew to 45ft. On judging day, when the pumpkin was 10ft in circumference, Dad needed three other men to help drag it to Mum's hatchback Fiesta. Then he had to "persuade" it to sit in the car while he drove it to *The Load of Hay*.

At the pub, it weighed in at 305lbs and was easily the biggest in the show. Dad became the 1995 champion and the silver cup is

proudly displayed on the mantelpiece. The pumpkin monopolised much of the garage while Mum got down to making pumpkin jam, pumpkin soup and pumpkin pie.

My husband, Kevin; our seven-year-old son, Robert, who is in the Beavers; and our daughter, Hannah, now four and hoping to be a Rainbow, all helped to "dig out" the pumpkin's flesh.

On Dad's insistence, we had to be very careful, as we removed the flesh, not to miss any of the seeds he'd counted — there were 320!

I think he wanted to pass on the genes of the champion and win this year's contest, too.

Following its 'operation', the pumpkin — now just a huge, hollow shell — looked a bit depressed. Suddenly I had an idea. The shell was about three inches thick and very strong, so why couldn't our new Guides climb inside and make their Promise right there.

That would cast a spell over the ceremony, I thought, and we could cheer up the pumpkin by giving it a face. We carved out triangles for its eyes and nose, in traditional style, and an enormous mouth with a couple of grisly fangs.

I arranged for the enrolment of five Guides to coincide with Hannah's fourth birthday. It was agreed that the combined birthday party and Promise ceremony should take place in the dark, in the clearing by Dad's copse, where the pumpkin had been grown. Now much lighter than it had been, the pumpkin was taken back there.

On the big night, Mum, Dad, Kevin, Robert, our District Commissioner Jo Mansbridge and all 20 of the unit's other Guides were there to sing *Happy Birthday* to Hannah and to witness the five



Guides make their Promise inside the enormous pumpkin.

The Guides cooked hot dogs over a brushwood fire and enjoyed a singsong, before wending their way by the light of their pumpkin lanterns down the track to the road, where their parents were waiting.

Although the giant pumpkin never turned into a coach, I like to think I was the girls' fairy godmother on a night of sheer magic.

I'm already working on ideas for our next enrolment ceremony. Now what was that story about four-and-twenty blackbirds baked in a pie?

open for business

Words and photo
by Nora Warner

**Birmingham
shop staff got
in party mood
to celebrate
65 glorious
years
of trading**

In 65 years, Birmingham's Guide and Scout Shop has had only three managers. And at a party in December to celebrate the shop being open for business since 1930, two of them were present to confirm that it really was a 'wonderful job'.

Miss Mandy Corbett, who took over in 1980, explained what she loves about her job: 'This is a real family shop. Our customers end up as our friends.'

'We have regulars who come in on a weekly basis. Quite a few of them I've welcomed every week for 20 years. Some started off as Brownies and now they're bringing their own children in.'

Her biggest regret was that the original manager – Miss Winnie

Simmonds – who retired in 1965 couldn't be present. 'She died last year,' 52-year-old Mandy explained. 'I know she'd have loved to be here to meet up with old friends.'

Among the other VIP guests at the party were the Chief Commissioner, Margaret Wright; the Midlands Chief Commissioner, Pat Taft; and the Chief Executive, Hilary Williams.

Miss Simmonds' successor, Mrs Joyce Shilton, who retired in 1980 after 25 years – 15 as manager – was one of the first guests to arrive.

Of course, she can keep up with all the shop news through her daughter, Mrs Jackie Meason, who is one of the five-strong staff.

Also present were Jackie's daughter, Ruth Evans, and her 16-month-old son, Nathan.

'I was a Brownie, Guide and Ranger,' Ruth said 'but I haven't worked in the shop.'

Mandy moved up to manager in 1980, after

being deputy manager for ten years.

'We've been in Ryder Street since 1960,' she explained. 'We started stocking Scouting goods 13 years ago and one of the staff is a Cub leader.' She added: 'The party is partly to celebrate the completion of the refit we had earlier in the year'

Ray Jones, Trading Service Purchasing Manager, having recalled some of the hiccups in the refit carried out while the shop remained open, said: 'It's nice to come here when everything is calm and to be able to share such a splendid day.'

He complimented the staff on 'laying on such a splendid do' and pointed out: 'The fact that all the staff have been here for a long time, and that there have been only three managers in 65 years, testifies to their competence, efficiency and stoicism'.

Early next morning Mandy's stoicism was once more put to the test. She was woken at 4.45am to be told that the biggest plate glass window at the shop had been smashed by vandals.



Keeping it in the family: Birmingham shop manager Mandy Corbett (left) with former manager Joyce Shilton and Joyce's daughter, Jackie Meason, who also works in the shop

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Paula's a star

During the months she spent in hospital following a car crash, young Ulster Guider Paula Lown must have found it difficult to be 'cheerful in all circumstances'.

After all, she was only 22 and had just been told by doctors that she would never walk again.

Fortunately, Paula is well-endowed with courage and the outstanding fortitude she has shown has won her the Star of Merit.

Since the crash that left her paralysed in both legs and largely confined to a wheelchair, Paula has:

- Taken over as Guider of the 2nd Bangor Guide Company in County Down.
- Qualified to hold a QM certificate.
- Started working for a Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award.
- Obtained a B grade in A-level psychology.

And she's done a lot more besides, as Christine Wilson, former Guider of the 2nd Bangor Guides, can confirm:

❖ The accident happened on Saturday, August 20, 1994. Paula, then my Assistant Guider, was driving home alone in her car when she crashed into a lamppost on the outskirts of Bangor.

She can remember very little of the accident, but she probably swerved to avoid a cat, as a dead cat was found in the wreckage. Paula was unconscious for several days. Then, a month later while still in hospital, Paula was told that she would never walk again.

I had known Paula since she was a bouncy 11-year-old Guide in my Company. She gained her B-P Trefoil in 1987 and went on to be a Young Leader with the 4th Bangor Guides. While at Sheffield University, Paula helped with Guides, before returning to Queen's University, Belfast, to finish her degree.

With her sights set on teaching,

Paula was about to start a course for a postgraduate certificate in education when misfortune struck.

The news, when it was broken to Paula, was not entirely bad. She had what the doctors termed "incomplete" paraplegia, a condition that left her with just a slight chance of improvement. That was all Paula needed — a slight chance.

After her discharge from hospital in November 1994, Paula worked really hard at physiotherapy, first at a clinic and then by herself at home. As a result, she can now manage to walk short distances very slowly, with the aid of sticks. Although she will always need a wheelchair, Paula's limited mobility has given her greater independence.

Paula had to postpone her entry to the postgraduate course, so she became very busy in other ways.

That December, she started a course in psychology at a local further education college.

With all her course work completed on time, she sat the exam last June and passed with a B grade.

Unable to swim after the accident, Paula started going to the pool in Bangor and now swims 40 lengths regularly.

She began piano lessons, joined a drama group and took part — in her wheelchair — in a play.

Even before her final discharge, Paula was turning up at the Guide hall on Friday nights as if nothing much had happened, helping to run meetings from her wheelchair.

As part of the training for her

QM certificate, she spent a weekend under canvas. Then, for a week last August, she was QM for 30 people when the 2nd Bangor Guides went to Netherurd.

She showed the girls the proper way to make a fire; and how to fry sausages, and cook dishes like spaghetti Bolognese and sweet-and-sour chicken over the fire; all from her wheelchair.

The only hiccup occurred when she ordered tinned pears from the shop to go with her own "Quarter-master" brand chocolate sauce. Owing to her order being misread, tinned peas turned up!

Paula kept her cool and served ice-cream with the chocolate sauce instead. This went down a treat and I need hardly add that she passed with flying colours.

Paula started work on her Duke

There's no stopping courageous Paula Lown, who is fighting back after a car crash



CHRISTINE WILSON

of Edinburgh's Gold Award in November 1994 and hopes to finish it this summer. Instead of an expedition, she will take an "exploration", researching church architecture in Ireland.

And, as if further proof of her courage were needed, she took over from me as Unit Guider on Friday the 13th! ♡

Paula (right) enjoying life before her accident

join the party

Wonderful countryside awaits walkers in Wales

Jean Simpson
(far left) with
walking companions
Pam Raynor, Lois
Louden, Mary
Edwards, Susan
Walkington and
Sally Fuller, admiring
the view over the
Twymyn Valley

Keen walkers from all over the UK are invited to explore an unspoilt area of Britain this summer.

An opportunity to complete the northern loop of a long-distance footpath, Glyndwr's Way, is just one of the treats on offer during Walking Week at Broneirion, Guides Cymru's HQ and Training Centre.

This popular annual event will start on July 27 and ends on August 3. It is not organised only for members of the Movement-partners, friends and older children can also take part, either for a few days or the whole week.

One walker last year commented: 'Who would have thought

there was so much to see and do in mid-Wales?'

Her reaction didn't surprise regulars like Jean Simpson: 'Broneirion is surrounded by wonderful countryside just

waiting to be explored,' she said.

Along with eight other walkers, Jean completed the first half of Glyndwr's Way last year.

They started at the Clock Tower in Knighton and finished six days later near Aberhosan.

The long-distance footpath is named after the 15th century warrior statesman Owain Glyndwr and winds through remote villages and along forest paths.

Broneirion is central to the footpath, and walkers appreciate the comfortable accommodation, tasty food and ample hot water on offer.

'The memories of the spectacular scenery as we descended towards Aberhosan on the last day, will be treasured by us all,' Jean recalled.



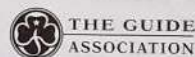
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March 17 1996 to:

General Secretary, Guides Cymru,
Broneirion, Llandinam, Powys. SY17 5DE

dear Hazel

Thanks for the letter full of summer plans. Brownie Revels are not a new kind of sweet — whatever your daughter tells you! You'll find out more at your District Meeting.

You need sun, food, lots of activities and toilets. It's just not done to be far from toilets. We always had our District Revels in a local park.

I remember the year one Brownie disobeyed orders and fed a deer. 'He looked so hungry, Brown Owl,' she explained. But before long, the whole herd was demanding food and our Revels were moved indoors!

Yes, I've taken Brownies pond dipping. We had a pond near us and we went there one day. What I didn't realise was that a couple of Brownies had collected hundreds of frogs to bring back with them.

Sadly, they dropped the container on a crowded pavement on a Saturday afternoon, and the frogs all jumped out! It seemed as if a plague of frogs had descended. The shoppers were screaming and the Brownies were running round trying to catch the frogs.

We had taken our Commissioner with us, so I decided that it was her job to deal with it. I pretended that I hadn't noticed and walked on, leaving her to sort out the chaos!

We spent a lot of meetings preparing for our Pack Holiday, and I see that you are planning to do that too. I just love Pack Holidays. I don't suppose you'd like another helper? Jehoshaphat definitely cannot go. It's just not done to take cats — there is no space on the insurance form for pets!

One year I took a very large cactus with me — honest. The coach driver thought I was mad, but it was just about to flower and I couldn't miss seeing it! And another year I took my hamster and nearly lost him when the Brownies took him out on a bit of string 'to see the daisies'.

Pack Holidays are fun. Go to a Pack Holiday training. Fill in all the forms and read all the rules, which

are designed to protect you and yours. Collect up ideas and plan the holiday well before you go.

That way, you'll definitely have a wonderful time. There's nothing like going on a Pack Holiday for losing weight and gaining grey hairs.

I've so many memories of Pack Holiday. There was the time when my Brownies came rushing in shouting 'We need a saucepan lid'. I thought they were collecting blackberries, but they came back with a stiff and very dead squirrel on it. Our cook was livid.

One year we stayed in a church hall next to a graveyard, and I found the girls making daisy chains for the little stone angels on the graves. We also used Pack Holiday houses with luxuries like showers and a telephone — wonderful, until there is a wrong number just after the girls have settled down in bed.

Then there was the year when they wanted a midnight feast and I promised to wake them. The alarm went off at midnight and I rang a bell. No one woke, so I went to bed. They had their feast at 6am and the Guiders slept right through it.

I see that Brownies are allowed to camp these days. I'm not sure that I'd fancy looking after tents as well as excited children!

Guiding is fun though and all that rushing around is very good for the waistline! Happy Summer...

Bye

Barbara



CAROLINE EWEN

training news

Action plus

Netherurd May 3-5
For an action-packed weekend, bring a group of your Guides to this training.

Pioneering and rafting (a fun weekend for Guides and Rangers)

Broneirion May 24-27
If you were stranded on a desert island could you make a shelter to sleep in, collect fresh drinking water, build and use a 'haymaker' bridge or take part in a 'waddle' race? Learn how to set sail on your own home-made raft (you must be able to swim 50 metres).

Look Wider and let the action count

Foxlease April 4-8
An action-packed weekend for 13-16 year-olds.

Quiet weekend in the country

Hautbois May 3-6
Once again, Bill and Ann Wiggin have agreed to be our host and hostess for a relaxed programme of optional activities. Guiders, Trefoil Guild members and husbands are welcome. This event runs alongside the Friends of Hautbois gardening weekend.

Easter frolics

Waddow April 5-8
An action-packed fun weekend for Guides, with activities, crafts, games, new ideas, wide games and so on. Guides may come on their own or with a Guider.

Guide Guiders' training

Lorne April 19-21
Great programme ideas, unrivalled friendliness, interesting activities, delicious food and enjoyable crafts.

A programme training for Guide and Brownie Guiders with Guiders from Gordon County

Netherurd May 24-26
This weekend will give you lots of new ideas to try in your unit.

Walking event

Broneirion July 27-August 3
The highlight will be an opportunity to walk the second half of Glyndwr's Way to Welshpool in Powys – about 12 miles per day – returning to Broneirion in the evening. During the week, there will be other walks of between six and ten miles organised by a leader and arranged to suit the walking skills of the group.

Make and take (for Brownie and Guide Guiders)

Foxlease April 26-28
A chance to make and take home games equipment, international ideas, outdoor activities, posters and visual aids.

Learning to lead in the out-of-doors

Hautbois April 8-12
Archery leading to the GNAS Community Sports Leader Award.
Hautbois April 19-21
Canoeing, abseiling/climbing or pioneering.

Courses for those who wish to become instructors in one of these activities. Further details available.

Look Wider

Waddow April 12-14
For Young Leader Guiders, Young Leaders and Unit Guiders.

Musical madness

Lorne May 10-12
No expertise is required for this fun musical training.

A weekend especially for all members of the Senior Section to look wider

Netherurd June 7-9

Look Wider for Ranger Guiders

Foxlease April 26-28
An action-packed weekend in which to explore the potential of Look Wider.

Guiding is for everyone

Hautbois May 31-June 2
A course in disabilities awareness with a wide choice of workshops.

Senior Section Trainers

Waddow April 12-14

Queen's Guide enterprise

Lorne September 6-9
Is Clause 7 causing problems? Ask your

Queen's Guide Adviser for details and book your place before July 1.

A training for Commissioners Netherurd

. September 6-8
A weekend in which to build on your experiences, solve any problems and enjoy your achievements.

Programme ideas for the out-of-doors

Foxlease June 21-23
For Guiders of all sections – a wealth of ideas to use and ways of adapting them for your particular situation.

Programme ideas for the-out-of-doors

Waddow April 26-28
For Brownie, Guide and Senior Section.

Endless ideas for Patrols

Waddow May 31-June 2
For Guide Guiders looking for new ideas with which to enthuse their Patrols.

Crafts, music and visits week

Foxlease August 4-10
A chance to learn a craft or continue with your chosen one; join with others in music making; and visit local craft centres. You will be welcome to stay for the whole period or just for the odd night. Send for a programme. Family and friends are welcome.

Get knotted

Waddow May 31-June 2
Learn the many uses of knots, including pioneering and crafts. For all Guiders.

A World of Ideas

Waddow May 4-6
The Trainers will introduce ideas from the new publication *A World of Ideas*. Games, information, activities, recipes and projects based around four world themes form the basis of the weekend.

Turn to page 52 for details of the Training Centres' addresses and telephone numbers

For full details of the trainings listed or any future trainings, send a sae to 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.

official

race against time

To prospective candidates for the Queen's Guide Award, the three years allowed to complete the syllabus may seem adequate.

But Gina Bane, a young Guider from Kings Lynn, Norfolk, who became a Queen's Guide in August last year, has a message for all those who aspire to the QGA but have busy lives to lead in the meantime: Get cracking as soon as possible after registration, or a pleasant amble through the agenda could turn into a nightmare rush.

Gina can speak from brow-mopping experience. She found it all too easy, she admits now, to fritter away a year before realising how much there was to do before the final assessment.

Luckily for Gina, it ended in smiles, and she even found time to start a Guide Company in West London. Here, as a lesson for others, she recalls her 'misspent' year:

❖ I registered as a candidate in June '92, having completed the Young Leader Scheme. Three whole years to become a Queen's Guide? Stacks of time, I thought, as I rifled through the syllabus and notes.

But, to be frank, not a lot got done before it was September. That meant it was time to head for Preston, Lancashire to start my first year at university. Flying the family nest is a heady time and, in between study, I spent much of that year simply enjoying my new-found freedom and independence. All excess energy went into making new friends and socialising.

I was starting a four-year BA (Hons) degree course in hospitality management to prepare me for a career in the leisure industry. Then, since I had to support myself, I had to work during my holidays.

Whenever circumstances permitted I fitted in more socialising until the summer of '93, when I joined the crew of a tall ship sailing

to explore the waterways of Holland. The North Sea crossing was ferocious both ways — I wasted another two days just being sick!

We ran aground while I was on watch but, for me, that was all part of the "alternative adventurous activity" which I managed to complete towards my QGA.

By now it was time to return to university. That second year saw still more socialising fitted in with my degree work, but this time it was coupled with *some* QGA work — the planning of a Pack Holiday as my service in Guiding.

A few weeks later I was sitting in on a trial at Kings Lynn Crown Court and visiting Category C — not really dangerous — murderers at Wayland Prison, Norfolk, as part of my service as a citizen.

I also did my best to mediate in a "Nimby" (not in my back yard) case over a proposed Gypsy site near Swaffham, Norfolk, in which I was required to become "actively involved in changing the situation". Unfortunately, I was unable to influence the outcome — it left the Gypsies happier than the local residents — but that was Clause 6b (v) done!

Before the end of '93 I spent time with a BBC team covering the UK Snooker Championship at Preston, to "find out about the public media", and visited the *Eastern Daily Press* at Norwich.

No time to do anything more for the QGA until Easter '94, when I took the 1st Swaffham Brownies on Pack Holiday. By now the pace was terrific. On top of everything else, I



It's always later than you think, Gina Bane warns would-be Queen's Guides

Queen's Guide Gina Bane kept smiling although she now realises she worked for the award 'the hard way'

was tempting in factories, packing frozen rice and making inhalers for asthmatics, while regretting my wanton ways of '92. There was still an awful lot of QGA work to do.

My final year of QGA coincided with my university year out when I went to work long hours at Wembley Stadium as a sales and marketing executive.

I helped at a Riding for the Disabled pony centre in between coping with degree course assignments and running a Guide Company, which a Brownie Guider friend at work persuaded me to start. This made the pace even crazier and had nothing to do with the QGA!

Suddenly, in August '95 everything stopped. I finished at Wembley Stadium, it was summer recess from university, the pony centre and the Guide unit. I, by now exhausted, had finished my QGA.

I then got flu and slept for a week. I awoke to the euphoria of becoming a Queen's Guide but I had done it the hard way. QGA candidates be warned! ♡

● Turn to page 47 for advice on the Award for Commissioners.

open door ■

We all know how it feels to make plans and to decide to 'go for it'. Sometimes we just don't seem to be making any headway — we feel thwarted at every turn. So we go back to the drawing-board!

At this time of the year, I like to turn off the main road leading from our local market and cathedral town into a long driveway belonging to an old estate, in order to enjoy the sight of thousands of daffodils in bloom. Last year, I went as usual, camera in hand, anticipating Wordsworth's 'veritable host'.

I was disappointed as I'd arrived too soon. The flowers were still only

in bud. Returning a week later, glory was there in part, with the promise of many more flowers to come.

I went back again that week. In fact, in all, I made four visits, and was, eventually, rewarded with a profusion of golden nodding heads: a sea of yellow, each view seemingly more magnificent than the last.

Attempting to do justice to their beauty, I took many photos. This time I had got it right — and I have some lovely photos to prove it!

When a plan doesn't seem to be working out, it is all too easy to be discouraged, to blame ourselves, to get angry and to drop the idea.

But we shouldn't feel discouraged and should accept that failure is not defeat — just opportunity and circumstance failing to coincide.

Perhaps it isn't the plan that is wrong, but our timing. We may have to keep going back to God, repeating that all important question: 'Is it now, Lord?'

It is possible that in His time, and not our own, we shall witness the flowering of a plan in full bloom: the fruition of faith, patience clung to; and the tenacious turning off our own main roads, to see if at last the time is right.

EH

a personal view ■

**Ways should
be found
to bring
Rainbows
more firmly
into the fold
of Guiding,
argues Young
Leader Guider
Moir Sibert**

I am a so-called 'experienced' Guide Guider and in 1994 I became Young Leader Guider for my Division.

I know very little about Rainbows — except that my daughter is about to become one! This has set me thinking: at a District meeting, a Rainbow Guider said that she still felt 'out on a limb'. So, as a District, we are seeking ways to bring Rainbows 'into the fold'.

One particular issue disturbs me: when learning about Rainbows and their programme, I discovered that they are not supposed to make the three-fingered sign. The ruling about this is clear, as it is about many features of the Rainbow programme (no badges, no parading, no carrying a flag and so on).

Further investigation revealed the reason for this: unlike the rest of the Association, Rainbows do not make a three-fold Promise as symbolised by the three-fingered sign.

I appreciate why this is the ruling, but I am not in sympathy with it. I do not understand why, at the simplest level, Rainbows should be excluded in this most obvious way. A reason acceptable to adults may not make sense to a five-year old. A Rainbow sees all her 'big sisters' making the sign — is she not a member of the Guiding 'family'?

This ruling — of not allowing Rainbows to make the sign — could be taken as an example of keeping Rainbows apart from mainstream

Guiding. Although we cannot expect a Rainbow to understand the wider implications of a three-fold Promise, she is unlikely to care whether her own Promise has two parts or three. Her Promise badge even looks the same now.

I am sure there are reasons for all rulings, but let us not forget the girls and what *they* want. Yes, they are younger, and yes, much of the fun of Guiding is in being allowed to take an increasingly greater part in the adventure, up the ladder from Rainbows to the Senior Section.

However, we are all familiar with the worldwide signs of Guiding unity: the left handshake, the World Flag, Thinking Day and the Guide sign. As a warranted Guider, does a Rainbow Guider make the sign when she is with her Rainbows? If she does, then it is likely that the Rainbows will follow suit.

As this issue is covered in *The Guider Handbook*, I discussed it with all the Young Leaders at some point during their training. None of them were aware of this rule, even those working in Rainbow Units. All said their Rainbows made the sign when making the Promise. This is the root of the problem: what happens when Guiding regulations are disregarded in this way?

My District Rainbow Guiders looked at me in horror when I introduced this subject, and they all agreed to disagree with the rule. Some claim no knowledge of it —

but what does this say about our keeping up to date with the important changes in the Movement?

Are experienced Guiders reacting to the facts that some things have changed radically in the last few years and that we have to be receptive to new ideas? Are there still Guiders dictating what pieces of uniform must be worn, choosing Patrol Leaders and demanding attendance at religious parades?

We all know we cannot allow by-laws, but it seems that when we feel strongly enough about an issue we are prepared to do just that.

What choices are faced by 'those who make the decisions'? On this issue, do they change the Rainbow Promise to include the three-fold ideal; or do they allow Rainbows to make the sign, if opposition is strong enough? Are the few Rainbow Units that I have anything to do with the only ones to turn a blind eye?

Now that the Rainbow Guide section is so well established and growing, I believe that this issue should be re-examined.

In conclusion, I feel that this particular issue is not the only thing at stake here. Our handbooks are there to help us run our units along nationally-approved guidelines — the rules are the same for all. Can we ignore them, whatever our personal views are on any given subject? I suspect that we have all been guilty — at least once!

ideas

Programme ideas for March 1996

idea of the MONTH

This month we've got two great ideas to make your lives easier

By Petra Gorman and Georgia Fielding

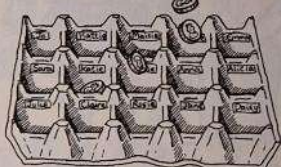
The first is for times when help is not available or you will be on your own and the subs will need collecting.

Get an egg tray from the supermarket or grocers. Write every girl's name on to a label or on to the tray itself. Stand it in an obvious place.

The girls put their money in the tray and can then get on with an activity. This will leave you free to mark the register, sort out change and try to do all those other important things at the same time.



ANGELA LAMBERT



Do you award points for badges, games, attendance and so on? Have you ever tried using tokens instead of keeping a list of columns of figures — it saves all that adding up.

Brightly coloured adhesive dots are a cheap and easy way of keeping records. Award one each time a girl achieves an objective, using a different colour for each group.

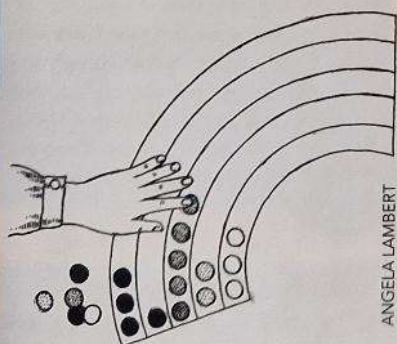
Encourage the girls, however young they are, to look upon an award as a contribution to group effort, rather than simply a feather in their caps.

If all the dots are donated to a common pool, it is a great way of fostering group loyalty.

Rainbow groups, if you have them, could stick their dots on a large cardboard rainbow, using the appropriate arc for each group colour.

Brownie Sixes could opt for cut-out Six emblems and Guides make use of their Patrol emblems.

Ask the girls to contribute their own ideas. At the end of the 'term', just count the coloured dots and award a trophy to be held until the end of the following term.



ANGELA LAMBERT

idea

Try to draw a face using letters taken from your first name.

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Rainbow guiders.....	35
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idea

Comb sales for bargain small gifts you could use as prizes.

ideas for all...

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idea

Give fellow Guiders a treat, organise a District ball.

help for all...

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topic of the month

A number of Guides attended a unique conference which gave young people the chance to air their views on the environment. The girls' ideas have been used for the following activities, which could help you raise awareness of this topic in your units

By Sheena Crombie
Illustrations: Beccy Blake

Playing a part

Every member of the Association should play her part in trying to ensure that a sustainable environment is achieved. Opportunities exist within our daily routine to be more environmentally aware.

At home, don't leave lights on in rooms not being used, recycle whenever possible, and look for opportunities to reduce the energy used in the house.

Review your method of travel to and from the school buildings. Close doors and turn off lights. Look for opportunities to improve the grounds for wildlife.

At Guides, turn off lights and close doors. Organise or take part in environmental projects.

An important issue

This can be done in as simple or as complex a manner as the girls wish to make it. The girls pick an environmental issue which is of concern to them and design a short cartoon in no more than 12 blocks. These should then be displayed in the meeting place to promote comment.

For example: 'Trees are important to us. They clean the air, look beautiful and provide homes to birds and animals.'

Section key

- R Rainbows
- B Brownies
- G Guides
- SS Senior Section

If the activity is suitable for your section it will be highlighted in black

Attracting butterflies

Butterflies are popular insects. They like warm, sheltered, sunny conditions. If you have the space in the grounds of your meeting place you could plant the 'butterfly bush', buddleia davidii. It attracts butterflies in the summer and its seeds will be used by birds in the winter.

Even easier, and something which will give an almost instant response, is growing cabbages or cauliflowers. Any gardener will tell you that within weeks of planting these in the garden, caterpillars and butterflies will descend on them!

The seeds can be planted into small pots at a meeting and, after they have grown to a reasonable size, can be planted out in the grounds or taken home.

A small chart can be prepared illustrating the relationship between the weather and the number of butterflies seen.



Why bother?

Discuss the opportunities that exist for recycling at home, at school and at Guides. Why, do they think, do so few people bother recycle?

Conflicts of interest

This can be done as a play or discussion. Environmental issues are never clear cut. By meeting the interest of one party, other problems can arise. This activity illustrates the dilemmas that have to be faced:

Pick an area of land, for example, coastal, inland waters, agricultural or woodland. Split the girls into groups. Each group represents a different interest. These will vary depending on the area chosen.

For coastal areas these may include a tourist, fisherman, banker, hotelier, resident, child, and environmentalist.

For this activity, you should elect a chairwoman. Then explain the following scenario to the girls: a new, large development is proposed which will bring money and jobs to the area. However, it will also involve the loss of an important wildlife spot. Challenge the girls to discuss the issues involved and arrive at a balanced view.

Working for wildlife

Many voluntary organisations, including the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers and your local wildlife trusts, are heavily dependant on volunteer labour in order to carry out environmental work. They need people to do a wide variety of jobs from clearing litter, cleaning out ditches, planting trees or building footpaths and walls. There is usually work for every age group and you can be sure that you are contributing in a positive manner to improving the environment.

Identifying chances

During an average day the girls may experience a wide range of environments, from shops to the open countryside. Can they name five other circumstances where their actions could have a direct impact on the environment in a positive or a negative way?

London and South East**England**

Croydon
Greater London Kent
Greater London West
Kent East
Kent Weald
Kent West
London North East
London North West
London South East
London South West
London over the Border
Middlesex East
Middlesex North West
Middlesex South West
Surrey East
Surrey West
Sussex Central
Sussex East
Sussex West

Midlands

Birmingham
Derbyshire
Herefordshire
Leicestershire
Northamptonshire

North Tyneside
Northumberland
North Yorkshire North
East
North Yorkshire South
North Yorkshire West
Sheffield
South Yorkshire
West Yorkshire North
West Yorkshire South
West Yorkshire West

NWE

Cheshire Border
Cheshire Forest
Cumbria North
Cumbria South
Greater Manchester West
Isle of Man
Lancashire Border
Lancashire East
Lancashire North West
Lancashire South
Lancashire South East
Lancashire West
Manchester
Merseyside
Sefton
Stockport

Somerset
Wiltshire North
Wiltshire South

Scotland

Aberdeen
Angus
Argyll
Ayrshire North and Bute
Ayrshire South
Banff and Buchan
Berwickshire
Caithness
Clackmannan
Dumfriesshire
Dunbartonshire
Dundee
East Lothian
Edinburgh City
Fife
Forth Valley
Glasgow City
Gordon
Inverness shire
Kincardine and Deeside
Kirkcudbright
Lanarkshire North
Lanarkshire South
Lanarkshire West

Antrim North
Antrim South
Armagh
Belfast
Down North
Down South
Fermanagh
Londonderry
Tyrone

Wales

Anglesey
Breconshire
Caernarfonshire
Cardiff and East
Glamorgan
Ceredigion
Clwyd
Gwent
Merioneth
Montgomeryshire
Pembrokeshire
Radnor
West Glamorgan

Camp sites and holiday houses database

Information request form

Name:

Address:
.....
.....

Type of accommodation required:

holiday house ☐ camp site ☐ camping barn ☐ activity centre ☐
caravan ☐ youth hostel ☐

Size

Camp site: Small (max 20) ☐ Medium (max 40) ☐ Large (over 40) ☐
Patrol ☐

Holiday house: 12 ☐ 18 ☐ 24 ☐ 30 ☐ 36 ☐ More than 36 ☐

Location:

Guide County:

Postal county or major city:

When completed send to: Camp sites and holiday houses database, The Guide Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT. Please enclose an A5 stamped addressed envelope.

THE GUIDE



ASSOCIATION

Incorporated by Royal Charter

Camp sites and holiday houses database

If you are looking for camp sites or holiday houses you will be pleased to hear that the new database is now up and running.

It will give you details of sites such as access to shops, provision of flush toilets/ showers and suitability for members with disabilities.

To request information you need to decide on a location (either Guide County, as listed, Postal County, or Major City e.g. Sheffield, Manchester, Aberdeen. You can request a maximum of two locations on each form.

Select the type of accommodation and the maximum number it should cater for.

Complete your name and address and send with a stamped addressed envelope to the Information Officer at CHQ. You will be sent details of all suitable sites/accommodation for the area requested. Some Counties list over 50 sites - so you will have plenty of choice!

Guide Counties in the UK

Anglia

Bedfordshire
Buckinghamshire
Cambridgeshire East
Cambridgeshire West
Essex North East
Essex South East
Essex West
Hertfordshire
Lincolnshire South
Norfolk
Oxfordshire
Suffolk

Nottinghamshire
Shropshire
Staffordshire
Warwickshire
West Mercia
Worcestershire

NEE

Cleveland
Durham North
Durham South
Humberside North
Leeds
Lincolnshire North and
Humberside South
Newcastle upon Tyne

Wirral

SWE

Avon North
Avon South
Berkshire
Cornwall
Devon
Dorset
Gloucestershire
Guernsey
Hampshire East
Hampshire North
Hampshire West
Isle of Wight
Jersey

Midlothian

Moray
Orkney
Peeblesshire and
Selkirkshire
Perth and Kinross
Renfrewshire
Ross shire
Roxburgh
Shetland
Sutherland
West lothian
Western Isles
Wigtown



The global perspective

Everyone can join in on this. Each girl brings a tin of food to the meeting. It can be from anywhere in the world (but preferably not the UK).

They must then spend a few minutes discussing the environment of the tin's country of origin. What is the climate like? What do the houses look like? And how does the climate affect the lifestyles of local people?

Adopting wildlife

Many wildlife organisations run schemes which allow you to adopt an animal, bird, tree or habitat. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, the Whale and Dolphin Society, and the Woodland Trust are all examples. Environmental groups in your area may run similar schemes, and it is a good idea to contact them. This can be very rewarding and will present the girls with the opportunity to learn about the ecology of their adopted species or habitat.



Changing your local area

Find some old photographs of the countryside near your meeting place. These may come from a variety of sources, including your local Trefoil Guild archivist or local newspapers. Try to visit the same areas and look for changes: Discuss the changes, when did they take place? Were they really necessary? Think about what might happen in the future, both good and bad.



Recycling

Ask the girls to find out where the nearest recycling point is and what they can recycle there. Contact your local authority recycling officer, to find out what happens to the recycled materials after collection. Guides and members of the Senior Section could contact manufacturers for information about recycled products. One Patrol could find out how paper is recycled, another might concentrate on aluminium, others could tackle plastics, rubber, CFCs, oils and so on.



Important issues

Hold discussions and invite speakers on environmental issues. Here are some examples to try:

Subject: Is direct action effective? Speaker: Greenpeace or Earth First.

Subject: Can one person make a difference? Speaker: Recycling officer or energy conservation officer

Subject: How 'green' is The Guide Association? Speaker: Let the Environment Adviser know what you all think!



Don't waste energy

Check the building in which you meet and identify ways to reduce the consumption of energy. Check the electricity meter at the beginning and end of each meeting and see if you can reduce the number of units used in one month.



■ These activities are based on ideas generated by Elinor Foxen, Bethan Edwards, Rebecca Ward, Caroline Gomm, Julianne Ezra, Suzanne Young and Annabel Mahy.

■ To find out more about the Conference, turn to page 55.

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theme evening

This month's theme evening suggestion based on creatures focuses on owls. Here are three craft ideas for the girls to make and three games for them to play

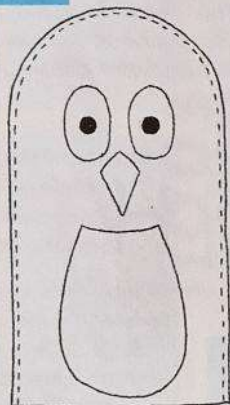
By Pauline Wainwright
Illustrations: Rachel Merriman

Owl finger puppet

You will need:

■ Scraps of felt — brown or black, yellow and white.

Cut two of the basic finger shapes and stitch them together. Cut out two eyes, one nose and one 'front' and stick them on to the owl. Draw in the eyes with black felt-tipped pen.



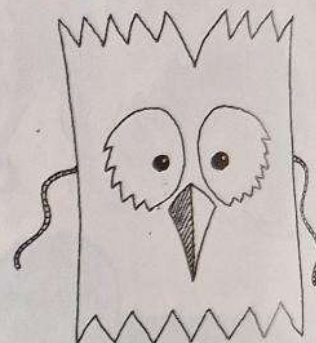
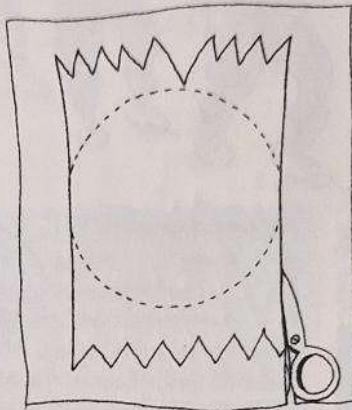
Owl masks

You will need:

■ A large paper plate; brown wrapping paper; white and yellow card or stiff paper; and thin elastic.

Start with a sheet of brown paper about two inches larger than the plate. Draw round the plate, then cut the paper as shown. Stick the paper on to the plate.

Cut out two eyes from white card and stick them on the paper. Make holes for the eyes — these should be level with the centre of the plate, not near the top. Make a beaky nose from yellow card. Attach thin elastic to the sides of the plate.



Owl eyes

Everyone sits in a ring. One girl starts by pointing to someone in the ring, who must immediately make circles with her thumbs and index fingers and hold them up to her eyes.

The two girls on either side of her must do the same with the hand and eye nearest to her. The middle girl then points to someone else and the same thing happens. Anyone who makes a mistake is out, but stays in the circle with her arms folded. The others must carry on as if this girl is not there.

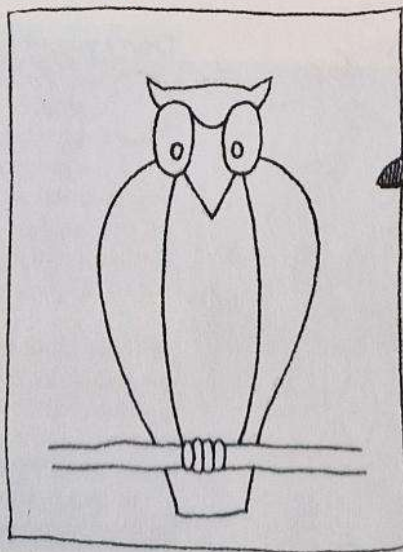


Owl collage

You will need:

■ An outline picture of an owl; brown, white and yellow tissue-paper; and some glue.

Give each Patrol the outline picture and ask them to create a collage with the tissue-paper. They can decide on the most effective way. It could be either overlapping lots of 'petals' of tissue; screwing up small pieces of tissue; or creating a mosaic.



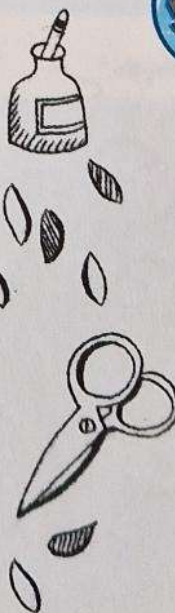
Owl hunt

One person is blindfolded and the others are owls. Chairs are spread around the room to represent trees — there should be about five more chairs than there are owls. Each owl chooses a 'tree' to sit on.

The aim of the blindfolded person is to catch an owl. Owls are only allowed to move to three different trees in the game — after that they may duck or dodge to outwit the blindfolded person. But they cannot move from their fourth tree! Anyone caught is the next one to be blindfolded.

Hunting in the dark

Scatter about 100 small objects in the middle of the room, for example, dried peas or buttons — these represent mice for the girls (the 'owls') to find. Turn the lights out and, on a signal from the leader, everyone has 30 seconds to find as many 'mice' as she can. See which Patrol collects the most.



Memory

Just to give a very small sense of the past, each week ask the girls to recall what they did at the last meeting. Not only does this help them to develop their memories, but it can also be a good starting-off point for this week's meeting.

Gran was a Brownie

Of course, many grans were Brownies in their time – there were no Rainbows then – and many grandads were Cubs. Ask one or two of them to come along and talk about what they did and what they learned.

In order to ensure that this is not merely an anecdotal occasion, ask them to think about what was different then to how it is today and what they learned when they were Brownies or Cubs that has stood them in good stead through the years.

Do they have any photographs of themselves in the Brownies or as school children? Perhaps you can also contribute memories and photographs to one meeting. Do your visitors remember songs they sang then or games they played that they can demonstrate to a new generation?

Ask the girls to ask their family members about their time in the Brownies or Cubs. Many families have been members of the Movement for generations. Are there any great-grans who have memories to share?



Rhyme and mime

Use some of the old rhymes as a story-line for miming. *Polly put the kettle on*, for example, plants the notion that once upon a time you didn't just switch on a kettle, but had to light a fire to heat water. *Girls and boys come out to play* is a song which might lead on to playing traditional games. *One, two, buckle my shoe* is a very good miming rhyme.

You can introduce some more modern rhymes, from say 20 or 30 years ago, to the girls. These may be as equally unfamiliar – or familiar – to them as the traditional ones.

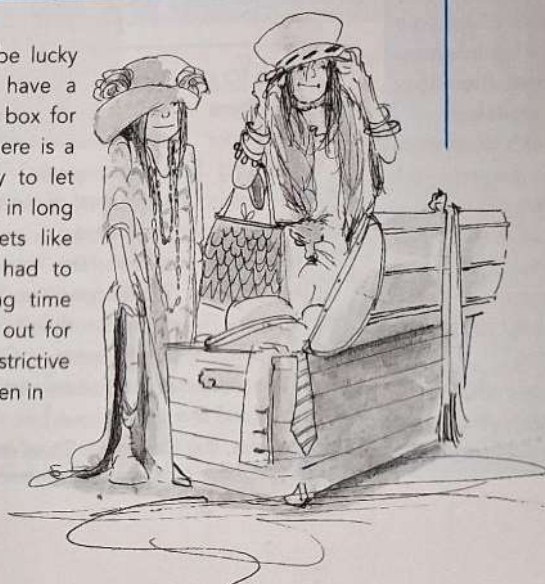
What is it?

You could collect together some items which are no longer familiar in our lives and see if the girls can guess their original purpose.

See if you can collect an old-fashioned tin or pottery hot-water bottle, an egg beater turned by hand, a lemon squeezer or hair tongs used for curling ladies' hair.

Dressing up

Should you be lucky enough to have a dressing-up box for your Rainbows, here is a good opportunity to let the girls dress up in long frocks and bonnets like those little girls had to wear a long, long time ago, and to find out for themselves how restrictive they must have been in everyday life.



rainbow guiders

This month, let's look at the past. Children of Rainbow age have only a very hazy sense of what the past is, but this doesn't stop them from being intrigued by what happened long ago or how people lived

By Deborah Manley
Illustrations: Harmen Van Stratten

Our town

Does your town have a book of old photographs or has anyone published old postcards of the town which you can get hold of and share with the girls?

How much can they recognise that is still there today? What has changed? What has stayed the same? This is one of the real lessons of history: some things do change, but others stay the same...

Ask them to find out when their homes were built. Who lives in the oldest house?

Who lives in the newest house?



Quiet time

At each meeting, read the girls an excerpt from a story about children living in the past. *Milly Mollie Mandy* is often a great favourite with girls in this age group.

Try some poems with the children too. They often take great enjoyment in the rhythm of poetry. *The Oxford Book of Children's Verse* is often popular with youngsters who haven't been at school long.

Say thank you at the end of the meeting for all the people who lived long ago and helped to make the world in which we live. Say thank you for grandparents, aunts, uncles and parents who are happy to share their memories with us.

Next month

The theme chosen for next month is science.

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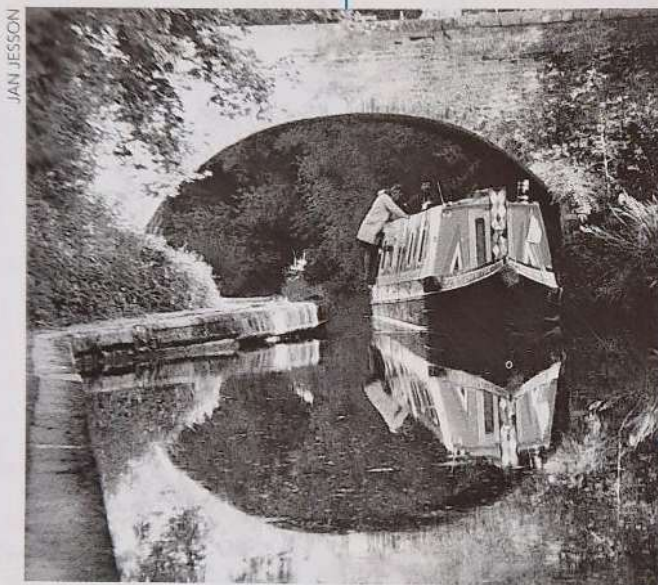
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out and about

Travellers caught up in the slow moving traffic of Birmingham's Spaghetti Junction might just catch a glimpse of an enviable alternative mode of transport way below them – Britain's inland waterways

By Gillian Ellis



JAN JESSON

Britain's canals were created in the mid-18th century, following the Industrial Revolution. Road transport was poor and the Duke of Bridgewater, a mine owner, hit upon the idea of moving coal from his Worsley mine to Manchester by water instead.

He employed an engineer, James Brindley, to construct a system of waterways. The result was a 46-mile network of canals. Boats left the system via the Barton Aqueduct, which was later converted to a swing aqueduct, allowing large ships to pass along the Manchester Ship Canal to deliver their cargoes.

Thus the canal age was born and prospered, the network being vastly extended by Brindley, Thomas Telford and others, only to decline when the newly created railways attracted the business that the canals had carried.

Their income greatly reduced, boat people could no longer afford houses. They moved on to their boats, and so the working narrow boat was born. Originally horse-drawn, boats were later powered by steam and, eventually, diesel. Many boats towed a 'butty', a narrow boat without its own power source.

Narrow boats now come in three styles: traditional, cruiser and semi-traditional. A 'trad' boat, designed like the old commercial boats, has a short rear deck called a counter, where the steersman stands between the rear doors, protected against inclement weather.

In boats with traditional boatmen's cabins, the warmth from the cabin stove is added to the heat of the engine around the steersmen's legs – a distinct advantage on a cold day!

The stern of a cruiser is a large, open, flat deck, allowing several people to sit together. The semi-trad's stern deck is similar, but enclosed by cabin sides and doors, combining some of the advantages of the trad and the cruiser.

Twelve-berth boats are some 69-70 ft long and 7 ft wide. The interiors of trad boats – built to carry cargo – have been converted, while still maintaining the fine exterior appearance of the working boat.

Time to reflect:
Britain's inland waterways provide a safe and peaceful alternative means of transport



The 4th Cranleigh Guides went on a canal trip on the Warwick Ring in the Midlands organised by Union Canal Carriers

Canal boat holidays

There are many advantages of a canal boat holiday for a Guide unit, they include:

- **Safety** – canal holidays have an excellent water-safety record. Most waterways are shallow and close to land, and travel speeds are slow.
- **Teamwork** – the shared experience of living and working together is just what Guiding aims to encourage. Group 'give and take' is more necessary than ever in such a confined space.
- **Flexibility** – you have few restrictions. Go where you wish and do as you please, with no necessity to clock-watch for most of the time and – unless you are moored close to other boats – no need even

to monitor the noise levels!

- **Education** – not only do the girls learn to cope with boats and locks, but Britain's waterways are a vital part of the country's industrial and social history. Canals run close to many historic sites, buildings and museums which your unit can visit. The environmental study opportunities they provide are unparalleled.
- **Cost** – a week's accommodation costs can be very low indeed depending on the season, starting at under £40 per head. Even when you add food and entertainment costs, this can work out as a very reasonable holiday.
- **Fun** – It's always exciting to be given a chance to try something out of the ordinary.

Where to go

Where will your cruising holiday take you? There's plenty of choice. Britain boasts a total of more than 2,000 miles of interconnected waterways.

Lancashire and Yorkshire have the Leeds and Liverpool Canal. The Bridgewater, Macclesfield, Trent and Mersey, Peak Forest and Shropshire Union canals wind through industrial areas in Greater Manchester and the Potteries, and rural areas of Derbyshire, Cheshire and Shropshire.

In Wales, the Llangollen Canal crosses the 120 foot



The unit travelled in a historic working narrow boat, the *Callisto*, towing a butterfly, the *Arra*. Both are equipped as camping boats for summer trips

Operators and prices

So whom should you approach and what will it cost? Jan Jesson, Guider of the 4th Cranleigh Guides from Surrey, sent *GUIDING* an enthusiastic account of her unit's narrow boat cruise round the Warwick Ring, and thoroughly recommends such a holiday.

Their trip, organised by Union Canal Carriers (UCC), took them from Braunston in Northamptonshire to Rugby, Nuneaton, Tamworth, Birmingham, Warwick and Leamington Spa on a historic working boat towing a butterfly. Ninety locks later, the girls had become real experts — and keen canal devotees.

UCC offers groups a choice of two pairs of historic craft, operated by a boatman at no extra cost to the hirer, and three self-steer 'adventurers', one dating from 1903.

Each boat sleeps 12 and has a galley, a freshwater tank, electricity and an Elsan lavatory. There are separate living quarters for the boatman.

Weekly group prices range from £475 per single boat and £880 per pair in spring and autumn to £645/£990 in summer. Bookings are normally from Saturday to Saturday, although, if required, it is possible to arrange shorter breaks during the low season.

The company also owns four modern luxury craft, each suitable for 11 or 12 people. These have the added advantages of showers, central heating, constant hot water and a small refrigerator, but are therefore more expensive, costing between £567-£945 per week.

The Birmingham and Midland Canal Carrying Company offers two pairs of 12-berth boats, each boat costing from £450 to £540 per week (excluding heating), with

discounts for booking a pair or on consecutive weeks.

Weekend or three-day mid-week holidays are available at half the weekly rate outside school holiday periods.

Alvechurch Boat Centres, also based in the Midlands, has five luxury 12-berth boats (two of which are appropriately named *Snowy Owl* and *Tawny Owl*!) for Saturday-to-Saturday hire. Each boat has central heating, constant hot water, a fully-equipped galley, a shower, two bathrooms, a flush toilet, a television and a radio-cassette player. Weekly rates range from £765 to £1,315, with discounts for hiring for more than one week.

Further north, Middlewich Narrowboats in Cheshire has three 12-berth boats, including the latest addition to the fleet, the *Poplar*, which has been specially designed with group use in mind.

The all-steel *Poplar* has a large, open cruiser deck and front cockpit; a roomy sitting/dining room; two lavatories; a fully-equipped galley with large cooker and refrigerator; central heating; constant hot water; and a radio-cassette player.

The *Poplar's* slightly older, traditional style sisters, the *Oak* and the *Sycamore*, are similarly equipped.

Prices range from £457 to £1,165, according to the boat and the season. Middlewich, however, is willing to hire out each 12-berth boat for use by only ten occupants, at a reduced fee.

Special offers include 'split week' hire, allowing a change of passenger midway through a holiday, and a discount on any subsequent bookings in the same calendar year. Middlewich will also arrange, in advance, for the hire of canoes, barbecues and fuel, sheets and towels, hair-driers, televisions and mobile phones.

Middlewich does not supply boatmen but assures hirers that, although experience is desirable for larger boats, handling them is not too difficult.

Careful tuition is given in steering and operating locks at the start of each holiday.



The unit passed through more than 90 locks, many of which had to be operated twice so the girls could tow the butterfly through

high Pontcysyllte aqueduct. The Birmingham Canal Navigations boast

more canals than there are in Venice, passing through industrial towns, beautiful countryside and pretty little villages.

The Grand Union Canal leads south and the South Oxford runs through the picturesque Cotswolds to the Thames, connecting with the Kennet and Avon Canal running west to Bath and Bristol.

Useful addresses

■ Alvechurch Boat Centres Ltd, Scarfield Wharf, Alvechurch, Birmingham B48 7SQ. Tel: 0121 445 2909.

■ Birmingham and Midland Canal Carrying Co Ltd, Gas Street, Birmingham B1 2JT. Tel: 0121 236 7057.

■ Middlewich Narrowboats, 41 Canal Terrace, Middlewich, Cheshire CW10 9BD. Tel: 01606 832460.

■ Union Canal Carriers, Bottom Lock, Little Braunston, Daventry, Northamptonshire NN11 7HJ. Tel: 01788 890784.

brownie guiders

This month's theme is history. Here are several activities to help the girls understand their own heritage and show them how people used to live

By Miriam Porter
Illustrations: Kate Wells

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What year?

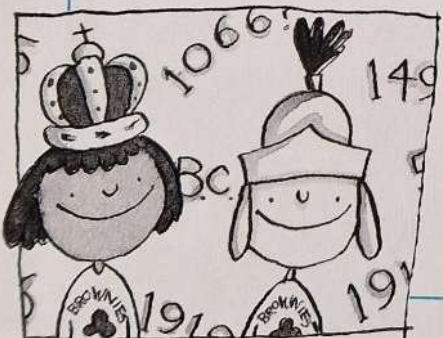
Put cards around the room. There should be five numbered and five lettered, as follows:

- 1 1910
- 2 1492
- 3 1952
- 4 1066
- 5 55 BC

Ask the Brownies if they can match the year with an event:

- a The Queen came to the throne
- b Guiding began
- c Julius Caesar came to Britain
- d Christopher Columbus discovered America
- e William the Conqueror invaded Britain

■ (answers: 1-b, 2-d, 3-a, 4-e, 5-c)



Trip back in time

Most units live within reasonable distance of a museum connected with a historical celebrity, custom or event. City dwellers are spoilt for choice, while many towns and villages have marvellous rural-life museums. Make a preliminary visit if you can.

If the museum has a work-sheet, make use of it to focus the Brownies' attention on interesting points. If not, compile your own 'treasure hunt' around the museum.

Act it out

Most regions have their own well-known historical tale which could be turned into a short play. Tell your Brownies the story, then ask them to suggest ways in which they could act it out. Use their suggestions to plan a framework on which they can build their own playlet or mime.

Visit jumble sales for washable dressing-up items. Curtains, sheets, skirts, full-sleeved blouses, waistcoats and shirts are especially useful. Show the Pack pictures of dress worn in the relevant period. And, when the play is cast, let the Brownies create their own highly-individual costumes.

If you can't think of a suitable story from your area, try this one from Derbyshire: In 1666, a tailor in the village of Eyam orders a bale of cloth which arrives from London infected with plague. Parishioners begin to die, although they don't immediately know where the infection has come from.

The Rector, William Mompesson, realises that to prevent the spread of plague, the village must cut itself off from the rest of the world. He has a hard time persuading the villagers to stay. Most eventually agree, for the good of the region at large, although some try to steal away.

No one is allowed in or out. Food supplies are left at the village boundaries. The rector and his wife help the sick and organise burials for the dead. The rector's wife is among the 267 who die, out of 350 people. Finally, when there are no more deaths, the village is declared plague-free.

A useful addition to a play about Eyam is the rhyme *Ring-a-Ring-o-Roses*, a legacy from the plague, of which a sweet smell in the nostrils and violent sneezing were regarded as sure warning signs that the plague had struck.

Can you remember?

Here's a game played by Brownies in the 1950s. On a set of large cards, draw ten different shapes in a variety of colours and place them around the room. Explain that each Six must work together to memorise all the shapes. The Sixes have 30 seconds to plan their strategy, then the Brownies are given three minutes to study the shapes and colours.

The cards are then removed and each Six has five minutes to draw all ten shapes, in the correct colours order, on one large card.

Afterwards, discuss how each Six organised the challenge. Set out a second set of more complicated shapes and try the whole thing again.



Make a Pack newspaper

Remind the Brownies that today's news is tomorrow's history. Supply plenty of paper, writing and colouring materials, and ask the Pack to write about or draw pictures of any current events — local, national or worldwide.

If you ask the Sixes to produce two items of each kind, you should have a good balance. They'll need help with ideas, and remember to ensure that those able to write do so, or you'll only have pictures.

Gather all the contributions and sort them into logical groups, one for each Six. With an A3 sheet of paper and some glue, each Six produces a double-sided newspaper page. Staple the pages together and number them. Leave room for the title and date.



Volume levels

People will eventually ignore you if you shout at them. It's important to get the volume level right, as you can be thought too aggressive, if you are too loud, and ineffectual, if you are too quiet.

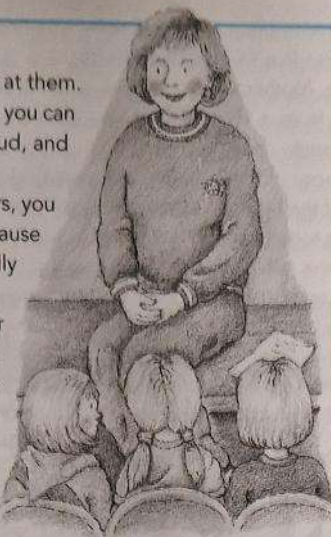
When considering how your voice affects others, you need the help of a sympathetic listener. This is because the voice you hear inside your own head is totally different to the one that others hear.

Nobody likes being shouted at. It is part of our culture to prefer being asked to do something, rather than responding to an order. If we are asked rather than told, we are more likely to be helpful. Shouted requests give the impression that a demand is being made, implying there is no choice but to comply. In Guiding we try to give the girls as much choice as possible, so that they can learn to choose responsibly.

When shouting, most women pitch their voices higher and speak faster. It can develop into a screech, with the perpetrator unaware of what she is doing. This means: the communication is harder to understand; the girls feel that they are being harassed; and an impression is given that you don't actually care about what the person you are addressing feels, even though this is often far from the truth.

If you find you are shouting then try:

- **Slowing down.**
- **Giving the girls more time to respond.** It's easy to give instructions too quickly. The girls need to consider whether they are going to respond *before* you get annoyed with their lack of response!
- **Lowering the pitch of your voice, and speaking slowly and clearly.** You'll need to practise.



running a unit

This month we look at the effect your voice has on other people. Both what you say and how you say it are important

By Jane Thompson
Illustrations: Molly Sage



Verbal messages

This is recognised as being a visual era and so verbal messages can be difficult to recall. We tend to remember something that has an emotional impact but it is the emotion we remember, not the words. It is worth practising absorbing verbal messages by making a game out of it.

Read out some information and base a quiz on what was said. You could choose any subject you want. It is very revealing to find out what sort of information today's Guides retain.

If the messages you are giving out are important, back them up with written instructions. We all find things easier to remember if we use more than one sense to receive information.

Assistance

When speaking to the whole unit, give the signal for quiet first, then talk normally. This is where you definitely need assistance to make sure that you can be heard by all the group. You could involve one of the older Guides, a Young Leader or your Assistant Guider to help ensure you are heard.

Explain the problem and request help in getting it right. Perhaps you could work out a signal that you could easily spot, for instance, cupping a hand around an ear. It's a normal gesture when people are having difficulty hearing, so it needn't look too obtrusive.

If someone starts to chat, stop and look in her direction. Wait until she realises what you want.

Position yourself so that the whole group has a chance of hearing you. Anyone who is standing behind you or facing the opposite way is at a disadvantage. It helps if the audience can see your face.

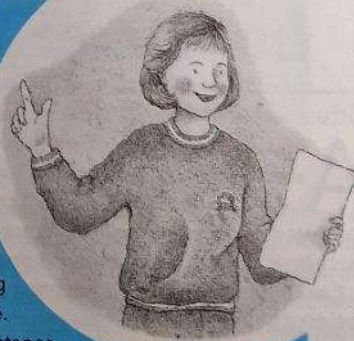
Many people unknowingly use lip reading to help them understand what is being said. For instance, many spectacle wearers have difficulty following what other people are saying when they aren't wearing their glasses, so it's important that you can be clearly seen.

If your group is in a circle, it often helps for the person speaking to be slightly out of the group.

It is easy to talk 'into your boots', and 'swallow' what you're saying, making it hard for others to distinguish the different words.

Watch out for signs of other people straining to hear what is being said. If they are having trouble making out what you are saying, lift your chin up, slow down, speak more clearly and talk to the back wall.

Try to establish eye contact with different people in the group. If you are reading, lift the paper higher so you don't have to look down and speak slowly and clearly. It is difficult to maintain eye contact when reading aloud, so keep a finger on the appropriate place in your notes. Then you won't lose track of what you are saying if you glance up.



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guide guiders

Here are some ideas
for treats and gifts to
make for Mother's
Day later this month

By Carol Smyth
Illustrations: Michelle
Draycott

Butterfly cards

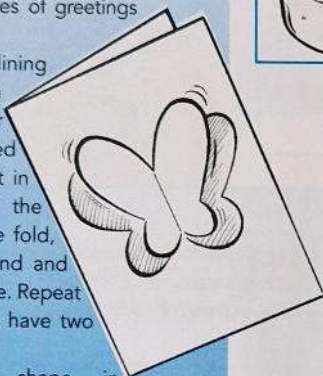
You will need:

Some coloured card; a few sheets of
scented drawer-lining paper; and a
template of half a butterfly.

Butterflies make an attractive motif
for all types of greetings
cards.

Cut the lining
paper to a
suitable size for
the completed
butterfly. Fold it in
half and place the
template on the fold,
then mark around and
cut out the shape. Repeat
this so that you have two
butterflies.

Glue one shape in
position flat on the card. The second
shape is glued on top of the first, but
glue only on the centre fold line so that
the second butterfly sits up, giving a 3-D
effect. Finally, complete the card with a
Mother's Day message inside.

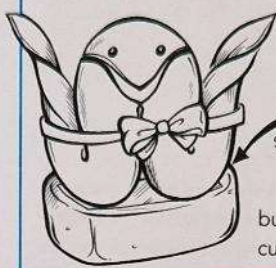


Face-cloth chicks and rabbits

A simple Mother's Day gift of a chick on a soap can be
made from a face-cloth, a bar of soap, some ribbon and
some sticky dots.

Fold the face-cloth in half diagonally making a triangle. Starting at the
folded side of the triangle, roll the face-cloth towards the opposite point.
Then fold the rolled cloth in half lengthways. The corner points – now in
the centre of the roll – form the chick's beak.

The loose ends are folded back to form wings and an elastic band is
twisted around to hold this shape in place. The ribbon is tied around the
chick's neck to cover the elastic band and the sticky dots are used to
make eyes. Finally, place the face-cloth chick on top of the
bar of soap and secure it with tape or ribbon.



Alternatively, the rolled
face-cloth can be folded in half
and secured to form a rabbit's head

with floppy ears. The face and teeth can be added
using sticky shapes and the gift completed by adding
soaps or other toiletries.

For a very professional finish, the chicks or
bunnies can be wrapped in Cellophane paper and tied with
curling ribbons, producing an attractive gift for Mum or Gran.



Challenge evening

When all the Mother's Day gifts have been made you
might like to have a challenge evening as a change from
all the making and baking. One type of challenge can be
laid out in a boardgame format.

For this, you will need postcard-sized cards with the numbers 1-36
written on them. These form the playing order. You then need to assign a
challenge to each number. The challenges can be varied according to the
skills and interests of your Guides, along the following lines:

- Draw a cartoon of your Patrol.
- Sing as many camp fire songs as you can in three minutes.
- Say the alphabet backwards.
- Without looking, guess how many people are wearing glasses.
- Recite as many nursery rhymes as you can in three minutes.
- Demonstrate using an emergency sling. (Neckers or belts can be used but let the Guides work that out for themselves.)
- Place an injured person in the recovery position.

Once the cards and equipment are laid out around the room the
Guides are ready to play. They may play in pairs or Patrols. Each
group is given a dice and moves around the numbered challenges
according to the numbers thrown.

Guides need to monitor what each group is doing as they play.
A time limit can be set or a number of challenges to be completed
can be used as a way of ensuring that everyone is involved.

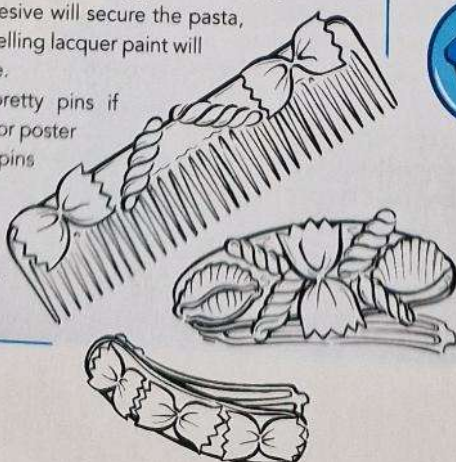


Other ideas

Another gift idea – a modern-looking memo pad – involves
simply covering a plain notebook with ordinary brown
paper and decorating the front cover with motifs cut from
corrugated cardboard. Simple motifs are the most effective, so try
bold initials, hearts, moons, stars or flower outlines.

Pasta shells are useful for decorating plain hair-slides
and combs. Strong adhesive will secure the pasta,
while gold or silver modelling lacquer paint will
transform its appearance.

Pasta bows make pretty pins if
painted with nail varnish or poster
paint. Small gold safety pins
can be attached with
thin strips of coloured or
metallic adhesive tape
wrapped around the
centre of the bow.



Home-made cookies and sweets

A sweet treat for most mums could take the form
of some home-made cookies or sweets
presented in a decorated carton or box.
Gingerbread people or simple cookie-cutter shapes in
stars and fluted circles are easy to make and decorate with
icing and cake confectionery. Peppermint creams are
another idea for a pleasing gift.

The cookies or sweets can be presented in clean, decor-
ated margarine or ice-cream cartons filled with scrunched
or shredded tissue-paper. The presentation boxes could be
a Patrol Time project the week before the cooking session.



Grid references

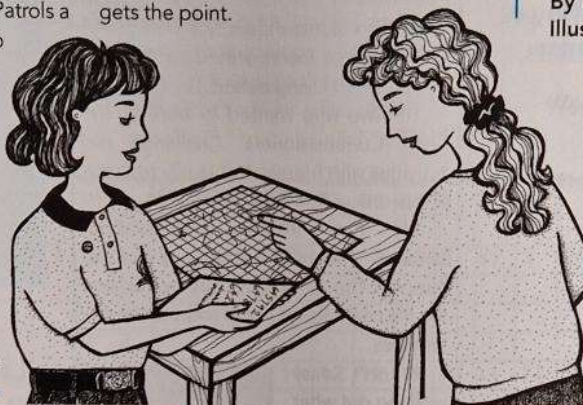
Give each Patrol a list of features requiring either four or six-figure references — for example: 'the post office at Northfield' or 'Westfield Woods'. They should write down the appropriate references for each. Set a time limit and give points for all correct answers.

This can also be done the 'other way round' — for instance, by giving the Patrols a list of references and asking them to write down either the features found in a grid square or at a particular reference. The Patrols could also make their own lists for the other Patrols to find.

Another way of doing this is to make cards with different features either illustrated or written on them, and to place them around the room. The girls are given numbers and the leader calls out a

four-figure reference and a number. A Patrol finds the appropriate square, then the girl whose number was called out runs round to find a card naming any one of the features that appear in that square. Give points to all those with a correct feature.

This will also work with six-figure references — in which case it is the first girl to find the correct card who gets the point.



how to do

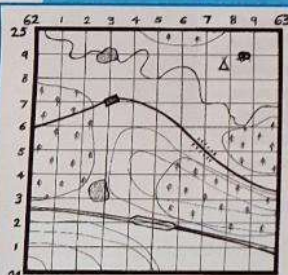
This is the second part of our series on activity ideas involving mastering map-reading skills

By Pauline Wainwright
Illustrations: Anthea Whitworth

Once the girls have learned about map symbols and grid references, there are a variety of activities that can be done to combine the two skills. Each Patrol will need at least one copy of the same Ordnance Survey map.

Three features

Choose three features on the map whose initial letters make up a three-letter word — for example, railway station, embankment and dual carriageway (RED) — and give the references for these. The first Patrol to find the correct word wins a point. You may also need to use the names of places, as there are not many features beginning with vowels!



623247 R
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Patrol maps

Challenge the Patrols to produce their own maps featuring the symbols from a series of instructions based on grid references — for example: 'A river runs through 6728, 6829, 6929...' or 'There is a windmill at 732305'.

Under and over

Put a chair for each Patrol at one end of the room. The Patrols sit on the floor at the other end with their maps. The leader calls out either the reference for any square that has a bridge in it or a six-figure reference for a bridge. She then calls out either 'road' or 'railway'.

Each Patrol finds the square and works out whether the road or railway goes under or over a bridge in that square. The first girl in each Patrol then runs to the chair. If the road/railway goes under, she crawls under the chair and touches the wall. If it goes over, she climbs on to the chair, then jumps off and touches the wall. The first girl to touch the wall after performing the correct action gets a point.

The same activity could be tried with railway embankments and cuttings.

Searching for roads, railways, canals and rivers

A similar activity to 'Under and over' (above right) could involve roads, railways, canals and rivers. A reference and a number are given, and the girl with that number has to run all the way to the other end of the room using the appropriate arm movements and sounds.

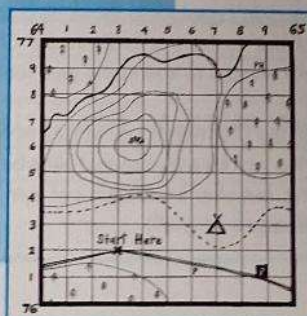
For example:

- Road — turning a steering-wheel and saying 'beep-beep'
- Railway — arms going round at sides and saying 'chuff-chuff'
- Canal — rowing movement and saying 'in-out'
- River — swimming movement and saying 'splash-splash'

Treasure hunt

Decide on a point on the map where the treasure is 'buried', then work out a route to it. Give each Patrol a card with a grid reference and an instruction on it — for example, 'Start at 643762 and go to the nearest camping site'.

When this is found, one girl runs to the leader and tells her the grid reference of the camp site. She is then given the next instruction, and so on. Try alternating between giving features and references for them to find. The first Patrol to complete the clues and give the location of the treasure could be rewarded with a small prize!



Churches

Another variation on the same theme as '... roads, railways...' (far left) is to select, for example, churches. Let each Patrol work out actions to represent a church with a spire, a church with a tower and a church with neither. Then, one at a time, give them the references for different churches, to which they respond with the appropriate action.

This could be done with any group of features — for example: deciduous, coniferous and mixed woodland; or camping, caravan and picnic sites — or by holding up the letters for telephone, post office, town hall and so on.

ranger guiders

Switching from the old Ranger programme to the new Look Wider one has involved changes in attitude for existing leaders and attracted new blood

By Members of the Senior Section

The old Unit

Adopting Look Wider has resulted in many interesting and fraught evenings for our Unit.

We have been in existence for over 15 years and have 14 members, including our two Guiders.

We had fully participated in challenges and events relating to the Eight Point programme, and changing over to an individually-based programme took quite some time to get used to.

Tackling the programme

Perhaps, incorporating the Discovery phase of the programme for new Rangers as they came along, was the easiest task. The four sections – Creativity, Community, Wider World and Adventure – were very good areas to work in, and so we didn't have any problems planning in all the activities that the three new Rangers wanted to do in order to complete this phase.

Trying to please everyone

However, trying to fit all our individual 'wants' and 'requests' into the three octants was a very different story. Three of our Rangers wanted to gain an octant certificate and, of course, all three didn't want to do the same octant.

Two decided that they would like to have a bash at the Chief Commissioner's Challenge, while another two really wanted to spend the near future concentrating on their Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

The remaining two members of the Unit weren't quite sure what they wanted to do and were happy to go along with the various activities that were being planned.

It looked like a nightmare at first, but after a few weeks of trying to work out a plan, things gradually began to take shape.

Working together

Those who were working on the octant certificate, and those who wished to do the Chief Commissioner's Challenge, all joined forces at certain times and were able to do phase one activities together.

A skiing trip and a Roman toga party were worked into the Out of Doors and Creativity octants. A talk by a local estate agent was incorporated into the Independent Living octant.

The two who wanted to work on the Chief Commissioners' Challenge did activities with friends and family to cover phase one of the different octants.

We had trouble distinguishing between the Look Wider team and the Support Group at first, but by reading the file carefully we could sort out the differences.

It isn't easy working out what everyone wants to do and, of course, school, work and other things get in the way, but we were still having fun and enjoy being Rangers.



MARGARET WHITTAKER

It isn't always easy working out what everyone wants to do

Work towards Look Wider involves trying new activities, such as archery

MARGARET WHITTAKER



The new Unit

As with anything new, my Ranger Unit and I decided that we should seek some professional advice from the higher ranks in our County. And so it was with great trepidation that we set off to our first Ranger Council and Look Wider training.

We came away full of determination to start on the Bronze section of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

We then decided to work towards Look Wider. Who would have thought that an enjoyable evening in front of the television, watching the Eurovision Song Contest and eating pizza and popcorn, would cover the Wider World section of the Discovery phase?

The next challenge

Our next challenge turned out to be a weekend of riotous fun and adventure at camp, where activities the girls tried included abseiling and pistol shooting. It was here that seven of the girls took their Promise while grass skiing.

The next item for our Look Wider scheme was a clean-up day at the Guide camp. We learned a lot at the event, not all to our advantage, but the girls passed the Community section of the Discovery phase.

We were now established as a Ranger Unit and wanted to continue. But we needed money to buy equipment. Luckily, the local Round Table donated two lightweight tents and we hope to raise enough cash at the local badminton finals to buy a third tent.

A proud moment

We are proud that one of our members has just been chosen to represent the County at a Regional International Selection weekend. I had been out of Guiding and had forgotten how enjoyable it is.

Exciting and challenging

We are finding the Look Wider scheme exciting, challenging and easy to work towards.

Words by Sheena Booth

You could also use it as a starter activity to arouse interest in some of the awards or qualifications. Details of the requirements can be found in publications such as the *Look Wider File and Qualifications*.

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(Turn to page 54 for the answers)

try this

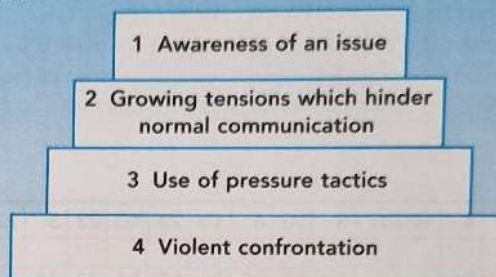
The WAGGGS Peace Initiative developed a series of learning modules to support WAGGGS' goal, which is education for a changing world. These activities explore some ideas based on the module on conflict resolution

By Liz Joy,
GOLD Co-ordinator, and
Gill Sutcliffe, International
Education Adviser
Illustrations: Jan Lewis

Awareness

Conflict is very common and takes place all the time in daily life. As we develop from child to adult, we can often find ourselves getting into conflict with our parents, teachers, siblings and friends.

Conflict itself is not necessarily bad or destructive. It is how we deal with the situation and its after-effects that can be damaging. Minor conflicts can help to broaden our minds and let us develop in a positive way. It is when conflict escalates that we have a problem, as this model shows:



The way to achieve conflict resolution is primarily through communication.

Communication

Each girl chooses a partner. They then decide on a topic for discussion. It is best to choose a controversial topic. Instruct the girls that they have three minutes to talk to the other person on the topic in question without being interrupted.

After three minutes they should change over, from speaker to listener. At the end of the exercise, ask the participants, in their pairs, to share with everyone how they felt about being listened to with undivided attention.

Then give the girls another topic for discussion. This time the girls have to talk for three minutes at each other. Each one is trying to put across her point of view without listening to the other. After three minutes ask the participants to explain how they felt about not being listened to.

Listening to other people – and really hearing them – in such a way that they are convinced that you have heard them and understood what they are saying, is one of the biggest problems in communication and also in conflict. People despair that no one is really hearing them.

Thus, communication and negotiation are essential elements of conflict resolution.

Non-verbal communication

Conflict arises not only from the actual words that have been said, but also through non-verbal communication and body language. To resolve conflict we need to be able to display our sympathy and empathy non-verbally as well as verbally.



Analysing messages

When giving or receiving messages, experts claim they contain three parts. These, and their respective weight in terms of ability to persuade, are:

- **Data** — the actual meaning of the words in a message and any supporting information (ten per cent).
- **Voice** — the tone a message is conveyed in, revealing confidence, desperation or anger (35 per cent).
- **Non-verbals** — the facial expression, movement and gestures used along with a message (55 per cent).

A negotiation game

Divide the group into two teams: the Earth team and the Sky team. Transactions take place between these two teams and the objective is to gain the best level of benefit.

Eight transactions take place where each team decides on a message to send to the other. The message can take one of three forms: XX, XY or YY.

There should be no communication between the teams except by a neutral 'messenger', who carries the messages between them. Allow several minutes for the teams to decide upon their messages.

When messages have been exchanged, two sets of symbols are combined to form a four-letter transaction, which determines the value of each team's contribution. Calculate the value of the transaction for your team from the two letters in the message that you sent to the other team, as follows:

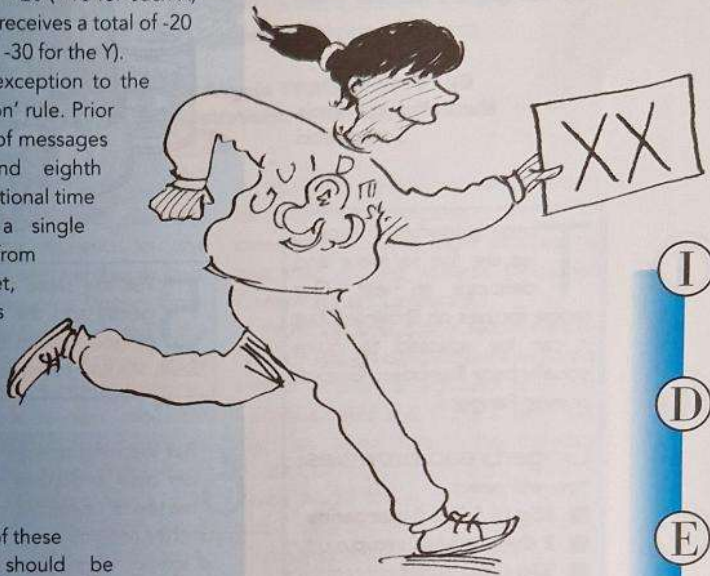
- Four Xs (-10 for each X in your team's message).
- Three Xs and one Y (+10 for each X and -30 for each Y in your team's message).
- Two Xs and two Ys (+20 for each X and -20 for each Y in your team's message).
- One X and three Ys (+30 for each X and -10 for each Y in your team's message).
- Four Ys (+10 for each Y in your team's message).

For example, the combined messages would be XXXY if the Earth team sent XX as a message and the Sky team sent XY. The result is that each team gets +10 for each X in its two-letter message and -30 for each Y. Therefore, the Earth team receives a total of +20 (+10 for each X) and the Sky team receives a total of -20 (+10 for the X and -30 for the Y).

There is one exception to the 'no communication' rule. Prior to the exchange of messages in the fifth and eighth transactions, additional time is allotted for a single representative from each team to meet, if the teams agree to do so, to discuss whatever team members have instructed these representatives to talk about.

The meeting of these representatives should be somewhere out of sight and hearing of both teams.

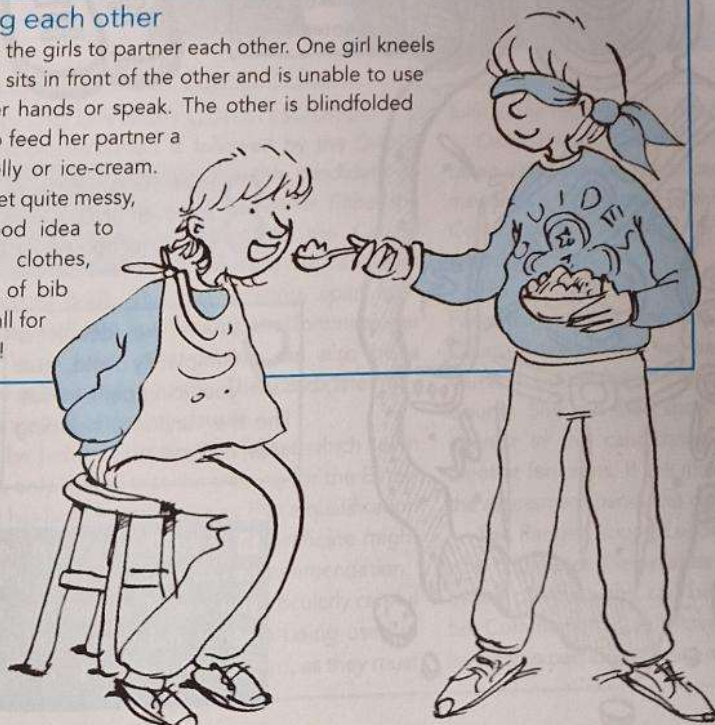
After these meetings of representatives have been held, the teams exchange messages in the usual manner. However, the results of the fifth transaction will be multiplied by five and the results of the eighth transaction will be multiplied by ten.



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Feeding each other

Get the girls to partner each other. One girl kneels or sits in front of the other and is unable to use her hands or speak. The other is blindfolded and has to feed her partner a bowl of jelly or ice-cream. As it can get quite messy, it is a good idea to wear old clothes, some sort of bib or an overall for this activity!



The dynamics of conflict

To resolve conflict, we have to look at several working assumptions about its dynamics. These are:

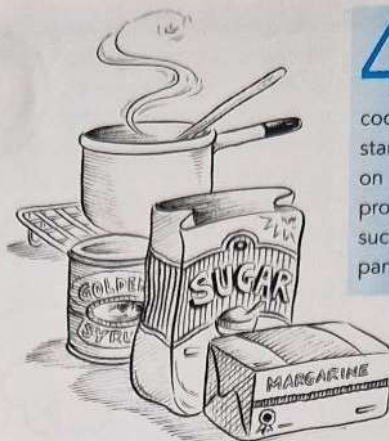
- Conflict has positive and negative potential, the ability to build or destroy.
- Groups or individuals can affect the course of a particular conflict.
- There is positive value in diversity within our global society.
- Positive options increase when all the parties in dispute seriously commit themselves to discussion and attempting to resolve the conflict.

■ Conflict will only be resolved through peaceful negotiation. Indira Gandhi said: 'You cannot shake hands with a clenched fist'.

get cooking

Delicious, edible brownies are on the menu for your unit this month

By Penny Kitchen
Illustrations: Francis Scappaticci



4 Remove the pan from the cooker and stand the pan on a heat-proof surface such as a pan stand.

5 Put the sieve over the pan and gently add the flour and ground ginger, shaking them through the sieve. Mix well to make a firm dough.

6 Put the mixture in a clean, dry bowl and cover with a tea towel. Leave the mixture to stand for one hour.

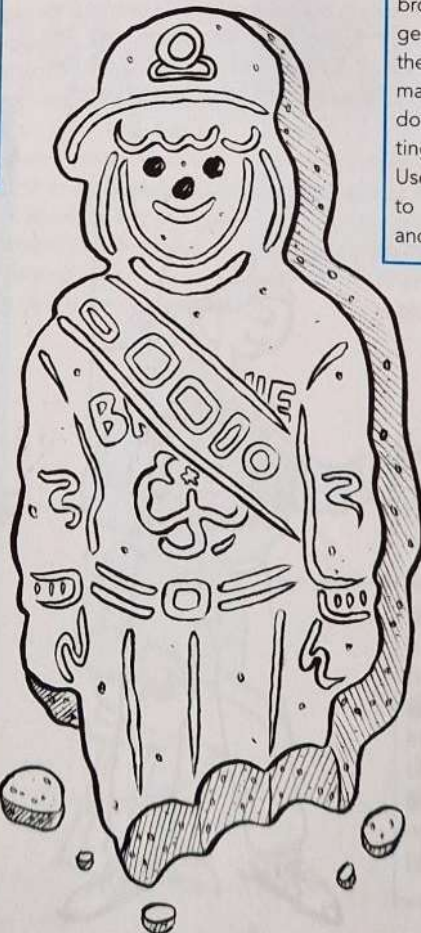
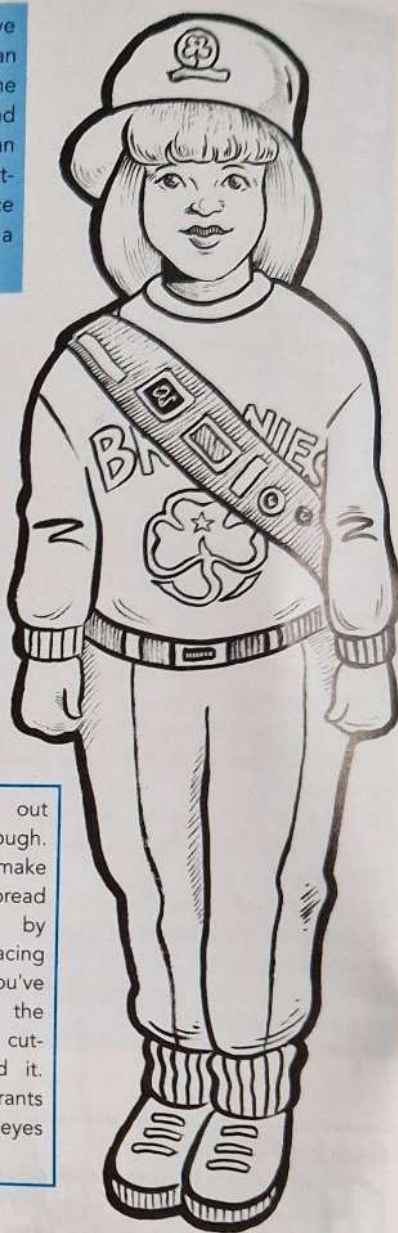
To speed things up, Guiders could make the mixture at home and then take it along with them to the meeting.

7 Roll out the dough. Then make the gingerbread brownies by gently placing the shape you've made on the dough and cutting around it. Use the currants to make eyes and noses.

8 Bake the gingerbread brownies in the oven at Gas Mark 3 or 170°C (325 F) for about 15 minutes.

9 When the dough is completely cold, use your icing pens to outline the uniform, including sash, belt and hat.

■ If you haven't got cooking facilities at your meeting place, perhaps you could make the brownies at home and take them to a meeting for the girls to decorate with icing.



These gingerbread brownies are fun to make and delicious to eat. Our recipe focuses on Brownies, but it can be adapted to make equally tasty Rainbows, Guides, or even Rangers!

Gingerbread brownies
You will need:

- 85g (3 1/2 oz) margarine
- 2 tbsp golden syrup,
- 57g (2oz) sugar
- 1/2 tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 200g (8oz) flour
- 1 1/2 tsp ground ginger
- currants or raisins
- icing pens
- a long-handled wooden spoon
- a sieve
- a rolling pin

1 Using the illustration as a guide, trace a picture of a Brownie on to thin paper. Glue the picture on to a piece of sturdy cardboard and cut it out. Make as many of these 'templates' as you can, at least one per Pack.

2 Heat the margarine with the golden syrup and the sugar in a pan. But do not allow the mixture to boil.

3 Dissolve the bicarbonate of soda in a little water and add this to the syrup mixture. Stir the mixture gently with the wooden spoon.

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Your duties are varied

When one of your Rangers, Young Leaders or younger Guiders is recommended for and embarks on the Queen's Guide Award, it is a very special time for both of you. The next three years could find you becoming involved with any part of the syllabus! It is well worth looking at the various clauses and seeing what each entails. After being recommended and completing the first clause, they cover:

- Service in the community
- Service in Guiding
- Service in the home
- Service overseas
- Service as a citizen
- Enterprise.

When the candidate has completed all of the seven clauses she visits her Division Commissioner and discusses with her what she has done and how she thinks it has helped her for the future. Then her final assessment, to be chaired by the County Commissioner, is arranged.

A Commissioner:

- Guides the candidate through the scheme
- Understands her
- Inspires her
- Discusses with her
- Encourages her
- Supports her
- Shares her achievement.



The initial discussion

When the candidate discusses her commitment to the Promise with her Ranger Unit, Young Leader Group or District Commissioner and Guider Group, this is the starting point. The candidate will know these people and, as well as listening, they may be able to give invaluable advice. If they feel it is not right to recommend the candidate at this stage they must have the courage to say so. It may be that the three-year period ahead would not be an appropriate time, if, for instance, the candidate has exams, or

is perhaps starting work. (See page 6 of the Queen's Guide Syllabus & Notes.)

A candidate can only be recommended once. How sad to start at the wrong time and not be able to finish. It may well

be that the prospective candidate would be better first attempting octant certificates from the Look Wider programme and then moving towards the Chief Commissioner's Certificate.

From the time that a recommendation is made the candidate will need the support and encouragement of all her Commissioners and, if the County has such an appointment, the Queen's Guide Co-ordinator. While the Queen's Guide Award Notes (page 5) indicates that it is the Division Commissioner who is responsible for the candidate, a short journey through the clauses will clearly indicate that on many occasions this will be in conjunction with the District Commissioner, many other County Advisers and 'outside experts'.

The County Queen's Guide Co-ordinator will be able to give invaluable advice regarding people from whom information may be sought, people who have the ability to carry out the job of assessing and confirm that the various option clauses chosen by the candidate are appropriate.



Meeting the Division Commissioner

The recommendation is followed by the District Commissioner arranging for the candidate to meet with her Division Commissioner. Either the Division Commissioner (or sometimes the County Queen's Guide Co-ordinator) will issue the candidate with her record book. This first meeting, apart from enabling the candidate and the Division Commissioner to get to know each other better, can also be a programme-setting opportunity. The candidate may need guidance with choosing clauses.

It might be tempting to do the clauses which seem easiest first, only to find that the training for the Enterprise clause has been left very late, or that a qualification already held, for example, a first aid certificate might have been gained before the date of recommendation.

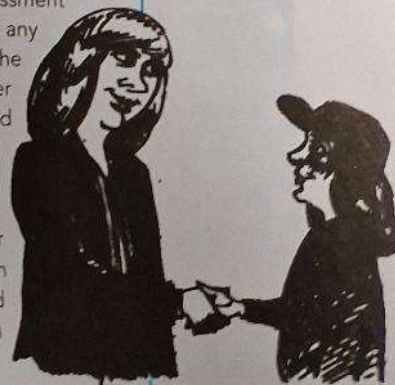
The Commissioner will need to be particularly careful if projects from other organisations are being used in conjunction with the Queen's Guide award, as they must

fulfil all the requirements of both qualifications.

Once the visit to the Division Commissioner has taken place the candidate can 'get going' but frequent meetings are important both for the candidate and the Commissioner. Progress can then be checked and encouragement given.

The meeting with the County Assessment Panel may seem a long way ahead, but any County Commissioner will want to know the Queen's Guide Award candidates in her County. She can then show an informed interest in the candidates when they meet at functions. It will make meeting the assessment panel less daunting!

The Ranger, Young Leader or Guider who completes the syllabus will have an award of which she can be proud, and her Commissioner, will have played an invaluable part in achieving it.



commissioners

Have you ever, as a Commissioner, whether District, Division or County, had the great privilege of being involved with a Queen's Guide Award candidate?

By Angela Thomas

Illustrations: Mike Terry

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S

crafty ideas

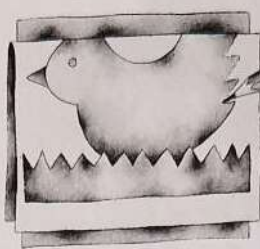
To celebrate the arrival of spring, here are some cut-out animals which girls of all ages will enjoy making.

By Janet Evans

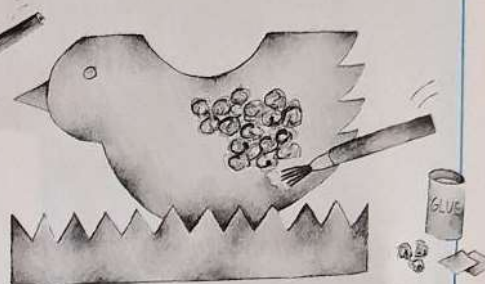
Illustrations: Basia Bogdanowicz

Making the chick

1 Trace the chick shape from the pattern on to folded card. Cut out carefully, remembering not to cut the folded edge. Work on one side first.

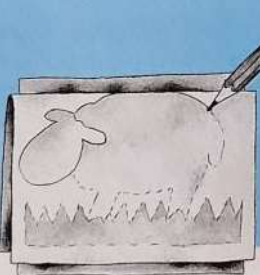


2 Applying glue to a small area at a time, stick tightly scrunched squares of yellow tissue paper on to the chick's body, for feathers. Leave a jagged edge at the bottom of the chick.



Making the lamb

1 Trace the lamb shape from the pattern on to folded card. Cut out carefully, remembering not to cut the folded edge. Work on one side first.

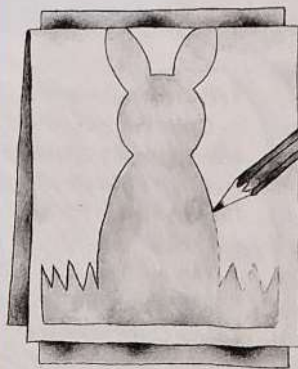


2 Use cotton wool to decorate the lamb's body. Divide the wool up into even pieces and stick it on with glue.



Making the rabbit

1 Trace the rabbit shape from the pattern on to folded card. Cut it out carefully, remembering not to cut the folded edge. Work on one side first.



2 Apply glue to the main rabbit shape, omitting the tail. This side will be the rabbit's back.



3 With a sheet of newspaper underneath, gently pour rice on to the rabbit and press down carefully. Gently shake off excess rice. Save all the spilt rice. You can use it to cover the other side of the rabbit.

These stand-up animals are fun to make and are also very adaptable. Once you've made them you could use them to decorate your meeting place during an Easter celebration.

Younger girls will want to own these cuddly creatures, so you could let them take them home at the end of the meeting. Older girls could make them into Easter cards or place cards.

For all three stand-up animals you will need:

- Scissors
- Pencil
- Black pen
- Green felt-tipped pen
- Medium-weight white card
- Glue

Each individual animal has extra requirements:

For the chick:

- Yellow tissue paper squares approx 4 x 4cm (1 1/2in x 1 1/2in)
- Orange felt-tipped pen

For the lamb:

- Cotton wool

For the rabbit:

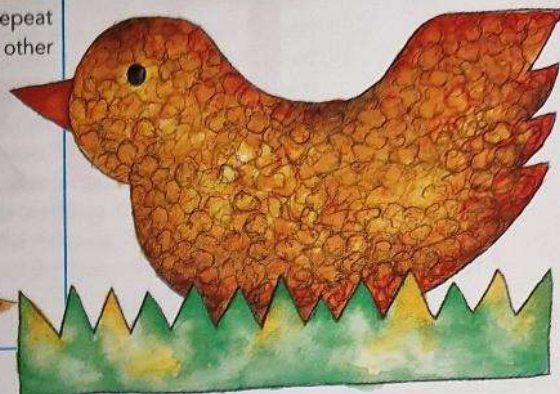
- Brown rice
- Cotton wool

Prepare in advance, by using one meeting to organise who will bring in the materials you need.

3 Colour the beak orange. Draw the eye in place with black pen. Colour the grass green.

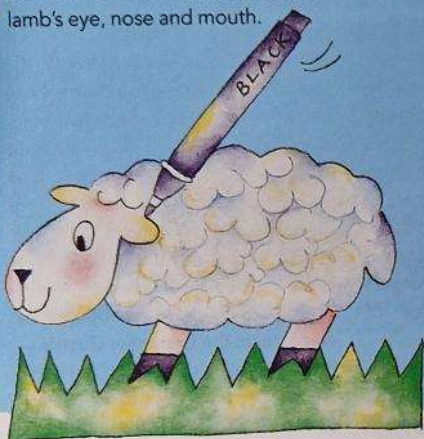


4 Open the chick out, then repeat steps two and three with the other side if you wish.

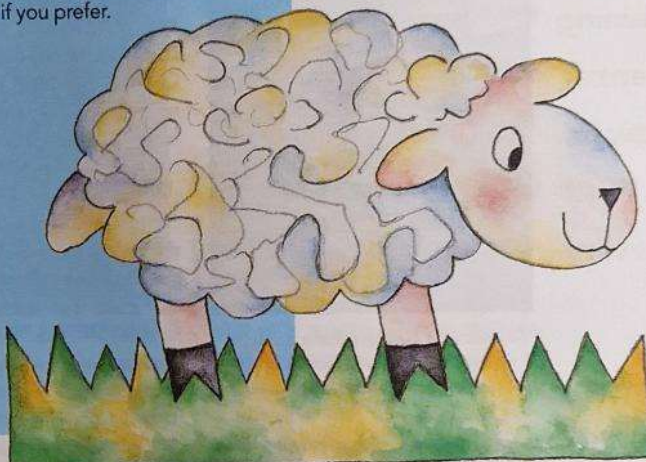


chick pattern

3 Colour the grass green. Using the black pen, outline the face and legs, colour in the hooves and draw in the lamb's eye, nose and mouth.

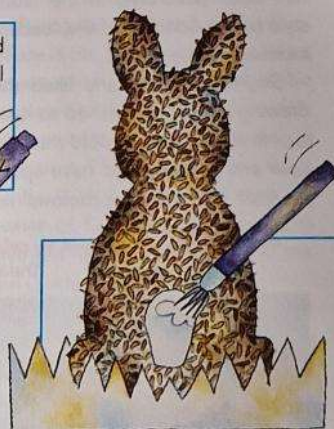


4 Open the lamb out, then repeat steps two and three with the other side if you prefer.



lamb pattern

4 Apply glue to the tail shape and stick a small piece of cotton wool in place to make the tail.



6 Open the rabbit out. Apply some glue to the ears and body shape. Omit the head, but do not leave out the tail. This basic shape will form the front of the rabbit.

7 Repeat steps three and five with the other side if you wish.

8 Draw features, such as eyes, nose and whiskers, on to the rabbit's face.



rabbit pattern

5 Colour in the grass with a green felt-tipped pen. You could also use paint or crayons if you wish.

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Foxlease cele

Next year
Foxlease, the
Association's
Hampshire
Training
Centre,
celebrates its
75th
anniversary

By Hilary Chittock
Foxlease's Manager



Guides and Guiders have enjoyed many Trainings and activities at Foxlease over the years

A year of celebration is planned and the 1997 Committee, chaired by Chris Tozer, promises an event-filled 12 months. Their aims are:

- To celebrate 75 years of Foxlease as a Guide Training Centre.
- To raise awareness of Foxlease.
- To increase usage of Foxlease.
- To raise funds for Foxlease.

The fund raising will begin this year with Fete and Fun days on April 13 and 14. The fun will start at 10.30am each day and last until 3.30pm. Admission is just 20p per day. Anyone wishing to stay overnight in tents or caravans can do so for 50p.

Many events have been planned for next year including a 75th birthday celebration weekend featuring an Elizabethan banquet and a camp in August. For a *Calendar of Events* contact the Manager, Foxlease, Lyndhurst, Hampshire, SO43 7DE.

Foxlease's history can be traced back to Tudor times. It was built as a

forest keeper's lodge, panelled with oak from the New Forest. You can still see examples of the skill of those 16th century craftsmen in the office and the 'quiet rooms' on the first floor.

Records show that 100 years after it was built, the house attracted the interest of Mabel, wife of John Cole of Odiham, who petitioned King Charles II in 1667 for its lease as a reward for her attendance on his father, Charles I, during his imprisonment on the Isle of Wight.

In 1770 Sir Phillip Jennings-Clarke acquired what remained of the old Tudor building. He left the hall and rooms above as a legacy to the past, but added a Georgian facade — the familiar face of Foxlease which we see today.

For the interior design, Sir Phillip turned to his friend author Horace Walpole, whose villa in Twickenham had been decorated in the latest style by the Adam brothers, leading architects of the period.

Sir Phillip particularly liked the drawing rooms and wished to have rooms where 'a man could move at ease and ladies would have space for their hoops and furbelows' re-

created in his New Forest home. His wishes were interpreted as a white room with a touch of gold, high ceilings and doors leading out to the garden and into the morning room.

By 1775 the fine Georgian mansion called Foxlease was complete with three Adam Gothic rooms, now known as Scotland, London and Hampshire. The house was Sir Philip's pride and joy and he lived there for the next 20 years.

In 1828 Foxlease was bought by an officer in the Grenadier Guards — Henry Weyland-Powell. He also bought the adjoining Wilverley Park. Mr Weyland-Powell was, in fact, the great uncle of our Founder, Robert Baden-Powell.

It was during this period that the large bay windows were added to Scotland and London.

Descriptions and plans of the grounds at this time prove that the original entrance to Foxlease was

Preparations are in hand to celebrate Foxlease's 75 years as a Guide Training Centre



celebrates



Now known as The Coach House, this part of Foxlease was originally called The Annexe

further up the Lyndhurst Road. Records also state that a pond (now the lake) was created and the house was approached via 'an elegant iron bridge of a single arch'.

The next 40 years passed uneventfully. However, in 1912 the house was bought by the Archbold Saundsons, who found there was a lot of work needed.

In 1918, Mrs Archbold Saundson returned to America with her children and so the house was empty again, waiting for the next chapter in its history to begin.

An educationalist, Mrs Archbold Saundson wanted the house used for the benefit of young people and had instructed an estate agent to contact a youth organisation.

Life returned to the estate in 1920. Smoke could be seen coming through the trees from camp fires surrounded by scattered tents and groups of people were spotted moving about in the grounds.

The following year the house was opened again for just one weekend by the new residents, who did not bring curtains or furniture. They were content to sleep on camp beds

but commented that the house seemed welcoming. At the end of the weekend, the house was closed again — but not for long.

Rumours circulated that somewhere in the New Forest there was a house which the owner might be prepared to give to the Girl Guides, who were looking for 'a home' of their own. The rumours grew, until, finally, it was announced that the owner of Foxlease had offered to give the house and grounds to the Girl Guides Association.

It was a wonderful offer but the Executive Committee had to consider it from every point of view. Would it be able to afford the upkeep? Would the New Forest be sufficiently accessible to Guiders living in the North?

It was decided that, should the offer be accepted, the house would not only be a centre for Guiders in the British Isles, but a 'home' of Guiding for those from all over the world, in which case, the location, only ten miles from Southampton — a big liner port — seemed ideal.

On January 2 1922, Lord and Lady Baden-Powell agreed to visit

Foxlease. They decided that the house and grounds would be very suitable for a Training Centre. So, at the next Executive Meeting, it was agreed that the generous offer should be accepted.

And so on February 28 that year, the wedding day of Princess Mary (The Princess Royal), a cable was received from Mrs Archbold Saundson explaining that she had made a present of Foxlease to the Guides 'in honour of the occasion of the marriage of our beloved President'.

Princess Mary responded by donating £6,000 out of the money subscribed as a wedding present by all the girls called Mary in the Empire, and a further £4,000 from the proceeds of an exhibition of her presents, to help with expenses.

With the financial burden lifted, plans were made and plumbers, masons and assorted workmen were soon on the scene. The refurbishment complete, the next task was to furnish the house.

Guides from Counties and countries as far apart as Oxford and New Zealand were soon fund raising to provide furniture and furnishings for the rooms, which would later bear their names in appreciation.

Gifts continued to pour in, turning the house into a real Guiding home. The first training was held there in May of that year.

In the early years Princess Mary was a frequent visitor and she wrote: 'Foxlease is more than fulfilling the expectations which I had formed for it as a home of Guiding. I hope it may always continue to be an inspiration and help to Guiders from all over the world.'

● Ranger Guide Bess Coleman designed the logo which will be used throughout 1997.

Today, girls of all ages can enjoy the facilities on offer at Foxlease



ROBIN JONES

information

GUIDING

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Note

All copy for inclusion in June's *GUIDING*
should reach CHQ by March 22. Please
address all contributions to Nora Warner.

Training Centres

Foxlease

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

Waddow

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

Lorne

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

Hautbois

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

Netherurd

Blyth Bridge, West Linton, Peebleshire
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
0860 393026. Fax: 01342 811206

Heritage Centre

The Heritage Centre is open from Monday,
Saturday during holidays and on Thursday,
Friday, Saturday only at other times.

Entrance charges are £2 per person and
it is necessary to ring the Centre and book a
preferred session in advance.

There are five sessions per day at:
9.30-11am; 11am-12.30pm; 12.30-2pm;
2-3.30pm; and 3.30-5pm. Time in the
picnic area is included in each session time.
The preferred maximum number of visitors
per session is 35.

Country and Region HQ addresses

Anglia

Ashley House, Old Station Road,
Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 8DT.
Tel: 01638 665482/1. Fax: 01638 561138

London and South East

3 Jaggard Way, Wandsworth Common,
London SW12 8SG.
Tel: 0181 675 7572. Fax: 0181 675 3270

Midlands

21 Lower Church Street, Ashby-de-la
Zouch, Leicestershire LE65 1AB
Tel: 01530 412703. Fax: 01530 560165

North East England

106 Heworth Green, York YO3 7TQ
Tel: 01904 421324. Fax: 01904 431445

North West England

1 Ribblesdale Place, Preston, Lancashire
PR1 3NA
Tel: 01772 823331. Fax: 01772 881051

Scotland

16 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh EH3 7AH
Tel: 0131 2264511. Fax: 0131 2204828

South West England

Ladywell, 33 The Close, Salisbury SP1 2EJ
Tel: 01722 329306. Fax: 01722 410232

Ulster

38 Dublin Road, Belfast BT2 7HN
Tel: 01232 322543. Fax: 01232 328867

Wales

Guides Cymru Office, Broneirion,
Llandinam, Powys SY17 5DE
Tel: 01686 688652. Fax: 01686 688098

The views expressed in *GUIDING*
magazine are not necessarily endorsed
by The Guide Association.

official

your letters

These letters reflect the writers' own views and not Association policy

Down memory lane

My daughter spotted the letter 'War memories' in December's *GUIDING*. The writer referred to Evelyn Lay, a name which has a familiar ring. I was a Guide in the 6th Crouch End unit, which met at Holly Park Methodist Church in the late 1930s.

I think Miss Lay may have been our 'Leffy' (Lieutenant) and, I believe, for a short time she ran our Company.

However, I lost touch when I was evacuated during the Second World War. Now I'm 73 and would be pleased to have more information about Miss Lay.

I am currently in the area and would love to get in touch. I am still in touch with a friend who was a Guide with me.

Freda Eyles (née Johnson)
East Barnet, Hertfordshire

● Write to Mrs Eyles c/o *GUIDING* if you have news of Miss Lay.

Poems from that special day

Anchor Books is gathering verses from people who remember, or who are currently experiencing, the trials and tribulations of getting married. You are invited to submit up to two poems, each no longer than 30 lines, to Anchor Books, That Special Day, 1-2 Wainman Road, Woodston, Peterborough PE2 7BU, no later than March 31. Alternatively, fax your poetic efforts to 01733 230751.

Trudi Ramm
Anchor Books

Forced on to the scrap heap

Last November, we had to say goodbye to our Assistant Guider. Why? Because she had reached 65!

It seems a criminal waste of talent and experience in a world where we are crying out for leaders. Why can't these warrants be reviewed on a yearly or six-monthly basis? I know that my now ex-Assistant Guider did not want to give up Guides. Why do we have to force these people on to the inevitable 'scrap heap' of old age?

S Scholes
Guide Guider
100th Northampton (The Abbey Centre)

Thank you, Captain

I'm writing this letter on behalf of the 1st St Mellons Guides. The unit was set up by Vivienne Grant in 1983. There were then about seven regular attenders. But, after the first six months, the

Company began to grow at an alarming rate. Viv developed a unit for girls that was fun, exciting and ever popular.

We want her to know that her efforts are not made in vain, as she sometimes feels. The Guides who have been in the unit past and present feel that they owe her a great deal of thanks for helping them to develop as people.

Her recent appointment as Assistant District Commissioner will give her the respect within the District which she deserves. But a title could never recognise her importance to the girls. So the girls would like to thank her by writing this letter of appreciation to *GUIDING*, a magazine which she regularly reads.

Julia Grant
Llanrumney, Cardiff

Let us know

Last October, one of my Brownies moved to South East England. I completed a transfer form and sent it off to the appropriate Guide Regional Office, along with her record sheet and badge certificates.

I am most disappointed not to have been advised whether she has been linked to a unit near her new home. Over many years, I have welcomed several Brownies from other areas into my Pack. Only once have I received details from a girl's previous unit. But, where possible, I have advised the previous Guider that the girl in question had joined our Pack.

These forms and records enable a Guider to integrate a Brownie into a new unit and to follow on from where she left off at her old Pack.

I realise that many Guiders may not know of the existence of Transfer Forms, perhaps it is time that they were given some publicity.

Sheila Smith
Brownie Guider
5th Currie Pack
City of Edinburgh

Waiting-list problem

I am a Rainbow Guider in a village with two very popular Rainbow Units. Between us we have a waiting-list of nearly 50 names.

My problem – and I wonder if other Rainbow Guiders share it – is that when a Rainbow is seven and ready for Brownies, her name is not at the top of the Brownie waiting-list. Sometimes she has to wait nearly a year. Should we keep this Rainbow until the Brownies can take her, or should we be asking her to leave so that we can take someone off our waiting-list?

I think Rainbows should have automatic entry to Brownies as soon as the next place becomes available, regardless of where they are on the Brownie waiting-list. This, I believe, is the case with Beavers and Cubs.

What do other Rainbow Guiders think?

Amanda Ball
Rainbow Guider
1st Haslington Rainbows
Crewe, Cheshire

The new-look GUIDING

Letters have been flooding into headquarters in praise of GUIDING's new look and format. Here are just a few comments from our regular readers:

I had to write and say how much I loved the new-look GUIDING. Congratulations on the new magazine.

Janet Hamilton

Barnet Division Camp Adviser, New Barnet, Hertfordshire

I like the new format of the magazine. It's refreshing to have a change.

Sylvia Short

1st Warminster Brownies
Wiltshire

Congratulations. All those ideas and grass-roots feeling for the Guider; the news of the opening of the Heritage Centre: all these have made this new-look GUIDING a real winner.

Heather Hill

Welland, Malvern, Worcestershire

I have just collected the January issue of GUIDING and would like to thank you for the new layout, typeface and ideas pages — notably the Try this quiz for Brownie Guiders. I was also impressed by the GUIDING index for 1995. My daughter, a Guide, has pounced on the friendship bracelet idea (Crafty ideas) and is looking forward to trying it out.

Well done.

S Griffiths

Brownie Guider, 1st Barton Brownies, Cambridgeshire

GUIDING has just arrived! I like it — congratulations. I couldn't put it down.

June Paterson-Brown

Hawick, Roxburghshire

Recognition for Rainbows

I would dearly like to express my support for Sue Davies (Your letters, January). We are, as she quite clearly states, the fastest growing section of the Association. Perhaps the Association as a whole should recognise this, and allow us to become 'fully incorporated members', so to speak.

There are a number of ways in which this could be approached. For example, should there be one uniform (as the term suggests there should be)?

In our Unit we have developed our own very simple *Promise Booklet*. This is a record of the activities that each Rainbow has taken part in prior to the taking of her Promise, showing that all of the eight aspects of the Rainbow have been covered. The Promise Certificate forms the last page.

The girls enjoy watching it being filled in and like talking about how a certain activity is relevant to being a Rainbow.

I would be very interested to hear other Guiders' opinions on this subject. I feel very strongly that it is up to the Guiders in the Units to put forward suggestions for improvements in the Association.

This allows us to continually improve the service that we offer.

Julia Green

Rainbow Guider
Doncaster, South Yorkshire

Letters should be kept short and the Editor reserves the right to edit any contribution. They must give the author's name, address and, if possible, a daytime phone number.

Young Leader Guiders quiz answers

Crack the code to find the answers.

Answer key

1-O, 2-&, 3-A, 4-C, 5-F, 6-V, 7-Q, 8-N, 9-L, 10-T, 11-M, 12-P, 13-H, 14-G, 15-D, 16-Y, 17-W, 18-B, 19-E, 20-S, 21-K, 22-R, 23-I, 24-U

Yes, keep Sunday special

I have great sympathy with the lady who wrote A personal view on page 52 of October's GUIDING. I've been disturbed by events being held on Sundays in my own Division and it is very difficult to know how to act. I don't support them myself, but wonder whether I should tell my Brownies about them. We meet in my own church's hall and have the backing of members there.

Name and address supplied

★ star letter ★

It was us!

After reading January's Live issues I would like to tell readers that it really 'could be you', as the 1st South Normanton Scout and Guide Group have been awarded £59,300 by the National Lottery Charities Board to build a new Scout and Guide headquarters.

With 125 current members, our meeting hut is in a terrible state and well beyond repair. As a group, we have been fund raising for the past five years, organising anything from jumble sales to gang shows, and have managed to raise £21,000 through our efforts.

We applied to the Charities Board in May last year, not with a great deal of hope of being awarded anything, but we felt that we should try anyway. What a surprise and delight it was to us all when our treasurer received a telephone call just before Christmas informing us of the award. We are still 'on cloud nine', but plans are already being drawn up for a new 'de-luxe' headquarters, in the anticipation that it will be ready for use when we return from the summer break in September.

By coincidence, this year we are also celebrating 20 years of Guiding in the village — what a birthday present!

Brenda Hall

Guide Leader

1st South Normanton Guides
Alfreton, Derbyshire

saving the world

By Sheena Crombie

Chapter 25 of Agenda 21 at the 1992 Rio Summit proposed that national governments should pay more attention to the concerns and opinions of children regarding the environment.'

This was the opening sentence in the notification we received of the first international conference organised by the United Nations and other sponsors specifically for children. The children, we were told, would be given the opportunity to air their views and be heard by media from around the world.

The Guide Association felt it was important that our membership should be represented. So Guides from North East England, London & South East England, Wales and Guernsey attended the three-day conference at Eastbourne in Sussex, supported by five leader escorts.

Of course, we were not on our own. There were in total 800 young people present, 500 from overseas and 300 from the UK.

The girls who represented the Association wanted to attend the conference for very positive reasons. Suzanne Young from Wales was keen to 'learn more about the environment', while Clare Leightly from Guernsey wanted 'answers to my questions'.

Annabelle Dobson from North East England explained that she 'wanted to say what I felt about the environment and not let other people say things which I didn't agree with', while another northerner, Rachel Wilson, had 'done a project on the environment and wanted to learn more about it'.

Caroline Gomm from Buckinghamshire was clear on why she was there: 'So that we can change things that are happening.'

A number of issues were of concern to all the girls, including: pollution; energy consumption; the impact of modern development; and cruelty to animals in terms of

hunting, poaching and trapping.

The first day was devoted to waste and recycling, with special presentations by such experts as environmentalist Jonathon Porritt and naturalist David Bellamy.

Next there were presentations on wildlife in danger. We 'toured the world' looking at situations where wildlife was threatened and also, encouragingly, where it is being protected. However, we were left in no doubt that the world is a small planet and we all have to work together to protect it.

At midday, the young people were linked to a similar conference in Moscow for a question-and-answer session. This was followed by a link with Russian cosmonauts, who for eight minutes, answered questions from both conferences.

The final day was spent looking at the role of the media and sustainable development. Apart from the presentations made by the children, John Gummer, Secretary of State for the Environment, also contributed.

By the end of the conference all the girls had firm views on what concerned them most. Here are just some of their comments.

Julianne Ezra from Kent would 'write to governments and ban smoking and reduce the prices on public transport', while Annabel Mahy from Guernsey wanted to 'tell people about pollution and what can be done about it'.

Rebecca Ward from East Anglia

proposed 'disposing of waste more carefully and recycling whenever possible', and Bethan Edwards from Wales suggested 'sponsoring an animal or supporting a wildlife trust'.

The girls were also asked what they thought The Guide Association should be doing about the issues. They replied:

- Provide recycling facilities at every Guide Association Centre; reduce waste produced; and publicise how important recycling is.

- Survey wildlife around Guide properties; adopt habitats in the UK and worldwide; and plant trees.

Other points raised included writing to and petitioning the Government; informing Guiders and Guides about environmental issues; and producing a new Environment badge, which should

The Guide Association's Environment Adviser reports on an impressive conference held specifically for children



be renewed on an annual basis to ensure that the environmental interest is not just a one-off.

- The girls' ideas and suggestions for the Association have been used as the basis for Topic of the month on pages 32-33.

Guides were keen to attend this unique conference which gave children a say in environmental issues

GLoucestershire Echo



Sock it to 'em

How many dirty socks could you wash by hand in 45 minutes?

Anna Bruckland and Emma Harrison of the 9th Cheltenham Brownies from Gloucestershire cleaned pongy foot-wear belonging to family and friends in a fundraising venture for WaterAid. The Pack managed to wash 274 socks within the time limit allowed and expect to have exceeded the £200 they raised for the charity in 1994.

Tall for 'her' age!

Keith Acton, a school caretaker and husband of an Assistant Brownie Guider, became 'Big Bertha Brownie' for a day to help the 1st Stokenham Pack, from near Kingsbridge in Devon, raise money for Children in Need.

'The teachers had to make it worth my while by sponsoring me for over £20,' said Keith, who disguised himself as a school dinner lady last year for the same cause.

Wash 'n' squash

Brownies and Guides from Wylam in Northumberland squeezed into a sparklingly-clean Tyne and Wear Metro carriage for a group picture. After cleaning the interior of the carriage to raise money for WaterAid, the girls were all given goody bags by the Metro's Liaison Officer.

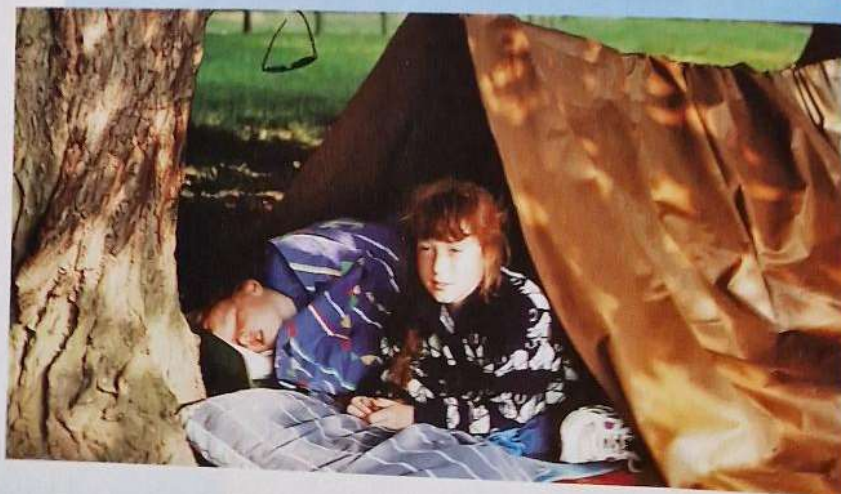
ANN McDONIGALL



Where are my carrots?

Jessie the horse met the 2nd Witham Brownies when the Essex girls paid a visit to the Redwings Horse Sanctuary to see their 'adopted' steed. The 7th Witham Pack also want to adopt a horse, so they took the opportunity to have a look around for a likely candidate.

HELENA HOOPER



JOYCE HARRISON

Wakey, wakey, rise and shine

Hayley Paxton and Amy Taylorson of the 1st Longnewton Guides from Yorkshire here greet the morning in the bivi they constructed during a wide game at Guide camp. Perhaps Hayley, still sleeping peacefully, was dreaming of breakfast in bed.



Boot girls take on the army

Teams of Brownies from the 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th Rheindahlen Packs in Germany — with dusters, polish and brushes at the ready — invited passers-by to guess how long it would take them to polish 100 pairs of dirty old army boots. Within 90 minutes the boots were all clean and the winners were given... the boot — a delicious cake that looked just like the real thing!

Pictured carrying out a 'bootiful' job are Brownies (from left) Katie Hildred, Sarah Anne Harvey-Smith, Charlotte Carr and Kirsty Longstaff.

CPL IAN ASHFORD/RAF



Only 3,900 left to go...

Never mind the rain — send down some soapy water! Rebecca Quinn and 14 other Croydon Brownies from the 7th Selsdon (St John's) Pack, armed with rubber gloves and washing-up liquid, scrubbed 4,000 seats in the Holmesdale Road stand at Crystal Palace's Selhurst Park football ground and raised £400 for WaterAid.

KEVIN SHAW/THE CROYDON ADVERTISER GROUP LIMITED

Please keep sending in all your Guiding photographs, we love to see them!

Each month, there's a £15 prize for the best photo and £5 for every other snap we publish.

Moscow. mission

Office skills are UK Guiding's latest export to Russia

Gill Fox almost fell off her wallpapering ladder when the phone rang at her North Yorkshire home with an invitation to go shopping in Russia.

Although surprised, Gill said yes, and just two days later her trip was confirmed. It meant being absent from her desk at North East England's HQ in York, where she is Executive Administrator, for a week but it was for a good cause.

She'd been invited to assist the Russian Association of Girl Scouts

mean that no one really knows for sure how many Guide units there are in Russia, Gill said that the current estimate is about 100 scattered across this vast country. By comparison, there are around 4,500 units in North East England alone.

'Once word spreads that there is a central headquarters, I'm sure many more groups will make themselves known,' Gill explained.

Gill was accompanied by Judy Ellis, a member of WAGGS'

Europe Committee and the UK's link with Russia.

They arrived in Moscow with their suitcases bulging with Biro's, paper-clips, fax paper and staplers.

First, came that promised shopping trip to buy a computer and other equipment using several thousand pounds in grants converted into dollars.

Gill found herself working with Ruth, a Cambridge undergraduate working in Russia through a VSO-sponsored scheme in order to improve her Russian. A UK Guider's daughter and Young Leader, Ruth had specially applied to work in the RADS office.

'She hopes to hand over at the end of 12 months to a Russian who is fluent in English. The computer is programmed in both languages,' Gill said.

Gill's main task was to demonstrate vital office skills – such as

accounting procedures; communication through newsletters; basic distribution methods for material; training; forms; and business letters – to make their administration easier.

Gill recalled: 'We had to try and convince them that not everyone had to attend every meeting, and that copies of minutes would suffice in many cases.'

She has been invited to return to Russia in October. Gill will be leading a party of six under the BRIDGES scheme to Ufa, the capital of Bashkortostan, which is a 24-hour train journey to the east of Moscow.

'We will be doing very basic training concentrating on such areas as decision-making skills, how to run a meeting and the roles played by a secretary and a treasurer,' she said.

She has plenty of experience to draw on. Apart from her nine years with North East England, Gill has worked as a community education officer, a part-time statutory youth worker and as administration officer at New Earswick Folk Hall, a large community centre run by the Joseph Rowntree Trust.

A Queen's Guide, 44-year-old Gill ran a unit before her two sons were born. When the boys were older, she became a Cub Scout Leader.

The trip to Russia was very different from her only other visit to Eastern Europe: 'We were on a family holiday in Bulgaria when Chernobyl blew up – we heard the bang!

'We didn't know what to do. We couldn't get home for nearly three weeks and my mother was frantic with worry.

'That time, even before the explosion, the atmosphere was very different. We were always aware that someone was watching us.

'There are still a lot of military uniforms around, but we weren't hassled at all. Our Russian hosts couldn't have been more helpful, and the people were smiling and very friendly.'



YORKSHIRE EVENING PRESS

Gill shows off a couple of dolls which were given to York HQ by some Russian visitors

(RADS) get on top of their paperwork. It was a demanding role: to help establish a central HQ for Guiding in Russia, which meant setting up an office in Moscow from scratch.

Although poor communications

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.

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Details from: The Warden,
Downe Scout Camp,
Bird House, Downe,
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BR6 7LJ
Telephone: 01959 572121
SAE, please.

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For further details: David Jackson
Woodhouse Park, Fernhill,
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Telephone 01454 613259
(Out of hours, answerphone)

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Fax: 0171 431 3825

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Telephone 01342 810493 or 0860 393026 or FAX 01342 811206

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So are you interested in using Blackwell Court for your Brownie Pack/Guide Camp in 1997? 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/Fax: 0121-447 7742. Or please visit us at Map Ref: Sheet 139 (Metric) 995 716.

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Jean Oldfield

from Radcliffe, Greater Manchester

Former art teacher Jean is retiring as Lancashire Border's Arts Adviser. But she will probably continue unofficially as the County's resident designer and artist

It is always satisfying if you can use your own professional skills and training to benefit Guiding. It's a way of giving something back, so I have greatly enjoyed my five years as County Arts Adviser, and the years I served as Art Representative for Bury South Division.

My Guiding started in the traditional way, as a Brownie and then a Guide at Swinton, near Manchester. I became a Ranger during the latter part of the Second World War.

As a Ranger, I helped with the 7th Swinton Brownies – my old Pack – and, eventually, became the Pack's Tawny. Later I became "Lieutenant" of my old Guide Company.

At 22 I completed my training as an art teacher. My first post was at Blackburn High School, a grammar school for girls.

However, Guiding has a way of following you around. Once you've been a leader, you can't seem to get it out of your hair.

The school had two Guide Companies. And, foolishly perhaps, I had mentioned my Guiding background in my CV. I therefore found myself Lieutenant of one of the units.

After two years I transferred to what was then North Manchester High School and, while I was there, I got married. John and I set up home and, when our first child was on the way, I gave up teaching. I thought that I had given up Guiding too. It was, of course, a delusion.

At eight, my daughter, Christine, wanted to join Brownies but the local church Pack had no Guider, and the hall where the Pack met had been closed for renovations.

So, of course, I became its Brown Owl. I remained as leader of the now active Pack for 15 years.

Christine went on to become a Queen's Guide. She is now married, with a son, aged four and a baby daughter. My son, Peter, a former Cub and Venture Scout, has a son in Cubs and a daughter in Brownies. So the Guiding link continues.



J.F. OLDFIELD

During my stint as a Brownie Guider, I was District Assistant and also served as a Division Commissioner from 1983-88. During this time, I was also the Division's Art Representative. Then, in 1991, I took over as County Arts Adviser.

When North West Region was created in 1971, I designed the Region's standard. I also designed the standard for Lancashire Border when the County was created by splitting Lancashire South East into two Counties, in 1983.

I have also designed many of the special badges used by the Region, County and Bury South Division, as well as a number of drawings and paintings of Height Nook, the County's Activity Centre on Darwen Moor, which have proved popular.

One of my more recent efforts has been to produce the logo for RACE, the Region's 25th anniversary celebration event this year.

In June, we leaders will celebrate at Merseyside's Haydock Park racecourse, I don't know why this has been chosen, but I can assure you that it is not so that we can have a flutter on the horses!

With my retirement as County Arts Adviser comes my retirement from active Guiding as a leader.

But any sadness that I might feel will, I hope, be tempered by my continuing to be "on call" to produce logos, badges, posters, or anything of that kind that is required.

Using my skills to the benefit of Guiding has given me a great deal of pleasure over the years. ♡

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