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vaulting ambition

Hollie Robertson expects to have a swinging time when she spends Christmas in Hawaii

Guide gymnast Hollie Robertson from Midlands Region is limbering up for a trip to Hawaii with a team of British girls to take part in a world-class event, the Aloha Gymfest, in December.

Hollie, who is a member of the 2nd Tenbury Guides from Tenbury Wells in Worcestershire, is what might be called a gymnastics prodigy. Now 11 years old, she was only six when she was admitted to the prestigious Earl's School of Gymnastics, Halesowen, one of the top training centres in the UK.

By the time Hollie was ten she had collected several awards at various regional championships (both individually and as a member of a team), including five golds.

Hollie was also the youngest member of the school's West Midlands Regional Squad for junior gymnasts. She represented the Midlands at a national tournament in Guildford, Surrey last year.

Hollie's father, Stuart, explained how she came to be on her way to the Pacific:

'It all started when Hollie was a three-year-old toddler and her mum, Jill, took her to *Tumbletots* in Telford. Even at that age she showed signs of having natural ability.

'Hollie soon went on to a gymnastics class at our local leisure centre, where the gym master was so impressed by her obvious aptitude that he recommended that we applied to have her placed on the waiting list for Earl's.

'When the principal of Earl's saw Hollie after a one-year wait, he said that if he had only seen her 12 months earlier he would have admitted her to the school immediately!

'Hollie performs well in all the four disciplines of gymnastics — the parallel bars routine, the floor routine to music, vaulting and beam work. Her eight-year-old sister, Sophie, does a little bit of

gymnastics but she doesn't aspire to follow Hollie over the bars. Hollie is the real gymnast in our family.

'Senior teams from Earl's have attended the annual Gymfest in Hawaii for several years, but at last year's event the school was invited to send a junior team for the first time. Hollie and five others were selected for the all-girls' team.

'The team will fly out on December 18 and return in early January. Hollie takes the prospect of spending Christmas in Hawaii very calmly. Far from being excited, she tends to play it all down, but we're very proud of her.' ■



Hollie limbering up at Earl's School of Gymnastics, Halesowen

JOHN HICKS PHOTOGRAPHY

comment



You may already have heard of Branch Associations. I'm sure you've heard of Bermuda, the Cayman Islands, Gibraltar and the Falkland Islands. They are just four

of the nine states which have Branch Associations. The others are Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, Montserrat, the Turks and Caicos Islands and St Helena.

These Associations are in states which are dependencies of the UK. To most of the inhabitants, Guiding is a way of life — a tradition that for some started in 1913.

Although they are part of UK Guiding, each state has its own culture, customs and climate. This influences what the Guides can do and the kind of uniform they wear.

It is basically the same as that worn in the UK, but the materials are lighter. For example: T-shirts instead of shirts, shorts instead of jogging bottoms, and some still wear hats.

The Guiding programme is also adapted to suit the Branches, as many of our resources and activities are not available to them. The girls are just as enthusiastic, adventurous and full of fun — and Guiders are just as hard to find.

Camping in the Branches is not as common as you might imagine — it can get really hot inside a tent! But, lately, there has been a lot of encouragement for camps and Pack Holidays, with groups going to inter-island or international events, providing some girls with a chance to travel for the first time.

My job is to support and administer these Associations. I also keep our Chief Commissioner, who is also their Chief Commissioner, up to date with developments. There will be times when I, or other Trainers, travel to the Branches when training is required or requested.

Why not include the Branch Associations in your international themes and projects? Contact me via CHQ for information. They'll be really pleased to know you're interested.

Sheila C Mathieson
Adviser for Branch Associations

this month...

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front cover

Our cover girl is Miranda Vaughan of the 2nd Newport Pagnell Brownies in Buckinghamshire

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S.E. KIRBY



Blooming lovely

Girls representing all four sections of Malpas District in Newport, Gwent have won the Community and Health Centres class of the Newport in Bloom competition. The Mayor of Newport, Councillor John Jenkins (pictured here with the girls), presented the trophy.

To earn the award, the girls planted and maintained flower-beds and looked after hanging baskets. Newport Guider Sue Kirby said: 'It wasn't just about planting. They have also taken a keen interest in environmental

concerns and have been keeping the area free of litter.'

The town went on to enter the Great Britain in Bloom competition. Sue explained: 'The girls are helping to promote this competition in the town and are enjoying all the publicity.'

Conquering Crohns

Berkshire Guide Helen Ferguson has been presented with the Baden-Powell Trefoil by the Chairman of her local Crohns Society, Peter Arthur. The award ceremony, which was attended by all her family and friends, was a proud moment for Helen, who suffers from Crohns Disease, a debilitating condition which affects the digestive system.

Sue May, Assistant Guider of Helen's unit, the 21st Reading (St Giles), said: 'Helen has worked extremely hard for this award. She has been involved in lots of different service projects within the local community, including helping at Brownies and learning first aid. She has gained lots of Service and Interest badges. One of her greatest achievements was completing a six-mile walk to Henley-on-Thames when she was very ill.'



G.W. FERGUSON

BRENDA HENDERSON

Rainbow ramblers

These little legs, which all belong to the 12th Bromsgrove Rainbows from Hereford and Worcester, soldiered on to complete the 'Macmillan Mile', a fundraising appeal by the cancer relief charity. The girls raised over £60 towards providing more Macmillan Fund nurses.

New Guider Brenda Henderson said: 'We were very pleased to raise so much and were lucky to have a lovely sunny evening for our walk.'



PAUL YOCKNEY



Triple vision

Rainbow Guider Anne Venear from Cornwall has to concentrate all her powers of observation at meetings, as there are three sets of twins in her Unit.

Anne explained: 'The girls are very good-natured when we get their names wrong — they just say which twin they are and continue their reply.'

The six twins, who are all members of the 1st Helston Rainbows, are pictured here filling their handmade octopuses with polystyrene beads.

in brief



JOHN A ELLIOT

Ever-ready Ella

Ella Baxter, recently-retired Division Commissioner for Whitley Bay in Tyne and Wear, has received a Good Service Brooch 'for excellent service within The Guide Association'. She was presented with the award at a Division event by North Tyneside County Commissioner Sheila Thompson (also pictured here).

Her successor, Anne Elliot, said: 'Ella has worn just about every "hat" conceivable in the Movement. If you wanted a job done, Ella did it yesterday. She's talked more people into Guiding than anyone else I know.'

A fête to remember

Association members in Farnborough, Greater London, celebrated 75 years of Guiding in their town at their annual summer fête. Members from every section modelled uniforms dating from the 1920s through to the present day.

Seven-year-old Brownie Nicola Spencer, who wore an original Rosebud uniform, commented: 'I like the uniform, but the bobble on the hat gets in the way.' Other attractions included a martial-arts display, competitions and gift stalls.



JUNE WEBB



Friendly folk

An international group of Guiders and Trefoil Guild members, all Friends of the Four World Centres, travelled to Our Chalet in Adelboden, Switzerland.

The English contingent, pictured here at London Stansted Airport, represented the Counties of Suffolk, Norfolk, Lincolnshire and Berkshire. They were joined in Switzerland by groups from Ireland and Canada.

June Webb, the Friends' secretary, commented: 'We practised walking for four months preparing for the mountains, and it certainly paid off!'

snippets

WORKING GIRL Guide Emma Turton, from the West Hoathly Company in Sussex Central, spent a day at CHQ on 'Bring Your Daughter to Work' day. She said: 'I have had a super day looking around CHQ, visiting the Heritage Centre and day at school!' **MAORI MONEY** Guides from Anglesey in Gwynedd got together for a fundraising day to pay for the refurbishment of their meeting hall. The 2nd Holyhead Guides contributed by performing a Maori stick game. **FAREWELL** After 43 years as Brown Owl with the 24th Luton Brownies from Bedfordshire, Thelma Gregory enjoyed a glorious retirement party. She explained: 'I actually received my warrant with the same Pack 47 years ago and I had started as Pack Leader five years before that.' **60 YEARS ON** The 1st Wood End (St Barnabas) Guides and Brownies from Northolt in Greater London remade their Promises at a church parade to celebrate the 60th anniversary of their units' registration. At the following party, the guests included 80-year-old Mrs V Willoughby, who presented the Guides with a framed print of Roch Castle, the original of which was painted by Robert Baden-Powell. **CUP CLEANERS** Central Park in Wigan, Greater Manchester was invaded by rugby enthusiasts from the 1st Chorley Hollinshead Street Guides, who cleaned over 20 trophies as part of their Silver Jubilee Challenge. **IT AIN'T HALF HOT, MUM** The 1st Abu Dhabi Guide unit went camping in the grounds of a villa belonging to the Girl Guides Association of the United Arab Emirates. Guider Jane Morris said: 'We borrowed old army ridge tents, and begged, borrowed or bought other items. It was baking hot, but we still managed to cook outside and even had a camp fire!' **FASHION FETE** Sarah Benson, a Young Leader with the 3rd Attenborough Brownies from Chilwell in Nottinghamshire, organised a children's fashion show to help her Pack raise £50 for a local RSPCA shelter. The Brownies were thrilled to learn modelling techniques and a local shop supplied the outfits.

fond farewell

'You have been a wonderful friend'; 'We shall miss you'; 'Thank you for all your help over the years'; 'We will feel lost without you'.

Farewell messages such as these poured in to Nancy Strachan from Guide Associations and BGIFC leaders around the world, when she announced her retirement after more than 20 years as Trading Service's export clerk.

In Barbados, Brunei, the United Arab Emirates, Singapore and scores of other countries, members wanted to pay tribute to the caring Scottish lady who came to regard them as friends, although she'd never met most of them.

But from Jamaica and Bermuda came something special. The Jamaican Guides sent their Association's second highest award — the Torch. The Bermudan Guides also sent a Service Award in recognition of Nancy's 'outstanding service and contribution' to their Association.

The silver and gilt Torch, mounted on a blue enamelled Trefoil, was brought to the UK earlier this year by Barbara Dunn, a former president and life member of the Girl Guides Association of Jamaica. It was presented to Nancy, together with the Bermudan Service Award, by the UK Association's Chief Executive, Hilary Williams, in June.

Nancy's colleagues and friends attended the ceremony, which took place at the Trading Service's offices in Altrincham, Greater Manchester.

No leaders from Jamaica could be present, but Marjorie Grosett, Chairman of the Jamaican Association's Awards Committee, wrote in a letter to the Chief Executive: 'Mrs Strachan has been a wonderful friend and supporter to us in Jamaica and we are grateful to her.'

Another Jamaican leader, Enid



It was a proud moment for Nancy Strachan when she received Jamaican Guiding's second-highest award — the Torch

Wynter, who is Commissioner for Training and a member of the Awards Committee, told Nancy in a letter that her retirement 'has left us at Girl Guide headquarters with a sense of loss'.

A certificate from the Bermuda Guides, signed by Island Commissioner Lynne Cann, states that their Service Award has been given to Nancy in recognition of her 'outstanding service and contribution'.

At the presentation, the Chief Executive said: 'It is gratifying to us that Nancy's sterling work over the years has been widely recognised.'

Nancy started working at Trading Service in November 1975, shortly after the department's official opening. It was set up in a new office block and warehouse in Altrincham, to replace the Mail Order Service, which had operated from CHQ, and the Badge Unit based in Birmingham.

Her Guiding background gave her an instant rapport with the many foreign, Commonwealth and BGIFC leaders. She came to the job almost by accident.

'My children were then at secondary school and I was thinking of returning to work when a neighbour saw this job advertised in the local paper,' she explained. 'Knowing that I was a Guider, she drew my attention to it. I applied and, perhaps helped by my Guiding background, got the job.'

'Soon I was dealing with Guiding people all over the world.'

'When I retired on March 13 — my 60th birthday — I had very mixed feelings, but I hope to continue to run my Guide Company for another five years.'

● Born in Glasgow, where she was a Brownie and a Guide, Nancy became a Lieutenant in 1955 and a Captain in 1959, the year she was married. She left Guiding in 1960, but in 1968, started the 2nd Lymm (United Reform Church) Guide Company, having moved to Cheshire because of her husband's work. She has also served as a Ranger Guider, Division PRA and District Commissioner.

Recognition
for a Guider
who exported
friendship as
well as
equipment

nice work

Green-fingered Guides are creating a haven for wildlife on derelict allotments

Words and photos by Gillian Ellis

At 10am there was a hole in the ground. By 3pm there was a fully-lined, pear-shaped pond surrounded by a new hedge. The speed of the operation was astonishing. But then, the 115th Bradford Guides never let the grass grow under their feet — not unless they want it for their wildlife project.

Fast growth is the hallmark of this enterprising unit. Just two years old, the 115th Bradford's numbers have risen quickly from two to 20. From the start, Guider Sue Bailey set out to give the city-based girls a taste of outdoor life.

It wasn't long before the Guides loved bird-watching and tracking on the derelict allotments near their meeting place. So when the Council decided to level the site to reduce vandalism, the unit applied to rent part of the land to create a wildlife sanctuary.

'We've allocated half the site to a natural wildlife habitat, the other



Local wildlife has gained and the girls have learned a lot

The drained pond was carefully lined



half to organic gardening,' said Sue.

'I took an organics course. In our first season we grew sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, tomatoes and lettuce. We gave the Brownies two beds where they grew potatoes and flowers. All the produce ended up on the girls' own tables for their families to enjoy.'

Fertiliser is no problem — much of it is provided by Sue's horse, which is currently helping the 115th Bradford to grow onions, runner beans and sweet peas.

'We go in for "companion planting",' explained Sue. 'I learned about it on the course. We grow plants designed to complement our other activities — for instance, church decoration or handicrafts.'

The wildlife plans are well under way. A hedgehog haven was one of the first projects. Greenery piled against an old brick wall has produced a 'des res', into which a prickly family has already settled.

During the winter, bird puddings were served at the site and bird boxes were constructed ready for the spring. Plans for this year include a butterfly garden; a nettle patch for the caterpillars; a prickly hedge to deter human intruders but encourage birds and other creatures; and a pond to attract frogs and insects from far and wide.

When GUIDING arrived at the site a band of young enthusiasts was ready with spades and forks to tackle one of its major projects -

the pond. Patrick Crowley of the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV), whose stated task is to enable others to carry out conservation work, had brought along some older volunteers.

Young Leader Claire Davy fed the crackling fire and produced a continuous stream of hot drinks.

Patrick, who has helped with the planning since the project's inception, organised the workforce. A dozen Guides aged 10-13, three adult leaders, two Brownies, two young boys and several parents joined the BTCV workers for a strenuous 'dig-in'.

Some workers enlarged and reshaped the contours of the hole, others piled up sods and a third group baled out muddy water into barrels. Anyone not engaged in pond creation was sent to dig a deep trench parallel to the existing outer hedge. It seemed no time at all before all the cavities were the required size and the workers were gratefully sipping soup and tucking into mounds of sandwiches.

After lunch, the transformation galloped ahead. Honeysuckle, holly, hawthorn and barberry bushes were dipped into the water barrel to ensure that they had well-soaked roots, then planted in the trench in record speed.

Simultaneously, the drained pond was carefully lined with old carpet and newspaper, then all the available hands combined forces to lay a heavy-duty rubber sheet across the surface.

The edge was weighted with grassy sods, the excess rubber was cut off and then came the triumphal moment when water was returned to the pond, amid cheers from the workers. The final task was to cover the rubber with earth and create a small pebble beach.

'All we need now is rain,' said Sue. 'We've bought a specially designed pond kit of plants which will encourage wildlife. There'll be no fish — they eat everything else and defeat the object completely.'

Patrick Crowley advises any unit wishing to follow the 115th Bradford's example to contact the BTCV. The help available is likely to include advice, the loan of tools



The band of young enthusiasts set to work with spades and forks



One group baled out the muddy water into barrels

or manual labour, according to area. It doesn't include funding, which has to be tackled by the unit.

'I wrote to local businesses and had a wonderful response,' said Sue. 'Including a grant from the Shell Better Britain Campaign, we raised about £2,000 — and we'll need every penny. The rubber sheet alone cost £300 and the hedgerow trees about £500.'

The unit didn't rely totally on grants. One way they earned money was to recycle just about everything the Guides could get their green fingers on. Not only did they profit

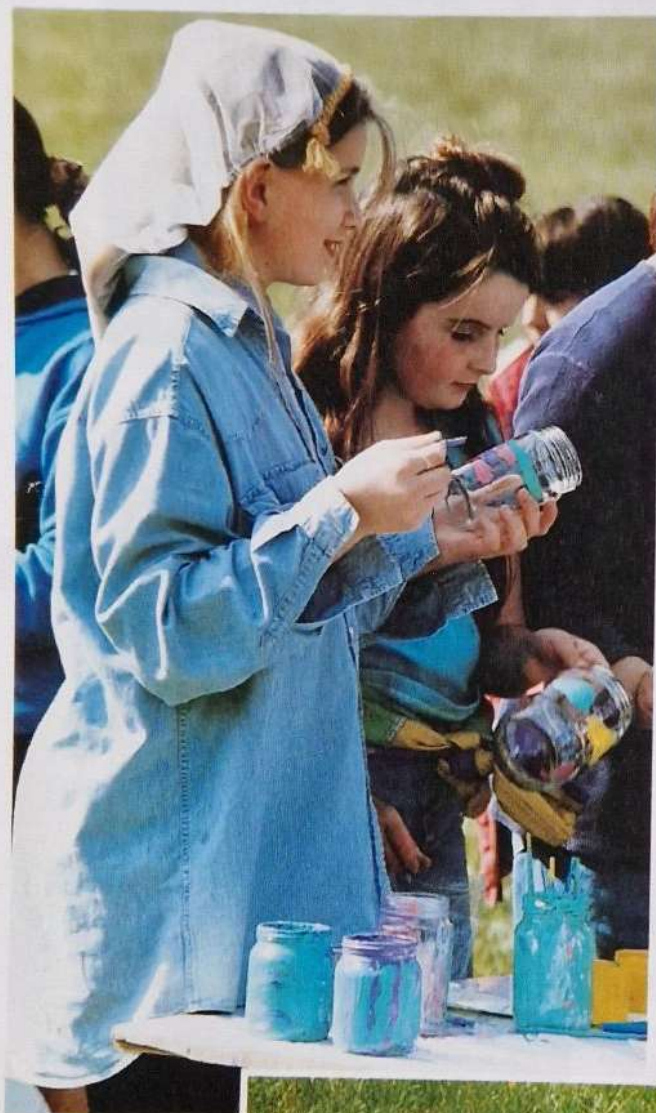
by recycling, they even became writers/publishers by producing a leaflet about local recycling outlets.

Sue believes that the project is worthwhile, not only for the visual improvement of the land and the benefits to wildlife, but for what the girls have learned.

'It's a massive job but the girls are really enthusiastic,' she says. 'I'd recommend it to anyone who's prepared to put in plenty of hard work.'

**You can contact the BTCV at
36 St Mary's Street, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 0EU.**

no bananas!

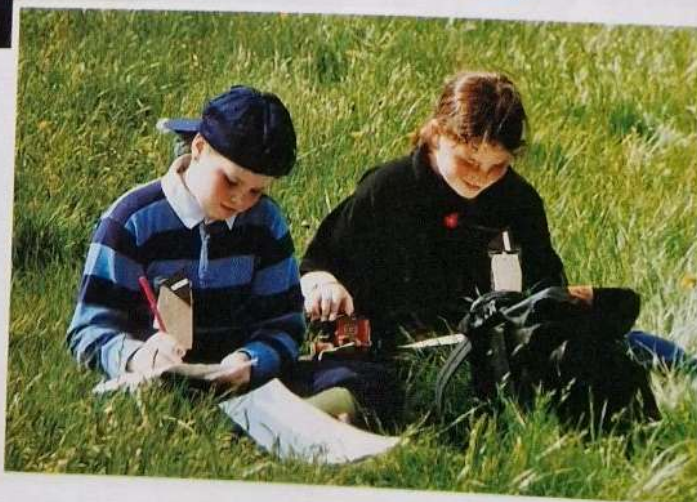


Decorated jamjars were exchanged at the end of the camp

**The girls of
London South
East County
turned the
clock back
when they
brought the
1940s to the
North Downs**

By Nora Warner
Photos: Ian Andrews

Over at
communications,
girls were tapping
out Morse-code
messages



The days when you needed coupons for clothes and sweets, basic foods were rationed and women dyed their legs with gravy browning were revived this summer in the lush green fields of the North Downs.

London South East took a step back in time to the austere period just after the Second World War, as the inspiration for their 50th anniversary weekend camp.

Outdoor Activities Adviser Kim Whitmore admitted that they had cheated a little by making the Saturday set piece a street party. Strictly speaking, street parties were all over by 1946 and, in most cases, they weren't staged in fields. But none of the 300 campers cared.

They were too busy filling up their ration books, issued by the camp's Minister of Food. It was, after all, the only way they'd get their supper.

Challenges with a 1940s flavour were grouped around the field at the Shaws camp site in Cudham near Biggin Hill, and every girl was expected to tackle each section, thus qualifying to have her ration card stamped.

At the cooking base, there were girls making Spam fritters and drop scones, while over at communications, others were tapping out Morse-code messages and making telephones out of paper beakers.

In the hair and beauty tent, Trefoil Guild members were passing on make-do-and-mend tips from half a century ago. However, '90s girl preferred having her arms rather than her legs coated with gravy browning, and gazed with horror at how little she'd have received as her week's ration in early postwar Britain.

Trefoil Guild Chairman Edna Ballam recalled that you needed 11 coupons for a wedding dress, five for a veil and nine for a suit to 'go

away in'. She added: 'I think you got about 25 coupons a year. It was seven for an ordinary dress. People weren't worried about whether they could afford to pay for something — they worried about having enough coupons.

'I had five brothers in the armed forces and they got extra coupons for civvy clothes, so I used to borrow theirs!'

Games that were old favourites in the '40s, such as skittles, marbles and cat's cradle, found new converts, and the girls sharpened their observation skills by trying to recognise war-planes and then spot their shapes in a puzzle.

Jitterbugging was all the rage among the young dancers, while another group made party hats, whizzers and twirlers.

Knotting skills were practised painlessly by girls making friendship bracelets and Canadian posies. Alternatively, they could make mini ballistas for firing missiles with or plastic parachutes for tin-foil airmen.

After learning about how the Union Jack is made up, the girls were encouraged to choose another country's flag and have it drawn on their cheeks with face paints.

The 1940s theme continued the following day with an adventurous wide game, which involved the girls becoming refugees. They had to avoid 'minefields' and other dangers while finding their way back to Blighty (see page 36 for details of how to stage your own refugee wide game).

On the last morning, the six Divisions were each given a decade from the '40s to the '90s and asked to provide two minutes of entertainment from their particular era for a pageant. The task of the County's physically-disabled unit was to represent the future.

The weekend may have included war in its theme, but friendship was at its heart. All the girls were encouraged to decorate a jamjar and add their names and addresses to their works of art. Then night-lights were popped into the jars and



There was a chance to practise knotting skills by making friendship bracelets and Canadian posies

the girls carried them to Saturday evening's camp-fire ceremony led by Caroline Dunton. They made a winking necklace of light across the site as an air-raid siren sounded.

When the camp came to an end, the jamjars were given out to the girls, but not to the same artist who'd painted them. 'We are hoping each girl will become pen-pals with the person whose name is on the jar which she receives,' explained Kim.

During the Guides Own on the Monday morning, Kim described a stranger as 'a friend you haven't met yet' and added that she hoped all the campers had made new friends.

She explained: 'Every adult here has made many friends through Guiding, especially at events like this, and we are all here as friends today. We all need other people and a good friend is worth more than her weight in gold.'

Then she quoted a definition of friendship: 'A true friend is one to whom you can tip out all the secrets of your heart, good and bad — one with whom you can laugh and cry. And you know she will keep the bad to herself and encourage the good.'

Kim's message came from the heart. Her best friend, Lorraine Burgess, who is godmother to Kim's son, is a Guiding pal. Kim is Guide Guider with the 3rd Plumstead Common Company and Lorraine is Brownie Guider with the 3rd Plumstead Common Pack.

Other friends — old and new — who helped with the weekend

celebrations were: Sandra Short, County Camp Adviser; Elizabeth Maytom and Janet Dawson, Guider and Assistant Guider of the 5th North Dulwich Guide Company; and Division representatives Sue Craven, Woolwich; Esme Partridge, Royal Eltham; Bee Twydale, Greenwich; Pam Tyrrell, Southwark; Sandra Andrews, Lewisham; and Caroline Dunton, Honor Oak.

'I couldn't have done it without them,' said Kim, who had just agreed to be COAA before discovering that one of her first tasks was to run a County anniversary camp! ■



At the cooking base, the girls made Spam fritters and drop scones

the dark side

In its latest report on the world's well-being, UNICEF highlights 'the most neglected tragedy of our times' – maternal death and injury

By Catherine Dell

Every year around 600,000 women die in pregnancy and childbirth, according to UNICEF's latest report *The Progress of Nations 1996*.

Almost all of these maternal deaths – 98 per cent – occur in the developing world. In the worst affected countries, like Afghanistan and Sierra Leone, the risk of a woman dying in childbirth during her lifetime is one in nine – as against one in 5848 in the UK.

She may die of haemorrhaging, sepsis or such severe anaemia that her heart muscles fail. Or, perhaps, her death results from brain and kidney damage following eclampsia convulsions or from obstructed labour – after days of futile contractions. Or maybe she's the victim of an unsafe abortion.

Some 50,000 women attempt to abort themselves each day through various horrific methods. Most survive, though often with lasting discomfort and disease. But around 75,000 a year do not.

In the 1990s so far, four million women have died in pregnancy or childbirth. The number of dead, however, represents just one aspect of the tragedy. These women – in their teens, twenties and thirties – are invariably responsible for looking after the house, generating some of the family's income, caring for elderly relatives and, most importantly, bringing up children. It has been estimated that the 600,000 women who die each year in childbirth leave behind at least one million motherless children.

Then, to complete the picture, there are the women who survive the pregnancy and childbirth – but at the expense of their own health. For every woman who dies in these circumstances, approximately 30



Obstetric care must be available to those who need it.

more suffer disease and disability. Because such illnesses are seldom treated, they become a lifelong burden and, more often than not, worsen with age.

Common problems include ruptured uterus, prolapse, pelvic inflammatory disease, lower genital tract injuries, anaemia, Sheehan's syndrome and fistula.

Fistula, provoked by prolonged labour, allows leakage from the rectum and bladder into the vagina. The woman becomes incontinent and, without an operation, remains so for life. It is thought that up to one million women are suffering from fistula. Every year, an unknown number of them commit suicide.

Perhaps the most scandalous aspect of the maternal deaths tragedy is that two-thirds of the deaths could easily be prevented with improvements in health education and obstetric facilities.

By learning how to control their pregnancies women can avoid:

- Unsafe abortions.
- Having children too young or too old. In general, a woman is not physically ready to bear children until she is about 18. After 35, the health risks once again become greater.

- Having children too close together. If a mother becomes pregnant again before her body has fully recovered from childbirth – within two years – the risks to her health are increased.

- Having too many children. After four pregnancies, there is much more likelihood of serious problems such as anaemia and haemorrhage.

If family planning services were available to all, pregnancies in the developing world would fall by 20 per cent – with a reduction in maternal deaths and injuries.

The mother-to-be's chances of survival will be greater if she has access to antenatal care, and if an attendant is not adequately trained, as is often the case, her intervention can cause complications. Many problems occur because the person delivering the baby has dirty hands, or puts herbs into the vagina to speed contractions, or uses an unsterilised knife to cut the cord.

One vital feature of training is that both antenatal carers and birth attendants should be competent to recognise conditions – such as vaginal bleeding or prolonged labour – that require more specialist help. The role of specialist help is

f motherhood

what distinguishes maternal deaths from other health issues in the developing world.

Every pregnancy the world over runs the risk of developing life-threatening difficulties, which means that modern obstetric facilities must be readily available.

For developing countries this may seem an unaffordable, and therefore impossible, option. However, even the poorest nations have a network of district hospitals which, with minimum upgrading, could guarantee obstetric care.

The provision of trained midwives, equipment and drugs is not a question of major investment but of political will. Experts in the field report that 'many obstetric units are unusable for the lack of 100 dollars' worth of maintenance – a repair to anaesthesia machines, the installation of proper lighting.'

Addressing the tragedy of maternal deaths is not only about health education and medical facilities. It is also about the status of women. The conspiracy of silence and lack of concern surrounding the issue reflect that it is a 'woman's problem' – another instance of the discrimination many women endure because of their reproductive role.

In numerous societies, cultural practices and attitudes do not allow a woman any autonomy over her sexuality – with grave consequences for her health. For example:

- As a child she may suffer female genital mutilation (FGM) – having some or all of her genitalia cut away. This traditional practice, designed to preserve virginity, is widespread in parts of Asia, the Middle East and particularly Africa. In Djibouti and Somalia, 98 per cent of girls are mutilated. The operation, performed without anaesthetic, is traumatic and can be fatal.

- As a teenager, she may be forced to marry someone she does not know, and to do so while she is still

very young. In Africa, around 50 per cent of girls marry before the age of 18. Overall, teenagers account for one-quarter of maternal deaths.

- A woman experiencing difficulties in pregnancy or childbirth may die because her husband will not allow her to be seen by a male doctor. Her complications may be interpreted as a sign of unfaithfulness and she will be abandoned or beaten.

Help through Guiding

At the national level, many member associations are involved in projects related to reproductive health. To highlight just a few...

- In Zimbabwe, the Girl Guides Association helped produce an information film about teenage pregnancy.

- In the Philippines, the Girl Scouts have an Outreach Adolescent Fertility Programme, which is designed to reduce the number of early marriages and teenage pregnancies and also halt the spread of AIDS.

- In Peru, Guides are running projects for unemployed women in Lima's shanty towns. The subjects covered include health and family planning.

- In Jamaica, Guides are trained to offer peer counselling within their communities on adolescent sexual health. One aim of the programme is to reduce teenage pregnancies.

And in every country where there are Guides and Girl Scouts, girls and young women are growing in self-awareness, which could have positive implications for every aspect of their lives – including their potential role as mothers, preventing them from becoming statistics in the tragedy of maternal deaths and injuries.

GUIDING gratefully acknowledges the assistance of UNICEF in the preparation of this article.

Related reading

The latest title in the World Issues series, *Born Female – a Challenge for Life*, deals with reproductive health and other issues concerning the status of women. Published by WAGGGS

What's being done

As the world's largest women's organisation – committed to the development of women and to improving their status – WAGGGS has always had women's health on its agenda. This is particularly true for reproductive health, which affects so many aspects of a woman's life.

At the international level, WAGGGS works closely with UN agencies and other non-governmental organisations (NGOs) on schemes relating to reproductive health, especially those targeted at young people. In the early 1990s, WAGGGS was one of five NGOs which collaborated with the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and the World Health Organisation (WHO) on *Youth for Youth* – a worldwide programme promoting adolescent sexual health. Using peer education *Youth for Youth* covers topics such as abortion, AIDS, STDs, early marriage and pregnancy.

WAGGGS is also one of many NGOs supporting *Facts for Life*, a UNICEF/WHO/UNESCO initiative on child health which provides essential information about ten key issues including safe motherhood and birth-spacing.

take your partners

Scottish members danced their way into the record books

By Sarah Dean

Twenty one coachloads of dancers from all over Lanarkshire gathered in Motherwell for the record-breaking attempt. They packed the Civic Centre to kick off the launch of an image-building drive.

The Public Relations Advisers (PRAs) for the three Lanarkshire Counties – North, South and West – dreamed up a mass ceilidh as a media-grabbing event, which would live up to the launch slogan: 'It's Great... It's Guiding'.

To give it even more impact, they decided to have a go at a dancing world record. Units from the three Counties spent weeks practising the *Dashing White Sergeant*, a progressive Scottish

dance ideal for a large group.

At the ceilidh, over 900 members took to the floor, including members of the Trefoil Guild, Brownies, Guides, Rangers, Young Leaders, Guiders and Gillian Robertson, the Scottish Chief Commissioner.

Independent adjudicators counted the dancers, as required by *The Guinness Book of Records* regulations, as well as making sure that the dancers kept twirling for at least five minutes. The final count

was 954, all of whom danced for ten minutes and 45 seconds.

A record had been set. And, to prove it, a BBC film crew recorded the event. The details of the successful record-breaking attempt, including a videotape, are now on file at the *Guinness Book of Records* headquarters in London.

Lesmahagow Guides and Crawford Brownies from Lanarkshire practised the *Dashing White Sergeant* at Motherwell Civic Centre



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You are invited to join our international recycling project which has raised thousands of pounds for GUIDE groups and youth groups all over the UK and reconditioned many tonnes of non-renewable resources. 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 week so it should be easy. For further details and a Guide project pack telephone 01749 679679 and ask for GUIDE FUND RAISING.



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PBT International, Haydon, Wells, Somerset, BA5 3EF.



bridge builders required

Wanted: volunteers to build bridges

Location: Russia

First step: attend a Flyover Weekend from January 31 to February 2, 1997

The venue: somewhere 'near York'

Personal profile: over 30, adaptable, fit, enthusiastic, energetic and ready for anything

We're recruiting members to take part in a BRIDGES project — an international community development scheme, which calls for a certain level of maturity and experience.

Members must be able to spend up to three weeks in Russia next year.

The conditions will be tough and the work demanding, but the satisfaction of meeting such a challenge will be immense.

If you want to qualify as a 'bridge builder', first apply for a place on the Flyover Weekend.

Just fill in the form below and send it to: Lesley Aldred (Flyover), Guiding Services, The Guide Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.



Happiness is... sharing activities with friends from the UK for a young Girl Scout from Ufa



BRIDGES Co-ordinator Margaret Lester presents a World Flag to two young Guiders from Yoshkar-Ola

Watching the Russian sunsets was a magical experience, says BRIDGES Co-ordinator Margaret Lester



The UK visitors shared in the Easter celebrations in Ufa, which included a traditional Bashkortostan cake



At the first District Meeting held in Yoshkar-Ola millions of roubles changed hands to pay for membership fees

These photos were taken by a BRIDGES team on a trip to the Russian Federation earlier this year, when they visited Ufa, the capital of Bashkortostan, and Yoshkar-Ola, capital of Mari El.

FLYOVER WEEKEND

I would like to attend the Flyover Weekend

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Telephone number.....

Date of birth.....

Guide County.....

Good-looking

Helix has brought out a new range of 'famous brand' pencil-cases that look good enough to eat. As a special promotion, some of them include a Pizzaland 'Pizza for 1p' voucher. Priced at £1.25, the pencil-cases are available from WH Smith, Woolworths and independent newsagents.

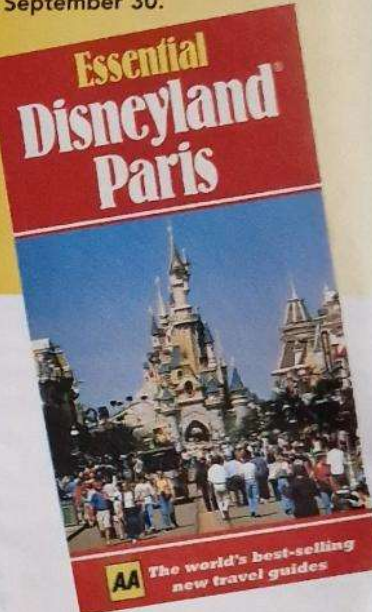


GUIDING has 70 to give away. To enter our lucky draw, write your name and address on a postcard and send it to: Helix/GUIDING, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT. The closing date is September 30.

Get the guide

If you are considering a trip to Disneyland Paris, GUIDING can help with planning your trip. The AA has produced a revised version of its *Essential Disneyland Paris* guidebook, with up-to-date information about 11 new attractions.

It costs £4.99 from bookshops and AA shops, but we have five to give away. To enter our lucky draw, write your name and address on a postcard and send it to: GUIDING/Disneyland Paris, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT. The closing date is September 30.



Guides put the kettle on

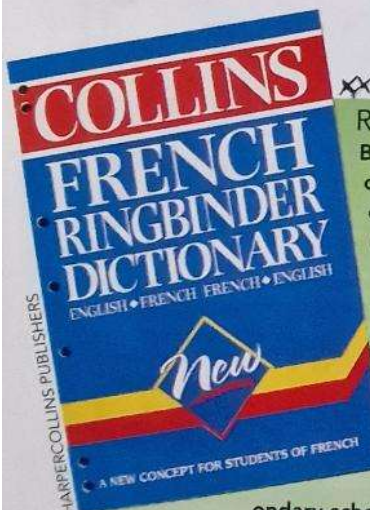
Your unit can be part of the World's Biggest Coffee Morning on October 4, in aid of the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund.

Last year, in just four hours, £1.2 million was raised by over 400,000 coffee drinkers. The event's organisers are optimistic that even more cups will be poured this year. For details of how to register as a host, call 0171 867 9256.

The Roly Polys at last year's coffee morning at Blackpool Pleasure Beach



CANCER RELIEF MACMILLAN FUND



Ringbinder reference aids

British children lag behind their continental counterparts when it comes to learning foreign languages. Collins, the dictionary publisher, has come up with a way to encourage young linguists. Designed to fit into an A4 file, the new Collins Ringbinder German and French dictionaries and thesaurus are easy to use and will be a great boon for secondary-school students.

Containing over 40,000 entries, defined in short, straightforward language, as well as references and translations, the dictionaries cost from £3.99.

GUIDING has ten sets to give away, containing English, French and German dictionaries and a thesaurus. For a chance to win one, send your name and address to: GUIDING/Collins Dictionaries, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT. The closing date is September 30.

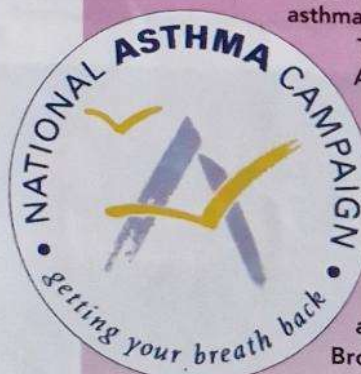
Young carers' asthma award

This year's National Asthma Week will run from October 7-13. Its organisers hope to highlight the difficulties experienced by people who develop asthma in later life.

The Junior Asthma Club Achievement Awards will honour children with asthma who help care for a parent or grandparent with the same condition.

As asthma runs in families, you may know a caring Guide or Brownie who deserves recognition.

To nominate a sufferer for this award, or to find out more about National Asthma Week, write to: The National Asthma Campaign, Providence House, Providence Place, London N1 0NT. Tel: 0171 226 2260.



Fabulous finds from China

A rare and exciting opportunity to see some amazing archeological discoveries will come to London on September 13. The British Museum's *Mysteries of Ancient China* exhibition will feature examples of ceramics, jades and bronzes from the tombs of Chinese kings, queens and nobles.

On show will be a jade burial suit, a terracotta warrior and several carvings of mystical monsters, which could provide inspiration for craft or art projects for your unit.

Admission is £5 for adults and £3 for concessions. The exhibition runs until January 5, 1997. For more information, telephone 0171 636 1555.

Wooden figures excavated from a grave in Hubei Province in 1975. These 'servants' were part of a group of 23 buried with a noble lady of the early Han period



BRITISH MUSEUM

Bag it and bin it

A recent MORI poll revealed that, while Britain's teenagers are more environmentally aware than adults, they are often unable to put their good intentions into action because of a lack of knowledge.

The survey, commissioned by the national Bag It and Bin It campaign, found that young people mistakenly believe that a disposable product means a flushable one.

This could explain why items such as cotton buds and sanitary products are often flushed down lavatories, ending up on riverbanks and coasts, and threatening the safety of wildlife.

For more information about how your unit can help, send a sae to: Bag It and Bin It, 52-54 Broadwick Street, London W1V 1FF. Or phone 0171 734 9681.



Rural lines

The Trewithen Poetry Prize has been created to promote poetry on a rural theme.

Entrants to the competition are requested to focus on one of two topics: environmental concerns, such as loss of habitat; and the pleasures and pains of living in a rural community today.

A selection of poems will appear in the first *Trewithen Chapbook*, an illustrated anthology to be published next March.

For an entry form, write to: The Trewithen Poetry Prize, Treskewes Cottage, Trewithen Moor, Stithians, Truro, Cornwall TR3 7DU. The closing date for entries is October 31.

Chance of a lifetime

Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowships offer UK citizens the chance to get experience abroad, and thus improve their contribution to the community or their effectiveness at work.

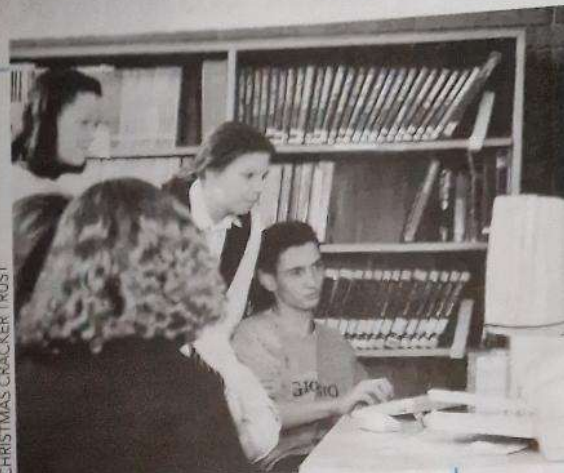
The fellowships provide an average stay overseas of around eight weeks. There is no age limit or special qualifications required, but applicants must apply under certain categories. For further details, send a sae to: The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, 15 Queen's Gate Terrace, London SW7 5PR. The closing date for applications is October 25.

Travelling Fellowships for 1997
offered by the
Winston Churchill Memorial Trust



THE CHANCE
OF A LIFETIME
FOR 1997

CHRISTMAS CRACKER TRUST



Write for sight

Do you know any budding young journalists? Here's a chance for your unit to produce a newspaper and win a prize. All profits from the sales of your paper, *The Cracker*, will go to Sight Savers International, a charity working in the developing world to prevent blindness and provide education opportunities for the blind.

The best edition of *The Cracker* will collect *The Cracker Award* of £1,000. And there will be runners-up cash prizes too.

For more details, send your address, telephone number and unit name to: Wilma Van Berkel, Boots Opticians Young Journalist of the Year Competition, Sight Savers International, Bolnore Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 4BX. The closing date for completed entries is December 31.

watch this space ■

the spirit of Guiding

Those searching for the meaning of life will have to open their minds to new thinking, argues a member of the Association Junior Council

By Rachel
Alexandra Brown
Llais y Ddraig, Wales

As young people, we may have to express our spirituality in ways not previously thought of as orthodox.

These new forms could include open-air and informal worship, yoga and meditation, in combination with a return to many traditional styles of worship. These are all ways through which we, as young people, are beginning to find our way into the other dimension — a dimension where life has meaning.

'The Spiritual Dimension in Guiding and Scouting' was the title of a seminar which I attended last year in Germany. There were good discussions and exchanges of ideas, and I came home feeling that I had learned a great deal.

At the seminar, it appeared that our Association is a world leader when it comes to resources and ideas; and is successfully using spiritual material within its Programme — as well as making faith a part of everyday life, not something reserved for a certain day of the week.

Many countries, it seemed, were facing the problem of how to keep young people interested in their faith. They wanted the spiritual side of life to be made relevant without it becoming a mere prayer tagged on to the end of a meeting. They wanted more than just an embarrassed reference to a 'Higher Power' when interested parties from outside the Movement enquired about the Promise, or asked about the difference between Guiding and



MANNI MASON'S PICTURES

Young people may have to experiment with unorthodox ways of expressing their spirituality, such as yoga

other, purely secular, youth groups.

Baden-Powell said that the spiritual dimension should not have to be included because it is something that is always there, in our lives and in Guiding and Scouting. The natural world was of great importance to B-P and it was where he believed young people could come close to God.

But what would B-P think of our post-modern world, where some children cannot get the chance to see the natural world without careful parental supervision?

The spiritual dimension seems to have been taken over by the electronic dimension, with television seen as the god of the 1990s, offering young people all the comfort, support and guidance they would once have gained from their place of worship, family and community.

Where is the spiritual dimension of a society that is scared to promote values of tolerance, love and justice? And one which — instead of instructing children in the ways of its traditional faiths and those of other countries — prefers to leave this to a mythical 'someone else', who doesn't really exist?

Children do not learn values in a vacuum, but this is something which

society seems to have forgotten. The spiritual dimension is no longer part of the 1990s... or is it?

This seems to be a bleak picture of life for young people today, but it is not the whole picture. I am a modern young woman, and, although I have always had the influence of Guiding in my life, I believe that the way I live is similar to many others of my age group in Britain today, and it is not devoid of a spiritual and moral dimension.

The Guide Association has a bigger part to play now than it ever has before, if we are to maintain our reputation and continue to be one of the few suppliers of moral guidance in a culture which pretends that it doesn't need morals, yet which so obviously suffers from a lack of them.

Through our Programme and huge network of support, we can ensure that young people are given the chance to discuss, enact and simply look at life in a different way from that presented by much of today's youth culture.

This does not mean that we should separate ourselves from society. Rather, we should see these changes as a challenge to our beliefs, laying ourselves open to questions and debate. ■



JANE ECCLES

Everybody's at it these days – in schools, youth clubs and even the Women's Institute – so why not the Brownies? Tawny thought we should give it a try, and who am I to argue? When Big T says jump, I invariably shatter my personal best.

I refer, of course, to the quiz night – or 'nite', as seems to be the fashionable term. Whatever happened to the heady excitement of a beetle drive with the ladies of the parish? Now, it's teams of four paying £1 each to enter, with cash prizes and the inevitable raffle.

It's all good family fun, of course – at least, as long as you're not the quiz-master. Little did I know that my stint in the hot seat would lead to a national media debate and the biggest local controversy since the Vicar's wife trumped out of turn at last year's whist drive!

Take it from me: thinking of suitable questions isn't easy. And asking the Brownies to help out was useless. Their offerings were all about Boyzone or England footballer Jamie Redknapp – apparently he replaced Ryan Giggs on the bedroom walls of the nation's sub-teenage fans months ago. Give me Bobby Charlton any day: less hair, but more my era.

On the night, I plumped for five rounds of 20 questions. After four rounds, the evening was going well, despite some amusing answers. The senior Guiders' team of Madge, Doreen, Joan and Hilda were just a trifle rusty on sport. I know Manchester United wins most things, but not the African Nations Cup!

As for the Scout team's answer to 'Describe a Manchester tart': well, it's unrepeatable – and they'd only been drinking some lemon barley water.

The alarm bells began to ring, however, when I realised that one team had scored 79 out of 80. It was whispered that the rather intense-looking chap with the beard and *Mastermind* sweatshirt had actually been in the famous black leather chair, scoring 24 with no passes on 17th-century Belgian churches. Obviously he found my 'Who plays Jack Duckworth in *Coronation Street*?' a trifle tame.

Needless to say, the Smuggies, as we called them, had already won the prize before the last round. But that didn't stop the bearded prig from making a scene. The controversial question was straightforward enough: 'What was the name of Reggie Perrin's cat?'

a man's eye view

Mr Know-it-all insisted that the cat was called Vienna, so I politely explained that that was the name of Mr Rigsby's cat in *Rising Damp*. 'Leonard Rossiter's other famous character's cat was...' Before I could finish the sentence, Mr Know-it-all had stormed out of the hall swearing vengeance.

Next day, he rang a national radio phone-in to trawl the nation for the answer. It was only when one of the scriptwriters rang in that I was finally proved right.

Making £39.50 for the Pack was great, but making Mr Pompous eat his words was the icing on the cake. Definitely one-nil to the Brownies. And, by the way, just in case you are still wondering, the cat was called Ponsonby. Honestly it was!

all the world's a stage

Working together in harmony allowed Sussex West to hit some high notes

By Sarah Dean
Photos: James Clevett

As the final curtain fell, months of planning and hours of work had finally paid off. The Sussex West County show, *Step Around the World*, was a triumph.

The idea for the show came from the County Executive Committee. The members were eager to provide opportunities in the performing arts for every girl in the County. Putting on a musical show seemed an excellent way of including as many members as possible.

The show was divided into eight different scenes, one for each Division. The Division producers were given six months in which to rehearse a cultural offering from their chosen corner of the globe.

intrepid travellers journeying from one scene's location to the next. She also wrote several songs for the show that were performed by a specially-formed orchestra and choir.

The girls were given the chance to tread the boards at a real theatre — the Connaught in Worthing.

The places visited during the play included Hans Christian Andersen's Denmark; Rio at carnival time; and America, land of opportunity.

The dancers in Arun Valley

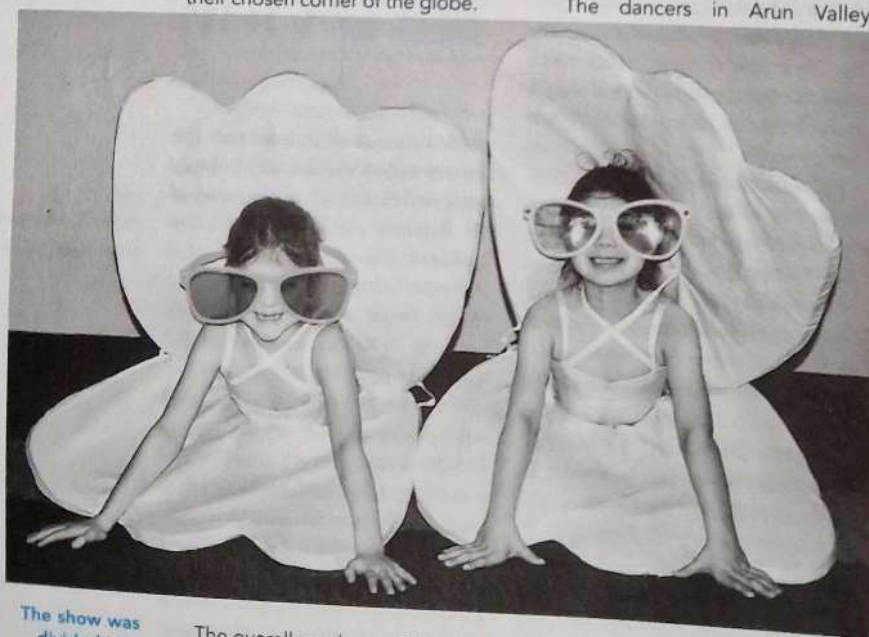
The show aimed at giving every girl an opportunity in the performing arts

were made out of cut-up bits of plastic bottles! This scene also included a life-sized, papier-mâché model of an elephant that lumbered on to the stage.

The logistics of staging such a large show presented the eight-strong planning committee with a lot of challenges. Tasks undertaken included finding dressing rooms for 450 performers and recruiting squads of make-up artists.

Although the various sections of the show were not put together until the dress rehearsal, there were no hiccups during the actual performance, which was well received by an obviously appreciative audience.

Step Around the World was not just a successful entertainment — it also provided an opportunity for a large County to work together successfully as a team on one project and for friendships to grow within Guiding.



The show was divided into eight scenes, one for each Division

The overall producer of the show was Arun Valley Division Commissioner Joan Salmon, who wrote linking scenes about three

Division's set piece wore costumes brought back from Thailand especially for the show. However, their traditionally long fingernails

safe in our hands

At a time when parents are increasingly worried about their children's safety, The Guide Association – with its well-trained, trustworthy leaders, and high standards of care and safety – has a lot to offer, Princess Margaret reminded members at the Annual General Meeting in London.

Her words were read by Vice President Dr June Paterson-Brown, who stepped in when illness prevented the President from addressing the 73rd AGM in May.

Princess Margaret went on to say that concerns about safety should never prevent the Association from 'setting challenges which girls find exciting and demanding, and which help them to develop into capable and competent people'.

The President continued: 'Generations of girls have been helped to do this through their experiences in the Guide Movement. I know that the Guiders of today, who give so generously of their time and energy, will make sure that this continues to be true in the future.'

Earlier, Princess Margaret had announced the name change from Chief Commissioner to Chief Guide (for the full story see 'Name change at the top' on page 20 of August's *GUIDING*).

She also explained that ill health had prevented the Chief Commissioner from attending.

In her opening remarks, the President welcomed 'friends from within the Movement and other organisations which give us their support'. She said: 'All of us share an interest in offering exceptional opportunities for development and adventure to the young, so I hope that all of us will go home from this meeting with renewed enthusiasm for Guiding and all that it offers.'

Reflecting on her Guiding year, Princess Margaret recalled visiting Link '95, where over 600 campers, 'including a good contingent from overseas, were having a wonderful time in spite of the incredible heat'.

She added: 'I'm sure every Guider all over the country must have faced the same challenge last summer of keeping the girls happy and busy in conditions which tended to sap the energy of the young and not so young alike.'

Her visit to the Guide Heritage Centre, to attend its opening by the Queen, had been particularly enjoyable. 'The displays brought back many happy memories to both of us and I am sure it will do the same for everyone who visits,' the President said.

Two groups of Queen's Guides had visited Princess Margaret at Kensington Palace in 1995. 'More than 600 girls have received their brooches, and I am always impressed by their calibre and by the enormous variety of personal qualities which they have brought to this demanding challenge. When the newspapers are so full of doom and gloom, it is wonderfully reassuring to meet these girls whose attitude to life is so positive and optimistic,' she added.

Influencing the future

Bridget Towle, the Deputy Chief Commissioner, presented the report of the year's activities and achievements for the Chief Commissioner, Margaret Wright.

She began by thanking Dr Paterson-Brown for chairing the meeting at very short notice. Miss Towle then thanked Princess Margaret for her 'unfailing interest in all that we do'.

The new Chief Scout, George Purdy, was welcomed on his first visit to the AGM as a Vice President. Miss Towle said: 'In all parts of the UK, co-operation with the Scout Association continues to be active and friendly, with many joint events being organised locally. The Chief Scout will have had firsthand experience of Guiding and Scouting working together in Northern Ireland to make 1996 a year of peace.'

She also welcomed the guest speaker, Bernard Donoghue, a member of the Executive Board of the National Youth Agency and, through Scouting, a former Chair of the British Youth Council.

Miss Towle explained that last year's AGM marked the end of Jane Garside's term as Chief Commissioner: 'For five years she was an outstanding leader, ensuring that we moved forward. Her support and friendship gave strength to all around her.'

Reviewing the Association's position in the world, she said: 'We belong to an Association which is part of today's society. It exists to serve girls and young women and to help them achieve their potential in tomorrow's world. It is important that, while providing the Programme for today's girls, the Association

Guiding's power to improve lives was highlighted at the 73rd AGM

Photos by Bill Johnston Photography Ltd



Deputy Chief Commissioner Bridget Towle presented the annual report

takes steps to understand and influence the agenda of the future.

'That's why we sent two representatives to the 4th United Nations Conference on Women in Beijing, China. Our presence on this global stage raised the profile of The Guide Association among delegates of governmental and non-governmental agencies.

'In such a large gathering of capable and forceful women, you will not be surprised to learn that a very high percentage had been Guides! We must not lose the initiatives decided on at the Conference, and we intend to continue the process of raising awareness of the four major subject areas our representatives covered: the advancement of women; women

by WAGGGS working with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Members were invited to make up packs containing emergency supplies for refugee children.

'So far, this WAGGGS' initiative has produced a quarter of a million packs. There has been a fantastic response to an international need, and this enterprise has fired the imagination of both our members and the worldwide media.'

The Association, she affirmed, has a strong commitment to work overseas through its links with the Russian Association of Girl Scouts (RADS). In addition, Countries and Regions are twinning with regions in Russia. 'In January, the Chief Commissioner, the International Commissioner and the UK's Russian link went to Moscow to meet the Board of the Russian Association.

'They were overwhelmed by the enthusiasm and determination of Board members to overcome the difficulties of establishing their Association,' Miss Towle said.

She went on to explain that young people helping one another through Guiding had been highlighted by a partnership between The Guide Association and Save The Children.

'Over the next three years, we will be running a joint peer-education project supported by the Junior Council in each Country and Region. This will promote the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The pilot project is successfully under way in Scotland and will begin soon in two other Regions,' she explained.

'Peer education encourages participation. It offers an opportunity for individuals to learn through the help, knowledge and experience provided by their contemporaries.

'We are proud of the professional way in which the Junior Council is tackling this project. It is proving once again that young people are our greatest ambassadors.'

Referring to the Association's sports weekend for members with disabilities (see 'Good sports' in January's *GUIDING*), Miss Towle said: 'Girls travelled from all over the UK to take part and many of them reached – and often surpassed –

personal goals. Others discovered that they could do things they had previously thought impossible.'

Referring to the Guide Heritage Centre at CHQ, she said: 'It is a place which honours Guiding's past, celebrates its present and looks to the future. And, above all, it is fun.'

She concluded: 'Earlier, I stated that The Guide Association exists for the future of girls and young women. We, the adults, are privileged to share in the journey. On behalf of the Association, I would like to thank all of the volunteer adult leaders who provide the energy, the enthusiasm, the enjoyment and the excitement that makes Guiding great.'

Equipped for life

Guiding is about supporting and nurturing, about assisting in the personal, social, physical, mental and spiritual development of young women, according to guest speaker Bernard Donoghue.

He went on to describe the way in which the Movement equips young women with skills, helps them realise their talents and exposes them to challenges and experiences 'beyond the ordinary'. It taught them 'to care, to serve, to thrive. Guiding speaks for young women in every activity it undertakes; in every Queen's Guide Award that is added to a CV; in every NVQ earned by a Guider; in every fundraised water project in Africa; in every Peace Pack; in every Rainbow Guide's school diary; and in its very existence.

'Young people's issues are your issues and your response to them must be born of the enthusiasm, passion, courage and conviction of the Association's first pioneers.'

He disagreed with Heather Boosey who had appealed (through 'A personal view' in May's *GUIDING*) for the Association to refrain from involvement in political and social issues. To do so, he said, would be to 'condone by your silence; to permit by your activity; to put social restraint before social purpose'.

A fervent supporter of Guiding, Mr Donoghue said that in its early days 'Guiding was a radical, almost



Vice President Dr June Paterson-Brown stepped in at short notice

in education; women and decision making; and the girl child.

'Many of these ideas are already at the heart of our policies, but they will be further developed at seminars at the Training Centres and at meetings of the Junior Council and the British Youth Council delegation,' she explained.

Miss Towle cited examples of the ways in which the Association is seeking to extend its sphere of influence:

- Membership of national women's and young-people's councils, such as the Women's National Commission.
- The appointment of an Assistant Public Relations Adviser specialising in external relations.

'Last year,' she said, 'will long be remembered as the year of the Peace Packs. This was a campaign launched



Guest speaker Bernard Donoghue

maverick, response to the needs of young girls and women.'

It was, he recalled, founded 'by a couple who, nowadays, would be regarded and described as radical social reformers. Olave Baden-Powell called for a rethinking of how society viewed and treated women years before women were given the vote. She spoke about recognising the abilities of women decades before the Sex Discrimination Act. The World Chief Guide called for parity of esteem and reward regardless of gender 50 years before the Equal Pay Act.'

Guiding, he pointed out, had gone on to prove that it was not just suitable for anyone but also open to anyone. However, said Mr Donoghue, 'it is necessary to have a healthy appreciation of the context and environment in which the Association operates, if it is to be critically honest about whether it is meeting or in a position to meet the needs of young people.'

He went on to describe the situation faced by young people in the UK, as highlighted in a recent British Youth Council report (see 'Live issues' in July's *GUIDING*). Mr Donoghue explained that, although they are better educated than ever before, young people have trouble finding jobs and homes.

'Our society is brash and cruel, kind and sensitive, hard and difficult, painful and joyous. It is made up of challenge and fear, of love and care,' he said. 'Exactly 30 years ago this week, Robert Kennedy made a

speech in Cape Town, South Africa. The time, he said, "demands the quality of youth: not a time of life but a state of mind, a temper of will; a quality of the imagination, a predominance of courage over timidity, of the appetite for adventure over the love of ease."

'Those words, and the demands and challenges which they describe, are no less true now,' he declared.

The speaker outlined his extensive Scouting history, which led to his chairing the British Youth Council. He explained: 'My career and life have been shaped – not just shaped but directed beyond measure – by my years in Scouting, in youth organisations, in the BYC, in the National Youth Agency and now in politics and the law.'

'I am immensely grateful for the time and effort, the passion and the commitment of those who gave freely of their time to support me, in the same way that you give and support young women in Guiding.'

He added: 'There are more Brownie Guides in the UK than the total number of people employed

by Sainsburys, Boots, Marks & Spencer, WH Smith, Our Price and Waterstones. Indeed, the current UK membership of Guiding is three times greater than this number.'

'And, perhaps more significantly, more women in this country have been in the Guide Movement than have ever been members of trade unions or political parties.'

'Even the most casual observer cannot help but be impressed by the numbers. Like any organisation or indeed business, it is easy to become preoccupied with numbers coming through the door rather than what they do when they arrive,' he said. 'But it is essential to have dreams about the society in which we wish to live and a critical appreciation and honesty about the one which we currently inhabit.'

'All organisations, and particularly those which work with or care for children and young people, must be critically honest about their philosophy, their relevance and the activities and methods which they employ to meet the needs of young people,' he pointed out.

Safeguarding our heritage

Financial planning by the Association is now so sophisticated that the Finance Committee is able to 'look over the horizon — not just at it', the audience learned.

Presenting his report, the Honorary Treasurer, Mr Holding, explained that his work responsibilities required him to spend increasing amounts of time in Ukraine.

This meant, he said, that he now wore two Guiding hats — UK Honorary Treasurer and temporary Honorary Treasurer of the Girl Guides Association of the Ukraine.

Focusing on the UK 1995 accounts, Mr Holding explained that the last two years had been 'a refining process'. Not only had a budget been drawn up, but also a business plan — 'something more usually associated with a commercial enterprise. But we have to recognise that we are competitors ourselves. We now have to look several years ahead to anticipate the future needs of future members of the Association — not only the present ones.'

'This is carried out through co-operation between volunteers and professional staff. Basically, the Finance Committee collects ideas from everybody and tries to put a price, or cost, on them. Supply (money) does not always meet demand (ideas/projects).'

'The Finance Committee's objective is to achieve a balance. This is not always easy or popular. But the process is becoming increasingly sophisticated, and we are all now looking over the horizon — not just at it.'

His involvement with the Ukraine Association had introduced him to 'a superb example of Guiding at its best'. Mr Holding told members that they should be proud of what the Movement was capable of. He added: 'You have a great heritage to offer the world and it is a privilege for me to be a part of it. As I said in my written report, this is a Movement in the true sense of the word.'

official

global giving

This year, the GFF Christmas Appeal will help Guides in four countries which are spread around three continents:

- In Burkina Faso in West Africa it will provide equipment for a sewing workshop.
- In Antigua and Barbuda in the West Indies it will provide some internal fittings and furniture for a new Guide headquarters.
- In India it will continue the work of DASTAK, a leprosy prevention project.
- In Sri Lanka in South Asia it will provide new handbooks for the Guides.

This month, to launch the appeal, we take a look at the differences your help will make to two of the four countries chosen. Look out for more information on the other two projects in November's *GUIDING*.

Burkina Faso

Burkina Faso is a country with very high unemployment, especially for girls and women. The Guide Association there is planning to set up a training workshop for sewing and weaving. After training, those taking part will join a co-operative to make use of their new skills.

Among other items, the trainees will make Guide uniforms. Profits from sales will help finance Guiding in their country.

The cost of the equipment for a class of ten girls is £1,900 — that's only £190 to give one young woman job skills for the rest of her life. But it is an expense which the Guide Association there cannot afford.

Antigua and Barbuda

Antigua and Barbuda is an island nation in the Caribbean, best known for its cricket teams and as a holiday destination. Although it has an apparently happy way of life,

with a warm, sunny climate and exotic beaches, there is high unemployment and areas of considerable poverty. Antigua and Barbuda has an active Guide Association, but raising funds is always difficult.

Last year, after years of raising money for a building, the Guides opened a new headquarters.

However, even though they had raised the money for the actual building, there was nothing left with which to complete the inside of the hall, leaving them with bare walls and no fittings — not even a shelf or a cupboard.

Hurricane Luis, which swept across the area last year, destroyed many homes on the island. Luckily, the new Guide building was undamaged. However, some families are still repairing their homes, so raising funds for the Guides is extremely difficult for them at the moment.

A fact-sheet giving more information about the Christmas Appeal is available from CHQ (please enclose a sae if writing in). Donations should be made payable to the Guide Friendship Fund and sent to: The GFF, The Guide Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.



Inside the new headquarters. From left: Bahamas Chief Commissioner Marjorie Davis, GFF Honorary Secretary Vera Mangold and Antigua Chief Commissioner Marjorie Swift

Here's a name to put on your Christmas list — the Guide Friendship Fund

Fact file

Burkina Faso

- Population — 9.8 million
- Title — L'Association des Guides du Burkina Faso

- WAGGGS Region — Africa

- Guide Association membership — 2,289

Antigua and Barbuda

- Population — 81,000

- Title — The Girl Guides Association of Antigua and Barbuda

- WAGGGS Region — Western Hemisphere

- Guide Association membership — 690

India

- Population — 930 million

- Title — The Bharat Scouts and Guides: The Girl Guide Section

- WAGGGS Region — Asia Pacific

- Guide Association membership — 758,575

Sri Lanka

- Population — 17.9 million

- Title — The Sri Lanka Girl Guides Association

- WAGGGS Region — Asia Pacific

- Guide Association Membership — 25,403.



The church in Antigua, at the back of Guide headquarters, suffered some hurricane damage

training news

Rainbow Guiders

Netherurd October 11-13
A training which looks especially at international ideas.

Young Leaders and their Guiders

Broneirion October 18-20
An opportunity for Young Leaders to attend a residential training as part of the Leadership Scheme. Learn about Making It Count and the Leadership Scheme. Guiders will learn how to get the most from their Young Leaders.

Look Wider, Young Leader

Foxlease December 6-8
For Young Leaders, Young Leader Guiders, Unit Guiders and Commissioners. Whether you are just starting out, are part of the way there or know a lot about the scheme already, there will be something for you.

Mid-week leisure breaks

Waddow Sept 23-27 and Oct 7-11
A programme will run from Tuesday to Thursday afternoons, featuring visits, crafts, walks and a Lancashire evening; or do your own thing. For Guiders, Trefoil Guild members and their families.

Programme ideas for Guide Guiders

Netherurd November 1-3
Fed up doing the same thing every week or every year? Come along and get some new ideas to use in your unit. For new or experienced Guiders.

Eat your way around the world

Broneirion October 18-20
An international flavour is on the menu for this weekend of gastronomic delights for 14-25 year-olds. If you would like to cook and sample foreign foods and learn a little about the countries famous for these dishes, then this is for you.

From Rainbows to the Senior Section

Foxlease December 13-15
Practical activities for all sections, adapted to the needs of girls and young women. As a special offer, if you come as a group of four or more with an interest in all sections, you may claim ten per cent off your total fees.

Grandmother/grandfather with grandchildren break

Waddow October 21-24
Bring your grandchildren to Waddow. There will be a programme but also time for you to do what you wish.

Programme ideas for Brownie Guiders

Netherurd November 8-10
New for Netherurd — a weekend just for Brownie Guiders. Whether you have been doing Brownies for one month or 20 years, this is the weekend for you.

New Year house party

Foxlease Dec 31-Jan 5
Be in at the beginning on the very first event of our celebration year. Look at years gone by from the house's viewpoint. There will be something for everyone, energetic or restful.

Mid-week training

(Programme ideas)
Waddow November 12-14
For Senior Section, Guide, Brownie and Rainbow Guiders. A crèche will be provided if required.

Senior Section Guiders and Advisers

Netherurd November 15-17
Come for another look at Look Wider.

Zip into action

Foxlease Nov 29-Dec 1
For Guiders with five years' experience or more. Unzip a bagful of ideas, share successes and renew your enthusiasm.

Programme ideas for Rainbow, Brownie and Guide Guiders

Waddow Nov 29-Dec 1 and Jan 10-12
Book four for the price of three.

Taste of Scotland

Netherurd Nov 29-Dec 1
A training with a Scottish theme for all members of the Movement.

Mid-week training for Commissioners

Foxlease October 8-10
The emphasis will be on the District Commissioner, but others are welcome.

Advanced walking safely training

Broneirion November 8-10
This weekend is designed for those who would like to venture into more difficult areas. It will include theoretical and practical sessions. The cost of the weekend is £48. Please contact Elizabeth Maytom at CHQ for a leaflet.

Hautbois minstrels

Hautbois November 1-3
A relaxing weekend of singing and music making, some of which will have a Christmas flavour.

First aid in Guiding

Hautbois Nov 29-Dec 1
Another chance for Rangers, Young Leaders and Guiders to gain a St John Ambulance Appointed Person Certificate and the skills and knowledge needed for first aid in unit meetings and on camp.

Advent fayre and carol service

Hautbois December 6-8
A weekend of advent celebrations organised jointly by the Friends of Hautbois and Hautbois Minstrels

Keep your wits about you

Waddow Nov 29-Dec 1
A wild and wacky international weekend packed with ideas, challenges and lots of information to take away. For 14-16 year-olds with or without their Guiders. A bursary is available to subsidise each place for half the accommodation cost.

Endless ideas for Patrols

Foxlease January 10-12
For all Guide Guiders

New musical qualifications

Waddow December 13-15

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

dear Hazel

I'm so glad that you had a good family holiday. Your letter made me smile. A year ago you were wanting to give up, now you are full of ideas for the coming weeks.

Your long-term planning with Pam includes outings, a parents' evening, a fireworks night with the Scouts and Guides, and a Christmas play. No wonder your husband is writing his name in your diary — the poor man must need an appointment to see you!

I'm glad that you enjoyed your Pack Holiday. I knew you would. All the preparation is worth it when everything goes smoothly. Now is the time to look back and think about what you should do differently next year. Write it down now, while it is still fresh in your mind. Do you really want to go back to the same place? If so, book it quickly! When are you going to get the parents together and show the slides you took?

Your description of the outing to the museum was brilliant! Your girls disliked the stuffed birds and animals. I can just imagine Shelly asking the attendant: 'Are the animals stuffed before or after they die?' What *do* schools teach nowadays! I can also imagine your Paula then demanding: 'And how would *you* like to be stuffed?'

Making a scrapbook was a brainwave. I adored the Brownies' comments which you photocopied and sent to me. Things like: 'We took Brown Owl tea in bed. She was cross and said "It is three o'clock". It was very dark.'; and 'We disappeared into the woods and hid from Brown Owl. She said she didn't know she had to find us. She sat and read a book.'

The girls' drawings were hilarious, especially the ones of you fallen flat on your back in the mud, and the mass of black and green scribbles with the caption: 'This would have been Jehoshaphat enjoying herself up a tree in the fog, but Brown Owl wouldn't let her come.'

Since you've more sense than I have, I know you'll write names, places and dates on your photographs. I didn't, and I now have piles of photos I can't identify.

I expect meetings will be much easier for you in future without Paula. And, as she says, you'll just have to remember everything for yourself now. I hope she enjoyed her first Guide meeting. My Brownies had a ceremony called 'flying up to Guides'. Looking back, I wonder if that actually put some of them off going! Maybe Paula will become a Guider herself one day!

I hadn't realised that Dawn, your youngest, is now old enough to leave Rainbows and join Brownies. I laughed about her giving you breakfast in bed. It was a lovely idea, and I can't imagine why you objected to cold tea, lumpy porridge and cornflakes at 4am. It's just not done to be grumpy when Brownies want to 'lend a hand'.

It was really sweet of Shelly to bring you a bunch of flowers last week, even if they did look a bit like the ones you'd spotted growing in the vicarage garden.

I'm so glad to hear that Pam is going to become a Guider. Brownies grow on you, as I told you a year ago! Give Jehoshaphat a stroke from me... and keep on keeping on!

Bye

Barbara



CAROLINE EWEN

family support

By Sarah Dean

**It's said
Guiding runs
in families —
and the
Gallaghers
certainly have
been bitten
by the bug**

If she's ever stumped for help, Alexandra Griffith-Knowlden, District Commissioner for Radnor Park in Kent, knows who to ask. 'I know that a Gallagher will always come to the rescue,' she explained.

The Gallagher family are an impressive team of Guides and Scouts. Mother-of-five Janet Gallagher is a Guider with the 14th Folkestone Guides, the 1st Radnor Park Rangers and the 3rd Radnor Park Rainbows. She also fits in a full-time job as a clerical officer for South Kent Community Healthcare.

Janet runs a District activity weekend every year. 'Places on these weekends are always sought after

because they are so successful,' said Alexandra Griffith-Knowlden.

The indefatigable Janet is also justifiably proud of her children's achievements within the Movement.

Her eldest daughter, 19-year-old Michelle, has just completed her Young Leader's Scheme. As a Guide, she gained her Baden-Powell Trefoil, and then went on to complete her Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award as a Ranger. She is now an Assistant Guider with the 3rd Radnor Park Rainbows and is studying for an NVQ in retailing.

Not to be outdone, daughter number two, Sylvia, has just been presented with her Baden-Powell

Trefoil. She is now a Ranger in her mother's Unit and a Young Leader with the 8th Folkestone Brownies. Meanwhile, daughter number three, eleven-year-old Claire, is hoping to follow in her big sisters' footsteps and is currently a keen Guide.

The girls' oldest brother, Raymond, is 21 and at university. He has gained his Chief Scout's Award but, his mother admitted, has nothing to do with Scouting 'at the moment'. Younger brother David, who is 13, is a Scout with the 1st Hurst Green Troop. The children's father is also a Scout leader.

'What a commitment to the Movement,' said Alexandra proudly, adding: 'It is always good to know that the Gallagher family can be relied upon.'



Proud mother Janet shows off her Guiding daughters

the big crunch

Calling all Unit Guiders: the Crunch is coming! But there's no need to panic — the Big Crunch is a nation-wide event that looks like being lots of fun.

By now you will probably have received a leaflet in The Guide Association's smart livery. It explains that all of us are invited to join in a special event in 1997 to support the Thinking Day Fund, and to have a good time as well.

Sheran Oke's article in June's *GUIDING* explained why we need to have a Thinking Day Fund. Now I want to tell you more about the Big Crunch.

Each unit taking part is being asked to bake biscuits — or cookies, if you prefer that description — and sell them. Ideally, this should happen at a special event timed to take place around Thinking Day next year. The specially-prepared pack makes it a piece of cake. Details of how to apply for a free pack appear below.

The pack starts with some background information about the event and the Thinking Day Fund. Then there are three biscuit recipes, all delicious and nut-free. But you can choose your own recipe if you wish.

Whichever recipe you use, you will need to list the ingredients on the package. The recipes provided are cheap and easy to follow, so even the youngest girls can help to make them.

Before you start baking, you'll need to read and follow the guidelines on hygiene included in each pack.

These are common-sense precautions of the sort you'd

apply anyway. So don't worry, you won't have to fumigate the girls before you let them within ten feet of the mixing bowl, or boil the finished products to sterilise them before transporting them to the selling point in a refrigerated van!

You'll also find packaging suggestions, including a template if you wish to make your own boxes, and ideas for making your event a best-seller. There's a promotional poster and suggestions on approaching people who can help you with publicity. Then there's an order form for the Big Crunch Unit Participation Certificate, and another one for individual cloth badges.

To help you and your unit with programme planning between Christmas and Thinking Day, there are programme ideas for all sections linked to Thinking Day, or to food or to both. What you can truly call programmes on a plate!

Finally, so that you can feed back your thoughts on the whole event, the pack contains an evaluation form and a slip to accompany your payment to the Thinking Day Fund.

Mention of money may raise some questions in your mind. No price has been suggested for the biscuits, but you will need to cost them out beforehand so that your selling price has a built-in profit margin. You may be happy to charge the costs to your unit funds, but there is no need to do this, unless you want to.

The planning committee hopes that you will send all profits to the Thinking Day Fund. But it would be legitimate for a proportion to go to your unit funds, provided that people buying the biscuits know where their money is going.

So there it is — a big event with big possibilities. Have you ever wondered how 'They' come up with these things? Well, the idea for a cookie bake to support the Thinking Day Fund came from the Junior Council, and was supported by The Council of the Association.

Just about a year ago a planning group (informally known as the Crunch Bunch) had their first meeting. Plans were drawn up, recipes tried out, and a name chosen. Advice was then sought, designs dreamed up and information sent out.

We hope you like the finished product. To find out, write for a Big Crunch pack to:

● Elizabeth Anderson, c/o The Guide Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT

Happy crunching.

Time to get back into the kitchen for a spot of home cooking

By Carol Selwyn-Jones



open door

In *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* – one of the popular Narnia books by C S Lewis – Lucy finds herself reading a *Magic Book* of spells. She is enthralled. There are spells for everything: curing toothache, 'taking' a swarm of bees, finding buried treasure, calling up rain, dispersing fog...

Then she comes to a very special spell 'for the refreshment of the spirit'. As Lucy begins to read it, she realises that it's more like a story than a spell – and it's such a wonderful story that, when she reaches the end, she wants to read it again straight away.

But she can't. In the *Magic Book*, pages only turn forwards, they never turn back. In a way, life is like the

Magic Book. There's no turning back – no matter how much we might want to. For example, there might have been some lovely occasions – such as a family wedding, an idyllic holiday or a birthday treat – that we'd like to go on enjoying over and over. Life, however, doesn't have a replay button.

Maybe there have been lost opportunities – a friendship we didn't pursue, a training course we gave up on, an offer of help we refused – and we'd like to put the clock back and think again. But second chances seldom feature on life's agenda.

Almost certainly, there have been actions in our lives which we regret. As time goes by, most of us

accumulate a catalogue of 'if only's'. They tend to be regrets such as: 'If only I hadn't lost my temper'; '... worked harder at school'; '... tried to get on with my father'; '... never started to smoke'...

We'd love to retrace our steps along life's path and do things differently. But life's traffic goes only one way – forwards.

Yet the past has a role to play in the present. Although it remains permanently out of reach, its influence – as part of our individual experience – remains ongoing. And, although we cannot change the past, we can learn from it – and go forward into the rest of our lives with more confidence and greater understanding. CD

coming next

IN OCTOBER'S GUIDING

Panto time

If you're planning a Christmas entertainment, we've got the script you need for a topical show.

Sparkling selection

Dip into a glittering collection of ideas from Sangam, the World Centre which celebrates its 30th birthday this month.

Rainbow reflections

Next year, Rainbow Guides celebrate their tenth birthday. Ahead of the celebrations we launch a new

series that takes a light-hearted look at life in a Rainbow Unit through the eyes of its Guider.

Around the world in a day

A chance to fly Freda, the pink-elephant airline with the amazing magic-carpet touch.

Feeling your way

Simple tasks designed to stretch the girls' knowledge of how their senses work.

Odds-on favourites

Everyone was a winner when RACE fervour hit the North West and visitors picked up a packet of ideas.

Fit for action

Heaps of activities to help you communicate the all-important stay-fit, stay-healthy message to the girls.

Paper pachyderms

Your chance to learn how to make an outstanding origami elephant.

Brownies abroad

Fancy having your Pack Holiday overseas? One unit did and lived to tell the tale in *GUIDING*.

Zoom the world

Find out how to book your seat on a Thinking Day journey that promises plenty of fun and laughter.

IN OCTOBER'S BROWNIE

What's the nuttiest thing you've ever done?

Tell us and you could win a super ViewCam cam-corder in our nutty Sun-pat competition. And there's three Cannon Sure Shot cameras for the lucky runners-up.

What do you know?

Test your film and music knowledge.

In the past

The fascinating history of puppets

Five magic beans

In good time for Christmas we've got a panto script for you.

Discovering...

How to make a 3-D viewer

Tricks up your sleeve

Entertain your Six or Pack with some amazing magic.

Jane's party piece

Gran comes to the rescue when Jane wonders what to wear.

Fun food

Follow our easy recipes to enjoy corn chips and avocado dip.

AND IN RAINBOW GUIDE EXTRA

Music maestro

Make a tambourine and castanets

Games galore

Lots of great games to play.

Rainbow Rabbit

Help her spot those famous pantomime characters.

Cabbage Patch Kid

Win the latest dolls in our exciting competition.

Fairground fun

Lots of questions to answer and colouring to do.

Fiction

Read about the Rainbow Unit that put on a musical.

ideas

Programme ideas for September 1996

idea of the MONTH

Useful suggestions for Guiders of all sections

Illustration: Anthea Whitworth

Should your District have old tents which have outlived their camping days, follow these instructions and you can turn them into distinctive, reusable display panels.

The idea was suggested by the Manager of the Guide Heritage Centre, Kathryn Gallagher. Kathryn explained: 'The visiting District Commissioner for Brussels was particularly intrigued to see how the Heritage Centre's panels had been made.'

She suggested that we might like to share this design idea with the wider membership, so that all units could use it for erecting stands.'

So here's Kathryn's guide to making cheap and cheerful display panels:

■ Cut up canvas from old tents into the desired shape and size of the panel you want. Then hem the edges.

■ Lash tent poles together to make a frame a few centimetres larger – all the way round – than the canvas.

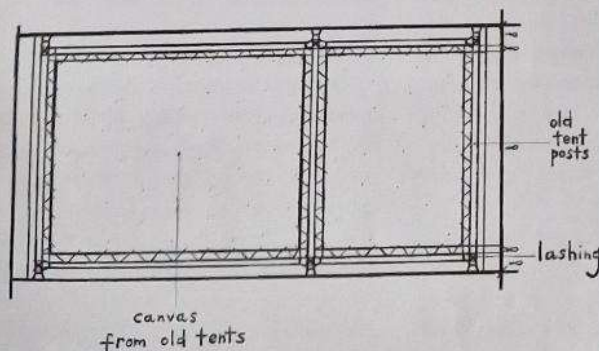
■ Carefully cut holes around the edge of the canvas, forming a border. Sew round the edges of the holes to stop them fraying.

■ Thread rope carefully through the holes and around the tent poles.

Now you have a display panel.

For use indoors, the panels can be leaned up against a wall, or you could try lashing two panels together to make a gatefold, free-standing structure.

If you are outdoors or in a marquee, you could use guy ropes and a dolly to support the display panels.



idea

Use old, empty greetings card catalogues for storing unit mementoes



ideas for...

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ideas for all...

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idea

To get your girls in the right mood for moving on, invite a few lively girls from the next section to a meeting



idea

Invite a local craftsman to show the girls how to use basic tools such as a plane or a screwdriver correctly

help for all...

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topic of the month

A new Guiding year starts this month and we've got lots of ideas to help you get more out of your Guiding and to motivate the done-it-all-before brigade

By Kent East Trainers
Illustrations: Sophie Harding

I
D
E
A
S

Everyone loves a sticker

Use plain, white, sticky labels and a rubber stamp to create your own stickers. Look for excuses to praise the girls — for example, for being a friend, clearing away, sharing or remembering something special. Stickers are fun for the girls, but they can also motivate Guiders into watching them and finding opportunities for saying well done.

R S
suitable for
B G

Patrol challenge

Challenge each Patrol in your local Guide Company to run a Brownie meeting for your Pack. The Patrols will need to know the time of your meeting; whether you would like it to follow a particular theme; and any items you want them to include, such as the Brownie Ring, Brownie Bells or time for the Brownie Guider to give out notices. It will also help them with timing if some sample programmes are available.

Perhaps each Brownie Six could deliver this challenge to a Guide Patrol in an interesting way of their own choosing — for example, on a jigsaw or by paper aeroplane. Ask the Brownies for their suggestions.



Patrol challenge

Section key

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

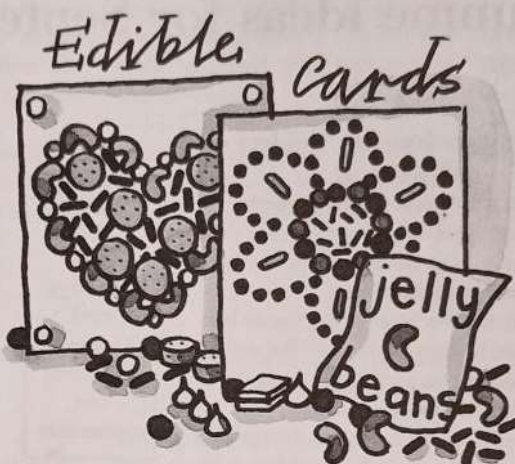
If the activity is suitable for your section it will be highlighted in black

Make and keep a promise

Write the word 'promises' on a large sheet of paper. Give each girl a sticky memo sheet. Ask them to write or draw something which they will promise to do during the week, such as tidying up their toys or helping mum wash up, and stick it on to the paper. It is important to encourage them to make a promise which they will be able to keep! Guiders need to make a promise too — perhaps to bring something nice to share next week.

At the following meeting, talk about the promises — did the girls manage to keep them? Was it harder than they thought or did something stop them?

R S
suitable for
B G



Edible cards

Create an edible card for a special occasion. Provide a sheet of rice-paper per person, a selection of small sweets and cake decorations, coloured moulding icing, white glacé icing (to stick the decorations to the rice-paper) and a teaspoon.

R S
suitable for
B G

R S
suitable for
B G

Local services

How many girls like going to the dentist?

Could your Pack/Company organise a visit to a local surgery to see behind the scenes, have a close look at the equipment used and find out what training you need before you can become a dentist?

If your girls don't fancy a trip to the dentist, they might like to visit someone else who works in the local community, such as a doctor, religious leader, post-office worker, pharmacist or shop/supermarket manager.

Involve the girls as much as possible in making arrangements for the visit — for instance, deciding where and when they would like to go, and saying thank you afterwards.

R S
suitable for
B G

Board-games with a message

Ask the girls to bring their favourite board-games to a meeting. Look at them and discuss their similarities and differences. Are the games just for fun or do the girls learn something by playing them?

Let each Six/Patrol look through the Brownie Guide Handbook, the Guide Handbook or other material for ideas or topics that could be communicated to others in a game, such as road safety, the Country Code, mapping, Rainbows moving up to Brownies or Brownies going up to Guides. Challenge the girls to make and play a board-game on a particular theme.

R S
suitable for
B G

Badge syllabuses to be reviewed in 1996

The Badge Review Committee are currently reviewing the following badges. If you would like your say, the comments required are:

- a) Greatly enjoyed by the participants: Yes/No
- b) Not attractive because
- c) Suggestions for change

Brownie

Artist
Book Lover
Collector
Craft
Dancer
Hobbies
Hostess
House Orderly
Jester
Music Lover
Toymaker

Guide

Artist
Band
Carpenter
Collector
Confectioner
Country Dancer
Craft
Dancer
English Folk
Entertainer
Flower Arranger
Handywoman
Heritage
Hobbies
Homemaker
Hostess
Laundress
Local History
Manx Folk
Reader
Scottish Folk
Secretary
Singer (Folk Singer)
Stitchery
Ulster Folk
Welsh Folk
PIP Entertainer

Staged

Bellringer
Chess
Cook
Knitter
Knotter
Musician
Needlecraft
Speaker
Writer

All comments should be returned to:

Guiding Services, The Guide Association,
17-19 Buckingham Palace Road,
London, SW1W 0PT.

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Rose hippo



Recipes from New Zealand

Rose hippo

- 250g sausage meat
- 250g mince
- one finely-chopped onion
- one packet of cream of chicken soup
- half a cup of breadcrumbs
- two grated carrots
- one egg

Mix all the ingredients together into two loaf shapes. Wrap them in tin foil like a parcel and simmer in a pot with water reaching halfway up the parcels.

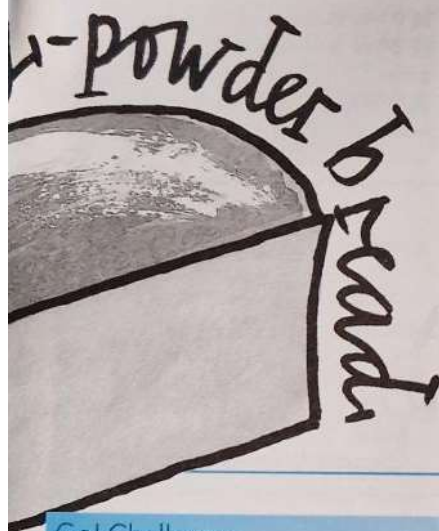
Cook for 30-40 minutes.

Baking-powder bread

- four breakfast cups of flour
- 1tsp sugar
- one small, cold, boiled potato
- 1tsp salt
- 2tsp (heaped) baking-powder
- milk or milk and water to mix

Sift together the flour, salt, sugar and baking-powder. Rub in the potato and add enough liquid to make a soft dough. Mix quickly and put into a large, greased loaf tin. Smooth the top with a knife dipped in melted butter and bake immediately for 50-60 minutes at 200°C/ Gas Mark 6/400°F.

When the bread is cooked, remove it from the tin and wrap it in a clean cloth until it cools.



Go! Challenge

Have a look at the *Brownie Go! Challenge* book. It contains lots of ideas with which to challenge older Brownies — those aged nine or over and who have at least one Journey badge.

Ideas include learning a new craft, helping to organise a *Pack Clothes Show*, and planning and carrying out an exciting outdoor visit for a group of Brownies. One Brownie, Rebecca Robins, organised a trip to Rochester upon Medway in Kent during a Charles Dickens festival and staged a fashion show as part of her Go! Challenge.

Just a thought

What do you do if a girl has the potential to achieve the B-P Trefoil Award but is dragging her feet? Do you say 'Well, it's her decision' and give up, or do you give her a helping hand, offer some support, set small achievable goals and encourage her? It is important that we identify girls who need encouragement early enough for it to be effective. Being positive is important.

Workshop open evenings

Create opportunities for the girls to teach the adults. Choose activities that the girls have tried earlier: craft is a good choice; and science and technology also work well.

The girls will have great fun showing adults how to do something that they have practised. However, it will also allow them to display skills learned through

Guiding, such as independence, knowledge and helping others, in a safe environment.



Something to make you think

- The only way to have a friend is to be one.
- She who receives a good turn should never forget it. She who does one should never remember it.
- A smile is infectious — be a carrier.



More ideas

- Walk to a midnight Promise ceremony
- Plan a weekend expedition menu which is both energy efficient and good for you
- Make a welcome booklet
- Find out about the cultures of people living in your area. Produce an information sheet which could be used to help contact the local community and welcome girls and women into Guiding.



More ideas....

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rainbow guiders

The weather is more changeable near the autumn and spring equinoxes – in September and March – than at other times of the year. So this is a particularly interesting time to observe the weather

By Deborah Manley
Illustrations: Zoe Figg



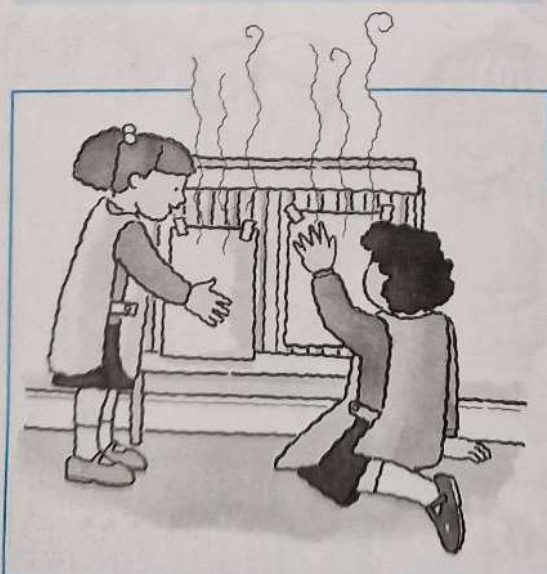
Call the weather

The girls scatter around the play area. You call out a type of weather and they mime it as they walk or run around the room.

For example:

- 'It's rainy and windy' — the girls put up umbrellas, bow their heads to the wind and splash in the puddles.
- 'It's hot and sunny now' — the girls cast off their coats, stretch out in the sun, move more slowly and wipe their brows.

Let the girls take turns to call the weather. This game could be played to appropriate music. When the music stops, the weather changes.



Bubbles and the wind

Wind changes direction when it hits hills, and even buildings and trees. These barriers can also slow the wind down. You can observe these facts quite easily.

Choose a windy day — but not too windy! You will need a bubble-blowing kit. Try to have several hoops so that each girl can have a turn.

Go outside and let the girls blow bubbles high into the air. Watch the wind take the bubbles around or over obstacles in their way. Watch them change direction as they blow along with the wind.

You can't see the wind, but you can see what it does, can't you?

How hot? How cold?

Take a thermometer to the meeting place. Put it outside where the girls can check it. Record the outdoor temperature at each meeting. Does it get colder during the month as winter draws closer? Note down what the weather has been like during the day, too. Is it colder on clear days or cloudy ones?

You might like to continue keeping a temperature record through the winter and into spring and summer.

Quiet time

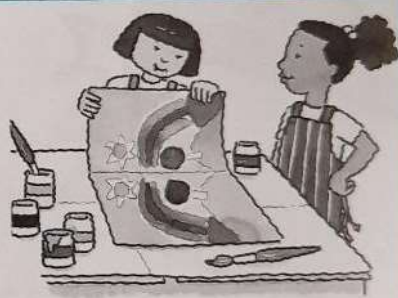
Think good thoughts about all the different kinds of weather that there are:

- When it's sunny we can play outside.
- When it rains it helps gardens to grow.
- When it's cold we can wrap up warm.

Rainy day reflections

This is a lovely — although sometimes messy — way to make a picture of a reflection. You will need large (A3) sheets of paper folded in half, paints, brushes, aprons for the girls, newspaper for the tables and floor.

The girls quickly paint a simple scene on the upper part of the paper (it could be a rainbow over some hills). They should make it big and clear. Before the paint dries, fold the bottom half up and press down on it, so that the picture 'prints' itself. When the paper is opened, you will see the scene and its reflection as if in a puddle or a pond.



The months ahead

To help you plan your meetings around our themes, it is useful to know what we are planning for the months ahead. Until the end of the year, the themes will be:

- October — entertainment;
- November — preparations for Christmas and New year;
- December — helping others.

Where do puddles go?

After a rainy day, where do the puddles go? While some of the water sinks into the ground, the rest dries up when the sun shines. This is called evaporation.

The girls can easily find out how water evaporates if there is some heat. You will need a piece of kitchen paper for each child or pair, some water and a radiator.

Make the paper damp by sprinkling water on it. Lay the sheets carefully on or by the radiator. Are they dry by the end of the meeting? Where has the water gone?

The heat of the radiator — like the sun's warmth on the puddles — evaporates the water into the air.

Match the flag

Number various countries from 1 to 12 and write their names on separate pieces of paper with their numbers on the reverse side. Give each country's flag a letter from A to L and draw them on separate pieces of paper with their letters on the reverse.

Place the pieces of paper around the room. The girls, either individually or in small groups or pairs, try to match the countries with their flags. They should write down the appropriate letters and numbers.

When everyone has completed the task, show them the correct countries and flags.



theme evening

Take your unit on a trip around the world with these seven bright ideas designed to start you off on an international theme evening

By Lynn Richardson and Katy Shore-Kapsis
Illustrations: Francis Scappaticci

Which food?

Give Patrols/Sixes a list of foods from around the world. Write the names of the countries from which they come on cards and place them around the room. See which Patrol/Six can get the most correct matches in a set time.

Spell your country

Choose countries with the same number of letters for each Patrol/Six — for example, Ireland, Denmark, Belgium and Germany. Write out each of the letters which spell out the different countries on individual cards. All the letter cards which spell out each of the countries should be written in the same colour.

Place the cards face down in the centre of the room. The girls should be in their Patrols/Sixes, each of which are given one of the colours used on the cards.

The first girl from each Patrol/Six runs to the centre and picks up a card. If it is her colour she takes it back to her Patrol/Six. If not, she puts it back face down. The first Patrol/Six to collect all the letters making up the name of a country wins.



Fashion parade

This activity will need some planning in the week beforehand. Ask the Patrols/Sixes to pick a country (these could be put into a hat and drawn out by each Patrol/Six). The Patrol/Six must then dress up appropriately the following week. Stage a fashion show, with one of the girls introducing each country and its fashions.

Name the capital cities

The girls can play this in their Patrols/Sixes. The Guider reads out a list of countries and the Patrols/Sixes write down the name of each country's capital city. Go through the answers with the whole unit.

Singing

Round off the evening by singing songs from around the world or with an international connection.



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Around the world quiz answers
1 Italy 2 Iran 3 Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan and so on 4 Bill Clinton 5 Iceland 6 Netherlands 7 Kangaroo, wallaby, koala bear, bandicoot, possum, Tasmanian devil, wombat, duck-billed platypus, echidna and so on 8 United Nations 9 Switzerland 10 Alps 11 Moscow, Russia 12 Germany 13 Seine 14 St Andrew 15 Pax Lodge/England, Yangam-Bula, Our Cabana/Mexico, Our Chalet/Switzerland

wide game

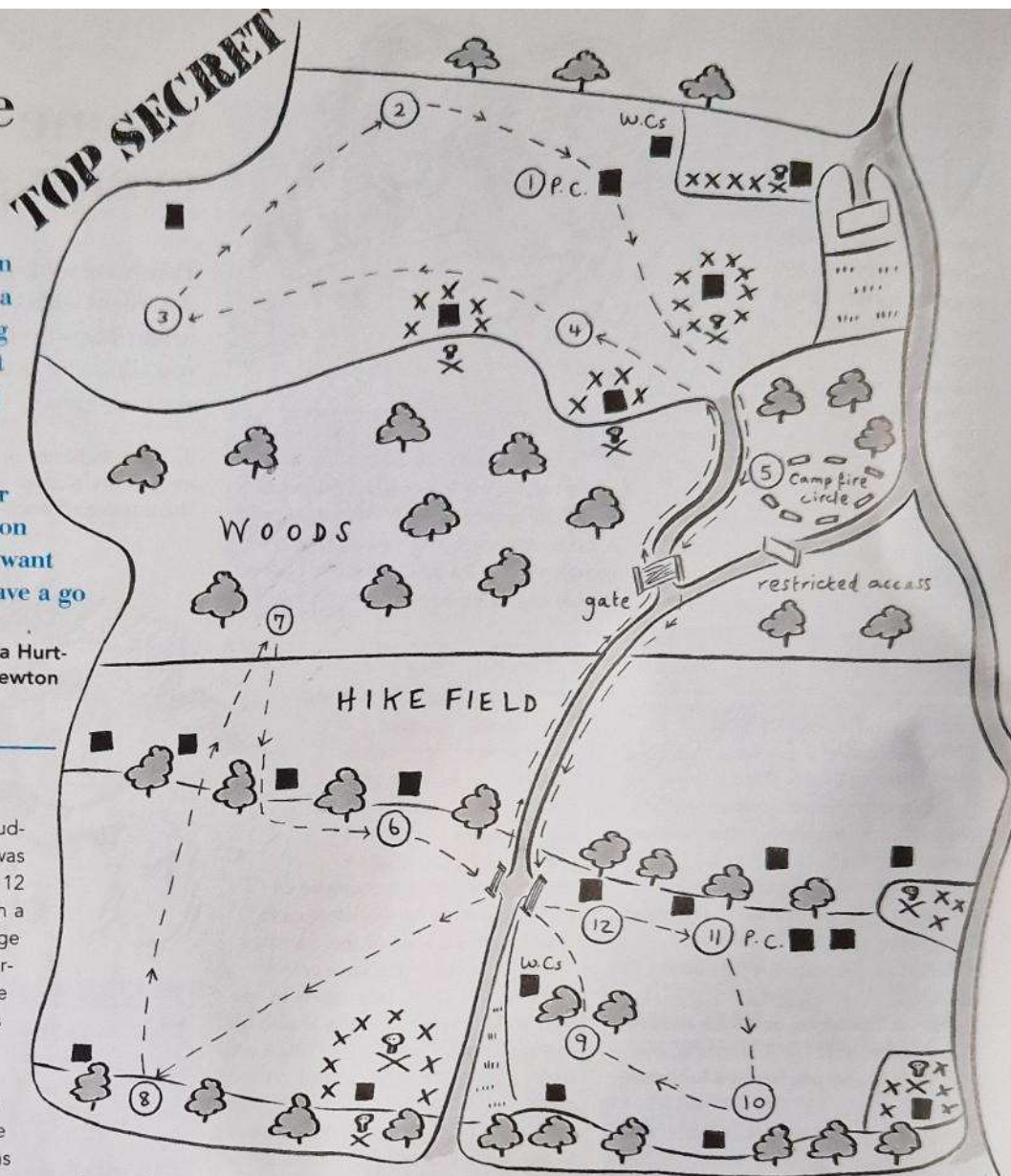
Girls from County of London South East had a great time playing this wide game at their 50th anniversary camp. If you read about their celebrations on page 10, you'll want to have a go

Illustrations: Tania Hurt-Newton

Setting the scene

The site at Cudham in Kent was divided into 12 countries, each with a specific challenge that had to be overcome. The girls were divided into Patrols and told they were all British refugees who need to find a safe route home now that war was finally over.

Leaders were chosen to act as Ambassadors and they had to be able to get into the role and give a good performance.



- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. Hungary | 7. Holland |
| 2. Poland | 8. Germany |
| 3. Switzerland | 9. Italy |
| 4. Austria | 10. Yugoslavia |
| 5. Belgium | 11. Greece |
| 6. France | 12. Spain |

P.C. Passport Control
WCs Toilets
XX Minefield
ALL BORDERS CLOSE AT 16.00 HRS
If you haven't finished by 4pm, go back to country of origin.

Top secret information

The Ambassadors read out the following script:

'Two years ago you had to flee your country due to the conflict of war. You are now refugees. Great news, the war is over.

You can now return home but beware, there are still many dangers such as unexploded bombs and warring rebel soldiers.

To find a safe route across Europe, you need a map and an identity card, which can be obtained from your local embassy.

You may meet air raid wardens and you must abide

by what they say. There are also minefields which must not be entered.

Once you have travelled through all 12 countries, go to your nearest passport control for your entry papers to Britain. Good luck on your journey!

Each Ambassador held the identity cards and map. The girls had to 'bribe' the Ambassadors to get hold of them. The gifts were whatever small or funny token the girls chose.

To avoid congestion, Patrols were given clockwise and anti-clockwise maps and started at five minute intervals from different countries.

Multiple choice

Each activity was linked to a particular country. You can, of course, substitute activities that are more suited to your site, the time available and the girls' ages.

Hungary: First aid

Patrols discover casualties of war and have to help them, with advice from on-lookers. Guiders turn themselves into walking wounded. (There's advice on page 41 on how to simulate fake injuries.)

Switzerland: Oil lamps

The Patrols 'travel' by night and have to make lamps from the equipment around them. A tent could also be erected in order to preserve darkness and safety. (Consult page 38 to brush up on how to make a diwali lamp and provide the girls with the necessary equipment.)

Italy: Unexploded bomb

Provide a box with a glass container full of water. Without using their hands the girls have to move the box without spilling any of the water. You should make sure an assortment of articles are available such as sticks, walking sticks and coat hangers for them to experiment with.

Greece: Mistresses of disguise

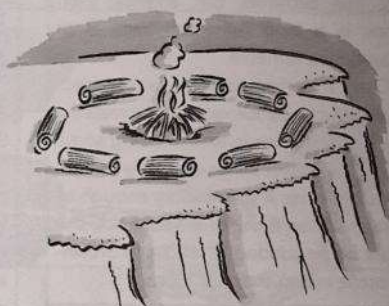
The Patrols have to disguise themselves with hats, make-up, wigs, clothes and so on to get across check point. The girls can either choose from a heap you provide or put together their own costumes.

Poland: Scramble pilots

An obstacle course for Patrols from the dispersal hut to the plane. Girls have to navigate their way around oil drums and wind socks, then put on parachutes (day sacks), goggles, flying jackets and hats. Use whatever you have available to act as obstacles.

Belgium: Rescue a body

Girls make their way up the side of camp fire circle to rescue a body (teddy bear) from below and carry them by improvised stretcher to safety. Rope should be provided.



France: Stirrup pumps

Using stirrup pumps attached to a hose plus bucket, fire at empty cans and try to knock them off a table/platform. If you can't get hold of some stirrup pumps, try water pistols instead.

Holland: Refugee box

Hang from trees or buildings various items (approximately 15) that might be used in a refugee box. These might include T-shirts, soap, a comb and so on. Girls have to choose eight items they would put in the box. Remember to supply paper and pens for the lists.

Germany: Beautiful bananas

Refugees slice the bananas. Put a flake or chocolate buttons inside. Wrap them in tin foil, cook and eat! You supply the ingredients and cooking facilities.



Austria: Reconstruct a building

Patrols 'rebuild' a London landmark using model-making straws, garden canes, Sellotape and string. You also will need to supply pictures of famous buildings for reference.

Yugoslavia: Knitting for victory

Supply bamboo sticks canes, tent poles and string or thick wool. The girls have to cast on and complete a few lines of knitting.



Spain: Crack that code

London South East girls had already had a chance to experiment with codes at their Street party. If your girls don't know any, you could slip a session on codes into a meeting before you stage the wide game. Or simply use a number substitution code (A=26 and so on) and get the Patrols to work out a message, which could be as simple as 'There is a bar of chocolate waiting for you'.

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brownie guiders

Last month we looked at festivals from the Jewish and Christian faiths. This month we prepare for the Indian festival of Diwali, which occurs at the end of October and lasts from two to five days

By: Elizabeth Egan
Illustrations: Kim Woolley

Diwali is an Indian festival important to Hindus, Buddhists, Sikhs and Jains, who all celebrate it for different reasons. The word 'diwali' (the 'w' is pronounced as a 'v') means 'garland of lights', so it is the Festival of Light. During its duration, temples, homes, shops and public buildings are decorated with many little lamps.

In northern India, Diwali commemorates a famous story about the god Rama, who returned victorious to his kingdom after exile to be welcomed by a city ablaze with the light of divas. A diva is a clay lamp in which cotton wicks are set alight floating in oil or ghee. Divas are still used today, although some families use electric lights instead.

Diwali is a time for exchanging gifts and cards. People also clean their houses thoroughly, because it is believed that Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth, visits every clean home to bring prosperity throughout the coming year.

Lakshmi is welcomed at the doors of Indian houses not only with Diwali lights but also with Rangoli — symmetrical patterns of flowers, leaves and religious symbols made in rice paste by the women of the household. Glue is sometimes spread over the pattern and the design filled in with coloured powder, lentils, rice and seeds.

Coconut barfi

Sticky sweet confections are very popular in Indian cultures and are often given as Diwali presents. Try this recipe for 'coconut barfi'. There will be enough here for the whole Pack to have at least one piece.

■ Gradually heat 350g (two cans) of evaporated milk and 200g of light brown granulated sugar until they come to the boil, then simmer until the milk has reduced to about half.

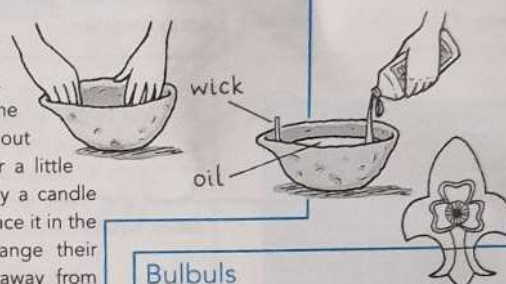
■ Add 150g of desiccated coconut and stir until the mixture lumps together in the centre of the pan.

■ Spread the mixture on a greased tray and leave it to cool, then cut it into squares.

Diva lamps

Diva lamps can be made using Plasticine. Shape a ball of Plasticine into a cup shape, then pull out one side to form a lip. Pour a little cooking oil into the cup. Buy a candle wick from a craft shop and place it in the cup. The Brownies can arrange their lamps in a long line, well away from inflammable furniture.

Once a leader has lit the lamps, electric lights can be turned out. It creates a lovely atmosphere in which to sing some well-known quiet songs or simply to hum tunes together. If you're lucky enough to have an Indian Brownie in your Pack, she might be persuaded to teach the Brownies some Indian songs or tunes.



Bulbuls

Since we're concentrating on India, take this opportunity to introduce your Brownies to their Indian counterparts, the Bulbuls.

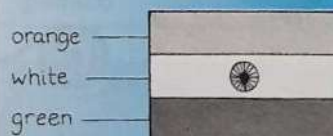
Provide the girls with outline card figures to colour in and cut out. Make copies of Bulbul uniforms taken from the Association Brownie uniform chart, taking care to draw tabs at the shoulders and waist of the dress. The Brownies cut out the paper uniforms to dress their dolls.

Make copies of the Bulbul badge (see above) in thin card, each backed with double-sided tape. Give each Brownie a badge which she can cut out and wear for the Indian evening.



The Indian flag

Give each Six an outline copy of the Indian flag drawn on A4 card, some orange and green tissue paper, a glue pen and a photocopy of the prayer wheel reproduced to the correct size. Pin up a copy of the flag showing the correct colours for reference. Each Six can work together, sticking small, screwed-up pieces of tissue on to the card, to make an effective Indian flag.



Rangoli

Brownies will enjoy making Rangoli. Give each Brownie a polystyrene tile, marked out in advance with pencil squares. Starting in the centre, she pencils in a symmetrical pattern, if possible using flower and leaf shapes. She then fills in the shapes by gluing on seeds, split peas, lentils or rice, a little at a time and always keeping the blocks of colour symmetrical.

Diwali greetings cards can be made to match, showing the Brownie's original Rangoli pattern, this time in crayon or felt-tipped pen.



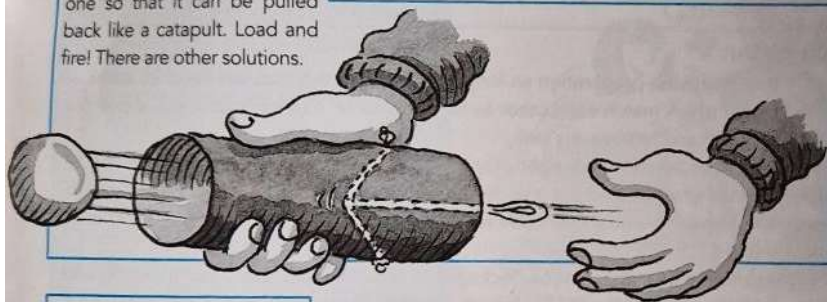
Ping-pong gun

'See if you can fire the ping-pong ball at least two metres into the bucket. You have 30 minutes.'

Equipment for each group:

- an A4 sheet of card
- two rubber bands
- adhesive tape
- scissors
- a tape-measure
- a bucket
- a ping-pong ball

Hint: roll the card into a tube a little wider than the ping-pong ball, securing it with adhesive tape. Make holes near one end, in which to fit one of the rubber bands across the tube and tape it into place. Hitch the other band round this one so that it can be pulled back like a catapult. Load and fire! There are other solutions.



Fred's parachute

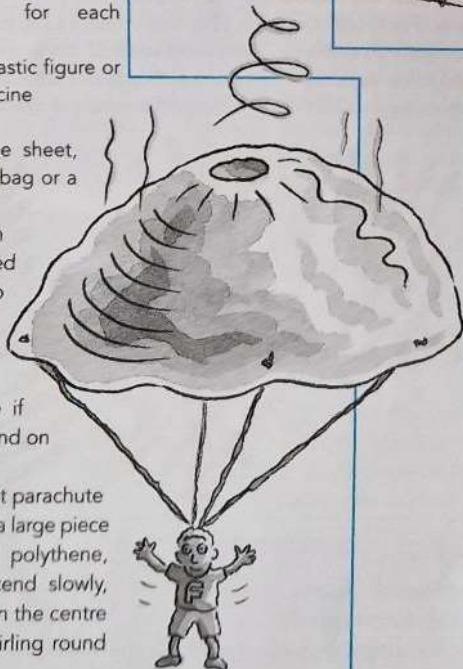
'Design the best parachute for Fred. You have 30 minutes.'

Equipment for each group:

- a similar plastic figure or piece of plasticine
- thin string
- a polythene sheet, such as a bin bag or a carrier bag
- a stopwatch

You will need somewhere to launch the parachute in order to test it — take care if you have to stand on a table.

Hint: the best parachute will be made of a large piece of the thinnest polythene, which will descend slowly, with a hole cut in the centre to stop Fred twirling round too much.



Wet strength

'Which paper is strongest in water? You have 30 minutes.'

Equipment for each group:

- similar-sized pieces of different types of paper
- plastic bottles or jars with their lids
- water
- a container for waste water
- a tray or bowl for wet samples
- a magnifying glass (optional)

Hint: put a sample of paper in a bottle or jar of water (hot if possible). Put the lid on tightly and shake the container 50 times. See if the paper has started to disintegrate. Give it another 50 shakes and look again. Take out the paper, pour out the water and repeat with another sample. See which is least affected.

Note: it is best to dispose of the water via an outside drain or down the toilet because bits of wet paper may block a sink.

simply science

'Use the bits and pieces in the bag to help you solve the problem...' Challenge a group of girls to complete these tasks in a set time. By choosing suitable problems, this type of activity can be appropriate for any section

By Alison Mitchell and Hilary Jenkins
Illustrations: Dom Mansell

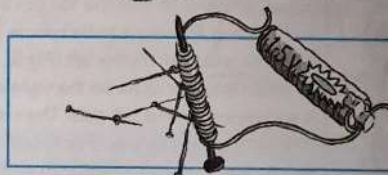
Make an electromagnet

'How many pins can you lift with your electromagnet? You have 20 minutes.'

Equipment for each group:

- one metre of thin insulated wire
- a 1.5V battery
- adhesive tape or Blu-Tack
- a long iron or steel nail or screw
- steel pins to pick up

Hint: wind the wire tightly round the nail, putting in as many coils as you can, but leave about 10cm at each end. Stick one end to the top of the battery and touch the other end to the bottom. Hang pins from the coils on the nail.



Absorbent paper

'Which paper is most absorbent? You have 30 minutes.'

Equipment for each group:

- strips of different types of paper about 10cm x 3cm (for example, tissue-paper, writing-paper, newspaper and kitchen towel)
- a yoghurt pot for each strip
- string
- paper-clips
- a ruler
- water
- access to a watch, clock or some other timer

Hint: put the same amount of water in each pot. Clip the strips to a string washing line and immerse them in water for a set time. See which has the highest water level.

Note: if this investigation is to be carried out 'scientifically', the tests should be identical apart from the differing types of paper. The girls may not realise this at first, so make sure that you have some spare strips of paper available for them to have another go with if necessary. This is why 30 minutes has been allowed for this activity.

guide guiders

Autumn is the season to collect such things as nuts, seeds, cones, grasses and corn to use in crafts with your unit

By Pam Haswell

Illustrations: Michelle Draycott



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Lavender basket

Find 11 lavender stalks with flowers of about the same length. Tie them together at the base of the bloom then bend the stalks over, covering the flowers. Begin to weave around the stalks with raffia, wool or narrow ribbon. Bind the stalks together beyond the flower heads and make a loop for hanging.



Fir-cone basket

Use the pointed end of the cone as the top. Glue a handle (such as a wire closure, pipe cleaner or pliable stem) towards the top of the cone. Glue grasses, dried flowers and so on in between the scales to make a pleasing arrangement.

Sunflower-seed hedgehog

Cut out a hedgehog shape and glue on round seeds suitable for an eye and a nose. Then, starting at the head, glue on sunflower seeds with their points facing to the back. Brush PVA glue over the top to bring out the colour and help fix the seeds in place.

Norwegian lady

You will need:

- a small pine cone
- a hazelnut
- thin card
- a pipe-cleaner
- material
- grasses and/or small dried flowers

Cut out a circle of card for a skirt, the radius of which should be approximately 2cm longer than the height of the cone. Make a cut from the circumference to the centre and cut out a circle about 2-4cm, depending on the size of the cone. Cover this with material if you wish. Wrap it around the cone about half-way up (with the pointed end of the cone downward), pushing it under the scales, and glue it to hold it in position.

Cut a small piece of material for an apron and stick it to the front of the skirt. Using the same material, cut a triangle to glue round the hazelnut as a headscarf, leaving the top of the nut as the face. Mark on features with felt-tipped pens and glue the nut to the top of the cone.

Cut the pipe-cleaner in half and glue each piece into the cone as arms, bending them round a small sheath of grasses and so on.



Corn fan

Straw needs no preparation so long as it is fairly fresh. You will need 25 stalks of wheat which match each other as far as possible. Cut each stalk just above the first joint and remove any leaf.

Tie the three largest heads tightly together with thread and spread them out (Fig 1). Take another straw (X) and put it under C close to the ears, with its tail crossing to lie beside A. Repeat this on the left side with Y passing under A with its tail crossing to lie beside B and C.

These two new straws must be 'locked' into position as follows: raise B slightly and pass C under it so that the tail lies beside X and A. Repeat this on the left by raising X and passing A under it to lie beside Y and B (Fig 2). Repeat this 'locking pattern' first on the right and then on the left (Fig 3).

Insert another straw on the right under the outer straw and over all the others. 'Lock' it and repeat on the left side. Then repeat the 'locking pattern'.

Continue in this way (Fig 4) until there are 12 straws on each side, then finish with four or five 'locks' alternately on each side. There will then be 12 straws on one side and 13 on the other. Lift the lower six or seven straws on each side and place them on top of the upper ones. Tie them tightly with thread and cut off the stalks diagonally.

Fig 1

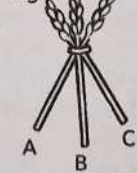


Fig 3

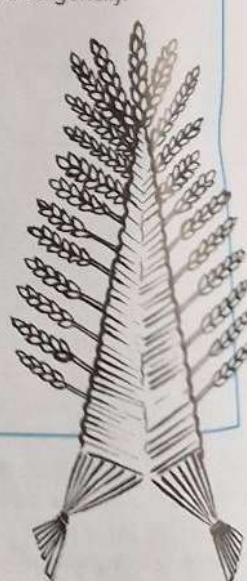


Fig 4



Harvest garlands

Twist together about eight pliable stems (such as ivy, periwinkle or old man's beard) and tie them into a ring. Fix or glue fruits, nuts, grasses or sycamore keys into the ring to make an attractive decoration.



How to make the blood

You will need

Equipment:

Plastic sheeting; newspapers; a saucepan; a tablespoon; a wooden spoon; a plastic bottle; a wet J cloth; a gas burner or a fire; a teaspoon; matches; kitchen roll; a small mug; an apron; and a jug.

Ingredients:

- mug of Golden Syrup
- $\frac{1}{2}$ mug of cold water
- blackcurrant jam
- 2 tbsp of cochineal
- $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp of yellow food colouring
- 1 tsp of custard powder
- a few drops of gravy browning

Method

1 Put the custard powder into the saucepan. Add a little water and mix to make a smooth, runny paste. Add the rest of the water, syrup and colourings.

2 Light the gas burner or ensure that the fire is lit, but low. Warm the saucepan gently over a low heat, stirring continuously.

3 Leave the mixture to cool in the saucepan for about five minutes, stirring continuously. Then pour it into the jug, and, using the jug, pour it into a plastic bottle.

4 Seedless blackcurrant jam can be used in small blobs around the wound, to simulate clots. Blue eye-shadow mixed with black eye pencil can be used to simulate bruising.

5 Use the mixture liberally to give that realistic touch to a casualty's injuries.

Creating the false tissue

You will need

Equipment:

Plastic sheeting; newspapers; a saucepan; a tablespoon; a wooden spoon; a chopping board or tray; a teaspoon; a gas burner or a fire; matches; a knife; an apron; a cup of water; chicken bones; broken up Tic Tac boxes; and a small mug.

Ingredients:

- $\frac{1}{2}$ mug of plain flour
- $\frac{1}{2}$ mug of cold water
- 1 tsp of salt
- 1 heaped tsp of cream of tartar
- $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp of cooking oil

- drops of cochineal
- drops of gravy browning

Method

1 Put all the dry ingredients into the saucepan. Add the water and oil a little bit at a time, stirring in well.

2 Light the gas burner or ensure that the fire is lit, but low. Then put the saucepan on a low heat and stir the contents continuously, until the mixture becomes a dough.

3 Turn out the contents of the saucepan on to the chopping board and allow it to cool for five minutes. Knead the mixture, taking care as it will probably still be very hot, until it becomes smooth and elastic.

4 Add a drop of cochineal to the dough and knead it in well. Add gravy browning to the dough a drop at a time, kneading in every drop before adding another.

how to do

Guides in Buckinghamshire had a very 'bloody' time when they created some realistic wounds for a first-aid session

Illustrations: Beccy Blake



5 Compare the colour of the dough to the skin colour of the casualty after kneading in each drop. Continue adding one drop of gravy browning at a time until the correct skin colour is obtained. The dough is now ready to apply to the skin of the casualty.

6 Take a small piece of dough and work it on to the arm, leg, body or head of the casualty. Smooth off the edges using the back of a knife.

7 Put a cut in the dough very carefully using the knife. You may have to use a drop of water to keep the dough moist and prevent it cracking as it dries out quickly.

8 Insert bones or glass in the 'wound', and apply clots and blood as required. If some dough is left over, it can be wrapped in cling film and successfully kept in the fridge for up to two weeks.

try this

These fun games and activities focusing on peace are from a series devised by Guide and Scout Associations in Ireland

Illustrations: Jan Fearnley

Make a Daruma doll

The Daruma doll is regarded in Eastern mythology as a symbol of endurance and perseverance.

It is said to be named after an old Buddhist priest who meditated non-stop for nine years. The doll reminds us of his dedication — every time it is knocked over, it bounces back up again.

To make the Daruma doll you will need: Plasticine, old newspaper, wallpaper paste, glue, a pebble, paints.

1 Start by modelling an egg shape from Plasticine, making sure that the bottom is more rounded and heavier than the top.



Cultural Difference

This game is designed to explore cultural impressions held by people. Everyone will need a piece of paper with the following group of words printed on it four times:

**Bizarre, Delightful, Interesting
Disturbing, Exotic, Normal
Disgusting, Amusing, Boring.**

Make sure everyone has a pen. Ask them to circle the word that best describes their own immediate reaction to the following four descriptions of human behaviour.

It is important to explain to the group that there are no right or wrong answers.

1 'They have a ritual involving the use of certain garments, only worn in certain seasons. The robing and disrobing of the garments, and the timing of this, has great cultural significance in the hospitality ritual.'

2 'They eat a food made from a paste that is made from the seeds of a type of grass, cooked once and then burned near a flame, which is smeared with fat from an animal. They eat this with the albumen from a bird. Traditionally they can only eat it at certain times of the day.'

3 'Almost the entire population is addicted to a plant substance which they drink with water and other animal or plant substances. They speak openly about this addiction apparently without shame, and have evolved certain rituals around its use.'

4 'Women seem to have a hard time. Modernisation only seems to have brought them more work to do, and men don't respect them at all.'

Don't give the group time to think. The aim is to find out instant responses.

Take the papers in and then redistribute them at random, to protect anonymity, and find out which response is most popular for each description.

Ask the participants to guess which culture each description may have come from.

2 Tear up a few sheets of newsprint into small pieces, about the size of a postage stamp. Using wallpaper paste, stick five or six layers of paper on to the Plasticine shape.

3 Leave it to dry completely. This will take a long time, so you may have to leave it for a few days.

4 Cut the shape in half from top to bottom so you have two symmetrical halves. Remove the Plasticine. Using a strong glue, stick a flat pebble inside the bottom of the egg.

5 Now stick the two sides of the egg together by covering it with a few more layers of newspaper and paste. Leave it to dry and paint it as you wish.

Answers

1 The tradition of keeping your coat on when you are inside someone else's house to show you are not staying

2 This describes the tradition of eating a hard boiled egg with buttered toast for breakfast.

3 An alternative way to describe drinking tea and that well-known saying: 'I'm gasping for a cuppa.'

4 A comment by an Iranian woman about the difficulties faced by British women in today's society.





Hot dog cooker

To make the hot dog cooker you will need: an empty pint carton (milk or orange juice), a double sheet of newspaper, two cocktail sausages, tin foil.

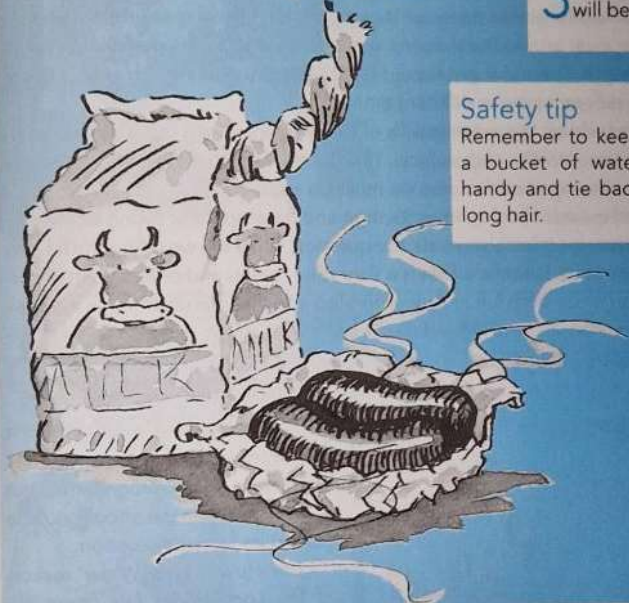
1 Twist the newspaper into a rope and push half of it into the carton. Wrap the cocktail sausages in a single layer of foil and place them in the carton.

2 Now push in more of the newspaper leaving a bit sticking out the top, like the wick on a candle. Close the top of the carton.

3 Carefully light the wick. When it has all burned away the sausages will be cooked. Wait until the foil is cool before tucking in.

Safety tip

Remember to keep a bucket of water handy and tie back long hair.



Unequal Division

This is a simple activity to be played with a mature group to illustrate the unequal distribution of resources around the world.

You will need a large map of the world and a favourite treat like a large bar of chocolate or a big packet of biscuits.

1 Divide the group into three or four teams. Make one team significantly smaller than the others. Tell the group that you have a treat for them and show them the packet.

2 Now divide the biscuits or chocolate so that the largest share goes to the smallest group. Give the smallest amount to the largest groups.

3 The girls will no doubt complain that the distribution is unfair. Ask them to describe what it feels like to be given too little or too much.

4 Using the world map as a starting point, encourage a discussion about the distribution of food among the peoples of the world. Ask the girls to point out rich western nations and poorer developing countries.



Adapted from the Peace in Ireland '96 Peace Pack, sponsored by Yoplait.

The ideas were contributed by the following Guiding and Scouting Associations: The Catholic Boy Scouts of Ireland; Catholic Guides of Ireland; Scout Association of Ireland; The Guide Association; The Irish Girl Guides; The Scout Association.

ranger guiders

September is a great time to reflect on and evaluate the activities which have been either enjoyed or endured by the Unit over the past year

By Barbara O'Donnell
Photos: Margaret Whittaker

We should build on the existing skills of Rangers



The future... near and far

Planning is either short or long term. It may be concerned with what we are doing during the next two weeks, or during next year. Whichever it is, the same skills apply, along with the 'Smart Steps'.

With next year in mind, it is not too soon to start thinking and planning for the next United Kingdom Ranger event — Octiwot.

Octiwot is a lightweight camp which will take place at Waddow Hall in Clitheroe, Lancashire, from Monday, August 4 to Saturday, August 9, 1997. The event is open to all Rangers, Young Leaders, young Guiders, SSAGO, LINK, Junior Council, BYC and Venture Scouts who are members of a Joint Unit. Participants can arrive and depart anytime between the above dates, spending one, two or all five nights at a cost of approximately £8 per night.

Activities such as caving, fencing, climbing, pioneering, mountain biking and windsurfing will be on offer, along with day trips and a wide variety of crafts. To receive an application form, write to:

Gillian Cruickshank, Guiding Services, The Guide Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.

Planning for the future

No one has yet invented a foolproof method of programme planning for Rangers — if they had, then I'm sure it would be patented! Planning a Ranger programme which incorporates all the girls, covers all the different aspects of the Look Wider programme and appeals to all the Rangers is a very tall order. Flexibility and compromise are the two key features.

When constructing the Unit's programme, the ideas and skills of all the girls should be employed. Brainstorming and collecting ideas can be both fun and exciting. However, when organising the activity, certain practical responsibilities emerge from all this energy:

- Who is going to find out the details?
- Who is going to work out the cost or transport requirements?
- Who is going to provide the resources required?
- Who is going to check the safety rules for an outdoor activity?

As Ranger Guiders, we can sometimes rely on those within the Unit who have certain skills, those who always organise things or those who don't mind speaking on behalf of the group. But we must remember that one of our roles is to create personal development within every girl. Therefore, we should create opportunities which enable everyone to undertake different roles at different times.

We should also build on the existing skills of the Rangers, giving them confidence to tackle more ambitious activities and projects. This does not mean that as Ranger Guiders we are required to be superwomen, but we must be enablers. We need to use all our contacts within and outside Guiding to encourage and develop these young women.

As with evaluation, we must always ask the question: 'Why are we doing this?' Don't be surprised if the answer is for fun. That is a very valid reason and one of great importance. If an activity can be both fun and incorporated into the journey through the Look Wider programme, then we have indeed hit the bull's-eye.

Reviewing the past

Reflecting and evaluating is a very important feature of the Look Wider programme, but too much emphasis should not be placed on formal discussion.

The 'How to Look Wider' section of the Look Wider File (page 30) describes the 'Smart Steps' for planning activities, and describes these steps as a method of reviewing and evaluating. However, sometimes all

that is needed is a quick 'Was this a good or mediocre idea?' If it was a great activity, note down all the details for future use or adaptation.

If the activity was only 'so so', then certain questions need to be asked. What was wrong with:

- The timing?
 - The activity itself?
 - The cost?
 - Lack of information or interest?
- Why were we doing it?
- To fill in time?
 - To complete an octant activity?
 - To pander to one individual's interest?

Ask the Rangers these questions and use their answers to carry out a concrete evaluation. This should result in better planning for future activities and events.



Ask the Rangers to review and evaluate the various activities they have tried

Service team

Don't miss this opportunity to become a member of the service team of young people who will be required for Octiwot. The event will be acceptable as the residential event for the Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

For an application form to be a member of the service team, write to: Miss Annette Southall, Duke of Edinburgh's Adviser, 4 Alison Close, Tipton, West Midlands DY4 0BN.



Getting to know each other

When there are several new Young Leaders at the meeting, it is a good idea to have some get-to-know-you type activities:

■ Give each person a piece of paper and ask them to write a fact about themselves which no one else in the room knows. This could be, for example, what she had for dinner, her favourite colour, a place she visited on holiday, a dream or an ambition. Fold the pieces of paper, jumble them up and give one to each person. They then have to find the 'owner' of the fact without directly asking what is written on the paper.

■ Give each person in the room a piece of paper containing a list of statements, some of which are serious and some of which are silly. For example, 'Works with a Rainbow Unit'; 'Does not like carrots'; 'Can play a musical instrument'; and 'Has the same number of brothers and sisters'. The number of statements will depend on the size of the group. Everyone then tries to find someone who matches each statement, and asks her to sign her name against it. Only one signature is allowed for each statement.

young leader guiders

September is a good time of year for checking on which Young Leaders are still working with units

By Sheena Booth

Illustrations: Dale Simpson

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Where are they now?

Some of the Young Leaders you have worked with may have become adult leaders already. A few of them will have moved on to different schools or colleges, or, perhaps, have started work, so they may no longer be able to help with their original units.

Where the latter is the case, it is worthwhile following up. Young Leaders do not always realise that they can change units or sections, and may want to continue with their Guiding.

Those who have gone away to college or university may appreciate a contact within Guiding to help them settle into a new community. The ideal way to do this is with a transfer form, even if the Young Leaders may not be able to continue a regular commitment. Informal contacts via the Guiding network can also be useful.

There will be those who stayed on in the Guide unit for summer camp and who are ready to move on. Some may have been working on *Making It Count*, in which case they may already be known to you. A visit to their units, or an invitation to a Young Leader or Ranger meeting or social event, may help them to make the first steps.



Getting to know you

Working on a project together can help Young Leaders get to know one another.

Compiling a list of local resources could be of particular help to those working on Stage 1, and clauses 7a and 7b of the Leadership Scheme. It might include:

People willing to talk to units about subjects; clubs or organisations who could demonstrate or teach; parents and friends with interests, such as photography; Guiders in the District, Division or County with skills and interests, for example lightweight camping; opportunities for community service; and a recycling centre for scrap materials.



More ideas

Other ideas to help you and the Young Leaders get to know each other and themselves can be found in the *Look Wider File*:

- Self-awareness and Personal Effectiveness audit (page 15, Personal Values)
- Me (page 14, Personal Values)
- You as a Leader (page 2, Leadership)
- Food facts (page 6, Sport and Fit for Life)
- Design your own bedsitter (page 5, Discovery and page 3, Personal Values)
- Listen to different types of music (page 5, Discovery and page 1, Creativity)
- Who am I? (page 4, Personal Values)
- My skills (page 7, Personal Values)
- About Me (page 6, Making It Count)
- Do It All (page 7, Making It Count)

competent approach

This month we describe one County Commissioner's introduction to the world of NVQs

By Ann Porter
County Commissioner
for Cumbria North

Opportunity knocks

Opportunity is probably one of the most frequently used words in Guiding. Telephone calls with strange requests are not uncommon either. It was just such a telephone call that introduced me to yet another opportunity.

A Guiding colleague called to ask: 'Can I put your name down as line manager?' She must have sensed my surprise when I asked what that meant and what exactly she was up to which needed managing.

She explained that she had a place on an NVQ course in supervisory management which, as a Guider and prospective Trainer, seemed a very sensible qualification to be seeking.

Then she said that the course's pilot scheme was short of participants and suggested we should both look for a line manager! If I was awarded a place, she pointed out, I'd receive recognition for the management skills required in the appointment I hold, that of County Commissioner for Cumbria North.

So began my latest Guiding opportunity. Other Guiders may wish to follow in my footsteps.

Not alone

My 'Guiding opportunity' also gave the firm which organised the pilot scheme a glimpse into the good working structures within which we operate. It was very worthwhile to be seen as part of the voluntary sector and not, as sometimes happens, as going it alone on the outside.

Getting to know you

1 My small group was made up of women working in the voluntary sector: two in child-minding; one who ran an anti-bullying campaign; one who ran a shop for Age Concern; one who had set up a nursery; and two from The Guide Association.

We each had our own terminology, which we needed to translate into the vocabulary of management. We learned about performance criteria, range statements, storyboards, services and operations, and customers and suppliers. We needed evidence that what we did actually fitted into this new jargon. It all seemed a world away from P&Ts, PLCs, Pow-wows and CIDAs.

Producing the evidence

2 We set to work, dividing a large sheet of paper into three sections: one for examples of what we could bring from the recent past as evidence; one for the things which we were working on at the moment; and the final one for areas for which our jobs could produce no working evidence.

Then having worked through the meanings of the Standards (more jargon) and having chosen the one unit we felt most confident to begin with, we were left to our own devices. There was a time limit to the scheme and our assessor's attempt to set up a self-help group was rejected. It was everyone for herself.

Helpful structure

4 I was amazed just how helpful the Guiding structure was for us 'amateur' managers. My assessor, who is not a Guider, was interested and impressed by some of our resources.

She asked about job descriptions and I showed her *The Commissioner File*. She questioned me on safety aspects and I explained about the qualifications needed. I told her how all the members in the County were kept informed about what went on at executive meetings and the two-way routes for information.

Some of my fellow members were willing to feature in this enterprise and I had signed confirmation of my actions as items of evidence. But I was unwilling to use conversations or letters as evidence because of their confidential nature.

Attention to detail

3 There were seven Standards with several units within them. The units crossed the range of management skills, such as training, working relationships, providing information and selecting personnel — all the stock in trade of Commissioners. For each element in the unit we were required to produce two items of evidence. The performance criteria demanded fine detail in the evidence and it had to be recorded in the same amount of detail.

Cold calling

5 Later, I went hazard spotting in a small hotel as part of maintaining services and operations. There, I carried out some market research, telephoning clients to see if they were satisfied with the service they received from the agency they used. I had some interesting conversations. This is a real antidote to Chinese whispers, because you have to ask the same questions.

Ann Porter
used her skills
as a County
Commissioner
during an
NVQ course in
supervisory
management



PAULA JACKSON

Pieces of paper

6 The most difficult sets of proof came with the unit concerned with 'developing oneself within the job'. My duties, an interview on local radio and an article in a magazine, did not fit the performance criteria. But I did manage to complete the whole exercise with a few specially-produced pieces of feedback and evaluation.

So, after further scrutiny by an outside assessor, I am the proud owner of not only one or two but eight certificates from the National Examining Board for Supervisory Management Level 3.

All change

The new term and a new Guiding year provided a chance to change Patrols around. At camp, the older Guides who had been Patrol Leaders asked if they could form one Patrol, as they wanted to work together to complete the Blue Trefoil and the Baden-Powell Award. As some of the other Guides had been overheard saying 'We will be the PLs next year,' the Guider agreed. Some former Brownies were also due to move on to Guides.

Odds and evens

The Guider started the meeting with a favourite game. Guides are divided into two teams: Odds and Evens. Both teams stand together in a circle and are numbered round. The numbers called make an arch and the girls on either side run round (away from the arch), go through the arch and back to their places. The first girl back scores one point for her team.

using your patrols

Gillian Furse has devised this new series to help you make the most of the Patrol system. The Patrol described is fictional, but based on real experiences from her many years in Guiding

A chance to play guide law bowls

Each group is given a soft ball and cardboard tubes to represent each Guide Law. Questions or statements are then read out. The first group tries to guess to which clause of the law it refers, and to knock down the appropriate tube scoring one point. For example: Don't tell fibs (A Guide is honest, reliable and can be trusted) Of course, some questions and statements describe more than one clause.

Working in teams

Referring to page 26 of the Guide Handbook, the Guider reminded everyone what was expected of a Patrol Leader. The Guides got themselves into teams, the idea being that these teams would become Patrols in future.

Sharing tasks among the girls works well in most Patrols



Strong friendships are often made when working in teams



Leaders emerge

The remainder of the month followed a similar pattern with activities provided by the Guiders using the flexible groups/teams. No leaders were chosen and girls took it in turns to lead. Examples of some of the activities tried are described here. One group quickly settled and asked if Joanne could be leader. The three Brownies circulated so that they could get to know as many Guides as possible.

Give them a clue

This activity is based on the television show Give us a clue. Prepare a list of film, TV and book titles and agree a few common signs to represent such concepts as film, book, song, small word, sounds like and so on. Start with easy ones such as Playschool and Heartbeat. Then move on to Little Red Riding Hood, The Sky at Night, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Then, when you get really good, try Fame.



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Squinnilumf

One Guide from each team was asked to explain the next activity. Cards, with part of a description of a mythical animal called the Squinnilumf, are hidden around the meeting area. The teams have to find the cards, read what's written on them and then return to their bases to draw the animal. The older Guides offered to do the marking (one point for each correct part). All the drawings turned out to be completely different.

Wool gathering

Each group is provided with about 10cm of ten different coloured wools and is given a small (about 1m square) area to hide these wools in. Each group then has to search for the neighbouring groups' wools. One point is awarded for each wool found, and two points are given to the Patrol who hid any wool not found.

Next month

Next month we look at how the groups are settling down, and bring you more challenging activities to help the girls become skilled at working as teams.

There's always time to enjoy being part of a unit

Guide Law

At the end of the meeting, each group was provided with the same three items (ball, chair and book) and given a different clause of the Guide Law. Each group was then given time to prepare a short mime or play showing how to keep it using the three items. Unfortunately, one group argued and only just got an act together and one group spoiled theirs by giggling.

Human statues

The Guider gives out pictures with several people in them. These can be old photographs or pictures cut from magazines. One Guide from each group comes up to look at a picture, and then returns to her group to arrange the girls in a similar way, for example: legs crossed, arms by the sides... This is a good observation activity but make sure you change the pictures frequently, so the girls can't get used to them.

crafty ideas

These little yarn dolls dressed in uniform make popular Patrol or Pack mascots and items for sale

By Shona Small
Illustrations: Julie Morris

You will need

For the yarn doll:

- double-knitting wool in body colour and hair colour
- pink or brown felt
- pens
- glue
- scissors
- a ruler

For the Guide or Brownie uniform:

- dark blue or brown felt
- light blue or yellow felt
- brown or black wool
- a scrap of coloured cotton for the neckerchief
- a needle and thread

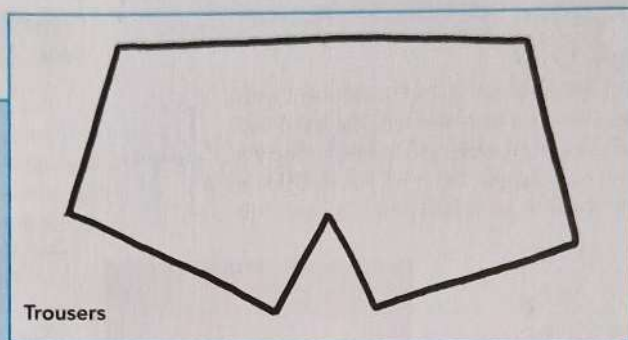
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Trousers

The Guide or Brownie uniform

Use a blanket stitch and keep all the seams on the outside. Alternatively, glue the seams in place around the doll.

Before starting the clothes, cut out the pattern pieces in paper and check that they will fit your doll. If the body wool is very thick, then the pattern pieces will need to be enlarged.

Trousers

Cut two pattern pieces out of the dark blue or brown felt. Stitch the inside and outside leg seams and slip them on to the doll. Cut a 60cm length of brown or black wool. Wrap this round the trouser waist and secure it with a knot. This will keep the trousers in place and act as a belt.

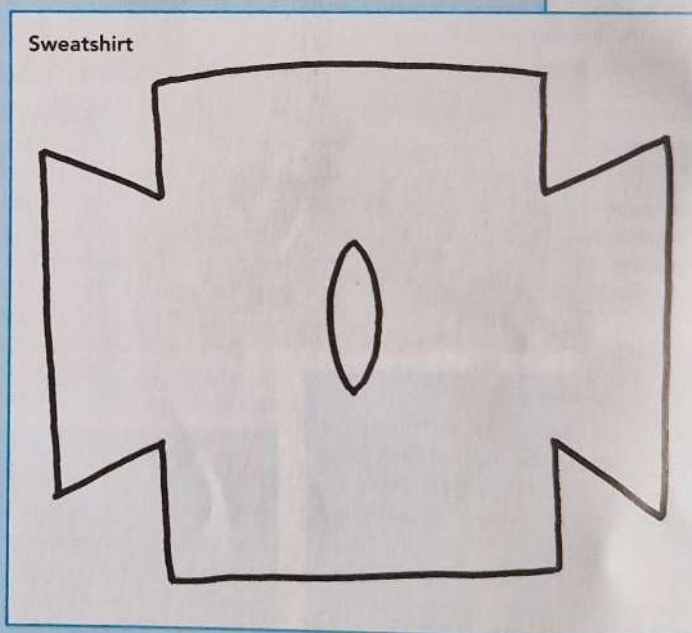
Sweatshirt

Cut one pattern piece from the light blue or yellow felt. Write 'GUIDES' or 'BROWNIES' across the front or embroider a small Trefoil with three French knots. Slip the doll's head through the neck opening. Stitch the underarm and side seams.

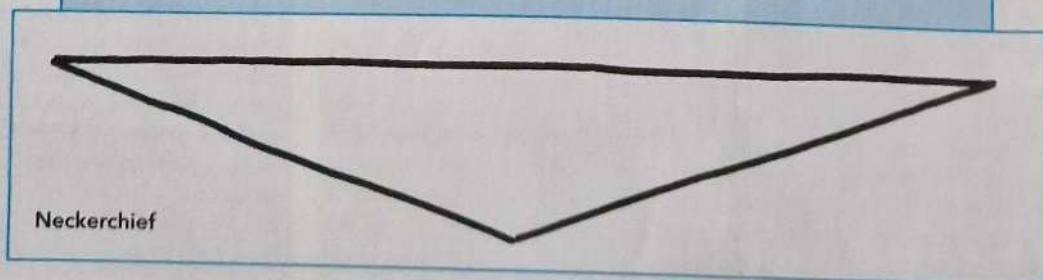
Neckerchief

Cut this from the scrap cotton and arrange it around the doll's neck. Tie it in place with a piece of brown or black wool acting as a woggle.

Sweatshirt



Neckerchief



The yarn doll

1 All the tying is done with a strand of the body wool and must be very firm. Cut 50 x 30cm lengths of wool in body colour. Cut 20 x 5cm lengths of wool in hair colour.

Fig 1

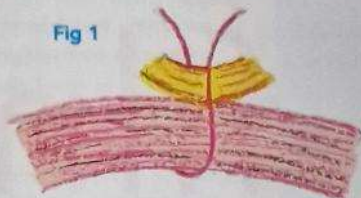


Fig 2

2 Place all the strands together and tie them in the middle (Fig 1). Fold the body strands together and tie them 2cm from the top of the head (Fig 2).

3 Cut 30 x 15cm lengths of wool in body colour and tie them at each end (Fig 3). Trim the loose ends. This will make the arms.

Fig 3



Fig 4

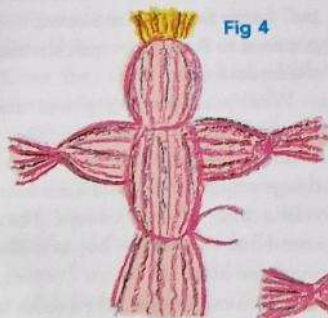
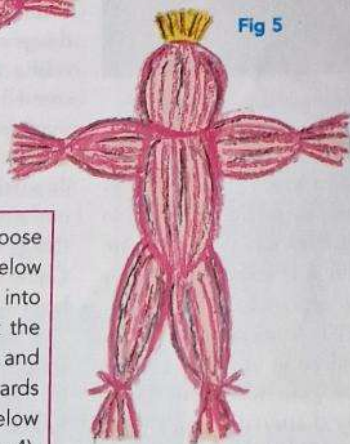


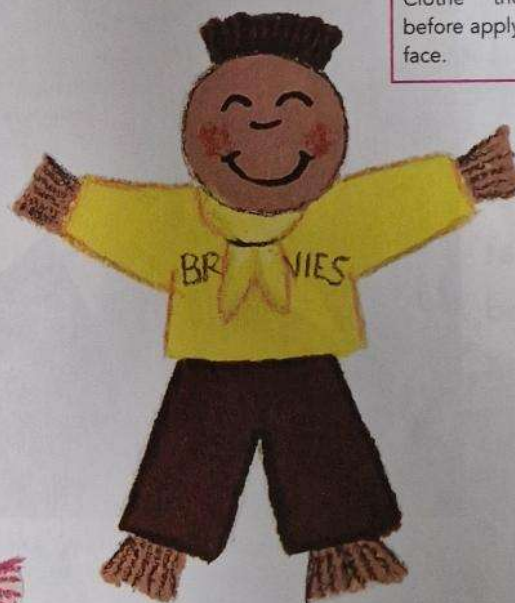
Fig 5



4 Divide the loose strands below the head into two bunches. Put the arms between and push them up towards the head. Tie below the arms (see Fig 4). Divide the strands below the body into two bunches for the legs. Tie at the bottom (see Fig 5).

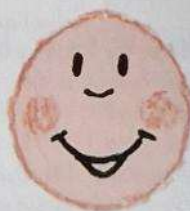


5 Trim the ends of the feet and trim the hair. Clothe the doll before applying the face.



Making the face

Cut out a circle of pink or brown felt about the size of a twopence piece. Draw features using pens and glue the face to the yarn doll's head.



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friends on film

Last month
the BBC
screened a
half-hour
documentary
following the
adventures of
a Guider
camping at
Blackland
Farm



TV producer Lorraine Charker was surprised to find out how many opportunities Guiding offers

Everyone in the Association who watched *Chiff-Chaff Chums* will have their own views on whether the Movement was represented accurately. *GUIDING* spoke to the two women who worked together closely to make the film: producer Lorraine Charker and Guider Marilyn Tucker.

Here, Marilyn, Camp Adviser for Grimsby Bargate Division in South Humberside, explains what it's like to lead a camp of 51 girls when a television camera crew is recording your every move:

“We included the film crew as part of our camp. They were told to bring pot bags and a camp chair, and to join in at mealtimes — they had to queue like everyone else.”

Originally, Lorraine joined us for a weekend camp in April to get to know the girls. She went home absolutely shattered. I don't think she realised just how hard work it is. She came to quite a few meetings before the main camp.

The crew met us at the gate of Blackland Farm and made us turn round straight away and drive back

CARLTON UK in again so they could film us.

Throughout the week, they had us doing all sorts of things. We had a candlelit enrolment ceremony in a quiet spot late at night. They filmed all our outdoor activities: abseiling, archery, canoeing and riding. And they were very keen on camp fires.

As the girls were all off doing different things, the biggest problem was not having enough leaders. We had eight Guiders and two Young Leaders with us, but we could have done with more.

The girls easily accepted the film crew. They were ever so calm. They were all told from the start that they couldn't wave at the camera or pull funny faces. To be honest, they got used to it all more quickly than the leaders did.

What was interesting was that the girls treated Lorraine like a Guider. They would go and ask her things which they should have been asking one of the leaders. They seemed to respond to her as if she were one of us.

So when Lorraine asked them to do anything, they just did it. I found out afterwards about some of the things she got the girls to do. One Guide asked me: “Did you know I'd been up a tree writing a postcard?”

I do think she was very fair, though, and nothing bad happened, on camp anyway. We had accepted before we went that there were going to be difficulties, as Lorraine had a job to do, but I can't think it affected the kids in any way.

You just accepted the filming as normal. I'd get miked up in the morning and it wouldn't be until

later in the day that I'd realise I had a microphone on. By then I'd probably been to the toilet with it down my trousers and not realised!

The crew was everywhere. You would be having a meal, and a big, furry microphone would appear and you would just carry on as normal. You just took no notice.

The main focus of the film was on the leaders, not the kids. That was made clear from the start. So, quite often, Lorraine wanted to have all of us leaders doing an activity together. However, that meant we had to take all the Guides with us, as you can't leave girls unsupervised on site.

At one point, they wanted to film us on grass sledges. The kids chased us down the hill. You'd never seen anything like it. There was me telling them off for chasing us, because I thought it was dangerous, when, in fact, Lorraine had told them to. Really, it was like having two people in charge.

Of course, the girls weren't asked to do anything really dangerous. We just had to learn to give a little, and the crew did as well. Sometimes, we had to tell Lorraine to hang on for a few minutes. The girls' needs had to come first. My first priority definitely had to be the kids.

Sometimes, I was so tired that I didn't know what I was saying. Once they asked me what I put first in my life. Well, at that point, I was putting Guiding first, so I said so. Of course, I should have said my family. But it was last thing at night, and I had Guiding on the brain. Maybe, if the interview had been at home, I would have said my family.

I don't know whether I would go through with being filmed again. Apparently, as I got off the bus, I said to my husband "Never again".

Marilyn is a 41-year-old full-time wife and mother. Her husband, 'Benge', is North Lincolnshire Guide County's Water Activities Adviser. They have two daughters: Amy, aged 11; and nine-year-old Laura. Laura is a Brownie with the 2nd Scartho Pack, while her big sister is a member of the 1st Scartho Guides. However, Amy turned down a chance to join the camp, claiming it was too far to travel.

Queen's Guide candidate Samantha Jenks followed the making of the documentary with special attention, as she believes there should be a regular programme slot for The Guide Association. We asked her to interview Lorraine Charker, to find out if the producer's perceptions of Guiding changed while making the documentary.

Samantha, Assistant Guider with the 255th Birmingham Brownie Pack, discovered that the programme was Lorraine's first film for network TV. It was her own idea and was inspired by a close friend who is a Guider.

A Brownie but never a Guide, Lorraine had few set ideas when starting the project. She said: 'There are classic examples of what people think Guiding is about. But it's really the leaders I was interested in.' Her aim was to produce 'family viewing', highlighting the work done by the thousands of leaders.

She admitted being surprised by the different opportunities Guiding offers for both girls and women. Lorraine agreed that what an individual girl gets out of it depends on the woman running the unit, and added that she felt this sometimes got overlooked.

Guiding, Lorraine said, provides opportunities that girls don't get elsewhere, even if 'the girls don't realise at the time what they're doing or what they're learning'. Working as a team, being in the outdoors, trying new experiences and being away from their parents, is all part of a learning process that Lorraine believes the girls will appreciate when they are older.

She wanted to film everyone away from their homes because 'it doesn't matter if they're tying a knot or travelling in Africa, it's how they feel about it and their inner feelings. The programme was meant to make you warm towards the people and what they were doing.'

Eager to show the human face of Guiding, Lorraine argued that it was important to show 'things going wrong because people at home would recognise that things don't always run smoothly'.

Her aim was to show people realising their own potential, she said. And Lorraine admitted that she was prepared for some members not liking the programme because it 'shows such a traditional view'.

She certainly disappointed Samantha, as Lorraine doesn't believe her film will lead to a regular Guiding show.



The three units filmed were: the 1st South Killingholme Guides — where Marilyn is Assistant Guider; the 1st Scartho Guides; and the 1st Caistor Guides. Marilyn's team included Guiders Jayne Cioni, Margaret Roach, Jean Blades, Catherine Mosey, Clare Leeman, Emma Garner, and Carol Jackson. The Young Leaders were Katherine Cioni and Fiona Laws.

The girls were warned not to pull faces at the cameras

information

GUIDING

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All copy for inclusion in December's *GUIDING* should reach CHQ by September 20. Address all contributions to Nora Warner.

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The Heritage Centre at CHQ 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 100.

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Queries can be raised with the staff at CHQ. Tel: 0171 834 6242 ext 219/209

The views expressed in *GUIDING* magazine are not necessarily endorsed by The Guide Association.

official

Helpers wanted

My wife and I are both retired teachers of deaf children. We support deaf-hearing integration work, which is now growing on a worldwide basis. A particular concern is for the pre-lingually deaf girl school-leaver who has never mastered speech and who, of course, cannot use the telephone.

If anyone is interested in becoming involved, please get in touch with us. Previous experience of working with the deaf, ability to use sign language and so on is not necessary — just patience and a 'smiling eye'.

Dennis Uttley

Pleasant View, West Bradley, near
Glastonbury, Somerset BA6 8LT
Tel: 01458 850286

Are men taking over again?

Today I rang CHQ with a query and was somewhat taken aback to hear a man answering my call.

Am I prejudiced against the male sex? I'm not sure. This is the third time I have heard of a man in paid employment with The Guide Association in recent months: a new Manager at Hautbois; a Trainer; and now a voice on the other end of the phone at CHQ.

I questioned my reaction of slight shock and irritability. Is it because I have always regarded the Guide Movement as a female domain, with the odd male being called in to do us a favour every now and then? (I can hear my daughter saying 'Sexist Mum'.) Or is it because I am sure that there are many women who could fit these posts equally well?

Are we making a token gesture towards non-discrimination and, if this is the situation, then the next question must be: 'When will we see the day that male Guiders and boys start joining our Movement?'

Who knows? Perhaps in AD2100 we will be fully integrated as a mixed-sex movement. Or is this the thin end of the wedge of male domination over the female again? The world turning full circle, perhaps?

Please don't misunderstand. I am very happily married and would have no qualms at all if my husband were to wear Guide blue. He has been Guide trained after all and would be the first to admit it.

But I am not sure about men being Guiders-in-Charge (there I go again — sexist!). Women have been leaders in the Scouts for years. Who knows? We may yet see the appointments of a male Chief Commissioner and a female Chief Scout.

Margaret Flinders
Guider/Trainer/DC/PRA
Helston, Cornwall

your letters

These letters
reflect the
writers' own
views and not
Association
policy.

Undervalued young assets

I believe that Young Leaders are undervalued by many members of the Movement.

We are a group of young women committed to Guiding and its values. We are enthusiastic, capable and packed with ideas. But often all we get to do in meetings is run games or take subs. We can offer so much more than this — but we need to be given the opportunity to do so.

Please, if you are a Guider who works with Young Leaders, give them the opportunity to reach this potential. We are the Guiders of the future.

Abi Misselbrook
Young Leader

Bristol and South Gloucestershire

Super savers

Thank you so much for the free tickets to The Country Style Fair in Birmingham (see 'On line' in May's *GUIDING*). My husband and I haven't had such an enjoyable day for a long time, coming home with lots of new ideas for crafts and ways to save money.

E A Banks

Hilperton, Trowbridge, Wiltshire

Call for referendum on age

Having run a Guide Company for 21 years, I am now 65 and forced to retire. This sounds easy and straightforward, but I find that I am still heavily committed to the girls. There is no other leader to carry on and it looks as though the Company of 24 happy Guides will have to disband.

Is it possible that Guiders over 65 could be assessed each year, perhaps by their District Commissioners, who could allow them to stay on until someone else can step in and take over?

The County Courts have raised their age limit for would-be jurors to 70 — couldn't our Movement consider having Guiders of up to 70?

What about a *Hotline* to find out Guiders' views?

E M Hall

Guide Guider, 3rd Chenies and Chalfont
Guides
Buckinghamshire

So discouraging

I am a fairly new District Commissioner and have a leader who has been working with a unit from November 1985, firstly as a pre-warrant holder and subsequently as an Assistant Guider.

As far as I am concerned her commitment spans more than ten years, but according to *The Guiding Manual's* rules and regulations, she is not able to receive or wear her ten-year badge until she has held a Unit Appointment Card for ten years. This information has been confirmed by Headquarters.

I feel that the situation is totally wrong and should be altered. If anyone is prepared to wear The Guide Association uniform and work for a warrant, her service should be counted from the date of that initial commitment — when her pre-warrant card was issued.

The present ruling seems to infer that those who are working for their warrant are not worthy of being counted as providing useful, valued and valuable service.

I believe that we should encourage helpers, not discourage them. What do others think?

Heather Rodgers
District Commissioner
Hope Valley and
Tideswell District
Derbyshire

Carol Mahoney's letter ('Save some things until later' in June's *GUIDING*) about keeping Rainbows different from Brownies has brought reactions from readers.

Simple enjoyment

I was so pleased to read Carol's very sensible letter. I have felt for a long time that many Guiders are encouraging their Rainbows to be more like Brownies.

As a retired teacher of young children, I know how much enjoyment five- to seven-year-olds can derive from a simple programme. They are so full of wonder and curiosity, and have so much to learn about themselves, about each other and about their immediate environment, that they don't need salutes and flags.

In the Guide Movement, we seem to want girls to progress to activities designed for the next age group instead of waiting until they move into the next section, when they will get a greater degree of enjoyment and benefit.

Guiders are sometimes very keen for Rainbow Units to get together for activities but it is not necessary at this young age.

Please let the Rainbows enjoy their own programme and, when they reach Brownie age, the doors can be opened to new and exciting experiences.

Margaret Wensley
ex-Rainbow and Guide
Guider
Llanishen, Cardiff, South
Glamorgan

Joining the family

My main concern is about making the Promise. In all the publications that I have received from The Guide Association and all the trainings I have attended, I have never seen or been told that the girls always hold hands. Each Unit will have its own Promise Ceremony, as Rainbow Guiders and Units are encouraged to devise their own.

My only comment about the salute is that it is recognised as being used by all members of the Guide family. When the girls make their Promise, I explain that they are now part of that same family.

As I give them their Promise badges, I explain that they are like mine and those of all other members, and that only the colour is different.

They are shown that they are the same as their big sisters in Brownies and Guides. Of course, all little girls like to copy their big sisters.

Jenny Wood
Rainbow Guider, 1st
Hoddesdon Rainbows
Hertfordshire

Author says thanks

My sincere thanks to all Guiders who have ordered or continue to order copies of my books (see 'Living life to the full' on page 55 of May's *GUIDING*). I have posted so many copies of *A Song to Sing and a Tale to Tell* and *We'll see the Cuckoo* that I feel, once again, proud to belong to your very wonderful and exciting Movement. Thank you and best wishes to you all.

Jean Brown
Keighley, West Yorkshire

M P Auker's suggestion ('Caught in the age trap' in June's *GUIDING*) that Guides could start working for their B-P Trefoil earlier was rejected by two readers.

Learning through experience

I'm afraid I don't agree with lowering the age for the Baden-Powell Trefoil. I feel that Guides should have plenty of Guiding experience before they are ready to undertake the Blue and B-P Trefoils.

In our Company, a Guide completes one Trefoil per year, even if she is capable of rushing through the Yellow, Green and Red Trefoils, as we feel that experience is important. This way, it is not possible for a Guide to work for the Blue Trefoil and the Baden-Powell before she is aged 13.

Guides who are capable of attaining the B-P Trefoil are able to cope with school work as well — my daughter did it, as did other Guides in our Company, District and Division.

It's the same throughout Guiding. After the B-P comes being a Young Leader together with GCSE exams; adult leader training while working for A levels; Queen's Guide, if attempted, often coinciding with university or starting work and so on.

I don't think early badges should be altered to make things easier — it's a preparation for life!

Jenny Bond
Assistant Guider, 11th Kingswood Guides
Bristol

Time needed to achieve ultimate goal

I am a Guide Guider who has proudly watched four of her Guides gain their B-P Trefoils in the last three years. These Guides have all been over 14. They had a lot of other interests besides Guiding and were all preparing for GCSEs. They worked on the Trefoil individually and completed it at different times. They have all since become Rangers and three are also Young Leaders. Aren't these the sort of girls who should be rewarded with a B-P Trefoil?

I think that a Guide who cannot manage her time well enough to combine school and Guiding, and who cannot work towards her own goals rather than those of her friends, is not worthy of a B-P Trefoil.

Other aspects of the Guide programme have plenty to offer the girl who stays a couple of years and then uses 'school work' as a convenient excuse for leaving. Let us keep the B-P Trefoil as that 'special something' achieved by those who remain with us longer, and to whom Guiding is a significant part of their lives.

If the ultimate goal in Guides could be achieved at 12 or 13, would girls remain with us long enough to consider the Senior Section or leadership? I doubt it.

Jan Hesselwood
Guide Guider, 1st Shipley Guides
West Yorkshire North

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.

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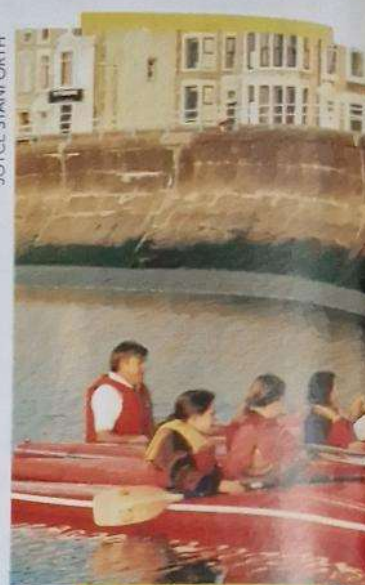
They all scream for ice-cream!

The QM got a well-deserved rest when the 1st Hadlow Brownies from Kent were taken out for lunch as a special treat, while on Pack Holiday in Bexhill, Sussex.

Ice-cream was a popular choice for pudding. Here, Amy Speed lives up to her name, demolishing her cornet in record time.



JOYCE STANFORTH

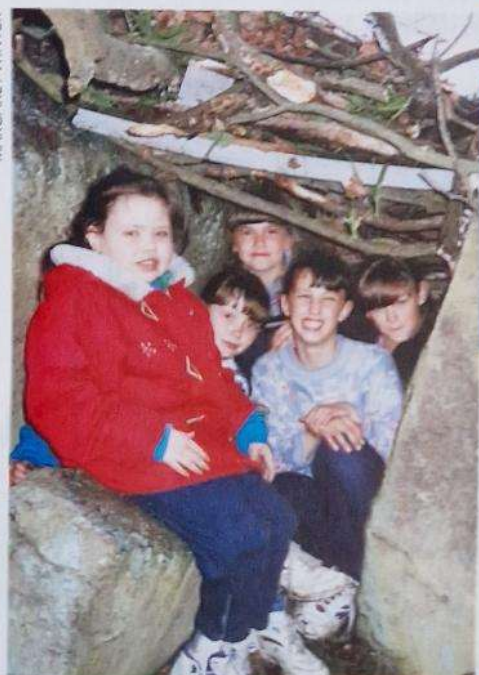


Walking on water

Canoe-walking Nicola Pace obviously believed that the rest of her unit wouldn't upset the boat when she took a supervised short cut.

The 13th Morecambe (Trinity) Guides from Lancashire spent an exciting evening canoeing, which acted as a Pre-Promise Challenge for several members.

MARGARET WINTER



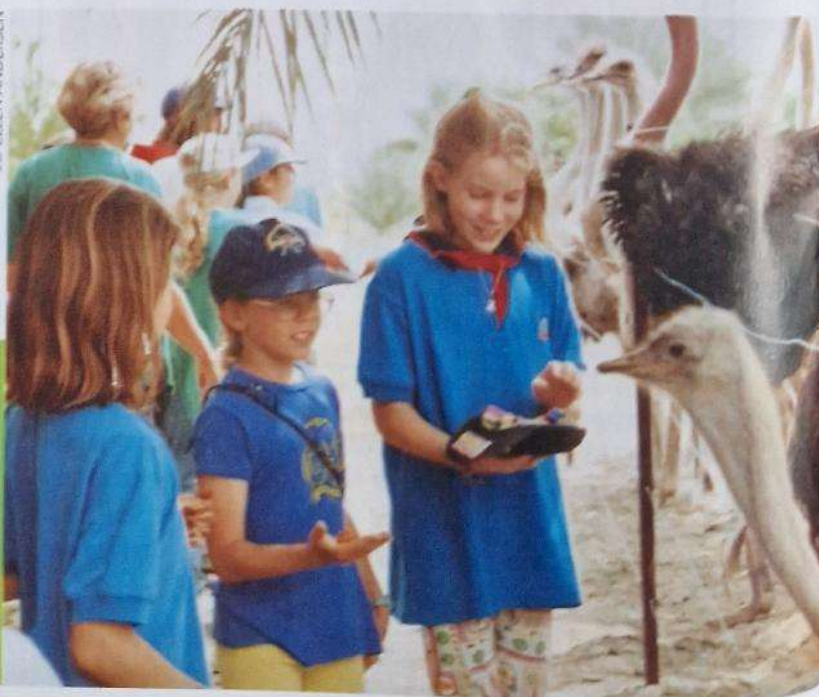
Bivvy doing nothing

Teamwork, fallen branches and lots of fun went into building this shelter on a Scottish hillside.

The Nightingale Patrol from the 224th City of Edinburgh Company, including Star-of-Merit award holder Patricia Coleman, spent an evening practising their outdoor skills.

The bivvy proved to be just big enough to hold the whole Patrol.

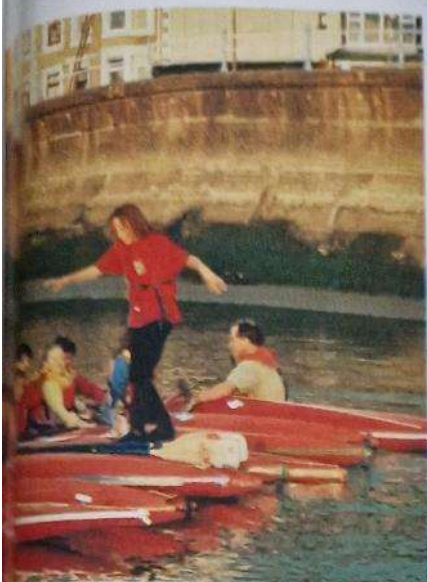
JO ELLEN ANDERSEN



Eye can see you

Lots of Guides camp on farm land, but not many get to stay on an ostrich farm. To add to the delight of the 2nd Muscat Guides, baby ostriches kept escaping from their pens to indulge in a little hand feeding.

The girls, currently living in Oman in Southwest Asia, also got to taste some ostrich meat and voted it 'absolutely delicious'.



LINCOLNSHIRE FREE PRESS



It's a small world

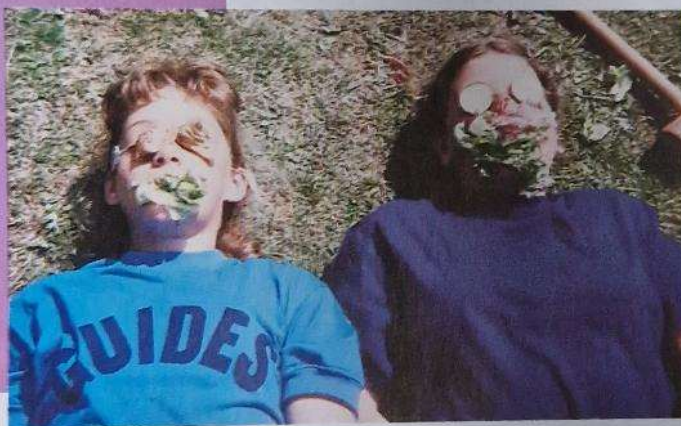
These Rainbows from South Lincolnshire were keen to find out about Guides in other parts of the world when they attended an international event.

The beautiful people

One must look one's best, even when at camp!

When the rigours of the outdoor life took their toll, Felicity Betteridge and Katie Atkinson improvised some revitalising beauty treatments.

The two members of the 9th Douglas (St Ninians) Guides from the Isle of Man were helping out with Alice Boyde's Patrol Camp Permit test.



JANET BARTON

Please keep sending in 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 print.



ANNE HORSLEY

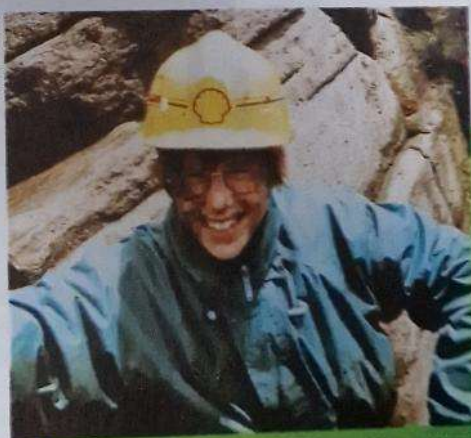
Time to feed the kids

Save some for me! The 4th Workington Rainbows from Cumbria arrived just in time to help with feeding when they visited Trotters and Friends, a hands-on animal farm at Bassenthwaite.

Emma Newstead, Laura Binyon, Rachel Irving and Lucy Wilcox had to hold on tight while bottle-feeding some guzzling baby goats.



KATY KAPIS



Hole for one

Jenny Hill, mucky-faced but happy, bobs up to take the air during a spot of weaselling, while visiting Glenbrook, the activity centre run by Derbyshire Guide Association. It looks as though she encountered a muddy puddle while emerging from a hole.

Sue splashes out

Words and photos by
Nora Warner

Climbing into
a canoe can
be a slippery
step — you
risk getting
hooked



About 12 units are
already using the
canoes

It was a proud moment
for Guider Sue Green
when the new canoes
were launched

Guides from Rother Division in Sussex East are assured of a warm welcome when they go canoeing on Bewl Bridge Reservoir. Clive Wilson, the Chairman of the Canoe Club, likes to hear their laughter floating on the air at this beautiful man-made show-piece on the borders of Kent and East Sussex.

And so it was Clive Wilson who popped open a bottle of fizzy wine



to spray over the girls' new canoes and drench Sue Green, the organiser of Splash — the official launch of the Division's eight kayaks and two kiwi canoes.

It was Sue, Guider with the 1st Jarvis Brook Guides, who painstakingly filled in the forms and applied for a grant to the Foundation for Sport and the Arts.

After several seasons of borrowing canoes from Bewl Water Canoe Club and the County, she thought it was time that the girls had their own, especially if more were to be persuaded to use the wonderful man-made facility on their doorsteps.

'I was really thrilled to receive a cheque for £3,000,' Sue explained. And there was more good news: 'They told me I should get in touch with the Inland Revenue and reclaim the tax that had been paid on the grant. As soon as I was able to demonstrate our charitable status, back came another cheque for £1,500.'

That meant Sue could splash out on equipment to go with the eight kayaks: paddles, a trailer, spray decks (leg protectors), buoyancy aids, cagoules, helmets, a tow-line, a throw bag and first-aid kits.

'The cash has all gone now,' Sue said. 'My current target is to buy



Sue celebrates the launch of the new canoes

some air bags and two large spray decks for the kiwis.'

About 12 units are already using the canoes and any others who are interested in taking to the water should ring Sue on 01892 852132.

She made at least one convert to canoeing at Splash — Chief Executive Hilary Williams. Hilary braved an extremely chilly, dull May evening to climb into a canoe for the first time. She returned to the shore cold and wet but enthusiastic. 'That was fun,' Hilary told the more timid guests, who were clutching their mugs of coffee for warmth.

On the guest list were Sussex East County Commissioner, Clare Popley; the Division Commissioner, Sheila Tenton; and the County Outdoor Activity Adviser, Glyn

Martin — all of whom preferred to stay on dry land and watch the girls enjoying the watery fun.

Sue originally went canoeing only because her Guides wanted to have a go. She had decided that the first step was to book some lessons with the canoe club, but once on the water, she was hooked.

During the celebrations, there was a special surprise for one guest — Daphne Grounds, membership secretary of the canoe club. A sensational sponge maker, Daphne had been excused a stint in the kitchen for this event because it was her birthday.

Instead she was presented with a superbly-iced cake made by Sue Bartlett, whose daughter, Donna, is a Young Leader with the 1st Jarvis Brook Guides. ■

visions of youth

Olave Baden-Powell Bursaries have been awarded to girls from all three Countries and six Regions. They are:

Anglia

Tessa Augustymak, Mariette Auster, Sonia Baeza, Rowena Gaskell, Claire Green, Joanne Mercer

South West England

Emma Black, Helen Buffrey

London and South-East

Susan Bartlett, Catherine Brown, Ingrid Casali, Rachel Casali, Jessica

Cross, Michelle Firminger, Shelley Hopkins, Caroline Young

Midlands

Rachel Ashton, Kate Brandreth, Sally Chaplin, Jennifer Darnbrough, Sarah Glanoswki, Alison Heard, Jennifer Hewitt, Esther Jackson, Rachel Jackson, Caroline Jeffries

Ulster

Charlene McCoy, Glenda McElwaine

Scotland

Caroline Graham, Jennifer

MacDonald

North East England

Lucy Batley, Jennet Hayton, Sarah Nicholson, Kate Shaw, Victoria Shilton, Jennifer Woodland

North West England

Elizabeth Cain, Laura George, Alice Jones, Diane Jones, Rachel Metcalfe, Philippa Nash, Amy Probert, Alison Smith, Nicola Syms

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Every year,
the Olave
Baden-Powell
Bursaries
assist young
members to
realise their
dreams

badge bonanza

Pin-badges are raising cash for a new Guide centre

Hertfordshire Guide Association is to buy a new County resource centre for their 15,000 Rangers, Young Leaders, Guides, Brownies and Rainbows. The centre will provide good communication systems, useful meeting and training rooms, and modern facilities for future generations of Guides living within the Guide County.

Following detailed negotiations, the County has now agreed to buy Cottered School from the Church Commissioners. Cottered is a small village in the north of the county. It has good access to the A1(M) and the A10, so is easily reached from all over the county. As it is so easy to get to, it is hoped that adjoining Guide Counties will also be able to take advantage of its facilities.

The school was in use until 1992, but has stood empty since. When it was built in the 1970s, it won a Good Design in Schools Award and, in 1978, received a commendation in the Civic Trust Awards.

It will make an ideal Guide centre, offering space and security, with lots of meeting rooms for adults



and girls, plenty of lavatories and a large playing field. Mary Willatt, the County Commissioner, has lots of ideas for its use.

She said: 'We shall be able to use the attractive building with its adjoining field for camps and Pack Holidays, activity days, training events for girls and adult members, fun events, and social occasions.'

'We hope to involve the local community and encourage visits from other organisations wishing to study a contrasting locality. The thatched cottages of the village and the beautiful surroundings will make Cottered County Guide Centre a place to remember.'

In order to raise the money needed to complete the purchase, Hertfordshire has launched an appeal for £100,000 and is approaching individuals and businesses in the County to ask them to support this venture, either through donations or loans.

In exchange for gifts of over £10,000, contributors can choose to have their names associated with a particular room or facility at the new centre.

To make a donation, send a cheque payable to Hertfordshire Guide Association to: The County

Treasurer, Hertfordshire Guide Association, care of the County Youth and Community Office, The Valley School, Valley Way, Stevenage, SG2 9AB.

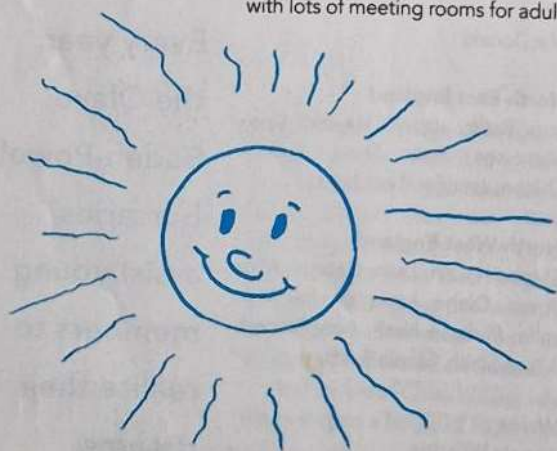
Hertfordshire Guide Association is selling pin-badges through the units and girls. These sell for £1.50 each, and produce about £1 profit per badge towards the centre.

In addition, girls in Hertfordshire have an opportunity to win a holiday for a family of four to Disney World in Florida, and each unit can keep ten per cent of all it sells, which means there is something in the scheme for everyone.

Hertfordshire is willing to share its hard work in launching these badges with other Counties, Division, Districts, or units in the UK. Anyone who wants to take part can buy these badges in bulk.

They come mounted on cards with five badges per card, selling at £1.50 each, or £7.50 per card. Cards may be brought by other Counties, Divisions, Districts or units for only £6.75. If you would like to buy some cards, please contact: Mrs Valerie Osborne, Hertfordshire Guide Association, c/o County Youth and Community Office, The Valley School, Valley Way, Stevenage, SG2 9AB. Tel: 01438 747422

For further information contact: Miss Mary Willatt, County Commissioner, Hertfordshire Guide Association, c/o County Youth and Community Office, The Valley School, Valley Way, Stevenage, SG2 9AB. Tel: 01707 646216 or 01438 812381. Fax: 01438 813802.



CLASSIFIEDS

DISCLAIMER REMINDER

Inclusion of advertisements in this section should not be taken to mean that the Association has checked out and approves the site or accommodation advertised. Guiders are reminded that they should obtain permission from their Camp or Pack Holiday Adviser and their District Commissioner before making a booking and should complete the appropriate forms.

CAMP SITES AND ACTIVITY CENTRES

WALTON FIRS, SURREY

28 acres of fields and woodland, plus two accommodation buildings. Open fires, archery, abseiling, climbing, canoeing, air rifles, pioneering and adventure course. Hot water and showers. Tuck shop and souvenir shop.

Large supermarket one mile away. Nearby: horse riding, swimming, ice skating, Chessington World of Adventure, Thorpe Park.

London 20 minutes away.
For details send S.A.E. to:
Dave McIntosh, Walton Firs Scout Camp
Site, Burwood Park, Cobham, Surrey
KT11 1HB or telephone 01932 863243.

DOWNE CAMP SITE

- * An 86-acre site on the North Downs - only 20km from London
- * Secluded woodland sites for Patrol camps or large open sites
- * Three large and one small, fully-equipped modern buildings for indoor accommodation.
- * Modern toilets, hot water and showers
- * Large outdoor heated pool
- * Provide for soft drinks, sweets, souvenirs etc. Daily orders taken for milk and bread
- * Activities include: Archery, Assault Course, Climbing Tower, Forestry, Orienteering, Pioneering, Rifle Range, Swimming

Details from: The Warden,
Downe Scout Camp,
Bird House, Downe,
Nr. Orpington, Kent
BR6 7LJ
Telephone: 01959 572121
S.A.E. please.



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Fax: 0171 431 3825

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Contact Pax Lodge for details of prices and session programmes.

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- Ideal location for exploring London.

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Baden-Powell House, Queen's Gate,
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Tel: 0171 584 7031 Fax: 0171 590 5235

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- Archery
- Go Kart
- Air rifle
- Assault Course
- Orienteering
- Campcraft etc.

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01624 814240 or write
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- 2 Archery Ranges Assault Course
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For further information please write / phone / fax
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DENHAM LANE, CHALFONT ST
PETER, BUCKS SL9 0QJ
TEL: 01753 882640 FAX: 01753 834108

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For further details:
Booking Secretary
Woodhouse Park, Fernhill,
Almondsbury, Bristol BS12 4LX
Telephone 01454 613259
(Out of hours answerphone)

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Fax: 01634-864553

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Write, phone or Fax for colour brochure.



Hawkhurst Adventure Camp

Full details from
The Manager, Hawkhurst,
Kielder Water,
Nr Hexham, NE48 1QZ

Campsites and indoor accommodation available all year for Activity courses. Programmes suitable for both Brownies & Guides. S/C Activity weekends Oct - Mar £30 per head. Courses serviced in North Wales and Lake District during summer 1997. Contact: Mick Fenton, Pegasus Adventure, 29 Brecon Road, Ystradgynlais, Swansea SA9 1HF. Tel: 01639 845535

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01562 882151

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Please send SAE or phone the Warden:
Bill Hindley, "Deskrie Shiel," Alexander Lane, HUTTON, Essex CM13 1AG.
Tel: 01277 226571 for details

Bournemouth Guide Camp, Dudsbury

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For details: SAE to Mrs E Dawkins,
8 Austin Close, Bournemouth BH1 4RP. Tel: 01202 393018.

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For further details, or to make a booking, please contact: Charlie Leadbetter at

Kingsdown International Scout Campsite,
The Avenue, Kingsdown,
Dorset, Dorset DT11 8EX
Tel: 01304 373713
Fax: 01304 378202



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Tel: 01892 822190

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Usual conditions apply.

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COMING EVENTS

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Newark, Nottinghamshire
1st AUGUST - 8th AUGUST 1996

For further details please send A4 stamped addressed envelope to:
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16 - 18 Burton Road, Carlton,
NOTTINGHAM,
NG4 3DE.**

7th Stanmore Brownies and Guides are 50 years old in October. All friends are invited to join in our celebration on 11th October. Kindly contact Mavis Jackson on 0181 907 3513 for details.

Greater London South
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Tuesday 22nd to Saturday 26th October
1996. Evenings 7.30 pm. Saturday
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Tue. - 9th. AUGUST 1997

at the
ROYAL CORNWALL SHOCKWORTH, WILBERTON

For further details and booking form
Please send a.s.e. to:
Mrs. Chris Reynolds
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Michaela Huffer

from Cambridge

I have had various interesting and challenging jobs in my 29 years, but the one I do now – raising funds for the Children's Hospice for the Eastern Region – really is after my own heart.



gained my Queen's Guide Award.

I have since been surprised by the attention my QGA has gained from prospective employers when mentioned in my curriculum vitae. It really is quite gratifying when they realise that someone with a QGA has done that bit extra.

There are three of us in the office, raising the cash. The hospice operates on a budget of £900,000 a year, of which only about 12 per cent is government grant-aided. All the rest has to be found in various ways, so we have to be really serious about our fundraising – it's a full-time job.

Money is raised in lots of ways. All the usual methods, such as

The hospice is based at Milton, near Cambridge, and provides palliative and terminal care for life-limited children from eight counties. We also support their families in all kinds of ways. I moved to the area in 1989, when I married a farmer, and joined the fundraising team at the hospice two years ago.

Guiding plays a central role in my family. My mother, Dawn Goodings, is a Brownie Guider near Wymondham in Norfolk and a Pack Holiday Adviser. My sister, Kerry, who is 15 years younger than I am, received her Baden-Powell Award on Thinking Day this year and is now a Young Leader. I was a Brownie and a Guide with the 1st Wymondham Guides and

fêtes, bazaars and coffee mornings, are tried by our many supporters, of course, but the more "entrepreneurial" schemes range from credit cards to jelly beans!

By special arrangement with the MBNA bank, we have a Children's Hospice Visa credit card, with our logo on it. We get £10 commission for every person signed up, plus an annual £3 for every year the account remains open.

We also have an arrangement with an operator of jelly-bean vending machines. These are sited in all kinds of different places, and people can help the hospice by munching jelly beans dispensed by these machines, because we get a percentage of the takings.

No two days are the same for

me. I tend to deal with the corporate bodies and charitable trusts, but all three of us in the office are very much involved with the public and our large band of well-wishers. We provide literature, information, ideas and, sometimes, prizes for activities organised to benefit the hospice.

Mine is definitely not a 'nine-to-five' job. Most weeks, there are events during evenings and at weekends in various parts of the region. I attend as many of these as I can to provide support and to "spread the word" about the work of the hospice.

As you can imagine, this does not leave much time for Guiding. Furthermore, there is an element of unpredictability about the work. I could never be sure that I would be free on 'Guide night'. So I am out of active Guiding, but that does not mean I am out of touch.

On the contrary, one of the joys of this job is that the hospice derives a lot of help from Guide and Brownie units over a wide area, bringing me into contact with their Guiders and, sometimes, the girls.

When parents stay at the hospice to be with a sick child, they are offered the loan of a pager, if they leave the hospice for a break. It enables parents to maintain contact with nursing staff and gives them peace of mind at a time of crisis.

Pagers cost £16 a month to hire and that's often where the Brownies come in handy. Some Brownie Packs will decide to raise £16, which is achievable for them, while others may try to raise more. For example, £35 pays our milk bill for a week.

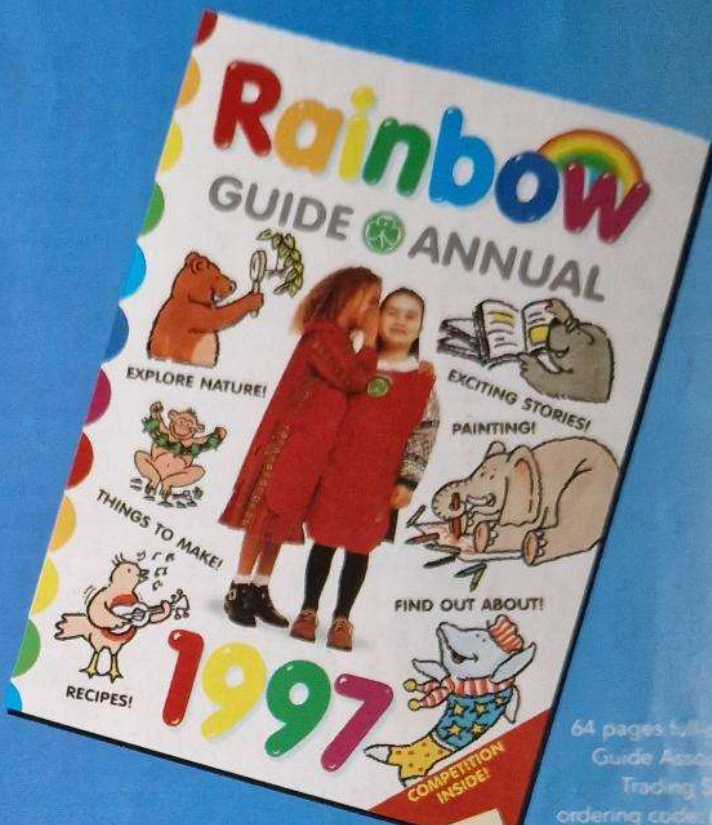
One day, I hope, I will go back into Guiding, but, in the meantime, I'm not going to miss a chance like this to add that I can be reached at the Hospice Funding Office on 01223 441221... in case your unit is yearning to give us a hand!

A Queen's Guide from a Guiding family, Michaela is a full-time fund raiser for a children's hospice

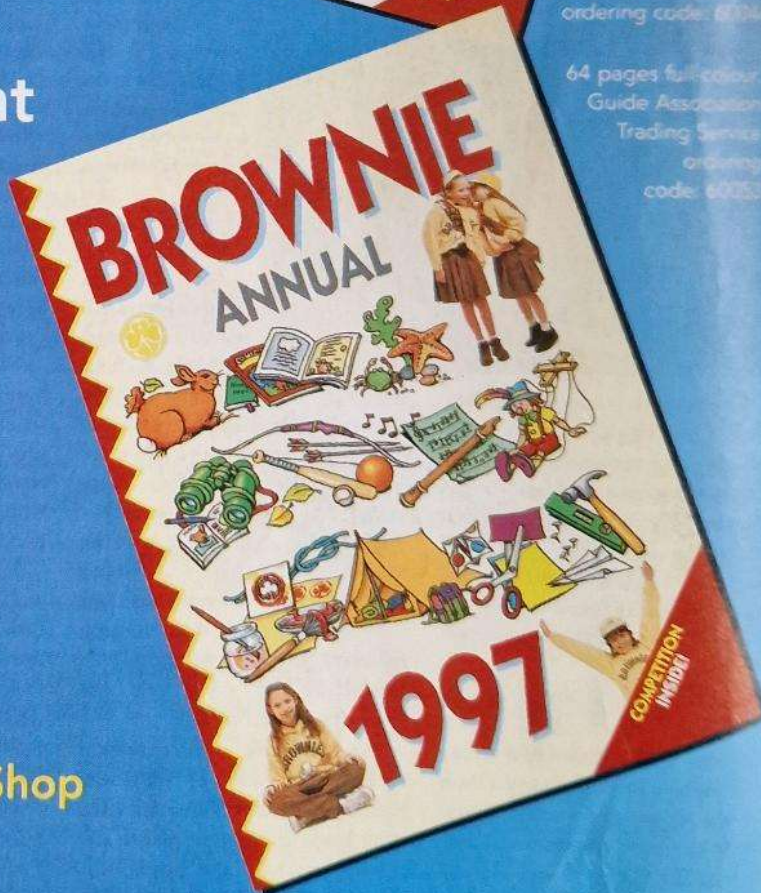
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