

GUIDING

June 1998 £1.25

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to the Association

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A Guide unit's very
special relationship

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Hot tips for success

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

A young Guide's
good example

sunny
outlook





VERONICA BALLARD

Contact information:



**THE GUIDE
ASSOCIATION**
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comment



Have you noticed the seasonal lull in the travel agents, when the summer brochures are gone and holiday destinations are full? Why is the enthusiasm for getting away from it all not spread throughout the year? But don't we in Guiding have these same seasonal enthusiasms, only focusing on the international aspects around Thinking Day, or during the summer if we are going to a camp with international visitors?

How many of us routinely consider including the international aspects in our weekly meetings? Or do we still think of 'international' as being for the select few? How many of us make a point of telling our members that being part of The Guide Association also makes them part of a worldwide movement of nearly ten million members in 136 countries, all committed to promoting the development of girls and young women?

So how can we make the international aspect become real — something that is part of our everyday Guiding? There are many programme ideas and supporting resources available. Or you could consider inviting the local international community to share their culture and customs with you. Maybe you could contact local branches of international charities and invite them to meetings.

Have you thought about taking part in regional or national Guiding initiatives such as the Guide Friendship Fund's appeals or the Russian Link Scheme? For those who want to be part of development projects, GOLD, BRIDGES or volunteering at a World Centre are some of the options on offer.

Over the past few years an increasing number of units have travelled in Europe and more Senior Section members have participated in Europe Region initiatives.

As I approach the end of my term as International Commissioner, I have been pleasantly surprised by the tone of the comments made by our members who have made contact with this worldwide family. 'Experiences of a lifetime'... 'Forging new friendships and professional pathways' are just two of the comments I've overheard.

Such experiences should be made available to all of our members. Don't let us deny any of them this wonderful opportunity. Our International Advisers are there to help you, please use them.

Sheran Oke
International Commissioner

articles

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Sue Fortunka — the Association's PRA

front cover

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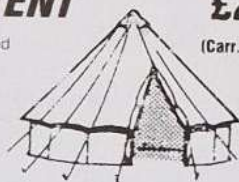
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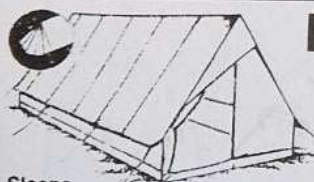
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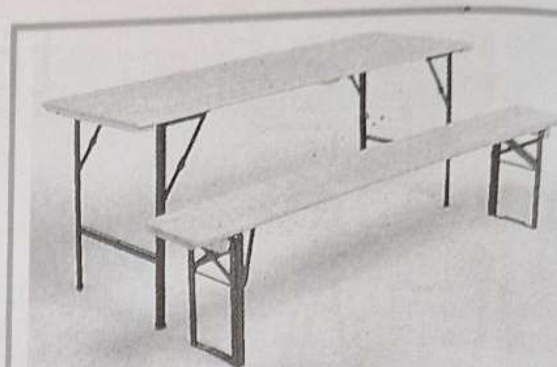
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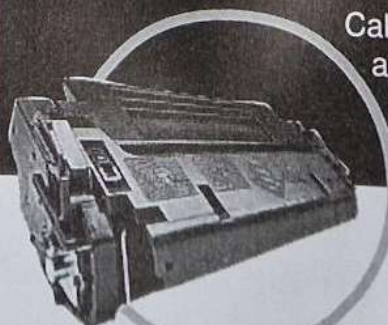
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ELECTRONIC IMAGING PRODUCTS

Melody makers

Folk harpist Philippa Roberts, of the 1st Oxenhope St Mary's Guides, near Keighley, was among the 89 musicians attending North East England's annual Blow Play weekend. Players, from Brownies through to leaders, were grouped into two orchestras according to musical ability rather than age.

After two days of music making, the event ended with a concert for families and friends. One highlight of the specially varied programme – which ranged from Bach to the Beatles – was a performance of Daphne Bird's *Our Chalet Fantasia*.



MARGOT CUTT

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE EVESHAM JOURNAL SERIES



What's in a matchbox?

What indeed? Victoria O'Toole and Laura Hazelwood, shown here, and the other Rainbows from Rous Lench, near Evesham, managed to get all sorts of things into their matchboxes – and make money in the process.

The winner of the sponsored 'Fill a matchbox' challenge, five-year-old Rosie Mason, actually succeeded in squeezing 51 different objects into hers.

Proceeds went towards buying midwifery equipment for a hospital in north Gambia.

Three years ago the Unit knitted blankets for the same hospital.

Smiling through

While she was asleep, Victoria Webster dislocated her neck. As the injury didn't respond to traditional treatment, Victoria was fitted with a body brace and also had a heavy metal 'halo' screwed to her head. She had to wear these for four months.

In spite of the pain, Victoria tried to live as normal a life as possible. This included continuing to attend Brownies – the 6th Barnehurst Pack at Bexley.

In the photo Victoria, now fully recovered, is receiving London and South East's Certificate of Merit from County Commissioner Pat Tiley in recognition of her 'fortitude, resilience and, above all, sheer courage'.



BRIAN CAPON

Another opening, another show

Morpeth Division scored a hit when, after a six-year break, it revived its Gang Show tradition with *In Search of Lost Friends*. Months of rehearsals and costume-making culminated in an outstanding success – to the delight of the 34 Brownies and Guides, plus eight Scouts, who made up the cast.

The show's various around-the-world themes included an Austrian scene, which starred the seven pretty flower girls who are shown here.



ANNE CRAGGS

ULSTER NEWS LETTER



Clean-up kids

Every two months, Brownies and Guides from Lisburn, Northern Ireland, launch an assault on litter in the area around the nearby Coca Cola bottling plant. Sponsored by the drinks firm, this clean-up campaign is organised jointly by Lisburn Borough Council and the Tidy Northern Ireland Group.

During their first year as litter wardens, the girls earned £600 and did such a good job that they received a Queen Mother's Birthday Award for 'environmental improvement'.

In our picture, two members of the tidy-up team, Claire and Laura Higginson from the 1st Lambeg Brownies, show off the certificate.

in brief

Follow my leader

Once a year Chester is invaded by coachloads of Scouts about to celebrate Cheshire County Scout Sunday. The event features a service in the cathedral and then the thousands of boys and men march through the city to the Old Parade Ground.

On the latest occasion, the three Cheshire Guide County Commissioners were invited to attend. They did, and there was a surprise in store for (from left) Tricia Wilson CC Cheshire Border; Julie Jones Assistant CC Cheshire Border; Jan Anning CC Cheshire Forest; and Joyce McLeod CC Wirral.

After the service, the Scout VIPs asked their Guide guests to lead the parade through Chester, while they hurried ahead to take the salute.



JOAN SMITH

Country style

When line dancing came to Droitwich, many of the town's Guides and Brownies took it up. And, not to be outdone, so did a few of their leaders – but in different classes.

Just imagine three girls' surprise when they turned up to do their Bronze Medal and discovered four Guide leaders among the light-footed candidates!

All seven passed with a Blue Ribband, which is the highest mark possible.

Our line-up shows, from left to right, leaders Jane McHugh, Liz Jenkins, Angela Penn and Rose O'Grady in the back row. While lined up in front are Guides Kirsty McHugh and Katherine Penn, plus Brownie Shona McHugh.

JANE MCHUGH



snippets

BIRTHDAY SHOW Guiding in Orpington, Kent, began its 80th anniversary year with a special exhibition at Bromley Museum. Displays featured old uniforms, log books, camp blankets and standards. Visitors also had the chance to try their hand at various Guide activities. **STRAWBERRY DELIGHTS** In preparation for a Strawberries and Cream evening, the 8th Bromsgrove Brownies designed the invitations, laid the tables, did the flower arranging and, in spite of pouring rain, picked the strawberries. After a very successful evening the money raised was sent to Children's Arthritis Care. **FOCUS ON FRIENDSHIP** Over 400 Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers attended the Jewish Guide Advisory Council's annual Promise Day. With friendship as its theme, the day included a special service as well as a range of activities and crafts. **PANTO SUCCESS** The 19th Blackpool Guides put on a production of *Aladdin* to raise funds for their summer camp. **WINNING WOMBLES** During National Spring Clean Week, the 8th Coulsdon Brownies cleared the area around their meeting place and subsequently won an award – £25 and a framed certificate – under the Borough's Care for Croydon scheme. **CARNIVAL COUP** At carnival time the 2nd

Shaftsbury Guides entered their Firebird float in four processions and were rewarded with three prizes. **MUDLARKS** When it came to 'cheering themselves up' as part of London and South East's Three Cheers challenge, the 9th North Lambeth Guides held a beach party on the edge of the Thames at Waterloo – when the tide was out. The girls had a picnic tea and then went mudlarking. **TRANSATLANTIC TASTE** At the 1st Morpeth St Robert's Rainbow's Stars and Stripes meeting everything had a transatlantic theme, including the refreshments – doughnuts and popcorn. **FUNDRAISING FASHION** All the units that meet at the YWCA Upstone Centre, Middleton in Leeds, got together for a joint activity – a fashion show for Christian Aid. While Rainbows, Brownies and Guides did their catwalk routines, Rangers helped behind the scenes and also organised the refreshments. **THAT TELEGRAM** On the occasion of her 100th birthday, Edinburgh Guides and Brownies dropped in to say many happy returns to Meta Stephenson – whose Guiding career included being Ranger Adviser for Scotland. Among her greetings cards, the young visitors were delighted to see Meta's telegram from the Queen.

community spirit

By Jan Clampett

One Sheffield Guide certainly believes in putting the 'to help other people' part of her Promise into action. Last September 12-year-old Harriet Edwards read a letter in her local newspaper from an old lady whose purse – containing the money she had saved to buy herself a new winter coat – had been stolen. Like many readers, Harriet's sympathy was aroused. But, unlike others, she decided to do something about it.

Harriet explained: 'I'd just raised £540 for the Princess Diana memorial fund. I admired what Princess Diana had done for charity and thought that I'd do my bit as well.'

'When I read the lady's letter, I decided to give some of the money to her. I didn't think that Princess Diana would mind.'

Harriet sent £50, raised by completing a 100-length sponsored solo swim in the pool at her school, to the paper with a covering letter.

The 85-year-old widow sent Harriet a letter of thanks and nominated her for one of the paper's – *The Star* in Sheffield – Champion Child awards.

At Christmas, Harriet surprised the lady with a hamper and the two continue to correspond.

Harriet went on to win a Champion Child award and at the award ceremony in April – attended by the Secretary of State for Education and Employment, David Blunkett, and various local dignitaries and celebrities – received a medal and a certificate.

She was also given a goody bag containing items such as chocolate, books and cinema tickets, which were donated by businesses in the Meadowhall Shopping Centre, sponsors of this year's awards.

Harriet's schoolfriends at St Anselm's in Bakewell, Derbyshire knew nothing of all this, for as Harriet said: 'The Head was going to tell everyone in assembly, but I said: "Please don't do that" – it would have been so embarrassing.'



Christmas spirit: Everyone had a great time at the party Harriet (right) organised and over £1,400 was raised for Children in Need



JOY EDWARDS

A young Guide has won a newspaper's Champion Child award for the compassion she showed to one of its readers

Guide in action: Harriet Edwards – champion fundraiser

Harriet's act of generosity was by no means an isolated incident. After hearing Terry Wogan talking about the Children in Need appeal last year, she decided to do something for it. Another sponsored event, perhaps, or a jumble sale? Not for our Harriet.

She decided to organise a party – for around 250 children, 50 of whom were disabled or disadvantaged – because 'some people can't afford Christmas presents'.

She roped in her mum, Joy Edwards, to help – mainly because telephone calls had to be made during the day. And Harriet didn't get home from school until six o'clock each evening.

By happy chance, thinking it was a Masonic hall, Joy rang Sheffield University's Tupton Hall of Residence to see if she could book it for the party. 'We ended up, not only with a venue but lots of student helpers as well,' said Joy.

Meanwhile, Harriet was busy writing letters to larger companies such as Cadburys and business contacts of her father, a scrap

dealer, asking for sponsorship. Cadburys donated some chocolate and little toys. There were gifts of food, and other people gave money – £500 from one benefactor alone.

Guides in her unit – 195th Sheffield (St Nicholas), Bradfield – lent a hand by making cakes – 170 of them. Guider, Penny Arkley said: 'It was typical of Harriet to do something like this. We feel her actions show Guiding at its best.'

The party, which had a mini circus, disco and, of course, a Father Christmas – complete with sack of presents – was a great success and raised £1,470 for the Children in Need appeal.

So, what next? Harriet plans to spend some time settling in as a boarder at her school. Unfortunately, this means she won't be able to attend many Guide meetings – only those which coincide with her school holidays.

But, with the amount of energy, compassion and enthusiasm Harriet has, it surely can't be too long until she's busy with her next project. ■

westward

In the second of our
occasional trips
around the
Countries and
Regions, Margaret
Flinders describes
the charms and the
problems of
Guiding in South
West Region

to smash the Spanish Armada and the Pilgrim Fathers embarked to seek a better life in the New World.

Great wooden ships were built at Bucklers Hard on the fringe of the New Forest. And beautiful three-masted sailing ships, huge steamers, cruise liners, destroyers, frigates, aircraft carriers and cargo ships all sailed – and some continue to sail – from Bristol, Southampton, Plymouth and Portsmouth to the four corners of the earth.

Ours is a region of enchanting thatched cottages, preserved Roman villas, striking flint and granite houses and wonderful cathedrals. We can trace our history back to the stone age, from the numerous barrows and earthworks, unravelling the rich tapestry of the distant past.

It is even said that Jesus Christ came to Glastonbury, and the folk song *Bread and Fishes* tells the tale of his visit.

Bath, with its elegant Georgian houses, and the many stately homes and gardens give us a taste of 'how the other half lived'. In the New Forest we have our own glorious 'stately home' – Foxlease, together with our Region 'home', St Anne's Manor in Salisbury.

Two places where we know we can always find a friendly face and a warm welcome.

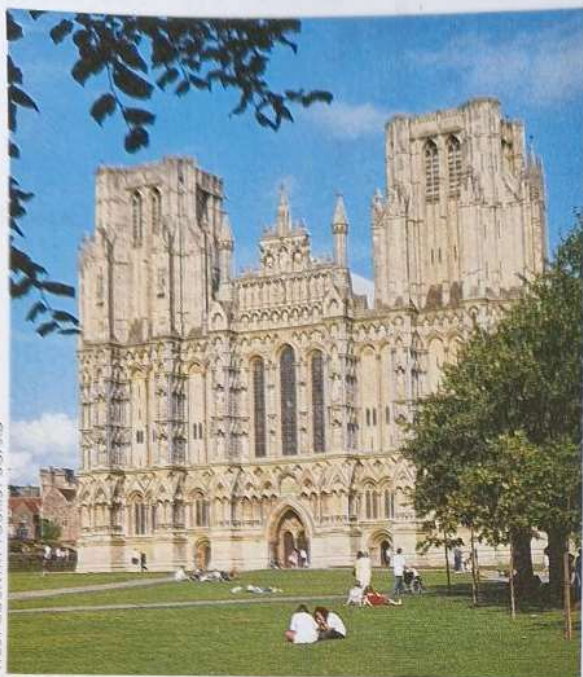
There are many island communities in the South West: the Isle of Wight just off the Hampshire coast; the Channel Islands, in reality nearer the French coast but still very much part of our Region; and the Isles of Scilly, those sub-tropical islands sitting off the tip of Britain.

How many of you have dreamed of island life with sea, sand, beautiful lanes and stunning views? Are you packing your bags to join us in the South West?

What I've told you so far is all true – and I could write more – but we have our problems too, just like

Come with me on a fleeting visit to the South West Region. A Region of rugged coastlines, studded with fishing villages, that flows from Gloucestershire, taking in Hampshire, Dorset, Devon, and Cornwall. Many of these villages have tales to tell of smugglers and brave fishermen.

We're a sea-faring Region and much of our country's naval history has been enacted within sight of our shores. It was from Plymouth that the English fleet sailed out



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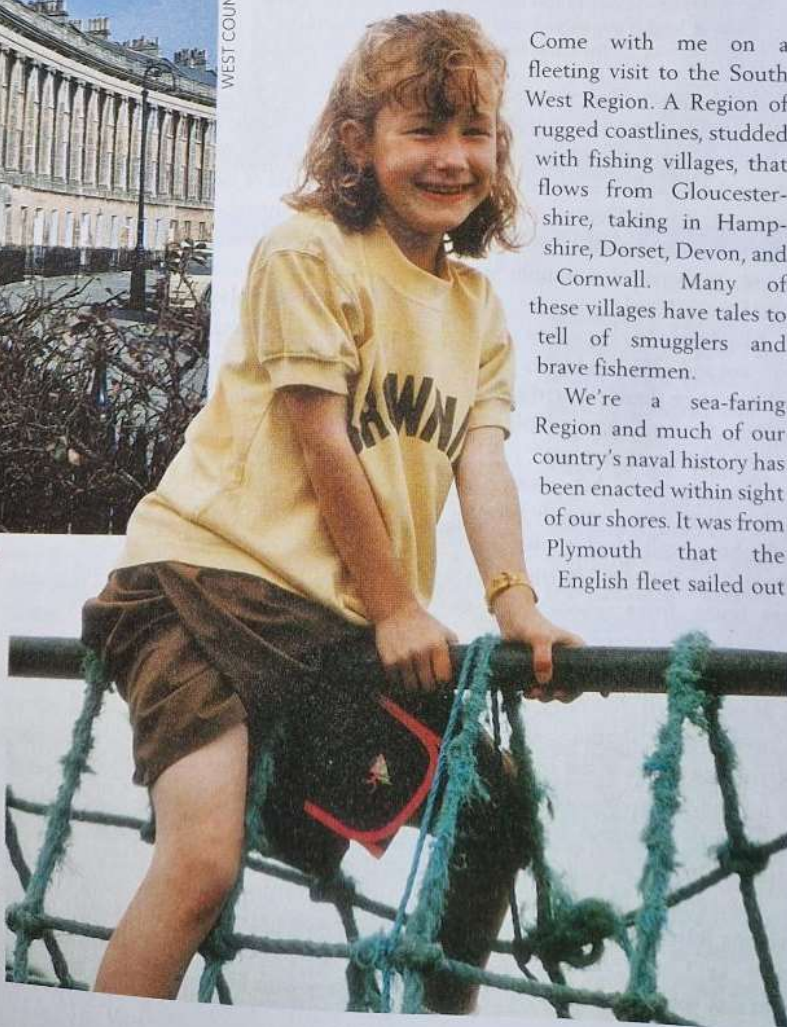
Architectural poem: Magnificent Wells Cathedral lifts the spirits of visitors and residents alike



WEST COUNTRY TOURIST BOARD

Elegance preserved: Bath's Royal Crescent reminds visitors of the way 'they' were

Big grins: Queen of all she surveys – that's put a smile on this Somerset Brownie's face



BRENDA BICKERTON

ho!

other Countries and Regions. Our large cities have the same problems as yours. Women and girls aren't able to walk alone at night in some places. There's no work, or only very little work with low pay.

There is lots of seasonal work but that's not well-paid and offers no security. Many areas have a huge number of long-term unemployed. An Outreach programme is operating in Southampton but it could be repeated, with variations, in many other areas.

Guiding is desperately needed in these urban areas and, maybe, some of the 'trimmings' of Guiding are not as evident as the more purist Guide leader might wish. The 'uniform' becomes secondary to the quality of Guiding offered in many of these areas of deprivation.

Rural communities also suffer deprivation, but in a different way. Yes, the countryside is free, and a walk in the country is relatively safe. But money is tight where there is no wage earner in the family. Simple crafts, cookery, adventurous outdoor activities and, above all, fun become difficult to offer and, in some areas, simply impossible.

Back to basics Guiding skills and the ingenuity of resourceful Guiders help make the Guiding programme a reality for these girls.

Public transport is non-existent in some areas. You may have heard of the holidaymaker who asks the local villager: 'What time is the next bus to ...?' The considered reply comes back: 'Weeeellll, you'm jus' missed the Tuesday bus an' the next wun through 'ere cumes on Sat'rday, but if yer walk five miles to the crossroads you'm be in time fur the Wednesday bus via the next village'.

To many villagers in rural areas this is a reality not a joke. For many leaders it makes Guiding a nightmare. 'Get the District together', the Commissioners' guidelines

advise. 'Have a District Thinking Day or an event to publicise Guiding'. Think again!

The whole business becomes a mammoth undertaking. First you have to arrange a bus to pick up girls all round the District, allowing for the vagaries of the local farmers moving cattle; for county highways with roadworks; and the inevitable tractor managing just five miles an hour. If it is an event in the summer, there's also the holidaymakers who are lost. If it is in the winter, then the weather comes into its own.

You have to hope that the majority of the girls will bring along a contribution towards the bus fare. The overall cost has been subsidised, of course, by several District jumble sales. Finally the whole District family might manage to actually meet — and then, after the event, it all happens in reverse. Yes, transport is a real problem. Many girls travel several miles to their meeting places. Without public transport, cars become a necessity.

Yet, however many problems we may experience in carrying on Guiding in our wonderful Region, rest assured good Guiding is delivered by a dedicated band of Guiders.

Of course, we need more of them to spread the load, but the quality is there.

So, if you happen to be down our way, you will be very welcome, especially if you volunteer to join our vision of Guiding in the South West of England. ■

CORNWALL TOURIST BOARD



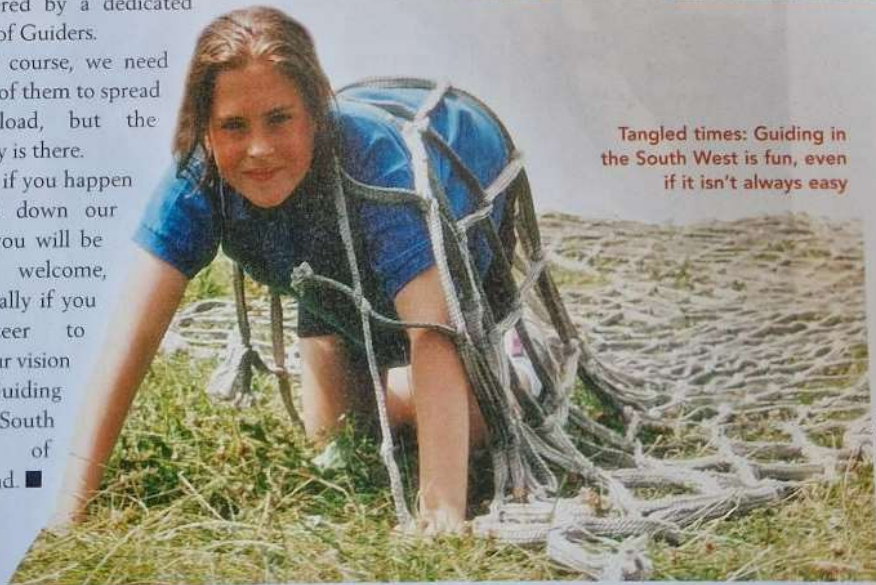
Rugged charm: Cornwall's Rinsey Head where the land meets the sea

JERSEY TOURISM



Floral fiesta: Jersey's Battle of the Flowers draws the crowds. Although nearer to France, it's part of South West Region

Tangled times: Guiding in the South West is fun, even if it isn't always easy



BRENDA BICKERTON

guiding in action ■

walking back



G. ELLIS

**A young boy
is the latest
person to join
the long line
of people who
have been
helped by one
Brownie unit**

By Gillian Ellis

On song: Hector
loves to listen to the
Brownies singing

Pushovers: The Brownies
invited local businesses
to sponsor them to push
Hector across the Clifton
Suspension Bridge

Hector Cooper-Williams is a very special little boy. He's the best friend of 114th Bristol Brownies, who recently raised £2,400 to buy him a walking frame.

A lovely, bright-eyed seven-year-old, Hector has no speech and only limited control of his limbs, owing to the brain damage he suffered when he was only 20 months old.

He urgently needs to learn to bear his own weight, but not one of the supportive walking frames available on the National Health Service was considered suitable for his particular needs.

When Hector was assessed and found to be perfect for a custom-built walker made by the Davis Hart Clinic in Birmingham, the 114th swung into action, led by their tireless Guider Phyllis James. As she explained: 'Hector became very special to the 114th nearly four years ago, when he visited us with his mother, Fiona, who was testing for one of our Walking badges. It was love at first sight.'

'The children took turns in pushing his wheelchair during their Walking badge expeditions. They soon found out that, while listening to them singing, Hector laughed and responded in such a way that it became obvious we had a two-way friendship.'

'Hector has topped the guest list on many occasions and, besides coming on walks and attending Brownie meetings, he has visited the City Farm with us and comes to all our bonfire parties.'

When the unit tackled the Toymaker badge, Hector and his school friends did well. Six books, 30 finger puppets and 30 glove puppets were made very carefully so that each item stimulated children with very special needs.

Phyllis recalled: 'We ended up with the most wonderful collection of musical puppets and touch/raise pictures that we could give to



P. JAMES

to happiness

Hector's school, Henbury Manor. When we visited the school, each Brownie was paired with one disabled child. It was the most successful day imaginable, full of fun, laughter and love.'

So, perhaps, it was hardly surprising that when the 114th heard Hector had a chance to walk with the new special aid, the Brownies immediately decided to buy one for him.

'All things are possible to a Brownie of the 114th!' said Phyllis. 'We set about raising the massive sum of £1,900. During Pow-wow, it was decided to ask local businesses to support our project by inviting them to sponsor the Brownies pushing Hector across the Clifton Suspension Bridge.'

The Brownies wrote letters to many businesses in the area. And Brownies' families and friends were also asked to sponsor them.

One November day they set off, pushing Hector in relays. Hector loved his adventure and inspired people who simply met them crossing the bridge to donate a total of over £350 on the spot.

In addition to the sponsor money, proceeds from a bonfire party and a trip to Redcliffe Caves quickly brought the 'Hector's Legs' fund to £1,500.

'By that time,' said Phyllis, 'we had realised it would be better to aim for £2,400 so that we could provide maintenance for "Hector's Legs" for the next four years. So it seemed that we still had a daunting sum to raise, but then we received a wonderful offer from ABC Cinemas in Clifton. They would pay the balance from their special charity fund. We were thrilled.'

The generosity of ABC Cinemas didn't stop there. Hector, all his school friends and the Brownies of the 114th were treated to a special showing of *101 Dalmations*, with all the staff giving their time willingly.

Everyone who made a donation received a thank-you Christmas card made by the Brownies and hand-stamped by Hector himself.

So Hector finally got his legs. As time went by his ability improved. For the first time in his life, Hector managed to stand up straight. Currently, he spends about half an hour each day continuing to learn how to use them.

'Hector loves to participate in physical activities,' said his father, Richard. 'But as he grows, his limbs are stiffening. It's becoming increasingly important for Hector to bear his own weight through his legs as often as possible.'

'The walking frame, unlike a standing frame, allows him to do so in an active way and is giving him the opportunity to move independent of adult help.'

'This will open up a whole new and inspiring world for Hector, with the possibility of integrating more fully with his peers and joining in some of the activities that we all take for granted.'

Hector's parents explained that the benefits of this new independence through mobility may well reach far beyond the physical. Such independence can often bring advances in other areas of development, particularly in communication. Richard and Fiona hope that, one day, Hector may be able to join in walking trips with his Brownie friends, using his own legs instead of being pushed.

Addressing other people's problems is nothing new for the 114th Brownies. Some years ago, over many weeks, they sold hand-made posies of fresh flowers for 50p to shoppers, held bring and buy sales and ran coffee mornings in order to raise £1,500 for Bristol Children's Hospital.

One Brownie's baby brother, now aged eight, had heart problems and the hospital needed an infusion

pump for him. Still more posies were sold to raise £800 towards medicines to be sent to Chernobyl. The Brownies also fashioned autobiographical books, which they sent with games, writing and drawing materials and toiletries to a Russian hospital through an international children's society.

The talented 114th even went into production of 'Fabergé eggs' by painting and decorating empty egg shells with silk flowers and chicks and selling them for 50p each in aid of the local city farm, where they also planted a hedge.

When the Pack visited the farm, naturally Hector went with them. The girls helped with the evening routine of milking the goats and feeding and bedding down all the animals. Each Brownie took home a fresh farm egg for breakfast.

Knitting skills came into play when the Pack knitted 200 squares to be made into ten blankets for the Little Brothers of Nazareth, a hostel for homeless people. They also enjoy regular visits to two rest homes to sing to the residents, usually at Christmas and in summer, when they also take along gifts of home-made sweets.

When *GUIDING* dropped in at the 114th's meeting, the girls were busy making feely collages for blind children. They all, even the youngest Brownie, tackled the task with complete understanding of the need for variety in interesting textures, and produced some amazing results. Phyllis and her assistants, Linda Pavlou, Rachel Cooling, Tina Hoskins and Eliza Risk, were there to offer help and advice, but very little was needed.

When Hector arrived, with his father and young sister, he was greeted with enthusiasm and immediately taken over by the Brownies. Soon Hector was at the centre of a large singing circle, his face wreathed in smiles. ■

making sense

Dyslexia has become one of the decade's buzz words, but how much do we really know about it?

GUIDING reports

By Catherine Dell

This is how someone with severe dyslexia might see a page of print

Robinson and Company (1998, unpublished) reported significant improvement in subjects using the Don Elson Reading Program. When compared to a control group, subjects showed significant improvement in reading accuracy, speed, and comprehension. A letter sound matching task was also used. The results of the letter sound matching task showed that the experimental group was significantly better than the control group. The improvement for the experimental group was noted for time needed to locate words on a printed page, timed reading scores, length of time for sustained reading, and span of focus, as well as other perceptual tasks. Additionally, seven of the 23 experimental found employment, but none of the control group was employed by the end of the semester. In contrast, Winans (1987) was unable to find differences in his study. Winans gave 15 elementary school children four minutes to locate and circle 600 examples of the letter 'b' on three pages, each page of which contained 600 random letters in 20 lines of

Can't look up a number in the phone book, tell the time, sign a cheque, sort out right from left... This is what life can be like for people who suffer from dyslexia — the specific learning difficulty that affects literacy skills.

In everyday terms, this means dyslexics have problems with learning to read, write and spell. They may also get in a muddle with other symbol-based systems such as mathematics and music notation.

What causes dyslexia is still something of a mystery. It is known to be about the way the brain is 'wired' but as instant rewiring is not on offer — at least, not yet — there is no cure.

However, it is generally possible for dyslexics to learn strategies that will enable them to overcome their difficulties.

dyslexic. Research findings issued earlier this year reinforced the theory that dyslexia is hereditary by revealing a variation in DNA structure peculiar to dyslexics.

If further studies are able to prove conclusively that dyslexia has genetic origins, this would open up possibilities for early detection and treatment, which could save children from the potential trauma of failing at school.

It is estimated that around ten per cent of children suffer from dyslexia to some degree, with four per cent severely affected. That works out at one seriously dyslexic child in each classroom.

Although many cases of dyslexia come to light when children start school and find reading and writing abnormally troublesome, there may well be indications at an earlier age.

Tell-tale signs of dyslexia among the under-fives might include language problems such as forgetting the names of familiar objects, jumbling words and phrases and enjoying listening to nursery rhymes but being unable to learn them.

There would also be non-language indicators — perhaps walking early without crawling first, always bumping into things and falling over, difficulties with dressing and putting on shoes, and having problems in ball games with kicking, catching and throwing.

By the time a dyslexic child is eight or nine, she could be having very real difficulty with literacy skills. She is probably putting letters and figures the wrong way round: b for d, tip for pit, 9 for 6, 13 for 31, as well as finding it hard to understand what she is reading and taking longer than average to do written work.

Away from the classroom, she may be clumsy, have a poor sense of direction and be confused by

sequences like days of the week, months and even numbers.

Once dyslexia has been identified — and providing the appropriate specialist help is available — the child can discover alternative ways of learning to read and write, specially developed to suit her individual requirements.

Often this involves a multi-sensory approach, which encourages the use of touch and hearing, as well as vision, to establish the crucial connection between object and word.

At the same time, it is vital to maximise other skills the girl may have — many dyslexics are particularly good at sport, drama and art — so that achievement is not uniquely interpreted as academic and book-based.

For many schoolchildren, however, basic literacy remains a struggle because their dyslexia is either not recognised or, if recognised, not addressed — often because the relevant education authority has not got sufficient resources. Dismissed as slow learners or labelled as lazy, they are frequently left to fend for themselves at the back of the classroom. Some become anxious and miserable — dyslexia is a major trigger of childhood depression — and, losing all sense of self-worth, they develop a very negative image of themselves.

Others feel disaffected and, with nothing to motivate them, may become disruptive, start to truant or even get into crime. A survey in the US among young offenders found 50 per cent were dyslexic.

Young people whose dyslexia is not diagnosed at school move into the adult world with a substantial handicap. They probably have few academic qualifications — in an age which requires more and more of them — zero self-confidence, low self-esteem and they lack the basic

of it

literacy skills that society takes for granted. Grown-ups, of course, are expected to read and write.

How do you write off for a job when you can't fill in an application form? Or get to an interview when you find dates, times and complicated instructions confusing? Dyslexics may end up taking jobs below their capabilities, which leaves them feeling frustrated. Or, in more demanding positions, they are ever fearful that their dyslexia might let them down.

The good news is that it is never too late to get on top of reading, writing and spelling. Nowadays, information technology is often part of the solution. Word-processors address the difficulties of writing and spelling — with voice activation bringing an additional advantage, while speech synthesisers can tackle reading problems by metamorphosing reading into listening.

Dyslexic adults also need to recognise that a successful and fulfilling career is an option, so long as they think positively and focus on their strengths, not their weaknesses. Creative careers — from landscape gardening and engineering, to acting and painting — are often ideal. The 'who's who' of dyslexics proves just how successful they can be.

Famous names from the past include Thomas Edison, Albert Einstein, Leonardo da Vinci and Agatha Christie, while today's dyslexic achievers range from architect Richard Rogers, Olympic oarsman Steve Redgrave and politician Michael Heseltine to actress Whoopi Goldberg, writer Lynda la Plante, TV presenter Anthea Turner and women's refuge campaigner Erin Pizzey.

With one in ten children showing dyslexic problems, most units will have at least one girl who suffers from dyslexia — if only very mildly. Whatever the degree of

difficulty, the leader will need to discuss specific problem areas with the girl's parents — and with the girl herself, if appropriate.

She will need to make sure that any activity involving literacy skills is being handled in a non-threatening manner.

The Guide Programme can be enormously helpful to dyslexic girls in lots of ways. By promoting self-esteem and self-confidence, it counteracts many of the negative experiences the girls may encounter at school and elsewhere.

Through encouraging and enabling each girl to develop her full potential, Guiding offers dyslexics an opportunity to explore new interests and acquire new skills that are not book-based.

Also, the Programme's variety means that girls take part in all kinds of activities and find themselves learning in many different ways — expanding their ability to acquire knowledge and successfully boosting their sense of achievement.

For within a Rainbow, Brownie, Guide or Ranger unit, a dyslexic girl can be sure of a supportive environment. She knows she is among friends who won't make fun of her if she muddles up a long word or confuses right with left.



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Find out more

The British Dyslexia Association offers dyslexics information, advice and support. For details send a large sae to BDA, 98 London Road, Reading, RG1 5AU. The BDA also runs a Helpline on 0118 966 8271.

The Dyslexia Institute is dedicated to assessing and teaching people with dyslexia and to training teachers. The Institute has centres across the UK. Details from 133 Gresham Road, Staines, Middlesex TW18 2AJ.

The actress, Susan Hampshire, is a leading campaigner for dyslexics

IAN SMYTHE



Margi Clarke, like many other dyslexics, has made a successful career in showbusiness

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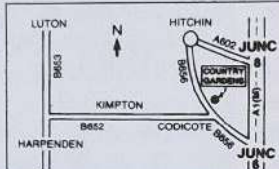


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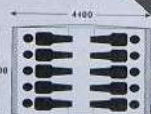
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ELEMENTARY PROTECTION

keeping up appearances

With an award of £87,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Cambridge-shire East's 3rd Wisbech Guides are now set to make their handsome Grade II listed hall, which they share with the 3rd Wisbech Scout Group, into a headquarters any unit would be proud to own.

The building is used for the weekly meetings of the Guides, Brownies and Rainbows and, since January, by the newly-formed Wisbech Rangers.

Now called the Robert Hall Centre, it was originally the St Augustine's National Day and Sunday School, built in 1874. Closed as a Church of England primary school in 1991, it was acquired jointly by the Guides and Scouts when the building was offered for sale by the County Council in 1993.

Its purchase – for £42,000 – was assisted by a £10,000 grant from a trust fund endowed by the estate of the late Robert Hall, a local benefactor who died in 1992.

In his will he asked for a trust to be set up to help local young people and for his name to be commemorated in some unspecified way.

Sheila Otter, Guide Guider of the 3rd Wisbech Guides and secretary of the Premises Management Committee, explained: 'The Scouts wanted to call the place "Baden-Powell Lodge". We preferred a name that incorporated the word "Trefoil", but that was too "Guidey" for the Scouts.

'We compromised by naming the building after Mr Hall, agreeing that this way we would be expressing our appreciation and helping the trustees to comply with Mr Hall's wishes. The name is also appropriate because other groups within the community also use the Robert Hall Centre.

'The £32,000 we still had to find was raised by interest-free loans from a consortium of friends. After the purchase, I sent out 473 letters to various charities and other organisations, as well as commercial companies.

'This netted about £15,000 which, together with the proceeds of a lot of Guide and Scout fundraising, has helped with running costs and reduced our debt burden considerably.

'The building still has its original bells in a turret but we have removed the bell ropes to prevent unauthorised bell-ringing. There are four classrooms, two of which have now been joined together to form a hall.'

installation of a kitchen; the building of an extension to house toilets and showers; provision of storage rooms, one for each section; and some final repairs to the roof.

In keeping with a listed building, with its multi-gabled roof and gabled entrance, the extension will be in Victorian style with matching yellow and red brickwork.

The picturesque HQ has already proved an ideal setting for the 3rd Wisbech Guide Company's

As their 80th anniversary year ends, Wisbech Guides can look forward to the future in a splendidly refurbished HQ



DAVID MANSELL/HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND

Back to basics: The Wisbech Guides and Scouts will be glad when the kitchen is installed in their HQ!

Some major repairs were needed to make the building suitable for use, including emergency repairs to the roof. Modern central heating and a security system were installed. All the work was done in conjunction with the Council's conservation officer and it has won an award for the repairs to two of the large windows.

Since it was officially re-opened in October 1993 the building has been used for many events, including the visit of some Rangers from Melbourne, Australia.

The Heritage Lottery Fund money will make it possible to carry out an extensive refurbishment programme, involving the repair of a further six windows; new guttering and drainpipes; the



SHEILA OTTER

celebrations. They began last July with a service at St Augustine's Church, when a new unit flag was dedicated. The unit was registered on July 25, 1917.

The 'birthday year' ends next month with another service at St Augustine's, and the presentation of certificates and badges to girls who have completed 12 challenges, all involving the number 80. ■

Mum's the word: The Rainbow's sponsored silence was just one of the many fundraising events held

Available at

Magic-carpet storytelling, henna hand-painting, self-portrait workshops and how to make sugary pink edible sculptures are among the hundreds of activities and events planned for Gallery Week '98.

The aim of GW'98 – happening across the country from July 18-26 – is to encourage the public to visit their local museums and galleries and discover the exciting world of contemporary art. Many of the activities on offer are specifically targeted at young people.

For details of events in your area, look out for GW'98 programmes. You will find them in tourist information centres, libraries, museums and galleries.



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Publicity for last year's Gallery Week

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RAMBLERS' ASSOCIATION

Free for all

Now in its second decade, Family Rambling Day has become a popular fixture on the summer calendar. This year's, on Sunday June 28, repeats the winning formula – hundreds of walks, mostly

between two and four miles long, taking place nationwide.

All the routes have been chosen especially with children in mind – some are even suitable for buggies – and will include picnics, barbecues and games. And there will be a Make-a-map competition aimed at young walkers.

For a full list of walks – open to all and free for everyone – send an A4 sae to Family Rambling Day, Ramblers' Association, 1-5 Wandsworth Road, London, SW8 2XX.

A mine-awareness picture by a Bosnian schoolchild



ICRC

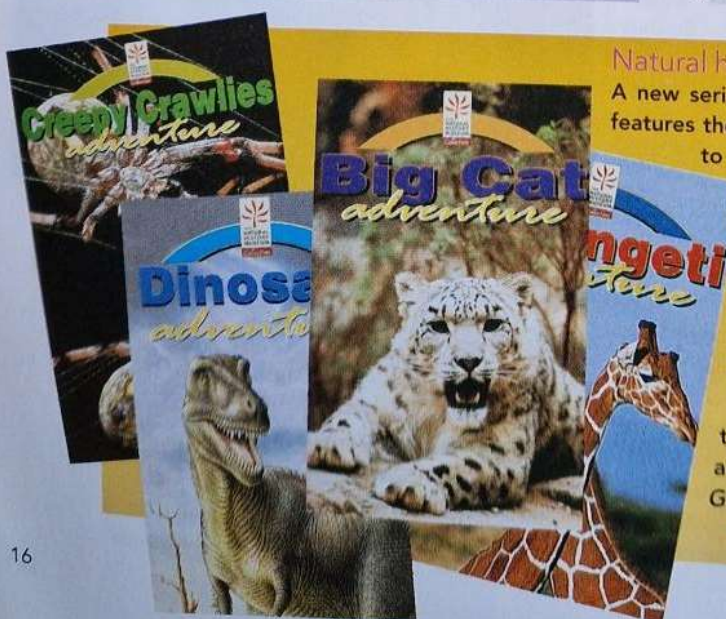
Watch where you tread

Landmines – the brutal legacy of conflict in so many parts of the world – are the focus of a new exhibition at the Imperial War Museum. Mounted in association with the UN, *Landmines: the Human Cost* looks at landmine use and the long-term problems this causes.

Exhibits include detection equipment, body armour worn by Diana, Princess of Wales on her visit to a minefield, and paintings done by Bosnian children to illustrate the dangers from mines. The exhibition continues until August 2.

For more information call 0171 416 5000.

During August, the Museum is running *Shipwreck*, a holiday activity for 8-12 year-olds. Navigating by the sun and stars, use of lifebelts and emergency communications are just some of the topics covered. Booking is essential: 0171 416 5311.



Natural history mystery tour

A new series of four audiocassettes, aimed at 6-11 year-olds, features the adventures of twins Ian and Gill during their visits to London's Natural History Museum.

Produced by Bespoke Audio Ltd in conjunction with the Museum, the cassettes bring natural history to life as they transport the twins into the worlds of Dinosaurs, Creepy Crawlies, Big Cats and the Serengeti Plains.

Each Animal adventure cassette comes in a pack with an informative colour poster and costs £5.99.

GUIDING has 20 packs to give away. For a chance to win one – titles will be distributed at random – answer the question below and send your entry to GUIDING/Nature at the address on the right.

Which is the largest American big cat?



Land of the Long White Cloud

Towards the end of June, Maori elders will gather at the British Museum for a ritual dawn ceremony at which they'll bestow a blessing on the Museum's new exhibition.

Called *Maori*, the exhibition celebrates the history and rich culture of this aboriginal people from New Zealand — Aotearoa, Land of the Long White Cloud.

Running from June 27-November 1, *Maori* also features a programme of related activities and demonstrations. Details on 0171 636 1555.

GUIDING has 15 pairs of tickets to give away. To enter the prize draw, answer the question below and send your entry to **GUIDING/Maori** at the address below.

Can you name the famous opera singer who has Maori origins?

Carved figure from the gable of a house

Feet first for children

After a year's absence, the London Strollerthon is back — on Sunday July 26. Organised by Save the Children, the ten-mile sponsored stroll starts and finishes in Regent's Park.

On the way, walkers pass some of the capital's most famous landmarks including Nelson's Column, St Paul's Cathedral and the Globe Theatre.

All ages and abilities are welcome and the route is wheelchair and child- buggy friendly. For a free registration pack, call the Strollerthon hotline on 0171 252 4141.



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On your marks for fire drill

A new fire safety activity pack, aimed at four to seven year-olds, features the warm-hearted TV character from Pontypandy, Fireman Sam.

Produced in conjunction with the Home Office Fire Safety Unit, the pack contains a *Safe With Sam* video, colour poster and six activity work sheets.

The work sheets cover topics such as fire hazards in the kitchen, smoke alarms and how to call the fire brigade. And there's a fire safety awareness certificate, too.

As both the worksheets and certificates may be photocopied, the pack can be used over and over again.

To obtain a copy of *Fireman Sam's Fire Safety Activity Pack*, send a £7.99 cheque — payable

to Fireman Sam — to Fireman Sam, PO Box 80, Wetherby, West Yorkshire, LS23 7EQ.

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The advice given in this pack has been developed in conjunction with the Home Office Fire Safety Unit.

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High-flying supershow

Star billing at this year's Royal International Air Tattoo goes to the RAF — celebrating its 80th birthday. Anniversary action ranges from stacked flypasts and a dazzling Red Arrow exclusive display to a two-hour concert and hot-air balloon release.

The Tattoo's other attractions include thrilling aerobatic routines, static aircraft display, virtual reality rides... plus all the fun of jugglers, jazz and strolling players.

The Tattoo takes place at RAF Fairford, Gloucestershire, on July 25-26. Tickets can be booked in advance, at a saving of £4.50, at branches of Waitrose and Victoria Wine, or on the Credit Card Line 0891 122997 (calls charged at 50p per minute).

We have 15 pairs of adult tickets (worth £48 per pair) to give away. To enter the prize draw, answer our question and send your solution to **GUIDING/RIAT** at the address shown below.

What was the name of the British war-time flying ace who had lost both his legs?

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panoramic promise

A Young Leader chose a high setting for high ideals

Other Guides may have made their Promise at higher altitudes, but when Young Leader Laura Simpson decided to reaffirm hers, she chose the loftiest location available at the time: the observation platform on Pavey's Tower at Cheddar Gorge.

Laura was on Pack Holiday at Locking, near Weston-super-Mare with the 2nd Chilvers Coton (Methodist) Brownies, from Nuneaton, Warwickshire, with Snowy Owl Sheila Pumford.

While there, the Pack visited the

caves at Cheddar, where Laura caught sight of Pavey's Tower, perched on the brow of the cliffs.

With its observation platform affording a 360-degree panoramic view of the countryside, it was irresistible. What better site in the West Country for Laura to remake her Promise?

To reach it, Laura first had to climb the 274 steps of the famous Jacob's Ladder and then a long staircase inside the tower, to the platform — 30ft above the cliffs.

Snowy Owl also clambered up, as did the various witnesses with several Brownies leading the way.

Sheila said: 'It was a perfect setting, well worth the climb, and we all enjoyed it.'

'I was delighted when Laura, having

been one of my Brownies before going on to Guides, returned as a Young Leader. She is a great help to me and is very popular with the girls. I hope she stays with us for a long time to come.'

The Pack was 25 years old last year but there was no celebration. Sheila explained: 'In 1995, when our church was approaching its 40th anniversary, I looked up the Pack's registration certificate because I thought it might coincide with the church's anniversary. But it didn't, it was dated April 1972, so there were two years to go.'

'When our anniversary actually came round, we were so busy Guiding that we forgot all about it!'

The unit has already had a Mother and Daughter Pack Holiday this year. And the girls are off again soon on their normal Pack Holiday to a 'magical place' — Far Forest in Worcestershire.

Reaching new heights: When Young Leader Laura Simpson renewed her Promise on Pavey's Tower, Brownies from her Pack came too



SHEILA PUMFORD



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hooked on training

Sweaty palms and self-doubt aren't characteristics most Guide Association members would associate with a Trainer but, as Anglia's Sandy Kinnersley explains, everyone gets nervous sometimes.

Here Sandy recalls a visit to Lorne she'll always remember.

As a Trainer it is a treat to have the opportunity to be trained, but we all experience the usual concerns well-known to all trainees. Will I say something silly? Will I go to the wrong room or be late for a session? What will the people in my bedroom be like? Will I make a fool of myself or find that I know less than everybody else?

Well, I might have done is the honest answer but, of course, I needn't have worried because I was among friends at Lorne.

Our two workshops were both enjoyable and thought-provoking, and included some light entertainment as well.

As it was near Christmas, we all devoured a splendid festive dinner on the Saturday evening – complete with crackers and small gifts – and then tested our brains with a fun quiz. I may not have known many of the answers, but I can now say that I have held a piece of the Berlin Wall.

I also got rather confused over the late-night attempt at *Blockbusters* – an Irish 'g' sounds very like an English 'j', which didn't help. Finally we were fortunate enough to join a carol service at Lorne, which was the final event to celebrate its 50th birthday.

Lorne is every bit as beautiful as it looks in photos – or perhaps even more so – and the Irish welcome we'd received was as warm as I had heard it would be.

Our rooms were comfortable and, after a tasty meal, I and some travelling companions passed the evening in the lounge, while waiting for other Guiders to arrive. We were even served with hot chocolate before bedtime!

But the next morning the peace

was shattered by a loud bell ringing – surely it couldn't be the fire alarm? Having just left the shower, I hurriedly grabbed some clothes and joined the others in an orderly scramble down the stairs and out of the front door to find the "culprits" lying on the porch floor – two rather black slices of toast!

We headed upstairs to dress properly – but no one thought to tell our Trainers, who, naturally, had followed the evacuation instructions perfectly. There they were huddled around the flagpole in the chilly December morning air waiting to discover when they could go back to their rooms in the Coach House!

Just another memory to add to my store that's been building since, some years ago as a brand new Guider, I was invited to join a County training weekend. A month or two later, I boarded a coach with many other leaders and headed off into the great unknown – to spend a weekend at one of The Guide Association's Training Centres!

I returned home armed with loads of new ideas and full of enthusiasm to put them into practice with my unit. I'd also made many new friends and got to know fellow Guiders from my District that little bit better. From that moment I was hooked.

I have attended training weekends at the different Centres on a regular basis ever since.

However, I had never ventured

over to Ulster to visit Lorne before, although it had long been an ambition of mine to do so. That's why I was over the moon when the venue for a Trainers' Workshop was changed from London to Lorne!

So I booked my airline ticket, packed my bag and happily headed off to the airport. Sitting over a coffee while waiting for the flight, I noticed a BGIFC logo on another woman's sweatshirt.

I soon found out that she and her friend were also on their way to Lorne, so we were able to share a taxi after touching down at Belfast.

It was a fortuitous start to a great

It isn't just Guiders who have to be trained, Trainers have to listen to teacher as well



Sanctuary: Trainer Sandy Kinnersley found Lorne 'beautiful' but has an attractive garden of her own to enjoy at Great Raveley, Huntingdon

weekend. And I was humbled by the hospitality provided by the Ulster Guiders, who invited us for a meal on the Sunday evening and then gave us a tour of Belfast the next morning, before dropping us at the airport.

I shall always remember my first visit to Lorne – and, yes, I will be back before too long. ■

directory

CAMPING AND HOLIDAYS

SOUTH OF ENGLAND

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Guiders, discover the Scouts best-kept secret, come and meet new friends from many nations. Activities for all ages, indoor accommodation to suit Brownies, Guides and Rangers plus a superb choice of secure camp sites.

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

PLUS

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For more information contact:
Andy Lanham (Warden)
Tolmers Scout Camp & Activity Centre,
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johnyoung@enterprise.net

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one voice

A year in the life of a new British Youth Council delegate

By Gayle Helen Lacey
BYC voting delegate,
North West England

Gayle Helen Lacey
in her other role as
a Rainbow Guider



SLACEY

December 1996: I decided to go along to be interviewed for the position of observer delegate for North West England to the British Youth Council, after all, nothing ventured nothing gained!

The interview was a success and led to many doors being opened for me. Initially I received lots of mail, but avoided being buried under a sea of papers by following the advice of experienced delegates.

March 1997: More paperwork arrived, and it was time to meet my fellow delegates. My first BYC training, my first visit to Pax Lodge – there were many more to come – and my first meeting with the Chief Guide – all in one weekend.

My first meeting also included getting to know the Scout delegation and the Boys Brigade delegation – so many names to learn. But the training was useful to a new delegate like me, as it covered how to project yourself with confidence and the way in which BYC conferences work. It sounded pretty mindboggling with procedural motions left, right and centre.

But it wasn't until the evening that I found out what really

happens at BYC conferences, in the informal setting of a pub near Pax Lodge. It isn't all constitutions and motions – there is time for fun.

On a more serious note, The Guide Association delegation is very strong, and our policies really are listened to.

The Chief Guide spoke to the delegation about the Bill to bring in police checks on all people working with children. This will include both employees and volunteers.

Obviously, it is important to protect our members, but the police checks would cost the Association

approximately £450,000 and it would take three months to find out the results. After discussion, we decided to put forward a motion on this topic to the BYC AGM.

April 1997: The BYC Members' Conference – the theme was Europe: young people, opportunity, choice and change. I also attended my Region AGM, where I ran a stand to promote the work of the BYC delegation and how it represents our Association.

July 1997: I was asked to represent the delegation at Uncensored at Waddow, putting on a display in the market place. I stayed all weekend and had a great time.

August 1997: The postman must have thought I was Miss Popular, as all the briefing papers and policy documents from the AGM arrived. We had our delegation briefing meeting at CHQ. Since we represent The Guide Association's views, we block vote as a delegation.

We discussed all the proposals and worked out how we would vote and if we would submit any amendments. The discussions really stretched me. Unfortunately, the

voting delegate for North West England, Sarah Robinson, had to resign, and I found myself – at my very first AGM – taking on her role.

September 1997: AGM time. As we were issued with our voting slips, it suddenly became real – we were voting on issues which affect many young people, and the outcome will influence today's decision makers. The policies discussed were varied – ranging from breast milk substitutes to the New Deal. As an apolitical organisation, we abstain on policies that have a political bias.

The policy submitted by The Guide Association was passed. Now BYC's Management Committee will lobby the Government, and other influential bodies, on the cost and the time taken for police checks on youth organisation volunteers.

The Guide Association may be breaking all records as an ex-Guide delegate, Alex Newton, is BYC's Vice Chair; Carol Armstrong was voted on to the Steering Committee, and Lynn Hanlon was elected to the Regions and Nations Committee. Some months later, Sam Blood, the Chair of the delegation, was voted on to the Management Committee. Girl Power forever!

November 1997: I was asked to represent the delegation on the Look Wider Monitoring Group. At the first weekend at Pax Lodge we analysed the results of the questionnaires and focus groups carried out over the summer and early autumn. It was very interesting and totally different from BYC meetings.

My year as a member of the BYC delegation ended with a Parliamentary Reception at the House of Commons on the theme of Young Women and Citizenship (featured in February's *GUIDING*).

The evening was a great opportunity for The Guide Association to promote itself and its opinions to decision makers. I was inspired by Joan Ruddock, the Minister for Women. It was a wonderful end to my challenging year as part of the Association BYC delegation. ■

call to camp



We've got an opportunity that's not to be missed. First of all, ask yourself where will you be from July 24-31 next year. Will you be among the 3,000 WAGGS' members attending the World Camp at Foxlease? It will be exactly 75 years since the first World Camp and those taking part will be sharing in a memorable, unforgettable event.

The centre piece of the camp will be the Global Development Village featuring challenging, exciting activities celebrating world citizenship. Visitors will spend a day exploring and trying out new activities, making friends with people from all over the world and experiencing the smells, tastes and sounds of planet Earth.

Look out for some eye-catching leaflets coming to your District inviting young women – aged between 13 and 21 – to take up the challenge and attend a County World Camp Selection Day in the autumn. There they will find out more about the World Camp and try out some taster activities to whet their appetite.

If selected, they will be representing their County at the largest, pre-Millennium global Guiding celebration. Applications from overseas are rolling in. Our young women need to be there! To find out more information, contact your County International Adviser, Senior Section Adviser, or ask your District Commissioner.

Girls over 17 can be at the World Camp as staff members. If you are interested, please contact the World Camp Office at the address below and ask for an application form.

Once you have filled it in, attached a passport photo and asked your local Commissioner for a reference, send it back to the World Camp Office.

You will be able to indicate your choice of a work team, and we will do our best to meet your first

choice. But hurry, there are not many places left on the staff team.

Maybe you are looking for an opportunity to carry out an act of service for the D of E Award or the Queen's Guide. A number of staff places have been reserved for this purpose, please get in touch with the World Camp Office.

So what about the rest of you. You may not be going to the World Camp but that doesn't mean you have missed out. From this September a World Camp Unit Challenge will be running.

Open to all units across all sections, the challenge will focus on some of the main themes of the Camp, including international, outdoors and the Arts.

There will be a choice of activities to try with your unit from each theme. Interested? Then send the coupon below to the World Camp Office. Go on — be a part of history!

If you were thinking of staying in Princess Mary House at Foxlease during the World Camp, resolve to be part of the World Camp experience. As well as staying in the House, you can visit the Camp, attending the opening and closing ceremonies as part of a programme of visits. Details are available from Hilary Chittock, Foxlease's Manager.

For more information, try your County International Adviser, Senior Section Adviser or District Commissioner. And the World Camp Office is happy to answer queries — the address is: World Camp Office, 194 Harwich Road, Little Clacton, Essex, CO16 9PU.



KEITH FRYER



THE GUIDE ASSOCIATION

Your chance to be a part of Guiding history

By Nicky Parker
World Camp Organiser

As time rides by:
On site at Olave '97

At the World Camp
1924: Miss Parry,
dispatch rider

Staff Team Coupon

● Send me a form to apply to be a staff member at the World Camp

Name

Address

Guide County

World Camp Challenge Coupon

Please send me further information on the World Camp Unit Challenge.

Name

Unit

County

Address

training news

Hautbois — 01603 737357

Guiders outdoor activity weekend

..... October 23-25
By popular request, this training is a repeat of an unique opportunity to try those adventurous activities that the girls enjoy so much — without them watching! This is your chance to have a go at abseiling, archery, climbing, canoeing, pioneering or orienteering.

Food, glorious food

..... October 30 - November 1
A weekend training for Brownie and Guide Guiders where all the activities will be based around the theme of food, including games, outdoor activities, craft ideas, marzipan modelling, sweet making. There's also a session on basic food hygiene related to camps, holidays and food preparation in the unit.

Hautbois minstrels

..... November 6-8
If you enjoy singing and making music, come to Hautbois for our Minstrels weekend and join others who enjoy doing the same. You don't have to have experience — all you need is enthusiasm!

Waddow — 01200 423186

Programme ideas for Rainbow, Brownie and Guide Guiders, including help with accounts
..... June 23-25
Midweek training — crèche available.

Programme ideas for Rainbow, Brownie and Guide Guiders
..... June 26-28

Get knotting workshop

..... June 26-28
Noticed the Association's new *Knot Book* in the catalogue? Do you have a lot of Brownies, Guides or Rangers wanting to complete the Knotters badge? Want to include some pioneering in your outdoor programme? Or perhaps you want to revise all those knots that you did in your dim and distant past. Join this workshop and work at all those aspects of knotting that will best suit you now.

official

Local history holiday

..... July 25-31
There's a wealth of history in and around Waddow. Come and find out about it.

Houses and gardens holiday

..... July 25-31
Visits to houses and gardens in the area.

Walking week

..... August 8-14
Walking for all abilities. Open to Guiders, Trefoil Guilds and families.

Holiday time

..... August 15-27
For Guiders, Trefoil Guild members and families. Do your own thing and/or take part in the organised programme.

Leisure break for Guiders, Trefoil Guild members and families

..... June 8-11, September 14-17, October 12-15

Grandparent(s) with grandchild(ren)

..... October 21-23, 26-29

Broneirion — 01686 688204

Walking holiday event

..... August 5-12
Relax and bring your friends / family for a week, or just a few days, and see Broneirion and the Welsh countryside.

Food/fashion/faith

..... September 18-20
An internationally-themed event. Explore the traditions and cultures of many member countries of WAGGGS.

Christmas arts

..... December 4-6
A themed weekend of visual arts and crafts for all sections and for use at any season. A 'lively' weekend!

Blackland Farm — 01342 810493

BCU 1 and 2 star kayak

..... September 4-6, 11-13, 18-20

BCU 3 star kayak and BCU 2 star improvers kayak

..... September 25-27

Beginners rock climbing

..... September 4-6, 11-13, 18-20

GNAS Archery Leader Award (indoor accommodation)

..... September 7-11

Climbing and abseiling supervisor training (indoor accommodation)

..... October 2-4

Foxlease — 01703 282638

Programme ideas for Rainbow, Brownie and Guide Guiders

..... July 10-12
Explore lots of new ideas, then plan and prepare complete autumn programmes

Summer holiday training

..... August 21-23
A programme ideas training during the summer break. Just the time to get ahead with some inspiration for autumn. Families would be welcome to join you and to explore the area, while you are attending sessions.

First aid for camps and holidays

..... August 21-23
Due to popular demand this training is being repeated. Too late for this year's residential event? Get well ahead for 1999 — write or phone for details.

Family holiday time

..... August 24-31
Use Foxlease as your base for a last-minute break before the new term starts. Stay for as many nights as you wish.

Bright ideas and how to use them in your autumn programme

..... September 4-6
A training for all sections, lots of ideas and ways to include them in your unit.

Life-saving course

..... September 18-20

International tour the world

..... September 25-27
Pack your bags and come for a world tour. Find out about the new WAGGGS theme — Building World Citizenship — with plenty of activities that you could use in your units on peace, food and nutrition, culture, heritage and lots more.

It may be possible to help you make contact with others travelling from your area to any of these trainings. Please telephone or write to the Manager of the appropriate centre. For further details or to apply, ring the Centres' numbers listed on page 52.

to the rescue!

The aftermath of a tornado was the large-scale incident dealt with calmly and efficiently at North West England's Emergency First Aid Course.

Having first spent a day indoors learning the skills rescuers need, the 33 Guiders and Advisers soon discovered that outdoor simulations were, according to Region Outdoor Activities Adviser Jacky Ramsden, 'a totally different ball game'.

She added: 'Casualties did not collapse on flat, carpeted floors. They were wearing thick, outdoor clothing and lying on muddy slopes, or nonchalantly between prickly hawthorn trees or wedged in corners. We quickly realised how the recovery position would have to be adapted to suit the terrain and the injuries.'

After some group exercises in the grounds of Guy's Farm Activity Centre, near Lancaster, the training ended with the large-scale incident.

A third of the trainees became instant casualties and the rest were formed into a rescue team and a back-up rescue team.

The rescue team was told a tornado had struck and it was up to them to assess the situation and brief the back-up team until assistance arrived by helicopter.

Time, they discovered, was running out, and as many people as possible had to be rescued before the bad weather returned. Jacky recalled: 'The casualties hammed it up... but I'm pleased to report that all the living were successfully

rescued and the dead, fortunately, came back to life.'

All 33 Guiders gained the Emergency Certificate for Immediate Temporary Care First Aid. The training was provided by Mountain Water Safety and, Jacky said, all agreed that 'this practical form of first-aid training was particularly effective'.

● Mountain Water Safety can be contacted on 01429 222948.

Learning by doing was the name of the game at this first aid weekend



JACKY RAMSDEN

First assess the situation. Rescuers get to grips with a disaster

back to the future

Paula Hewitt, Chairman of the Guide Heritage Centre Management Group, and Brenda Paget, Chairman of the Archives Group, found themselves in impressive company when they attended a presentation ceremony in Leeds.

They were at the Thackray Medical Museum to receive a commendation from the Society for the Interpretation of British Heritage.

The Heritage Centre shared the limelight with, among others, the Beaulieu Motor Museum, the Tower

of London and the Royal Marines Museum, for its work in presenting Guiding to a wider public.

The awards were given out by Admiral Sir John Kerr, one of the Museums and Galleries Commissioners. He took heritage, interpretation and access as the three keynotes of his speech.

Sir John stressed the importance of presenting the UK's historical and cultural heritage in a way that is available to all. He went on to point out that our future is built on the proper understanding of and

interpretation of our past.

Mrs Hewitt said: 'After a tour of the Museum – not, in parts, for the squeamish – we heard how three of the winners overcame funding problems and other difficulties in setting up their projects – and something of their plans for future expansion.'

'We picked up several practical tips for the future... and it brought home to us just how valuable an asset we possess, one which the whole Association should work to protect and enjoy.'

Preserving our past to help shape our future is one of the Guide Heritage Centre's aims

value jud

Encouraging Guides to play boys' sports would be one way to change the image of the Association

In the last of a series of articles looking at the market research carried out last year for The Guide Association, Geoff Nichols concentrates on the reasons for the drop-out rate from Guiding and what he thinks the Association could do to turn the tide, and explores issues he feels ought to be debated.

Guiding seeks to empower girls and young women to develop their own potential and take charge of their own lives. It offers a programme directed towards self-development. But that development is not directionless, it is guided by the values explicit in the Guide Law and Promise.

These values include honesty, integrity, a willingness to face up to difficulties and to learn from experience, respect for others and the environment, compassion for others and an acknowledgement of spirituality and patriotism. They are reflected in exhibitions staged in the Guide Heritage Centre — for example, those showing Guides from around the world and ways in which Guides could contribute to improving the environment.

In contrast to less structured and more informal youth organisations, Guiding has a strong and well-defined set of values.

Another important aspect of Guiding is that it seeks to develop young people's capabilities to take responsibility for themselves and to develop their own skills, so that they can make the best of the leisure opportunities available to them.

This sort of leisure can be hard work. Young women need to invest time and effort, for instance, through the badge schemes. The leaders need to encourage them to do this and to provide them with the appropriate opportunities.

Through developing skills and other personal qualities — such as confidence and leadership and the willingness to take responsibility —

the older Guides can take an increasing part in the programme planning for their units.

Similarly the Ranger Guider becomes a 'resource' that Rangers can use to help them plan what they want to do, rather than the instigator of activities.

This type of leisure has been termed 'transitory leisure' because it helps young people make the transition to adulthood in which they will have to take responsibility for themselves. It empowers them to take charge of their own lives.

The key resource for this sort of leisure is not money but the people in it. The Guide Programme, in fact, develops the young people who are in Guiding as its own valuable resource. Through learning skills and resourcefulness, the young members can make the most of the opportunities available to them.

To give you an example from my own experience, the Venture Unit I was in in the early 1970s, wanted to go to the Alps. We bought an old van and the unit members worked hard to get it to a state in which it could make the trip.

Some members had already developed mountaineering skills over several years and they planned routes from maps and guidebooks. Others organised the food and finances. So, by pooling everybody's skills, we made the trip happen. The cost was contained, as we made the best of what we had by using our own resources.

But this sort of leisure contrasts with leisure as an experience, something just to be bought and consumed. For example, paying for a trip to an amusement park, a leisure pool or a fast-food restaurant. This definition of leisure as consumption is strongly promoted through advertising and marketing. And it is an approach to which young people may be particularly susceptible.

Often, the first thing a young person asks when on a trip is: 'What can I spend my money on?' Another example is where young people have such fickle and precise likes in food — invariably they choose a variety that has been highly processed and marketed — that it becomes almost impossible to plan a nourishing and cheap menu for a group camp that they will eat.

The preference for leisure as consumption, involving little personal effort, may lie behind the problem reported by many Guiders when they said that they could not provide what the girls wanted because it was too expensive.

I have contrasted the type of leisure offered by Guiding and the type of leisure promoted by society because the commitment to this type of 'transitory leisure' is not so obvious from the Guide Promise, but nevertheless it is there.

It also illustrates a divergence between the values promoted by Guiding and the values either promoted by society or held by young people and, therefore, shows where some compromise may need to be made.

Compromises should be part of the discussion on how to redress the problem of falling membership in the age group covered by Guides. As I've shown, the values of Guiding may clash with those of society in general, and those held by young women in particular.

The very fact that Guiding explicitly promotes particular values might put off some young women when they are at an age where they are trying to work out their own values themselves and do not want to have others imposed on them.

Overall, the key issue to be faced by the Association is how to reconcile the objective of helping young people develop their full potential, including their capacity

Judgement

to choose their own values, and doing this within the framework set by the values promoted by Guiding.

Should the values of the Association change to move towards those of society and young women? Perhaps the values of Guiding are not promoted strongly enough, or not expressed in the Programme in a way that makes sense to modern young people.

Guiders taking part in the research often said that the values of Guiding, its contribution to the development of young people, were not adequately promoted. They wanted to be able to stand up and be proud to be Guiders because society respected the Association for what it did.

But even if the existing values were promoted, and they were acceptable to society, does there still have to be some reconciliation between what is offered and what the girls want?

I suggest the following compromises should be considered. Consistent with its objective of empowerment and its belief in a single-sex organisation, The Guide Association should promote the fact that, as a single-sex organisation, it offers girls a space in which they can develop free from the peer group pressure of boys. A virtue should be made of the opportunity for girls to develop a distinctive femininity, but the type girls aspire to.

The image of the activities offered has to change to reflect a more positive view of young women as able to be independent – especially from men – and prepared to make their own way in the world.

However much the Spice Girls may have been a product of marketing, this was the element of their image that touched a nerve with girls. Cake making and camp gadgets can be retained, but more

emphasis should be placed on activities that have an active image, and that have been more traditionally associated with boys – for example, outdoor pursuits or five-a-side football.

Recent research for the Sports Council has shown an increasing number of girls playing traditionally male-dominated sports and a large number that want to, but who don't have the opportunity.

Providing an active and varied Programme will require a more open approach to recruiting leaders. The uniform at Guide age and above could be reduced to a sweat-shirt, as a uniform represents conformity when a major concern of young people at this age is to establish their own, individual self-identity. A more complete uniform could be retained for leaders to wear if they wished.

At Ranger age there is a lot to be said for merging with Venture Scouts, if local groups want to, especially in areas where a single organisation is not viable.

At this age establishing relationships with the opposite sex plays a major part in young people's development, and so mixed organisations are more popular. There could still be separate meetings for the two sexes, possibly one in four and with other Rangers or Ventures at a District level.

A compromise will have to be made between 'transitionary leisure' and leisure as consumption, but this should involve Guides in their own fundraising activities.

For instance, if Guides want to go to an amusement park, they should raise the money to do so, thus stressing the value of self-reliance. However, this sort of consumption must be balanced by active compassion for those less fortunate. The value of environmental care could be further promoted as the general public's concern for the environment grow.

While a majority of people in the UK retain a general belief in a spiritual dimension to life, they are less committed to formal religion. This divergence between informal



and formal religion is greatest in young people.

A clear set of values for Guiding needs to be promoted strongly and 'nailed to the mast' so Guides and Guiders know where they stand, and have a clear and respected point of reference in promoting Guiding to the rest of society.

● This series of articles has been based on research carried out by Mr Nichols, from Sheffield University, and Lindsay King of the University of Northumbria, Newcastle upon Tyne, and the results of a MORI poll.

Kicking new ideas about:
Some Brownies have already discovered the joys of football

ESSEX CHRONICLE/BILLERICAY & WICKFORD GAZETTE

on song

**You can't
beat a Guide
action song
if you need a
lullaby**

Rock-a-bye
baby: Matthew
loves to listen to
action songs

Brownie and Guide action songs don't only appeal to members of the Movement. Perhaps the youngest fan of Guiding sing-alongs is tiny Matthew Jasper from the West Midlands. With a mum and a grandma in the Movement, there's no shortage of ideas to amuse him.

Since he was just four days old, Matthew has stopped crying to pay attention to the action songs that Mum and Gran would sing during bath time. The songs even

hushed his vigorous protests while having his nappy changed.

First favourites were *Auntie Monica* and *If you're happy and you know it*. But now Matthew has demonstrated his appetite for Guide action songs by reacting to all those his family can remember.

Sometimes the words of a song prove a little elusive. That's when Mum, Rachel Jasper, makes a hurried telephone call to Matthew's gran – Rainbow Guider Cynthia Moore – at work. She can, for instance, be relied on to know what the little pink phone said.

Now that some old boxes of songbooks from Guide and Ranger days have been unearthed, Matthew can look forward to listening to a whole song before he drops off.

Matthew's gran, Cynthia said: 'I've "explained" to Matthew that

he can't be a Rainbow, but that he can go to Beavers when he's old enough, and that they sing action songs too. He gurgles in time with the songs, so I like to think that he understands!'

Cynthia tends to know what children like. Apart from her own children and grandchildren, she works in a nursery for children of mothers living in a women's refuge. She believes that singing to a child has a great effect on both the child's intelligence and social interaction skills.

Brownie and Guide songs are ideal, Cynthia believes, as the actions they use encourage babies to watch the singer, and so to interact with her. She explained that babies' eyes follow movement, and that it aids their development to focus on other people.

Matthew is already a regular visitor to Rainbow meetings, and the girls welcome him with open arms — all singing his favourite songs. ■



whatever the weather

**Torrential rain
cut short one
Guide's attempt
to do her duty
to the Queen**

Sharon Cole, a 13-year-old Surrey East Guide, has cystic fibrosis which is an inherited disease that clogs the respiratory system. But she doesn't allow it to stop her from joining in all the activities of the 4th Banstead Guides.

Last year, however, Sharon suffered two bitter disappointments in quick succession.

The first blow came after she had been selected from 250 children — all members of the Riding

For The Disabled organisation — to ride at Windsor Castle in front of the Queen and Prince Philip as part of the couple's golden wedding anniversary celebrations.

The royal event fell on the very weekend that the 4th Banstead Guides were off to camp. So, although Sharon was very keen to go camping, it was generally felt that riding for the Queen should take precedence. The other girls went off to camp leaving Sharon behind.

But fate had another blow in store. Sharon, having done her duty to the Queen by forgoing camp, was unable to ride after all. The riding display had to be cancelled owing to the torrential rain that had fallen during the previous week. The waterlogged ground was unsafe for horses and riders.

This year, all being well, it will be a much happier story. Sharon, who went on three Pack Holidays with her old Brownie Pack — once as

Pack Leader — will be off to two weekend camps and, as far as she is concerned, the weather on both occasions can do what it likes.

Back in January the three Rainbow Units, four Brownie Packs and the one Guide Company in Banstead District joined forces to stage a very successful *Blue Peter* Cystic Fibrosis bring and buy sale.

Sharon was among the enthusiastic helpers and they were able to send almost £230 to the appeal.

Sharon's Guider, Rosie English, who is also District Commissioner, said: 'We particularly wanted to hold this sale because of Sharon. We all admire the way she just gets on with her life and Guiding.'

'In our District, we have an ever-increasing waiting list of girls hoping to join units and an ever-decreasing number of Guiders to look after them. So, in her Guiding, at least, perhaps Sharon can regard herself as fortunate.' ■

Sharon (left)
helped at
her District's
bring and
buy sale to
raise money
for the Blue
Peter Cystic
Fibrosis
appeal



faith in the future

'Things just aren't the same as they used to be!' How often have we heard this complaint, or even made it ourselves? We've certainly used similar expressions, whether talking about changes in fashion, music or make-up. But they are particularly popular with people who are discussing today's – supposed – apathy towards religion.

It wasn't so long ago that it was the custom for all families to go to church on Sundays. But that period seems to have gone for ever. We now live in a society whose members come from a mixture of religious backgrounds. And so we must ask ourselves: how relevant is Guiding for those who are not Christians?

As Guides, whatever our age, we promise: to do our best 'to love my God'. This part of the Promise is written in such a way that it affirms the Movement is open to all faiths.

As our society becomes ever more diverse and the world outside Guiding becomes 'smaller', it is important that, as an Association, we never exclude anyone from belonging to the country's largest all-female organisation.

Our Promise enables any female, who is trying her best to love what she perceives to be her God, to become a Guide. If her interpretation of the Promise means that she is loving God in the committed Christian sense, serving Allah in the Islamic tradition, or, simply, that she is seeking to live her life in the best way possible, knowing that there is something out there which she can't quite pin a label on, then it is acceptable in Guiding terms.

It is very easy to dismiss the problem of integrating all faiths into

Guiding, if we come from units where all girls are of the same faith.

However, how many of us have actually paused to ask *why* our units are like this? If the answer is that the area in which we are Guides is not a multi-cultural one then, obviously, we can't produce girls of different races to make our units seem more politically correct.

If, on the other hand, we do live in an area where there are many faiths and cultures, we should be careful that we are not creating unnecessary barriers. Ask yourselves if a simple change in venue from church hall to community centre, or, perhaps, a change in the prayer we use from Jesus to God, might make our units seem more welcoming.

Of course, when opening up Guiding to all faiths, we must take care that we do not offend anyone or step on anybody's toes. Certainly, in my own West of Scotland background, there is still a very strong belief in Christianity and all the Guides in my unit come from Christian backgrounds.

To bombard my Guides every week with celebrations and activities from other faiths would make them feel very uncomfortable. We need to respect the heritage of our own country, while gently encouraging those of other faiths to see that Guiding is for them.

The Guide Association is already taking steps to ensure that as many

faiths as possible are given a voice through a diverse range of consultants, ranging from Hindus to Methodists, who serve on the Religious Advisory Committee.

However, at unit level, we can still do so much to look wider and make sure that we really are an organisation that is open to all girls.

Today there is not so much a feeling of apathy towards religion, as a searching for something which does not conform to the traditional interpretation of religion.

How wonderful it would be to march into the year 2000 as one large band of Guides, regardless of faiths and religious backgrounds, knowing that we had mutual respect for one another.

We need to take vigorous steps to knock down the religious barriers which are so discouraging and, instead, realise that Guiding can rise above these differences in its own, very special way.

As the American Field Service

Guiding ought to be an open house for all races and creeds

By Roseanne Russell
Association Junior Council — Scotland and AJC liaison to the Religious Advisory Committee



MOOSE AZIM

motto says: 'Walk together, talk together O ye peoples of the world, only then will you find peace'.

● The motto is one of many inspirational quotations in *Seeking* published by The Guide Association, price £2.50. To order from the Trading Service, quote code 66001 but remember that a small-order charge of £1 is added to orders under £12.

Warm welcome: Girls from all faiths can be integrated into the Association

a personal view ■

A 15-year-old Young Leader gives her own, sometimes critical, view of Guiding

I found it frightening in March's article about the market research findings that there was no mention that girls could be leaving Guiding because they aren't offered exciting outdoor activities.

Ever since I joined Guides, I have enjoyed the outdoor side best. And my Company, which offers outside activities, has remained full. Yet it appears that the Association often seems to block us pursuing such activities with new rules and forms.

I'm a Venture Scout as well as a Young Leader. Venture Scouts can go off camping whenever they wish without a leader and they are insured. It is partly because of this freedom that I joined Ventures.

Another point made was that a lack of leaders with certain skills is one of the reasons why girls leave Guides. Being a leader of other people's children is a very daunting responsibility, so why doesn't the Association support the leaders it has through supplying them with mentors? The Scouts do. Instead of looking for ways of attracting new leaders, why not look for ways of supporting the ones we've got?

I am going to the 19th World Jamboree in Chile — something that I could only achieve through my Guiding and something that all my friends at school are jealous of. I am no longer mocked for being a Guide, but envied because of the opportunities it has given me.

On the subject of positive image, I want to say something about uniform. At 13, I really didn't want to go on parade through my local village, in case someone saw me. A couple of weeks ago, however, my Guider pointed out that I had just been into the local fish 'n' chip shop — in which some girls from my year were serving — in full uniform to order chips for my unit.

I can only suggest two reasons: I am more mature than I was at 13, and I have a cool image with my peers because of the camping, night hikes and other outdoor activities I have been able to undertake.

Uniform is essential to Guiding. It is what makes us special. At an international camp last summer we spent a day at Blackpool. We had to wear full uniform complete with camp neckers. None of our Guides

complained because it made us feel part of something and safe.

We knew that if we had any problems there would be an identifiable group of brother or sister Scouts or Guides close by who would help. We also found the general public's response was positive. Several people said how wonderful it was young people are being given tremendous opportunities through Guiding and Scouting.

If Guiding is cool then uniform is not a problem, it gives us unity. Interestingly, my Guides feel it is not appropriate to wear jeans on parade but were delighted to get rid of the culottes! They enjoy getting dressed up in their uniforms!

I am confident I am speaking for many other Guides, Young Leaders and Rangers in the UK, and definitely on behalf of my Company. I hope The Guide Association takes notice of our views.

We are the generation that is under peer pressure, but who want to stay in Guides. But we also wish that those high up would help us by making it easier to be Guides, by implementing our views.

coming next ■

IN JULY'S GUIDING

Fight against drugs

'Drug Tsar' Keith Hellawell praises the work of The Guide Association in raising girls' self-esteem through challenging activities.

Are your messages a mess?

Even the notes sent home to parents, informing them of forthcoming events give an impression of the Association. What do yours say?

A degree of romance

We catch up with a previously-

featured Guider and find out if she has realised her ambition.

It could work for you

One County took Guiding out into the community and attracted many new recruits.

Traveller's tales

A much-travelled member takes a light-hearted look at some of her Guiding experiences abroad.

Sticky moments

Put on your oldest clothes and end the term with a bang. Make up our

recipe for gunge and find a different use for jelly and custard.

Delicious dishes

Get cooking with some mouth-watering recipes for Welsh lamb and — so no one is left out — a tasty dish for vegetarians.

Commonwealth games

We take a look at the culture of Malaysia — the country that is playing host to the Commonwealth Games — and camp — later this year.

IN JULY'S BROWNIE

Save it for a rainy day

Make a huge sandwich; put on a fashion show — just two of the many great activities that will keep the girls amused when it's pouring outside.

Make it!

Your girls can create their own original wrapping paper or have fun

making soap-on-a-rope.

Mind-boggling puzzles

Match the brollies; guide the pond skaters or untangle the fishing lines.

Raising the roof

In our story, *The Tile Sale*, Brownies discover a novel way of raising money for a new roof.

Sea secrets

Dive into our fascinating facts

about creatures of the deep.

Letting off steam

Look at the state of that water! Follow it from solid (ice) through to vapour (steam).

Making a splash

We talk to Lynn McClaren — Scotland's promising young swimmer — who is in training for the Commonwealth Games.

ideas

Programme ideas for June 1998

idea of the MONTH

suggestions for Guiders of all sections
by Gillian Ellis

All Guiders run games in their units, but how many feel really comfortable doing it and how many do it well? If you find that running a game is a bit of a trial, try our tips for getting the most out of your games time.

As you are building up your confidence, aim to play games that do not have many rules. Try to choose one that keeps all the players involved with the game and doesn't mean that a crowd of girls are sitting feeling bored on the sidelines.

Before you start a game, be sure that you are thoroughly familiar with the rules. If you are constantly referring to notes, the girls will be put off and you won't be able to keep an eye on the action.

If you want to adapt a game to your unit's particular circumstances, do so before you start and whatever you do, don't



Read the rules then play the game!

introduce new rules just as the game is being played.

As with any activity, girls should be suitably dressed. If they are running around, sensible footwear is a must. Loose items such as sashes and scarves should be removed in case they become trapped around furniture or other people.

Have all the necessary equipment handy before you are ready to explain the game. It is a good idea – if you can – to make sure that you have enough leaders to help.

Divide the girls into whatever size teams are required and ask them to sit down. Tell them the aim of the game, followed by the rules and the scoring system. Repeat all the instructions clearly and then invite questions.

You should also define a chosen signal for starting and stopping. When playing a noisy game, a sharp blast of a whistle is best. You may like to play a trial round before you start scoring.

During the game, offer support and encouragement to all the players. Try to make sure that everyone is involved and that no particular team member is left out.

Finally, don't let a game drag on, stop it while the girls are still enthusiastic and they'll clamour for it in the future.

idea

Using imaginative ingredients, make your own dips to eat with potato crisps.



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idea

Plan a picnic in an unusual setting.



idea

Take some great camp photos to send into the In Focus pages.



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topic of the month

On your marks, get set, go for some crazy sports – they're ideal for meetings, camps and fun days

By South West Region Outdoor Activity Advisers
Illustrations: Dom Mansell

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Pegs on a line

Challenge teams to put as many pegs on a washing line as they can in just 30 seconds. The catch is they can only use one hand and it must be the one that the girls don't write with.

If that challenge proves too easy, try getting them to hang as many socks up as they can!

■ This activity could be included in a crazy obstacle race.

R S
suitable for
B G

Heads and hands

Keep the girls alert with this fast-moving listening and looking game for large groups.

You will need a large sponge ball and a group of willing volunteers.

Arrange the group in a circle, with one person standing in the centre, holding the ball. The person with the ball throws it to each girl in turn – calling either 'head' or 'hands'.

If hands is called, the ball must be caught and thrown back to the girl in the middle. If head is called, the ball must be headed back to the middle.

Anyone who misses the ball, takes a turn to stand in the middle. Alternatively, award a point to anyone who gets it wrong. The winner is the girl with the least points.

■ Only lightweight sponge balls should be used for this game.

R S
suitable for
B G

Spoon ball

Spoon ball is a variation on an old sports day favourite, the egg and spoon race.

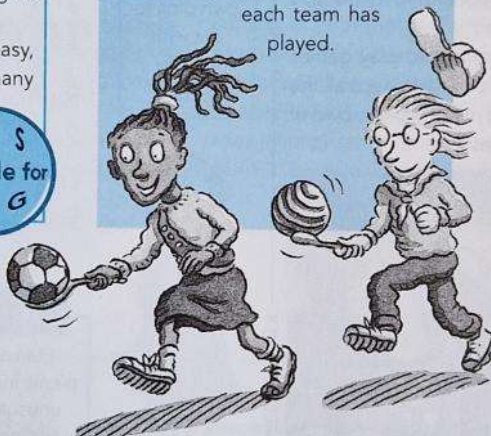
Each team will need: two buckets, a ball and a large spoon.

Place the empty buckets at the far end of the play space, opposite each team. The remainder of the equipment should be near to each team.

On a starting signal, the first member of each team takes the ball from one of the buckets and then carries it – on the spoon – to the other end of the playing area.

The ball and spoon are then dropped into the other bucket and the girl runs back to her team-mates.

The next player runs to the far bucket, picks up the spoon and ball and returns to her team-mates. Carry on the relay until every member of each team has played.



R S
suitable for
B G



Water circle

Play this wet-and-wild game outside on a hot summer's day – we are bound to have some! It's guaranteed to cool everyone down.

You will need: a long rope; five buckets; four plastic beakers; ruler.

Divide the groups into four equal teams. Mark out a large circle with rope and place a bucket of water in the middle. Put the plastic beakers next to this central bucket.

Each team sits in a line radiating out from the edge of the circle, with an empty bucket in front of them.

The first girl in each line runs to the bucket in the circle, scoops out a beaker of water, carries it round the circle and back to her team's bucket – where she empties the beaker.

The beaker is handed to the next girl in line and the action is repeated. When everyone has had a go, measure the depth of water in each bucket. The winner is the team with the most water.

R S
suitable for
B G

Mini olympics

Everyone will enjoy a mini olympic sports session, which is particularly suitable for a wet day at camp or Pack Holiday.

Each group should choose a country – real or imaginary – to represent. The girls can then make flags and think of a special team chant or song. You can even make cheerleaders' pompoms from strips of crêpe paper.

Have a suitably impressive opening ceremony and then the games can begin. Here are a few suggestions for indoor contests:

- Discus – substitute a paper plate.
- Javelin – use straws or spent matchsticks instead.
- Shotput – balloons.
- Marathon – take dainty fairy steps around the arena.

Don't forget to award everyone a medal for their efforts.



R S
suitable for
B G

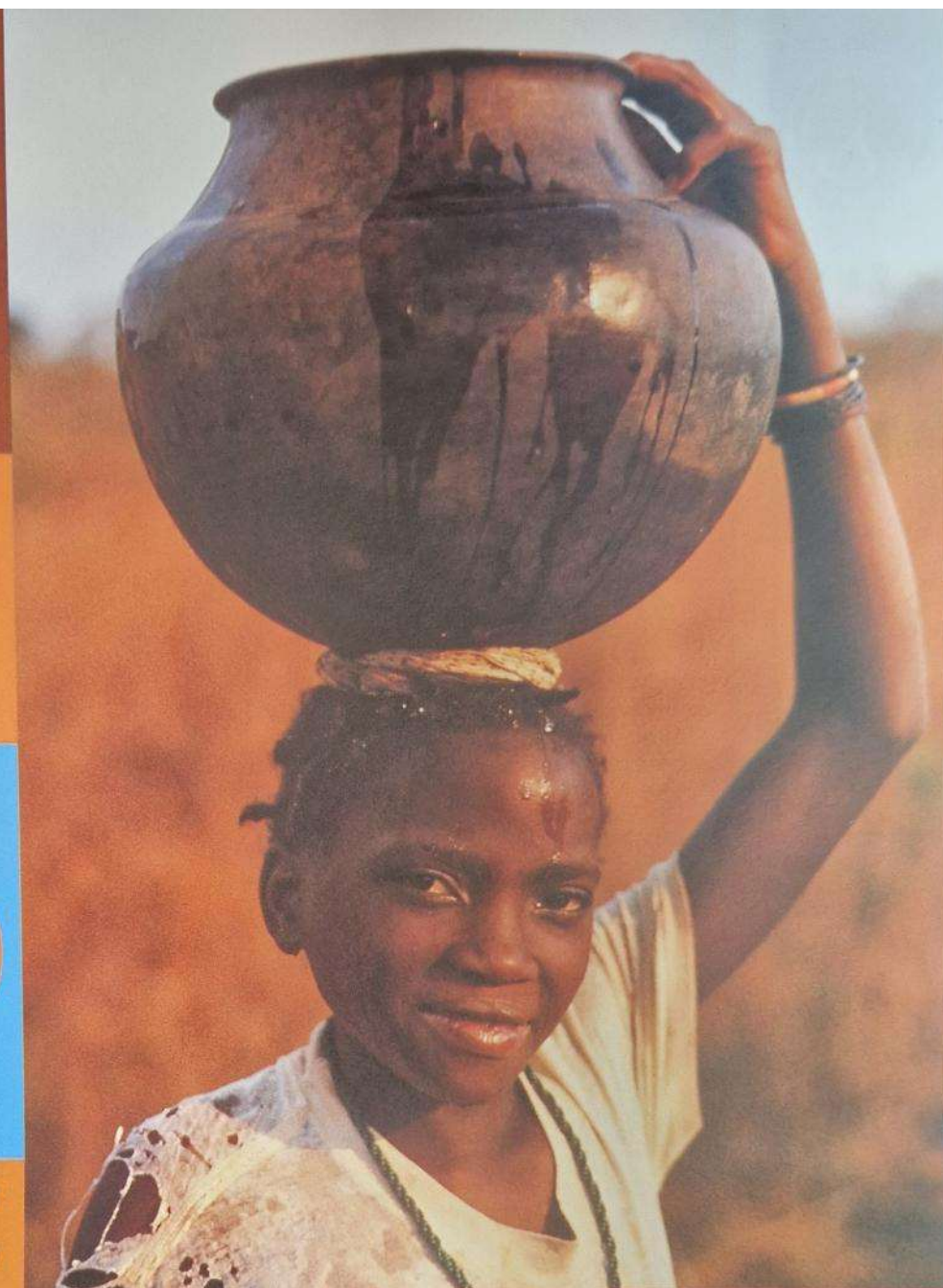
**WEEK OF
WATER**

**20-26
SEPTEMBER 98**

GO

T H E

DISTANCE!



Throughout Africa and Asia the lives of millions of girls and women are dominated by a natural resource that we take for granted in the UK – water. The 1998 **WEEK OF WATER** challenges you to learn more about women in the developing world through a range of exciting and fun-packed initiatives.

WaterAid has produced a new **GO THE DISTANCE** pack which features plenty of ideas and activities for your Unit to take part in, both at meetings and at camp. Also included are details of the **GO THE DISTANCE** challenge – a sponsored event where you can experience the distances women walk in developing countries to collect water, as well as raise money for WaterAid projects which bring safe water close to home.

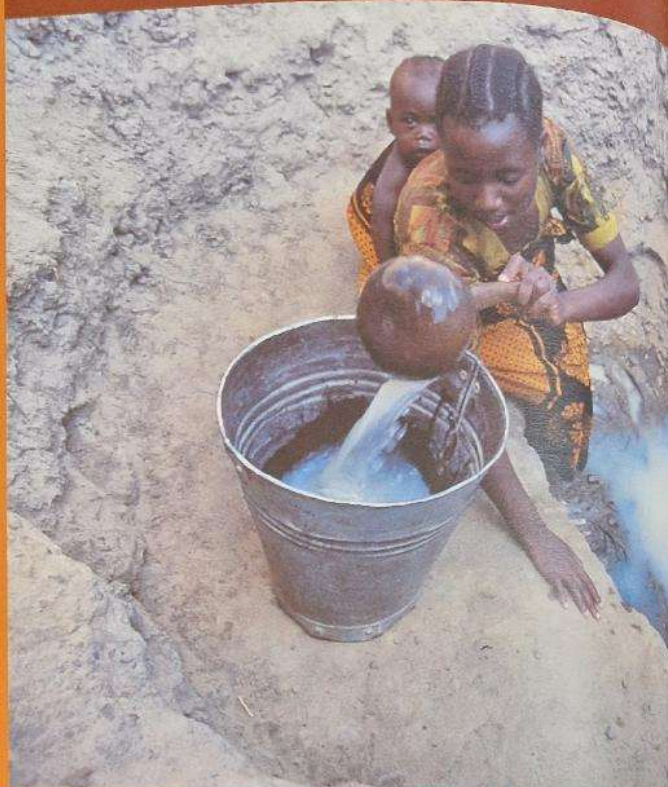


'I have walked a long way to get this water. We have stomach problems all year round because we must collect water from any pool we can find. You can see the problem,' said 18-year-old Rachel Anton. Rachel lives in a small village in the Tabora region of Tanzania with her husband and seven-month-old son Laurent Julius.

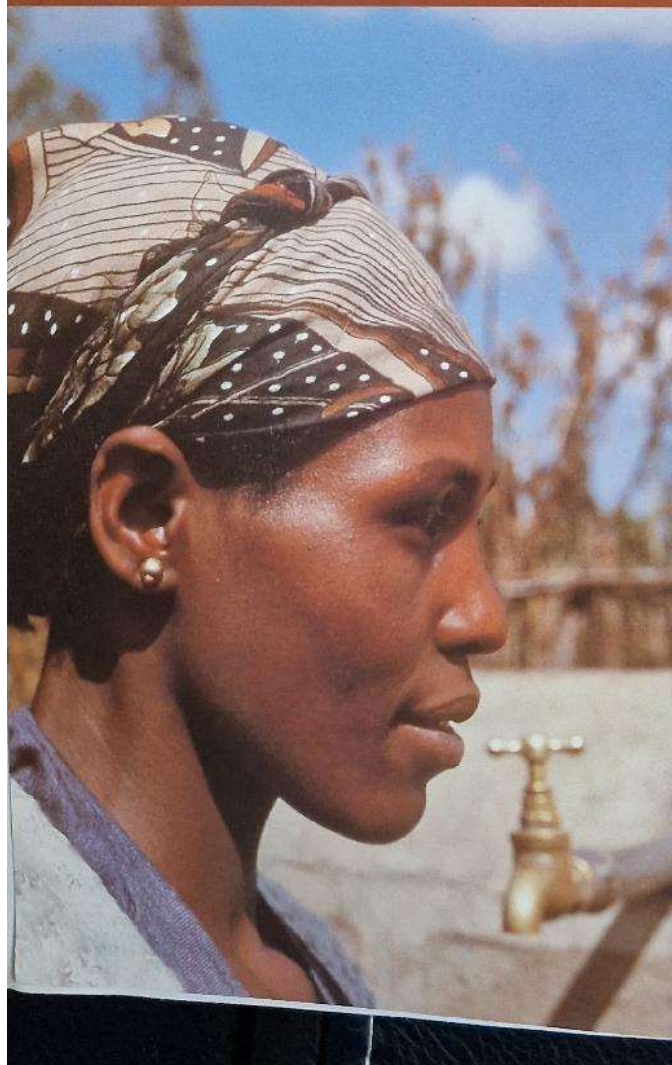
Every morning Rachel walks several kilometres to her nearest water supply. When she arrives at the traditional waterhole there is no protection from the fierce sun and clouds of flies constantly buzz around Rachel's head. She sits down and waits for a tiny puddle of grey, filthy water to form at the bottom of the hole, 5m below. Then she clammers down the steep sides and scoops the water into one of the four buckets that she hopes to fill each day. She cannot go home without water and is prepared to wait, as she does most days, from 5am until 11pm to fill her buckets. Can you imagine spending 18 hours every day sitting, waiting and hoping that you will be able to collect enough water for your family's basic needs?

WaterAid/Jim Holmes

A FULL DAY'S WORK



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A TAPSTAND ATTENDANT



Agc/Jenny Matthews

Many people in developing countries are working very hard to help themselves to a safe supply of water. WaterAid and its partners involve women in the planning, construction and maintenance of projects whenever possible as it is women and girls who are traditionally responsible for collecting the household's supply of water.

Workinesh Guda is 20-years-old and lives in Hatetulu village, in central Ethiopia. She was selected by her community to be a tapstand attendant, and has worked in the job for over three years. She works from 8am to 6pm, five days per week and ensures that the tapstand is maintained properly so people can collect their water. 'The community are very happy with the tapstands here,' says Workinesh. 'Sometimes if there is a special feast or celebration they ask me to turn the water on early, so I start work earlier, but when the queues are short I sit in the shade and rest or do some sewing. I am happy with the work and the training, and everything works well. I haven't had to do any big repairs for three years.'

Can you imagine being responsible for all the taps in your street?

left: Workinesh enjoys her work as a tapstand attendant

20 PER CENT OF CHILDREN IN ZAMBIA DIE BEFORE THEIR FIFTH BIRTHDAY

Planning for the future of The Guide Association – how you can help



Guiding has to prepare for the future by planning now. This process has been on-going over the last 18 months.

We've looked at:

- The way we do things now and why.
- Who we do them for.
- What makes us special.
- How our values relate to society today.

And we've tried to identify trends that will affect Guiding.

But our future success depends on the involvement of the whole Association so we need your help – your participation is crucial. Now read on!

The Executive Committee of The Guide Association has already consulted a wide cross-section of the membership. We've asked people's opinions through:

- Adviser and Commissioner Conferences
- UNCENSORED
- Trainings
- Guider Days
- Specific research.

In listening to the concerns and aspirations of Guiders, we have developed some ambitious plans for the future. It became clear that we need to deal as a priority with some issues. They are:

- The image of Guiding.
- Recruiting and retaining members of all ages.
- Recruiting more leaders and helpers.
- Supporting leaders, so they have the right skills to deliver good quality, up-to-date programmes.
- Supporting Commissioners to handle increased administrative workloads because of new legislation.

The Guide Association is a large and powerful organisation with an outstanding level of volunteer support and staff commitment. We need to work together to build on this base to make sure that Guiding remains a relevant and attractive option for girls and young women in the next century.

The goals we have set are challenging but necessary to secure the future of Guiding. Our research and consultations confirm that we need to refocus our work to reflect the needs and wishes of everyone in Guiding.

Where to start?

We recognise that the membership needs, behind-the-scenes, effective, capable volunteer and professional management, so we have carried out a thorough review of the role of CHQ and the existing staff and volunteer functions.

Our overriding aim is to provide a streamlined and efficient organisation, which is able to deliver leadership, service and support to all our members and to reflect the whole Guiding population.

From autumn 1998 there will be three main committees reporting to the Executive Committee which will focus on the main areas of development for the organisation. These are:

Guiding Development

The members of this committee will be responsible for the overall development of Guiding.

One part of their work will concentrate on developing an integrated youth programme for girls and young women in the UK. Another will focus on the support needs of all adults involved in

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Guiding, and the third strand handled by this committee will cover the international aspects of Guiding – so that this special dimension becomes a reality for more of our members.

External Relations and Marketing

We must promote a dynamic and modern image to the general public and to do so we will need to evolve some new strategies. This committee will concentrate on developing our image and on devising methods to increase recruitment of girls and leaders. This approach will be backed by other projects to raise the profile of Guiding,

not only among young people but also parents, teachers, the media and leaders of industry and government.

Finance and General Purposes

This committee will be responsible for the effective management of all the Association's resources, including the Training and Activity Centres, Archives and the Heritage Centre. It will oversee publications, legal and insurance services and trading operations carried out by the Association for the benefit of you, its members. It will ensure that resources are directed to the Association's agreed priorities.

How you can help

Often Guiders feel that the committees at CHQ are remote and removed from the membership. We want to bridge that gap by inviting any of our volunteers to be involved in the work of these committees.

We are offering opportunities to adult volunteers of all ages, no matter where they live. The work may involve meetings, or working by correspondence.

We would like to hear from you if you feel that you have skills that would contribute to the work of any of the three committees – skills that you have developed through your experience as a volunteer and/or through your work, such as motivating people, writing, advertising, organising events, managing people, working in partnership with other organisations, fund raising, curriculum development, marketing, recruitment and any other skills which you feel would contribute to the development of the Association.

If you are interested in helping to shape the future, then please fill in the form opposite.

Then send it to: Bridget Towle, Chief Guide, The Guide Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 0PT.

Or, if you know someone you think would be just right for one of the committees, please encourage her to write in.

Other Opportunities

We have always taken the membership's views on board but, in future, consulting them will be an integral step in our progress. Specific, stimulating events – open to members from Countries and Regions – will be organised to provide a direct, ongoing contact with 'grassroots' Guiding.

A shared vision of the future is essential – so please look out for these opportunities and make sure that your voice is heard. That way you will contribute to the future of Guiding.

Bridget Towle
Chief Guide

Hotline June 1988

HOTLINE Planning for the future – Association Committees



Name.....

Address.....

Tel. No: Home..... Work.....

e-mail address.....

Date of Birth.....

Guiding County.....

Country or Region.....

Personal Information: (please tick those that apply) ►

	Past	Present
Rainbow Guider	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brownie Guider	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guide Guider	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ranger Guider	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Young Leader Guider	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
LINK/BYC/Junior Forum	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner (Div./Dis.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trainer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adviser	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I am interested in the ► Finance and General Purposes Committee ☐
External Relations and Marketing Committee ☐
Guiding Development Committee ☐

I have expertise/knowledge of: (please tick those that apply) ►

Marketing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Accountancy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recruitment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Management	<input type="checkbox"/>
PR	<input type="checkbox"/>	Training	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fund raising	<input type="checkbox"/>	Curriculum Development	<input type="checkbox"/>
Business	<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Relations	<input type="checkbox"/>
Banking	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT	<input type="checkbox"/>
Estate Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	Organising events/conferences	<input type="checkbox"/>
Investment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Writing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Insurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify) _____	

Please return to: Bridget Towle, Chief Guide, The Guide Association,
17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 0PT.

PLEASE RETURN

HOTLINE

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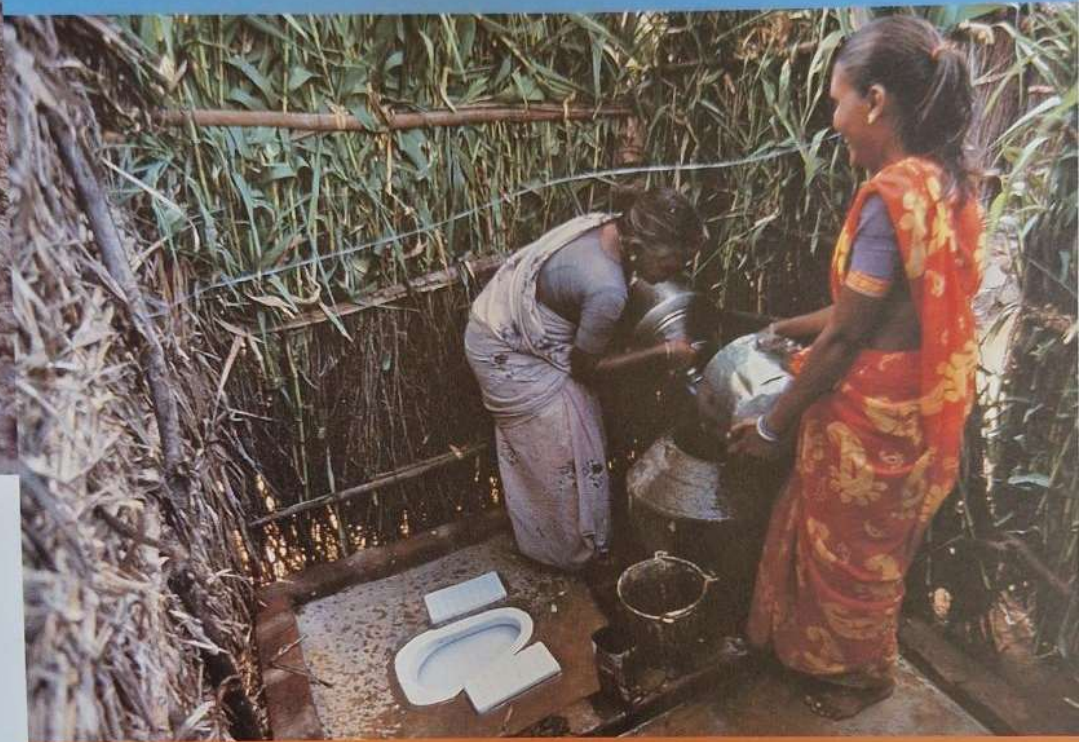


THE GUIDE
ASSOCIATION

left: Rachel uses a gourd to carefully scoop up water from the puddle into her bucket

A PRIVATE PLACE

right: Peramel and her daughter refill a water container inside the latrine



Sanitation, in the form of latrines, is an important factor in helping to keep a new safe water supply free from germs. But latrines are also extremely important in providing a private place to go to the loo where you cannot be seen or disturbed.

Peramel Pappaye, a 50-year-old grandmother and mother of three children, lives in Peramangalam village in southern India. She used to use the roadside when she went to the toilet, but whenever a car or bus came along she had to stand up to protect her modesty. After training from

WaterAid, she became the first woman in her village to build a latrine. She said: 'I am proud of my toilet. When I used the roadside it wasn't comfortable. I understood the health issues of using a latrine, but privacy was important to me.'

Millions of women and girls in the developing world do not have the 'luxury' of a private place to go to the loo. Can you imagine what you would do without a toilet in your home?

WaterAid/Caroline Penn

IN SOME PARTS OF TANZANIA WOMEN WALK FOR UP TO EIGHT HOURS TO COLLECT WATER

IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, WOMEN CARRY JERRYCANS OF WATER WEIGHING 20KG

JUST FIVE PER CENT OF GIRLS IN MOZAMBIQUE ARE ENROLLED IN SECONDARY SCHOOL

IN AFRICA AND ASIA WOMEN WALK AN AVERAGE OF 3KM TO FETCH WATER

COULD YOU GO THE DISTANCE? FIND OUT MORE BY SENDING FOR YOUR ACTIVITY PACK

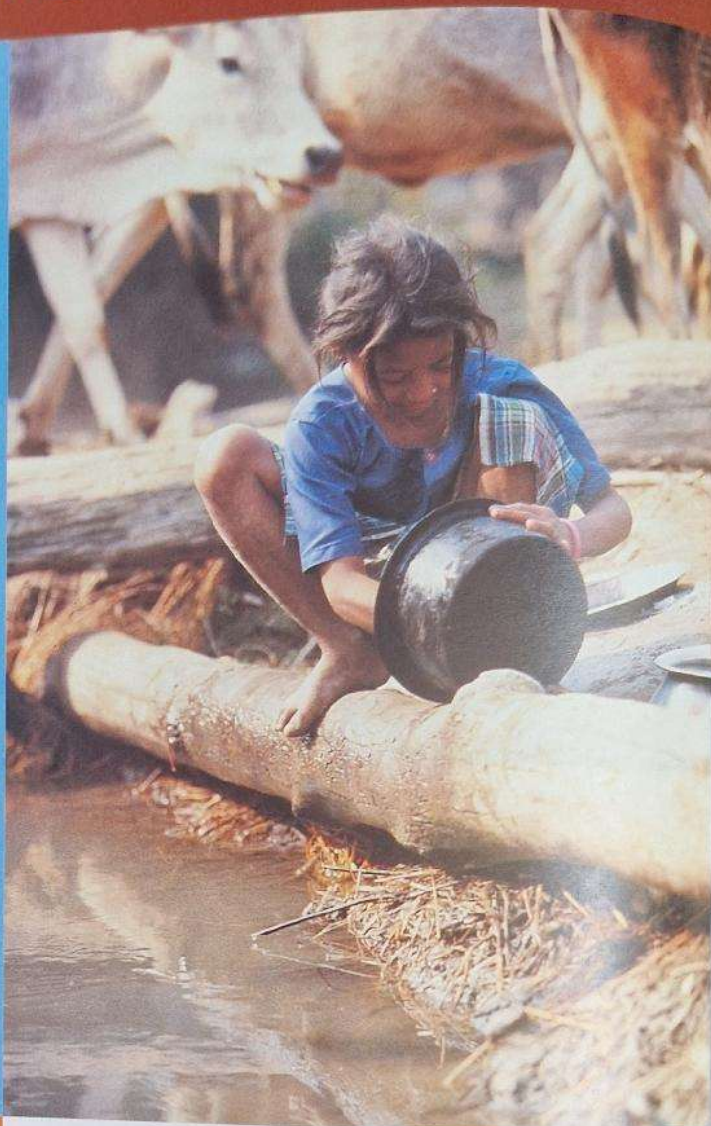
WASHING-UP IN A FILTHY STREAM

In many developing countries girls learn from an early age that they must contribute to housework and collect the family's water supplies from the nearest available source each day. This can be time consuming and is often dangerous to health as the water tends to be unsafe and can cause diseases like diarrhoea, scabies and eye infections.

Sumita Chaudury is 11-years-old and is the eldest of four sisters. She lives in Bani Yabhar Village in Nepal. Sumita helps her mother to collect water from traditional hand-dug wells and wash clothes and pots in the stream near her house. The stream runs through the main street in her village and is used for all kinds of local activities. Animals drink and defecate there, people wash themselves, their food and their utensils in it, and as a result the stream is polluted and filthy. There is no choice, it has been the only source of water available to Sumita and her family for many years. WaterAid is currently working on a project in the village and is constructing tubewells to supply safe water close to Sumita's house. The project is due to be completed soon and Sumita will then be able to collect safe, clean water from a handpump for drinking and washing her pots.

Can you imagine sitting in the middle of the road, doing the washing up in a dirty stream?

WaterAid/Jim Holmes



above: Sumita washes the pots for her family in a filthy stream that runs through her village

Your Unit can get involved with WaterAid's

WEEK OF WATER 1998. The **GO THE DISTANCE** challenge will enable you to learn about women and water in developing countries, as well as raise vital funds for WaterAid. Send for your activity pack containing case studies, a poster, and details of how to raise money through sponsored events that encourage you to take up the challenge and **GO THE DISTANCE.**

Please keep the rest of this leaflet safe, to use with your activity pack, but fill in the form below and return it to:
**Community Fundraising, WaterAid, Prince Consort House,
27 - 29 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7UB.**

I'd like to be involved in WaterAid's **WEEK OF WATER 1998.** Please send me a **GO THE DISTANCE** activity pack!

NAME OF UNIT

ADDRESS

POSTCODE

TELEPHONE

NAME

CUT ALONG THIS LINE, FILL IN THE FORM AND RETURN TO WATERAID

WaterAid is a registered charity number 288701
Design: Sarah Mattinson
Except for the photos: WaterAid/Steve Matthews

Blow football

Experiment with this gigantic version of blow football for some fast-action fun. It's best to play with small teams rather than big ones.

You will need: drinking straws; balloons; two chairs.

Place a chair at each end of the room to act as the goal. Give each girl a drinking straw and launch a balloon into the centre of the 'pitch'.

The object of the game is to blow the balloon along the floor and score a goal.

You don't need many rules for this game, however, strict safety codes must be observed.

Operate a penalty system for incidents of body contact, or when anything except a straw is used to move the ball.

■ **Before the game** begins, make sure that the floor is clean and there are no potentially dangerous flaws or objects.



Guidelines

■ Some of the games on these pages involve water. If you're going to play them, make sure it's a warm day and the girls have a change of clothes ready.

■ Always stand by to make sure that the girls are safe and the games do not get out of hand.

Cock-a-hoop

Cock-a-hoop is a test of skill and teamwork. You can alter the level of difficulty according to the players' ages.

You will need: one or two hula hoops for each team; a selection of balls, ropes, beanbags and so on.

Divide the girls into equal teams. Put one hoop near the team base and the other at the opposite end of the room.

You will then need to set the girls challenges, here are some ideas:

■ Climb through the first hoop, then the second and run back to your team.

■ Bounce a ball up to the second hoop, keep bouncing round the hoop and back to your place.

■ Pick up the first hoop and use it to skip round the second one and back.

■ Run to stand in the second hoop and throw a beanbag into the first.

Team members can each carry out a different challenge, relay style.

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Balloon bandit

There are two versions of this game, one for Rainbows and Brownies and the other for older girls.

You will need: an inflated balloon for each girl.

Divide the girls into equal teams and put the balloons opposite them, at the far end of the room. The girls take it in turns to run for a balloon and then carry it back – between their knees – to their own teams. The winners are the team to get all the balloons back safely to their home base first.

To make the game a bit more challenging for older girls, leave the balloons flat so that everyone has to inflate one herself, before bringing it back.

On reaching her team, the girl must burst the balloon before the next person runs.



Thirsty camel game

Help Alice the camel fill her own trough from the main watering hole. This game should be played on a grassy area.

You will need: two or three buckets full of water; plus a plastic container and two disposable plastic cups per pair of girls.

Before you start the game, pierce several holes in the sides of the plastic cups. The girls then pair up, one girl is the camel and the other – who is given a piggyback – is the camel rider.

The object of the game is for the camels and riders to transport as much water as they can from the full buckets of water to their own containers. Set a time limit and then judge who has the most water.

■ **Instead of riding 'piggyback'**, girls get into groups of three and give a chairlift to the jockey.

■ Camels and riders should keep changing over to stop them from getting too tired!



R S
suitable for
B G

Back-to-back race

Crazy sportswomen can play this relay game using balloons or large balls. Before starting the girls should be divided into teams of equal numbers.

Each team needs an inflated balloon. One pair of girls at a time stand with their backs together – a balloon between them – holding hands. The pair must move to the other end of the room, pass around an obstacle and back to the start. The next pair then takes over.

If a pair loses the balloon, the duo must pick it up and start again.

R S
suitable for
B G

Equal teams

■ If a game calls for equal numbers of girls in a team and you can't make up the numbers, get the Young Leaders to help or make sure that the necessary number run twice.

rainbow guiders

Your unit can have bags of fun with our surprising activities and games for a special Rainbow meeting

By Barbara Riches and

Amanda Anthony

Illustrations: Sophie Harding

Bags for all

Take a selection of bags and use them as the theme for your meeting. If you use plastic carrier bags for an activity, do make sure that the girls are closely supervised while using them.

Make a bag

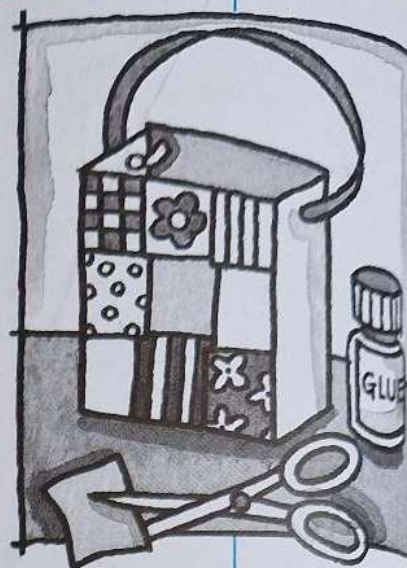
Rainbows can have great fun making their own bags to carry their Rainbow gear in.

You will need: small cardboard boxes (cereal mini-pack size); scraps of felt and other fabric; glue; ribbon.

Each girl should have her own cardboard box. Cut the various fabrics into squares – each side measuring about 4cm – they can then be stuck on to the box in a pretty patchwork fashion.

Carefully make a hole at the top of each of the short sides. Thread a length of ribbon through to make a shoulder strap.

■ The girls could use their bags as a pencil pot, a home for hairbands, or even a bed for a tiny teddy!



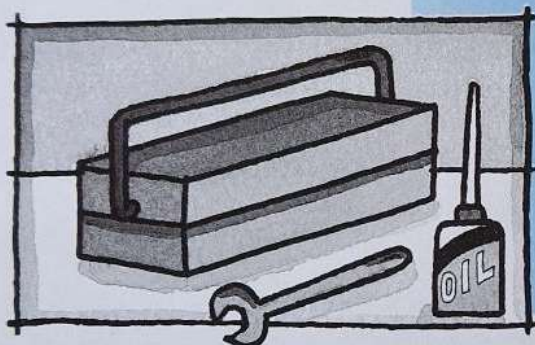
Who's bag is this?

Many people use a bag as an essential part of their everyday work. See if the Rainbows can guess to whom a selection of bags belong.

Produce several collections of objects which give clues to the 'owners' of the various bags. For example, a bag containing a bandage and a stethoscope could belong to a doctor or a nurse; bags of flour, sugar and a wooden spoon to a cook.

Here are some more ideas:

- Football boots and a football — football player
- A spanner, can of oil and overalls — a mechanic
- A paintbox, paintbrush and pad of paper — an artist
- A camera and a roll of film — a photographer



What's in the bag?

Fewly bags are great fun and can provide lots of amusement for Rainbows. The activity can also be adapted for older girls.

Have a selection of carrier bags in which you can put different objects that the Rainbows can identify. The girls must shut their eyes, put their hands in the bag and guess what is in there. Here are some ideas to start you off:

- Grapes and oranges.
- A reel of cotton.
- A teaspoon.
- Clothes pegs.
- A reel of sticky tape.
- A book.
- Paper clips.
- A ruler.
- Cooked, cold spaghetti.

Don't put anything too horrible in the bags! Make sure that none of the objects could be dangerous — such as scissors.



Pack the bag

Divide the girls into groups and help them to decide what to pack for their summer holidays.

You will need: one large bag for each group; a selection of clothes and holiday items — such as suntan cream, hats, books, games and so on.

The aim of the game is for each group to pack their bag full of clothes and other things that they might need on holiday.

The groups should stand next to their bags. Put a selection of clothes and other items in the middle of the room. The leader calls out a clue, and one girl from each team runs to fetch a corresponding object to put in their team's bag.

For example, if the Guider shouts: 'Something to read', the girls should find a book or magazine from the pile to put in their bags. Keep going until the bags are full to bursting! Here are some more ideas for clues and objects:

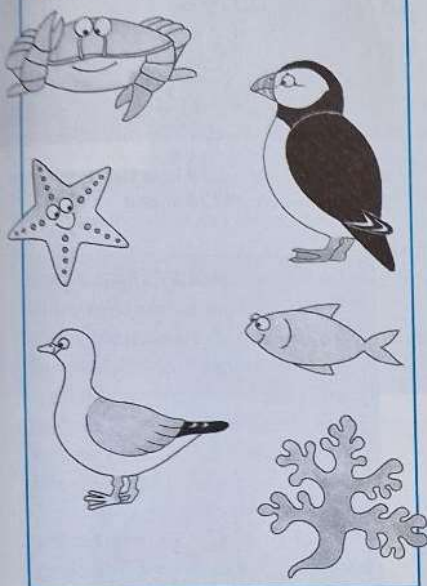
- Something to keep you warm — a jumper, coat, scarf or woolly hat.
- Something to wear on the beach — sandals, a swimming costume or a hat.
- Something to play with — a ball, bat or frisbee.
- Something to dry you after swimming — a fluffy towel.



Seaside wildlife

You will find lots of living things at the seaside. Ask the girls to unscramble the following seaside names. Next they should put the names next to the correct picture.

- ABCR (crab)
- EASDEEW (seaweed)
- RATSHIFS (starfish)
- EASLLUG (seagull)
- FINPUF (puffin)
- SHIF (fish)



Beach scene

Get set for summer with your own beach mural to cheer up your meeting place walls.

Use collage, paints and drawings to transform an old roll of wallpaper into a brilliant beach scene.

The girls could even include photos and drawings of themselves, their family and friends by the seaside.

Sandy disguise

Many fishes, crabs and other sea creatures are very good at making themselves blend in with their surroundings. Explain to the girls why sea creatures and other animals rely on camouflage to keep them safe.

Rainbows and Brownies can then make their own seaside camouflage mask.

You will need: card; play sand; green crêpe paper; PVA glue; shells (optional); elastic; scissors and pens.

Each girl will need to draw and cut out a mask shape from card. An adult leader should then, carefully, cut out holes for eyes and noses.

Cover one side of the mask in a thin layer of glue and sprinkle sand over it. Stick on small shells, if you have them, and leave the mask to dry. Cut out long strips of green crêpe paper and stick them to the top of the mask.

Finally, thread elastic around the back of the mask, to keep it in place. The girls now have a sandy mask with seaweed hair!

Sea breeze

This lovely, fruity, sea breeze punch is guaranteed to quench the thirst of any unit throwing a special, seaside theme evening.

You will need: 1 litre long-life orange juice; 1 litre long-life pineapple juice; 1 litre lemonade; 100ml blackcurrant cordial; ice; cherries; pineapple pieces; cocktail sticks.

Mix the juices, cordial and lemonade together. Serve over ice and garnish with cherry and pineapple on a cocktail stick.



By Victoria Wheater
Illustrations: Emma Holt

Tongue twister

■ Try this traditional tongue twister with the girls: She sells seashells, on the sea shore.

Suited for swimming

A trip to the seaside is not complete without a dip in the sea. But if the girls want to go paddling, they'll have to have swimming costumes. Give each girl a black and white outline of a swimming costume and ask her to add her own colourful design to it.



Seagulls, seaweed, seashell

Warm up the girls with a run around the 'beach', while playing this seaside game.

The girls scatter around the room and must perform different energetic actions, depending on which word the leader shouts out. The words and actions are:

- Seagull — all run around with flapping arms.
- Seaweed — all stand and wave their arms.
- Seashell — all curl up on the floor.
- Tides's turning — all run to one side of the room.

You can play to choose a winner — by asking the girl who is last to do an action to leave the game — or just for fun.

Sing a song

Finish off your meeting with two or three watery songs. You will probably be able to think of lots, but here are a few to start you off:

- Oh I do like to be beside the seaside; Bobby Shaftoe; The Skye boat song; Row, row, row your boat; My ship sailed from China...

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out and about

Buy a ticket to ride and enjoy the best of London's East End for free – including the magnificent Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood

By Gillian Ellis

Going underground

Once you have arrived in London, there are lots of great ways to get to and from the destinations featured in this month's Out and About.

A group day ticket for unlimited travel on London Underground and Docklands Light Railway, costs only £2.50 per adult and 80p for under 18s. There must be at least ten people in the group and the group must always travel together. However, there are no restrictions on the day or time of travel.

■ To book this special ticket in advance, you need to telephone PASS on 0171 712 1100.

Look, no driver!

Getting around on the Docklands Light Railway (DLR) is great fun. Board the train at Bank station and try to sit in the front seats. What makes the DLR extra-special is that there aren't any train drivers! Sit at the front of the train and the experience is just like being on a gentle rollercoaster!

Docklands for free

The DLR stations are colourful and contemporary in design. Take the train to the end of the line at Island Gardens. Once there, a short walk brings you to the Greenwich foot tunnel.

Descend underground via the winding staircase or the old-fashioned lift and walk under the Thames to Greenwich, near the Cutty Sark. Entrance to this isn't free, so save it for another time, just admire the exterior of this mighty ship.

Entry to the Millennium Experience is free. Here – via a number of hands-on exhibits – you can gain some idea of what will be inside the Millennium Dome. Situated in the grounds of the Royal Naval College, the entrance is via Cutty Sark Gardens. It is open Monday to Friday from 11am to 7pm and from 11am to 6pm at weekends.

■ Take the DLR and stop off at Canary Wharf – soaring 243.8m, it is Britain's tallest office building.

■ Oasis fans can go to the end of the line at Beckton, riding past the gasworks where the band filmed the video for *D'you know what I mean?*

Museum of Childhood

Just a short walk from the unassuming Bethnal Green tube station is the brightly-decorated Museum of Childhood. Make up your mind to spend plenty of time here, as it's a paradise for toy lovers of all ages and, best of all, admission is free.

The Museum of Childhood is a branch of the Victoria and Albert Museum. The Bethnal Green site is home to one of the world's largest public collections of toys and games. There are over 4,000 exhibits dating from the 16th Century to the present day.

The building itself has quite a history. It once stood in South Kensington, on the site of the present Victoria and Albert Museum. During the 1860s, it was moved – piece by piece – to where it stands today, bringing part of the nation's heritage to the East End.

Cataloguing teddy bears is all a part of the Curator's job



TRUSTEES OF THE VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM



TRUSTEES OF THE VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM

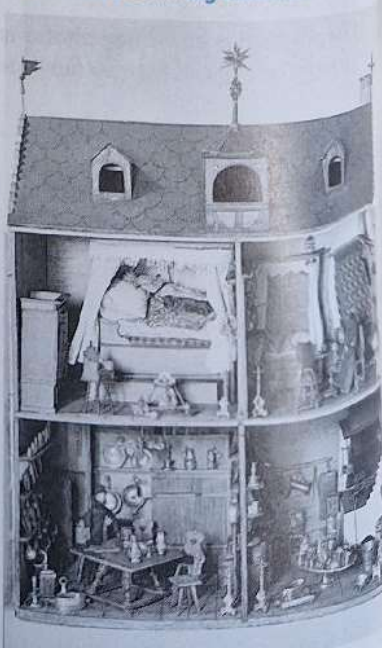
If you like dolls, you'll love the Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood

Children through the ages

The Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood gives a comprehensive insight into the lives of young people through the centuries. There you will find children's clothes, playthings and furniture, as well as other evidence of their lives and leisure interests.

Visitors can wander through the fascinating museum at will, looking at the exhibits in any order they wish. Toys are arranged in groups of similar type – rather than chronologically – so that you can see how a certain plaything has developed.

Over 40 doll's houses make up the museum's stunning collection



TRUSTEES OF THE VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM

Hello dolly

Anyone who likes dolls, will absolutely love it at Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood.

Dolls are grouped according to the material used to make them — wood, papier mâché, wax, ceramic or plastic. There are personality and celebrity dolls, such as one dressed as Queen Victoria; walking and talking dolls; paper dolls; fashion dolls and many more. The clothing of some of the older dolls is particularly beautiful.

An especially interesting showcase contains home-made dolls, some reflecting the poverty of their owners.

It is quite touching to see a doll, which had been made from a piece of

bone, dressed in a rag. One can only wonder who made it and in what sad circumstances.

■ Visitors will also find an excellent collection of over 40 doll's houses, including one which belonged to Queen Mary.

■ The museum's oldest doll dates from about 1680-90.

Growing up at the museum

A large part of the Museum of Childhood is devoted to the history of growing up.

All aspects of childhood are covered, from birth, infancy and early years through to adolescence. Funding is currently being secured to create a new gallery entitled 'Growing up — the lives of children across the centuries'. This gallery will provide a historical context for current collections, including children's clothes, teenage crazes, music and toys.

This 1920s' camp-fire dress is just part of the costume collection



Tiny accessories for fashion dolls were just as popular in the 19th Century as they are today

Toys and trains

Displays of ethnic toys at the museum, reflect the crafts and traditions of a variety of nations.

Cheap tourist souvenirs stand side by side with luxurious presents given as gifts to royal visitors. There's also a collection of board games for older Guiders to get nostalgic about!

A section that is devoted to commercially-produced toys covers everything from horses to ships and trains to computer games. Anyone who remembers Muffin the Mule will love the theatrecraft section, including puppets from Europe and the Far East.

Museum information

Complete your trip to the museum with a visit to the gift shop. Refreshments can be purchased at the café, which can also be booked for birthday parties. A nearby park is the ideal place to eat packed lunches.

■ Access for wheelchair users may be limited, so please telephone in advance.

■ Opening times are 10am to 5.50pm Monday to Saturday, 2.30pm to 5.50pm on Sundays. Please note that the museum is closed on Fridays.

■ Entrance is free, but donations are welcomed.

■ You must book in advance if there are more than ten in your group. Telephone: 0181 983 5205.

■ Contact the museum for details of free workshops.

■ The museum is on the corner of Old Ford Road and Cambridge Heath Road. The nearest tube station is Bethnal Green — on the Central line.

■ The Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood has a recorded telephone information line: 0181 980 2415.

Farming fun

Units with time to spare in Bethnal Green, may like to visit the urban haven that is Hackney City Farm.

Hackney City Farm is a registered charity, established on 1.5 acres of reclaimed land, leased from the local council. Visitors are actively encouraged to help out with running the farm — feeding the pigs or even weeding the vegetable patch!

Hackney City Farm is quite a thriving community and many events, such as craft fairs and exhibitions, are held there. A variety of farm produce — including plants and manure — are often for sale, profits go towards the upkeep of the farm.

■ Hackney City Farm can be found at Goldsmith's Row, London E2. Telephone: 0171 729 6381.

■ Buses run from Liverpool Street Station. Contact the farm for more information.

■ There is no admission charge, but Hackney City Farm relies on charitable donations for the upkeep of the farm and livestock.

■ Booking is essential as the farm can get quite busy. There is a charge for guided tours.

■ Refreshments can be bought in the café and groups are welcome to eat their packed lunches on site.

brownie guiders

Encourage your Brownies to work in teams, with a whole page of activities and games especially designed for Sixes

By Susan Brindley
Illustrations: Claire Spooner

The right clothes

This game helps Brownies to think of the different clothes that they will need to take on a summer trip.

You will need: newspapers; pegs; washing line or string; two chairs, or posts, to tie the washing line on to.

Each Six must imagine that they are going on a special Pack outing and must decide which clothes they are going to take. Each member of the Six must make a different item of clothing or an accessory – by tearing up the newspaper – and then peg it on the washing line.

The outings can be to various locations, such as the beach, a city centre, a woodland walk and so on. At the end of the game, discuss how useful the items on the lines would be.



Stories for Sixes

When the Young Leaders are away, and you're a bit short on staff, let the girls run an imaginative meeting based on the *Brownie Story*.

For each Six you will need: a *Brownie Handbook*; an apron for mum; paper, elastic and felt-tipped pens to make an owl mask.

The Sixes should turn to the *Brownie Story* on page 20 of their handbooks and then choose two girls to be the narrators. The other four members of the Six will play the characters in the story – Tommy, Betty, Mum and Wise Owl.

Ask the Sixes to work through the *Brownie Story*. As the narrators take turns to read each section, the characters can act it out using the props provided. After a practice, two Sixes can take it in turns to put on their plays. Have a break for a drink and a biscuit, then the final two Sixes can show the other Brownies their adaptations of the *Brownie Story*.

Father's Day car wash

This year, Father's Day falls on June 21. The Brownies can work in their Sixes to make a special Father's Day card and gift. The activity will not work unless the girls work as a team.

For each Six you will need: 6 balloons and a pump; 6 sachets of car wash liquid; 6 lengths of thin ribbon, about 20cm long; sticky tape; scissors; colouring pens; coloured paper or card; permanent marker pens.

Brownies will need to draw round each other's hands, and then each cut out their own two hand-shapes. Sixes can then pump up the balloons and tie the tops in a knot.

Each girl should then tie a length of ribbon to her balloon. Using a permanent marker, the girls should write 'Happy Father's Day' on their balloons. On one of the hands, they should write: 'I'm lending my hands to you', and on the other, who the gift is from.

Finally, tape the hands on to the middle of the ribbon and stick the car wash liquid on to the end. The Brownies can then present their dads with this magnificent gift and offer to wash their cars for them!

- Get some car-washing practice in at the Brownie meeting.
- For fathers that don't have cars use seeds or shower gel.



Bring me...

For Brownies with some time to fill, the minutes will just fly by with this great game that can be played at almost any time and anywhere.

The Brownies sit in their Sixes. The girls take it in turns to bring out an object asked for by the Guider. The first girl to reach the Guider with the correct object is awarded a point for her Six.

Make sure the objects – such as hairslides; a left sock; blade of grass; a pebble and so on – can be found by all the Sixes.

Ascot fashions

Using newspapers, scraps of material, crêpe paper, and even cut-up carrier bags, challenge the Sixes to be fashion designers for the evening.

Ask each Six to create an outfit for one of the girls to model at an Ascot fashion parade. The outfit should include a hat and a handbag.

If you are using plastic bags, make sure that the Brownies know all about the safety hazards.

At the end of the meeting, the outfits can be modelled on a catwalk.



And teddy came too...

Going away from home can be a little bit scary, especially at night when Mum and Dad aren't around to tuck you in.

Help the girls to settle in by encouraging them to bring a familiar face – in the form of teddy or other cuddly toy – away with them. Some girls wouldn't want to admit to snuggling up to a teddy bear every night, on the grounds that it's babyish. However, if you tell the girls that you will be holding a teddy's fancy dress party on the holiday – no one will want to miss out!



preparing for pack holiday

Pack Holiday can be a daunting prospect for Brownies, especially if it's their first time away from home, you can help prepare the girls with our special hints and tips

By Victoria Wheeler
Illustrations: Molly Sage

Prepare a postcard

Once the Brownies are on Pack Holiday they will be so busy, that they'll hardly have any time to think about getting homesick!

However, mums and dads will probably appreciate a note from the girls at some time during the week. At one of your Pack Holiday preparation meetings, ask the girls to draw a special picture on the front of a blank postcard. Each Brownie should also write her parents' or carers' names and addresses on the card, as well as sticking on a stamp.

Brown Owl can then collect up the cards and redistribute them while on Pack Holiday, so that all the Brownies can write a special message to their loved ones at home.

Get to know your Six

Very often, Pack Holiday Sixes will be different from the ones at your regular meetings. The Brownies may find themselves mixing with other girls that they don't know very well – especially if you are going away with another Pack.

Organise your special Pack Holiday Sixes in plenty of time before you do go away. Then the Brownies will have lots of time to get used to their new friends.

■ The Pack Holiday Sixes can play some of the special games featured on the next page in order to get to know each other better.

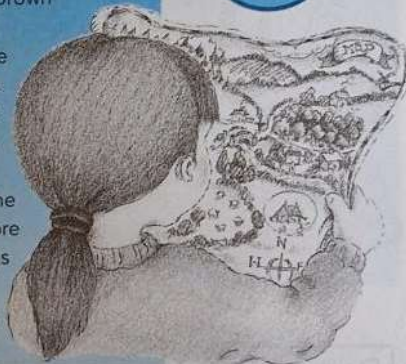
Where are we going?

Your Pack Holiday home may be in your local area or further afield. Wherever it is, help the Brownies get to know it before you go.

This could mean bringing in photos of the house and the town or village where it is located. Together you can find out about the local area on maps and books. Try to discover if the area is famous for anything.

Whatever information you can supply the girls with beforehand, will make them more comfortable with their new surroundings when they get there.

■ Don't forget to leave a few surprises for the girls to explore!



Our biggest adventure

■ Anyone taking Brownies away for a Pack Holiday, will benefit from reading *The Biggest Brownie Adventure*, available from Trading Service (order code 64071) price £3.65, plus £1 postage and packing.



New people

Organising a Pack Holiday means that you will probably have to draft in some extra staff to cope with all the extra work and responsibility.

You may have chosen to ask people that the Brownies don't know very well, if at all. It is very important that the Brownies – and their parents – have the opportunity to meet all their adult leaders and helpers, before they go away.

Invite the new leaders to a special 'getting to know you' evening. Parents could be invited too. The Brownies can get to know all about the special Pack Holiday staff and what jobs they will be doing while they are away.

Practice makes perfect

On Pack Holiday, everyone pitches in to help with all the different jobs around the home.

The Brownies' concept of 'housework' may differ, and many of them might not be used to tackling dusting or washing up. Before you go, tell the Brownies about the sorts of jobs they will be expected to help with and tell them why everyone helps each other on Pack Holiday.

■ The girls could practise making beds or even peeling a potato.



games without winners

All sections love a great game, but sometimes it's not appropriate to divide the girls into winners and losers, so read on for some great ideas...

By Cheryl Rapley, Mary Chabrel and Alison Carter
Illustrations: Kate Taylor



Doctor, doctor

The whole unit can play this as one team. If your group is very large, divide it into several smaller ones.

Choose two girls to be the 'doctors' and send them out of the room. The remainder of the group then join hands in a large circle. Without breaking the chain, the girls must then tangle themselves up as much as possible and then call for help.

The doctors return and direct the proceedings so that the girls can untangle themselves. No one can move unless they are told to by the doctors and all hands must remain joined!

Serial storytellers

Play this game in smaller groups of seven or eight older girls. The group sits in a circle. One girl is chosen to start off a story and then stops when she likes. The person on her right then takes over, carrying on with the story.

The story passes from player to player, with the aim of it being finished by the person who started it!

Before the storytelling begins, announce a theme that it must stick to, such as 'A love story', or 'The school trip'.

Marvellous machines

Marvellous machines is an imaginative and physical game that can be played in Patrols or Sixes.

All the groups are given the task of imitating a different machine such as a toaster, clock, photocopier and so on.

Each machine must have a purpose – therefore it must go through a production process – and all the girls must have a link in the workings of it.

The groups must present their machines, one at a time, and everyone else must decide what they are.

Your ideas

Do you have any tried and tested games without winners? If you do, send them in to the Ideas pages at GUIDING magazine.

Unfortunately...

Older girls can pass the time with this storytelling nonsense game. One person starts with a statement, such as: 'Yesterday I went to town on a shopping trip'.

The next person follows on with a linked statement that starts with 'unfortunately' – such as 'Unfortunately I forgot my purse'.

The next in line must take up the story with a sentence that starts with 'fortunately' – such as 'Fortunately, my friend had lots of money'.

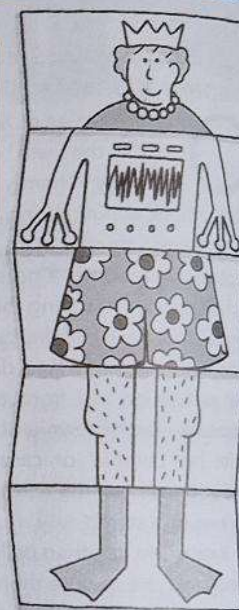
Carry on the story, alternating each sentence with the words 'fortunately' and 'unfortunately'. Keep going until you reach a conclusion, or the girls are really fed up!

Consequences

A traditional round of consequences is a fun game that does not have winners or losers.

Rhyming slang

Cockney rhyming slang can be great fun to use as a secret code. Get the girls to make up their own alphabet of rhyming slang. They can then use it to talk in secret when planning special events in Patrols and Sixes!



Number plate names

Brownies and Guides can get very bored and fidgety on a long journey to camp. Playing a game of number plate names should keep them amused for quite a few miles.

Every time a vehicle passes, the girls have to try to make a phrase from words beginning with the letters on the number plate. For example: The letters on the number plate E80 RAT, could become 'Edward rides a tricycle'. The plate M109 HDF, could translate as 'Mum has dirty feet'.

Make the phrases as funny and as imaginative as you can. If no one can make a phrase out of one number plate, don't worry – wait for another car to pass!



International selection

Every year, hundreds of young women get the chance, through Guiding, to go overseas. Successful applicants could be chosen to take part in a wide range of events — anything from an African service project to a camp in Iceland.

Everyone who would like to be considered for an overseas trip has to go through a selection process. If you want to find out more — either for yourself or your girls — then ask your District or Division Commissioner.

■ Don't forget that there are lots of international camps in this country too! Find out if there are any happening in your Country or Region.

Food for thought

Whether you're on holiday at home or abroad, there's bound to be a local delicacy to set your tastebuds tingling.

Ask the girls to match the following specialities with the countries of origin — you could even have a few samples to try!

- Sushi — Japan
- Sauerkraut — Germany
- Pumpkin pie — USA
- Moussaka — Greece
- Snails — France
- Goulash — Hungary
- Edam cheese — Netherlands
- Lamingtons — Australia
- Samosas — India
- Borsch — Russia/Poland

Ask the girls if they can describe the named dishes, the ingredients or explain how they would be served.



Swop shop

Many girls like to exchange small, inexpensive gifts — generally known as swops — with new friends that they make at camp.

Swops usually represent the country or local area of the person giving them — such as a County badge or a Patrol emblem. Very often swops are home-made. Your unit can have a go at making a Scottish pin — instructions can be found below — to swop with friends.



Scottish pin

A Scottish pin, made from tartan ribbon, is just the thing to swop at camp. If you don't want to use tartan ribbon, make the pins in your unit's own colours.

You will need: a 15cm-length of tartan ribbon, 1.5cm wide; needle and thread; small safety pin.



Starting about 2.5cm from one end, put a running stitch along one edge of the ribbon, finishing 2.5cm from the other end. Consult our illustration to help you get it right.

Pull the thread tight to gather up the ribbon into a rosette shape. Cross over the ends of the ribbon and then sew them together. Sew the safety pin to the back and the pin is complete.

Island peace

Anyone who has been — or is going — to camp, will know that rules are very important for the sake of everyone's safety and well-being.

Divide the unit into small groups and ask them to work together to consider the following dilemma.

■ You are the governing body on the Island of Peace. The island has 1,000 inhabitants, who are self-sufficient and able to live off the lush, fertile land.

Draw up a list of what you consider to be the ten most important laws for islanders. How would you make sure that these laws are followed?

When the girls have finished, get together to discuss the outcome in groups. Ask the girls if the role-play resembles any aspect of their own lives — in and out of Guiding.



Map it out

How good is your geography? If the answer is 'Terrible', then you and your unit can learn something from this activity.

Find a large map of Europe and replace the names of each country with numbers. In groups, girls can try to put a name to each number. You could give a clue by pointing out a special landmark or feature of each country.



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successful stages

If you and your unit need some help with staged badges, then we might have just the assistance you are looking for...

By Janet Little

Illustrations: Michelle Draycot

Knotter badge

Knitting can be self-taught successfully, but it is always a good idea to get a proficient person to work through the syllabus with the girls and show them exactly what to do.

When the girls first look at the Knotter badge, it is quite possible that they will feel daunted. But, don't despair! If you take each knot in turn and give it a practical application, things will probably become much clearer.

■ Hints and tips for each stage of the Knotter badge are given on this page.

■ More practical knotting information can be found in the *Guide Handbook*.

■ The *Guide Association Knot Book* is essential reading for all stages of the Knotter badge.

Knotter, stage one
With your *Knot Book* (see opposite page) at your side, take a look at each of the stage one knots.

Instead of asking the girls to attempt a thumb knot, ask them to thread a needle and tie a knot in the end of the thread. Most of the girls will then tie a successful thumb knot – also known as the overhand or stopper knot – without thinking about it.

Tell the girls the name of the knot that they have tied, then tick off 1a and 2b of their stage one syllabus!

■ **Clause 2d: Reef knots** are used to fasten slings, this is because the knot lies flat when it is tied correctly.

■ **Clause 3:** Make a friendship bracelet from a coloured plait.



figure of eight

Survival badge

As with all badges, the Survival badge should be taken very seriously. After all, the knowledge that the girls gain through working for this badge, could help to save someone else's life, or their own!

The badge is mainly practical and this should be reflected both in the preparation and the test. We have included a hint for each of the four stages.

Knotter, stage two

When the girls make a flag pole and hoist a flag that they have folded themselves, the following knots will have been covered:

■ Clove hitch; West Country whipping; square lashing; sheet bend; reef knot; double overhand.

■ Take the flag pole down and tie up the uprights with a pole hitch and a reef knot.



Knotter, stage three and four

■ Tie a necker with a friendship – or square – knot, then cross off 1a and 2b of stage three.

■ Simple, but effective rope tricks can be found in the *Knot Book*.

■ Make a rope ladder using marline spike hitches, this covers section three, clauses 1k and 2a.

■ Stage four should be a natural progression from stage three and will put all knotting skills into practical use.

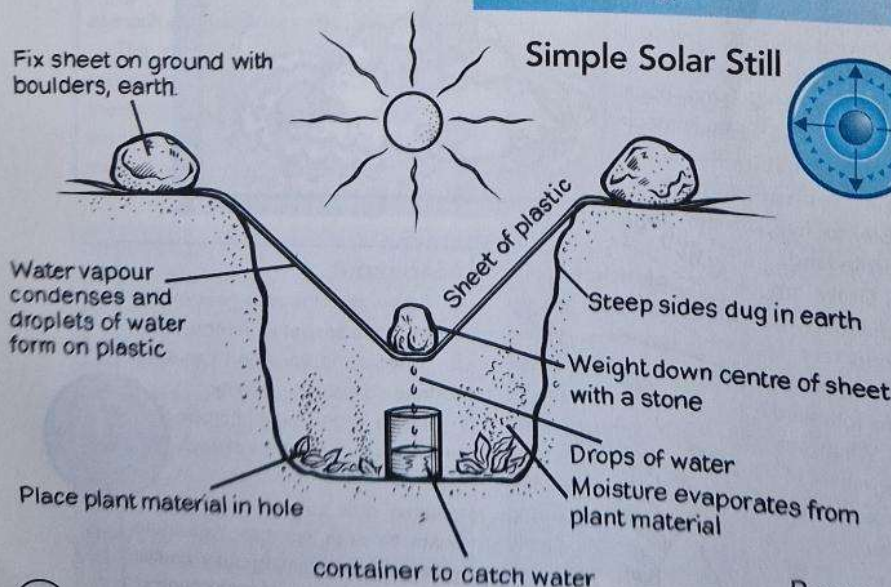


Reef knot

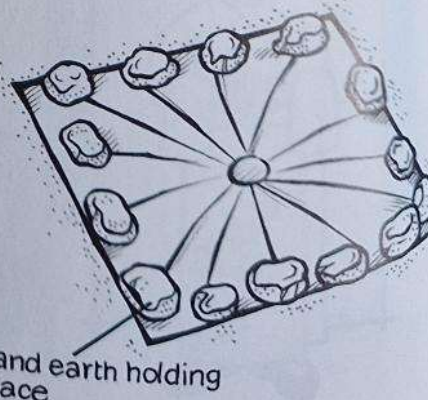
Survival badge, stage one

Stage one of the Survival badge, asks for a demonstration or a description of a method of collecting water, such as a solar still. A diagram of a simple solar still is shown here. Perhaps the girls could try it out as a camp activity.

Simple Solar Still



Top view of Solar Still



New, ultimate Knot Book

Every unit should have a copy of the brand new Guide Association Knot Book. With over 200, step-by-step illustrations, it looks at all the knots needed for each stage of the Knotter badge.

In addition, the Knot Book covers every knot you'll ever need in Guiding, whether you're a sailing enthusiast, a bellringer, a keen camper or a first aider.

The Knot Book includes hitches, bends, splices, lashings and whippings, as well as plenty of ideas for practical applications and challenging projects. It is suitable for everyone from Brownie age upwards.

■ **The Knot Book, price £9.95, is available from Association shops, depots and Trading Service. The Trading Service code is 60723 (add £1 postage if ordered through Trading Service).**

The Guide Association

KNOT BOOK



Help for knots

Your Outdoor Activities Adviser and Camping Adviser may be able to help you with various aspects of the Knotter badge.

If you are really stuck for practical advice, you could also try asking the local fire brigade, the Scout Association, or even someone in the Navy!

Help for you

■ Is there a particular interest badge that you would like to see featured in the Ideas pages? If so, please send details to GUIDING (Badge Help), The Guide Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT. We can't promise to feature all requests but we will certainly consider them.

Survival, stage three

Clause six states that girls taking the badge must know what to do if a car sinks under water. The basics are here but, do check with experts for extra up-to-date information.

The existing advice is, if the car windows are open when it plunges into water, climb through them as quickly as you can. Similarly, if the car is floating the right way up, or the water is not up to window level, climb quickly out of the window.

If the car starts to sink, the force of water gushing through open windows can make it very hard to escape. Water pressure also prevents the doors from opening. If this happens, and you can't escape, you should close windows and ventilation openings to stop more water pouring in. Undo seatbelts and then switch on the lights – as a signal to rescuers.

Take advantage of the air pockets and hold the door handle. When the water stops rising, take a deep breath and try to open the door, if that

doesn't work, open the window.

Escape immediately by swimming towards the surface.



Survival, stage two

When the body's core temperature drops even a few degrees, hypothermia can set in.

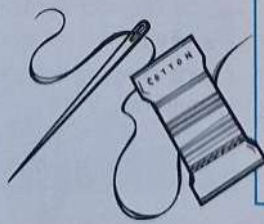
Hypothermia can be prevented. But, if it does strike, it can easily kill and must be treated swiftly. Clause seven asks the girls how they would prevent, recognise and treat hypothermia.

Here are the basics, but do consult experts for extra up-to-date information:

■ **Prevent:** Wear lots of lightweight layers of clothing to trap warm air and insulate the body, including a hat — at 4°C, 50 per cent of body heat is lost through the head; take shelter and stay dry; light a fire to prevent chills; do not drink alcohol, but do drink warm fluids; eat little and often.

■ **Recognise:** Slow reactions; uncontrolled shivering; cold, stiff extremities; irrational behaviour; 'couldn't care less' type of feelings; unconsciousness.

■ **Treat:** Shelter casualty and prevent further heat loss; put casualty in a sleeping bag or survival bag with a companion; give warm, sugary fluids if fully conscious.



Survival badge help

There are lots of people who are potentially a great source of information for this badge.

Outdoor Activity Advisers and Camping Advisers should provide some help. It may also be useful to contact the local team leader of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.

Your local branch of the following organisations could also be of help:

- The Territorial Army.
- The Royal Life Saving Society.
- St John Ambulance.

You will be able to think of many more organisations that can be contacted on behalf of, or by, the girls.

Survival, stage four

Girls attempting stage four of the Survival badge, must prepare a basic survival kit and justify its contents, as well as explaining how they would be used.

Girls can build on the following ideas for their own survival kit:

- It could contain waterproof matches; candle; needle and thread; compass; medical kit; water purifying tablets; survival bag or space blanket; dextrose/glucose tablets, chocolate or similar; tea bags; solid fuel; flares...

Thought should be given to a suitable container and do remember that girls should be able to clearly justify why they've chosen the various items to be used in the kit.

guide guiders

Some Guides may be reluctant to take part in a sing-song round the camp fire, so get them in the mood with our special musical meeting

By Lorraine Grinwood
Illustrations: Kim Woolley



Music Lover badge

Everyone in your unit can have a go at the Music Lover badge. You will find the syllabus on pages 68 and 69 of the Guide Badge Book. There are three clauses which are quite straightforward but they do need some thinking about. However, it would make a great badge for new Guides to have a go at.



Boogie on down

Shake your tail feathers and get the girls to work out a dance routine to one of their favourite chart-topping songs.

Let the Guides practise in their Patrols. If the routines are good, everyone could learn them!

Name that tune

Challenge each Patrol to create a musical quiz for the other Patrols to take part in.

The Patrols should consult each other first to make sure that one type of quiz is not repeated. The quizzes that the girls may decide to work on could include a wordsearch; a name the famous composer picture quiz; a guess-the-intro taped quiz; a match-the-lyrics-to-the-song session...

Top talent night

Hold a tuneful talent night so the girls can show off their fledgling musical skills.

You may have a budding Lesley Garrett or Vanessa Mae in your unit. You could even be hiding away a bunch of Spice Girl doubles, or a moody Madonna.

If the majority of your unit can't play a musical instrument or sing terribly well, then hold a lookalike night instead. Get everyone to dress up as their favourite singer and mime along to songs. Add a compère, a jury and some half-time refreshments and you'll have a great show for yourselves, friends or relatives!



Sign songs

Try introducing signs and actions to well-known songs.

For example, animal actions work well with *Old MacDonald had a farm*.

Make up actions for *Taps* or even *The National Anthem*. You may know someone who can teach the girls a real sign language, such as Makaton, to help you add a new dimension to old songs.

■ Ask the Guides to make up some actions for a nursery rhyme that would be suitable for a Rainbow to join in with.



In our own words

Give each Patrol a recording of different, well-known songs, then ask the girls to rewrite the lyrics to reflect a unit event or people in their Patrol.

Find out more

Encourage the Guides – in their Patrols – to explore the wonderful world of music, with this exciting project.

Ask each Patrol to choose one of the countries or areas of the world from the following list: America; Ireland; India; South America; Greece; Scotland; Africa; England.

The Patrols must then prepare a presentation – over two or three weeks – about the music of the area they have chosen. The presentation can include its musical history; styles of music; traditional instruments; famous singers, composers, groups and so on.

The presentations can be shown to other members of the unit. The girls may even put together a display for the meeting place, local school or library.



Invent an instrument

As a noisy craft activity, ask the girls to invent an instrument from any materials that you provide.

Percussion instruments are usually the best type to make, and the girls will probably come up with some very effective ideas. They could even compose a special piece of music to include all their instruments.

Be imaginative with the materials that you supply – anything from plastic containers, rice and bottle tops to pieces of wood, elastic bands and cardboard.

Commercial warning

The badge exchange is primarily intended for use by members of all ages who collect badges and other items as a hobby.

However, readers should be aware that the scheme may also be used by those who are involved in dealing commercially in Guide badges and memorabilia, in order to circulate price lists and other details.

Taking part

Taking part in the scheme is simple. Write a note to each collector with whom you want to swop. Enclose the badge(s) you want to send, and a stamp for each person.

We will also need a sae so that the swopper can send back her badge(s). Do this even if you are replying to someone for a second time.

Then pop all your requests into one big envelope and send it to:

Badge Swop, GUIDING, The Guide Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 0PT.

We will then make sure your requests are forwarded to the people concerned.

Top swoppers

Dorothy Edwards:
Lancashire Rose,
Cumbria, Welsh

Dragon and various name-tapes — for any cloth County badge (Guide or Scout) or Guide or Scout name-tapes.

Jennifer Franklin:
Scottish Thistle (cloth) for any (cloth).

Maria Hooley:
Lancashire East — for Kent East, Kent Weald, Rutland, Leeds, Lincolnshire North, Humberside South, Lancashire Border, Guernsey, Jersey or the Isle of Wight.

Swopping a lot

Julia Seeley: Birmingham, Manchester, Humberside North, West Mercia, Herefordshire and Nottinghamshire County badges (cloth). Name-tapes; Japanese Girl Scout badges; obsolete Guide Interest badges — Rambler, Stalker, Backwoodsman, Hiker, Knotter, Friend to Deaf People, Boatswain and Be Prepared. Swop for Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire East, Essex, Suffolk, Greater London Croydon, Kent Weald, Cleveland, County Durham and South Tyne, Lincolnshire North, Newcastle upon Tyne, Cheshire Border, Cumbria North, Isle of Man, Lancashire Border, Merseyside South, Wirral, Avon, Guernsey, Isle of Wight, Jersey, Somerset and Ulster.

More swoppers

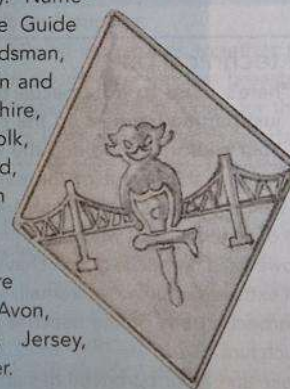
Verna Hayes: Cambridgeshire West for any — especially Bedfordshire, Derbyshire, Herefordshire, Leicestershire, Rutland, Cleveland, Northumberland, North Tyneside, Cheshire Border, Cumbria South, Isle of Man, Lancashire East, Sefton, Stockport, Wirral, Merseyside South, Jersey, Alderney, Isle of Wight, Lincolnshire North and Lincolnshire South.

Isla Peacock: South Yorkshire (metal) for any except Berkshire and Lincolnshire South. Also wanted (cloth): West Mercia, North Tyneside, South West England.



badge swop

Badge Swop appears at regular intervals in *GUIDING*. It helps keen collectors to swop County badges, camp site badges and similar artefacts with others all over the country



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■ If you would like to appear on the badge swop page, just fill in your details on this form and send it to the Badge Swop address, here at *GUIDING* magazine. If necessary, continue on a separate sheet of paper.

Your name:

Your address:

Badges available for swops:

Badges you would like in return:

United States swopper

Girl Scout, Marty Maull, visited CHQ while on holiday from New Hampshire in the USA. She gave us a bumper bundle of swops and would love some UK badges in return.

Marty has: two Girl Scout pocket songbooks; two Got milk, get cookies! badges; several Girl Scout Law stickers; three Girl Scout USA patches; four Flint River Girl Scout Council patches; three Swift Water Girl Scout Council patches; four Camping patches; two Camporee patches; two 85th Anniversary of Girl Scouts patches; Daisy Girl Scout stickers and Girl Scout stickers — for any UK metal or cloth.

senior section guiders

Take advantage of the long summer nights and light up the barbecue for a truly scrumptious social occasion

By Kate Devlin

Illustrations: Julie Carpenter

Bring out the barbecue

A summer barbecue is a tasty way to get everyone in your unit involved in a special activity.

As well as being a great method of getting to know new members, a barbecue can bring different sections and units together, or you could invite friends and relations along.

If your girls have not organised an event before, a barbecue is a good activity to start with.

The technical bit

There's more to a barbecue than just putting bangers on the grill.

Your choice of food and the way it's prepared; the layout of the eating area; the decorations and lighting are all a part of the event as a whole.

However, a barbecue doesn't have to be an extravagant affair — a small, simple barbecue party on the beach is just as much fun!

Make sure your barbecue has an air vent or holes punched in the bottom. This will ensure even heat around the charcoal. The charcoal is ready for cooking when it is glowing red and white — this should take about 30-45 minutes from lighting.

Always make sure that the cooking area is safe and away from things that may catch fire.

The ground beneath your barbecue should be level and stable.

■ It's essential to keep a fire bucket close by.

■ Make sure the barbecue is standing on a surface where hot ash or drips of hot fat will not cause you any problems.

■ A first-aid kit should always be available when cooking and someone qualified should be identified to deal with emergencies

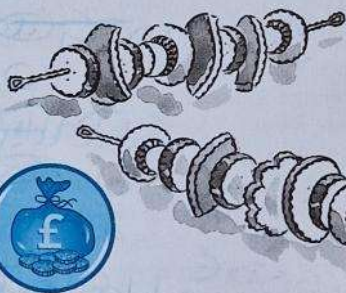
Cooking meat and fish

A good tip is to buy burgers and sausages with a low fat content, they may be more expensive, but cheaper ones could drip fat and cause flames to leap up from the charcoal.

Chicken drumsticks are always popular, but do make sure that they are cooked thoroughly. You don't want to give any of your guests food poisoning!

Chops, steaks and other cuts of red meat are best left in a marinade for several hours before cooking. To stop the meat drying as it cooks, brush the marinade over to baste it. On these pages, you will find some tasty marinade recipes to try.

To cook fish insert a wedge of lemon, chopped onion and some fresh dill inside the cavity. Wrap it in heavy tin foil or put straight on to the grill. It is best to cook the fish with its head and tail on. After eight to ten minutes cooking, turn once gently to avoid the flesh breaking away from the bones.



Dreamy desserts

Round off your brilliant barbecue with some perfect puddings. You may like to serve ice cream, gateaux or other prepared desserts.

If you're feeling adventurous, barbecue your desserts! Try grilling bananas in their skins, with the addition of chocolate chips. Barbecued peach halves may sound revolting, but they taste delicious. Experiment with apples, soft fruits and even marshmallows!

■ For a special barbecue fondue, melt chocolate squares in a bowl that is placed in another bowl of boiling water.

Add a dash of cream and liqueur for the adults and dip in fruit pieces, cubes of moist sponge cake and marshmallows.

Char-grilled vegetables

Vegetables can be barbecued in lots of different ways, just like meat — you can even marinate them. Serve with tasty sauces as dips.

Thread different vegetables on to wooden skewers. The skewers are readily available in most big stores or garden centres — do soak them in cold water for an hour before using to prevent burning.

■ Parboil potatoes in their skins and then finish off on the barbecue. You may need to brush the skins very lightly with oil.

■ Try barbecuing the following tasty vegetables: aubergines; peppers; courgettes; squash; onions; mushrooms; corn-on-the-cob; garlic.



Healthy hygiene

Near to the barbecue, there should be a working table where you can store covered food ready for cooking. You must keep raw meat and cooked food separate, so it's a good



idea to have another table on which to put the cooked food.

Don't forget to wear aprons and keep hair tied back. Always wash your hands thoroughly before handling food and after touching any raw meat.



Tenderising marinade

Use this marinade for tenderising steaks, lamb, chicken or spare ribs. It makes them tastier and easier to cook.

You will need: 150ml wine vinegar; 150ml water; 1 large onion, peeled and finely chopped; 6 cloves; 2 bay leaves; 6 crushed pepper corns; 1 tsp salt.

Stir all ingredients together and let the mixture stand for six hours. Marinate the meat for 2-3 hours in the fridge before cooking on your barbecue.

Special recipe barbecue sauce

Spice up your barbecue with this delicious special recipe sauce that you can use as a dip or relish.

You will need: 1tbs olive oil; 1 large onion, chopped; 75g roughly chopped gherkins; 400g can chopped tomatoes; 2tbs brown sugar; 1tbs Worcester sauce; 1tbs wine vinegar; 1tbs wholegrain mustard; 1 chopped apple; salt and pepper.

Heat the oil in a pan and fry the onion for approximately five minutes until soft and golden. Add all the other ingredients and bring to the boil. Reduce the heat and simmer for ten minutes.

Stir the sauce occasionally and the mixture will thicken. Keep hot and serve.



Party atmosphere

For barbecues that take place in the evening, special candles are a great way to add a party atmosphere.

You can buy barbecue flares from garden centres. Flares stick in the ground and are useful to keep the insects at bay. Any candles containing citronella, help to keep the bugs out of your hair. If you are using tables, light them up with night-light candles in decorated glass jars.

Try making your own table-mats or, perhaps, a table arrangement to give a trendy touch to the barbecue



Chinese chicken marinade

Recreate an authentic Chinese chicken taste with this delicious marinade. It's so good you'll want to use it every day of the week!

You will need: 2 tbs olive oil; 1 crushed garlic clove; 2 tbs clear honey; pinch five spice powder, 3 tbs dry sherry, 1 tbs soy sauce, salt and pepper.

Mix all ingredients together and then pour it over chicken breasts or drumsticks. Place in fridge for three hours. Cook the chicken as normal.

Cheesy polenta squares.

Cheesy polenta squares are great cooked on the barbecue and served with our special recipe sauce.

You will need: 2 pints water; 25g butter; 225g quick-cook polenta; 225g grated vegetarian cheese; 1tbsp olive oil; seasoning.

Boil the water in a large sauce pan. Pour in the polenta, beating all the time with a wooden spoon. As the mixture thickens, continue to beat until it comes cleanly away from the sides of the pan. Remove the pan from the heat.

Beat the cheese into the polenta until it melts. Season to taste. Turn the polenta into a greased dish and spread to about two centimetres in depth. Cover and leave to cool.

Cut the cold polenta into squares and lightly brush with oil.

Grill on the barbecue for five minutes, until the squares are crispy on the outside and soft inside.

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one sky one world

Join in the high-flying
celebrations for this year's
international One Sky,
One World kite festival

By Veronica Ward
Illustrations: Kate Taylor

Making the kite

The kite templates included are, of course, much smaller than the real thing. So, to make the patterns the right size, you must scale them up. Every 2cm on the drawing roughly equals 10cm on a proper kite.

To make the kite you will need: a strong plastic bin liner or large carrier bag; 4m string; a ball of string; sticky tape; scissors.

Using figure 1, cut out two pieces. Fold the plastic in half and cut out the figure 2 template, placing the pattern against the fold.

Unfold the large cut-out so that it looks like figure 3. Take one of the smaller pieces and place it on the left half of the kite, taping line A to side

A and line B to side B.

Repeat with the other small piece on the right side of the kite.

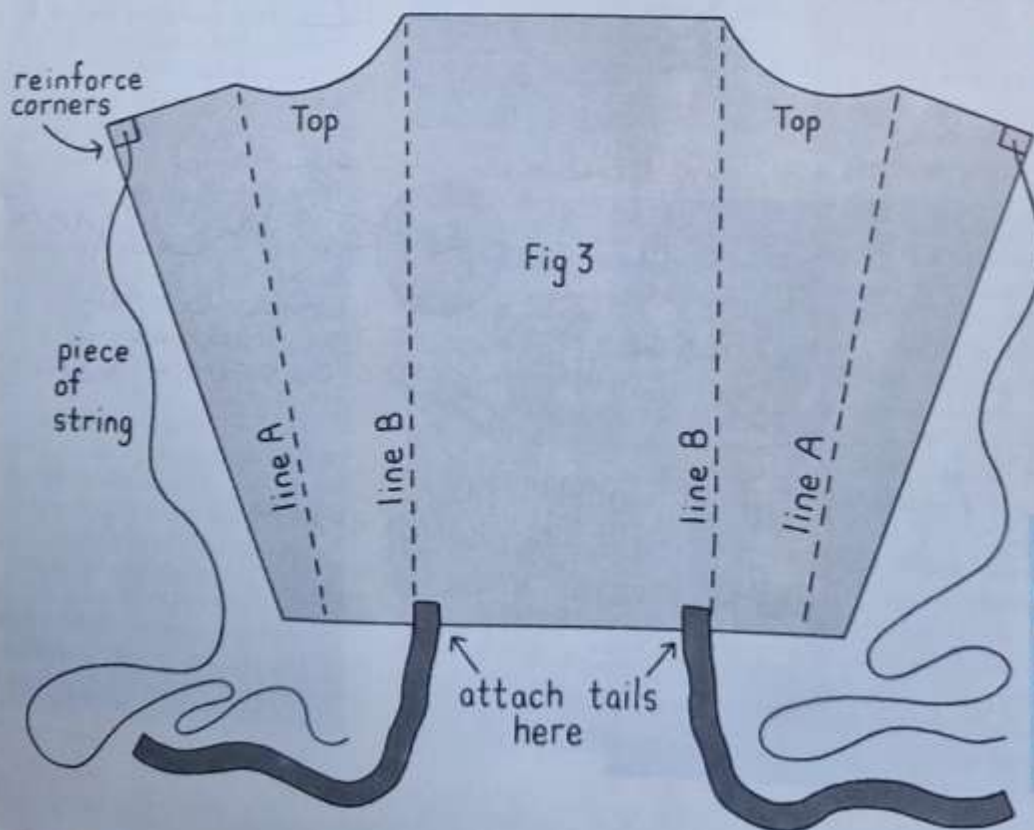
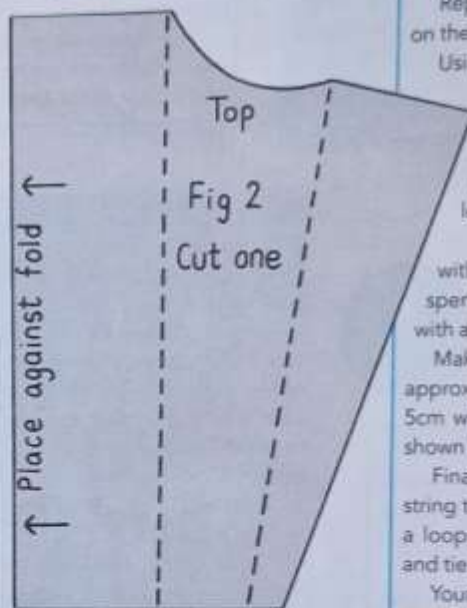
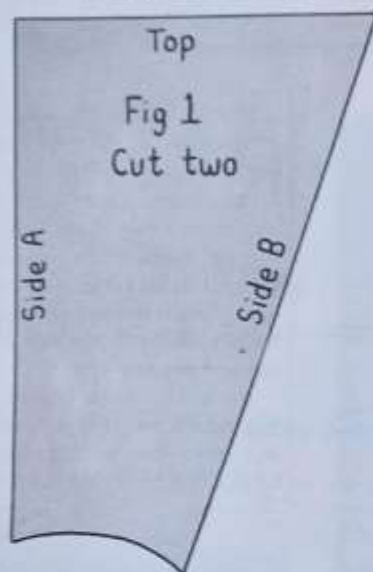
Using sticky tape, reinforce the corners of the kite, as indicated in figure 3. Make small holes at these points and thread an end of the 4m length of string through each.

Secure each end of the string with a clove hitch tied over a spent matchstick — then cover with a square of tape.

Make tails from plastic strips, approximately 2m long and about 5cm wide. Attach to the kite where shown (see figure 3).

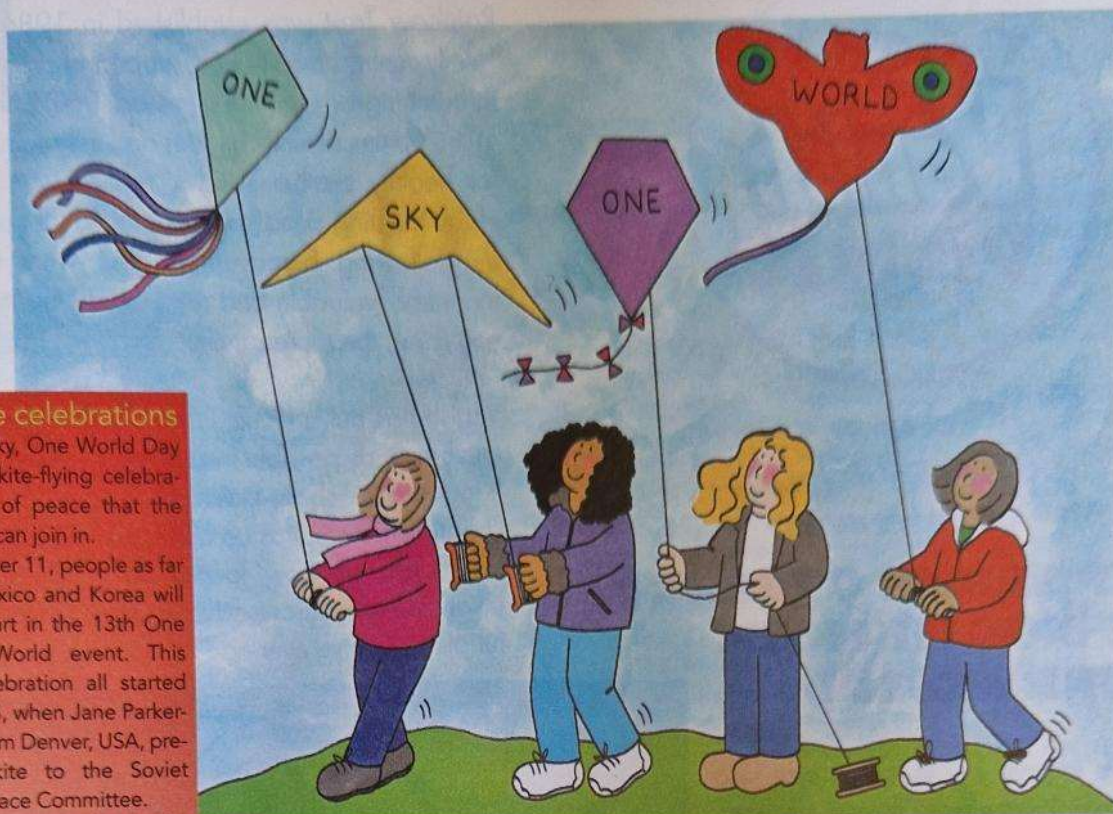
Finally, find the centre of the string that is attached to the kite. Tie a loop — using an overhand knot — and tie the ball of string to it.

Your kite is now ready to fly!



Now there's
an idea...

■ For a different
kite pattern, look
back to the Guide
Guider's page in
GUIDING, for
April 1997.



Join in the celebrations

One Sky, One World Day is a kite-flying celebration of peace that the whole world can join in.

On October 11, people as far afield as Mexico and Korea will be taking part in the 13th One Sky, One World event. This unusual celebration all started back in 1985, when Jane Parker-Ambrose from Denver, USA, presented a kite to the Soviet Women's Peace Committee.

Jane had a vision of a kite-flying festival which focused on the environment — she wanted to see a truly international celebration of life, nature, art and colour.

And that's how One Sky, One World Day took off.

Getting involved

Everyone from Rainbows to Trefoil Guild members can get involved in One Sky, One World Day.

Brownies, Guides and Rangers in West Kirby, Merseyside, have been celebrating along with the rest of the kite-flying world, for seven years.

The girls make their own kites to fly for fun and to compete for a coveted trophy.

The West Kirby event attracts more and more flyers and spectators every year. It is publicised through banners and the local papers. Perhaps your unit or District could get involved in your own One Sky, One World Day celebrations.

■ **For more information, write – enclosing an sae – to: Veronica Ward, 2nd West Kirby Guides, 5 Wordsworth Walk, West Kirby, Wirral L48 3L9.**



Make a super kite

On the opposite page you will find templates to help your girls make their very own aerodynamic, super kite — just like the ones used by West Kirby Guides in their One Sky, One World celebrations.

The kite can be made by Guides and Rangers in a single meeting, but Brownies may need a little help. The kite can be made as part of a craft session, as a pre-Promise challenge and as part of the World Cultures badge (clause ten).

Who invented kites?

Kites were invented in China, probably about 3,000 years ago. It is thought that kites were first used to frighten off the enemy during a battle.

Later, kites were flown at Chinese festivals as a mark of celebration. They were often made in the shape of animals, such as dragons and birds. Ceremonial kites are often very elaborate and ornate. Once your unit has made basic kites, they can decorate them to make them as colourful as they like.





IN AID OF
Rainbow Trust
CHILDREN'S CHARITY

HELP VANISH ORGANISE THE BIGGEST PICNIC IN THE WORLD!

Can we interest you in taking part in a record-breaking event, having an enormous amount of fun and raising money for a children's charity all at the same time?

Vanish - the stain removal experts - are hosting potentially the biggest picnic in the world this summer and would like to invite you, your fellow Guides/Brownies/Rainbows and family to join in the fun - by either joining us in London at the launch picnic, or even better, organising your own!

The huge event hosted by celebrity Martine McCutcheon, (better known as EastEnders' Tiffany), will be taking place at Bishops Park, Fulham in London from 11:30am till 5:00pm on Sunday, 19th July, where hundreds of families will join in the fun. There will be a host of entertainments and activities for all the family to take part in including gunge pools, roving wizards, clowns, magicians, balloonists and face painters - so it promises to be a really memorable day out! And if you don't live near London, Vanish would like you to organise your very own picnic to make sure that altogether this really is the biggest picnic in the world!

Rainbow Trust was established in 1986 to provide family-centred respite and support to children with life threatening or terminal illnesses. Trained carers work in the homes of sick children and their families, caring for healthy brothers and sisters as well as the sick child, meeting practical and emotional needs, including following bereavement. The work they do is incredibly valuable and remember - the more money you raise, the more families Rainbow Trust can help.

Vanish has put a Picnic Pack together to give you as much help as possible in organising your own picnic. It includes 2 T-shirts, balloons, a poster, a car sticker, a signature form, tips on holding a really good picnic and ideas on how to get your local newspaper involved - all guaranteed to make it the most successful picnic you've ever had!



So, if you think it sounds like fun and you'd like to be involved, just call Jonathan Bradley for a free Vanish Picnic Pack at Jervis Read PR on 0181 971 3355 or, alternatively, write to: Vanish Picnic, PO Box 280, Wetherby, LS23 7XJ.

Thanks for your interest and if you do decide to have your own picnic, good luck and have fun fund-raising!

home from home



Such devoted sisters: Philippa (left) and Beth Patteson

When she was only nine, Philippa Patteson's sight began to dim due to an undiagnosed brain tumour. Later surgery failed to stop her becoming blind. Yet Philippa was to go on to run a Guide unit and take her girls rowing on the River Bure near her Norfolk home.

It was Philippa, known to all as Badger, and her younger sister, Beth – nicknamed Beaver – who gave Anglia Region its own Training Centre. They wanted their beloved home – Great Hautbois House – to belong to the Association that had meant so much to them.

The story of these two remarkable women will be recalled many times in this tenth anniversary year. Here we trace their history:

For many years Philippa and Beth shared the house at Coltishall, near Norwich. It was given to Anglia in 1984, as the sisters wanted the home they had grown up in to become a residential Training and Activity Centre for the Region. After much refurbishment, their vision became a reality in 1988.

Their father, Frank Patteson, bought the Victorian rectory from Reverend John Girling, who had the house built in the late 1850s. Frank, a successful businessman, bought the house to be a family

home – for his wife and their two children, Philippa and John – on his return from India. He had it extended and modernised. Beth was born after the family moved into the house in 1906.

After Philippa's sight began to fail, a friend bought her a whistle as a birthday present, and it triggered the sisters' interest in Guiding. Intrigued by their games, their mother, Dorothy, founded the 1st Coltishall Guide Company. Philippa was a member from the start and Beth was allowed to join early in order to help her sister.

Dorothy was determined her daughter would grow up thinking of herself as 'normal'. Philippa used to cycle around the Norfolk lanes following a white flag attached to the back of her mother's bicycle.

When she grew up, Philippa was an adventurous traveller visiting, among other places, Malta, Austria, Cyprus and Switzerland. She never let her blindness hold her back.

Many people she met remained unaware that she couldn't see.

Philippa learned to read Braille, and corresponded with other blind Guides in the country through a Braille newsletter.

During the Second World War, Beth left home to be a VAD – a nurse with the Voluntary Aid Detachment. While she was away, Philippa managed to run Beth's unit, the 1st Coltishall Guides, as well as her own Brownie Pack and Guide unit at Wroxham.

Both sisters were famous as keen campers and, after the war, Beth became Norfolk's Camp Adviser and then County Commissioner.

She was appointed Camp Adviser for England and, later, the Commonwealth. As Commonwealth Camp Adviser, Beth helped to organise the 1957 World Camp.

Beth was regarded in Norfolk as a 'formidable' woman and it's said that her anger was 'something to behold'. But she is much better remembered for being young-at-heart and incredibly well-organised.

She was also admired for her self-sacrifice. None of the Patteson children ever married and Beth devoted much of her adult life to caring for her mother, brother, and, in later years, Philippa. She was renowned for her compassion, not only towards her own family, but also her friends. Beth was involved with the church, the Red Cross and, of course, The Guide Association.

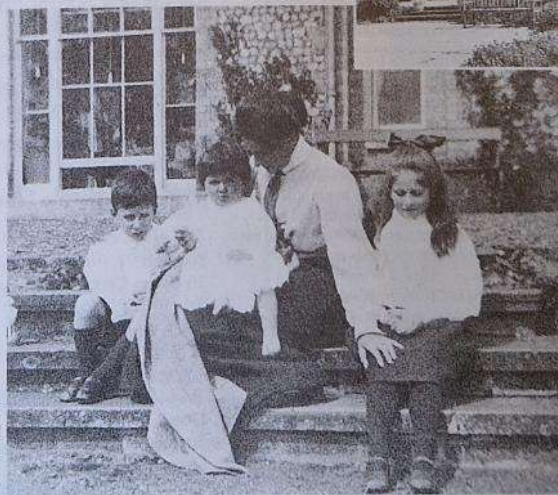
The sisters were certainly a Guiding force to be reckoned with both in Norfolk

As Great Hautbois House celebrates its tenth anniversary, GUIDING looks at the two women who made it all possible

By Liz Duffey



Great Hautbois House, the much-loved home that Philippa and Beth Patteson gave to Anglia Region



As they were: Dorothy Patteson with her family on the steps at Hautbois

and the rest of the UK. They were well-respected and much-loved. Their generous gift of Great Hautbois House is typical of their devotion to both the house and Guiding – and combines the two forever. ■

information

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The Guide Heritage Centre at CHQ is open
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The entrance charge is £2.50p 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 358 for further visit details.

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Depots are run by members of the Association
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The views expressed in *GUIDING* magazine
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official

your letters

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

On offer

Two kind-hearted readers have items to give away to units who could use them.

Cosy cardies

In our District we have more than 24 brown cardigans. They were used for Pack Holidays but are now found to be surplus to requirements.

We were wondering if there is a Brownie unit somewhere that would like them. We are very keen that they should be used by Brownies, and all we ask in return is that the postage is paid.

If no UK unit wants them, we will send them abroad. But we would like to give them to a home unit, if possible.

Anne Wylie

Allington District Commissioner
Kent

● Anyone who is interested should call Anne on 01622 254855

Going free

I have 11 yellow T-shirts with the Brownie emblem on the front and 12 plain yellow T-shirts, approx size 28in. Also I have seven pairs of brown camp shorts, length 16in.

I have offered these to CHQ and they say they have no use for them. It seems a shame to throw them away.

They are offered free to whoever wants them and I will even pay for the postage and packing.

Doreen Pegden

Lancashire

● Contact Doreen on 01253 826151

Heartfelt plea

I am making a very sincere and heartfelt plea to the powers-that-be to review the rules on wearing staged badges on sashes, at least for the Brownies.

When a child of that age has worked really hard to gain a badge, and then works even harder to gain the next stage up, she just cannot comprehend why she must then remove the first one (and mums don't appreciate it either).

Surely wearing **both** stages would demonstrate how hard the child has worked and the progress she has made?

And to whom does it really matter, if not to the Brownie herself?

I have brought this subject up at District Meetings and my DC has taken it to Division, with no explanation given except the official line.

Is there no room for valuable comment and feedback from ordinary Brownie Guiders like myself?

Writing to *GUIDING* seemed the only avenue left open, and I do hope that someone will pay attention.

I have always believed that Guiding is about the girls. And I have no wish to belittle any of their achievements, which is what this rule does.

I am with the Brownies on this one — what do other Guiders think?

Melanie Cheney

Brownie Guider

3rd Stotfield Brownies

Hertfordshire

Old pals

Forty years ago, the Post Box Secretary found me a penfriend in Cyprus. Recently my husband and I went there and had an exciting day in Nicosia, when we met my penfriend for the first time.

Ülgen, and her husband, Sami, made us extremely welcome. As they live in the Turkish part of Nicosia, they were particularly pleased to have the chance to speak English again.

Ülgen came to England for the 1957 World Camp and enjoyed hospitality in the Woking and Preston areas.

Over the years she has lost touch with all the friends she made that summer, but still treasures her photo album and memorabilia. She said she would love to hear from anyone who remembers her. Her name then was Ülgen Mustafa.

Old friends should write to: Ülgen Sami Hamidi, 10 Teyfik Fikret Street, Kösklüçiftlik, Nicosia, Mersin 10 Turkey. Or else write to me via *GUIDING*.

Rowena Morgan

Assistant Guide Guider

Gloucestershire

three Guiders in charge are younger than me — I am just 21!

I am certainly not saying that I agree with this policy, as some of the best Guiders I know have been over 60.

I'd just like to say that we should really think ourselves lucky that we have until the age of 65 to be a uniformed member of The Guide Association and to be still in contact with the girls.

Sally Victoria Clarke

(actually from Cheshire Forest)

France

Triumph of imagination

Your Sea Life Centre competition (in February's *GUIDING*) aroused a great deal of interest and discussion among all my Guides... and they very much enjoyed designing gadgets to clean up the coast.

In most cases the girls' lack of engineering and technical skills was made up for by their vivid imaginations.

The girls obviously hope to win a prize but have asked that, even if they are not successful, we should arrange a visit to our nearest Sea Life Centre.

The competition has been a success in generating an interest in marine topics. So thank you for organising it, we would love more competitions like this.

Heather Boosey

Guider

2nd Liphook Guides

Hampshire

● Heather's girls did win a prize.

Age guillotine

This letter is in response to all the letters complaining about the age limit of 65 for our Association's leaders.

Having represented the UK Association at the European Seminar for Marginalised Youth last year, I was lucky enough to meet other young Guiders and Scouters from all over Europe.

I was shocked to find out, however, that in Belgium a Guider is considered 'too old' at 30 to be working with a unit!

I was told by my Belgian friends: 'Guiding is a youth movement' and that 'the people actually in charge of the young people should also be young'.

Working at present in France, I have found a group of Jeannettes (Brownies). I went along to the Pack to discover that all

e-mail from America

I am a registered Girl Scout leader in Colo, Iowa, USA and I would like to be in contact with other Guiders who are interested in swapping badges/pins.

I lived in Wales in 1978-79 and have travelled many times to the UK.

I am retired – working part time – and have just discovered the wonderful works of the computer, now that I have more time to be at home.

I love reading *GUIDING* magazine from cover to cover.

At the moment, I have three troops in Colo — a Daisy troop of seven girls; 1st grade Brownie troop of six girls and 2nd grade Brownie troop of seven girls.

I live in a farming area and Girl Scouting is growing in Colo. I moved here five years ago from the Capital city of Iowa – Des Moines – and I love being in a small town.

My e-mail address is deawitt@netins.net for anyone who would like to correspond with me.

Belated Thinking Day greetings from the Daisy and Brownie troops of Colo, Iowa, USA.

Nancy Wittman
Iowa, USA

Day trippers

Once upon a time, four adventurous Guiders attended the Thinking Day Service at Westminster Abbey.

They had a vision of a pleasant stroll through the sun-drenched streets of the capital city, conjuring up thoughts of lunch at Harrods and tea at The Ritz.

The setting of the Founders Day Service was truly wonderful and it was an inspiration to see all the Guiding family who filled the pews to capacity.

After leaving the Abbey, we became Sloane Rangers window shopping with the elite of London. But, alas, hunger called and Harrods was nowhere to be seen. We lunched at Peter Jones' rooftop café. After being accosted over the teacups by a gentleman with unusual religious beliefs, we made a hasty retreat.

Many hours were spent gazing in awe at the things we could not afford in Harrods. After asking for directions to The Ritz, the doorman pointed out the taxi rank. We headed for the bus stop!

As we approached The Ritz's main entrance, the Commissionaire directed us round the back. As we stood gazing open-mouthed at the splendour, we were asked: 'Have you booked?' Of course we hadn't!

It was suggested that we try Brown's. This proved to be a very select hotel. We had very expensive drinks at the bar to while away the hour's delay for a table. An hour passed, then another half-hour while everyone else was comfortably ensconced over their teacups and clearly were loathe to move. We Guiders left — McDonald's beckoned.

A relaxing train journey home brought the eventful day to a close.

A Ryan, M McGowan,
J Spencer and D Potter
Fenham, Newcastle

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.

Outdated but not forgotten

I feel very strongly that Proficiency/Interest badges should be earned and worn with pride. They should not be swapped or easily acquired to sew on camp blankets.

But what do we do with badges no longer included in our programme or changed to stage badges?

I have three navy sleeping bags used for our first aid tent and have stitched on them all those badges that are now outdated, so they are not discarded.

Guides can see history but no one can claim to have earned them.

Annie Escolt
3rd Camberly Guides
Surrey

Colour conscious

It is really great that Rainbows now have a Birthday badge, but what happened to the indigo in the Rainbow?

M Forsyth
Rainbow Guider
Colchester

Record setting

I claim the record for having the most girls make their Promise simultaneously on behalf of the 58th Birmingham Brownie Pack, based at Harborne Methodist Church.

The Pack's first meeting was held on Thursday, December 6, 1979 and it quickly attracted 24 Brownies — then the maximum allowed. By the spring of 1980 they were all ready to make their Promise, which posed a dilemma.

In those days, you paid Census fees for everyone who had made the Promise and, as a brand new unit, we had no funds.

We therefore delayed the Promise Ceremony until the day after the Census count and all 24 were enrolled at the same meeting.

Neither I as Brown Owl, nor my Assistant Sheila Lowe, had received our warrants by then, so the Brownies had to make their Promises to the Division Commissioner.

Sheila and I are still involved in Guiding. She is a Brownie Guider and District Commissioner in Lancashire, and I am a Division Commissioner for Highbury in Birmingham.

I still worship at Harborne Methodist Church, so I've seen most of those early Brownies grow up and am still in touch with them and their families.

Christine M. Gregory
Halesowen, West Midlands

Exclusive prayers?

The Guide Movement is **not** a Christian organisation. Yet many times when prayers are said at meetings, the name of Jesus is included. Prayers are said automatically, without forethought, ending with 'through Jesus Christ our Lord'.

Unless a unit is attached to a church, prayers should only be addressed to 'God'.

Even if we know all *our* members are Christian, we may be deterring someone of a different faith from joining, which would be a great pity.

Often large-scale gatherings, for example, Thinking Day, are held in big churches or cathedrals, because this is the largest building available.

But even here the name of Jesus should be avoided and the clergy officiating advised of our non-Christian status.

EG Longmore
Malvern Trefoil Guild
Worcestershire

● This view is shared by at least one other member — see Watch This Space on page 29.

perfumed garden



How does their garden grow? Some of the Wrea Green 'pretty maids' who helped to create a 'feely garden' at a local school

The children at Pear Tree Special School at Kirkham, near Lytham St Anne's, Lancashire, now have a 'feely' garden to delight the senses due, in part, to the spadework of local Guides.

Two of the biggest companies in the area – British Aerospace and BNFL (British Nuclear Fuels Ltd) – provided the necessary cash while some of the girls of the 1st Wrea Green Guide Company carried out the work.

They prepared beds and put in £300 worth of plants, which the children at the school can enjoy touching, and at the right time of the year, smelling.

Most of the pupils are partially sighted and have learning difficulties. The sensory garden is designed to stimulate their senses.

Leader of the Wrea Green Guides, Anne Horton, said: 'Wrea Green is near Kirkham, where I live, and the Pear Tree school is very much part of the local community. Giving the children a "garden of learning" seemed a very good idea to us and my Guides were delighted to help. About eight of them took part in the project.

'The plants were carefully chosen to provide a really interesting variety of sensations. Most of them bloom with very bright, strong colours. Some have furry leaves, while others have smooth leaves and so on.

'Apart from the perfumes of flowers in bloom, including roses, there are various types of mint and other herbs that all have very distinctive smells.'

There was nothing contrary about the Guides who helped create a very special garden

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Send your leaders back to school

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in focus

£15 winner



Someone to cuddle

Jenny Kingston and Katherine Taylor – from the 2nd Shenfield Brownies – proudly show off some of their woolly friends, knitted in answer to a very special appeal. The teddies – all knitted by the Brownies and their relatives – were distributed to children all over the world who are victims of famine, war and other disasters.

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Flying the flag

Pictured thinking internationally are just a few of the girls from Warley Division, in the West Midlands. Rainbow Samantha Coffin, Brownie Harriet Noble and Guide Joanne Pratt, proudly display their home-made flags as part of their February Thinking Day Celebrations.

EXPRESS AND STAR

SOS — save our sandwiches!

Feeling particularly henpecked are these Rainbows from the 1st and 2nd Fernhurst Units, West Sussex. The girls were doing their best to ignore their feathery friends at Fishers Farm Park, Wisborough Green. We hope there wasn't any chicken in those sandwiches!



COURTESY OF MIDHURST AND PETWORTH OBSERVER

What a shower!

Heads down for a communal hair wash, the girls from 23rd Sutton Coldfield Guides meekly obeyed. But they knew the Young Leaders had found a great way to cool everyone down after a blazing hot day at summer camp!



JOYCE JAMES



CATHERINE PICKERSGILL



Let us out!

Safely behind bars are this scary looking selection of 'inmates' from the 18th Chester Brownie Pack. The girls enjoyed an escorted tour around their local police station, where they met police dogs and looked at patrol cars. They were later released for good behaviour!

JANINE HOOPER

Tanks for the memories

Helen Cook, Joanne Reynolds and Samantha Morris, made sure that this tank was sparkling clean at their sponsored military vehicle wash. The 4th Brownhills Guides, made their splash at Whittington Barracks near Lichfield. Also pictured are Lance Corporals Tony Harris and Craig Ramsell.



Big hats, beaming smiles

These Guiders certainly have got plenty to smile about. Anne and Joyce were part of a District team from Billinge, Lancashire East, who raised £160 for the Children's Society. The Guiders got together to cook a special dinner as part of the charity's largest ever candlelit supper.



P. FYLES

Lots of lovely lolly

Brownies from St Andrews (Fife) District have been out and about raising lots of lovely cash for their Guide hall. Here five of the girls snatch a rest during a sponsored walk.



VALENE STURROCK

Stuck up a gum tree

Just because their Pack Holiday was in Yorkshire, it didn't stop the 1st Lofthouse Brownies from pretending that they were in Australia. All things Antipodean was the order of the day, including a climb up this leafy 'gum' tree!

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. Please include a sae.

net gain

Each year the ideas for ways to celebrate Thinking Day grow ever more innovative

A simple request on the Internet last August led to Thinking Day postcards being exchanged between 16 different countries around the world for the first time this year.

The request, posted on the Internet Subscription list, WAGGGS-L – which enables subscribing Guiders with e-mail to correspond with over 900 Guiders and Scout leaders – was from a Girl Scout troop leader in New York who asked if any Guiders were interested in exchanging postcards for this year's Thinking Day.

The response was overwhelming

a Girl Scout unit in California.'

Some postcards had scenic views, others featured landmarks or endangered species. Messages varied from simple greetings to questions about uniform or unit activities. But, as one Kent Guider put it: 'All told us something about the fellow members of the Movement who sent them'.

Many UK Guiders displayed the postcards next to a map, pinpointing their place of origin, at their various Thinking Day events. The 2nd Alton Brownies in Hampshire – whose town council is

Guiding worldwide, computers and the Internet.'

In tune with shoppers

Units from Dudley Division, West Mercia held their Thinking Day Service in the unusual setting of the Merry Hill Shopping Centre, Dudley – which attracts thousands of visitors each week. Division PRA, Gloria Moy describes the event:

‘We felt that holding the service in the shopping centre would be a wonderful opportunity to illustrate how much fun Guiding can be.

Every District hung up a colourful banner in the mall and PR boards were much in evidence, depicting the life of the all units in our Division.

The service was taken jointly by

Reverend Andrew Yates and myself. The Mayor of Dudley, Coun Mary Hill, began the proceedings by lighting the candle. I, briefly, explained what Thinking Day was for the benefit of the shoppers.

During the service Rainbows sang their tenth birthday song, Brownies sang *It's a small world* and the Division choir – brought together specially for this service – sang the Guide Creed to the tune of *Londonderry Air*.

The 1st Primrose Hill Guides had a tug-of-war contest – that was

declared a draw when both sides were discovered to have tied their end of the rope to some barriers! Guides and Rangers also took part in a race to put up tents.

Andrew Yates interviewed a Rainbow, Brownie and Guide and asked each of them what they liked about Guiding. Guider Janet Marsh was asked what she got out of being a Guider.

The service ended with everyone – members and shoppers – singing their hearts out to *Shine Jesus Shine*.

We hope that during this service we managed to give a flavour of the sheer versatility of Guiding to both adults and children in the shopping mall. ♡



Tents battle: Guides and Rangers – with a little help – competed in a tent race that was judged by the Mayor, who is herself a camper

— a total of 315 people eventually registered worldwide.

Most people who took part were from the USA, as the list was originally set up there, but others live in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Turkey and Japan. In the UK, 17 units took part.

Units outside the USA were inundated with requests. The 10th A Wishaw Brownies, South Lanarkshire, received over 100 e-mail messages about the project.

Financial constraints meant that they had to limit their exchanges to 30. Guider Karen Sproat said: 'We got back 28 postcards which the Brownies had great fun reading, and we are currently corresponding with

considering twinning with a town in Italy – were asked to present their display at a civic reception when an Italian delegation visited Alton.

The Alton Brownies also sent e-mail messages, on Thinking Day, to several of the units with whom they had exchanged postcards. When the Brownies realised that a message they were reading at 10.30am had been sent by an Australian unit at 9.30pm on the same date, it gave them some understanding of time differences.

As their Guider, Averil Mangan, said: 'This project has shown the Brownies what a terrific Movement they belong to, and has encouraged them to get to know more about



traveller's tales

Barbara Dixon is now a Trefoil Guild Chairman

My first involvement with The Guide Association was at the ripe old age of 34, when I was 'washed in' on a tidal wave of my daughter's tears. At that time, my husband was serving with the Scots Guards in Malaysia, as part of the Commonwealth Brigade, at a place called Terendak, in Malacca.

Our daughter, Hilary, belonged to the 13th Malacca Brownies, but Brown Owl was leaving and Tawny couldn't manage on her own. Unless someone could be found to help, the unit was to be dissolved. Hilary had brought the entire Pack home to cry on the doorstep and I realised that this could become a regular Monday night event.

So I accepted the inevitable. Yes, I would go along on Monday nights and help to sew on buttons and suchlike which, I was assured, was all that was required. It's funny, I've done a lot of the suchlike in the intervening years, but I've never helped Brownies sew on buttons!

The brigade was made up of Australian, New Zealand, Gurkha and British battalions. So, along with the local Malays and Chinese, the unit was fairly international.

One of my early discoveries was that we didn't speak quite the same language. If, for example, we were going for a walk along the beach I had to ask the UK Brownies to wear flip-flops, the Australians thongs and the New Zealanders jandals.

Although we had miles of great beaches, the poisonous Portuguese man-o-war jellyfish made it too dangerous even to paddle. So, a day out for the Brownies at Port Dixon, where we could swim

safely, seemed an excellent idea.

The Malay who drove our bus encouraged the Brownies to sing at the tops of their voices and was distracted only when we caught up with a bus-load of Cubs, on their way to the same destination.

What a challenge! The Brownies whooped as we roared past the Cub's bus. Their driver picked up the gauntlet and overtook us, with much hooting and shouting.

Our driver responded and, on a winding part of the narrow road, sailed past the Cubs on a blind bend. The lorry coming in the opposite direction went off the road but still remained upright.

The first thing Brown Owl and I did on arriving was to arrange with the Scouters to leave half-an-hour apart.

Although we had organised various activities for the Brownies, with the temperature in the upper 90s, all they wanted to do was to frolic in the water.

Guiding with the Services is rarely dull and units get plenty of support from the regiments. In the '60s it wasn't easy to get things, so we often had to improvise.

Many Packs made toadstools from papier mâché but, in the very humid climate, these did not last very long. One Pack had, as a substitute, a red umbrella with white spots painted on that needed replacing. The

Royal Engineers were glad to help.

Two soldiers appeared carrying a rather large, but beautifully painted, toadstool into the Pow-wow circle. It was only when the Sixers tried to move it, that we discovered why it had taken two strong men to carry it. The toadstool had been cast in concrete!

Later, at a Division camp fire, the Brownies met the 13th Malacca Guides and were surprised to discover that the only equipment the Malaysian girls had was one Promise Badge for the entire unit.

Without our knowledge, the Brownies took up a collection in the neighbourhood. We gently

One sobbing Brownie is bad enough but who could resist a weeping Pack?

By Barbara Dixon
Chairman North
Yorkshire West
Trefoil Guild



The way they were: Barbara (right) with the 13th Malacca Brownies

explained that Brownies do not beg — they work to raise money. But when we went with them to explain this to donors, we finished up with more money. To refuse would have given offence.

The money bought Promise Badges for each Guide and neckers as well. Of course, the Malacca Guides were delighted.

● Barbara, a former County Commissioner for North Yorkshire West, will be sharing more of her Guiding experiences next month.

standing for council

Do you want to shape the Association? Influence its direction? Then consider nomination for election!

Decisions which determine the Association's future and directly affect you as a member are made by the Executive Committee of The Council, which is responsible for the day-to-day management of the affairs of the Association and for formulating its strategies.

If you can picture yourself debating around a table with 22 others, all with the same objective as yourself – the best for the Association and all its subscribing members – then take the first step: consider putting yourself forward for election to The Council of the Association.

It is The Council which selects six of its own members to sit around a table with the Country

and Region Chief Commissioners, the Chief Guide, Honorary Treasurer and other ex-officio members.

Although not directly involved with day-to-day decision making, joining The Council is no light-hearted matter. It is an onerous and serious duty, as it is The Council which has the ultimate responsibility for governing The Guide Association; for protecting and securing its future and for endorsing major recommendations submitted by the Executive Committee.

The Council is also responsible for appointing the President and Vice-Presidents and the Chief Guide and her Deputies; for considering major changes and for conducting procedural matters.

What does The Council look for in its members?

- Knowledge about and experience of Guiding at all levels or, if not a member of the Movement, sympathy with its aims and a good understanding of the Association's working methods.
- Ability to take an overview of the Association and its role within the Youth Service.
- Wide interests and experience outside Guiding.
- Interest in and concern about young people.
- Optimism, a forward-looking approach and adaptability.
- Ability to listen, absorb and to analyse.
- Articulateness and willingness to speak up and make decisions.

If this is for you, then please do not hesitate! Contact your Country or Region Headquarters for details of application forms and selection procedures. Or for further information on roles and responsibilities contact Ingrid King, Committees Executive at CHQ.

good advertisement



Don't miss out on your instant PR tool, courtesy of GUIDING

Award yourself some Guiding points if you noticed that page two of this issue of *GUIDING* looks a little different. If you didn't, turn back and check on the changes.

From your letters, we know that lots of readers already use this page as a way of promoting Guiding. Now we are going to make things even easier for you by adding the Association's official logo and a contact box.

For the next few months, these colourful, instant posters will

alternate with our very popular Guiding is... feature.

The series of posters might form part of a special display your unit could be planning to stage in your local school, library, doctor's surgery or supermarket.

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The following items are for sale due to the recent death of my mother. Any reasonable offers will be considered and all proceeds are to be given to Dorothy House Hospice, Bradford on Avon.

- 1) Two 1985, 75th Anniversary mugs, 1 being Coalport China.
- 2) Teaspoon collection related to Guiding, 14 spoons.
- 3) Stamp collection related to Guiding, most mounted in album, approx 1,000 stamps.
- 4) 3 Commemorative plates:
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b) World Chief Guide, Olave Baden Powell.
c) World Chief Scout, Robert Baden Powell.
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tools of the trade

Association members can help a small charity in a big way

By Penny Kitchen

Thousands of hand tools lie unused and rusting in sheds and garages all over the UK. In many parts of the world, where new tools are prohibitively expensive, these could be invaluable for individual craftsmen and women and make a real difference to their communities.

Three members have already become involved with the charity Tools for Self Reliance (TFSR), which brings the equipment, and the people who need it, together.

Samantha Jenks, Vicky Isaacs and Emma Loveless became

local paper, the *Birmingham Evening Mail*, in publicising her attempts to collect unwanted tools.

Within a few months she had filled the garage at her home. The tools were collected by Alan Porter, Coordinator of the nearby Halesowen TFSR group, who meet twice weekly to clean and sharpen tools ready for sending abroad.

Samantha spent the next year hand-embroidering Christmas and birthday cards to sell to help pay for shipping the tools overseas. She was able to hand over £300 to TFSR.

Equally enterprising, was Vicky Isaacs, a Young Leader with the 83rd Northampton Guides. While studying for her A-levels, Vicky organised an evening of musical entertainment plus buffet supper at St John the Baptist Church in Northampton.

The musical programme ranged from classical to pop. Vicky herself played the bassoon and other performers included groups from Northampton Music School and her friends. Ticket sales totalled £250.

'We were particularly grateful for this help,' said Judith Barrett, a TFSR Group Worker. 'Getting hold of the tools is always so much easier than finding money to pay to transport them. Samantha and Vicky's £550 will pay for 15 tool kits to reach their final destination.'

Emma, from Vange in Essex raised over £100 — enough to pay for shipping at least three full kits of

refurbished tools to be used by one of TFSR's main partner organisations — the Organisation of Rural Associations for Progress (ORAP), probably in Zimbabwe.

More volunteers are needed for the practical side of TFSR's work and the charity is keen to encourage more girls and women to 'get their hands dirty' refurbishing the tools.

The charity offers young people the chance to make a practical contribution to world development, while learning new skills through refurbishing old tools.

● Anyone interested should contact TFSR on 01703 869697. Or write to them at Netley Marsh, Southampton SO40 7GY.

TFSR in Ghana

In Ghana TFSR works with another charity, Action on Disability and Development (ADD), to support the Ghana associations for the deaf, blind and disabled in the three northern regions of the country.

This area has a climate much less favourable to farming than the south. Its development has been neglected by the southern-based government. Employment opportunities outside farming are few.

The associations look for ways to provide other jobs. ADD helps by providing training in practical skills and assists trainees to buy raw materials. TFSR supplies tools such as sewing machines for tailors and shoemaking kits for cobblers.



Tarzan Nasar is a cobbler and President of the Ghana Society for the Physically Disabled

involved through the Service Overseas section of the Queen's Guide Award, which requires those working for it to support a particular charity and a particular country.

Samantha Jenks, a Guider with the Brownie Pack at St Paul's Church, Great Barr, Birmingham said: 'Tools For Self Reliance is a small organisation I felt was working for a worthy cause.' She also chose to support Ghana as one of the countries where TFSR works.

While a student of Human Psychology at Aston University, Samantha enlisted the help of her



Alan Porter's Halesowen TFSR group cleaned and sharpened tools Samantha Jenks collected

Sue Fortunka

from Northampton.

6 If my appointment last autumn as the Association's Public Relations Adviser caused some eyebrows to be raised, I can understand that. After all, I am a former schoolteacher who became deeply involved as a Trainer and Tutor within Guiding. Indeed, I was Midlands Chairman of Programme and Training. But I retired from that post six months early — at the end of last September to take up the PR challenge.

My appointment to the P & T post followed on from having been a Trainer, specialising in the Guide Section, science and technology, management and Commissioners.

More recently, I have been concerned with training Trainers and Tutors. I may, in fact be the only person yet to have completed the Association's pilot Tutor's Award. Currently I am still an Assessor/Tutor to one experienced Trainer and one prospective Trainer, while doing my new job.

So, if there are any whispers, although I haven't heard any, people must be asking "Why is she PRA to the Association?"

Well, that question should, of course, be addressed to those who appointed me. But I believe it is partly due to the fact that my intense involvement with training has helped me to develop communication skills, and partly to my professional work which also calls for such skills.

For the past eight years I have worked for the Institution of Chemical Engineers at Rugby. As a manager, my wide range of responsibilities includes the promotion of chemical engineering as a career for young people.

The job means that I have constant interaction, not only with the members of the Institution, but with people in senior posts in other professional bodies, academia, industry and government.

It certainly calls for effective communication.

Incidentally, a major highlight has been the development and promotion of *Science Activity Boxes* for primary schools.

For me, this included two "launches" at the House of Commons and a five-week "presentation" tour of Australia, during which I visited every state excepting Northern Territory and Tasmania. This trip, though enjoyable, was again quite exacting in terms of communication skills.

In a fairly long Guiding career I see my PRA job as my biggest challenge yet. For, in a high-tech world and a society which seems to be changing ever more rapidly, the Association itself is facing its biggest challenge.

If it is to continue to thrive and play a significant role in the development of girls and young women, it needs a higher profile presented in a very "proactive" way. It is my task to help promote this.

Many of today's girls think the current image of Guiding is not right for them, although the Programme might be — if only they would give it a try. And with some girls Guiding simply has no image at all. Immersed in a pop, consumerist culture, they may be hardly aware of its existence, let alone have the remotest idea of what Guiding can offer them.

I want to see all girls, whatever their background, having the opportunities that I've had from Guiding. We must try harder to show how Guiding can help them cope better in a complex, competitive world and give them new perspectives.

I got off to a good start — Guiding seemed to be in my genes.



PAUL LAPSLEY PHOTOGRAPHY LTD

In Leicester I became a Brownie, encouraged by my mum, herself a former Guide. Her twin sister became Chief Commissioner for Northern Territory, in Australia.

In Guides I gained a Queen's Guide Badge and, eventually, joined a Ranger Unit at West Bridgford, near Nottingham while training as a teacher. After about a year, I left Rangers because, when I started teaching practice in schools, I feared that I might find myself teaching girls from my own Unit!

I met my husband, John, at college, he is still in teaching. I left teaching when Matthew, ex-Cub and Scout, now 22 was on his way. Then came Anna, ex-Brownie and Guide, now 20.

I never returned to teaching but continued as a Guide Guider in three different units and, in 1980 trained to become a Trainer.

There's more to tell but that can wait. Meanwhile, I have a really big challenge ahead to tackle. ☺

As the Association's PRA, Sue aims to raise the profile of Guiding

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