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comment



The song *When Children Rule the World* was written for last year's BBC's *Children in Need Appeal*. I'm sure that most of you will have heard it sung either on the television or radio, but how many really listened to the words and thought about what the children were saying?

We are part of an Association that lists the participation of its members as one of our objectives, enabling and encouraging all our members to take part in the decision-making undertaken by the Association at all levels, including that of the unit.

If we go on to look wider than our own Association, a child's right to hold an opinion is one of the main articles in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Article 12 clearly states that a child has a right to express an opinion, and to have that opinion taken into account in any matter or decision affecting the child. Our Association has adopted that concept and we should all be trying to implement it in our units.

Perhaps you could take a few minutes to think about your own unit. For instance, within your unit, do the girls play a full part in planning the activities? Do you hold PLCs, Pow-wows or Rainbow Chats to encourage them to think for themselves and rule their own world?

It is often much easier for us as busy Guiders to plan meetings without consulting the girls, assuming that because the format worked well last time the girls will enjoy it again.

However, the girls in your unit change and, if we are to care for the individual, we have to listen to them and allow them to 'rule their world'.

As we all start thinking about planning our summer programme, camps and holidays let's make a conscious effort to actively involve the girls in our units.

Shona Blinning

Children's Rights Co-ordinator

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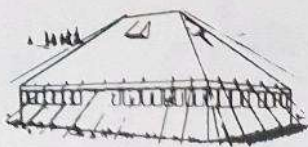
front cover

Being a Brownie certainly agrees with Charlotte Gutteridge from Newport Pagnell



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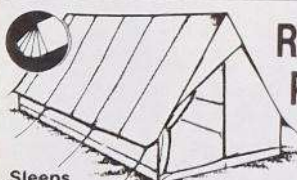
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Arundel Castle

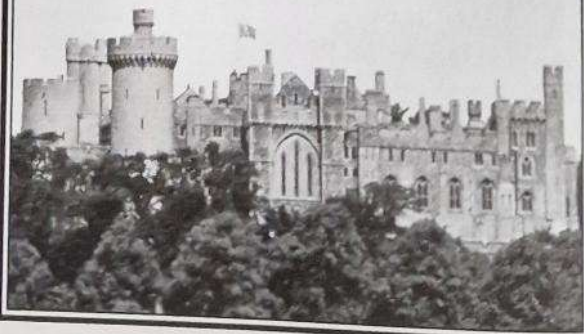
A castle has overlooked the historic town of Arundel and the meandering River Arun for almost 1000 years.

The original Keep dates back to 1138 and the Castle suffered some destruction by Cromwell's troops during the Civil War. With restoration and later additions, the Arundel Castle of today is magnificent and houses a fine collection of furniture dating from the 16th century, tapestries, clocks and paintings by Canaletto, Gainsborough, Van Dyck and many other masters.

Arundel Castle provides a stimulating educational opportunity in history and art for youth groups and questionnaires are available on request.

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For further information please contact
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Tel: 01903 883136/882173. Fax 01903 884581



ALISON HUBBARD



Balloon adventure

This Brownie from 1st Dinas Powys in South Wales has reason to smile as she gets ready to release her balloons to the skies. She might win the prize for the balloon that travels farthest.

The 50-balloon race was part of the unit's 50th birthday celebrations and raised money for the Guide Friendship Fund. Two balloon markers have already been returned from France.

Guiding light for couple

1st Capel Rainbow Guider Louise Johnson got a huge surprise when her boyfriend proposed to her at a Rainbows Christmas party.

Edward Wheatley, dressed in that recognisable red suit, had one present left in his sack when he asked if 'Ladybird would be willing to marry Father Christmas?' To everyone's delight the answer was 'yes' — as can be seen from the photo taken 18 months later!

Louise met Edward through Guiding as his mother and sister are both Guiders.



JONATHAN GIBB

C. ENGSTROM

Green thumbs

The 3rd Park Street Brownies in St Albans, Hertfordshire, were given the thumbs up for their gardening skills and effort.

A group of the Brownies (pictured) planted a tub of bedding plants at their school, How Wood. The tub was placed at the main entrance and flourished throughout the term.



A kick out of helping

These are a few of the Brownies who joined a nationwide charity walk to raise money for research into Britain's number one killer, heart disease.

In Castle Eden, 7th Stockton Brownies — (from left) Heather Metcalfe, Rachael Franks, Louise Beckwith, Madeline Knowles and Emma Oglesby — were only missing 90 legs as they climbed into a costume to resemble Cedric the Centipede, the official mascot of Walkabout UK.



DARLINGTON NORTHERN ECHO

Keeping traditions alive

Colneis Division in Felixstowe, Suffolk, joined Scouts and Cubs for the annual parade along the seafront. The parade created a lot of interest, particularly among visitors to the picturesque town. Pictured are the 4th Walton Brownies.



EAST ANGLIAN DAILY TIMES

YORKSHIRE EVENING POST



Something to swim about

Sisters Laura Pearce (left, 11) and Emma, 12, of 1st Armsley Guides, met Commonwealth silver medallist and top javelin thrower Mick Hill at the launch of the National Swimfit '96 at Armley Sports Centre in Leeds.

Swimfit, which was held at more than 500 centres nationwide, raised money for SPARKS (SPort Aiding medical Research for Kids), an organisation founded by sports personalities to support medical research into diseases affecting children.

Pets are blessed

Brownies at Arundel, West Sussex, formed the choir at a special pets service organised by Lord Whisky Animal Sanctuary Charity and held at a riding stable.

Pet dogs, a guinea pig, a rabbit and a budgerigar were brought along for a special blessing from Canon Dominic Walker, then Vicar of Brighton. Also assisting were retired vicar Rev Francis Canham and local Baptist minister Rev Philip Tout.

The storm-swept service concluded with a recital, by the Brownies, of the poem *The Lamb* by William Blake.



JAMES CLAVELL

Fix the world

Guide County of Dunbarton Guides and Brownies were feeling a little deflated till Kwik Fit in Milngavie stepped in to repair their punctured earth ball. Needless to say the girls were on top of the world about it!



MORAG MACLEOD

snippets

INSPIRED IDEA The 2nd Locksheath Guides celebrated their fifth 'wood' anniversary by constructing wooden birdboxes for presentation to a local nursing home, a day care centre, a residential mental health centre, and the Guides' own hall and favourite camp site. **BIRDSONG** Singing 27 songs in succession is an impressive feat — particularly when it raises £159.93 for the RSPCA Wildlife Centre at Stapley Nantwich. The songsters were the 1st Crewe Green Brownies, participating in the Silver Jubilee Challenge. **NEW FLAG** The 1st Blaenavon Company dedicated its new flag at a special service at Horeb Baptist Chapel, Blaenavon, which is the home of the Company. **MASTERCHEF** Ipswich East Division Guides held their own version of Masterchef, with all the culinary competition of the real thing. Fourteen teams produced everything from

pasta to pancakes over fire at the Copdock camp site. **WET AND WILD** More than 120 Suffolk Scouts and Guides enjoyed their annual Wet Weekend with activities such as dinghy sailing and dragon boating on the River Deben in Suffolk. **LONG SERVICE** A total of more than 205 years' service to the Movement has been notched up by the Guider team in the Bristol and South Gloucestershire District, which covers eight units. **RECORD BREAKER?** Retiring 1st Barrowford Guides leader Doreen Walmsley has clocked up 57 years' involvement with the Movement. Mrs Walmsley was in charge of the Barrowford Company for 20 of those years. She joined Brownies in 1939. **WINNERS** Eight girls from 5th North Finchley Guides received Baden-Powell Trefoil Awards last year. Guider Jacqui Edelman said the awards were 'well deserved'. ■

rainbows' treat helps rainbow trust

All over the UK plans are well advanced for Noah's Ark parties with lots of fizzy drinks and cakes, special outings and fun. For Rainbow Units everywhere are celebrating the tenth anniversary of the start of Rainbow Guiding.

The Rainbows of Surrey East have in mind something very different to mark the historic inauguration — an act of community service that could hardly be more appropriate.

Their project was actually launched last year when, on a July evening four Rainbows from the 2nd Stoneleigh Unit and four from 2nd Leatherhead, together with their Guiders, went to London's West End to attend the première of the film *Rainbow*, and to meet its director and star, Bob Hoskins.

Rainbow is the story of four children who embark on the adventure of a lifetime, the search for the end of the rainbow.

As is usual with film first nights, the première was in aid of a charity and this time the choice was singularly apt. The beneficiary was the Rainbow Trust, a children's charity which all Surrey East's Rainbow Units plan to help this year when they 'Build a Rainbow'.

The charity provides family-centred care at Leatherhead, Surrey, for children with life-threatening or terminal illness.

Kate Brown, Guider of the 2nd Stoneleigh Rainbows and County Rainbow Adviser, recalled what

happened when the eight little Rainbows met Bob Hoskins:

● We arrived in Leicester Square to find a huge crowd, a large police presence around the entrance to the cinema and photographers with huge zoom lenses and stepladders.

We found ourselves surrounded by flashing cameras and TV interviewers, complete with live broadcast equipment and "hairy sausage" booms, but the Rainbows took it all in their stride.

However, when Bob Hoskins came over to have his photograph taken with them, suddenly they went very quiet.

Bob asked them all sorts of questions and answers were not very forthcoming — until he asked if they knew who he was. One Rainbow then chirped in with: "You're the It's-good-to-talk man." This brought laughter from all sides and the Rainbows relaxed.

My idea for our Rainbow Building Appeal came when I was sitting on the sofa at home,

watching *Hearts of Gold* on TV and saw Bernadette Cleary, founder of the Rainbow Trust, receive a Heart of Gold award.

I thought this splendid children's charity — based in our county — deserved our help. I felt that children of Rainbow age were quite capable of understanding the principle of caring for others and that they would have fun helping the Trust as part of the anniversary

celebrations.

I discussed my idea

with the Trust before seeking the approval of the County Executive.

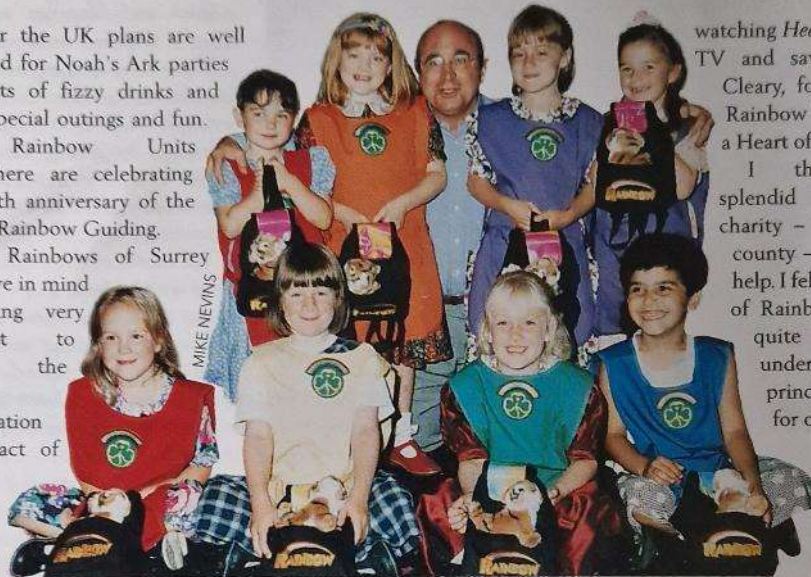
The charity told me about the film and that the Trust was to benefit from the première. The people marketing the film had suggested it would be highly appropriate for the Rainbow Trust to be a beneficiary.

The charity organisers were delighted, of course, by the prospect of further help. They suggested to the film's publicity and marketing people that some of our Rainbows should be invited to attend the première.

So that's how Surrey East's Rainbow Building Appeal originated and we came to meet Bob Hoskins at the Warner. ♥

● The appeal will take place throughout May, when about 650 Rainbows, their Guiders, Unit Helpers and others connected with more than 50 Units, will carry out tasks for family and friends to raise, if possible, seven 50p pieces to stick on their sponsorship forms. ■

Eight little girls from Surrey East discovered how good it was to talk to Bob Hoskins



Meeting Rainbow star and director, Bob Hoskins, are Rainbows from 2nd Leatherhead and 2nd Stoneleigh Units

Words by Kirstie Gray
Photos by James Clevett

Tentative k

**Hampshire
County's
special taster
sessions
aimed to help
Chinese
children learn,
in their own
language,
through the
Guide
Programme**

A group of Chinese girls of Guide age sat neatly cross-legged on the grass listening and watching attentively as they were shown how to make a rope ladder. There was obedient silence as the Guider manipulated the rope.

'They are so quiet,' said Portsmouth Guider Joan Goble. 'They are just so keen to learn.'

Inside, a group of Rainbow-age Chinese girls applied themselves to the task of constructing beautiful butterfly mobiles. They showed astonishing concentration and dexterity and the girls were rightly proud of their finished creations.

'They are amazed to be allowed to take things home,' said Pauline Reegan, Division Commissioner for Portsmouth Central. 'This is our second "taster" session and the girls just love making things.'

The craft souvenirs were to serve as a permanent reminder of what

The Guide Association can offer the children of the Chinese community in the UK.

The project came about when Reach Out Project Officer for Portsmouth, Jo Shankland, approached ESOL, an organisation which teaches English to adults. One of the teachers, Alice Lai, suggested the Association might be able to support the work of the Chinese Community School, a Saturday school that helps second and third generation children in the local Chinese community learn their own language and traditions.

'The first thing I did was to get a Guiding leaflet and letter translated into Chinese, which was easier said than done!' said Jo, who explained that the adults involved in the school had only limited English.

Eventually, after a few mishaps, a good translation was produced and Jo could approach the teachers.

'The biggest problem was trying to get our message across — that the Association can help the Chinese educate their children, in their own language, through the Guide programme,' she added.

Hampshire County wanted to help the Chinese ethnic minority

celebrate and nurture their own culture and language using the ethos of tolerance and respect.

After negotiations, and a few false starts, a 'taster' session was arranged. More than 45 girls from Rainbow to Young Leader age turned up from all over Hampshire to learn new skills. Jo also took the opportunity to try to speak to some of the mothers, encouraging them to become leaders.

'By the end of the session the girls were all laughing and enjoying themselves,' Jo reported, 'and the Guiders wanted to have these girls in their own units, as they were so well behaved!'

Despite the obvious success of that first session, it was not easy to organise another. Dates were set and then it was discovered that the Chinese children had exams to sit or were observing holidays.

Also parents and teachers still needed to be reassured that the Movement could help them to establish their culture in the UK.

Jo's mentor, Hampshire County Commissioner Marian Fisher, explained: 'It's been frustrating for Jo because things have not gone as smoothly as she would have liked.



Getting to grips with a butterfly mobile are Margaret Kegan, a leader with the 38th Portsmouth unit with nine-year-old Vivian Lee

Guider Joan Goble is joined by County Commissioner Marian Fisher (left) and Jo Shankland, Reach out Project Officer, for a lesson in rope ladder-making



eginnings

'The challenge was to get into the ethnic minorities, and she's done that. Now we have to plod away. We might have a unit up and running in six weeks, but it might take six years.'

It was a great relief when the second session – to which GUIDING was invited – eventually went ahead, although there were fewer taking part than expected, as some of the girls were still on holiday.

There were plans for a District get-together,' said Marian, which would 'encourage the Chinese community to bring their culture and way of thinking to our District. Adult leaders could have a chance to integrate with British women.'

All the Guiders involved in the project noticed that the Chinese children had a very different approach to British girls. Marian



A coordination exercise on wooden skis leads to giggles all round

Guider Elizabeth Key and Brownie Jennifer O'Neill show young Chinese girls how to make bookworm bookmarks



English now, so they are being helped to learn their parents' language. Although it is our intention that they celebrate Chinese culture through Guiding, the girls still see themselves as joining an

'There will be a lot of cultural exchange,' said Jo Shankland. 'It will be a learning process for everybody.'

Looking back, Jo feels that, such is the reciprocation of invitations and growing recognition from the Chinese community, that the project has still achieved its goal.

While Jo and her team waited for the reactions to the 'taster' days to filter through the Chinese community, Jo was already getting to know some of the Bangladeshi children in the area and hoping to win the trust of their parents.

Marian concluded: 'We are living in a multi-cultural society now and Guiding has to adapt to meet the needs of everyone in the community. A lot of people think Guiding is on the decline. We've got to get across to people like Portsmouth City Council, head teachers and social workers, that Guiding is alive and very well.' ■

said: 'They don't seem to want to do a lot of what we would call fun things. Their intention is to join to learn new skills – things like cooking and flower arranging which our own girls might not be so interested in.'

Jo added: 'Apparently the Chinese don't actually have a word for "fun" in their dictionary.'

'The girls' first language is

"English club". Sadly a lot of the children did think that Guides was only for white, middle class Christian girls.'

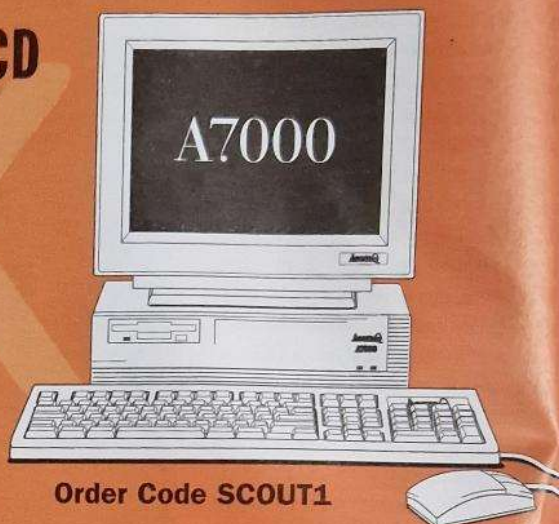
Although the taster sessions started with the aim of establishing a Chinese unit, the project didn't end up that way. Instead, many of the Chinese girls have joined existing units, with the older girls helping out in these units.

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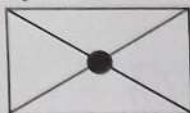


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Our day has

GUIDING
looks at the
how, what and
why of
International
Women's Day

By Catherine Dell

This year, and every year, March 8 is a date for your diary. It's International Women's Day — a permanent fixture on the world calendar. But what is International Women's Day? And where does Guiding fit in?

The story begins on March 8, 1857, when women textile workers in the United States staged a huge demonstration against their scandalously low wages and poor working conditions. On the same date 51 years later, American women took to the streets to commemorate that original demonstration, to condemn child labour and to demand the right to vote. From then on March 8 was recognised as Women's Day in the US.

Meanwhile a similar idea was taking shape on this side of the Atlantic thanks to the efforts of Clara Zetkin, a prominent figure in the women's labour and suffrage movements. In 1910, at the Second International Conference of Socialist Women, Clara — from Germany — argued passionately for the celebration of 'an annual Women's Day, a unified international demonstration'.

The Conference voted in favour and in March 1911 Europe celebrated its first International Women's Day. Rallies were held in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland. France, Sweden and The Netherlands joined in the following year.

The tradition spread to Russia in 1913 and, within a few years, it had momentous consequences. It was the



Students in Sierra Leone learn typing skills on machines bought with GFF assistance

1917 IWD march in St Petersburg that sparked off the Russian February Revolution (March 8 in the Gregorian calendar corresponded to February 23 in the Julian calendar, which Russia then followed) and brought about the Tsar's abdication.

Since those early years, IWD has had a chequered career. During the 1920s and 1930s its significance grew — Britain joined in from 1926 — but declined after the Second World War. However, with the emergence of women's movements in Africa, Asia and Latin America, IWD was

revitalised in the 1970s and was given official recognition by the UN in 1977. Consequently, it is now observed around the world and, indeed, in many countries is kept as a national holiday.

How International Women's Day is observed varies from country to country, reflecting the particular status of women, their concerns and priorities. Here, in the UK, there is no official, nationwide programme. Indeed, most events are organised locally — by women's organisations, district councils, bookshops, sports clubs, theatres, pressure groups, colleges, interest societies, individuals — and range from a lunch-time lecture to a week-long festival.

Last year, for example, women in Britain celebrated IWD in hundreds of different ways: treasure hunt, personal safety workshop, dance class, conference on women in politics, story telling, cookery demonstration, cabaret, art exhibition,



Guiding's emphasis on the out-of-doors was new for many women — collecting firewood in the 1920s

come

make-over session, craft fair, gospel concert, candlelight peace vigil, hill-walking expedition, stress management seminar...

But however diverse the events, the underlying message of IWD is very focused. It seeks to:

- Celebrate women and their achievements.
- Protest against the inequalities and injustices that women face.
- Highlight the issues that affect them particularly.

It is easy to see that International Women's Day has a role to play in the developing world, where many societies discriminate against women from birth, restricting their access to health care, education and employment. In such circumstances, women need to do all that they can to raise awareness of their situation and to co-ordinate their fight for equality and justice.

But in Britain and other industrialised countries, is IWD just an excuse for a party? If it is, why not? On the other hand there are still serious issues to be addressed, such as domestic violence, lack of childcare facilities, low pay and homelessness. IWD can provide an effective platform for drawing attention to these.

From Guiding's perspective much of what IWD stands for is familiar. Just as IWD seeks to confirm women in their struggle for equal rights and social and economic progress, so Guiding promotes equality of opportunity for the personal and social development of girls and young women.

Equality of opportunity was part of Guiding right from the start. Those pioneer Guides who gatecrashed the Scout Rally at Crystal Palace didn't want to be excluded from the 'game of Scouting' — and they didn't want a watered-down version of the boys' programme. They wanted one that was similarly adventurous and

challenging — and they got it.

Equality is a key issue in most developing countries. As a result, national Guide associations are often involved in literacy programmes, health-education projects, and various income-generating schemes — all designed to help women improve their self-esteem and status.

Guides taking part in service programmes abroad frequently find themselves helping with projects of this type. Last July, for example, a team of GOLD volunteers worked in northern Pakistan teaching literacy skills and handicrafts to women and running a back-up recreation centre for their children.

Similarly, the Guide Friendship Fund often backs this kind of scheme, like the sewing workshop in Burkina Faso which was supported by last year's Christmas appeal.

Here in the UK, the Association is committed to making Guiding available to all. One specific initiative in this respect is the Reach Out campaign which aims to raise Guiding's profile and make it more accessible to girls in disadvantaged inner-city and rural locations. Another equal opportunities initiative is the Muslim Network which hopes to establish Guiding in areas that have substantial Muslim populations.

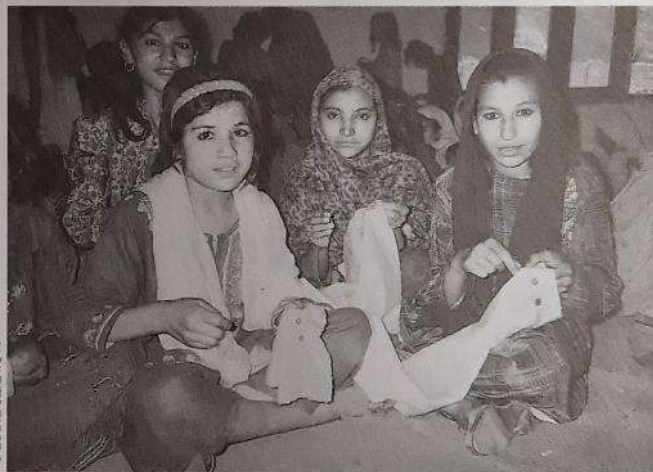
Wherever Guiding is happening — whether here or halfway around the world — the very structure and nature of the programme itself contributes to women's development and status. By encouraging self-worth and self-confidence, as well as core skills like decision-making and assertiveness, Guiding empowers girls and young women to take control of their lives — thus achieving their full potential.

Guiding and IWD also share common ground over the need to raise awareness of issues affecting

women. This aspect of the Association's work received a new impetus from the fourth UN World Conference on Women, held in 1995 in Beijing. It led to the Association setting up an ad hoc committee and consultative process to analyse its recommendations.

Some of the proposals that emerged focused on external relations like networking with other youth and women's organisations, working with them on issues of common concern, and lobbying decision-makers over policies that affect girls and young women. To put these plans into action, the Association recently has appointed an External Relations Adviser.

GOLD volunteers in Pakistan helped teach these women embroidery skills



But to return to March 8. Maybe you don't want to do anything special but, if you do, then check your local newspaper or library for news of what's happening. Or maybe you feel like organising your own unit celebration — 'Gran was a Guide' evening, flower planting, book sale for the GFF, 'famous women' quiz, spring hike, history collage ... or activities from the *Growing Up Female* pack.

Further information

- The GFF summer appeal is for a kindergarten project in Mexico and a skills training centre in Botswana. Look out for further details in *GUIDING*.
- The *Growing Up Female* activity pack, published jointly by the Women's National Commission and The Guide Association, covers a range of issues relevant to girls and young women. It is available free from: *Growing up Female*, WNC, Caxton House, Tothill Street, London SW1H 9NF.

6 year old Rebecca had no words to describe the pain she suffers from **ARTHRITIS...** ...so she drew it.



Unfortunately, arthritis is not just an old person's disease. Rebecca Hollick is one of over 12,000 children in Britain who suffer from Juvenile Chronic Arthritis today.

As a charity we rely entirely on voluntary donations to fund our research into this painful and crippling disease. You can help children like Rebecca in Tea week (March 10-16) ARC offers any Guide unit taking part a 50-50 split of funds raised. For full details ring Louisa your Guide pack contact, on Freephone 0500 276413.



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COUNTY OF SHEFFIELD GUIDE ASSOCIATION OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES CENTRE

We are seeking to appoint a resident Warden at the above centre. This appointment is on a part-time basis as a job share with an existing Warden. It will be necessary for the appointee to live in the cottage provided. Applications giving details of relevant experience to be sent to the Chairman of the Outdoor Activities Centre, c/o Guide Office, Scout HQ, Trippett Lane, Sheffield S1 4EL.

CLOSING DATE 19.03.97.

Not just puppy love

Brownie Guider Helen Litherland and her Assistant, Susan Patten, never imagined what would follow when they decided that the entire Pack could tackle Stage 1 of the Sight Awareness badge.

The syllabus, however, does say: 'Find out and tell your tester about Guide Dogs for the Blind and how they are trained.'

Which is precisely what the 5th Prestwich (Methodist) Brownies did and discovered that, for £2,500, they could sponsor a Dog and Owner partnership.

To the Guiders it seemed like an awesome sum for Brownies to raise. What about knocking a nought off, they suggested, and aiming for £250 to sponsor a puppy?

But this Pack were having none of that fainthearted stuff. They had their sights firmly set on the big target and were not to be deflected. Furthermore, it wasn't long before the girls had even decided on the dog's name — Tawny.

Helen and Sue, hiding their qualms, put on a brave front as they found themselves not only supervising the Pack's collective badge work, but organising a big sponsored walk for the Brownies and the 5th Prestwich Rainbows who, with their Guider Gill Richardson, had become involved.

Heavy rain greeted the start of the walk in Heaton Park, near Manchester. But Brownies, Rainbows, mums and dads and other supporters set out bravely. They finished in sunshine and smiles, having raised £1,600.

Shortfall? Not at all. The dog was already as good as in its basket, trained and ready for action because Brown Owl happens to work for Barclays Bank plc and this gave the 5th Prestwich Brownies and Rainbows a special advantage, as Helen explained:

6 Barclays has a scheme to sponsor charity work undertaken by its employees in their leisure time by matching any sum raised, pound for pound, up to a total of £1,000.

It was this that enabled us to reach the target of £2,500. By having my name on our charity walk sponsor forms, as well as that of the Brownie or Rainbow, I was able to qualify for grant aid under the Barclays scheme. And, because the walk raised £1,000 — plus a lot more — it attracted the full £1,000.

Our project started as a result of a Brownie Pow-wow, when the girls asked if they could do a badge as a Pack. It was Sue and I who, after considering the matter, suggested they could do the Sight Awareness Stage 1 together.

I think we were both taken aback when the Brownies, having studied the Guide Dogs for the

racecourse, Liverpool, decorated cakes were being auctioned at the final camp fire. I was able to persuade Freda Farnworth, camp fire leader, to give me the final cake for our presentation evening at the Body Shop, in Bury, when our cheque for £2,500 was going to be handed over.

Freda's parents, Fred and Sheila Farnworth, who are puppy walkers for guide dogs, came to the presentation to give the girls a picture of "their" dog, Tawny. Ewan, a retired guide dog, attended the presentation, along with Lennie, a guide dog in training.

Pat Jackson, Region Chief Commissioner, presented the girls

Nothing stops big-hearted Brownies when they support a good cause



ANN WARRINGTON

Blind Association literature, insisted that they wanted to sponsor a Dog and Owner partnership for £2,500 and that nothing less would do.

It crossed my mind, however, that the target might be achievable with the aid of Barclays' scheme. When parents and our supporters knew why my name needed to be on the forms, they all agreed.

At RACE '96, North West Region's 25th anniversary celebration, held on Haydock Park

with guide dog brooches on behalf of the Guide Dogs for the Blind, and everyone had a piece of RACE '96 cake. Soon after this event the Brownies were presented with their Sight Awareness badge by Anthony Tyrer, Gill Richardson's fiancé, who was with his guide dog, Robin.

As for me trying to talk the Pack into settling for sponsoring a puppy for £250 — there was enough cash left over for the girls to do that anyway, with £4 to spare! 7

There was no concealing the excitement when Prestwich Brownies 'met' Tawny, the guide dog they'd provided. Susan Patten (left) and Helen Litherland share their pride



Brewing up for Mencap

The Endeavour replica under sail

Keep it cool

Temperature control can be crucial in preventing food poisoning. Packed lunches and picnics are particularly vulnerable.

Polar Box solves the problem. Developed by Bishops UK Ltd, this insulated lunch box with slot-in ice pack keeps perishable food fridge-fresh for over six hours.

As well as keeping contents cold, the ice pack keeps them apart. Polar Box is made from hygienic, wipe-clean polypropylene and comes in four colour combinations. It costs £8.99.

GUIDING has ten Polar Boxes to give away. For a chance to win one, answer the following question: which is the coldest part of a fridge?

Send your answer, plus name and address, on a postcard to **GUIDING/Polar Box**, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT. Closing date is March 31.

JOHN LANCASTER



Welcome aboard

Coming to a port near you, a full-size working replica of the Endeavour, the ship which, in 1768, carried the famous English explorer, Captain Cook, on his first voyage of discovery that took him to the South Pacific, Australia and New Zealand.

The replica reaches Britain this month and will be open to visitors at Greenwich from March 28-April 13. Endeavour then goes on a 14-port tour of the UK which will last

six months.

For details of Endeavour's itinerary, phone 0181 858 4422.

To coincide with the ship's visit, there is a special exhibition at the Queen's House, National Maritime Museum from March 24-September 21.

GUIDING has two family tickets for it to give away. To try to win one, answer the following question. What was the name of Cook's next ship (1772)? Send the answer with your name and address on a postcard to **GUIDING/Cook**, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT. Closing date is March 31.

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Lunch with the chill on



Discovering the out-of-doors

In fashion

A major exhibition of fashion from the mid-1930s to the late 1940s has just opened at the Imperial War Museum and continues until the end of August.

Many of the displays feature wartime garments made from parachute silk and there are recreations of shops selling clothes - coupons needed - plus a beauty salon promoting 1940s' hairstyles.

In contrast, the exhibition also covers the New Look, Dior's romantic designs launched 50 years ago.

For groups there are reduced rates and also a special package which includes a 1940s' makeover, souvenir photo and tea. Further information about *Forties Fashion and the New Look* on 0171 416 5000.

GUIDING has five adult entrance tickets to give away. For a chance to win one, find out the Imperial War Museum's address. Write it on a postcard, add your own name and address, and send it to **GUIDING/ Fashion, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT** to arrive by March 31.



A Chinese embroiderer at the exhibition

Forest fun

Short of ideas, or planning time, for 'enjoying the out-of-doors'? If you live within reach of Epping, the Forest Field Centre has the answer.

Throughout the year, the Centre - located at the heart of Epping Forest - offers a range of activity sessions for groups, including pond-dipping, discovering insects, shelter construction and guided walks.

The Centre will also prepare programmes to meet a group's specific requirements, for example, in connection with the Brownie Seasons or Guide Forester badges.

The basic fee of £40 covers a two-hour session for up to 12; accompanying adults go free. Additional charges are made for longer sessions and larger groups. For details,

contact the Epping Forest Field Centre, High Beech, Loughton, Essex IG10 4AF; tel: 0181 508 7714.

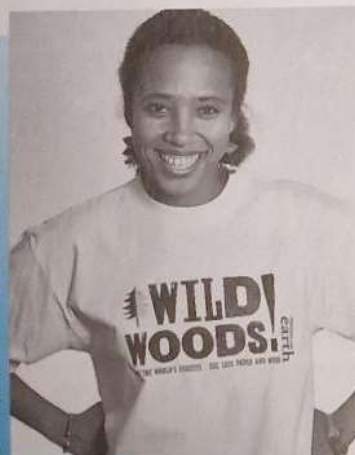
Stop the chop

Stars from the entertainment world are backing Friends of the Earth's new youth campaign to save the snow forests of northern Europe, America and Asia.

These ancient forests - home to many rare species such as brown bears, Siberian tigers and flying squirrels - are being destroyed to meet the world's escalating demand for wood and paper products.

In some parts of Scandinavia, for example, less than five per cent of the old forest remains - and replacement plantations support far less wildlife.

To find out more about snow forests and how young people can help save them, send for a campaign pack. To get hold of one, write, enclosing a large sae, to SOS, Publications Despatch, Friends of the Earth, Luton LU1 2PH.



Janice Acquah of BBC TV's *Really Wild Show* says 'stop the chop'

China on view

An incense alarm clock, the world's largest book and a warrior from the terracotta army are among the many amazing exhibits in *China - Cradle of Knowledge* at Manchester's Museum of Science and Industry.

The exhibition, which celebrates 7,000 years of Chinese creativity and culture, also features fascinating demonstrations by Chinese craft workers of traditional skills such as silk weaving, paper making and calligraphy.

The accompanying events programme - during weekends and school holidays - covers a huge range of activities from lion dancing and lantern making to acupuncture and acrobatics.

The exhibition, which is open daily, continues until June 8. There are reduced rates for groups of ten or more.

For details ring 0161 833 0027.

Maps for all weathers

If you're fed up with buying OS maps to replace ones damaged by rain and wear and tear, then Lam-Fold maps could be the solution.

Lam-Fold maps, protected between two sheets of plastic film, are waterproof, tearproof and virtually indestructible. They can also be written on and later wiped clean.

These maps are available to readers of **GUIDING** at a 15 per cent discount.

For further details and a price list contact Map-Ed, PO Box 110, 172 Sydney Road, Crewe CW1 1AU. Tel: 01270 252883.

Hiawatha's swan song

A stirring
poem by
Longfellow
has provided
a 50-year link
for some
London
Guides

Fifty years to the very day they met by the Shore of Gitchee Gumee to present *Hiawatha*, 22 members of the original cast – former Brownies, Guides, Rangers and leaders of the 2nd North Deptford (St Luke's) units – were reunited by the Shining Big Sea Water, at Eastbourne.

As a ticket carefully preserved in the Rangers' log book records, the musical play – based on Longfellow's poem – was presented on Saturday, May 11, 1946, at St Luke's church hall, Gosterwood Street, South London. Admission cost three shillings (15p).

The production was such a resounding success that it was



'Braves' and 'squaws' of the 2nd North Deptford units of 50 years ago



Fifty years on they celebrate in Eastbourne one last time

repeated at the municipal baths hall a short time later by request of the mayor.

And it weaved a magic that was to make life-long friendships: *Hiawatha*, *Minnehaha*, *Nokomis*, *Chi-bi-a-bos* – even those who were just dancing fireflies or spring flowers – kept in touch over the years that followed.

At first there were impromptu get-togethers at someone's home. Gradually the reunions became bigger and were established as a biennial event. These, like the 50th anniversary reunion, took place in a hall at Eastbourne because four of

the former unit leaders, including 91-year-old Lily Bartlett, had retired to the East Sussex resort.

Ex-Ranger Captain Lily, who played *Hiawatha's* grandmother in the 1946 production, recalled at the 'golden' reunion that it was, in fact, in 1939 when she first proposed the 2nd North Deptford units should present the play in a combined effort 'to keep everyone together with a worthwhile purpose'.

Indeed, the Ranger's log for June 1939, with the Second World War just weeks away, mentions 'frantically practising *Hiawatha* Rangers now quite enthusiastic'.

With the disruption the war brought all hopes of producing the play had to be abandoned but, in 1946, Lily who was still in charge of the Rangers, felt the need for unity remained, so on went *Hiawatha*.

At Lily's 90th birthday party, attended by many Guiding friends, including many of the cast, it was decided that the 1996 reunion, being the 50th anniversary, should be the last.

Ex-Guide Captain Grace Pender, one of the play's narrators, had died in 1994, and Pamela Frost, former Guide and a member of the chorus, had died in 1991.

Ex-Ranger Joan Garwood, who played *Hiawatha's* friend *Chi-Bi-A-Bos*, explained: 'None of us is getting any younger and, as we are quite widespread, travelling can now be a problem. Nevertheless, Lily Bartlett certainly achieved her goal. It was her idea to put on *Hiawatha* to keep everyone together, and that's what it did for 50 years.'

Former Ranger Marjorie Oates, who played *Hiawatha* as a young man, arrived at the 'golden' reunion with a spectacular cake, topped with a huge icing-sugar head of the Indian chief.

The cake was cut but not the iced head. Everyone agreed that it should be preserved as a fitting totem to mark the day the cast of *Hiawatha* took their final bow.

● The 2nd North Deptford (St Luke's) Brownie Pack, formed in November, 1920 and registered early in 1921, is still going strong. The Guide Company, formed and registered in July 1918, was disbanded in March 1995. The Ranger Unit, formed and registered in October 1923, was closed in October 1955. ■

JOAN GARWOOD



Magic is a difficult word. It has several subtle nuances nowadays, especially among children. Generally, at the Rainbow stage the words in their vocabulary have a precise and well-defined meaning.

However, they happily describe the latest Disney film as 'magic' meaning fantastic. In the next breath they'll fantasise about Flower Fairies and other beings as 'magic' in that they have supernatural powers.

I, too, believe in magic, but it's of a more spiritual kind. I suppose it's a sense of wonder at the glimpses we get at God's creativity, though to describe the basis of religious faith as magic is totally wide of the mark. I, therefore, normally avoid the word but we decided one week it would make an interesting theme.

We started with magic tricks — changing the colour of water as it was poured from glass to glass. This was achieved using one or two chemical indicators but you can just use red cabbage water.

Rinse out the glasses with vinegar or sodium bicarbonate solution and allow them to dry, so the treatment is

undetectable. If you pour boiled red cabbage water into the bicarbonate glass, it goes green, returning to red in the vinegary glass.

After following this with one or two card tricks, the girls were ready to believe I could do magic.

Breaking all the rules of the Magic Circle, I told them how the tricks were done. Perhaps I shouldn't have shattered the illusion but everyone was fascinated — and the greengrocer did a roaring trade in red cabbage for weeks. But I don't know if any of it was eaten.

Next came a discussion on what I find magic: how a flower grows; how snowflakes form; how sounds can make music; how a rainbow happens; how the Rainbows themselves grow. They're things which, as a scientist, I can partly explain, but knowledge doesn't make them less marvelous, rather the reverse.

Finally, because they love to take something home, they all made their own magic trick. Here's what you do: Give every Rainbow three luggage label shapes cut from

rainbow's end

By Hazel Mackenzie

different coloured card.

Punch a transparent hole at the pointy end. Stick a hole reinforcer around the hole on one side of the first label, reinforcers on both sides of the second and leave the third. Thread the string through the holes and let the Rainbows decorate them with felt-tipped pens.

The idea is to ask someone to take the labels and put one into your hand behind your back. Without looking at it you will tell them which colour they chose to give you — just feel the reinforced holes to give you the right answer. A little practice is all that's needed.

Yet, it's a funny thing, in spite of knowing how the trick was done, they still call it magic. I suppose it all depends on what you mean by magic, doesn't it? ■

Look out for some magazine changes

To celebrate ten years of Rainbow Guiding, Rainbows are going to have two issues of a special magazine that's all their own. The first issue of *RAINBOW* will be published on April 19, in time for the special week of tenth birthday celebrations; the second at the beginning of September, in time for the start of the new Guiding year.

RAINBOW will be a full-colour, 32-page magazine written for the girls themselves and packed with fun, puzzles, and makes that Rainbows will love. It will be the ideal celebration souvenir and every Rainbow will want her own copy.

RAINBOW will be available from newsagents and some supermarkets, as well as Guide shops and depots, price £1.25. You can also order it from the Guide Association Trading Service (0161 941 2237): ordering code 66985 for the May issue and 66993 for September's.

RAINBOW will replace the *Rainbow Guide Extra* supplement in *BROWNIE* magazine, so April's issue of *BROWNIE* will be the last to contain a *Rainbow Guide Extra*. No decision has yet been made whether to continue publishing *RAINBOW* after 1997 — the success of the first two issues will be carefully monitored.

There are exciting changes under way at *BROWNIE*, too. If you read the magazine regularly, you will already have noticed the shiny new paper it is being printed on. And the next improvement will be a brighter, more colourful front cover design which will appear from May, along with extra colour inside.

In September *BROWNIE* will become bigger (the same size as *GUIDING*) and the whole magazine will get a fun new look that is the result of consultation with Guiders and Association Advisers, plus market research with Brownies and their mums.

CBE for Betty Clay

Guiding's 'guiding light', Betty Clay, was awarded the CBE in the New Year's Honours List for her lifetime of service to Guiding.

Betty, who helped train Guide leaders and establish units in Africa and India, still readily visits units around Britain. An active and charismatic figure, Betty lives in Somerset with her husband Gervas — last year the couple celebrated their golden wedding.

Betty — younger daughter and sole surviving child of the Founder and the World Chief Guide — is a much-valued UK Association Vice President.

Short-term investment service

The monthly interest rate — after the deduction of management commission — was:

September 1996 4.641 per cent

October 1996 4.7 per cent

November 1996 4.843 per cent

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

Trust fund

On November 30 the value of a share in the Scout and Guide Trust Fund was:

Selling purposes 405.39p

Buying purposes 425.82p

Income yield 3.23 per cent

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

Work at Blackland Farm

Shop helpers are required during the summer for Blackland Farm, a busy Guide Association camp site and activity centre.

Candidates should be over 16, enthusiastic and enjoy working with young people. They should also be numerate and current members of The Guide Association.

Accommodation is provided together with a contribution towards food costs. Travel expenses will be paid.

Cover is need for July 1–20 (two helpers); July 21–August 3 (four); August 4–17 (four); and August 18–31 (three).

Blackland Farm staff would also like to hear from any members within a reasonable travelling distance who are able to volunteer at other times of the year.

For details contact:

Blackland Farm, Grinstead Lane,
East Grinstead, West Sussex RH19
4HPTel: 01342 810493.

Grid reference leaflet

As advertised on the television programme 999, copies of the Ordnance Survey's new *Grid Reference Leaflet* are now available free from:

Ordnance Survey, Romsey Road,
Southampton, Hants SO16
4GU Tel: 0345 330011

Sweep up

The Tidy Britain Group's National Spring Clean takes place from 18–27. For your free clean-up kit, register on the hotline number: 0990 885577.

Association awards

GOOD SERVICE LAUREL

Mrs Maureen Anderson

Former County Commissioner
Inverness-shire

Action at Foxlease

Action First is a camp for Action Plus! members and 13–14-year-old Guides. It will be held at Foxlease, the Association's training and activity centre in Hampshire from June 27–29.

Individuals or groups are welcome. The camp will be fully staffed and participants do not need to be accompanied by a Guider.

The camp will be packed with action and features a visit to a leisure centre, wide game, water fun, glass painting and much more.

The cost, including the leisure centre visit (plus most food and activities), will be £18 per person if you bring your own equipment, and £20 if you use Foxlease's equipment. Details and an application form — please enclose a sae — from: Miss C Davies, Assistant Manager, Foxlease, Lyndhurst, Hampshire SO43 7DE.

directory

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ITCHEN SOUTH SCOUT
CAMPSITE
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Southampton, Hants SO30 2FF

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SAE for brochure: Kevin Wilson
The warden, Belchamps, Holyoak Lane,
Harkwell, Essex. Tel: 01702 205 081



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Tel/Fax: 01628 483 252

THRIFTWOOD INTERNATIONAL SCOUT CAMP SITE AND ACTIVITY CENTRE

The happy centre with friendly and helpful, full-time staff, at Brentwood, Essex. (3 miles from junction 28 off the M25.) Over 30 individual grassed sites. Indoor accommodation (now has a dormitory sleeping 32). Toilets, hot water, free showers. Wood fires are encouraged. Equipped sites available. On-site activities: archery, climbing wall, abseiling, canoeing, fishing, rafting, swimming, shooting, nature trail, orienteering, BMX bikes, cork guns, pioneering, adventure course, sports equipment and Patrol activities. Souvenir shop. Guides and other youth organisations very welcome

Please send SAE or phone the warden:
Bill Hindley, Deskrie Sheil, Alexander Lane, HUTTON, Essex CM13 1AG.
Tel: 01277 226571 for details

BUCKMORE PARK

SCOUT CENTRE

Maidstone Road,
Chertsey, Kent ME5 9QG
Tel: 01434 861795/861798
Fax: 01434 864555

We are pleased to announce our
SUMMER SPECIAL 1997
to take place between 9th and 18th August 1997

A week's camp complete with full programme of activities including Swimming, Abseiling and Climbing, Rifle shooting, Archery, two full days of Rocking, Roller skating, Canoeing, Sub-Aqua diving, a session at the local Six Centre, Canoeing etc.

PLUS

A Day Trip to Margate (no include entry to Dreamworld Theme Park)

At the price £29.50 per head, camping. Indoor Accommodation will be charged at per price per plus £27.00 to cover activities. All prices include two bottles per group, fire.

(Prices do not include food or travel to and from home.)

PLUS

Throughout the Summer - a full programme of on-site activities in addition to those published in our brochure. For more details, Write, Phone, Fax. Bookings on a First come first served basis.

ALSO FOR YET ANOTHER YEAR

Will take place over the Spring Bank Holiday, 24th to 26th May 1997. All on site activities will be available plus, of course, Rocking. All in cost (not including food and travel) will be £29 per head (camping). The cost for those wishing to hire indoor accommodation will be the cost of the room bookings plus £17 per head.

Both these events are restricted to members of the Scout and Guide Association

You'll Think You're In Heaven At SPRING BANK 97

Drum Hill Is The Place To Be
Why Don't You Come Along and See?
With Loads And Loads For All To Do
This Fun Weekend's A Must For You

For A Bank Holiday Weekend Camp Where
Activities Offered include:-

Go-Karts Archery Rifle Shooting
Abseiling Water Slide
Volleyball Treasure Hunt Crate Stacking
Judo Junior Crossbow
Assault Course Competitions Disco
Barbecue Evening Entertainments

All this and more from Friday 23rd to Monday 26th May, 1997, for only £12.00 per person at Drum Hill County Scout Campsite, Little Eaton, Derby. (Book early to avoid disappointment.) Sorry, Due to the close proximity of tentage there will be No Open Fires allowed

For Further Details Phone Or Fax:-
Spring Bank 97 Bookings On:- 01332 831 233
Or Send An A5 S.A.E. To:-
Spring Bank 97 Bookings Drum Hill Scout Campsite,
PO Box 153 Derby, DE21 5ZY
Or E-Mail on:-
johnyoung@enterprise.net

CHALFONT HEIGHTS

SCOUT CAMP

A delightful 60-acre estate situated in the Buckinghamshire green belt. Easy reach of London and Windsor for LEGOLAND

Good access from M40/M25/M1
Open all year Large fields

44 acres of woodland with secluded sites
3 equipped indoor units
Hot showers and facilities for the disabled
25 metre heated swimming pool
Climbing wall 2 Air Rifle Ranges
2 Archery Ranges Assault Course
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For further information please

write / phone / fax
CHALFONT HEIGHTS SCOUT CAMP
DENHAM LANE, CHALFONT ST
PETER, BUCKS SL9 0QJ
TEL: 01753 882640 FAX: 01753 884108



A delightful site set in Essex Countryside within easy reach of London. Ice skating, bowling, sailing available in the locality. Equipped and unequipped sites, all with solid shelter and flush toilets. Swimming pool, archery, grass sledging, hot showers and tuck shop.
SAE to Warden: 141 Lambourne Road, Chigwell Row, Essex IG7 6EN or Tel: 0181 500 2450

WARREN FARM, BEAULIEU, HAMPSHIRE

Peaceful rural camp sites available July and August, adjacent to the New Forest and with access to private beach on the Solent. Facilities include solid shelters with treatise tables, on-site fireplaces, access to telephone, water and firewood. Some sites have permanent toilet cubicles with Eltons and some also have permanent wash cubicles. Pioneering equipment available on site, archery, canoeing, riding and sailing nearby. S.A.E. to Mrs. Anne Mead, 13 Kingway Gardens, Chichester, Hampshire, SO53 1FF

Downe Scout Camp Site Greater London South East

- * An 86 acre site on the North Downs - only 20km from London.
- * Secluded woodland sites for Patrol camps or large open sites.
- * Four fully-equipped, centrally heated 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, Climbing Tower, Forestry, Orienteering, Pioneering, Rifle Range, Swimming.

Details from:
The Warden,
Downe Scout Camp,
Birdhouse Lane,
DOWNE, Kent BR6 7LJ
Telephone: 01959 572 121
S.A.E. Please.

WOODHOUSE PARK AVON SCOUTS COUNTY SITE

36 acres of grass and woodland on an escarpment overlooking the Severn Bridge and estuary. A warm welcome awaits you from the resident warden and his staff. Camp site has flush toilets, wash rooms and free hot showers. Indoor accommodation includes a purpose built Pack Holiday centre which sleeps 41. Activities on site include archery, rifle range, orienteering, pioneering. Tree trails and assault courses plus sports equipment loan. Off site activities include nearby leisure centres, climbing, caving, canoeing and sailing, the Cotswolds, Mendips, Forest of Dean, Weston-super-Mare and Bristol.

For further details:
Booking Secretary
Woodhouse Park, Fernhill,
Almondsbury, Bristol BS12 4LX
Telephone 01454 613259
(Out of hours answerphone)

CAMPBELL ROOM

Scout/Guide Centre in beautiful Quantock Hills. Fully equipped 24. Facilities for year. SAE Mrs Briggs, 36 Old Road North Petherton, Bridgewater TA6 6TG

BLACKLAND FARM CAMP SITE

Offers fully-equipped and unequipped camp sites, some with flush toilets and showers.

Activities available are:

Canoeing, climbing, abseiling, archery (all with instructor), swimming, orienteering, nature trail, assault course, grass sledges, rifle range.

Further details from:
Blackland Farm
Grinstead Lane
EAST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX RH19 4HP
Telephone 01342 810493 or 0860 393 026
or FAX 01342 811206

DISCLAIMER REMINDER

Inclusion of advertisements in this section should not be taken to mean that The Guide Association has checked out and approves the site, accommodation or product advertised. Guides 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.



12c Lyndhurst Road
London, NW3 5PQ
Tel: 0171 435 2202
FAX LODGE Fax: 0171 431 3825

A warm welcome awaits you at WAGGGS World Centre in London. Ideally situated, in leafy Hampstead, for exploring London. Come and join a seminar or session or just enjoy the friendship and homely atmosphere while you do your own thing. Comfortable rooms, shared, double or single, excellent meals in modern surroundings. Groups, families and singles welcome. Conference rooms available for trainings and meetings. Souvenir shop.

Contact Fax Lodge for details of prices and session programmes.

CENTRAL ENGLAND & WALES

Adventure Excitement Fun Challenges



THE YOULBURY EXPERIENCE

Indoor accommodation and woodland camping. Open 50 weeks. Set in 40 acres close to Oxford, the city of "Dreaming Spires". On-site Heated Swimming Pool, Archery, Climbing Tower, Rifles, Trails & Quizzes. Write, fax or phone for details:

Youlbury International Scout Campsite
Boars Hill,
Oxford OX1 5HD
Tel: 01865 326264
Fax: 01856 326070.

The Old School,

Penybontfawr, Nr Oswestry, Powys

Set amidst the beautiful Tanat Valley close to the Berwyn Mountain and Lakes Bala and Ymwyd, The Old School is the ideal Centre for all Scout and Guide parties to explore this part of Wales.

It is a self-catering residential centre for 28 persons which includes a well equipped kitchen, showers, toilets, drying room and central heating.

The ideal Centre for all, offering excellent and comfortable accommodation for either weekends or longer stays.

Maps Reference:- Sheet 125-086 245
Send for further information from:-

Blackwell Court International Scout Centre, Agmore Road, Blackwell, Nr Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B60 1PX
or telephone: 0121-445-1285 Fax: 0121-447-7442

INTERNATIONAL CAMP! ♦

Bring your girls to GIG '97 and Meet the World in Worcestershire. 27 July - 3 August 1997. Apply: Worcestershire Guides, Acre Lane, Droitwich WR9 9BE. Tel/Fax: 01905 797377 email: midlands@globalnet.co.uk

CAMPING IN THE SOUTH COTSWOLDS

Scout and Guide site close to J14/M5, superb secluded rural site (shops 1.5km), large flat field, woodlands, flushing toilets, kitchen, rooms, water, gas, electricity and equipment. Many other activities within easy reach. For further details please ring 01453 - 843815, 521810 or 843753.



BLACKWELL COURT INTERNATIONAL SCOUT CENTRE

Set amidst 50 acres of beautiful Worcestershire Countryside, in the Heart of England, Blackwell Court offers excellent camping facilities for all Scouts and Guides.

The large range of onsite activities include: archery, pioneering, abseiling, rifle range, grass sledging, mountain bikes and heated swimming pool.

Canoeing and rafting is available at our Water Activity Centre and Pikes Pool.

The Campsite offers excellent toilet, shower and wet weather facilities including a well stocked Provender. Also available indoor accommodation, the ideal Centre for Pack Holidays.

Within easy access to all the major motorways and railways, Blackwell Court is ideally situated to visit the many nearby popular places of interest including Alton Towers, Cadbury World, Stratford-upon-Avon, Worcester and Warwick Castle and is only 2 hours travelling time from the centre of London.

Near to Blackwell Court is Pikes Pool set in 50 acres providing ideal camping facilities for the more experienced camper.

So are you interested in using Blackwell Court for your Brownie Pack/Guide Camp in 1997? Please don't delay in contacting us for further information from Blackwell Court International Scout Centre, Agmore Road, Blackwell, Nr Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B60 1PX or telephone on 0121-445-1285 Fax: 0121-447-7442. Or please visit us at Map Ref: Sheet 139 (Metric) 995 716.

Suffolk Guides' and Brownies' accommodation with adjacent camp site.
Hostel, 19 beds £20 per night; hostel plus 9 bed annexe £27. Camping (per person) 50 pence per night. Mr Copsey, Monk's Croft, Alpheton, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 9BP Tel: 01284 828297

FOREST OF DEAN ♦

Park End Church camp site. £4.00 pppw. Minimum charge £50. Full details from Canon Davies, tel: 01594 562284.

NORTHERN ENGLAND & SCOTLAND

WADDOW HALL CAMP SITES

Fully equipped or unequipped sites wet weather shelters, flush toilets and showers

ACTIVITIES GALORE!

Archery, Bouldering Wall, Canoeing, Grass Sledges, Shooting Range, Mountain Bikes, Wide Games, Adventure Playground, Environmental Hut, Orienteering & Pioneering

Further details from:-
Waddow Hall, Clitheroe
Lancs. BB7 3LD

Tel: 01200 423186 Fax: 01200 427460

ISLE OF MAN ♦

Explore from large exclusive-use farm bunkhouse. Full facilities; budget activities; near beach, Electric tram and town. From £4 PPPN. Brochure: J FOSTER, Lwalgwa Farm Camp, Maughold, I.O.M. IM7 1AW. 01624 812216.



Auchengillan THE SCOTTISH SENSATION

Overlook the West Highland Way with a backdrop of Highland scenery and shimmering lochs.

Try mountain biking, quad motorbikes, shooting, archery, abseiling, swimming, grass sledging, adventure fort and many more activities. Programme planning was never easier! There's even a shop for food orders, souvenirs and sweets. (Sample menus available.) Whether it's outdoor or indoor, traditional activity or tourist based, Auchengillan offers it all.

Our colour brochure is only a phone call or letter away - take the first step now - we'll help with the rest!
Contact Andy Wilson, Auchengillan, Blarneyfield, Stirlingshire G63 9AU.
Tel: 01360 770256 Fax: 01360 771197

EDGE OF THE PEAK DISTRICT BARNWOOD SCOUT CAMP

- In 70 acres of woodland overlooking Ruyard Lake near Leek.
- An informal site with 25 secluded camping areas.
- Two large well appointed buildings and a number of bunk rooms.
- Good toilet facilities with free showers and mains water round the site.
- Ideal for all Scouting and Guiding activities.
- Within easy reach of canoeing facilities, climbing and hiking areas and Alton Towers.

Ring 01625 423921 for information pack or write to Camp Chief, 116 Byrons Lane, MACCLESFIELD SK11 0HA.

YORKSHIRE DALES

New Scandinavian log cabin bunkhouse for 48 in 10 bedrooms at Ingleton.

Central heating, drying room, sauna, separate lounge, colour televisions.

Contact Robin Hainsworth, Pincroft, Ingleton, Carnforth, Lancs.

Phone/Fax: 01524-241462

East Yorkshire County Campsite,

Raywell nr Hull. Four sites. One fully equipped. Toilet and hot shower block. Equipped hut. Pioneering small activity course. Situated near pleasant walks. Humber Bridge. Historic Beverley. Details from Jean Fenwick, 77 Barrington Avenue, Hull, HU5 4AZ. Tel: 01482 342353.

DERBYSHIRE HOLIDAY FLAT ♦

Comfortable self contained flat, sleeps 4 at Glenbrook in the Hope Valley. Very well equipped, centrally heated, ideal as a base for discovering the delights of the Derbyshire Peak District. Only £25 per night for the flat. Available for all members of the Guide and Scout Associations, their family and friends. Tel: Mrs. A. Allardyce on 01433 651567.

LAKELAND CAMPING BARN ♦

Basic, secure, weather proof accommodation. £3 each nightly. Open all year. Details: National Park Information Centre, Keswick. Tel: 017687-72803 Fax: 017687-73790.

ACTIVITIES

Even more ways to venture Abroad

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- Stay in Adelboden - home of our chalet
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Camping Narrowboats

Pair of traditional style narrowboats available with experienced crew for 1997.

**MIDLAND NARROWBOAT
PROJECT**
0121 - 236 3556

MORE ON PAGE 61

Let's get together

Sam Blood, the 24-year-old leader of the Association's standing delegation to the British Youth Council, completes her first year in office this month as her team prepares for the March meeting of BYC.

As a full member of BYC, the Association plays an integral part in shaping the Council's policy and work. All of Guiding's nine Countries and Regions are entitled to have two representatives on the Association's delegation.

The British Youth Council, set up in 1948, is the independent voice of young people in the UK, who are between 16 and 25. It works to increase the awareness and involvement of young people in political and public decision-making, meeting twice yearly in March and September.

Each of the three main political

parties appoints an MP to serve as one of the British Youth Council's honorary presidents.

Sam, who will head the delegation for at least another full year, hopes that under her chairmanship the Association's links with other organisations represented on BYC will be strengthened appreciably.

She said: 'I believe that by getting closer to them the Association can be more effective in influencing decision-making on issues of special interest to Guiding and I feel we are making progress in that direction.'

Having begun her Guiding as a Brownie at Chandlers Ford, Hampshire, Sam is now Assistant Guider of the 1st Harpsden Brownies, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

During her studies at the University of Central Lancashire, Pre-

ston, she was an Assistant Guider with the 15th Preston Brownies.

In 1993 Sam was co-leader of a GOLD team who went to the Czech republic to teach English.

After completing a course in applied social studies at Preston in June, 1995, Sam spent the next six months working on a GOLD project in Sri Lanka. Based at Heenatipone, about 50km from the capital, Colombo, she assisted at a community centre run by the Sri Lankan Girl Guides Association.

Sam is now employed by Mencap as a support worker on a new project at Henley-on-Thames. ■



Sam Blood's aim is to increase the Association's chances of influencing decisions

Reduce your training costs

Over the years, money received by the Association from legacies and donations has been invested, and the income used to provide bursaries — money which can be deducted from an individual Guider's fees for a training at a Training Centre.

Many different bursaries — of varying amounts — are available and there is no limit to the number of bursaries you may apply for during your Guiding life. However, priority will be given to those who have not received a bursary recently, or who are attending a Training Centre for the first time — so apply early.

What sort of bursary should you apply for?

● **The Foxlease and Waddow Training Fund**
£20 is deducted from the fees of any

open training at Waddow or Foxlease. Apply direct to Foxlease or Waddow.

● **The Friends of Waddow Bursary**
This bursary covers the cost of a shared room at a Waddow training (Waddow).

● **Guides Cymru**
A limited number of £10 bursaries are available for any adult member of Guides Cymru attending a training at Broneirion (Broneirion).

● **Webster Legacy**
Each year every Scottish County receives 'Webster vouchers,' which Guiders can put towards the cost of a training weekend at Netherurd House. Details from your County. Also, a £10 reduction from fees, available to Scottish Guiders going to a training at Netherurd for the first time (Netherurd).

● **Anglia Region Training Bursary**
£10 is available to any 14-21-year-old involved in Guiding in Anglia Region attending a training at Great Hautbois House. Apply to your County Commissioner.

● **Outdoor Bursaries**
These bursaries will cover a reasonable proportion of the cost of gaining a qualification of a recognised governing body, for example: BCU or RLSS. The courses do not have to be held at a Guide centre. Bursaries are available to Guiders and members of the Senior Section. Apply to the Training and Development Section at CHQ.

So what are you waiting for? Turn to Training News on page 60 or look back at October 96's *Hotline*. Choose your training and apply now for your special rates. ■

You could be eligible for a bursary — so why not apply?

When you leave home

**Uprooted
young
Guiders and
local Guide
units have so
much to gain
from each
other**

By Claire Gebert
Midlands Region
Junior Council

No matter how much you may have been looking forward to it, leaving home is still hard. Perhaps, for the first time, you are facing a situation where you know absolutely nobody. You may be starting a new job or a new and unfamiliar course. Even the most outgoing girl will experience apprehension, nerves, even fear.

In a university, societies and halls of residence act as shock absorbers, providing a ready supply of people in exactly the same situation as you. But if you are starting a new job even these advantages are missing.

This could, of course, be an ideal time to take a break from active Guiding. The responsibility of running a unit of 20 or so boisterous Brownies may be the last thing you want when planning your new life. However, if there is a local SSAGO or LINK unit, then you can stay in touch without being an active Guider.

We all know that Guiding offers an instant place in the community and the familiarity of Guiding can be reassuring. The official way of finding a new unit is to ask your District Commissioner for a transfer form which is then sent to the Commissioner of your new District. However, if you have a SSAGO unit at university they are likely to arrange things much more quickly and easily, since they will know the local Guiders.

Of course, the amount of contact a SSAGO unit has with the local community varies. Some will devote time to helping the local Scouts and

Guides by running competitions, testing badges, even providing information and training when asked — and this is on top of work done by individual members in running, or helping with, units.

Where there is little or no contact with local units, it may be because they do not have the time or resources, or simply because the locals are not interested.

This is possibly the worst scenario of all. Either they have sufficient Guiders and you are not needed; the local District Commissioner is not interested in a ten-weeks-at-a-time Brownie Pack; or 'Town-Gown' relations are so bad that anyone under 25 sends them running in the opposite direction.

In this situation there is nothing you can do but persevere and hope your charm wins them round.

This may seem far-fetched but adult leaders are turned away through no fault of their own. To

those of us who have seen units close through lack of leaders or watched leaders struggle on without any help, this waste of resources seems criminal. Students may only be around for ten weeks at a time, but that does not mean they cannot make a valuable contribution.

So, I have some advice for Districts who may not be as welcoming as they should be:

- 'Spare' leaders could be asked to become members of the local badge-testing panel — they are impartial and already approved by The Guide Association.

- They may have specialised skills they could share with the whole area. They could run first-aid courses or may have the necessary experience to give talks for the new International badges.

- They could go on a rota to relieve local Guiders at agreed times. Just asking someone to fill in if a leader is ill is not really acceptable, as it doesn't make the Guider concerned feel wanted and highlights that she is not really considered one of the team.

Whatever a District decides to do with large numbers of potential new Guiders, it is important to appreciate their enthusiasm. Here are young women willing to give up their free time.

Many will have just left Rangers and so are young enough to empathise with the girls. After all they still go to 'school', do homework and sit exams, which Brownies and Guides can relate to.

Young Guiders and Commissioners have a great deal to gain from working together. ■



An extra pair of hands is always welcome

SANDY EVERITT

Red Nose Day '95 raised over £22 million. This year, Comic Relief aims to raise even more by mopping up your small change.

There is currently £2,000 million in small change circulating in the UK and Comic Relief would like to pick up some of it. Small change, big difference is the theme — so start thinking of ways to help!

If every Rainbow, Brownie, Guide and Ranger unit came up with just £1, Comic Relief would be £34,849 better off. Even better, every single £1 donated will be distributed to projects assisting disadvantaged people both here and in Africa.

Charity Projects, the serious charity behind the big red nose, has given **GUIDING** some fabulous fund raising ideas. Try passing them on to your girls, you



Help Lenny find the missing millions on March 14

may even like to have a go yourself.

● Hold a competition to find the most outrageous or silliest photo. Snap your sister in a face-mask or capture your cousin fast asleep. Charge a small entry fee for every picture that

is submitted.

● Have a bad hair day at school or work.

Collect small change to make a big difference.

● Take part in a sponsored role swap for the day with your mum, teacher, Guider or friend.

Have fun finding small change for Comic Relief and don't forget to send us your photos!

Join in the fun
on March 14
as the nation's
noses turn red
for charity



Two common misconceptions:

#1 'In this day and age no one gives you value for money'

#2 'You just can't get the staff these days'

The fourth CHQ Open Day will be held on Wednesday, April 23 from 9.30am-4pm.

This is an ideal opportunity for adult members to find out how CHQ works and how it benefits its membership.

All departments will be open to visitors and staff will be on hand to answer questions. Visitors must be over 16. If you are able to come, please let Margaret Moore know by ringing her on 0171 834 6242 ext 216, or by dropping her a line at 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road,

London SW1W 0PT, letting her know your name and expected arrival time.*

Why not combine your visit with a tour of the exciting new Guide Heritage Centre — The admission charge is still only £2 per person!

*It is regretted that we cannot acknowledge letters

woodland holiday site

Three years of
hard work and
fund raising
has produced
a new
Brownie Pack
Holiday
Centre

Kinver Brownies
deliver their
knitted blankets
to the Centre



A new Brownie Pack Holiday Centre has opened in the West Midlands following massive fund-raising, generous donations and a grant of £7000 from an ex-Dudley Scout, Tony Marsh. The scheme also relied on the dedication and hard work put in by a team of volunteers from Kinver B-P Guild.

Officially opened in September, the house has been built over three years at the Kinver Scout camp site 18 miles from Birmingham.

Although the building looks new, it used to be a lecture room belonging to a chemical company. Offered to the Guild, it was dismantled, transported and lay idle for 18 months as funds were raised and plans approved.

Work began in the spring of 1995, when a team of ex-Scouts, with a variety of skills, used their free time to erect the building and adapt it. It has 14 bunks for Brownies; two bunks for Guiders;

two toilets (including one for the disabled); washing facilities; a shower; emergency lighting; flood lighting around the building; fire equipment; first aid facilities; and access for the disabled.

The adjoining building – the B-P Guild premises – is available

impressed that leaders at once booked for a long weekend in April.

Anyone wishing to find out more about this new Pack Holiday Centre should contact Ken Johnson at 2 Musk Lane West, Gornal Wood, West Midlands DY3 2UJ, or telephone 01384 258432.

MAX BOWEN for recreation activities and has a large kitchen and two bunks for leaders.

The site covers nearly 27 acres in an ancient wood. The surroundings are superb and only a short distance from National Trust beauty spot, Kinver Edge.

A local unit, the 2nd Kinver Pack, had knitted 16 blankets for the Centre and were the first Brownies to use it. The unit was so

Budget **DIRECT** BUY DIRECT - BUY THE BEST!

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West Wickham, Kent BR4 0NJ

CALL FREE
0800 282814

Long-distance friends

The Guide Friendship Fund is always in need of your help, but if you are running short of fund-raising inspiration take a few hints from Guides Cymru.

When Brownies throughout Wales decided to help their 'Little Friends' over 5,000 miles away in Sri Lanka by raising money to produce their handbooks, half the money raised was to go to the GFF and half to charities of the girls' own choice. Units were told: 'Do your own thing but, whatever you do, have fun!'

Their ideas, which resulted in an amazing £3,170 for the GFF (£6,000 altogether), ranged from sponsored collages to cycle rides, from sleepovers to shoeshines.

● Brownies from the 2nd and 3rd Manselton units organised a fashion show and coffee evening, some girls completed their Hostess or Jester

badges, or clauses from the Brownie Go! Challenge at the same time.

● 2nd Penmaenmawr did a sponsored collage and made a donation to a local special school.

● Some Gwent Brownies took part in aqua aerobics while others held a sponsored silence during a parents' coffee evening.

● Clwyd Brownies polished brass, silver, shoes and cars, some planted bulbs and others cycled along Prestatyn prom to raise money.

● 7th Bangor Brownies collected enough pennies (1p per mile) to 'travel' all the way to Sri Lanka to deliver the handbooks, stopping on the way

to sample some of the country's food and drink, and to play some of the games that are popular there. Brown Owl Angela Baird is still counting pennies in her sleep!

Although their challenge was to raise £800, Guides Cymru Brownies raised enough to finance a second Guiding publication in Sri Lanka. ■

Brownies in Wales put fun into GFF fundraising



Shoes shone and brass sparkled thanks to Clwyd Brownies

coming next

The emphasis is on the environment in this month's issue.

Sign on for..

the Environment Challenge and help the planet in 1999.

Fighting spirit

Brave Brownie Hannah is back on the badge trail after surgery.

On their bikes

No amount of mud, rain or spills could end this 150-mile cycle ride.

Popping the question

After a 40-year wait a Guide HQ hosts *Gardeners' Question Time*.

Staying alive

Rangers taking part in Dagnet face

IN APRIL'S GUIDING

the ultimate outdoor challenge.

Beach watch

Live Issues examines British beaches.

Feeling their way

Discover how a 'boring' patch of concrete became a sensory garden.

Plain sailing

A simple swingboat mobile for the girls to make that really rocks.

An Irish experience

Brownies round the world takes a trip to Eire — the Emerald Isle.

Fairground fun

Advice on how a Six or Pack can make their own fairground games.

Master class

Emily's efforts as an artist gain unexpected recognition.

IN APRIL'S BROWNIE

Fun food

Tickle their taste buds with toffee crisps, burger sauce, popcorn and mini iced lollies.

Rainbow Rabbit

Help her to pick out all the fairground objects beginning with 'C'.

Funny face

Make a clown pencil top.

Bits and pieces

Your latest news and photos.

AND IN RAINBOW GUIDE EXTRA

Preview

Find out about the magazine for Rainbows due out later this month.

logo 2000 competition

As the world
is gripped by
millennium-
mania,
you are
invited to
help The
Guide
Association
with its plans
for the
year 2000



CYRIL SELBY

The Guide Association has also quietly started its planning for the millennium. Guiding representatives from all over the British Isles have been meeting to decide on the millennium agenda for the Association.

During the year 2000, the whole world is expected to be taking part in the momentous festivities and inspired celebrations, which will be spanning the globe.

Our Guiding 2000 Group is chaired by Sue Hogg from Ulster. All the Countries and Regions have

Hands across the globe link in
friendship for the year 2000



Help launch the Association into the 21st Century

put forward suggestions and ideas of what they think The Guide Association should be doing.

At the time of going to press, the exact 2000 plans still remain top secret. However, you can be sure that they will be relevant to Guiding and the girl. Any festivities will also take into consideration the workloads of the volunteers.

Every Guiding event which takes place in this special year and every item produced for it, will bear a new and exciting Association logo. *The Association is giving every member a chance to enter a design for the logo in an exciting competition.*

All entries to the competition should be sent to your Region or Country HQ with the entry form on this page. The closing date is June 30, 1997.

Five entries will then be selected and sent to CHQ for the final judging. The winner will be announced in November.

The theme for the logo competition is 'Belonging and participation'. Your design should be:

- Only two colours
- Clear and simple, concentrate on graphic symbols and little or no writing.

The competition is open to all members, from Rainbows to the Trefoil Guild. ■

ENTRY FORM

Name:
Address:
.....
Telephone:
Age (if under 18):
Section:
Unit name:
County:
Country/Region:

Pick up a Passport

This month sees the launch of a new scheme by the Training and Activity Centres to encourage those who usually only visit their local centre to venture further afield and see what's on offer elsewhere in the UK.

Foxlease, Waddow and Blackland Farm have got together with the three Country TACs – Broneirion, Lorne and Netherurd – and Great Hautbois House, the Anglia Training Centre. Together they have produced the **UK Passport to Guiding** which provides information on activities at each centre, directions on how to get there and how to book your stay.

Every time you stay overnight at a centre you collect a stamp in your passport. If you stay at all seven centres you will receive, free of charge, your own Camp Blanket badge as a memento of your achievement.

Your stay can be on a training course; under canvas, either on camp or for a Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition, or you could stay in the self-catering accommodation; or on a leisure break. The only rule is that you must stay overnight.

This scheme is open to anyone in Guiding, members of every section, adult leaders, Trefoil Guild members, and even husbands and friends. There's no minimum time-scale for collecting your stamps — the scheme is open as long as stocks of the badges last.

You can get your free passport from any TAC or by ringing Pauline Fearon on 0171 834 6242, or by writing to Pauline at CHQ.

And if you are planning to visit any or all of these centres, there is now even more reason to take along your camera. You could win a £50 voucher to spend at a Training and Activity Centre of your choice just by taking a super picture to enter in our fun competition.

All you have to do is take a photograph at any of the seven centres featured in the **UK Passport to Guiding**.

Your subject can be anything you like — the

centre itself; you or your friends camping or taking part in an activity; the Trainer running a busy session, or the activity instructor that you met at camp.

Your entry can be funny, happy, sad, artistic or plain weird. You can enter as many photos as you like, but they must all have been taken at a Training and Activity Centre featured in the **UK Passport to Guiding**.

Entries should be sent to: TAC Photographic Competition, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.

Closing date for entries is October 1 and the winning shot, along with a selection of other pictures entered, will be featured in December's *GUIDING*.



Keep your eyes peeled for a super shot — like this one snapped in the kitchen at Hautbois — and enter it in our photographic competition



Cold or what! A possible entry taken at Blackland Farm

Could 8th Formby (St Lukes) Guides have a winner with this happy memento of their stay in Waddow stables?



ROSIE MARSHALL

**Stay at a TAC,
get your
'passport'
stamped
and take a
winning
picture!**

open door

E is for Eostre, the northern goddess of spring whose festival was celebrated by the Saxons at the vernal equinox, March 21. When, in 597, Augustine was sent to evangelise England, he was instructed to 'accommodate the ceremonies of Christian worship... to those of the heathen'. As a result the feast of the Resurrection — which is also, overwhelmingly, about rebirth — took over Eostre's festival and name.

A is for Anemone Pulsatilla, the soft, pale lilac Pasque-flower, so called because it blooms around Pasch, another name for Easter. Pasch comes from the Hebrew Pesach or Passover, the festival Christ and his apostles were honouring at the Last Supper. Passover celebrates freedom — so, too, does Easter.

S is for stone that was rolled away from the tomb's entrance to reveal the awesome might of the Easter message: the triumph of life, love, peace and justice. A message for all time and for all people.

T is for the turtle whose voice in the Song of Solomon signals the arrival of spring: 'For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; The flowers appear on the earth; The time of the singing of birds is come, And the voice of the turtle is heard in our land...'

E is for egg. The association of eggs with Easter goes back to the ancient Greeks, Romans, Persians and Chinese who used to give each other coloured eggs, signifying new life, at the spring festival. Just as the baby chick breaks through its shell into the light, so the joy of Easter

can shine though into our lives, bringing with it new energies and new perspectives.

R is for rabbits. The cheery bunnies that appear on Easter cards also have a history. In ages past the deities of spring were often linked to fertility which was symbolised by hares. So why not rabbits as well?

Today, as part of Easter folklore, they remind us that all creation has wakened from winter's sleep. And by drawing our attention to the natural world, they can prompt us to remember our responsibility towards it.

So this Easter when you write your cards and buy your eggs, give a moment's thought to the festival's truths and traditions, and what they mean for you.

CD

a personal view

Risks worth taking

**Caroline Jellink,
a senior
manager with
Xerox Canada,
says Guiding
must continue
to help girls
achieve their
very best**

I am living proof—that given early opportunities for self-exploration, self-development and risk taking, many young people, particularly women, find they have many rewarding choices open to them.

These choices are in addition to traditional roles — roles that afford them experiences and rewards that they never dreamed they'd have.

I see the role of Guiding in the '90s as continuing to ensure that young women are given these life-expanding opportunities to discover and achieve their best.

A couple of important lessons I learned through Guiding come to mind. Pursuing a camping badge, a friend and I spent a fateful night in a self-made lean-to in a field at our District Guide camp and, somehow, we managed to set that whole field ablaze.

Yes, we learned about fire-fighting that night, but we also learned how to make decisions under pressure, creative thinking,

teamwork, problem solving and industrial first aid — all highly valued skills in corporate America.

For my knitting badge I managed to knit a potholder — but I cannot sew, knit, crochet or weave. I was given a conditional pass on my potholder, if I promised never to lift another pair of needles!

Far from making me feel a failure, I discovered early on it's OK not to be a domestic goddess. I have felt free to find things I am good at. Leading and motivating a team toward a common goal, thereby achieving a \$3 million-a-year sales budget, is a pretty rewarding experience.

I also learned through my Guiding that no amount of recognition has any worth, if it has not been earned honestly.

Society needs women who are not afraid to lead, who can rise to a challenge, and who will do their best. Too often the women I

interview sell themselves short. They 'think' they can do the job but they don't speak with the confidence of someone who 'knows' she will most likely succeed.

I am not asking you to develop egotistical monsters. I am, however, asking you to continue to ensure that girls whose lives you touch understand that self-confidence is acceptable, and that flexibility, resilience and risk taking are necessities in all of our personal and working lives.

● This article has been extracted from a speech delivered at the Commonwealth Chief Commissioners' Conference held last year in Nova Scotia, Canada.

The views expressed in this article are not necessarily those of The Guide Association, nor are they endorsed by it. The Editor reserves the right to edit items received for publication.

ideas

Programme ideas for March 1997

idea of the MONTH

Useful suggestions for Guiders of all sections By Gillian Ellis

Fund raising is popular at this time of year — for boosting unit funds or to help pay camp or Pack Holiday fees. As a Guider, it is important that you are aware of the legal requirements and restraints that apply.

Members of the Association are not permitted to approach the public. This includes any method of fund raising where members of the public are invited to subscribe money. For example: flag days, miles of pennies, street or door-to-door collections and ticket sales. Offering services door to door is not permitted and even carol singing needs police approval. There are strict rules regarding raffles run at Guiding events:

- All tickets must be sold, the draw made and prizes presented during the event.
- All tickets must be the same price, with no reductions for bulk purchases.
- Tickets may not be sold to, or by, persons under 16.
- Prizes may not be in the form of money and not more than £250 may be taken from the raffle proceeds to cover the cost of prizes. Prizes can, of course, be donated.
- Alcohol may only be given as a prize if a licence has been obtained first from the Licensing Justices, unless the local police confirm that this is unnecessary.

If you would like to run a raffle outside an event, you must register with the local authority. The promoter must be a member of the unit, District, Division or County and must be authorised, in writing, by the relevant Commissioner. Tickets must:

- State the name and address of the promoter, as well as the date of the draw.
- Be paid for before the draw.
- Not be sold to, or by, anyone under the age of 16.
- Not be sold by post to anyone outside the County.
- Not exceed 25p.

The ticket total value must not exceed £20,000 and the value of any one prize must not be more than £25,000. The raffle must not be advertised publicly and a full statement of the accounts must be sent to the local authority within three months of the draw.



idea

Devote an evening to sprucing up the meeting place and stocktaking equipment.

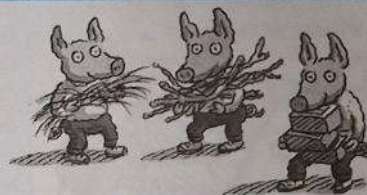
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idea

Encourage the Guides to plan and paint a new design for their Patrol boxes.



idea

Have a unit brainstorm to think of new activities and novel fundraising ideas.

help for all...

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topic of the month

This month we base activities around famous women who provide positive role models for all sections of the Association

By Trainers and Young Leaders from Cambridge East and Lincolnshire South
Illustrations: Jan Fearnley

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Florence Nightingale

Florence Nightingale was born over 170 years ago. She revolutionised nursing by raising its profile and standards. During the Crimean War she was known as the Lady of the Lamp by the soldiers she treated. This is because she would walk the wards at night, carrying an oil lamp so that she could watch over the sick

- Make a buddy burner

R S
suitable for
B G



for suffrage — the right to vote. British women over the age of 30 were finally allowed the vote during 1918.

Find out more about suffragettes in the early part of the century. Ask people you know if they can tell you anything about the Women's Liberation Movement of the 1960s and 70s.

- Think about the role of women during the Second World War. Find out about the jobs they did, the food they ate and the sorts of things they enjoyed doing in their spare time.

Braving bullets

Spending your life in the most dangerous, war-torn parts of the world is not something most of us would choose to do. For Kate Adie it is part of her job.

Kate has earned respect as a BBC reporter risking personal danger to bring news back to British viewers.

- Imagine that you will be living for two weeks in a major war zone. You will be allowed to take a change of clothes and one luxury. Choose what it would be.
- Ask an optician if they are collecting old spectacles for charity. Ask family and friends if they have any that they do not use.
- Knit a square each to make into blankets or jumpers for refugees.

R S
suitable for
B G

Liberating times

During 1903, Emmeline Pankhurst founded the Women's Social Political

Union. She led British women in the fight for suffrage — the right to vote. British women over the age of 30 were finally allowed the vote during 1918.

Find out more about suffragettes in the early part of the century. Ask people you know if they can tell you anything about the Women's Liberation Movement of the 1960s and 70s.

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R S
suitable for
B G

Acting around

Emma Thompson, Julia Roberts, Geena Davis and Joely Richardson are all famous actresses.

Discuss the films in which you have seen them star and whether you feel one is better than another. Think about what makes an actress suitable for one part but not right for a different type of part.

- Dress up in costumes suitable for your favourite characters from film, television and books — such as Peter Pan, Cruella de Vil, the Worst Witch or EastEnders's Peggy.

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suitable for
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R S
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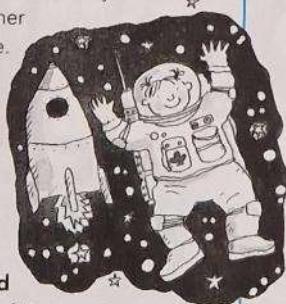
Over the moon

Helen Sharman has achieved fame as Britain's first astronaut. She beat many others, mostly male

contenders, to make her journey into space. While she was there, she carried out scientific experiments which will help us to develop habitable space stations eventually.

- Design an experiment that could be done on earth and in space, which might help us learn more about living conditions in space.

■ Look at the Guide Association's Science and Technology Fun Pack, for more ideas.



Wide world

Olave Baden-Powell was born in 1889. She married

Robert Baden-Powell, who founded the Scouts and, later, became the World Chief Guide. Olave devoted herself to Guiding and travelled all over the world visiting Guides and Girl Scouts.

- Design and make a mascot for your Six, Patrol or unit.
- Find out more about the four World Centres and the countries where they are based.

R S
suitable for
B G

Queen Boudicca

Boudicca was the leader of the Iceni tribe around AD60. She lived in what is now East Anglia. Boudicca and her massed armies fought bravely against the invading Romans after her husband was murdered. She eventually poisoned herself to avoid capture.

- Design a chariot fit for a Queen.
- Imagine that Boudicca visited Britain today. Draw, paint or act out a scene to show what Boudicca might think of women today.

BADGE SYLLABUSES TO BE REVIEWED IN 1997

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

1. Greatly enjoyed by the participants YES/NO
2. Not attractive because
3. Suggestions for change

Brownie	Guide	Staged
World Culture	World Culture	Interpreter
World Guiding	World Guiding	Faith Awareness
World Issues	World Issues	Culture
World Traveller	World Traveller	
World Wide	World Wide	
Communications	Aircraft	Bird Watcher
Conservation	Aquarist	Computer
Radio Communication	Conservation	Friend to Animals
Science Investigator	Farmer	Photographer
Seasons	Forester	
Signaller	Gardener	
Star Gazer	Observer	
	Radio Communication	
	Science Investigator	
	Seasons	
	Star Gazer Communications PIP	
Crime Prevention	Accident Prevention	Deaf Awareness
Fire Safety	Care of Elderly People	Sight Awareness
First Aider	Child Care	
Road Safety	Crime Prevention	
Safety in the Home	Emergency Helper	
Thrift	Firefighter	
	First Aid	
	Home Nurse	
	Road Safety	
	Thrift	
	Emergency Team PIP	
	Service Flash	
	Patrol Purpose Patch	

All comments should be returned to: Guiding Services, The Guide Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 0PT, by 1st MAY 1997

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True love

Pocahontas was born in 1595. She was the daughter of a Native American chief. When she was only 11, Pocahontas saved the life of an English colonist. She was later held captive by settlers but another English man fell in love with her. They married and came to England, where she died.

■ Watch Disney's *Pocahontas* to learn more.

■ Try making headdresses from card, paper and feathers. Make jewellery from leather thongs and clay beads.

Find out about the real Pocahontas — what was her life really like?



R S
suitable for
B G

Suffer little children

Mother Theresa is a Roman Catholic missionary in Calcutta, India. She was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 for her work caring for the destitute and homeless.

■ Find out what sort of things the Salvation Army do to help homeless people.

■ Tell Mother Teresa's story through words, pictures or a play. There are lots of books you could borrow about her life that will help you.

■ Find out if any other women have won the Nobel Peace Prize.

R S
suitable for
B G

Going swimmingly

Sharon Davies was a very successful Olympic swimmer. She now presents *The Big Breakfast* on Channel 4, after spending a brief time appearing as Amazon, the Gladiator.

■ Think of Gladiator-type names for everyone in the unit. Take part in a taxing obstacle course.

■ Breakfast is a very important meal. Try making traditional breakfast food from Scotland, France, Scandinavia and Canada.

R S
suitable for
B G

Awesome authors

Judy Blume, Anne Fine, Jane Austen and Jean Ure are all popular and respected female authors. Visit your local library and borrow a selection of books written by them. Discuss their different styles of writing.

Read a book by another female author. Think about your own favourite author and her/his style of writing.

■ Write an article or a letter about a Guiding event and submit it to your local paper.

R S
suitable for
B G

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



I've got rhythm

Evelyn Glennie is a famous Scottish percussion artist. She is one of the best in the world and is famed for her vibrant and imaginative music. Evelyn also happens to be profoundly deaf. She 'hears' her music through vibrations.

■ See if you can find any vibrations in the meeting place. Stand around different parts of the room, rest your hands on the walls, the floor, the fridge and so on.

■ Think of musical instruments which are played with the help of vibrations — such as a guitar or an oboe. Make your own percussion instruments using plastic bottles and dried peas.

R S
suitable for
B G



R S
suitable for
B G

Looping the loop

Amy Johnson was a pioneering English aviator who set remarkable records for long-distance flights. She was born in 1903 and flew solo all over the world. Tragically, Amy died when her plane crash-landed into the Thames. Her body was never recovered.

■ Tell the others about any journeys you have made by aeroplane. Think about ways of travelling. Ask who has travelled the farthest or who has travelled by the most unusual mode of transport.

■ Bring in photographs and other souvenirs of your holidays. Challenge others to guess where you went.

rainbow guiders

This month we have lots of stand-by activities, including games and fun food, for your Rainbows to join in and enjoy

Contributions from: D Roe, C Rickman and P Barker

Egg heads

Save your egg boxes to grow mustard and cress seeds in. The girls will love this activity as the seeds are easy to grow and the results can be seen in a short space of time.

Look out for other interesting containers in which to grow cress.

Edible necklaces

You will need:

- liquorice bootlaces
- Cheerios cereal
- any small sweets which can easily be threaded

Give each girl one or two liquorice bootlaces each. The Rainbows can then thread on them whatever goodies they like to make a delicious necklace.

Snaky plates

You will need:

- paper plates
- coloured pens and pencils, glitter and glue
- string

Draw a spiral on your paper plate — starting from the outside and working inwards. The width between the line should be three to four centimetres.

Cut along the line so that you end up with a springy snake shape. Decorate your snake so that it is as colourful and as weird and wonderful as you like.

Attach some string to the snake spiral to hang it up.

Silly walks

The girls stand at one end of the hall or playground. Draw a line about 15 metres away from them. The Guider then calls out a series of commands, waiting for each to be completed before calling out the next. The aim is to cover as much ground as possible with each action, in order to be the first to reach the line.

The commands are:

- Umbrella — jump forward and turn around at the same time.
- Crab — turn sideways and take two large steps.
- Chinese footsteps — Take ten steps where the heel of the advancing foot is in contact with the toe of the back foot.
- Kangaroo jumps — jump forward twice, making sure that feet are together on take off and on landing.

Wonderful whizzers

You will need:

- wooden clothes pegs
- rolls of crêpe paper
- string

Cut the rolls of crêpe paper into inch wide strips — when they are unfurled they should be about a metre long.

Clip one end of the paper into the clothes peg so that it is secure. You may like to use a piece of sticky tape as well.

Tie a length of string, about 30cm, through the hole in the clothes peg. The Rainbows now have a wonderful whizzer to twirl around.

This activity is very simple but extremely popular with Rainbows. They will play for ages — the crêpe paper makes wonderful patterns. Routines done to music are great fun too.

Paper and crayons are a great stand-by for any meeting



M. WHITTAKER



Encourage Rainbows to be creative

Traditional Easter bonnets

This activity does not have to be confined just to Easter. Supply the girls with card, paper, scraps of material and other interesting items, such as feathers. You will also need lots of glue and newspaper.

Give the Rainbows basic templates for hats and bonnets. When they are finished, hold a fashion parade.

You may like to choose a winner who is then allowed to help make the squash or serve the biscuits.



Rainbows love sweet treats such as decorated biscuits

Biscuit faces

You will need:

- Rich tea or digestive biscuits
- Glacé icing in different colours
- Small sweets, sugar toppings, angelica and so on.

Provide each Rainbow with two or three biscuits and a selection of icing and decorations.

The girls can 'draw' faces on the biscuits using the various ingredients. If you put the biscuits on paper plates, the girls will be able to take them home.

crafty ideas

Making jewellery is always a popular activity with girls of all ages – our brilliant bangles are easy to make and everyone will want to wear one

By Victoria Wheeler
Illustrations: Julie Morris

All that glitters...

Our fabulous bracelets are extremely easy to make and just as good as those you can buy in department stores, trendy shops or market stalls.

You will need: aquarium hose and in-line connectors, available from aquarium specialists and pet shops; glitter; tiny cake sprinkle toppings.

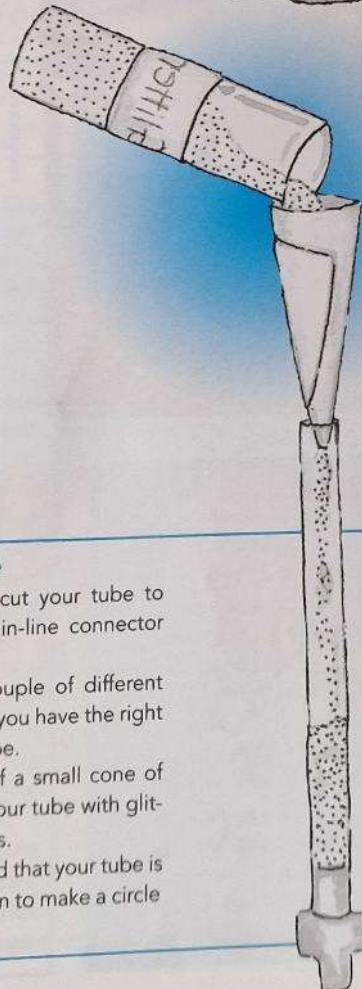
■ Aquarium hose should only cost about 10p a metre. One metre will make about four or five Guide-sized bangles. The in-line connectors cost around 20p each. You will need one connector for each bangle.



Just my size

Before you start you will need to work out how much tube you will need for your bangle. It needs to be large enough to slip on but not too big that it slips off.

■ It is better to work with slightly more tube than you eventually need, as it is easy to cut down to size – but you can't add any on!



Fill it up with care

Once you have cut your tube to size, insert an in-line connector into one end.

These come in a couple of different sizes, so make sure that you have the right one for your width of tube.

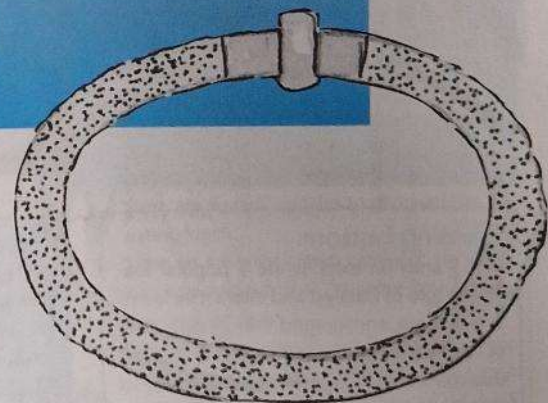
Make a funnel out of a small cone of paper and use it to fill your tube with glitter or tiny sugar toppings.

When you are satisfied that your tube is full enough, close the join to make a circle

Neat ends

The connectors are usually green in colour and the girls may like to disguise them by sticking a piece of coloured tape on top.

Alternatively, you could wind a length of embroidery thread over the join.



Variations on a theme

Try layering different-coloured glitter to make a striped effect. You also might like to make a snowstorm bangle. Just add a little glitter to the tube and then fill it up with water. Be careful that the water does not spill when you make the join.

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out and about

If you think that chemicals are as dull as dish water, think again – Catalyst, a Cheshire museum, makes science fun!

Words and photos by Gillian Ellis

What's it all about?

Catalyst, the Museum of the Chemical Industry, can be found in Widnes, Cheshire.

Open for over seven years, the museum is an absolutely brilliant place for a unit to visit. There are lots of hands-on exhibits and experiments for girls of all ages to enjoy and take part in.

Soapy science

The original building dates from 1860, over the years it has been a soap factory and ICI research laboratories.

In 1994 a large extension was built to include a new main entrance, cafe, shop and education centre.

The amazing lift on the outside of the museum, makes you feel a bit like Charlie in the great glass elevator. It takes you to the lofty heights of the Industry in View exhibition, 100 feet up in the clouds. There is also some fantastic scenery to look at, presenting a view of the Cheshire countryside as far as the eye can see.

Pressing buttons

Hands-on exhibits are a popular feature of Catalyst and interactive learning is encouraged throughout. Birth of an Industry, is an interactive journey through time. It demonstrates the use of chemicals from early Egyptian times to the 1940s.

This section of the museum contains a wealth of information about the Industrial Revolution, the development of synthetic medicines and the environment.

Birth of an Industry, although an exciting and informative exhibit, is probably more suitable for older girls, — and of particular interest to history and chemistry students.

Rainbow reaction

There are lots of activities at the various exhibition halls to keep you busy, whatever the age of the girls in your unit.

When GUIDING visited the museum, enthusiastic Rainbows from Stockport were whizzing around, trying out various computer challenges and other weird and wonderful experiments.

Younger girls will also enjoy the fourth floor observatory. After braving the elevator, the smell box will keep them amused for ages. At the touch of a button, different scents are released — causing much astonishment!

Other exhibitions in the observatory include working clothes throughout the ages. This displays raw materials, natural and man-made, which are used for dyes and fragrances.



Scientrific!

The Scientrific galleries offer lots of amazing practical demonstrations which are suitable for all ages and sections.

You can explore the wonderful worlds of light and colour, fluids and food. Learn more about chemical pollution, water quality and plastics manufacture. Find out about the principles of friction, heat and all sorts of other things which are encompassed by the magical term 'chemistry'.

So that's where the water goes! Rainbows marvel at the miracles of modern engineering



Blast off!

Helen Sharman, the first British astronaut, launched the Chemicals for Life exhibition. This explores the impact of chemicals on everyday life through interactive exhibits and hands-on displays.

Through games and challenges, girls will learn about the value of chemicals in different environments. A brilliant game, Apples and maggots, lets you battle against natural disasters to grow a successful apple crop.

At the opening of Chemicals for Life, Helen enthusiastically pointed out that the museum shows chemicals can be interesting as well as useful.

She advocates the use of play for education and Catalyst is the ideal place to have fun and learn at the same time.

Chemical clothes

For those of you who have ever wondered how synthetic fabrics are made, Catalyst is the ideal place to visit.

Visitors are allowed to touch samples of the raw materials which make up modern synthetic chemicals and see how they are extracted. You are encouraged to operate valves to transfer liquid from storage tanks to reactor vessels; turn handles to generate electricity; melt crystals, then watch them reform.

Older girls may enjoy being process engineers operating a chemical plant. As each stage is programmed in the correct order, the flow diagram on the computer reveals that the engineer is making not chemicals — but teal

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And there's more!

Half a day will probably be long enough to explore the indoor exhibits. If you do want to make your trip a bit longer, you might like to consider the Spike Island Heritage Trail. Spike Island, adjacent to the museum, is home to a wide variety of wildlife. The special trail has been devised by Catalyst staff.

The site was in its heyday during the Industrial Revolution. At that time it was an excellent location for the chemical factories, close to many sources of raw materials such as salt and limestone. The site was also easily accessible by sea and rail.

Spike Island is now a green and pleasant area, owned by the borough council and managed by Halton Ranger Service.

Exploring the island

Trail leaflets for Spike Island are available in advance, if you get hold of some it will make your planning easier.

The trail takes you all over the island, exploring the old soap works; the canal and the lock gates; the former dock area and the site of an old iron bridge. You can also see the reconstructed kilns and other evidence of the former industrial life of the area. Even in the free car park there are displays of local artifacts and other information.

The route brings you to the Visitor Centre which houses a wildlife and industrial history exhibition. Check the times before you go.



Educational fun

The museum produces a fun, educational booklet — the Catalyst Family Fun Trail. It is suitable for Brownie age upwards. Priced at 25p, it has plenty of things to keep the girls occupied.

The museum will also supply you in advance with a science and technology trail worksheet. This will help you plan your visit and give the girls specific things to look for.



Up-to-date computer wizardry makes learning fun

Admission prices

When you take a party of ten people, or more, the admission charges are £2.65 for children up to 16 years and £3.55 for adults.

Senior citizens, registered disabled people and the unemployed pay £2.95. You will need proof of status.



Up to their elbows in it...Rainbows learn about the magical properties of salt

How to get there

Catalyst is easily accessible from most places in the North West. Leave the M62 at Junction Seven, or the M56 at Junction 12. Catalyst is signposted.

■ All prices were correct at the time of writing, however do check these, as well as opening times and exhibitions, before you plan a visit.

Send for group booking details to Hilary Green, Catalyst, Mersey Road, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0DF Telephone 0151 420 1121.

Eating out

When spending the whole day at Catalyst, there are several options to choose from for eating lunch.

If you make an advance group booking, do ask if you can order a packed lunch at the same time. These are very reasonably priced

If the weather is fine, you might like to take your own picnic. There is a large, grassed area overlooking the water, which can be used on a dry day. If weather conditions are unsuitable for outdoor eating, the museum may be able to lend you part of the Education Centre. This will only be available if it has not already been booked by another group.

The Elements cafe on the ground floor offers a wide choice of inexpensive meals. Kids' Corner has a special range of children's meals. The cafe is small, so at very busy periods you may have to visit it in small groups.



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brownie guiders

There will be fireworks, music and feasting as Brownies all over the world celebrate Easter in their own special ways

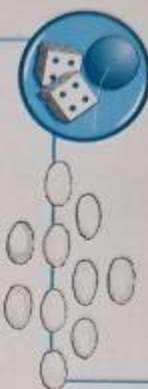
By Gillian Ellis
Illustrations: Julie Morris

Egyptian skittles

Egyptian Brownies play a special game of skittles at this time of year — with eggs! It is especially good for small groups of girls. If you would like to play, you will need:

One hard-boiled egg, painted yellow, per girl; ten hard-boiled eggs, painted red, per team.

Set out the red eggs in the traditional skittle triangle. Use the yellow eggs to bowl. Traditionally, girls get to keep the eggs they crack, but Brownies can be rewarded with a mini-egg every time they score a 'hit'.



French belles

There are four different names for French Brownies: Louveteaux, Betisettes, Louvettes and Jeanettes.

■ For a change, you may like to alter the names of your Sixes for the meeting.

On Maundy Thursday, the day before Good Friday, church bells fall silent. French children are told that the bells have flown away to visit the Pope. When they return the bells bring chocolate eggs for them.

■ Make cards in the shape of silver bells, inside you can write Joyeux Paques!

Spanish parade

Spanish Brownies or Little Wings — as they are known — will be sending greetings for a 'Feliz Semana Santa!' this Easter.

Little Wings may also be taking part in one of the many, magnificent Easter processions which will be taking place all over Spain. Floats, showing the Easter story, will be paraded through the streets. The carnivals are usually very noisy.

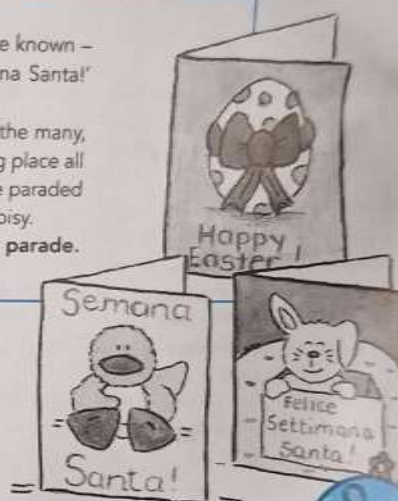
■ Design your own costumes for an Easter parade. You may like to hold a fancy-dress evening.

Sweet swedes

Swedish Brownies, Minor Guides, dress up as Easter witches on Easter Saturday. The girls deliver cards to friends and relatives, hoping that they will put sweets into the coffee pots that the Brownies carry.

On Easter Monday special sports fixtures are planned.

■ Hold an Easter egg-and-spoon race, using chocolate eggs.



Fairy fun

Hadita are Mexican Brownies. Their name translates as 'Fairies'. At this time of year, members of Hadita traditionally will be making 'God's Eyes'.

God's Eyes are quite popular over here too. If you have not made them before, you will need:

Cocktail stick and scraps of coloured wools.

Tie the cocktail sticks into the shape of a cross. Weave the wool in a circular, clockwise direction around the cross. Keep changing the colour of the wool.

■ You can wear your weaving as a brooch or hang it in your window.



Greek candles

On Easter day, many Greek Brownies, who are called Poulis (birds), will go to church with their families. They will each take a candle with them.

The priest will light the candle nearest to him and the light will then be passed around from candle to candle. The candles are then taken home with great care — to make sure that the flame does not go out.

Church bells will be rung and fireworks exploded to celebrate the festival.

■ Teach the girls the song This little Guiding light.

Say it again

On this page we have told you how to say 'Happy Easter' in French and Spanish. Italian Brownies say 'Felice Settimana Santa!' Ask the girls if they know any other greetings in a different language.



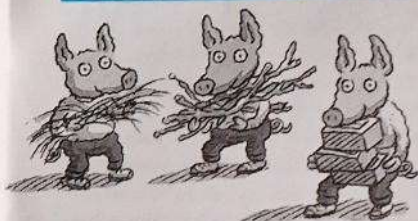
Property values

For this game you will need a variety of props, the more interesting the better. Pairs of girls are given a prop and have to imagine that it is anything but what it really is and involve it in a very short scene. For example, a kitchen sieve could be a microphone, a hat, a table tennis bat and so on.

■ It is important not to let the girls go on too long as the jokes may wear a bit thin.

Bashful and happy

On pieces of paper write down lots of different emotions — such as happy, sad, stupid, scared, grumpy, enthusiastic, jealous. Ask the girls to pick a piece of paper and then they have to perform a nursery rhyme in that emotion. The others have to guess how they are feeling.



Rhyming rainbows

Rainbows can be introduced to dramatic speech through listening to fairy stories.

Sit the girls down and read them a story such as the *Three Little Pigs*, the *Gingerbread Man* or any other story which has repetitive lines. For example, in the *Gingerbread Man* the following lines are regularly spoken:

■ 'Run, run, as fast as you can — you can't catch me, I'm the Gingerbread Man!'

The Rainbows all say the line together before the story begins. When the tale starts, the Guider beckons the girls to join in whenever she comes to those particular lines.

Stylish situations

Working in groups or pairs, choose a situation and a film or theatre style to act it out in. This improvisation game is more suitable for older girls.

■ Situations: Hairdressers; driving test; using the launderette; in a changing room; being interviewed..

■ Styles: Opera; pantomime; science fiction; western; musical; pop video...



Hot property

Last month we explained that props — short for properties — are objects used in, or to add to, a scene, anything from a chair to a gun.

Think about your favourite soap opera. Everything from coffee mugs to street litter has been brought together by the properties manager.

Props are very important and can be a vital part of the drama. On the other hand, the smallest and simplest of props can be turned, with a little imagination, into a spectacular and fearsome dragon, or a set of glittering crown jewels.

■ Take a look at the games on this page for more ideas

Time out

Remember that these games are for fun and no one should be forced into situations where they feel uncomfortable or humiliated.

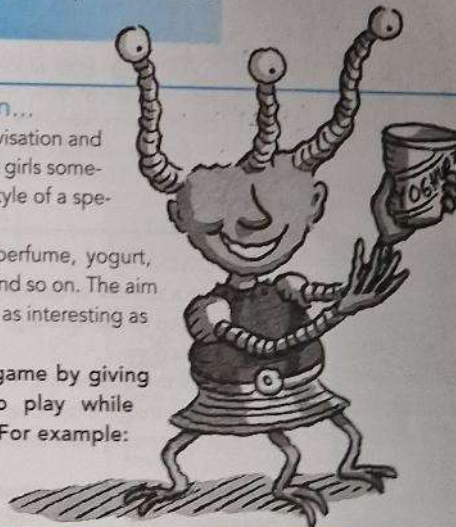
Acting should be enjoyable, although you may find that some girls are embarrassed at first. Leave your inhibitions at the door and step into someone else's shoes for the night!

Can I interest you in...

Try combining improvisation and a prop by giving the girls something to sell in the style of a specific television advert.

You could try selling perfume, yogurt, pencils, a tiger, a jumper and so on. The aim is to make the item sound as interesting as you possibly can.

■ You can add to the game by giving the girls characters to play while performing the advert. For example: hippies, aliens, ghosts, pop stars...



drama for beginners

The second instalment of our drama series explores speech, improvisation and the use of props for all sections and ages

By Marion Gow and Vicky Watt
Illustrations: Dom Mansell

Strange fruit

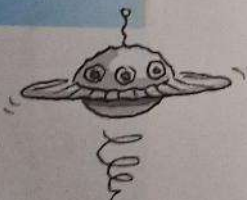
For this game you will need an orange or another piece of fruit. Place it on a chair in the middle of the room. The girls have to imagine that the orange is not an orange but one of the following:

■ Precious jewels that you have been told to guard.

■ A boy that you really like and are going to ask out.

■ Someone who has done something naughty and you are telling them off.

Volunteers take it in turns to approach the fruit and assume their role. Make the scene more interesting by adding more cast members. For example, a tourist wanting to try on the jewels.



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try this

Pack Holiday preparations will have been under way for some time but we have activities, games and hints to help ease things along

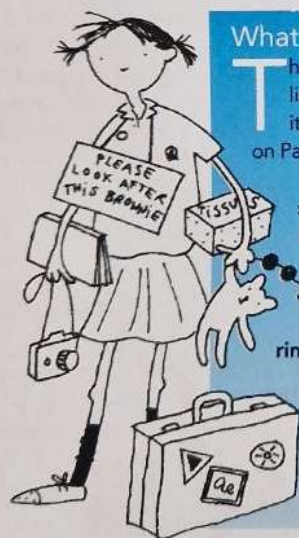
By Sue Norton and Gillian Ellis
Illustrations: Jane Eccles

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Why pack holiday?

When Brownies first began, girls were allowed to camp under canvas. During 1922 a decision was made to stop this and the Pack Holiday was born. It is only recently that Brownies have been able to camp under canvas once again.

Whether you choose to camp or take a traditional holiday, remember that Guiders as well as Brownies should be joining in the fun!



What do I need?

This is a game that will help with those all-important kit lists. Into a pillowcase you should put lots of different items that you may or may not need to take with you on Pack Holiday.

The list might include tissues, sweets, jewellery, stereo, sandals, teddy bear, tea towel, camera and book. The girls sit in a circle and pass the bag round, singing the following rhyme to the tune of *Here we go round the mulberry bush*:

'Pass the bag around the ring, around the ring, around the ring. Pass the bag around the ring to see what you find within.'

When the singing stops, the girl holding the bag pulls out an item. This is then put in the middle of the circle and the Pack discuss whether it is a good item to take on Pack Holiday.



Holiday hints

Encourage each Brownie to bring her favourite soft toy. A familiar comforter may put a stop to homesickness, especially at night.

Sent packing

Bring a suitcase and a selection of items to be packed to the meeting. Show the girls how this is done.

Unpack the clothes and mix them up. Using a pair of dice the girls then have to throw an even number to correctly pack an item into the suitcase.

■ This activity can be done as a race, in two groups.

Holiday hints

Good Pack Holidays usually have a theme. Re-name games, food, Sixes and even leaders, to fit in.



What's my job?

Sharing jobs is a big part of Pack Holiday. Explain to the girls the system that you use for sharing jobs on holiday and make it clear which groups are responsible for each job. Your Pack may divide the girls up into groups named health, cook, hostess and so on.

The girls stand in a circle and are alternatively given the names of each duty group. Place a soft ball or bean-bag in the middle of the circle. Call out a job, such as 'lay the table' or 'choose a prayer'. Every girl who is in the group responsible for that job runs clockwise around the circle and back through the space that she left. The first girl to pick up the ball gains a point for her Six.



Holiday hints

If you do not have a mobile phone, try to borrow one for the duration of Pack Holiday. It may prove invaluable in remote places and on trips and outings.

Table times

Some of your girls may not be used to setting a dinner table. Practise laying the table for different meals, using the different types of crockery and cutlery that they may come across.

Lay a table for a simple meal. The Brownies close their eyes while you change over two pieces of cutlery, glasses or napkins. The first girl to identify the changes wins a point for her Six.

Safety crosses

Make sure that all the Brownies know the rules of traditional noughts and crosses. Set out three rows of three chairs in noughts and crosses formation. Divide the Pack into two equal teams. The Brownies in one team each hold a card marked 'O'. The others hold cards marked 'X'.

Ask one team a question about kitchen safety. If the answer is correct, the first girl in the team may sit on the chair of her choice. The other team then answers a question. This continues until a team achieves a line of noughts or crosses.

All washed up

Pack Holiday may be the only time that Brownies have the chance to help out with everyday household duties. Washing up is not just a case of wiping pots — this game makes learning fun.

For each Six, write down the instructions for the correct order of washing up on the reverse of a large card picture — a calendar is ideal. Cut the instructions into strips.

In groups, the girls throw a six with a dice. The first Brownie to do this chooses any strip and puts it in the centre of the table. The next girl to throw a six must choose the instruction which goes above or below the last one.

The game continues until the Brownies think that they have finished.

■ The answers can be checked by turning over the strips to reveal the picture.

Holiday hints

Make sure that the First Aider explains the health form in detail to parents. Stress that all the forms are handled in strictest confidence and any problems should be discussed before the holiday.



Who's who?

On Pack Holiday, different leaders deal with different situations. Make sure that Brownies know exactly who to turn to for help, with the help of our simple game.

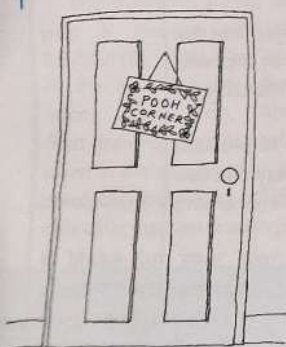
On each wall of the room, stick up cards labelled Brown Owl, QM, First Aider, Pack Leader and so on. Call out a Pack Holiday situation — such as bed time, lost property, tangled hair, sore throat. All of the girls have to run to the appropriate sign on the wall.

■ To make the game more appropriate, put up signs with the names your leaders will adopt for the holiday. For example: Roo, Tigger, Pooh, Kanga...

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No place like home

Before you arrive at your Pack Holiday venue, spend some time in the preceding weeks creating decorations to make the house look like home.



- You might like to make a frieze of scenes associated with your theme.
- Name each room and make a decorative door hanging.
- Make special character badges for everyone.
- Make feature menu cards in character shapes.
- Make your own themed place mats and napkin holders.

The possibilities are endless! You don't even have to be a good artist, look out for pictures you can copy, wrapping paper

you can cut up, or ask someone you know to help out.

What do we want?

Ask the girls for ideas as to what they want to do on their Pack Holiday. All of their ideas, however flamboyant, should be listened to!

The girls should also be consulted when preparing the menus — even though it would be impossible to cater for all likes and dislikes.



Whistle while you work

Singing your way through Pack Holiday duties often makes them go quicker. Before you leave, teach the girls some simple new songs. Think of new words to old tunes, it's quite easy when you get started. Here is one to give you some ideas, the tune is Frere Jacques.

Helpful Brownies, helpful Brownies;
Jobs to do, jobs to do.
See what we are doing,
See what we are doing;
Do it too, do it too.



The biggest adventure

For lots of help with Pack Holiday preparations and planning, *The Biggest Brownie Adventure*, by Gillian Ellis, is the book to have. If you cannot borrow a copy it is certainly worth buying one. It is available from Guide shops and the Trading Service.

check it out

Well made expedition clothing is vital – we test a new range of special underwear, which claims to keep you cool in summer and hot in winter

by Alec and Val Scaresbrook

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Cool clothes

Different people will have their own preferences for functional clothing. However, whatever you choose, practicality, safety and comfort have to be paramount.

There are several factors that members of the Association take into account when choosing new protective clothing for walks, camps or expeditions.

Laying it on

Clothing should be made up of an inner, a middle and an outer layer. The first layer of clothing, next to the skin, should act as a wick – drawing moisture away from the skin.

The second layer acts as insulation. It should be lightweight and easy to dry. The third, outer layer acts as a shell – providing protection from the elements

The low-down

Cool Fix base-layer garments are designed to be worn next to the skin. It is claimed that they will keep you feeling comfortable in all conditions – hot or cold, summer or winter.

The manufacturer states that these garments will keep you comfortable by maintaining your normal body temperature, whatever the weather.

The fabric is designed to wick away excess moisture from the skin and keep it dry. The inner layer of polyester wicks moisture away to the outer layer of cotton. Moisture is then transferred to the air – or outer layers of clothing.

On trial

We tested a crew-necked t-shirt from the Kilma Sport Super Lightweight Thermal Bodywear range. Other clothes available include a zipped polo-neck vest, long and short pants, t-shirt and balaclava.

Made by Cool Fix International Ltd, the clothes, are composed of 50 per cent cotton and 50 per cent polyester – knitted in two layers.

All of the garments are intended for use as a cool layer in summer, as well as a warm base layer in winter. Most of them are available in white or navy and come in unisex sizes from S to XXXL.

COOL FIX INTERNATIONAL LTD

Testing time

The t-shirt was tested during the summer, on cycling and backpacking expeditions.

It was a pleasant surprise to find out that the shirt is so lightweight – 180g, and will not take up much space in your pack. Initial worries that the thin material would let sunlight filter through to the skin, were unfounded. Sunlight was successfully blocked and only Alec's exposed neck was burnt.

The polo neck version is recommended to protect your neck – if this part of your anatomy is vulnerable to the sun.

The vest scored points on the fact that the back is longer than the front. This provides extra fabric to tuck in and prevents an exposed lower back. The fabric is also very soft and extremely comfortable to wear next to the skin.

The material is constructed from cotton and polyester to produce the different layers. These are knitted together in such a way that two layers are not obvious – except in the appearance of the inner and outer surfaces.

Traditional walking and cycling clothes may cause chills when sweat, which has soaked the material, evaporates. This has a cooling effect on the skin and can happen even on a warm day.

The Cool Fix top prevents this cooling problem. Perspiration causes the material to become damp, but not soaked. There is no cooling because the moisture is not held in the fabric against the skin. The vest dries very quickly – after backpacking for nine hours in very hot weather, neither tester or vest smelt sweaty. This is a definite advantage when camping in the wilds with friends.



Appropriate clothing is vital for any outdoor activity

Further information

This is the first thermal base layer that we have come across that is not too hot for summer wear. For further details and mail order information, you can contact:

Cool Fix International Ltd, Roskin House, Drury Lane, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 6AH

Telephone: 0800 0720 360

Prices start at £14.50 for a balaclava hood. The shirt tested is priced at £27.50.

Siamese knotting

When the girls have mastered basic knots, lashings and whippings, team them up with a partner to tie knots using only one hand each.

■ You will find that most gadgets can be made using a combination of the following: a clove hitch, a reef knot, square lashing, tripod lashing, snake lashing and west country whipping.

Raft race

You will need: dowel or garden sticks 8-14cm in length, string.

Get your Guides used to gadgets by holding a mini raft race. The object of the exercise is to make a raft that will carry a box of matches — and keep them dry!

■ Use square and snake lashing to make your raft.

■ Guides

could also try

making other

mini gadgets

— such as a

washing-up stand or a bedding-roll rack



guide guiders

It's never too early to start preparing for camp — even if you are not going away try our indoor outdoor activities for a fun-filled meeting

By Marilyn Lloyd

Illustrations: Kim Woolley

Camp jargon

Each Patrol will need pens and paper. You may like to supply a selection of camping catalogues and books. Give the girls 15 minutes to think of as many camping terms as they can for each letter of the alphabet. For example: A — altar fire; B — brailing pegs; C — camp fire; D — dolly...

■ Try thinking of a term for every letter of your unit name.



Straight lines

Walking in a straight line is not always easy! However, it is essential when following a map and walking on a bearing.



Chalk a straight line on the floor. Blindfold a Guide at the start of the line and see how easily she can walk along it. Try again with the same person — does she have a bias to one side more than the other?

Compass pictures

The girls will need squared paper, a pencil and a ruler. The object is to give the girls a list of compass directions which they will join up to form a picture or word.

The following points will plot a five-pointed star: NE/SE/NW/E/SW. The lines of the star measure 10cm, 10cm, 14cm, 12cm, 14cm. Start drawing from the centre point in the middle of an A4 piece of paper. Don't tell the girls what they are drawing!

■ Make up your own shapes such as a boat or house.

■ When the girls are more confident use tent pegs, rope and a large, grassed area to perform the exercise. Measure in paces not centimetres.



Grid reference games

The aim of this activity is to improve map-reading skills. It does require some preparation.

Each Patrol will require an ordnance survey map. The girls are given a set of grid references which they have to find. By taking the first letter of each of the place names at each reference, the girls will be able to form a word.

■ For example, the following references are taken from map number 102 and spell the word 'pudding':

374327 455546 438319 522534 465380 305412 471269.



Mappo!

Mappo is a new game based on bingo and played with map symbols. Make up bingo cards — the girls can do this themselves — each with assorted map symbols on them. A set of symbols also needs to be put aside to be pulled out of a bag and called out.

■ Copy the symbols from the key on ordnance survey maps.

■ Make two sets of symbol cards so that you can play snap. You will need three or four pictures of the symbols for each set.

Where is it?

Mix up the names of places to be found on a map. Guides can then unscramble them and give grid reference. The references can then be passed to another Patrol to decipher.

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ranger guiders

Don't miss out on this year's Senior Section national camp – Octi-Wot certainly promises to be an event to remember

By Barbara O'Donnell

What's the story?

Octi-wot is this year's flexible, fun-packed, lightweight, national camp for the Senior Section. It will be held at Waddow Hall, Lancashire, from August 4 to August 9, 1997.

The camp is for Rangers, Young Leaders, Young Leader Guiders, SSAGO, LINK, Junior Council and BYC members. Come on your own or with a group — the choice is yours!

Where's Waddow?

Waddow is a Guide Association Training Centre, situated just outside Clitheroe, Lancashire.

It is easy to reach by rail and there is plenty of parking for those arriving by car. Delegate a member of your group to find out the best method of travelling and make your booking now.

Can Guides go?

Acamp for Guides aged 13-plus, will be running alongside the Senior Section camp.

Every Region has been allocated eight places. This is the ideal opportunity for girls to experience how the Senior Section operates, as well as taking part in the planned programme of activities.

Come for the day

Flexibility is the key to the camp and groups may arrive and leave on days to suit themselves. The organisers will, however, need to know how many people to expect. Therefore, all bookings must be made before May 31.

Make sure that your group applies early to be certain of a place.

Food, glorious food

Senior Section members usually place a keen emphasis on food — especially when they are at camp. Octi-wot has built in several options to help girls plan their menus:

- Supermarket sweep — the one stop Octi-wot shop, stocked with breakfast supplies, snacks and ingredients for main meals.
- Burger-Queen — catering for your fast-food needs.
- Soup and salad bar — take a mug to fill with soup or a plate to fill up with freshly-made salad.
- Sauce saucery — cook your own pasta and purchase a freshly-made sauce, from the tempting variety on offer.



MICHELLE SMITH

Climbing is just one of the activities you can expect to enjoy at Octi-wot



M. WHITTAKER

Food takes on a whole new flavour on a lightweight camp

What will we do?

Amultitude of activities awaits you at Octi-wot. Take part in driving courses, barge trips, aerobics sessions, ten-pin bowling, climbing and crafts.

There will also be trips to Blackpool and Granada television studios. The camp will open to the funky sounds of a steel band and close with an energetic ceilidh.

Different activities will be organised every night, take in a late night movie or relax in Kate's bistro.

A special, four-phase challenge has also been devised to stretch your limits. Those who complete it will gain the special challenge brick.



What will we need?

Flush toilets and hot showers are provided, but as Octi-wot is a lightweight camp, everyone who attends will need to be self sufficient.

Everyone will need to bring a tent, stove and other personal kit. Don't forget to pack lots of sun cream!



young leader guiders

Octi-wot — the movie

The organisers of Octi-wot would like to make a video of the camp.

Volunteers are required to take on the roles of director and camera person. If you have the relevant skills and would like to help, please contact Gillian Cruickshank at CHQ.



CHRIS BOARDMAN



Get caught up in the atmosphere at Octi-wot '97

Service team

Octi-wot presents the ideal opportunity for Duke of Edinburgh Gold participants to complete the residential clause of their award.

The camp needs 50 people to join the service team. The team will live together in a sub-camp and provide valuable assistance in the running of the camp.

As a member of the service team, your fees will be £35. This will include site fees, food, T-shirt, cap and badge. You will need to bring your own tent and must be available from August 3 to August 9.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the service team, send for an application form to:

Annette Southall, 4 Alison Close, Tipton, West Midlands, DY4 0BN

Annette is the Guide Association Duke of Edinburgh Adviser.

What's the cost?

The fee for the camp is £8 per day. This includes camp badge and evening activities, as well as camping fees. Those who only stay for a day or part of a day, will pay £4.

Each activity is individually priced — so you can spend as much, or as little, as you like.

Camp T-shirts are available at the bargain price of £5.50. These have to be ordered in advance.

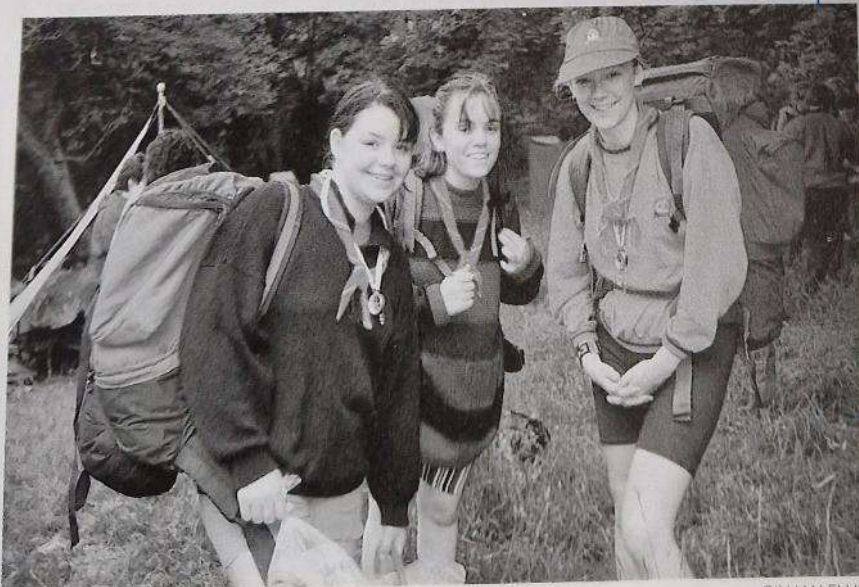
How do we book?

Application forms for Octi-wot and further details about the camp are available from:

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

Please include your name, address and telephone number. You will also need to state how many forms you would like.

■ The closing date for applications is May 31.



GILLIAN ELLIS

Octi-wot is the ideal opportunity to make new friends

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using your patrols

After the Thinking Day flu epidemic, the Guides get their agenda back on course in the final installment of our popular series

By Gillian Furse
Illustrations: Sophie Harding



Magic mums

Some of the Guides decided to present their mums with an extra-special bunch of magic, colour-change flowers. Here's how to make your own.

You will need: a clear glass jar or vase; water; blue food colouring; some white flowers — carnations are best.

Pour the water into the jar along with two or three table-spoons of food colouring. Arrange your flowers in the water. After a day, your posy will 'miraculously' change colour as the water is sucked up.

The more dye you use in this experiment, the stronger the colour of the flowers will be. Flowers with shorter stems will take less time to turn blue.

Learning by experience

After Thinking Day, the girls had half-term to recover from the flu fiasco. The Guiders contacted all the Patrol Leaders to arrange a meeting.

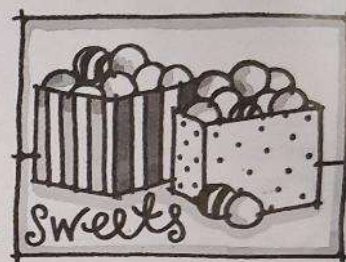
When the Asteroids had talked to each other and their parents, they realised that their plans had been slightly too ambitious. The girls then came up with a new suggestion — they would like to make sweets to sell in order to raise money.

■ If you intend making sweets to sell, make sure that you are aware of current hygiene and trading rules.



Collector mania

Meteor Patrol members wanted an evening to share their collections with each other. They brought in their collections of pigs, key rings, postcards and pencil sharpeners. Inspired, the Guides then visited a local heritage museum and duly passed the Collector badge.



Sweet tooth

Asteroid Patrol spent two weeks planning their sweets. They made a selection of very sticky and chocolatey ones which they sold to the other Guides.

The Patrol took great care over presentation and learned a lot about each other in the process. Joanne realised that she didn't have to do everything and part of being a Patrol Leader is being able to delegate.

History now!

Vanessa completed the history clause for the Baden-Powell Trefoil and wanted time to share it with the unit. She presented Guiding facts and figures using games, activities songs and displays of old uniforms.

■ You will find lots of fun ideas based around Guiding's past in the new Guiding resource pack *History Now*. It is available from Guide shops and Trading Service (code 64717), at £2.75.



Signing scavenger

This activity is to be done in Patrols. Each Patrol Leader runs to the Guider to be shown the name of an object which can be found at the meeting place. The girl returns to her Patrol and mimes the object. When they have guessed what the object is, the girls look for it. When it has been found, another girl runs to the Guider for a different object and so on.

If the mime is too hard, the girls can decide to pass and move on to another object.

Posies and poems

Mothering Sunday fell on March 9. The local community centre held a special celebration to which all were invited. The Guides were asked to help make special posies to distribute to the mums and one of the girls read a poem which she had written herself.



Looking ahead

March is just the time to start planning ahead for summer camps and outings. The Guiders discussed possibilities with the girls. Some of the suggestions were more feasible than others — Disneyland Paris was not within the unit budget! In the end it was decided that a short camp of five nights, at the beginning of the summer holidays, would be the most sensible option. The nearby Division site was agreed upon.

The girls were asked to start thinking about a theme to base the whole event around and also any special activities they would like to organise.

Serious consideration

When two people enter into a partnership, they have both decided to co-operate on a project that they both want. The people involved are committed to the project and value it. Each partner has something to contribute and each wants to benefit from the relationship. Such a partnership may be a school project or even a marriage.



Fact box

Laws still exist in some cultures that allow a man to treat his wife or wives as possessions. Marriage ceremonies can reinforce this concept by asking the wife to depend on her husband and the husband to protect and own his wife.

Fairy tales

Think about your favourite story as a child. Try to narrate it replacing the female characters with males and vice versa. Consider any differences that this makes to the story, does it still work? Think how you feel about the new story.

■ Read *Princess Smartypants* by Babette Cole.

Fact box

A United Nations' statement tells us that women constitute half of the world's population and are employed for nearly two thirds of its working hours. Yet they receive nearly one tenth of the world's income and own less than one hundredth of the world's property.

Toys for the boys

Divide a piece of paper lengthways three times and write down the headings: Boy's, Girl's, Either.

Think of ten traditional toys and list them under the heading that you think is most appropriate. Discuss the reasons for your answers.

- Consider the influence, if any, toys have on young children.
- Talk about whether toys influence boys' and girls' attitudes to each other as they grow up.

Fact box

Sexism occurs when people are thought of as having different abilities and are treated differently because of their gender.

Opportunity and choice

Consider the different roles that men and women may play in the following situations:

- A family outing to the seaside
 - Waiting staff working in a hotel restaurant
 - A cricket team playing at home
- You may like to try acting out one of the scenes. Ask yourselves if men and women have the same opportunities and choices in your role plays and in real life.



changing worlds

Our challenging new series is based on WAGGGS' *Education for a Changing World* modules – this month we explore partnerships between men and women

By Gillian Sutcliffe

Illustrations: Kate Taylor

Public persona

Women still have very limited participation in some areas of public life. Many people are concerned about the equal status of women with men in certain occupations – politics and higher management, for example. Think about the answers to the following questions:

- How many kings and queens have reigned in England and how long were they on the throne?
- How many male and female MPs are there?
- How many male and female judges are there?



Observations

Walk through your local area, observing the interactions between men and women in different situations. For example, in a shop; a police officer and a motorist; in a bus queue...

Look at how people behave in these situations – are some people more assertive than others? What sort of body language is used? How do people show aggression? Can you tell when people have a special relationship?

Memories

Arrange for the girls to talk to an older woman. Ask her what life for girls and women was like as she was growing up. Ask her about her attitudes towards boys and girls. Compare your findings with those of the rest of the unit.

theme evening

To celebrate Easter and the new life spring brings, we have some great ideas for a seasonal theme evening – some of the activities should be spread over two weeks

By Cheryl Rickman
Illustrations: Michelle Draycott

Pasting up

Some of the activities on these pages feature papier mâché. Here's a non-toxic paste recipe you can use.

You will need:

- ½ cup of water
- ½ cup of flour
- 2 tbsp salt

Put the flour and salt into a bowl and, gradually, mix in the water. The paste will be ready to use once the mixture is thick and creamy.

Make up your own varnish

Papier mâché always looks best when it is varnished. Mix some PVA glue with a little water and brush over your finished painted object.

It will look cloudy when it is first applied, but will dry clear.

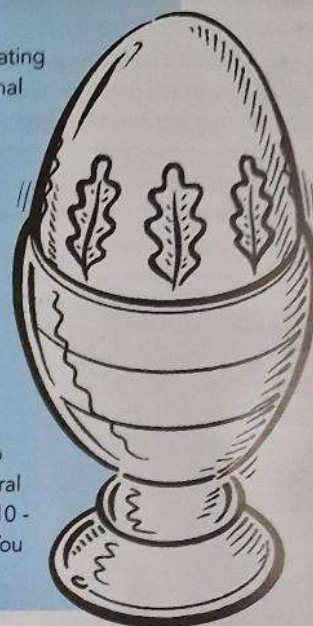
Onion eggs

Your girls may not be keen if you suggest decorating eggs as an activity, but outline this traditional method and they'll change their minds.

You will need: eggs, white if possible; old tights; small, green leaves; natural dyes – made from onion skins, beetroot...

Make a tube from an old pair of nylon tights and tie a knot in the bottom and put an egg in it. Between the eggshell and the nylon, create a pattern of small leaves – making sure that they are lying flat. Tie a knot in the top of the tube – the nylon should be stretched tight. You may find it easier to bind it with string or strong thread.

Place the onion skins in a pan of water, bring to boiling point and then simmer to create your natural dye. Carefully add the egg in its tube and cook for 10 - 15 minutes. Let the egg cool and remove the tights. You should have a coloured egg with a special pattern!



Dinosaur eggs

You will need: a large ball – a beach ball is good

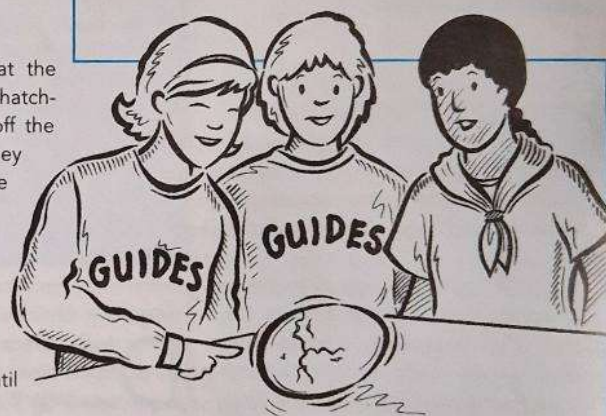
Explain to the girls that the dinosaur egg (ball) is hatching. It must be kept off the ground to protect it but they can't hold on to it as the dinosaur might bite.

The girls stand in a circle and throw the egg to each other. If anyone drops it, they must immediately 'freeze' in that position.

They then stay frozen until the end of the game.

As the game continues, Guiders can ask the girls to step back each time, making the circle bigger and the ball harder to catch.

The winner is the last person left in the circle.



Suprise eggs

Eggs are an important part of any Easter celebration. They symbolise new life, which is the key meaning of Easter. Brownies will have great fun wrapping tiny gifts in these papier mâché egg cases.

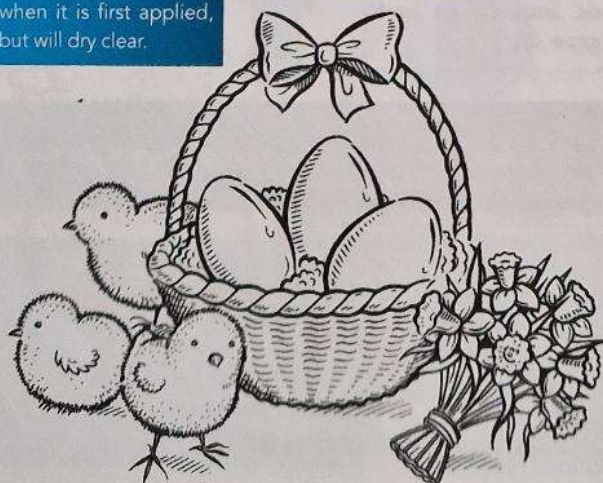
You will need:

- a selection of small gifts, such as sweets
- balloons
- paper paste
- scissors
- string
- poster paint and brushes

Blow the balloon up to the size of a large egg and knot securely.

Follow the papier mâché instructions as for the Easter bunnies on page 49. Once it is dry, cut off the top of the balloon to burst it and then cut the egg in half. Place the gift inside, reassemble the egg and paste some strips of paper over the join.

Finally, paint your suprise egg as brightly as possible.



Easter bunnies

Girls can work in pairs for the first part of this activity, as each papier mâché-covered balloon will be cut in half to produce two rabbits.

You will need: one balloon per two girls; newspaper/old telephone directories; paper paste; brown wrapping paper; tissue paper; coloured card; cotton wool; vaseline.

- 1 Tear up the paper into strips. Blow up the balloon and knot the end — smear vaseline over it. To make the whole papier mâché process easier, balance the balloon in a margarine carton or similar container — this will keep it upright. Dip the paper strips in the paste and make an even layer over the balloon. Cover the balloon with a second and a third layer. Leave the balloon to dry — it is best to hang it up to do this.



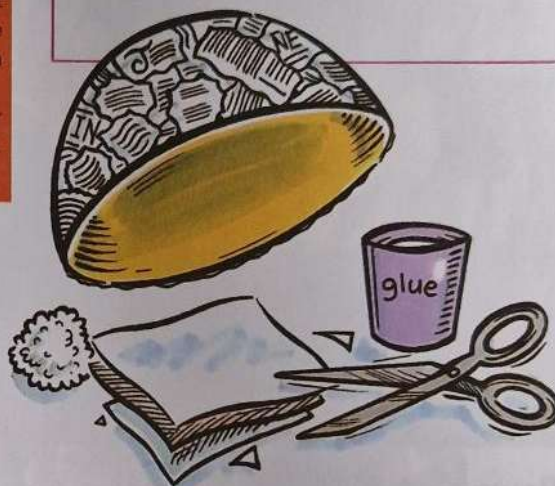
Hunt the Easter egg

You will need: three eggs — either fresh or chocolate.

Choose one girl to hide three small eggs while the others are out of the room. Make sure that the eggs are not too well hidden — otherwise the girls will spend a frustrated meeting searching for them!

The other girls then come back into the room to begin the Easter egg hunt. When someone spots an egg, they should sit down quietly without saying anything. It is important that the girls should not draw attention to where the egg is.

The last player to spot the egg and sit down must then hide the eggs in the next game.



- 2 The final few layers will need to be done at the next meeting, once the first layers are dry. Use small pieces of brown wrapping paper for the final layer. But you can use tissue paper to give the rabbits more colour.

Once all the layers are dry, pop the balloon. Cut the papier mâché in half using sharp scissors — adults only should do this bit.

Egg collecting

You will need: buckets and balls

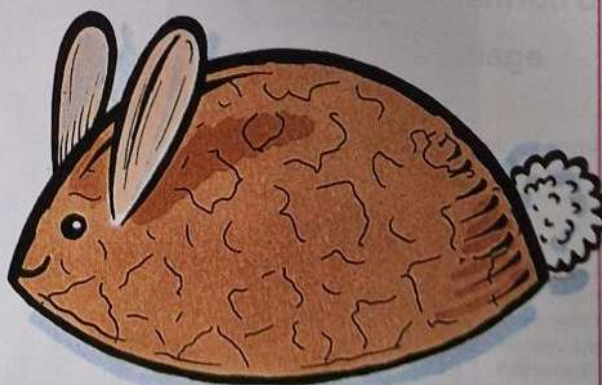
Divide the girls into two or three teams. Place a bucket on its side for each team playing and, using chalk, draw a line, about two metres away.

The girls stand behind the line and attempt to throw a ball into the bucket. It can bounce first, but must stay inside the bucket.

Each player is allowed to have three attempts.

The team with the most 'eggs' in their bucket wins.

- 3 Cut the coloured card, felt or scraps of material into nose, ears, whiskers and eyes and stick on the bunny. To finish, fix a cotton-wool ball on its back to make the tail.



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Heroine Lisa



get

Happy to be back
— Sunny Owl Lisa
Potts is the 1st
Merry Hill
Brownies' very own
heroine

**How flowers
from the
Brownies
helped brave
Lisa Potts get
her life back
to normal
again**

Photos by John
Hipkiss

The awards came thick and fast for Sunny Owl, Assistant Brownie Guider Lisa Potts, for heroically risking her life to defend young children in her care against a machete-wielding attacker.

But it was the children from the 1st Merry Hill Brownies who touched her heart and helped her to look forward. 'They sent me so many cards and flowers and were so kind,' Lisa told GUIDING.

The brave 22-year-old nursery nurse is now back at work at St Luke's Infants and Nursery School in Wolverhampton, where children's laughter at a teddy bears' picnic on a sunny day changed to screams of terror.

A man clutching a machete jumped the school fence, slashing out at the children and severely injuring Lisa as she struggled to protect them. She suffered deep wounds to her back, chest and hands, as well as a broken arm and severed tendons in her hands.

Three other adults and three children were also injured in the

frenzied attack last July.

Now, as life slowly returns to normal for Lisa, she is enjoying

being back with her Brownies and helping to plan the 1st Merry Hill's Pack Holiday.



The Association honoured Lisa's gallantry by awarding her the Silver Cross

Typically the youngsters from St Luke's, where she works with three to four-year-olds, are never far from caring Lisa's thoughts. She said: 'You can see the children's scars but you can't see the mental trauma.'

Lisa was rushed to hospital for extensive surgery following the brutal attack. It was the start of the long, painful road to recovery she still travels. But flashbacks of that terrible day haunt Lisa and she agonises over whether she could have done more to protect the little ones in her care.

Last November,

s packing

she was again the focus of intense media interest, when she gave evidence at the trial for attempted murder of her attacker, paranoid schizophrenic Horrett Campbell.

After a while Lisa learned to live with the newspaper publicity and she found talking about her experiences on television actually helped the healing process. She did six films for BBC's *Children in Need* programme, as well as appearing on several other shows.

'I'm just glad I was able to talk about it. It helped me to face up to what happened,' Lisa explained.

She also came to realise how much her recovery has been helped by her parents' loving support. 'They have been a tower of strength,' she confided.

Praise for Lisa's bravery, courage and amazing presence of mind have poured in from all over the world, but Lisa prefers to play down her heroism. 'Instinct took over, I didn't realise what I was doing,' she insisted.

The nation disagrees. One national newspaper campaigned for Lisa to be awarded the George Cross and she came second to John Major in Radio 4's *Today* programme's 1996 Personality of the Year contest.

Lisa, who was a Brownie and a Guide, before becoming 1st Merry Hill's Sunny Owl, was presented with The Guide Association's own award for gallantry – the Silver Cross – by West Mercia County Commissioner Margaret Tanner.

One of the first awards she received was a bravery certificate from West Mercia's Brownies. She

has collected an Unsung Heroes Award and was chosen, along with Dunblane headmaster Ron Taylor and racing driver Damon Hill, for the national People of the Year title.

Her local police force added their own accolade – she's had eight

awards so far – and she came second to Diana, Princess of Wales in another poll. 'I suppose I might have got big-headed, but it's all happened so quickly it's gone right over my head,' Lisa said with typical modesty.

As 1997 gets under way life is at last returning to something like normality for Lisa. Already she is back at work at St Luke's, catching up with Brownies, running a Sunday school crèche and has taken up dancing again.

Now she is once more surrounded by the children she loves, and with her wounds slowly mending, Lisa is confident that, given time, her mental scars will heal too. And the 1st Merry Hill's Pack Holiday will be another milestone on her road to recovery. ■



Planning for Pack Holiday is helping Lisa get her life back on track. Here she cuddles up to (from left) Lizzie Hartley, Lizzie Dale, Rebecca D'Cruze and Katie Tilt (kneeling) Becky Holden and Hannah Swatman

information

GUIDING

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Note All copy for inclusion in June's *GUIDING* should reach CHQ by March 28. Please address all contributions to the Editor, Nora Warner.

Anyone wishing to have photographs sent to *GUIDING* returned must include an sae.

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Grinstead Lane, East Grinstead, West Sussex RH19 4HP. Tel: 01342 810493 or 0860 393026. Fax: 01342 811206

Heritage Centre

The Guide Heritage Centre at CHQ is open Mondays-Saturdays from 9.30am-5pm each week (last entry: 4.30pm). It is closed Bank Holidays and over the Christmas period. Entrance charge is £2 per person.

Booking is not essential for groups of ten or less. Visits are for 1½ hours maximum. Picnic area available.

The preferred maximum number of visitors per session is 100.

Ring 0171 834 6242 ext 327 for further visit details.

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BGIFC

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.

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

Get up and go

I agree with E M Hall's call for a referendum on the age at which a Guider must retire (September's *GUIDING*), as I've been told there is no intention of reviewing the rule.

Since retirement a year ago, I have more time available than before; have a full Brownie Pack, which I started 40 years ago; run three Pack Holidays a year; and have 27 on the waiting list.

What happens in four years when I am due to retire? Am I to see my Pack close for want of a Guider?

Some of us oldies have more 'get up and go' than women half our age!

The future of Guiding is in the units, not at the top!

Pat Fulwood
Bristol

Badges a bonus

I write on behalf of one of my Rainbow Guiders. Recently our County ran a Rainbow Octopus Challenge. It consisted of each Rainbow having a drawing of an octopus, which, of course, has eight legs. These represented one of the Eight Points. The Guiders were also given a booklet with ideas for each point. If a girl achieved one of the points, she coloured in a leg. When she filled in all the legs, she gained an Octopus badge.

As you can imagine, each girl was very proud of what she did and being able to gain a badge at the end of the challenge was a big bonus.

We were wondering if any other County had come up with a similar idea. And we had hoped that the challenge could be incorporated into the Rainbow programme, thus giving the Rainbows something to aim for.

I do hope there are some other Rainbow leaders, who might have some more ideas... as this was such a wonderful idea it seems such a shame, that it was only available for 12 months.

Tina Caunter

Paignton South District Commissioner, South Devon

Age alarm

Lesley Heparty's concerns about any change in the age that Brownies move on to Guides are shared by two readers.

Vast gap

I agree that lowering the age at which Brownies transfer to Guides would be detrimental to the Guide units. In a unit where girls stay on until 15, the age gap is already vast.

In a rural area such as ours, where there is only one Guide Company serving three villages, the problem of persuading girls from other villages to transfer to Guides is enormous. At ten they feel very uncertain of new environments and worry that they won't know the other girls.

Yet when they have to transfer to senior school, they have to make new friends and will meet many of the girls with whom they'd be Guides.

The problem is — how do Brownie Packs keep the interest of the older girls for that extra year or two? This, surely, also depends on having enough Brownie Guiders and helpers to keep the girls stimulated, something which in itself can be a real problem.

Barbara Thomas

1st Robertsbridge Guides & 1st Etchingam Brownies, East Sussex

But one reader has reservations

Not ready

I agree that the age for moving from Brownies to Guides should not be lowered. However, if it is raised by one year another Journey or similar scheme would have to be added to the Brownie programme, and this might not work.

At the moment, many Brownies are ready to move on to Guides at ten, and would not be interested in yet another Journey. In some areas, because of long waiting lists, it is found necessary to move girls on as soon as they are old enough, even if their Guiders feel they are not quite ready.

Lesley says it would be easier for Brownies to move to Guides at 11, when they move to secondary school. Here, in Scotland, that would not be the case. The vast majority of girls move to secondary school at about 12, having spent seven years in primary school.

In the current situation they still have *two* years of primary school to complete when they move up to Guides. This, of course, can make it even more difficult for many Guiders to keep older Guides in their units.

Obviously, there is no easy solution to this problem and I can appreciate that many Guide Guiders would prefer the Brownies to be a bit older when they move on. But it is not enough to change the age range, the programme would have to be changed too, with all the cost involved in producing new publications.

Can the units afford this when so many are struggling to survive financially?

Sheila Smith

Brownie Guider, 5th Currie Pack, Midlothian

Rethink needed

I, too, am very worried about moves to lower the Guide age, and I know others in my Division are also concerned. What are we hoping to achieve by this?

Wouldn't we lose Guides before they reach 12 as, by then, they will not have anything in common with a nine-year-old? Surely this will lead to the demise of the Guide section?

We asked our Guides for their opinions about taking girls into Guides at nine. Their reaction was totally negative — 'They're too young,' was the main comment we heard.

I have worked with Guides and Brownies and have chosen Guides as my preferred section because I enjoy working with the older girls. Like Lesley Heparty, I would have to rethink my position as a Unit Guider if the Guide age is lowered.

In conclusion, I would support a Guide starting age of 11. Instead of worrying about numbers and going through constant change, couldn't we concentrate on enjoying our Guiding and making it fun for those girls who choose to come and join us?

Lesley England

Guider, 3rd Cove Guides, Hampshire North

Age doesn't count

Margaret Baldwin's letter in January's *GUIDING* calling for Guiders to accept the age rule gracefully spurred two readers to reply.

Want to help

Margaret Baldwin obviously didn't read through my original letter (November's *GUIDING*) as I said I was a Unit Helper in London and I helped at a local Pack here in Westgate.

Also I pointed out that I belonged to the local Trefoil Guild, so I am covered by the Census that they pay for me. I wear my red Trefoil polo shirt and sweatshirt to Brownie meetings.

Let me repeat that I don't think Guiding should end for some people once they have reached 65.

At the Pack I go to, I help with fund raising, badge testing, and read through the Promise book with new Brownies. I know the Brownie Guider values my help very much.

There quite are a few of us around wanting to help Guiding, even though we are retired.

Jean Perkins

Westgate-on-Sea, Kent

Posted at last

During the past 30 or so years I have written many a letter to *GUIDING* in my head. Occasionally, I have actually written something down but never posted it. Finally the letters regarding the timing of Census returns have prompted me to put pen to paper and post it!

Marion Corns writing in December's *GUIDING* asks: 'Who tells County what deadlines they have to meet?' In this Region - London and South East England - the deadline for 1997 is set for April 18, we then work back from that.

Forms and money have to be with County by March 22, giving just over a fortnight for County to check numbers, money, names and addresses and post them to Region.

As we have always understood that the Census is taken 'as at February 22' this gives units, Districts and Divisions four weeks to get their act together.

I have often worked on the Census during the Easter holidays, but never at Christmas!

Joan L Baker

County Registrations Secretary, Greater London Kent

Bad vibes?

I just had to put pen to paper. I run the Brownies and Guides in our village with the help of three parents who are Unit Helpers, but have no other warranted Guiders.

I am 60 but cannot believe that the reason I'm having to run both groups alone is that I am giving all the young, would-be Guiders 'the wrong idea'. The Brownies have a Pack Holiday every year. The Guides have a holiday or a camp and our outings include a trip to the pantomime each year.

I really believe in Guiding and this is the reason that I run both units, so that the girls can gain some of the ideals that have stood me in such good stead all my life from my wonderful time as a Brownie, Guide and Sea Ranger.

If Margaret is right and I am giving off the wrong vibes, I say to all the youngsters hiding in the wings: 'Come out, come out wherever you are — we need you!'

From a wrinklie who is young at heart.

Doreen Wells

Guider, 1st Sutterton Brownies & Guides, Lincolnshire

Improving standards

I would like, through your magazine, to draw the readers' attention to the existence of the Council of Camp Site Wardens. We are a national body whose aims are: to promote and publicise the Scout and Guide Associations in all aspects; to improve the standards at all participating sites by providing advice, instruction, supervision and offering suitable activities.

It also provides a forum for wardens to share mutual problems, exchange views and gain support from others with similar involvement.

We have recently tried to contact the wardens and or secretaries via a letter, if any site or centre has not received such a communication and would like to know more of our work, please contact me: Mr Bill Hindley, Deskrie Shiel, Alexander Lane, Hutton, Essex CM13 1AG. Tel. 01277 212784/226571.

Bill Hindley
Essex

Research plea

I am appealing for help from any Guider who has a visually-impaired/blind girl in her unit, or is visually-impaired herself, to assist in my research as part of a project leading to a qualification in the education of the visually-impaired.

I am a Brownie Guider who also works with visually-impaired children, and I have successfully integrated these children into my Pack.

I would be very grateful for any help or information that readers can give me.

Mary Cursons

Brown Owl, 1st Kemsing
Brownies
Kent

● Contact Mary via
GUIDING.

Musical memory

Last summer, I spent two weeks working in the shop at Blackland Farm. At the site camp fire on Wednesday August 7, one group sang *I forgot my spoon*.

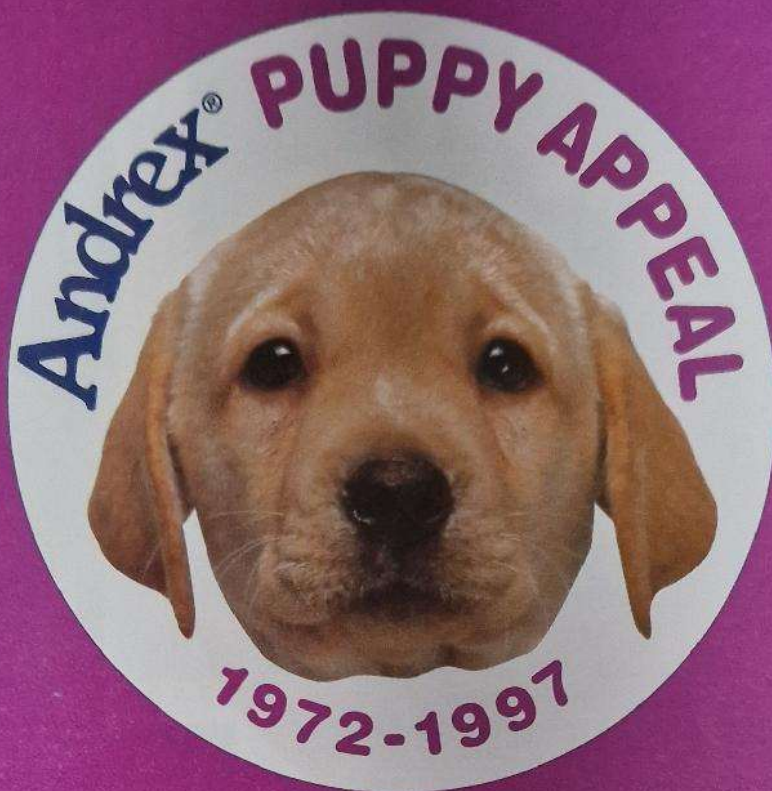
Ever since, I've had the song buzzing round my head — but I just can't remember the words. If anyone knows the words, I'd love to hear from you.

Emma Boisson

2nd West Barnes Guides, London

● If you can help Emma, write to her c/o *GUIDING*

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.



Calling all Brownies and Rainbow Guides - we urgently need your support!

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KEITH BEARDMORE



Chim Chim Cheree

These young chimney sweeps (alias 1st Wrea Green Brownies) had a supercalifragilisticexpialidocious time completing the North West England Silver Jubilee Challenge with a Brownie sing-along. Other acts included songs from the Seven Dwarfs, with other offerings from *The Lion King* and *The Jungle Book*.

Food for thought

Cookery adviser Elaine Gaffney, of Chichester, gets her County's 'Big Crunch' rolling for Thinking Day. The fundraising project was enthusiastically undertaken by Sussex West Guides.



JAMES CLEVETT

Gifts of joy and laughter

These little Rainbows joined Brownies and Guides at St Michael's parish church, Sittingbourne, Kent, bringing gifts of food for a Romanian children's home. Their smiles brought a very happy sparkle to the service.

JULIA EVERITT



Oh no, it's stuck!

Enjoying a toffee apple at the annual Guide and Brownie Fair in Cranleigh is Claire Muttram. Three Surrey Brownie Packs and two Guide Companies were involved in the fair which raised £1,500.

KENT MESSENGER GROUP





Prickly subjects

One potato, two potato...Great Bowden Brownies Kirsty Millner and Kerrie-Anne Stimpson, both eight, drive in the 'hedgehogs' spikes' ready for a Brownies fair.

All the money raised was given to Leicestershire Hedgehog Rescue charity.



Here comes the aeroplane!

Ulster Guide Jill McKay (left) spoon-feeds fellow Waringstown Guide Ruth Beattie during a ramble in the Mourne mountains. After all, cooks need sustenance too!

A tight squeeze

The 8th Abingdon (All Saints) Brownies try a tent out for size at the Guide Heritage Centre during their Pack Holiday in London.



And I've another 100 under the table!

Emma Jones, of the 4th Charlton Kings Pack hasn't been sold a pup, and she's not barking mad...she's just having a grrr-eat camp holiday in Apperley village hall, Gloucestershire. Brown Owl Avril Dooley enjoys the joke, too.

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.

Culture-shock tactics

If you are looking after guests from abroad this summer you may make mistakes, but be prepared learn from them

When it comes to learning from experience, there's nothing like a bit of plain speaking — as long as it is sincere and delivered politely.

So Gloucestershire Guides told their guests from Uganda: 'Be frank. Tell us what you *didn't* like as well as what you did and let us profit from our mistakes.'

Taking them at their word, the guests did just that, both at the time of their visit and, later, in written verdicts on UGAD '96, the Ugandan Adventure Exchange for which Gloucestershire joined forces with Worcestershire.

And the UK Guides who contributed to the 60-page report on the event were likewise encouraged to 'feel free'. As a result, Gloucestershire Guides have gained a valuable insight into where they went wrong and into the culture shock felt by their guests.

For some, part of the shock came during a visit to Pizza Hut. Not an all-round success, it seems, as most of the visitors didn't like pizza: 'It was impossible to eat,' said one.

But as a UK Brownie Guider commented: 'This wasn't surprising. It would be rather like expecting us to eat a bowl of matooke and chicken stock for tea.'

Two leaders and eight Ranger Guides, aged 17-23, from the Kampala, Mbarara and Mpigi Districts, spent 15 days with Worcestershire's Guides and 15 with Gloucestershire's. The exchange followed a service project in Uganda in 1994 by a combined team of Rangers and leaders from the two Counties.

After their first night under canvas in the UK, the Ugandans made it clear that English summer nights were too cold for them.

Extra sleeping bags and blankets were quickly located. However, on a visit to a local swimming pool, no one could do anything about the 'too cold' water.

On their return home, several Ugandans wrote that they had needed more free time in which to rest, to see more of London and meet relatives living in Britain. Equally frank, some members of Gloucestershire's host team pronounced the 15-day programme 'very tiring,' with 'too much to do'.

A ride on the Dean Forest steam railway, the hosts thought, would be a great treat for visitors from a country where trains of any kind are rare. But some guests complained: 'It was too short!', because they had already been on the grander and

longer Severn Valley Railway in Worcestershire. Better co-ordination was required, agreed the Gloucestershire team.

But, despite the gripes, visitors and hosts pronounced UGAD '96 a resounding success. The Ugandan Rangers were:

- Thrilled by a trip to Blackpool and a ride on the Big Dipper — 'I thought I was going to faint but it all ended up being fun,' wrote Cathy Nakazibwe from Kampala.

- Delighted to find ten computers provided for their use — 'In Uganda you don't get free access to computers,' wrote Rosemary Bingi, also from Kampala.

- Intrigued to learn at a Littlewoods branch how computers are used to help run the store.

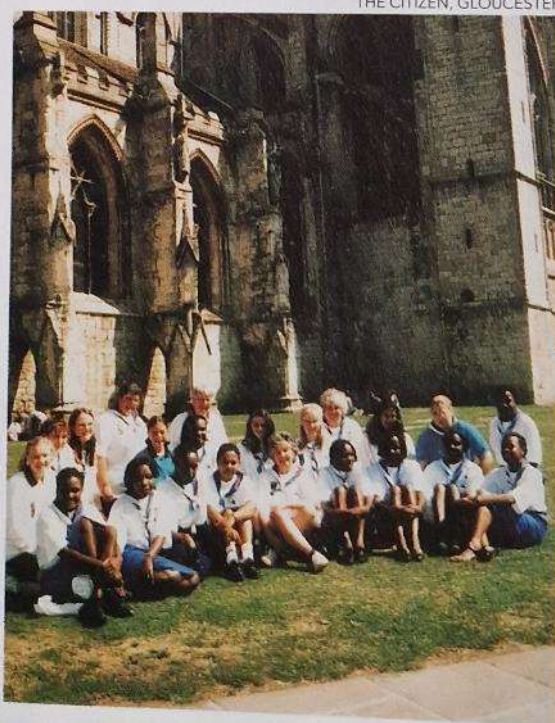
- Smitten by fish and chips and bangers and ice-cream, which they consumed during a visit to a Walls factory.

- Elated at being able to try make-up and lipstick at Gloucester's Body Shop.

They enjoyed their hosts' home hospitality and one girl was thrilled with her encounter with a horse: 'It's too hot for horses in Uganda,' she explained.

Edith Holyhead, former County Ranger Adviser and now a Division Commissioner, who led her County contingent on the joint trip to Uganda two years previously, headed

the Gloucestershire host team. She said: 'We encouraged everyone involved in UGAD '96 to be candid and have learned far more from the constructive criticism.'



The Ugandan Rangers outside Gloucester Cathedral with their hosts, the Gloucestershire Guides, County Commissioner Irene Catton (front centre) and Edith Holyhead (fourth from right, back row)

John O'Groats over and out!

Mobile phones, when they're other people's, can be a pain, but Wiltshire North Guiders Lynne Harper and Sue Duncan know the right way to use modern communication aids.

So when the pair, who with Helen Tyrrell run the 1st Minety Guide Company, near Cricklade, decided to cycle from Lands End to John O'Groats in aid of their County's new headquarters' building fund, they kept in touch by mobile phone and radio.

Sue was in the saddle, Lynne was in the support vehicle, her much-used but 'generally reliable' Vauxhall Astra which broke down only once.

Sue suffered from sore toes, nettle stings, insect bites and high winds but she never broke down — although her bike nearly did. In all she pedalled 1,056 miles in 13 days, raising an impressive £4,200.

Lynne, admitting 'I'm no marathon cyclist', carried her own bike on the back of the car so that, occasionally, she could enjoy short rides with Sue.

Extracts from Lynne's account of the long ride show how the mobiles and radio played a significant part in helping Sue to carry on right to the end of the road:

'The end of the first day came just north of Bude, on the north Devon coast. I had called Sue by radio first on the amateur radio frequency we'd decided to use on the journey.

'Both of us are radio amateurs and we made a lot of use of it. We had been given antennas for our bikes by a firm which makes them.

'Sue had her hand-held radio attached to her map carrier on the handlebars and, with a little microphone-earpiece, was able to transmit and receive safely. The

range wasn't great but enough. We also had mobile phones for emergency use when we were out of radio range.'

In Avon: 'We had planned to meet at a pub at Bathampton, on the Kennet and Avon canal where Helen and her baby and my husband, Peter, travelling independently, were also meeting us. Peter was buying us all lunch.

'I had put my radio on my cycle and, when Peter arrived at the pub, he was able to get in touch with both Sue and me by using the radio I had left in the car. Hence he was

person from the County was phoning us to see how Sue was doing and to check that all was going well, except for one evening in Scotland when we were totally out of range of the mobile networks. We then rang Peter on a public phone and asked him to spread the message.'

The next day, as Sue neared Shrewsbury, the gears on her bike began to give trouble. Lynne drove to Whitchurch to find a cycle shop.

'Having checked that they would do the job, I called Sue on the radio. She was just entering the

Keeping in touch during a marathon cycle ride proved easy, thanks to modern technology



G COATES

not worried, even though we were later than expected.'

Through Wiltshire to Ludlow, in Shropshire, Sue was joined by Norman, an avid cyclist and his wife, Beryl, one of her friends. Norman rode with Sue while Beryl travelled the route by car.

'All four of us met up on Welland Common, just south of Malvern, for lunch. Beryl had been waiting and was wondering where the cyclists had got to. I'd passed them a few miles before and, as I was in touch with them by radio, I was able to reassure Beryl that all was well.

'Every evening at least one

outsights of Whitchurch and I started giving her directions so that we could meet up. Just as I was doing this my mobile phone rang. It was my father wanting to know where we were going to be in two days' time.

'I did feel a little pretentious, walking down the high street talking into a hand-held radio on one side and a mobile phone on the other!' Lynne recalled.

And so, the two Guiders went on to arrange meetings and to sort out any problems with bike, car, navigation and even parking, until Sue coasted to a triumphant finish in John O'Groats. ■

There were many weary miles to travel for Sue Duncan (left) and Lynne Harper (right) after they were waved off by Wiltshire North County Commissioner Sue Coates

training news

Craft in your unit/Craft in miniature

Hautbois June 20-22

The craft in your unit course will introduce you to some new crafts, which you can take back to your units. Crafts for all sections will be included and you will be helped to adapt for your needs.

The craft in miniature course will be based on doll's houses, shops and individual room boxes. We hope to have specialists to help you make items in miniature and give tips on producing ornaments, special items of furniture and so on from 'junk'.

Mid-week training for Guide and Senior Section Guiders

Foxlease March 11-13

This training will include programme planning, leadership and organisational skills, together with a wide range of activity ideas and ways of putting them into practice in your unit. Employers may allow time off to attend this event.

Travelling to a training at Foxlease or Waddow?

If you would like to be put in touch with others travelling from your own area, please contact the centre, staff will do their best to help you.

A taste of Guides

Broneirion May 2-4

A weekend of fun for older Brownies and their Guiders. Find out about Trefoils and the Patrol system through activities such as outdoor cooking, pioneering, crafts and wide games. There will be separate training sessions relevant to Brownie Guiders.

Rainbow Trainers

Waddow March 7-9

New prices for 1997 - Netherurd

The cost of a weekend's training at Netherurd House (Friday evening to Sunday afternoon) is now £43. A deposit of £20 secures your place. Netherurd House still offers a £10 deduction in weekend fees for all Scottish Guiders attending a training for the first time.

Rainbow Guiders training

Hautbois July 4-6

A weekend to celebrate ten years of Rainbow Guiding and to give you plenty of ideas to put into your programme in the future.

Eggstravagant Easter Eggstravaganza

Foxlease March 28-31

The triple E weekend for the Senior Section. Come with your enthusiasm and lots of energy ready for an exciting programme for members of the Senior Section aged 16+.

Backwoodsman skills

Broneirion May 9-11

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Easter frolics

Waddow March 27-31

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Reading holidays at Netherurd

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For information and registration contact: Bloom Reading Holidays, 62 West Croft, Ratho, Midlothian EH28 8PB or telephone 0131 333 4547.

Hosts include Bernice Rubens, Beryl Bainbridge, Candia McWilliam, Paul Bailey, Liz Lohead and Barbara Trapido.

Something special

Foxlease . April 1-4 & Aug 14-20

Bring your Brownies, Guides or Senior Section members for a catered holiday at Foxlease. Stay in the main house with meals provided, plan your own programme from the many activities on site. Cost £12.50 per person per night.

Brownie review —training follow-up

Waddow April 18-20

Interested in the results of the Brownie

review? Would you like the opportunity to input ideas towards the Brownie programme and ways of improving the Go! Challenge? Do all these at this training and also gain some new ideas for your unit.

Mid-week training for Rainbow and Brownie Guiders

Foxlease April 29-May 1

From oaks to acorns

This training will include programme planning, leadership and organisational skills, together with a wide range of activity ideas and ways of putting them into practice in your unit. Employers may allow time off to attend this event.

How to remain sane and still be a Unit Guider

Waddow April 18-20

Take part in activities and discussions to refresh, reassure and revitalise yourself.

Indoors outdoors

Foxlease . . . Aug 25 (8pm)-Aug 27 (11.30am) & Aug 27 (6.30pm)-Aug 29 (11am)

A mid-week training taking place alongside the celebration camps. A wide variety of activities, for all ages, in and about the out-of-doors.

The training will be in two parts each complete in itself. You are welcome to come for either or both parts.

Music training

Waddow April 18-20

Rainbow Guiders celebration training

Foxlease May 16-18

Celebrate ten years of Rainbow Guiding and 75 years of Guiding at Foxlease.

Rainbow celebration day

Foxlease May 17

A special day for Rainbow Guides to celebrate at Foxlease. Write or telephone for details and an application form.

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

directory

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Trish Halmshaw

from the UK, now based in India

My mother tells me that I was desperate to join Brownies and I have now been "hooked" for 30 years. I was a busy Brownie in Newport-on-Tay, Scotland, earning my Golden Hand, and I flew up to their Guides.

As a family, we moved to Leicestershire, where I spent my Guide, Ranger and Young Leader years. I gained my Queen's Guide Award with two days to spare before my 16th birthday.

A visiting speaker to our active Ranger Unit spurred me into action over the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. She explained that direct entry to Gold level would be almost impossible. Her statement was as good as a dare so, three years later, a very proud Ranger received the coveted Gold Award.

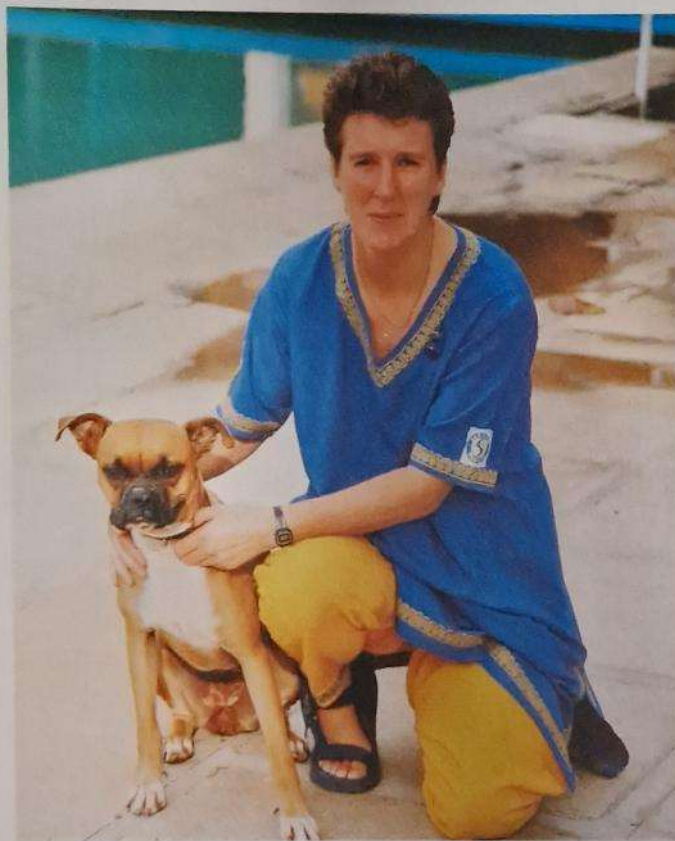
Three years' training at PE college formed a natural break in my Guiding progression. But as soon as I started teaching, I felt the need to be involved again. I will never forget the face of Bristol Division Commissioner, Patsy Iles, when I knocked on her door offering my services. In the time it took to drink my sherry, she had found me a unit!

My Guiding travels began in 1982 when I was selected as a member of the UK delegation to Brisbane, Australia. The event coincided with the Commonwealth Games, a very special combination of the two things I enjoy most in my leisure time — Guiding and sport.

While working at Glenbrook one summer, I met a Guiding party from Canada which resulted in my working as a camp leader at Ontario Provincial Guide camp, Doe Lake, for the next three summers.

I was lucky enough to visit all four World Centres within a 12-month period in 1988-89. I led a UK Ranger group to Mexico to participate in an Experiment in International Living project, which involved staying with Guiding families in Guadalajara.

A high spot of the adventure was



Trish is Deputy Guider-in-Charge at Sangam World Centre in Pune

a short stay at Our Cabaña.

I then stayed at Olive House, on my way to go skiing at Our Chalet over the Christmas-New Year period. A private trip to Sangam that summer, with my mother and some friends, completed the "set".

I had to relinquish my Guide unit, while working towards my BPhil (Ed) degree, but continued with walking and outdoor trainings at County, Regional and national events.

In 1992 I moved 8,000 miles south to teach in the Falkland Islands. The Islands Commissioner, Jean Smith, discovered I was involved in Guiding and twisted my arm to become a Guide Guider there before I had even left the UK!

On arrival in the Falklands, I was delighted to find a small but flourishing organisation. At first, our Guide unit met in the hospital, but thanks to major fundraising efforts,

we bought and renovated the old school science laboratory.

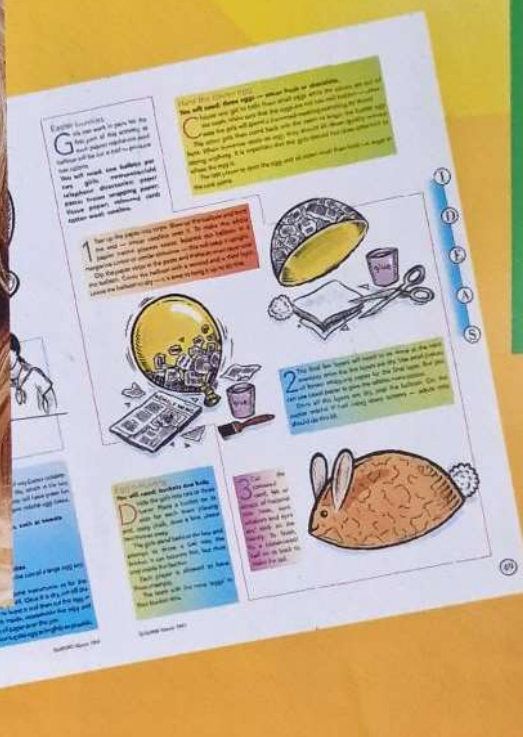
Our President, the Governor's wife, opened our new HQ in 1995. It is now a well-used home of the Rainbow, Brownie and Guide units.

Four years later, on returning to the UK after travelling by Land Rover for four months through South and North America, I applied for the post of Deputy Guider-in-Charge at Sangam World Centre, India. I was delighted to be offered the position.

I arrived at Sangam last August. In October we celebrated Sangam's 30th birthday with guests from all over the world, including staff and committee members past and present. All experienced the special spirit of Sangam.

I have had an excellent start to what will no doubt be an exciting time in my Indian home. ♡

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