

GUIDING

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STAR BILLING

Nineties Brownie in an
Edwardian nursery

ISLAND CHARM

A taste of
Bonnie Scotland

THANKS MINISTER

Mo Mowlam helps out

I SAY, I SAY

Raise some panto cheer

MIXED MESSAGES

Changing negatives
to positives

a feast
of ideas





SUSAN TYRRELL

Contact information:



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ASSOCIATION**
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comment



Next summer, The Guide Association is holding a World Camp at Foxlease — the Association's Hampshire Training and Activity Centre. In 1999, it will be 75 years since the first World Camp took place at Foxlease.

Times may have changed since 1924, but the spirit of the first World Camp lives on, as we prepare to welcome 1,500 overseas visitors and a similar number from the UK.

The 1924 commemorative camp album is one of those books which makes you smile as you glance through it discovering the fashion trends, transport options and technology of that age.

Yet, at the same time, browsing through helps the reader to understand that she is merely taking her place in history, playing a part in continuing the Guiding story into the next Millennium.

In 75 years time, some of the girls — as very old ladies — may look back at photos of this World Camp, and smile nostalgically about how baseball caps and trainers were so fashionable then.

More importantly, I'm sure they will also have memories of the people they met on camp, the friends they made and the magic of the Guiding spirit.

Perhaps you know someone who actually was present at the 1924 camp? If so, please do contact Foxlease (the address and phone number is on page 52) as the organisers of next year's camp would like to extend a special welcome to them.

Over the next few months, selection days are being held all over the UK. If you are — or know someone who'd be interested — aged between 13 and 25, and would like to make history, speak to your District Commissioner or International Adviser to find out about how to get one of those 1500 places.

Applications for staff places have now closed — so thank you to everyone who applied.

'Peace Vision Power' — the Camp motto in 1924 — was entirely appropriate in a world recovering from a terrible war.

The world in 1999 may be a technologically different place, but the values, hopes and vision of those who attended that first historic gathering live on, 75 years later, in the presence of a new generation of World Campers. Will you be there to keep the vision alive?

Nicky Parker
World Camp Organiser

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front cover

Lucy Vivian of the 4th Preston Brownies, Brighton had great fun at Blackland Farm earlier this year

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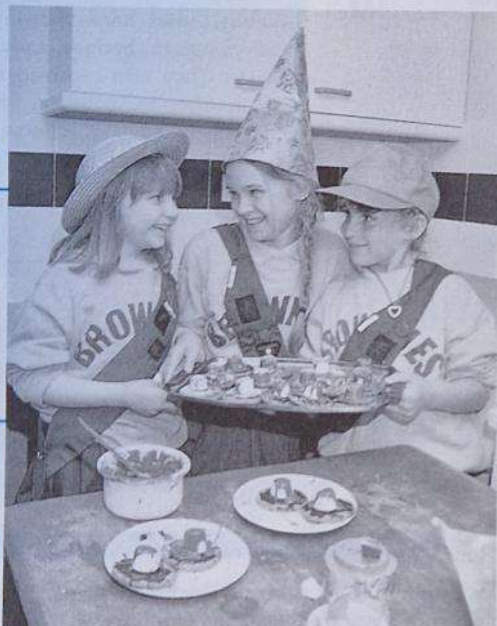
Catching up with past times

At the 70th anniversary party of the 1st Chaddesden Company, Derby, Guides past and present enjoyed a buffet meal, while sharing memories and looking through the unit's log books and photo albums.

A very special guest at the party was 80-year-old Peggy Payne, who joined the 1st Chaddesden in its infancy. She is seen here chatting to one of the present-day Guides, ten-year-old Michelle Emmerson.



DERBY EVENING TELEGRAPH



SOUTH NOTTS ADVERTISER

Tea-time treat

When the 1st Bingham Brownies, near Nottingham, took their Hostess badge, they did it in style — organising a Mad Hatter's tea party for the elderly at a local day care centre.

As well as hat-shaped cakes and hat-themed games, the Brownies wore hats — and paid for the privilege. Through their 'hat donations' they raised £10 for the Bingham branch of the NSPCC.

Millennium in mind

Looking ahead — not to the year 2000, but maybe 3000 — the 6th Didsbury Brownies, Manchester, buried a time capsule in their local park as part of their World Cultures badge.

The capsule's contents included a *Brownie Handbook*, Pack nametape, collection of six emblems and an item from each Brownie —

Eye-catching message

Thanks to their eye-catching altar frontal, the 81st Newcastle (St Francis) Rainbows made sure that parishioners got the message when they came to church for Harvest Festival.

The girls used paper motifs — fruits, vegetables, flowers, fish and birds — to create a panoramic picture celebrating the great abundance of nature, especially at harvest time.



MARGARET JOHNSON

HELEN HUMPHREYS



everything from Spice Girls memorabilia to photos of family pets.

The ceremony, at which three Brownies also made their Promise, was attended by parents, Commissioners and a local councillor.

in brief

In the swim

There's no stopping the water-babies of the 8th Coulsdon Pack, near Croydon. Twelve Brownies took part in a sponsored charity swim for the Cancer Research Campaign and collected £325.

A few months later two of them – Victoria Williams, shown here, and her friend Charlotte Kerr – plunged in yet again and raised a further £160 for the same cause.

This month they're taking a break from charity swims, but they're still in the pool – practising hard for the District Swimming Gala. With all the time they've spent in the water recently, they should be formidable competition.



CROYDON ADVERTISER GROUP

No escape

As a reward for completing the Crime Prevention badge, the 1st Patricroft Guides, Eccles, were invited to see behind the scenes at their local police station. As part of their guided tour, the girls piled into a panda car and also had their fingerprints taken. But the highlight of the visit for new Guide Rebecca Dickens was making her Promise inside a locked cell.

JANE TURNER



JANE MCHUGH



In safe hands

Each year Guides from one of the Midlands Region Counties compete for the Edna Hensman First Aid Trophy; this year it was Worcestershire's turn.

Fourteen Patrols took part in the event, which included challenges such as bandaging skills, stretcher improvisation and resuscitation procedures.

Proud champions at the end of the day were the 3rd Droitwich Guides, seen here showing off their winner's badges and certificates. They also received a £10 gift voucher to spend on first-aid equipment and, of course, the trophy for a year.

snippets

STARTING FROM SCRATCH When the 1st Dorchester West Rainbows started up a year ago even the leaders were new, so girls and Guiders all made their Promise together. Since then, membership has almost doubled with the most recent Promise ceremony taking place at a unit teddy bears' picnic. **PROUD RECORD** Tollesbury's Congregational Church was packed for a thanksgiving service celebrating 80 years of Guiding in the Essex village. Special guests included Anglia Chief Commissioner Vivienne Scouse and 89-year-old Millie Drake – one of the 1st Tollesbury's 1917 Guides. **RECYCLED STYLE** Guides from the 8th Folkestone staged a fashion show with a difference, when they created clothing out of newspapers, cereal packets and other junk items. **STARTING YOUNG** Llangorse Rope Centre is a firm favourite with the 1st Llangynidr Guides, Powys – and with their leader's granddaughter, Georgina. In fact, the six-year-old Rainbow accompanies the Guides on all sorts of activities and has become something of a unit 'mascot'. **CLOSE THING** Only half a point separated the winners – 19th Blackpool Guides – from their nearest rivals in Blackpool North Division's annual Couzens Hardy competition, which this year focused on camping skills. **DOING THEIR BIT** The 3rd Stoneleigh Guides, Surrey, are determined fundraisers. Earlier this year, in a matter of months, they took part in the BT Swimathon for Marie Curie Cancer Care; the Kidney Foundation's London Bridge Walk; and organised a tea party in aid of Mencap – raising £175, £200 and £130 respectively. **MAIL TRAIL** What happens to a letter

when you post it? The 1st Eastgate Rainbows, Reading, had fun finding out with a visit from Postman Pat followed by a tour of their nearest sorting office. **HAT PARADE** When the 4th Keyworth Guides, Nottinghamshire, held a fashion parade of hats plus a raffle, they succeeded in raising £58 for the NSPCC. **WHAT A SURPRISE** For their annual outing this year, the 1st Rudgwick Brownies, West Sussex, went to Fishers Farm Park for the day. And guess who else was there? BBC TV recording a Songs of Praise special with Sir Harry Secombe – and, to cap it all, the Brownies were invited to join in. **ACTION WEEKEND** Highlights of the 1st Hatfield Peverel Guides' sleep-over weekend included a day-long hike in the Essex countryside, building a rope bridge and having chocolate fondue for dessert. **CELEBRITY LINE-UP** On a visit to London, the 7th Stockton Guides posed in front of Number 10 Downing Street for a group photo and were thrilled when Prime Minister Tony Blair and his wife Cherie came and joined them. **TIME OFF** Young carers in the Bromley area had a break from their responsibilities thanks to Orpington Division Guides and District Scouts who arranged an outdoor activity evening for them with the focus on abseiling and climbing. **GIFTS FOR GHANA** Along with many units in Northumberland, the 1st Seaton Delaval Rainbows supported an appeal organised by *The Northumbrian* magazine on behalf of Chirapatre school, Ghana. The girls joined in enthusiastically, contributing pens, pencils, rubbers, rulers and other stationery items to the countywide collection.

promising star

Seven-year-old Brownie, Emily Canfor-Dumas, hit the big-time this year as Harriet St John, one of the residents of BBC1's *Berkeley Square*. But, although she had the chance to attend the programme's premiere and party with the rest of the cast, Emily insisted she had to go to Brownies instead.

For, unluckily, the party was to be held on the same night Emily was to make her Promise — and she had every intention of being there.

Emily, from Shenley in Hertfordshire, was picked from hundreds of hopefuls to play Harriet, one of the three main children's roles featured in the period drama.

Filming — which took place at the London BBC TV Centre and on location in Bristol and the West Country — lasted six months, during this time Emily became great friends with other cast members.

Coralyn Canfor-Dumas, Emily's mum, who's also an actress, said: 'All the cast was really great, especially Tabitha Wady (who played Lydia Weston, one of the three nannies at the heart of the show). She comes from a large family and related really well to the children.'

'Emily has always wanted to be in the business. She is a confident, extrovert girl, and loves entertaining people.' Brown Owl of 3rd Radlett Brownies, Di Johnson, agrees: 'Emily often looks in the library to find funny poems to recite to the Pack. But she doesn't show off, we don't talk about her role at Brownies.'

Coralyn thinks Emily's time as a Rainbow and later as a Brownie helped her on the set. 'There's an awful lot of hanging around between takes, having hair and costume done and so on. Emily was incredibly patient, and I'm sure it is Rainbows and Brownies that have helped to show her the importance of sharing and being patient.'

Emily said: 'It was really fun... Rosie, who helped me get dressed and lace my boots, was really nice.'

Her mother added: 'Emily was still a Rainbow during the filming



Family affair: TV star Emily Canfor-Dumas with her mother, Coralyn and brother Alexander

and missed about five meetings. Her Rainbow Guider, Val Gratten, known as Sunshine to the 1st Radlett Rainbows, was really supportive of her during this time.'

Emily didn't tell all her Rainbow friends about her part and when the show began its ten-episode run, lots of her friends told her that they'd had no idea that she was going to be on television.

She's become a school celebrity. 'It was really nice at first,' Emily explained. 'Everyone is telling you that they saw you on telly, but after a while it gets a bit embarrassing.'

'I don't really talk about it at Brownies, but I think they all know. I'm in the Elves and I really like the uniform. Mum and my brother, Alexander, came to see me make my Promise. So far, I've done my Animal Lover badge and I think I might do Jester as well.'

Asked if she wants to continue acting, Emily has no doubts. 'It was very exciting,' she admits, but adds: 'getting up so early made me feel really sick. I liked wearing all the costumes and having my hair in ringlets, although it took ages for them to be put in.'

'I wouldn't like to have been a

child then. You hardly ever saw your mum or dad, and spent all day inside in the nursery with Nanny.'

'It's much better in the 1990s. I can go swimming, to Brownies and have violin and piano lessons. You're allowed to listen to music now as well. My favourites are All Saints and Boyzone.'

Usually, if it wasn't too late, Emily was allowed to stay up and watch *Berkeley Square*. 'I felt silly when I first saw myself on telly, but I got used to it,' she said.

With a bit of luck, we'll see Emily on our screens again in the near future. The BBC is considering making a second series of the popular drama. The final decision depends on viewers writing in and requesting another chapter in the lives of the Edwardian nannies and their charges. So, if you want to see more of Emily — get writing.

A night of mingling with the stars at a TV show's glitzy premiere came second to one Brownie's Promise Ceremony

By Liz Duffey



Time travel: Emily with her nanny, Matty (Clare Wilkie) and brother (Laurence Owen) from the series, *Berkeley Square*

BBC

networking in

Big changes are blowing through Scotland and Guiding is talking to the movers and shakers

By Leslie Lowes
PRA Shetland
Association

This comes to you from the edge of Britain. Ultima Thule, the far North. The ferry for Foula – the most remote, populated island in Britain – flits back and forth from my village harbour twice each week, weather permitting. My other next-door neighbours are the Faroe Islands, Norway or Newfoundland, depending on which direction you face.

This is Shetland, Scotland's northern outpost, 14 hours due north by ferry from Aberdeen. At 60 degrees North we share the same latitude as Anchorage, Alaska and we are about the same distance from CHQ as Milan.

All of which will give you some idea of the huge scale of Scotland's

geography — and that's without the fragmentation of population due to mountain ranges, sea lochs, islands, and winter weather. Oh yes, and we have one or two big cities as well — but not round these parts.

Scotland is a big country, undergoing big changes. We are about to get our own parliament again after a wee gap of a couple of centuries. Guiding representatives are already talking to the movers and shakers who are going to shape the future of our country.

A future in which Guiding will continue to be a major influence in the lives of girls and young women in Scotland. We have to lobby effectively for nearly 74,000 Association members in Scotland

— our aim is to enlighten and influence those politicians who can help Guiding really work.

I've just come away from our annual PRAs' conference at Netherurd, the Scottish Training Centre. We gathered *fae aa dee airts* as we say here in Shetland (it means from all directions). We concluded that we have to keep Guiding relevant to today's young women, we have to keep raising our public profile and, lastly, we have to become more politically aware.

Despite the problems created by our geography, we need to work together

effectively — and to work with others — to strengthen Scottish Guiding. We have taken several opportunities over the last year or so to do this.

Scottish Guiding played a huge role in the planning of last October's first Commonwealth Youth Forum, which was held in Edinburgh. It brought together young people — aged between 18-27 — from all over the Commonwealth to discuss topical issues concerning young people worldwide.

The conference was organised by a group of young volunteers, with support from the Scottish Community Education Council. The Youth Planning Team included four Association members and was chaired by Shona Scobbie, who is the County Outdoor Adviser for Clackmannanshire.

In our annual report, Scottish Chief Commissioner, Sally McMath said of the Forum: 'The commitment of Scottish Guiding and other similar organisations to this event, showed how much could be achieved when our differing resources and skills pulled together for the benefit of the whole



Pompom girls:
Cheering on the
Claymores —
a Scottish team
that plays American
football

On the right
wavelength:
The remoteness
of Shetland
can make
communication
difficult



THE GUIDE ASSOCIATION SCOTLAND

THE GUIDE ASSOCIATION SCOTLAND



PAUL TOMKINS/STB/STILL MOVING

the nineties

project... The benefits to Scottish Guiding of getting involved and taking part in these opportunities is immeasurable.'

Not to be outdone, younger members have also been involved in outside initiatives. A Patrol from the 1st Blairgowrie Guides took part in the Gruff Kids Challenge — an environmental competition for under-14s. The Patrol's project to renovate its Guide hut, won a place in the final stages.

While the project didn't go on to win first prize, the girls had the consolation of receiving a prize for all their hard work from the Keep Scotland Beautiful competition.

Networking with other organisations broadens our horizons. That's why Scottish Guides have joined forces with the Scottish Claymores NFL football team this year.

When Guides were invited to audition with the Claymore cheerleaders, girls flocked from all over Scotland to join in the razzamatazz.

The girls were so keen, they turned up from just about everywhere. We had no time to issue invitations, word got out on the grapevine. Who says Guiding

can't provide popular activities that interest older girls?

This is marketing big-time for us, with Guide recruitment and merchandising in marquees in the backfield party area and Guide messages flashing across stadium TV walls — all going out on international prime-time television. The Claymores get Guides and their families coming along to their games, so everyone gains.

Of course, there won't be too many Guides from the Scottish Isles at Claymores' matches. Air fares cost £300, which puts it out of the reach of most people's pockets.

But, in our own quiet way, we do a bit of networking too. In Shetland for example, we networked with Water Aid to build two safe-water wells in Ghana.

We've also been looking at how to improve our communications network. We're setting up a computer system with Guides in Shetland, the Western Isles and the Orkney Islands. It will put multimedia laptop computers into every Guide District in these three groups of islands over the next three years.

This project will transform local communications and help all members — particularly Lone

Guides and members with disabilities — to feel involved in both the national and international aspects of Guiding.

You may think we're on the outer limits, but we don't. We are determined to be just as much at the centre of things as anyone else and that includes the information technology revolution.

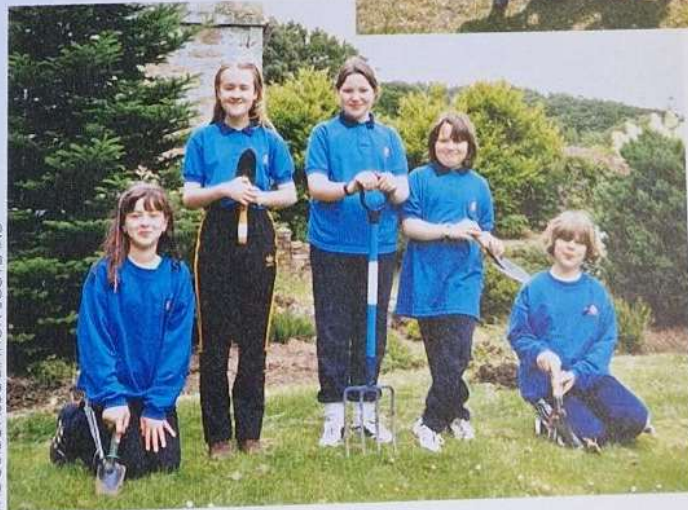
This brings me back to politics. We need to talk to those whose decision-making affects our lives, because we can help them bring about improvements.

That's why the multi-media computer network will be used in Scotland's remotest rural areas. Scottish Office ministers have studied our proposals and like what they see, so they have offered half the money we need and we'll find the rest. And that's before we get our Scottish Parliament.

Did someone ask why Guides need to talk to politicians? ■



Having fun together at Challenger '97 — a camp for members with and without disabilities



Joining in a Rainbow Fun Day at Netherurd

The right tools for the job: Taking a break during a gardening service project at Netherurd

**Reviving
Guiding needs
a lot of faith
and endless
commitment
— but it can
work**

Two years ago we described how an inner-city District was fighting to keep Guiding alive in their community. Now Liz Haskins, the driving force behind the battle, delivers a progress report.

After describing how the Deritend District in Birmingham was working to revive our units, it was most heartening to discover that the article had encouraged leaders facing a similar situation.

So I thought it was time for an update and, while I still cannot say how long it will last, I can tell you that, three and a half years since we reopened, we are still holding on.

The Brownie Pack was fairly full to begin with and has stayed that way. Guides are harder to find and

it was a slow job to build up.

Most of the Brownies were fairly young, so were not ready to move up. Our policy, of making sure the Guides were around and doing interesting-looking things when the Brownies were about, does seem to have avoided too great a drop out between the sections.

Anyone who has worked with a group that rarely reaches double figures will know how tough it is to find activities that are workable, while still providing a varied and challenging programme.

Games for younger and more energetic girls can be a real problem — it's hard to form two or three teams, or stand in a circle with a partner, when there are only six or seven present.

You worry that your Guiding is not quite like the handbook as far as the Patrol System is concerned, for example, and that they lack the stimulation of being in a full unit.

I've found the only thing to do is to hang on to the idea that, if you weren't there, even these few girls would not have the opportunity

to experience Guiding.

It is possible to achieve the spirit that lies at the root of good Guiding, even if the process has to be modified. After all, you couldn't deny that chance to loyal and keen young people.

Situations can change. In fact, we now have a full unit, due to the sad closure of another unit in the area and the amalgamation of the remainder of them with us. Now our problem is to remember how we used to do things in the distant past when we had a bigger unit.

We would be the first to admit that we have many benefits, many friends, but we have had to learn to grasp opportunities.

The church — on whose premises we meet — is most supportive, so when they invited us to take a month's turn to provide coffee after morning service, we jumped in and bagged February. That meant on Thinking Day we could festoon the lounge with uniform charts, blue and yellow balloons and streamers — doing a bit of PR about the extent and world standing of the Association. We were allowed to choose a charity and sent the donations to the Thinking Day Fund, making the congregation feel that they had played a



LIZ HASKINS

Throwing themselves in to a County Dabble Day



Just Molly and me —
a day at the Guide
Heritage Centre

Survive!

part in furthering Guiding.

With so few, it is important to remind the girls that we are part of a much larger organisation. As our County is relatively small and easy to travel in, we have done our best to join in any big events.

We took flower arrangements to the Flower Festival and had a wonderful time making collages – and some mess – for the Arts Festival. Dabble Days of various activities have given opportunities to meet more Guides and Guiders.

When our international camp was planned, it seemed a marvellous chance for those who will never reach international selection, to meet the world on their own doorstep – even if the fund raising did take almost a year.

Later, we were able to report to our supporters – including our devoted Trefoil Guild; the church; people who sponsored me on a swim and bought scones at the Guides' Open Evening – that it was well worth it for the experiences that we all had.

The Brownies visited us on their own special day during the week-long camp and I shall treasure the moment when one girl made her Promise. I did my usual spiel about welcoming her into the world sisterhood of Guiding – with representatives of it right there on the spot.

There have been anxious times. The worst being that, after 47 years, our dear Brown Owl had to retire, and there seemed no replacement to be found.

It would have meant the end of the Brownie unit and, ultimately, the Guide unit too, as we usually take most of our membership from the Pack. I couldn't believe that, after nearly three years of new life, we were destined to die after all.

But when various posters, letters and appeals all failed, it really seemed we were doomed. I don't

know how often God is petitioned for a Brownie Guider, but one was sent in the very nick of time. To make it even better, not just any old owl flew in, a really capable and enthusiastic one landed, complete with a friend to help her. So, we are again rebuilding successfully and live on to see another term.

That kind of miracle makes us think that we must be meant to be here – to cherish and develop the girls in our area within the Guiding programme. Our good news helps us to have that special belief in what we are doing, without which we could well be discouraged.

Our latest enterprise has been to visit the Guide Heritage Centre – a small legacy from another Guider, helping to subsidise the day – which was wonderful, and is to be highly recommended. We followed it with a visit to Westminster Abbey to see the B-P Memorial just as Big Ben was striking the hour. That and the tomb of the Unknown Warrior were great, and unexpected, hits.

The tale of our return home deserves an article on its own, as this was the day of the great Midlands Flood. We were transferred from train to coach, and spent the night in a residential centre in Southam.

We were served a splendid breakfast at the high school, which had been opened as a rescue centre, before arriving home in the middle of the morning, the day after we'd expected to return.

I'm sure there is a message in this story, in fact two. The first is that we are survivors. Second, the girls were praised by many people – those who were assisting us, and the other passengers in the coaches – for their demeanour during the night – so we must be doing something right.

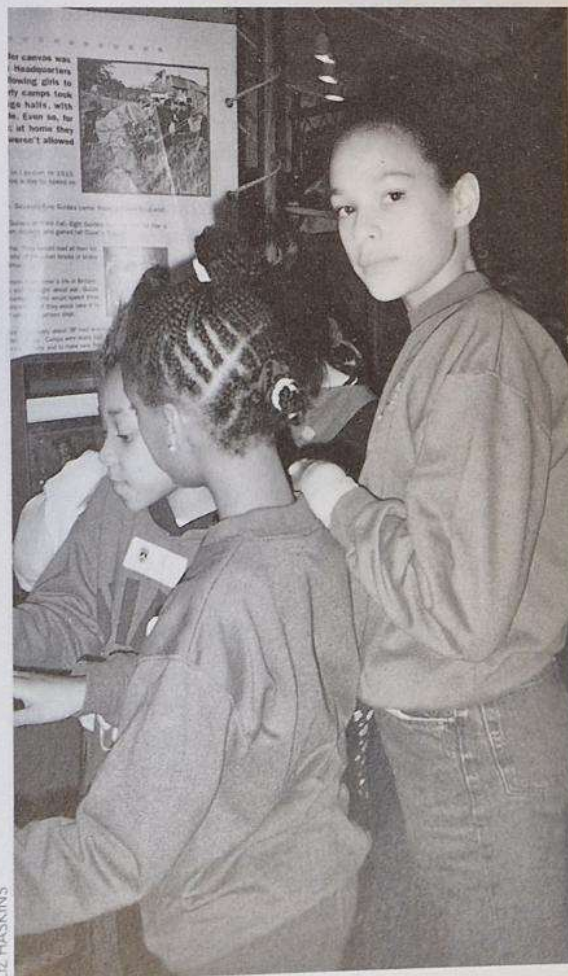
It also shows that those girls who stayed with us during the time of small numbers and doubts have

learned how to be Guides, even when we were unsure of the quality of our work.

We still don't know how long the revival will last. It could, of course, all collapse next week. If it does, it will be a tragedy, but I know I would not feel the devastation I would have felt had I not given it another try. I would be comforted by the fact that more girls have had an opportunity to be Guides than would have done, if we had given in four years ago.

We believe in ourselves, others believe in us, and each meeting offers a little more time to bring these benefits to even a few girls who surely deserve it. ♡

Hanging out at the Heritage Centre



LIZ HASKINS

voice off

The world is changing so fast that we all need to be aware of what young people are thinking and saying

Research by Catherine Dell

Guiders may confidently claim that they know what the girls in their units think about most things. But Guiding is just one influence in the girls' lives. To really understand them, we need to be aware of the chorus of other voices shaping what they are thinking, saying and doing.

Here we report on what some members of Guides' peer groups have to say on society, education, work, the family and leisure. It will give you plenty to think about.

Citizenship and politics

For four out of five young people, community is no longer about neighbourhood — largely because in the late 1990s 'everyone keeps themselves to themselves'.

● 'You look after number one, no-one's got time for anyone else now.'

● 'I think that community is... all the people in the school or if you have a job, the people who work with you, your friends, your family.'

● 'I don't like politics... I'm not interested at all... I think everything will be a lie.'

● 'It makes no difference who you vote for — they're all the same.'

● 'Voting matters because you've got to try and change things, haven't you?'

● 'I'd feel a hypocrite if I voted because I don't know enough, I don't understand enough to go out there and say "Yes, I'd like this person to win the election".'

● 'I was attracted to pressure groups because they seem to be doing things rather than talking about them.'

Education

What is it like to be at the receiving end of 'education, education, education'?

● 'I did childcare in the fifth year, which was very helpful because I fell pregnant when I was 18... That was the only thing that was helpful for me from school. Nothing else.'

● 'I felt that school had nothing to do with what I wanted to make a career of.'

● 'People are going to be learning about computers from a young age and that's the only thing they're going to learn. Communication skills... are going to go out of the window... When you're on the computer as a youngster, who are you communicating with?'

● 'Half the time the teachers just give you what you're doing and they don't pay no attention to you...'

they're not bothered because they're getting paid at the end of the day. They've got their job already, what do they care?'

● 'I went to university. It was very, very pressurised and I think if you're not 100 per cent, you're going to struggle. I had to work 24 hours a day, all Saturday and Sunday, all my time I was working, every hour of the day, I hardly slept, it was just incredible pressure.'

● 'Every teenager, at certain stages, feels it's all getting too much with all you should be doing. Everyone expects so much of you. You think "I'm gonna do well, I've got to get myself together", there is so much to do.'

● 'If it was financially worthwhile to study, then I wouldn't deal drugs.'

● 'You don't need a degree to get a job, but there's so much competition now that if you have one you stand a better chance.'

● 'At the end of the day, you may have a PhD and a BA honours... and then when it comes to it they're going to say either you're overqualified or there's just no jobs for you...'

Work

How do young people see the world of work? Most seem committed to the idea of work and regard having a job as important — a means of not only earning money but also of contributing to society and achieving some self-fulfilment.

● 'Work is... doing something beneficial, worthwhile towards society, towards humanity and getting a reward for it.'

● 'It gives people a sense of self-achievement.'

● 'I wouldn't mind winning the Lottery but... I'd still want to work.'

● 'I want to work in jobs that I enjoy, not because I need the money... obviously the money is important, but to me, job satisfaction is far greater.'

● 'Once you're in a job you're best to stay there whether you like it or not, because at least your money's coming in... because you're not going to get another one... you're lucky to have one.'

● 'The thing that I'm scared of is, say if I got laid off, I've got nothing



CHRISTIAN AID

Playing their part: Young campaigners taking part in the Global March Against Child Labour as it passes through London

nothing to help me get another job... I've got no other skill.'

● 'A lot more people won't bother going to school because they realise... no matter how many qualifications you've got, there's going to be a computer that can do that job more effectively.'

● 'I enjoy being on the dole now because it's teaching me to struggle... (unemployment) is such an important lesson to learn that you cannot get on in life without learning that lesson first. You've got to learn to survive.'

● 'I don't want to be on the Social, I hate it... It is so degrading, I want some pride back. Do you know my daughter, she says, "Uncle Jason goes to work, granddad goes to work, daddy goes to sign on." I am just so embarrassed about it.'

Relationships

Divorce, separation and bereavement, as well as non-standard lifestyles, mean that today's youngsters live in a variety of family structures. What do young people feel about family and other close relationships?

● 'Parents represent stability and reliability. If the relationship is right you can be truthful and tell them where you're going rather than lie. There has to be trust.'

● 'I think children need quality time with their parents more than anything else, and they need to know how you feel about them... Just to show them love really. You don't have to have money or material things — just to show them as much of your love as possible.'

● 'I never had someone like my Mum or Dad to sit down and have a conversation with me — "How are you doing at school, what have you done today, what did you have for dinner, did you do reading" — you know, silly things like that.'

● 'Any dreams you have are soon gone when you find yourself living alone in a small flat with a wee bairn.'

● 'It makes things easier if you're a married couple rather than a single parent... I think people treat you better for a start. I remember being on a bus, when I had my first daughter. People would look at my finger to see if there was a ring.'

● 'I'd like to have someone with me, but I wouldn't like to get married, because the main person in my life is me, and always will be me... I wouldn't like to have this person take over my life.'

● 'It's been much better (since they divorced) because you have two Christmases, two birthdays and two Easters.'

● 'I think (in the future) a lot more people will live together... some people are thinking that marriage is a little bit old-fashioned, a waste of money, a bit insecure, you know — no point any more because most of them fail.'

Time off

Young people are not really the lazy, couch-potato generation they are made out to be. Given the opportunity, many are keen to take part in sport, leisure activities and hobbies — although inadequate facilities, lack of transport and not enough money are ongoing obstacles, as are the pressures of study or work.

● 'Kids are getting lazier and lazier, there's so many gadgets around... they're sitting in front of their computers all day.'

● 'Apart from swimming and badminton I do a lot of hill walking... I go to the Lake District, Scotland, Wales and the Dales at least once a month.'

● 'They're cutting back on libraries, swimming pools, all that sort of thing — it's not right. There's nothing for children at all...'

● 'I would like to play music (go to classes), but I can't... because I haven't got the money — I can't get there.'

● 'You've never got spare time... You go to school, you come back from school, you have dinner, you do your homework, you watch a bit of TV and then you go to bed.'

● '(I take my kids swimming) but I can't afford to swim as well, so I just buy a ticket to watch. But I do go to the cinema sometimes. My friend works there and so she gets me in for nothing.'

Drugs

Today's youth culture is, of course, dominated by drug abuse — often

combined with clubbing. Government surveys suggest that up to 50 per cent of under-25s have experimented with drugs and that as many as 2m Ecstasy tablets are taken each week.



NEIL PATTERSON

● '(Clubbing) is a combination of things, because you go out with your mates and dance with your mates, but in a way, you're in your own world... people don't expect you to fit in with anyone else, to conform...'

● 'It's almost like it's the minority now who have never tried drugs, where it used to be just the minority that had tried drugs. You expect it from people. It's part of the conversation.'

● 'If you're insecure anyway, or you've got a problem... and someone comes to you and says, "I've got something, what do you want?"... It's just a way of escaping or pushing yourself to a certain limit.'

● 'Young people aren't satisfied with what's out there... We are aware that we need something else but I don't know if taking three pills a night is the right way to go.'

● 'Crime and drugs are the same thing. They are the two main problems for the future.'

Making it work: At 24, Claire Ward, MP for Watford, was the youngest woman elected to Parliament

Most of the material quoted comes from *Speaking Up Speaking Out*, the 2020 Vision Programme Research Report published by The Industrial Society. Other resources include *Never Had It So Good* (British Youth Council) and *The Can-Do Girls* (Adrienne Katz).

momentous occasion

Two Guides were presented with their B-P Awards at the House of Commons

By Jan Clampett

'I like it when someone has the guts to write and ask me to do something.' This was how Mo Mowlam, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, explained her decision to present Baden-Powell Trefoil Awards to two 15-year-old Guides from Dudley Division. She went on to say: 'I don't usually see normal people. Going into M & S to buy my knickers is about the only normal thing I do these days.'

It's hardly surprising, given the Secretary of State's punishing schedule. She spends most of the week in Northern Ireland, one day in London and another in her constituency of Redcar, Cleveland. Then she often has to 'pop' back to

first thought was that I had been caught speeding. I was thrilled when I read the letter.

'I wrote to Mo Mowlam after reading an article about her in my local paper in which it said that she had been a Queen's Guide.'

Arrangements were made for the presentation to take place at Coventry HQ, as the Minister was spending a few days with her parents who live in the area.

Both Sarah Pearson of 1st Dudley Wood (St John's) and Eleanor Lester of 1st Netherton (St Andrews) had seen Dr Mowlam on

Parade, Big Ben and Downing Street for real,' she said.

Everyone arrived at the Northern Ireland Office at the appointed time — except the Minister, who'd been attending to urgent business at the House of Commons. So, after a reviving drink, the party headed for the Palace of Westminster.

While waiting for the Minister, the group was taken on a mini-tour by DC Chris Pitcher — a plain-clothes policeman whose mum had been a Guide and was proud of it.

Then, at last, the Secretary of State slipped into the room and started chatting to everyone as if they were old friends. She apologised for the rescheduling, congratulated Sarah and Eleanor on their achievements and, before presenting them with their awards, slipped off her glasses and popped them in Olwyn's top pocket.

Her relaxed style soon put everyone at ease and lots of group photos were taken with the Minister directing the proceedings enthusiastically.

She spoke of the fun she'd had as a Guide and explained why her 14 year-old step-daughter, Henrietta, isn't a Guide. 'Henrietta doesn't have time to do ordinary things, because she is moving about so much,' she said.

Henrietta and brother Fred, spend weekdays with their mother and weekends with Dr Mowlam and her husband, Jon Norton.

'That's the trouble with divorce,' Dr Mowlam said, 'children's lives are split between two homes. It can make things like Guiding difficult.'

Both Sarah and Eleanor have been Guides of the Year and are planning to become Young Leaders.

Sarah wants to train as a primary school teacher and Eleanor thinks she might go into accounting. But, with a role model such as Dr Mowlam, who knows what careers they eventually might consider. ■

That's my Guide! Guiders, Gloria Moy (left) and Olwyn Grainger are proud of Sarah's (second left) and Eleanor's achievements



BILL JOHNSTON PHOTOGRAPHY



BILL JOHNSTON PHOTOGRAPHY

Take a break: Relaxing in Mo Mowlam's Northern Ireland Office

London for important debates in the House of Commons.

All of which makes it even more amazing that when Dudley Division's PRA, Gloria Moy first wrote to Dr Mowlam with her request, she received a positive reply within two weeks. Gloria explained: 'When I saw the crest on the envelope, my

television and were a little nervous of meeting her.

Unfortunately, the day before the presentation was due to take place, arrangements had to be abandoned because Dr Mowlam was delayed in Belfast. But she was adamant that she didn't want to cancel altogether, so the event was rescheduled.

Days off were reorganised and Gloria, who is Sarah's Guider; Eleanor's Guider, Olwyn Grainger; and assorted family members and friends boarded the coach bound for London.

It was Eleanor's first trip to the capital. 'I've seen it on television, but now I've visited Horse Guards

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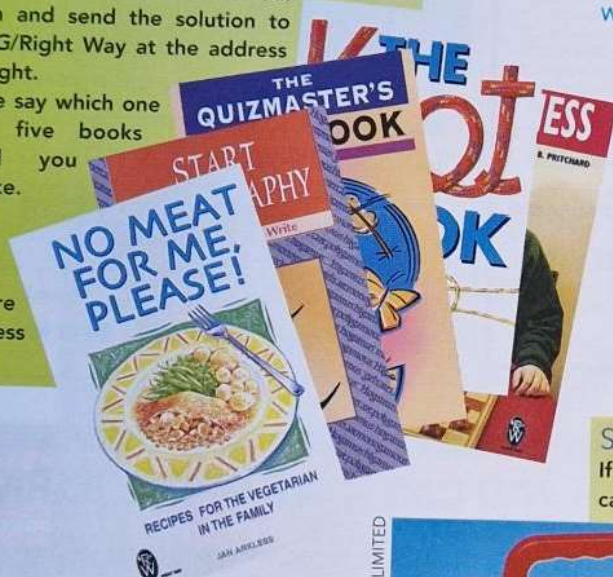
They cover a wide range of subjects as the five titles shown here demonstrate — *Begin Chess* has long been a best-seller; *Start Calligraphy* is brand new; *The Quizmaster's Quiz Book* is also new; *No Meat for Me, Please* tackles veggie meals for one; *The Knot Book* ties up everything.

Competitively priced at £3.99 each, Right Way books are available from all good bookshops, or contact the publisher direct on 01737 832202.

GUIDING has 30 books to give away. For a chance to win one, answer our question and send the solution to **GUIDING/Right Way** at the address below right.

Please say which one of the five books featured you would like.

How many squares are there on a chess board?



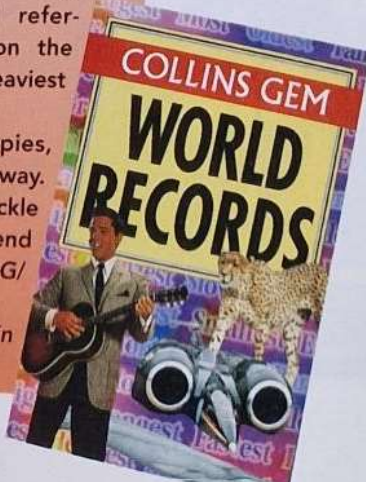
Who, which and what?

Did you know that the Angel of the North is the largest sculpture in the UK... that the Pronghorn antelope is the fastest land mammal over long distances... that *Candle in the Wind* (1997 version) is the biggest selling single ever?

These facts — and hundreds of others — feature in *Collins Gem World Records* — a pocket-sized reference book that focuses on the lightest, longest, highest, heaviest and all the other-ests.

GUIDING has five copies, worth £3.99 each, to give away. For a chance to win one, tackle our question below and send your answer to **GUIDING/Records** at the address right.

Who re-recorded *Candle in the Wind* last year?



THE BODY SHOP



Inside story

If you're a Body Shop addict, have you ever wondered: do they use real fruit in their products; how they check for safety, if they don't test on animals; does Anita Roddick really go to places like Amazonia...?

Well, here's your chance to find out — we've an invitation for Brownies, Guides and

their leaders to take an 80-minute tour of the Body Shop factory in Littlehampton, West Sussex at the reduced price of £1.50 per child (5-16 years) and £2.50 per adult.

These 'special offer' tours — for groups of 20-30 persons — must be taken on Monday, Wednesday or Thursday evenings between October 1, 1998 and February 28, 1999, and must be booked in advance. More details on 01903 844044.

What's in a name?

Seasonal sparkle

If the unit is planning to make it's own Christmas cards, panto posters and decorations, these new

products from Bostik could be really useful.

Look out for glitter paints, neon poster paints and two exciting Glitter and Paint sets. The junior set is aimed at two to six-year-olds, while the deluxe version (shown here) is for older children.

BOSTIK LIMITED



It features six bright poster paints; four glitter paints; brushes; stencils and an eye-catching red carry case.

All the products are available from leading newsagents and stationers and they are solvent-free, washable and non-toxic.

GUIDING has ten deluxe sets, worth £4.99 each, to give away. For a chance to win one, send the answer to the following question to **GUIDING/Glitter** at the address on the right.

Which two colours mixed together make green?

Talking cancer

Although cancer is rare in young people, it can happen — hence Cancerlink's *I'm still me*, a young person's guide to cancer.

Aimed at 16-24 year-olds with cancer, this 64-page book provides lots of factual information, plus comments from other young people affected by cancer.

It examines the disease stage by stage — from diagnosis right through to going back to college or work — and it also covers the tricky emotional aspects such as the reaction of family and friends.

I'm still me costs £5, but is free to any young person with cancer. Contact Cancerlink at 11-21 Northdown Street, London, N1 9BN. There is also a free helpline for young people affected by cancer on 0800 591028.



Bake a brighter future

Last month Jane Asher — President of the National Autistic Society — launched the Society's Nice and Sweet Challenge, which continues until the end of this month.

The Challenge invites everyone to bake cakes and cookies and then sell them in aid of the Society's vital

work for families affected by autism.

Autism, still a relatively unknown disability, affects a person's ability to communicate, interact socially and use imagination. It is estimated to touch the lives of over 500,000 families across the UK.

To take part in Nice and Sweet, phone the Challenge Hotline on 0115 911 3370.



Jane Asher with the Challenge mascot, Mr Nice and Sweet

Christmas shopping spree

Once again, the hugely popular Country Style Festival Fair provides a perfect opportunity for some hassle-free Christmas shopping.

With over 300 stands — selling festive food, jewellery, stocking fillers, Christmas decorations, toys and much, much more — there's something for everyone. So, why not go along and solve all your Christmas present problems in one go?

The Fair, at Birmingham's NEC, is on from November 19-22. Tickets are cheaper if booked in advance — and there's a special offer. Pre-book three tickets and get one free. Call the ticket hotline on 0121 767 4151.

GUIDING has 20 pairs of tickets (worth £14 per pair) to give away. To enter the prize draw, answer our question and send your solution to **GUIDING/Fair** at the address below.

What does NEC stand for?

Cookies for Christmas



NEW ENGLAND DIRECT

All competition answers on postcards please. Send them to **GUIDING** 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT to arrive by October 31.



OXFAM

Go bananas with Mark Little and support the Fast

Friday fast

The focus of this year's Oxfam fast is Fair Trade — making sure that people in poorer countries get a just price for their products, whether coffee or cotton, pepper or peanuts or bananas. In fact, Oxfam is currently backing the development of a Fair Trade banana for the EU market.

On Fast Day, Friday November 13, either give up something for the day — television, talking, school uniform... — and get sponsored. Or get together with friends and do

without something you'd enjoy, such as a lunch, and donate the money saved.

Registering for the event is easy. Either call the Oxfam Fastline on 0345 585783 or write to Oxfam Fast, Freepost, 274 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7YZ.

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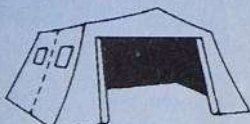
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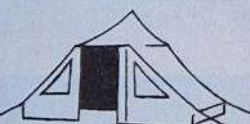
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staying on message

Gaining positive media coverage for Guiding is something we should all aim for but, sometimes, it is the media's turn to make the running and not always with positive coverage in mind.

Picture the scene. The phone rings, a journalist is on the line who seems to have his own agenda. He thinks he knows the facts and has his own, preconceived ideas about how he wants to portray Guiding. And it may be in a negative way.

If it's you on the other end of the line and you are being asked to give a media interview, respond to a journalist in an emergency or crisis situation, or set up a photocall with an apparently 'difficult' snapper, here's some advice and tips to put you in control, thus turning a potentially negative situation into a positive one.

Of course, the call always seems to come when you've just sat down to a family Sunday lunch, or when you're at your busiest at work. The journalist from the *Hinterland Gazette* fires off details about Humpty Dumpty, who has just joined a local Rainbow Unit and has been seriously injured falling off a wall during a Guiding activity.

'What's the Association's line on this?' he asks. It's the first you've heard of it and you haven't got a clue. But it is vital to give yourself time. Don't ever be pressured into giving an off-the-cuff comment.

Even the most innocent or throw-away remark made in haste – without full information or expert help – may give the journalist what he is looking for. It's amazing how different a quote can look when edited or put into a different context.

Explain that you are not able to respond at present and get his name

and contact details. Ask about his deadline – the time by which he needs the information or comment. Assure him that you, or someone else, will get back to him by then.

Next, contact a local Commissioner who will liaise with her PR Adviser and can tell you how to handle the call. If you can't contact anyone before reaching the journalist's deadline, call him back and tell him that you have been unable to find the information he requires. Then try to negotiate for more time.

If no more time is available, say that the Association is currently looking into the situation and will be giving a comment as soon as possible. And continue to try to contact your Commissioner.

You must help journalists to meet their deadlines. They have a job to do and, if you are difficult or unprepared to help them, they are very unlikely to say anything favourable about the Association.

Should you be giving a media interview, it is important that you should establish your key messages before the interview to avoid negative messages and stereotypes.

Ask what sort of an interview it will be and prepare thoroughly. Think of four positive messages, rehearse them and be determined to get them into the interview, whatever happens. Turn the interviewer's questions around to make your point.

For example, if you are asked: 'The 1st Sunderdill Guide unit is due to close, is this because women no longer have an interest in getting involved in Guiding?', you could reply: 'Today's woman often has many tasks to juggle – a job, a home, a family. And she doesn't always have a lot of spare time. But

for women like these Guiding can give...' and go on to talk about the fun, friendship and skills which can be gained through Guiding.

It is vitally important, however, that the key messages which we give out as Association members are the same. This is why good internal communications are so important – they help you to present a united front to the outside world and to give a positive and professional image.

Imagine that the message that your area intends to give out is 'Grass is green'. You must make sure you know what line is being taken, and that everyone else knows it, too, and is well briefed. That way no one is caught out saying that grass is red.

Remember that the messages you put out should be designed to dispel the myths and common misconceptions about Guiding.

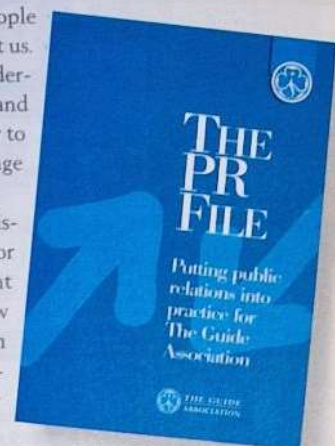
It is always important to cooperate with journalists. Without them, people wouldn't hear about us. So be helpful, understand their needs, and they are more likely to give you the coverage you want.

Your Commissioner, PR Adviser or the PR Department at CHQ all know how to work with the media successfully. Draw on their experience and knowledge whenever possible to get the best for Guiding.

● For anyone interested in knowing more about working with the media, the *PR File*, available from Trading Service priced £4.95, will give you an excellent basis.

Good PR isn't always about chasing publicity...

By Jackie Bennett Shaw
Public Relations Manager



residential events

Trainings take place at centres around the UK throughout the year. Any Guider or Young Leader can attend, whether on her own or as part of a group. It may be possible to help you make contact with others travelling from your area to any of these events. Please contact the centre for further details.



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Arts weekend

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Ready, steady, go Guiding

..... November 6-8
Stages I and II. A confidence-building, inspirational training for new Guiders.

Guide Guiders

..... November 20-22
A dash of this and a pinch of that — guaranteed to spice up your programme.

Rainbow and Brownie Guiders

..... January 15-17
Make a note in your diary — and get the new year off to a flying start.

Senior Section Guiders and Advisers

..... January 22-24

Waddow — 01200 423186

Grandparent(s) with Grandchild(ren)

..... October 21-23, 26-29
Activities, outings, crafts and games.

Programme ideas for Rainbow, Brownie and Guide Guiders

..... November 3-5
Midweek training, crèche available.

Trading Training

..... November 10-12

Programme ideas for Rainbow, Brownie and Guide Guiders

..... November 13-15

Knotting workshop

..... November 13-15

Camp site wardens

..... November 16-18
Midweek training.

Developing a successful unit team

..... November 27-29
For a team of four — two Patrol Leaders and two others (Guide Guider, Young Leader...). Some help available with fees.

Secretaries and registration secretaries training

..... November 30-December 1
Midweek training.

Foxlease — 01703 282638

Music and crafts for all seasons

..... October 16-18
An opportunity to try out crafts and musical skills to take back to your unit.

The Commissioner as a Manager

..... November 17-19
An opportunity to develop and refine the skills you need to manage your team, your time and your trepidation!

Camp site/holiday house wardens and chairmen

..... November 24-26
Are you involved with your Guide camp site or holiday house? Get up to date with current health and safety legislation and other issues of joint concern.

1st response and basic food hygiene

..... December 2-4

Programme ideas for all sections

..... December 11-13
Treat yourself to a special pre-Christmas training. Come with a group or alone.

Lots of ideas, a Christmas meal and a special low price for this weekend only.

New Year house party

..... December 29-January 2
Activities on offer will suit all tastes from 14-104 year-olds. Families with children over 14 are welcome. Cost £112 per person, £80 for those under 26.

Programme ideas for all sections

..... January 15-17
Lots of activity ideas and ways of putting these into practice in your unit.

Guiders and Patrol Leaders

..... January 22-24
A training for Guide Guiders with up to four Patrol Leaders. Sessions in separate groups and together.

Hautbois — 01603 737357

Working together in teams

..... November 20-22
There's space for just one more team from either a District or Division to join this weekend and gain useful ideas. Share with other, similar teams.

Conservation weekend with Forester badge

..... November 27-29
A worthwhile weekend on a tree theme costing just £30 for any Guides needing an outdoor badge, Woodcraft or Science and Technology emblems, those who need to attend a residential event, or even to complete a service project for their Baden-Powell Trefoil.

It would also be useful for Rangers and Young Leaders who are working on their Queen's Guide.

Guiders are welcome to join the course.

New Year house party — the Cadfael Experience!

..... December 29-January 2
Join us and enjoy the Cadfael Experience through games, puzzles, quizzes, mysteries and videos. There may also be a visit to the ruins of a Benedictine monastery to find out more about the setting for the popular Ellis Peters novels.

Please telephone or write to the Manager of the appropriate centre for further details. To apply, ring the Centre direct. The addresses and phone numbers are listed on page 52.

official

directory

CAMPING AND HOLIDAYS

SOUTH OF ENGLAND

GILWELL PARK

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



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♦ BRACKNELL ♦

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TEL: 01753 882640 FAX: 01753 884108
Email: chalfont@tdial.pipex.com



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Contact Pax Lodge for details of prices and session programmes.

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Kingsdown International Scout Campsite,
The Avenue, Kingsdown,
Deal, Kent CT14 8DU

Tel: 01304 373713
Fax: 01304 375202



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or E Mail - thriftwood@btinternet.com
Details from: Bill Hindley, Deskrie Shiel,
Alexander Lane, Brentwood, CM13 1AG
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Ideal for Brownie Pack. Holidays!
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Information SAE to Dennis Patient,
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Tel No: 01686 688 204 FAX: 01686 688244

guides with 'battitude'

**Bats need
more friends
like the
girls of 4th
Muswell Hill**

It may not have been ideal weather for bats, but the bright August sunshine was absolutely perfect for the launch of the 'Highgate gets Battitude' campaign.

Funded by Bridge House Estates Trust, the campaign was organised by the Bat Conservation Trust and the Corporation of London in order to raise awareness of the bats in the Highgate Wood area and to dispel some of the myths that

surround the creatures.

The 4th Muswell Hill Guides were on hand to help put up bat boxes and 12-year-old Diana Watts played her part, dressed as a bat. In the evening, there was a bat walk for members of the public to discover the bats of Highgate Wood.

'The Guides made the bat boxes in May as part of their Green Trefoil,' said Guider Liz Crane. 'We contacted the Bat Conservation Trust and asked if they would like to use our boxes and they put us in touch with Highgate Wood, who were delighted with them.'

The unit visited the woods in June with Julia Hanmer of the North London Bat Group and were able to identify a new bat roost and the bats colonising it. The Guides were able to see a bat close up —

'I had never realised just how small bats really are!' admitted Guide Che Kapfumvuti.

Pipistrelle bats are so small they would fit in a match box if their wings were wrapped around them to keep warm. Yet just one of these tiny bats can eat up to 3,000 insects a night. That's a lot of midges!

'Bats are an endangered species. It was a wonderful opportunity to take part in a conservation project such as this,' said Liz. 'The event in June took place as a direct result of the Guides donating the boxes and was not open to the public.'

The August launch was the start of a campaign to raise awareness of bats and their decline. As the use of pesticides increases, more of the bats' roosting places are destroyed.

The Bat Conservation Trust is planning more events in the future in Highgate Wood.

● For information about bats and the address of your local bat group, write to The Bat Conservation Trust, Freepost Lon 10138, London SW8 4BR, enclosing a sae.

Answers please:
4th Muswell Hill
Guides with
their Battitude
survey forms at
the launch of
the campaign



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NorJam, 99 Eaton Vale, Church Lane,
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GUIDES CYMRU - RUSSIA FUNDRAISER

	No.	Size	
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Sweatshirts (Navy) (S, M, L, XL, XXL) @ £16.00ea			£ .
P&P @ £1.50 1st item then, 50p thereafter			£ .
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"Jenny Davies - Sweatshirt account"
16 Garreg Drive, Welshpool,
Powys, SY21 7HX.

raising awareness

Now that Girl Scouting in Russia is developing very quickly, the UK's links with the fledgling association are more important than ever. That's one reason why the weekend of October 31-November 1 has been selected as National Russia Awareness Day.

The Association hopes that every Guider will tell her unit about our Russian connection and organise a special event – or evening – with a circus theme over the two days.

Free activity and information leaflets have been supplied to each District to help you get started.

The timing coincides with the anniversary of RADS – that's Russian Dyevachaka (Girl) Scouts – first national conference in Perm in 1996. Scouting began again in the late 1980s, after the fall of communism, but in the 1990s girls and women decided they wanted their own organisation again.

At that first Conference, in 1996, RADS chose as their Promise: 'On my honour, I promise to do everything that depends on me to fulfil my duty to my country; to strive towards spiritual perfection; to help those who need my help and live according to the Girl Scout Laws'.

They also adopted a World Trefoil in outline, with three snowdrops in the centre as their badge, which echoed the original Russian Guide badge – a snowdrop with three petals. The petals stood for the three-fold Promise.

A design for a uniform was also agreed – navy waistcoat and culottes worn with a white shirt and

a blue necker with red, white and blue striped edge.

However, as money is tight, they are concentrating on providing

members raise £1,000s each year for worthy causes but, if Guiding does not support its own good causes, who will?

There are lots of interesting ways in which your unit can find out more about Russian Guiding



Exchange trips between the UK and Russia have already taken place

programme and training materials, handbooks for both girls and leaders and improving communication between units. But lack of cash has not prevented RADS expanding. The country was originally divided into five regions but this has now been increased to eight.

Each of the UK Countries and Regions has its own Russian Coordinator and links between them and the Russian regions have been established (see *Big top skills* in May's *GUIDING*).

Now it's time to get more people involved through the Russia Awareness Day. Turn to page 38 for a host of activity ideas with a Russian flavour.

Organisers are hoping that there will be a fundraising element to the events members organise, with the money used to give Girl Scouting a boost. It is difficult to send parcels to RADS' regions, but money – new dollars – can be taken into the country or the cash could help cover the cost of sending over Trainers or other development workers.

Barbara Mathieson, a CHQ Executive Assistant, said: 'We don't want members to think "Oh no, not another fundraising event." Our

'Speak to people outside Guiding about what you are doing. Tell work colleagues, teachers at your child's school and the local papers. It will help change their perceptions of Guiding and you will be helping to cement the link.'

● When Coordinators visited Russia in March – helped by a donation from Charity Know How – the Russians liked the idea of an awareness weekend so much, they are holding a UK Awareness Weekend at the same time.

Bargain offers

Some Countries and Regions are producing goods for sale in support of their work with Russia.

● Wales is selling exclusive polo shirts and sweatshirts with an embroidered logo. For more details contact Jenny Davies, 16 Garreg Drive, Welshpool, Powys SY21 7HX. See ad on p22.

● North West England are selling cross-stitch kits for a RADS badge for £6 and friendship knots at £1. These are available from Mrs M Cunningham, 49 Shakespeare Drive, Cheadle, Stockport, SK8 2BZ.

● Please include a sae for both.



Need any help?

If you want to find out more about Russia Awareness or you need help with activity ideas, send an A4 self-addressed envelope with a 26p stamp to Barbara Mathieson, Guiding Development, The Guide Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT. Alternatively, visit the web site at: <http://www.homeusers.prestel.co.uk/bitterley/>

notices

Association Awards

STAR OF MERIT

Miss Rebecca Hems

Brownie Guide

1st Wem, Shropshire

Miss Emma Phillips

Guide

1st Rustington, Sussex West

LAUREL

Mrs Valerie Seldon

Guide Guider

5th Horley

Assistant County Commissioner

Outdoor Activities Adviser,

Surrey East

Animals and fireworks don't mix

In spite of warnings every year about the dangers of fireworks, the PDSA deals with many injuries to pets and wildlife following Bonfire Night festivities.

Follow their advice and make sure your pets aren't injured or traumatised.

Exercise a dog well before dark then shut it in a room with the comforting sound of the television or radio left on.

Keep a cat shut in the house with a litter tray and move rabbit or guinea pig hutches into the garage or shed, if possible. If not, cover with heavy sacking or a blanket to protect the creatures from smoke and noise.

Always search bonfires before lighting in case a cat or hedgehog has hidden itself there.

Have fun at the fair

The 32nd Commonwealth Fair, which helps to support the Commonwealth Countries League Education Fund, will take place on Saturday, November 7.

Held at Kensington Town Hall, it runs from 10.30am-4.30pm.

The Fund enables academically-gifted girls who live in financially-disadvantaged countries to be able to complete their secondary education.

Shop and eat your way around the fair, where there will be an unusual array of handicrafts, produce and home-cooking.

Water safety game

So many tragic accidents occur near water each year that any fun activity that can impress water safety on Brownie- and Rainbow-age children is welcome.

Published by British Waterways and endorsed by RoSPA, the *Rosie and Jim Water Safety* leaflet/game would provide a starting point for a discussion of canalside dangers with your girls.

Copies of the leaflet are available free from British Waterways' Customer Services on 01923 201120.

Half-term 'Y Files'

For children of six and over, the return of *The Y Files* to London's Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood this half-term is good news.

The hour-long performance trail features eccentric agents Mildew and Scally, in whose company young visitors experience 'bizarre and extraordinary happenings'.

Performances are three times a day, October 24 to 31 (except Friday and Sunday), and all seats are £1.

To check details ring the recorded information line: 0181 980 2415.

Magnificent mince pies

Mencap is asking members to entertain others this Christmas by carol singing or holding a Magnificent Mince Pie party to help raise £100,000 for children and adults with learning difficulties.

There will be prizes awarded for the most original ideas and for top fund-raising groups.

For a pack containing everything from tins to song sheets, mince pie recipes to invitations, call 0645 777 779 or fax 0171 696 5540.

Landmines: the human cost

You still have time to catch the Landmines exhibition at the Royal Armouries Museum, Leeds, where it will run until October 11.

Landmines: the Human Cost is mounted in association with the UN. It has been designed to help visitors understand the complex issues surrounding the present debate and a section is devoted to the work of Diana, Princess of Wales, who focused world attention on the indiscriminate suffering caused by landmines.

Volunteer teachers wanted

Christian Aid is looking for volunteer teachers to help the society with its work in schools.

If you are retired from teaching, but could give a few hours each month to visit schools to talk about world development issues within the curriculum – and where Christian Aid resources fit into this work – the charity will support you both with induction and ongoing training.

For more details contact Margaret Bevis, Christian Aid volunteer teachers coordinator on 0171 523 2241.

French pen pals?

Encourage young people to keep up written contact with any French youngsters they may have met at international camp, or on holiday, through an ingenious book which contains real letters, envelopes and a mini phrase book.

It's called *Pen Pals A Friendship in French & English*, and is a story about a friendship between a French boy and an English girl.

The letters are in English and in French to help children pick up the phrases needed to correspond with their new friends.

Published by Small Publishing, it is priced £9.99.

Start a heart

The British Heart Foundation's Start a Heart Appeal still needs volunteers to join in or hold events to raise money for its £1 million target.

The Appeal continues until December and aims to buy 400 life-saving defibrillators to be located at local and national venues where large groups of people gather – from football matches to county fairs.

Fundraising ideas and information are available from local BHF offices – which are listed in *Yellow Pages*.

official

life skills

Last autumn, Carole Hardy led a session for the Junior Council on 'Your CV and Guiding'. It seemed appropriate as many of us who are on the Junior Council are at the stage of finishing education and going into the 'real world'.

However, the session was useful even to those not at that stage because it made us recognise the practical skills that we have gained through Guiding.

It can still be helpful to think about your own skills and qualities even if you are not at the stage of filling in application forms and attending job interviews. No one can deny that there is a whole range of skills that we have acquired as Guides, Rangers, Young Leaders and Unit Helpers, but we tend to take such skills for granted.

These skills can be roughly divided into two categories: practical skills such as first aid, and management skills such as planning and organisation.

We were warned that it is vital that we back up what we say either in writing or at interview with concrete examples. For instance, you could claim to have financial skills and demonstrate this by explaining that you have managed the unit accounts. Or, if you are referring to having leadership skills, you could show how these are acquired through holding – or working towards – a warrant.

A word of warning, beware of using Guide Association jargon. How many employers know what a Guider is, let alone what *Making it Count*, a Pack Holiday licence or the Queen's Guide Award entail?

During our session we learned how to translate phrases like 'I'm an Assistant Guide Guider' into clear statements, such as: 'I am an assistant leader with a group of 15

girls aged from 10-15.'

The important thing is to write about your Guiding life in everyday terms that a prospective employer will understand.

It is also essential to think about the qualities you can demonstrate, such as reliability and commitment. Again, these need to be backed up by concrete examples.

During our session we found it very helpful to bounce ideas off one another, asking someone else what they thought our qualities and skills were. It is easy to overlook those things that we have been doing for years and take for granted – or are too modest to mention.

The Guide Association is now becoming much better at selling itself as an organisation that helps develop such qualities, providing girls and women with the skills they will need in their day-to-day lives.

Many of you will have seen the *When the CV says Guiding* leaflet available from CHQ, which quickly summarises for those outside the movement what people in Guiding can achieve.

There has also been a move towards giving Commissioners an opportunity to gain an NVQ management qualification, recognisable outside the Association. It seems that it is now the turn of the members to advertise what they have got out of Guiding.

So, when you fill in that application form or go to that interview, don't sell yourself short. Really think about what skills and qualities you have and the way in which you have used them during your Guiding life.

We found that once we'd started to think about the skills we had as members of the Association, the list became endless!

Take a look through the job

advertisements and see what skills are listed by employers and think how you might demonstrate having these skills using examples from Guiding. Here are a few ideas that I have found.

● **A capacity to motivate people** — how many times have you had to gently prod the Guide who finds everything 'boring'?

● **Customer service skills** — How many enraged parents or awkward girls have you had to take care of?

● **Organisation skills** — this comes into everything, from planning a quick game to organising an international camp.

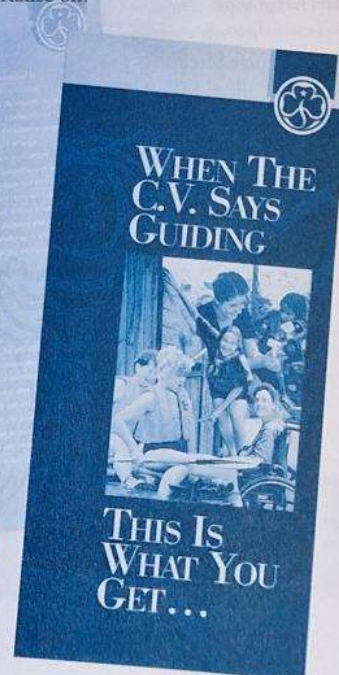
● **The ability to work in a close-knit team** — how often have you had to work as part of a team on camp or Pack Holiday? It's no mean feat to work with the same people 24 hours a day for a week.

● **A sense of humour** — does this really need an illustration?

Guiding is all about giving. We give to the girls and Guiding gives us plenty of opportunities we can capitalise on.

When your CV says Guiding...

By Katrina Bonninga
London and South East
England



throughout the developing world and Eastern Europe to help bring healthcare, education and eventual self-sufficiency to children and communities in need. Support is always given on the basis of poverty and regardless of race, sex or religion

Amie has a Mother & Father who love her...

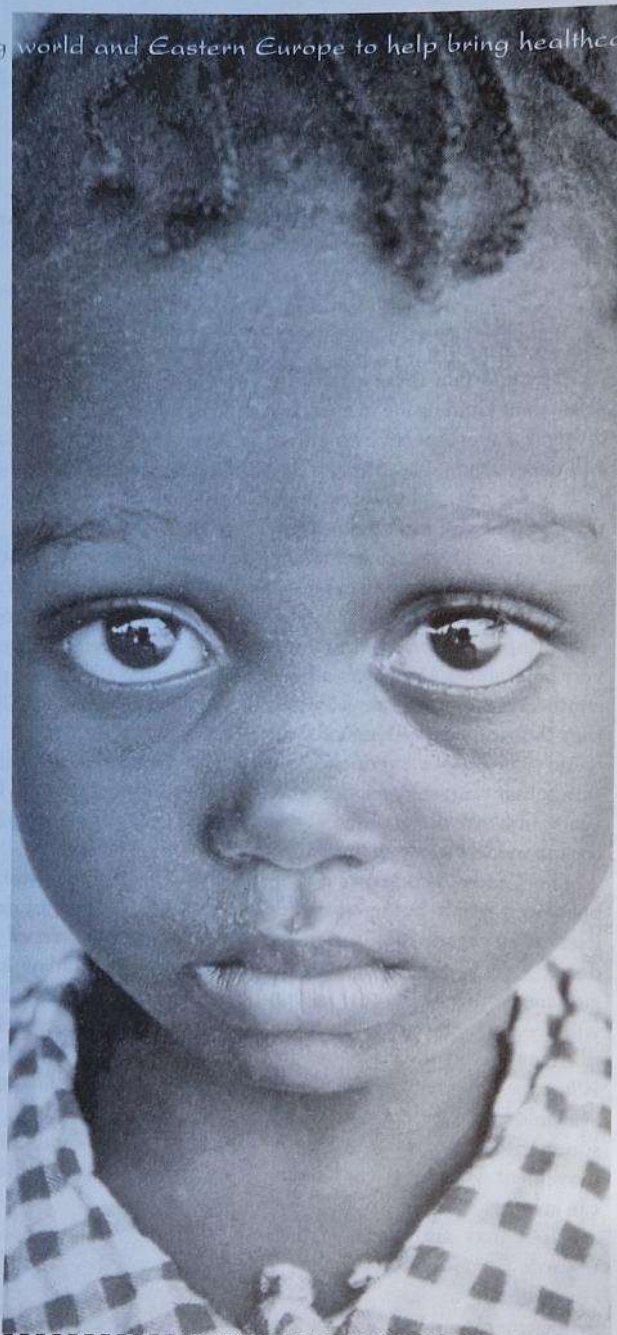
Amie's mother and father would do anything for their little daughter.

But a life of quite unbelievable poverty means that some days the family simply don't even have a crust of bread to share.

They live in The Gambia, one of the least developed countries on earth. However hard they work they have no way of providing for Amie's needs and the future looks bleak.

Can you imagine the pain of having to watch your own child grow up without being able to give her enough food to eat, the simplest of medicines when she falls ill or any books to help her with her learning?

Yet just £15 a month is all it takes to give a child like Amie a very different life. One where she can develop into a happy and healthy child full of hope and vitality. You can help to make that happen.



By sponsoring a child like Amie through Christian Children's Fund you can help her, her family and community to overcome the terrible, soul destroying effects of poverty. Amie would get the nutrition, healthcare and schooling she so desperately needs.

When you become a sponsor you join with thousands of other like-minded people. Together, you will be helping whole communities to fight back against the destructive scourge of poverty. That's the real difference you can make to a child's future - can there be anything more worthwhile and more rewarding?

We know of thousands more little children like Amie who desperately need a sponsor to call their own. Please make that decision today to become a sponsor and bring hope and happiness to another precious child. Thank you.

...so why does she need a sponsor like you?

Just £15 a month can give a child a decent future.

Your sponsorship can be for as long as you wish - six months, a year, or until the child leaves school. You will receive a photo of the child, details of his or her family background, regular progress reports and letters from the child you are supporting.

Yes, I would like to sponsor a child

GUID00

Send to Christian Children's Fund, 4 Bath Place, Rivington Street, London EC2A 3DR or CCF GB, FREEPOST WC4509, London EC2B 2PH (no stamp needed in UK) Tel: 0171 799 8191

My first monthly payment of £15 is enclosed by cheque/Postal Order (cheques made payable to CCF GB) ☐

I prefer a boy ☐ girl ☐ either ☐

I would prefer to pay £15 by Visa / Mastercard / Access / Amex / Diners ☐

In any country OR

Latin America ☐

Eastern Europe ☐

Asia ☐

Bulgaria ☐

Africa ☐

Romania ☐

Caribbean ☐

Russia ☐

Card No:

Valid from: -

Expiry Date: -

Signature for card payments

Name

Please send my information pack today ☐

Address

I cannot sponsor a child but would like to donate a gift of £

Charity Reg. 087545

Postcode



how to...

look after new Guiders

You've had your Recruitment Campaign in your District or Division and now you have some volunteers. Wonderful! So what happens next?

Read on for advice about:

- Ensuring that any volunteers are suitable to work with children and young people.
- Explaining what being a leader means to someone new to Guiding — or to someone who has only experienced Guiding when she was a girl.
- Helping new leaders to choose the section with which they want to work.
- Supporting new leaders in their first few months.

First meeting

It is the responsibility of the District Commissioner to appoint new Guiders and so, whether the prospective Guider is a friend of an existing Guider or someone completely unknown in the District, the first meeting between the District Commissioner and the new volunteer is extremely important.

It should be held on a one-to-one basis and at a time convenient for both of you, also preferably somewhere where there will not be any interruptions.

This is a getting-to-know-you meeting for both Commissioner and volunteer, and so you should find out a little about her:

Chat to her about her family, job, interests, other commitments and any previous Guiding experience or work with children.

Ask her what it is that attracts her to becoming a leader, what she expects from Guiding and what section she is particularly interested in.



Talk about the time she has available. Be honest about the time she will need to commit to Guiding. We all know that it is not 'just one night a week', and it is unfair to let a new recruit assume that it is.

On the other hand, don't frighten her off by talking about weekend trainings, six-week first-aid training courses or Pack Holiday licences at this stage! Simply talk about the preparation needed for unit meetings and about what happens at District Meetings.

Explain, too, that The Guide Association does not throw its leaders in at the deep end. Tell her that there is an induction and training programme, which will help her to develop the skills she needs to work with young people within the Guide programme. If she is doubtful about the time she has available, maybe she would be willing to become a Unit Helper instead.

Explore her views about the Promise. If she has been a Brownie or a Guide, a good way into this subject is to compare the Promise

she made, which she will probably remember, with the new Promise and Law.

If this is her first contact with Guiding, give her time to read the Promise and the Law, then explain that, as a leader, she will need to make this Promise and ask her if she is happy about doing so.

You will also need to explain the Association's Safe From Harm policy to her. At this stage, talk about the Association's policy of making sure its leaders are suitable to work with young people, the need for a W/R form to be completed and for references to be submitted.

You should give her a copy of the form to complete in her own time, as she will need to seek consent from the referees she gives. At the same time you should assure her that confidentiality will be maintained, and that the form and references will be kept by her District Commissioner.

Give her the opportunity to ask questions. You could also mention some of the other resources available, for example *The Guider Handbook*, *GUIDING* and a selection of our other publications.

Give her a copy of the *Trading Service Catalogue*, and a current copy of *GUIDING*. You could also lend her a copy of *The Guider Handbook* and a section handbook so she can browse through them.

The next bit is important: give her time to think about it. You

In the second of our series that is aimed at Commissioners – but packed with good advice for all – we concentrate on cossetting those new Guiders.

Words:

The Commissioner Review Group

Illustrations:

Julie Carpenter

should not ask for a firm commitment at this stage. Instead, arrange another meeting with her in about a month's time.

During this period, she might want an opportunity to visit different units in the District. Look-sees can be useful for those who don't have previous Guiding experience, or who don't know the age group with whom they would like to work. Try to take your recruit along yourself — or delegate the responsibility to another Guider.

The second meeting

At this meeting, you should ask your future leader if she is still willing to become a Guider and the following points should be covered:

- Re-emphasise the personal commitment she will be making in terms of time and training.
- Ask her if she has had any further thoughts about the Promise. Another way into a discussion about the Promise — which many people find difficult to talk about because it is so personal — is to ask her how she would talk about the Promise to the girls. This can open up a way into a discussion of her own views.
- Talk about the aims of Guiding and the Five Essentials, as they relate to all the sections.
- Again, you will need to discuss the Safe From Harm policy, this time as it relates to the girls in her unit. You could look together at the Safe From Harm card,

and discuss the general safety of girls at a unit meeting. You should also look at best practice when doing activities outside the unit meeting place, as well as the issue of abuse.

This will enable you to explore her previous experience with, and interest in,

working with the girls in much greater depth.

● If you are happy with what you have learned about your prospective Guider, you should complete a Pre-warrant appointment card for her, and then talk to her about the Leadership scheme and the various stages she will need to work through to gain her warrant and unit appointment card.

● At this meeting, you could give her the Leadership scheme syllabus, *Personal Record Book*, and information about Welcome to Guiding trainings in your County.

● Make another appointment to meet her — possibly with other, new, pre-warrant Guiders — so that you can start covering some of the clauses of the Leadership scheme together.

Other points to consider

You may need to integrate your new volunteer into an existing unit until she has the confidence to start one herself, or ask another experienced Guider to assist for a short time in a newly-opened unit that is led by new volunteers.

Either way, a new leader can learn a lot about the Programme, as well as other matters such as opening and closing ceremonies, traditional games and songs and so on.

Make sure that new leaders are integrated as soon as possible with others in the District and involve them with District activities — you'll be delighted to discover how enthusiastic new Guiders can be.

Don't forget to include your new leader in your ongoing recruitment campaign, she may have friends who are willing to help.

Safe from harm

The Guide Association places great emphasis on the quality of our leaders, and this is reflected in the procedures for the selecting, training and ongoing supervision of leaders.

In the light of the Association's new Safe From Harm policy, it is even more important to comply with current recruitment procedures which, if followed carefully, will ensure that our adult and young leaders are suitable to work with children and young people.

There is no certain way of identifying a possible abuser. There is always the risk that an adult in a voluntary organisation will abuse for the first time. Although the proportion that do offend is small, we must never become complacent.

The single most effective point at which an organisation can use good management to minimise the possibility of abuse is when volunteers are being selected, although it is also important to ensure that vigilance is also maintained thereafter.

Making an assessment

Throughout the process of selection, the District Commissioner can assess through discussion and observation — as well as from written references — whether the volunteer is suitable to work with girls and young women.

So what should you look for?

- Most importantly, is she willing to make or renew the Promise, and does she agree with the aims, methods and policy of The Guide Association?
- Why does she want to be a Guide leader?
- Will she enjoy working with girls and young women?
- Will she be able to build up relationships with young people?
- She does not need to be Superwoman but is she someone with energy, enthusiasm, a big heart and a sense of humour?
- Will she be tolerant, understanding and patient?
- Will she enjoy Guiding? If she doesn't, then neither will the girls.

Help with this article was given by Liz Pitairn, from the Child Protection Working Group.



seasonal gift

Help distant
Guiding
friends with a
contribution
to the GFF
Christmas
Appeal



YVONNE TEW

Health care is now the priority in Samsani Khui village in Pakistan

This is the time of year when units are planning Christmas celebrations, so it is a good time to encourage your girls to remember friends overseas with a gift to the Guide Friendship Fund Christmas Appeal.

The Fund needs your backing and money-raising skills in order to support two very worthy projects.

This year the Christmas Appeal wants to help the Pakistan Girl Guides Association and the Girl Guides Association of Trinidad and Tobago.

The Pakistan Guides plan to launch a project to provide for the health and welfare of

Vaccination will help keep these rural children healthy

children in Samsani Khui village in the Punjab.

There, the girls have already provided literacy and skills training. Now they want to extend the project to provide a range of health care measures, including immunisation, preventative health care and family planning.

They have raised the money to build a small clinic, but cannot afford to pay medical staff or to buy vaccines and medicines.

The clinic will serve 7,000 women and children who are currently without these facilities in an area where the incidence of polio is rising.

Pakistan is officially classed as a low-income country, where only a quarter of the population are wage earners, and half the rural

population don't have access to safe drinking water.

Trinidad and Tobago has opened an appeal to build a national camp site. Although there have been Guides there for 85 years, so far they have never had a place of their own to camp.

Now the government has donated some forest-covered land. But with a membership of only



YVONNE TEW

Money is needed to staff the small clinic, and for medicines

2,000, it is a struggle for the Association to raise the £250,000 needed to clear the land, put in drainage and lay on water.

Camping is a basic part of Guiding: the girls of Trinidad and Tobago really need this facility so that camping can be offered as a regular part of the programme, thus enabling their association to attract more girls and young women.

● For more information about these two projects write to the Guide Friendship Fund at The Guide Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT. Please remember to enclose a sae.



YVONNE TEW

open door

Change is a fact of life and it always has been. If it were not, we would still be living in caves

But even change is changing, becoming faster and faster — especially over the past few decades.

Sometimes, of course, we instigate change ourselves — restyled hair, new job, different Sunday paper... But, frequently, change is imposed — anything from an altered layout in Sainsbury's, the introduction of clap-happy hymns at church or computerisation at work to the major life crises that hit us, such as bereavement, long-term illness and redundancy.

More often than not, our reaction to the sort of change that is not of our making is to resist it. We like things to stay the way they are, even if that way isn't particularly satisfactory. Maybe we are in a rut

but we're used to it — it's become a habit. And, for most of us, habit and routine are synonymous with structure and security.

But once change has occurred, what's the point of denying or resisting it? Rather than use up our energies being negative, why not channel them into being optimistic, hopeful and open-minded.

Take, for example, when the local paper — a broadsheet since its foundation — turns tabloid, is it really dumbing down? Give it a fair trial and, in the meantime, admit it's easier to hold.

Suppose your new job does mean moving to a different part of the country... Of course you'll miss your friends, but think how much

you'll enjoy having them to stay and introducing them to your new friends.

Although we need to make the best of change, we do know that not all change is for the best. And when it isn't, there's a case for 'constructive opposition' as the politicians would say.

For instance, what happens when the village post office-cum-shop is threatened with closure? Perhaps it won't affect you, but how about the elderly who depend on it?

As a new school year — and with it a new year of Guiding — gets underway, let's take a more positive attitude towards the challenge of change — but also be ready to challenge change if needs be.

In the words of the popular prayer: 'O God, give me the serenity to accept the things that cannot be changed, courage to change the things that should be changed, and wisdom to know the difference'.

CD

coming next

IN NOVEMBER'S GUIDING

Courageous camping

The sun shone a bit too strongly for some, others were hit by wind, rain and floods but nothing stops a Guide enjoying camp life. We have the stories and photos from this year's crop of international camps.

Painless parties

Let GUIDING take the headache

out of running a unit party with some timely tips.

Responsible owners

A selection of activity ideas to teach the girls that pets are for life, not just for Christmas.

Photo finish

We announce the results of our Senior Section photo competition.

Dining out

A Guider recalls the thrill of sharing table talk with the Queen.

Establishing a new unit

Helpful advice on the practicalities of starting up a new unit and the kind of support that is needed.

Growing concern

As the number of sufferers increases, Live Issues focuses on dementia and its most common cause, Alzheimer's.

All wrapped up

Cunning ways in which to disguise and enhance those awkward-shaped Christmas presents.

IN NOVEMBER'S BROWNIE

Wonderful Waddow

Join in the Pack Holiday excitement with a unit whose best days were spent at the Association's Lancashire Activity and Training Centre.

Trendy trash

Create a waste bin to be proud of using decoupage to increase its artistic appeal.

Floral art

Two thoughtful girls use flower

power to cheer up a residential home in this month's fabulous fiction — *The Good Good Turn*.

Choice questions

Follow our step-by-step approach and your answers will guide you to the ideal pet for your family.

Cuddlesome cutie

Brownies will love a chance to win a Cabbage Patch doll and a video in our great competition.

Brighter bedrooms

We've got some simple, but trendy, suggestions for attractive ways to

give a sleep zone a make-over.

Real-life rescue

Find out how orang-utans were saved from the fires and fumes that threatened Indonesia's wildlife.

Giveaways, giveaways...

As ever, we've got some great gifts for the girls, including a homework pack that comes in a rucksack with its own yo-yo, an organiser to keep secrets safe and Winnie the Pooh models to make.

Plus lots of great puzzles to keep the girls busy.

ideas

Programme ideas for October 1998

idea of the MONTH

Units that have been established for many years, may be lucky enough to own their own 'treasures', such as flags; Patrol and Six boxes; log books; toadstools and owls.

A newly-formed unit will gradually build up its own collection of equipment as time goes by. Flags and toadstools can be purchased from funds, but many – more personal – items can be made by unit members. Here are some useful ideas for your treasured unit memories.

Build up your own scrapbook to record special events, activities and outings. Stick in tickets, leaflets and programmes. The girls can add newspaper cuttings, letters... in fact, anything that will remind them of special Guiding times. Each member of the unit can sign the book as she makes her Promise.

A unit tablecloth is an extra-special way to record the members of the unit for posterity. Ask each girl to sign her name on a good quality table cloth. Embroider over the signature with chain stitch to make it permanent.

Appoint a unit photographer to capture all your special moments on film. Stick the photos in an album that you have decorated especially. Be sure to include a photo of each girl at her Promise Ceremony.

Cut Six or Patrol emblems from felt and sew – or stick – them to an old blanket or mat. Use it to sit on during Pow-wows and ceremonies.

■ **Make your own banner to hang up on your meeting nights.** Every member could sign her name on it using a fabric pen.

Suggestions for Guiders of all sections By Gillian Ellis



Capture all your hair-raising moments on film!

CHRIS BOARDMAN

idea

Hold an 'invent your own sandwich' evening.

ideas for...

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Senior section guiders	46



help for all...

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idea

Run a paperback swap shop, to exchange books you've read.



idea

Organise a hopscotch, tiddlywinks or marbles tournament.

ideas for all...

Your *Sleeping Beauty* pantomime starts on page 32

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Sleeping Beauty

Stand by for some thigh-slapping fun and a standing ovation with our perfect panto

By Gillian Ellis
Illustrations:
Emma Holt

Cast

- Princess Petunia
- King Cole
- Queen Claire
- Felicity, Fairy Godmother
- Carabosse, wicked fairy
- Prince Paramount
- Postman
- Dolly, Polly, Molly and Holly — the maids
- Princess Petunia, aged eight
- Petunia's playmates
- Minister
- Inventors
- Doctor
- Jack, Joe, Bert, Fred
- Courtiers

Scene 1 FRONT OF CURTAIN

MAIDS sing to tune *Lavender's Blue*:
Lambswool so warm and so cosy,
Soft thistledown,
Spin for a baby princess's
Christening gown. (Repeat)

DOLLY

The christening is just three weeks away!

HOLLY

This is so exciting, the Princess is such a pretty baby.

MOLLY

She certainly is. The christening will be the grandest affair there's ever been in the palace.

POLLY

Even grander than the Coronation?

DOLLY

Even grander than that. The King

and Queen have waited so long for their baby, they're really pushing the boat out.

HOLLY

Boat? But there isn't a lake in the grounds!

MOLLY

Don't be silly. It's just a saying!

POLLY

Well, why can't you say what you mean?

DOLLY

Stop all this nonsense and keep spinning. The weavers need the thread this afternoon.
(Repeat song twice)

Scene 2 INSIDE THE PALACE

The King and Queen are writing out invitations.

KING

Did you remember to invite the Duke and Duchess of (local place name)?

QUEEN

Of course dear, they'd be deeply offended if we didn't. That reminds me, did you put (local County Commissioner) on the list?

KING

Naturally. And (other Commissioners). Can't leave them out. How do you spell (local place name)?

QUEEN

(After several wrong tries) Here, give it to me. (Reads list) Really, Cole, I should have thought you could spell (name of local dignitary) by now.

KING

(Reading Queen's list) Claire, my dear, do we have to have (current chart pop band)? They're so very noisy.

QUEEN

One has to keep up with the times. Now, Cole, is that everyone?

KING AND QUEEN sing to the tune of *The Mulberry Bush*:

Who shall we ask to be our guests, be our guests, be our guests,
Who shall we ask to be our guests, at Princess Petunia's christening?

Old Aunty Flo and Uncle Fred, Aunty Mo, Uncle Ted,
If he can stagger out of bed, for Princess Petunia's christening.

Kylie Minogue with her golden hair, Tony Blair, he'll be there,
If he's an hour or two to spare for Princess Petunia's christening.

Anneka Rice and Baby Spice, with all her friends, that might be nice,
Hang on, I think I've asked them twice, to Princess Petunia's christening.
Add your own verses, naming different local people.

Scene 3 FRONT OF CURTAIN

Postman enters struggling with a huge mailbag.

POSTMAN

I'll be glad when this christening's over. Twenty sacks of invitations a day for three weeks is enough to break a man's back. Not to mention the replies. I'm putting in for a week's leave after the big day. I can't face the thank-you letters as well.

Enter Carabosse.

CARABOSSE

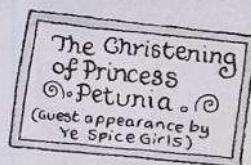
Young man!

POSTMAN

Crikey, I've never seen her before.

CARABOSSE

That's because you never bring me any letters.





1999 TRAINING CENTRE CALENDAR

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

Please pull out and keep Hotline and pass a copy to other Guiders in your area.

Lorne

January 15-17
Rainbow and Brownie Guiders

January 22-24
Senior Section Guiders and Advisers

April 23-25
Training opportunities for Outdoors

May 7-9
Musical Madness

November 19-21
Arts

Hautbois

January 22-24
Music/Guitar Course

February 5-7
First Aid in Guiding

May 7-9
Prospective Trainers Training

September 24-26
Festivals and Celebrations – a training for Brownie and Guide Guiders

October 8-10
Pack Holidays on a Plate

November 12-14
First Aid in Guiding

Broneirion

January 23
Trainers' Day

February 5-7
Easter Activities for your unit

February 12-14
Duke of Edinburgh Award Training

February 26-28
Young Leaders and unit Guiders

March 5-7
PR Advisers

March 26-28
Make and Take

May 28-30
Programme Ideas with Crèche

October 1-3
Basic Unit Management

October 1-3
Music for the unmusical

October 29-31
Senior Section – Ranger Guiders

October 29-31
Senior Section – Young Leader Guiders

December 3-5
Christmas Arts

Foxlease

January 15-17
Programme ideas for all sections

January 22-24
Guiders and Patrol Leaders

February 12-14
From Brownies to Guides – Bridging the gap

February 12-14
Planning the programme for the Rainbow unit and Brownie Pack

February 19-21
Know the World and Celebrate Thinking Day

February 26-28
District Double for District Commissioners and their Guiders

April 16-18
First Aid for camps and holidays

May 7-9
Rainbow Guiders – new and more experienced

June 4-6
Why do we do it?...!!!
Inspiration, relax, refresh, renew

June 22-24
The Commissioner as Manager – midweek

June 25-27
I want to know how to..... Ideas for outdoors, sciences, craft and music activities etc.

July 16-18
Make and Take – Ideas to take back to the unit
Rainbow/Brownie/Guide

August 27-30
Train with your family

October 1-3
District Double for District Commissioners with their Guiders

October 22-24
Why do we do it?...!!!
Inspiration, relax, refresh, renew

November 9-11
Rainbow and Brownie Guiders – midweek

November 16-18
Campsite Wardens and Chairmen – midweek

November 26-28
Programme ideas for all sections

December 3-5
Further opportunities for young Guiders

December 10-12
Christmas Special – Low price training

Waddow

January 22-24
Programme Ideas for Rainbow, Brownie and Guide Guiders

January 22-24
1st Response Training and Food Hygiene Training

February 26-28
Musical Qualifications

April 23-25
Senior Section

May 14-16
Wide Games and Pioneering

May 21-23
Division Commissioner Training

June 4-6
Programme Ideas (including the out of doors) for all sections

June 8-10 (midweek)
Programme Ideas for all Sections

June 11-13
Sample the Outdoor Life – what's new in equipment

October 8-10
Programme Ideas for all sections

October 22-24
Lone Guiders

November 9-11 (midweek)
Programme Ideas for all Sections

November 12-14
International and the Senior Section

November 12-14
Senior Section

Netherurd

January 15-17
Wider Horizons

January 29-31
Towards a Training Licence

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February 12-14
First Response, First Aid, Health and Hygiene

February 26-28
Rainbow Guiders Programme Ideas

March 26-28
Keep Fit with Guiding

May 7-9
Arts Advisers and Lones Advisers

May 28-30
Scottish Trainers

June 4-6
The Promise in the Programme

June 11-13
Senior Section / Walking for All

September 3-5
Programme and Training Advisers' Weekend

October 22-24
Brownie Advisers / Guide Advisers

November 12-14
International Travels

November 26-28
Christmas Capers

December 3-5
Musical Bits 'n' Pieces

1998 Activity courses, including Leader training / holiday breaks / young persons events / Trefoil Guild events / friends weekends / singing circles, and so on.

Lorne

January 8-10
Peer Education - (13-16 years)

February 5-7
Ulster Junior Council

February 12-14
World Guiding - Activities for Guides and the Senior Section

March 12-14
Peer Education (13-16 years)

March 19-21
Young Leaders

March 16-28
Guide Activities (10-12 years)

April 2-4
Available for Booking

April 8-11
Organisers' Preview - Plan a visit to Lorne

May 29
Friends of Lorne AGM

July and August
Dates available for booking Pack, Guide and Leisure Holidays.

September 3-5
Friends of Lorne

September 10-12
Ulster Junior Council

November 26-28
Countdown to Christmas Leisure Break

Hautbois

January 15-17
Conservation

January 29-31
ASA/RLSS Rescue Test for the Teachers of Swimming

February 19-21
Frostbite Camp

February 26-28
Journey Round the World - an International weekend for Brownies and their Guiders

April 2-5
Easter Leisure Break

June 25-27
Activity weekend for Brownie and Guide groups accompanied by their Guiders

July 9-11
Canoeing weekend - BCU 1&2 Star and Level 1&2 Coach courses

July 11-16
Painting and sketching

September 10-12
Friends of Hautbois Weekend and AGM

November 5-7
Hautbois Minstrels

November 19-21
Conservation

December 10-12
Santa's Biggest Brownie Adventure

Broneirion

February 19-21
Guide Event

March 29-April 6
Catered Holiday for Guides/Brownies

April 7-11
Guide Music Arts badges

May 18-21
Friends of Broneirion Holiday

June 25-27
Broneirion Singing Circle

July 3
Young Friends of Broneirion

July 4
Young Friends of Broneirion

July 7
Friends of Broneirion

July 9-11
Taste of Guides

July 23-August 3
Catered Holidays for Guides/Brownies

August 4-11
Walking Holiday

August 4-11
Grandparent(s) and Grandchild(ren)

September 10-12
Senior Section Weekend

Foxlease

December 29-January 2
New Year Houseparty

February 15-18
Catered break for Brownies or Guides

April 1-5
Action time 99 for 12-14 year olds

April 7
Patrol Day

April 6-8
Catered break for Brownies or Guides

April 12-15
Special Interest Break - Bird Watching

May 7-9
RLSS Rescue Test Course

May 17-21
Patchwork and Quilting

May 28-30
Catered break for any age group

June 18-20
Action Plus! Camp for 13-15 year old Guides

June 26
Brownie Challenge Day for 9 and 10-year-old Brownies

July 9-12
Friends of Foxlease

July 12-16
Leisure Break

August 2-5
Guide Activity Holiday

August 7-10
Guide Activity Holiday

August 12-20
Catered Any Section Holiday



HERITAGE

20th / 21st February	Thinking Day	Celebrate Thinking day with a visit to the Heritage centre and CHQ shop on either Saturday or Sunday.
28th March	International display	Which countries did UK Guides visit over the last year or so? What did they do there? What new experiences have they enjoyed? Come along and find out - I'm sure they will be delighted to answer your questions.
25th April	St. Georges Day	So, who was St. George? When did he live? Find out about England's Patron saint.
30th May	Family fun	Fancy a family day out in London? Why not visit our Centre at our special Family rate, available for one day only ... Two adults paying the full entry price can bring up to three children in for £1 each.
27th June	Mid-Summer madness	Strange things happen in mid summer. So let's be strange as well! Fancy dress is the order of the day! Prizes will be awarded for the best costumes we see during the day. You are welcome to bring the materials and make your costumes here!
26th September	Last night of the Proms.	Crash! Whistle! Bang! Screech! Thump! Twang! Wail! Can you make music while you're here?
31st October	Witches and Ghosts	Bring your pumpkins - we'll help you make the lamps. Bring your ear plugs and we'll tell you all a frightening story for Halloween!
28th November	St. Andrews Day	Ever tried Haggis? Do you like Pipe music?



Remember

If the Heritage Centre is open, then so is the shop!
The CHQ shop will be open, 10am to 4pm, for shoppers as well as Centre visitors on the Sundays that the Heritage Centre is open.



**THE GUIDE
ASSOCIATION**
A registered charity



**Heritage
Centre**

New ideas from the Guide Heritage Centre

Single-user scheme

Why not hire the Guide Heritage Centre for that special day out for your District or Division? Or maybe for a presentation evening or retirement party? The choice is yours! Phone now for details. Single user hire is available seven days a week.

Extended visits

Due to demand we are now able to offer extended, two and a half hour, visits to the centre for £4.00 per head. Our standard visit of one and a half hours for £2.50 per head will continue, so please be sure to ask for the extended visit when you book.

(Visits paid for after 1/1/99 will be £2.75 and £4.50)

Events Programme

Starting this December, there will be a programme of special events one Sunday each month. The Centre will be open 10am to 4pm, and alongside all our usual fun activities will be something different. See below for a diary of dates, and details of these events. Our normal admission charges will apply.

Diary of events

1998		
13th December	Christmas party day	Come and meet Father Christmas, as he wanders around the centre. Then gather in the base camp and sing carols after making a Christmas card to take home for a special person.
1999		
31st January 1999	Crafts day	Working craftsmen will be happy to show you what they do, and how they do it, then why not try your hand at a new craft. Some crafts will be charged at 25p per participant. (Badge and woggle making.)

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August 22-30
Family Holiday

September 13-17
Leisure Break

September 17-19
RLSS Rescue Course

October 4-8
Leisure Break

October 18-21
Patchwork Quilts

November 9-11
Special Interest Break – make your own greetings cards

December 29 - January 2
New Year Houseparty.... into 2000

Waddow

December 29-January 3
New Year House Party – A Patchwork of Ideas

February 19-21
Thinking Day Celebrations at Waddow for Brownies, Guides, Senior Section and their Guiders. Rainbows by the day on Saturday

April 8-11
Weekend of fun and activities for Guiders (with or without their Guiders)

April 19-22
Leisure Interest Break

April 30-May 3
Singing Circle Meet

May 10-13
Leisure / Interest Break

June 14-17
Leisure / Interest Break

July 9-12
Friends of Waddow

July 13-15
Leisure Break

August 7-14
Walking Week

August 15-26
Holiday Break at Waddow

September 13-16
Leisure / Interest Break

October 4-7
Leisure / Interest Break

October 18-21
Grandparent(s) with Grandchild(ren)

October 25-28
Grandparent(s) with Grandchild(ren)

December 10-12
Waddow Singing Circle

December 17-19
Pre-Christmas Break for Guiders, Trefoil Guild members and their families

December 29-January 2
Into the year 2000 New Year House Party

Netherurd

January 22-24
Guide Event (A)

February 5-7
The Netherurd Singing Circle

May 14-16
Trefoil Guild

August 20-22
Guide Event (B)

Blackland Farm

February 26-28
Climbing and Abseiling Supervisor Training (Indoor Accommodation)

May 7-9
BCU 1 and 2 star Kayak

May 14-16
BCU 1 and 2 star Kayak

May 21-23
Beginners Rock Climbing

June 11-13
BCU 1 and 2 star Kayak

June 18-20
BCU 3 star Kayak and BCU 2 Star Improvers Kayak

July 9-11
BCU 1 and 2 star Kayak

July 16-18
Beginners Rock Climbing

August 4-6
BCU 1 and 2 star Kayak

August 6-8
Beginners Rock Climbing

August 13-15
BCU 1 and 2 star Kayak

August 13-15
Beginners Rock Climbing

August 18-20
Beginners Rock Climbing

August 20-22
Beginners Rock Climbing

September 3-5
BCU 1 and 2 star Kayak

September 3-5
Beginners Rock Climbing

September 6-10
GNAS. Archery Leader Awards (Indoor Accommodation).

September 10-12
BCU 1 and 2 star Kayak

September 10-12
Beginners Rock Climbing

September 17-19
BCU 1 and 2 star Kayak

September 17-19
Beginners Rock Climbing

September 24-26
BCU 3 Star Kayak and BCU 2 star Improvers Kayak.

October 1-3
Climbing and Abseiling Supervisor Training (indoor accommodation).

Further Information

Trainings

Trainings are open to all Guiders and Young Leaders and they can attend on their own or as a group. It may be possible to help those who wish to attend an event to make contact with others travelling from the same area. Training Bursaries are available to the value of £20 towards the cost of accommodation at either Foxlease or Waddow. Please contact the Centre for details on eligibility and how to apply.

Outdoor Activity Qualifications

Outdoor Bursaries are available for courses leading to Outdoor Activity Qualifications, contact Guiding Development at CHQ for details.

General

The Centres all have brochures available on these courses and on self-catering and camping facilities. Please ring/write/e-mail for more information.

Training & Activity Centres, Training Weekend Fees and Deposits and Contact Details.

Manager/GIC Centre	Address	Phone / Fax	Weekend Fee / Deposit
Hilary Chittock Foxlease	Lyndhurst Hants SO43 7DE	Tel: 01703 282638 Fax: 01703 282561 foxlease@guides.org.uk	Shared £42.00 Twin £47.00 Single £55.00 Deposit £15.00
Margaret Firth Waddow Hall	Clitheroe Lancs BB7 3LD	Tel: 01200 423186 Fax: 01200 427460 waddow@guides.org.uk	Shared £42.00 Twin £47.00 Single £55.00 Deposit £15.00
Ruth Thompson Netherurd	Blyth Bridge West Linton Peeblesshire EH46 7AQ	Tel: 01968 682208 Fax: 01968 682371	Shared £50.00 Single £60.00 Girl £48.00 Deposit £20.00
Joan McCullough Lorne	30 Station Road Craigavad Holywood County Down BT18 0BP	Tel: 01232 423180 Fax: 01232 426025	Shared £44.50 Twin £49.50 Single £54.50 Full fee in advance. Counties 50% deposit
Julie Jones Broneirion	Llandinam Powys SY17 5DE	Tel: 01686 688204 Fax: 01686 688244	Shared £42.50 Twin £42.50 Single £52.50 Deposit £15.00
Martin Robinson Blackland Farm	Grinstead Lane East Grinstead West Sussex RH19 4HP	Tel: 01342 810493 Fax: 01342 811206 blackland@guides.org.uk	Contact Centre
Ian Nicholls Hautbois	Great Hautbois House Great Hautbois Road Coltishall Norwich NR12 7JN	Tel: 01603 737357 Fax: 01603 736138	Anglia £45.00 Non-Anglia £48.00 T Guild £48.00 Deposit £15.00

APPLICATION FORM

Please use this form for any of the trainings listed in the first section and post it to the appropriate Centre.

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

Title Date

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

Accommodation preference: Single ☐ Double ☐ Shared ☐ Ground Floor ☐

Special Needs

Name

Address

Telephone

Names of additional applicants.

Signed Date

I enclose a non-returnable deposit of £ (see table for deposit required) and a large SAE.



POSTMAN

Do you write any?

CARABOSSE

I've no time for letter writing.

POSTMAN

Well, there you are. If you don't keep in touch with your friends... Why don't you phone them? It's good to talk!

CARABOSSE

Friends? What friends?

POSTMAN

(Looks at her closely) Enough said!

CARABOSSE

Don't be so rude, young man. Where's my invitation?

POSTMAN

Sorry. Nothing for this address.

CARABOSSE

But everyone has had an invitation. Everyone except me. You've lost it, you careless youth! (screaming) I shall report you to the Post Office!

Postman

Fine. Fill in this form (hands her a 'lost mail' form).

Carabosse stamps and screws up the form.

CARABOSSE sings to the tune of Pop Goes The Weasel:

I've been waiting every day,
Feeling very curious,
Nothing from the palace again,
I'm getting furious.

All the other fairies appear
To be so delighted
That's because, I'm pretty sure,
They've been invited.

Stamp and fume and gnash my teeth,
They will all regret it!
I'll have my revenge, you see,
You're first to get it!
Carabosse chases Postman around stage,
waving a stick and exits.

Scene 4

THE PALACE

Jolly music. The christening party is in full swing, the whole cast on stage.

Queen shows off the baby, then puts her in a crib centre stage.

ALL SING to the tune of
Dance To Your Daddy:
Drink, eat, be merry,
all raise your glasses,
Princess Petunia, christened
today.

Sing out and dance in
joy unconfined for
Princess Petunia, christened today.
(Repeat first verse)
All dance, then guests file past crib and
put gifts on table.

KING

We want to thank you all for being here today.

QUEEN

My husband and I are delighted to share this happy occasion with all our friends. We are especially grateful to dear Felicity for agreeing to be Princess Petunia's god-mother.

FELICITY

(Curtseys) It is an honour, Your Majesty.

CARABOSSE

(Dramatically) An honour which should have been given to me.

KING

And who are you, pray?

CARABOSSE (Pushing her way to the front of the crowd)

I am Carabosse, the senior fairy.

FELICITY

(Aside) Dismissed for bad behaviour, Your Majesty.

CARABOSSE

You'll regret ignoring me, I promise you!

KING

Nonsense! Take her away!

CARABOSSE

No! You will listen! Let all here bear witness. The Royal Family has insulted me. Therefore, I place upon this long-awaited child a curse. In years to come, she will prick her finger on the very spindle used to make the gown she now wears. But on that day, it will be poisoned and she will die.

Queen screams and faints. Courtiers fan her then drag her out.

KING

Empty threats! Take her away.

CARABOSSE

Don't you dare lay your hands on me. I shall leave. But keep looking over your shoulder. I'll be watching!

Exit.

Looks of shock and horror. Courtiers rush

about chattering in excitement.

KING

The woman is raving mad!

FELICITY

I'm afraid not. She is very powerful. But there is still hope. I don't have the power to cancel Carabosse's curse, but I can change it. When the Princess pricks her finger on the poisoned spindle, she will not die, instead she will sleep peacefully until a brave prince wakes her with a loving kiss.

KING

Petunia will never prick her finger. She will be guarded all her life and never allowed to touch a spindle, or even to see one. On with the dance!
(Repeat song and dance)

Scene 5

FRONT OF CURTAIN

Placard shown – 'Eight years later'.

Enter little Petunia with playmates, singing *Girls and Boys Come Out to Play* and *Oranges and Lemons*.

Enter Carabosse with spinning wheel and a basket of sweets.

CARABOSSE

Hello children. What lovely singing! You must be thirsty after your games. Here, a tasty fruit drop will refresh you.

PETUNIA

My mummy says I mustn't take sweets from strangers.

ALL

So does my mummy!

CARABOSSE

Allow me to introduce myself. I'm Fairy Carabosse.

Children introduce themselves one by one.

PETUNIA

And I'm Petunia.

CARABOSSE

There, now that we've been introduced, we're not strangers any more. Have a sweetie!

The children approach, but Petunia holds them back.

PETUNIA

I still don't think we should.

CARABOSSE

Very well then. How would you like to help me with my spinning?

PETUNIA

I don't think so. Daddy said I must never use one of those. They're dangerous.

CARABOSSE

Nonsense! Here, have a go.



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As Petunia approaches, the Queen is heard calling her off stage. The children run off.

CARABOSSE

Curses, foiled again!

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Scene 6 THE PALACE

King paces about downstage, hands behind back, like Prince Charles. Minister, upstage, copies him exactly, frequently getting caught out by the King's changes of direction. Queen weeps in a corner.

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KING

This is terrible! Eight years since the christening and that evil old dame is still around. And with a spindle! I expressly forbade spindles anywhere near the Palace. Could she possibly have meant what she said, do you think?

(Queen wails)

KING

Something will have to be done. Petunia must be guarded night and day!

(Queen wails)

KING

All the spindles in the Palace must be destroyed at once.

(Queen wails)

KING

All spindles in (your District)...

(Queen wails)

KING

All spindles in (Division)...

(Queen wails)

KING

All spindles in (your County)...

(Queen wails)

KING

All the spindles in (your Country or Region)

(Queen wails)

KING

In the entire land!

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(Queen wails extremely loudly)

KING

For goodness' sake, Claire, give it a rest. Do put a sock in it.

MINISTER

But, Sire... the people need cloth.

How will we spin all the wool? Think of all those overdressed sheep!

KING

Sheep! Sheep! What do sheep matter at a time like this?

MINISTER

Sire, we have no cotton or silk in our land. All our garments are made of wool. How will we clothe the people?

KING

Summon the court inventors. They'll think of something. Exit all.

Enter Inventors, singing to the tune of Frère Jacques:

No more spindles, no more spindles!

What instead, what instead?

I confess it's true, sir,

Haven't got a clue, sir,

In my head, in my head.

They then try building a strange machine with junk materials, music is playing quietly in background.

Ah, I have it! Ah, I have it!

Just look here, just look here.

Came to me just now, sir

I will show you how, sir,

Come, draw near, come, draw near.

Inventors build again.

Lovely bobbins, lovely bobbins,

Smooth and round, smooth and round.

This machine will bring, sir,

Knighthood from the King, sir,

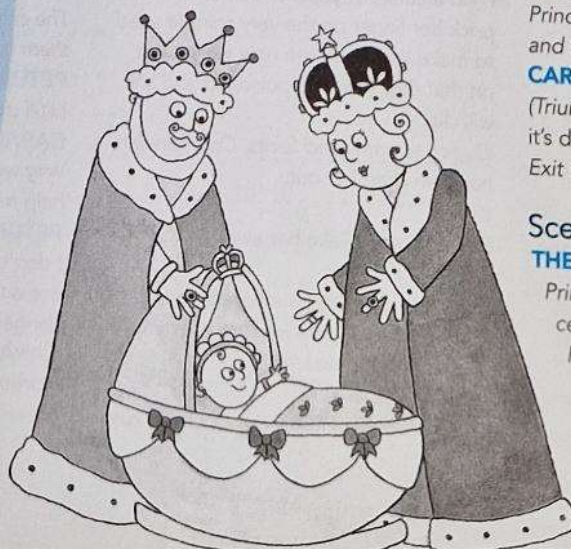
I'll be bound, I'll be bound.

Scene 7

FRONT OF CURTAIN

Spinning wheel stage left. Placard shown - 'Ten years later'.

Enter Princess.



PRINCESS

This is such fun. A party for my 18th birthday! All my friends and lots of presents! Plenty to eat and some really good games to play. 'Hide and seek' is my favourite. I'm right at the top of the palace, in the attic. No one will ever think of looking for me here. A princess never comes into an attic. I'm all alone.

Enter Carabosse. Audience encouraged to start the 'She's behind you' routine.

PRINCESS

Oh, what a fright you gave me! I didn't think anyone was up here. (Stares closely at Carabosse) Haven't we met?

CARABOSSE

Many years ago, Your Highness, when you were very small. You can't possibly remember me.

PRINCESS

There's something familiar about you... Song to the tune of Where Are You Going To, My Pretty Maid?

CARABOSSE

Where are you going to, my pretty dear? (Repeat)

PRINCESS

I'm playing a game of hide and seek, hide and seek, hide and seek, No one will find me way up here.

PRINCESS

What are you doing, madam, I pray? (Repeat)

CARABOSSE

I'm spinning some wool, come close, my dear, close, my dear, close, my dear You've not seen a spindle, I dare say.

PRINCESS

Do let me try it, madam, please do. (Repeat)

CARABOSSE

Take care how you go. This needle's sharp, very sharp, oh, so sharp — (pause)

Princess pricks her finger, screams, and faints.

CARABOSSE

(Triumphantly) There, what did I tell you, it's done for you!

Exit Carabosse.

Scene 8

THE PALACE

Princess is sleeping on a golden bed centre stage, doctor bending over her. King and Queen clutch each other, watching doctor. Courtiers stand frozen still, hands over mouths, staring.

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KING

Can't you do anything?

QUEEN

You must wake her, you must!

DOCTOR

I fear not, Your Majesties. The Princess appears to be in some kind of trance.

There is nothing I can do.

Queen wails loudly.

KING

It's just as Felicity said at her christening. That wicked fairy found a way to poison Petunia but Felicity's magic has saved her life.

QUEEN

But what good is a lifetime spent sleeping? It's terrible, our beautiful daughter!

KING

I can't bear this. It would be better if we were all sleeping too. And not just because of Petunia. (Glares at Queen) Enter Felicity.

FELICITY

That can be arranged.

Sings to the tune of Golden Slumbers:

Golden slumbers kiss your eyes!

Happiness greet you when you rise!

Sleep now in safety awaiting the day,

When a handsome prince shall come this way.

Felicity waves her wand and all fall asleep.

INTERVAL**Scene 9****FRONT OF CURTAIN**

Palace grounds, thickly overgrown with briars. Enter two yokels, Jack (old) and Bert (young).

JACK

Yes, Bert. It was over 20 years ago. I was a palace pageboy then. We were all enjoying a right old rave-up at the little gal's christening. This ugly old bird cast a spell and sent the whole lot of 'em to sleep. The little princess and all — remember it as if it was yesterday. Primula, her name was.

BERT

But, Grandad, why weren't you sent to sleep too?

JACK

I'd just popped out to the loo. *Both exit.* Bert enters again — wearing a beard — with Joe, his grandson.

BERT

My Grandad used to be a palace official. Very important, he was. He was right there when the old wizard cast a spell on the Royal Family. He fought bravely but the whole lot of them were snuffed out. Puff! Just like that.

JOE

Just like that! Imagine.

BERT

What's more, young feller — they're still there!

JOE

What? Bodies, like? (Bert nods) Ugh!

BERT

It's the truth. My grandad told me himself. Seen it with his own eyes. Knew that Princess Polyanthus like she were his own.

JOE

Cor! *Both exit.*

Enter Joe — now wearing a beard — and Fred, his grandson.

JOE

Ten foot tall 'e was, this giant. I had it from me grandpa. His grandad were there, see. He fought this great big feller and killed him. Jack the Giant Killer they called my grandpa's grandad.

FRED

Gosh, Grandad. What did they do with all the — you know — bodies?

JOE

Still there, son. Just bones now, all bones.

FRED

That poor little princess. When did it all happen?

JOE

Back in Old King Cole's time. They do say the young princess was a real beauty — Periwinkle, her name was. What a way to go!

FRED

It don't bear thinking about. Grandad — shall we try to get in and look for the bones?

JOE

Wash your mouth out! There's evil in that old place.

Enter Jack and Bert, all sing to the tune Humpty Dumpty:

Years ago, my granny did tell,

Once a great disaster befell

King and Queen and Princess so fair

Who lives, she told me, right over there.

T'was a party, plenty to eat,

Some old witch turned up at the treat.

Cursed 'em all and, just as she said,

Everybody fell over dead.

May be true or maybe it's not

Granny's word is all I've got

All I know is I wouldn't dare,

No one'll get me going in there.

Exit all. Enter Prince Paramount, with Carabosse and Felicity — both invisible to the Prince.

PRINCE

This looks like the place. I never know whether to believe that old legend.

FELICITY

Yes! Yes! Believe it!

CARABOSSE

No! No! Don't believe it!

PRINCE

What was that? I thought I heard voices. (To audience) Did I hear voices? Can't hear you. Speak up! (Encourages shouting)

It's no use. I can't hear you. I've half a mind to find my way into the palace. Just imagine if the story is true and the lovely princess is just waiting for a prince to kiss her and wake her up! But it can't be true, can it? (More shouting from the audience)

I've a good mind to try. After all, I am a prince and I've nothing to lose.

FELICITY

Yes! Yes! Do it!

CARABOSSE

No! No! Don't do it!

PRINCE

Was that the wind rustling in the trees? Did anyone else hear it? (More shouting)

PRINCE

I'll do it. I'll find a way in. What are a few scratches compared with a lifetime of happiness, if I do find the sleeping princess?

FELICITY

Yes! Yes! Find her.

CARABOSSE

No! No! Don't waste your time.

Prince hacks at briars with his sword, Felicity encouraging the audience to cheer him on, Carabosse trying to silence them. Exit Carabosse in a rage. Prince finally climbs through briars.



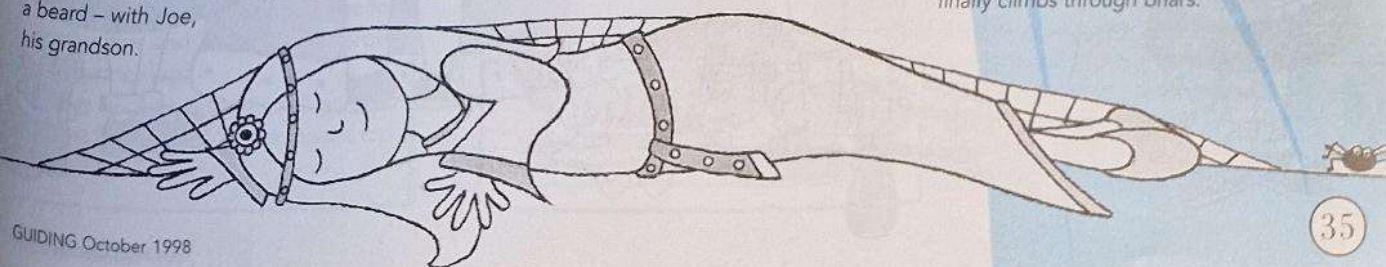
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Scene 10

THE PALACE

Felicity beckons Prince into dusty palace, he wanders around, trying to wake all the dust-covered courtiers and King and Queen. He brushes the dust off Princess Petunia and kisses her. As she opens her eyes, everyone wakes up brushing off the dust. King and Queen embrace Petunia and shake hands with the Prince.

Song to tune of Polly Put The Kettle On:

PRINCE

Though you are, I understand,
Old enough to be my gran.
I am such a happy man,
Please marry me.

PRINCESS

As the years have been so kind,
You must take me as you find.
I confess I'm of a mind
Your wife to be.

(Repeat, singing the verses simultaneously)

Scene 11

FRONT OF CURTAIN

Maids sing to tune *Sing A Song Of Sixpence*:

Sew a dress of silk as white as driven snow.
Perfect for a lady, pure from top to toe.
Sew it all with love for the Princess we adore,
Beautiful Petunia will be happy evermore!
(Repeat)

DOLLY

I had such a peculiar dream last night.
Something about the Princess.

HOLLY

So did I. I think a fairy came into it somewhere. But I had a lovely long sleep.

MOLLY

I feel ever so refreshed. You'd never think I'd been up since six o'clock this morning.

POLLY

Funny that, me too. I've got lots of energy these days. Feels as though I've slept for a week. Can't understand it.

Scene 12

THE PALACE WEDDING

All sing to the tune *Old King Cole*:

Old King Cole is a very old soul
And a very old soul is he
'Cause a nasty old dame put a curse on
his name
And he slept for a century.

Sweet Queen Claire is a lady fair
And a lady fair is she.
She awoke from a jinx, when she took
40 winks,
Not as young as she used to be.

Princess Pet is the fairest yet
And the fairest yet is she.

As the Prince's wife, she will
find her life
Is as right as
right can be.



Add the traditional verses of *Old King Cole*, changing the words into the present tense, and have the musicians come on in order — fiddlers, trumpeters, flautists, harpists, drummers and so on. Repeat the first three verses. Dance, then take a bow in traditional finale style.

The End



Pretzel camp fire

Your girls will want to draw very near to this sweet and savoury, edible camp fire.

You will need: plain biscuits, square or round; red or orange boiled sweets; pretzel sticks, broken into pieces; red glacé icing; mini marshmallows.

Use icing – it should be quite thick – to stick a sweet to the centre of a biscuit. Put a circle of icing around the sweet and stick on pretzel pieces to look like logs.

Mini marshmallows can be stuck around the fire to look like pebbles.

Ready to roll

■ Rainbows can use ready-to-roll icing for many different edible activities. For variety it can be coloured with food dye.

Icing glue

■ A tube of ready-made icing can be used like an 'edible' glue stick.



Brown owls

These particular brown owls are a very special species, which are lovely to look at and wonderful to eat.

You will need: plain and chocolate Swiss rolls; thick glacé icing; chocolate beans; jelly diamonds.

Alternate three semi-circular slices of plain and chocolate Swiss roll to make the owl's body. Stick them together with icing.

Make a head from a full slice of Swiss roll, and make the wings from halved slices.

Using glacé icing, stick on chocolate bean eyes and jelly diamond beak and feet. The girls can take their creations home to eat!

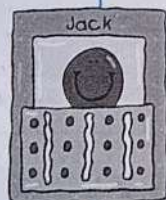
Baby in a crib

Rainbows will absolutely love these babies in cribs, wrapped up snug in their beautiful blankets.

You will need: ready-to-roll icing, coloured pink, lemon and pale blue; jelly babies; rectangular plain biscuits; tubes of icing (optional); cocktail sticks.

Cover a biscuit with a piece of rolled icing – this is the underblanket. Put the baby on top and then cover with another 'blanket', make sure the baby's head is poking out!

Make patterns on the blanket with a cocktail stick or with icing from a tube.



Biscuit beetle

Play this game just like an ordinary beetle drive. The Rainbows will love to eat their finished products!

You will need: dice; biscuit for each girl; selection small sweets; glacé icing; liquorice strands.

The girls must throw a six to smear the biscuit with icing, then throw one to get an eye; two for a nose; three for another eye and so on. Don't forget the liquorice legs!

Play biscuit beetle in small groups, so that the girls don't have to wait too long to throw the dice.



rainbow guiders

You won't need to do any cooking when your Rainbows make these absolutely brilliant sweet treats that they can take home and share



By Lynda Munro

Illustrations: Julie Morris

Decorating magic

■ Keep an eye out for the many interesting cake decorating items to be found on your super-market shelves.

Be prepared

■ Have lots of bags, cling film and foil handy, so that the Rainbows can take their work home!

Squidgy caterpillars

Simple, squidgy caterpillars can be made by the youngest Rainbow, and are sure to become a firm favourite!

You will need: marshmallows; small tubes of icing; glacé icing; liquorice laces; cocktail stick.

Glue four marshmallows together using thick glacé icing. Make two holes in the end one and stick in short lengths of liquorice to look like antennae. Finally, draw on a happy smiling face, using the icing in a tube.

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awareness day

National Russia Awareness Day is happening over the weekend of October 31 to November 1. Get your unit involved with the help of our special activities

By Anne Reader

Illustrations: Alison Carney

Region activity book

Your unit, or individual girls, may be especially interested in supporting and raising awareness of Guiding in Russia.

London and South East England have produced a special Russian challenge booklet to celebrate its link with Guides in Moscow. There are craft ideas, recipes, games facts and folk stories. Each book also comes complete with a super sew-on patch.

The books cost just £1 each, plus postage and packing. If you want one, write to the address below — you will be invoiced later.

■ **Russia Challenge Booklet, The Guide Association, 3 Jaggard Way, Wandsworth Common, SW12 8SG.**

Beautiful borscht

Borscht is a very traditional and well-known Russian soup. Made from beetroot, it is absolutely delicious when served piping hot with warm, fresh crusty bread.

You will need: 150g fresh beetroot (not pickled!); 1 carrot; 1 onion; 1tbs vegetable oil; 2tbs tomato purée; 1tbs vinegar; 100g cabbage; 100g potatoes.

Dice the beetroot, carrots and onion and put them into a pan with all the other ingredients except the cabbage and potatoes. Cover the ingredients with water then simmer for 40 minutes — keep a lid on the pan but check to make sure the water levels don't drop.

Cook the cabbage and potatoes separately and add them to the soup just before you serve it. Garnish the soup with a swirl of cream and a sprinkle of dill.

■ **As an alternative, you may like to purée the soup and serve it chilled as a starter.**



Big country

■ **The Russian Federation is the largest country in the world — it's almost twice the size of the United States of America!**

Guiding in Russia

By 1912, Guiding had started to become popular in Russia. However, after the Communist revolution of 1917, the Movement was banned by the government. There were harsh penalties for anyone who disobeyed.

Since the Communists lost power during 1991, Guiding has started to make an impact on the lives of women in the new Russian Federation.

■ **Read page 23 for more information about the National Russia Awareness Day and Guiding in Russia.**

Baboushka's story

Russian children receive presents from Baboushka each year, in much the same way that British children are visited on Christmas Eve by Father Christmas. Baboushka is the Russian word for Grandmother, and this is the special folk tale that is told about her:

It was a cold winter night and Baboushka was sitting by the fire keeping warm. Suddenly, to her surprise, there was a knock at the door. Baboushka went to open it. On the doorstep stood three cold and hungry men. They told Baboushka that they were following a new, bright star, which would lead them to a new-born holy child.

Baboushka fed the weary travellers and let them take her place by the fire. The men asked Baboushka to join them on their journey, but she feared that she was too old and weak, so the men set out into the night on their own.

Baboushka spent the rest of the night wishing that she had joined the travellers on their way to find the Christ child. As the dawn broke, Baboushka gathered up a bundle of clothes and some toys for the baby, then set out on her own important journey.

Baboushka still hasn't found that special baby and to this very day she searches for him from house to house, leaving presents for the children as she goes.

■ **Act out the story of Baboushka.**

■ **Enlarge and copy the picture of Baboushka for younger girls to colour.**



Special leaflets

The Guide Association has produced some excellent leaflets for National Russia Awareness Day.

The leaflets are packed full of exciting activities that will help you and your unit, celebrate this unique occasion.

Make sure everyone knows about Guiding in Russia with some of the brilliant ideas on the leaflet — there's something for everyone, from reindeer racing to amazing balancing acrobats.

■ To obtain a copy of the *Russia Awareness Day* leaflet, send an A4 sae (first class stamp please) to: Barbara Mathieson, Guiding Development, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.

■ The leaflet also contains an order form so that you can send off for special commemorative badges.



Russian environment

Older girls may be aware of the many environmental changes in some parts of Russia — for example, the effect of nuclear fallout from Chernobyl power station.

Ask Senior section girls to investigate the effects of intense industrialisation on modern Russia.

Alphabet soup

The Russian alphabet is quite different from ours. Russians use the Cyrillic alphabet, you may be able to find it in an encyclopedia.

The Cyrillic alphabet was named after the monk who invented it, St Cyril, a missionary who lived in the 9th Century. The alphabet has 33 letters.

Russian is very difficult to read if you're not familiar with the Cyrillic alphabet. However, here are some phonetic spellings of some useful phrases:

- Dabro pozhalovat — Welcome
- Boot Gatoova — Be Prepared!
- Dobriy dyen — Good day

Space race

For many years, USSR was the leader in the space race. Soviet scientists succeeded in being the first nation to send up an artificial satellite.

Russian cosmonaut, Yuri Gagarin, later became the first person in space. He was in orbit around the world for a grand total of one hour and 48 minutes.

■ Ask the girls to design their own space rockets.

■ Imagine that you could use a space rocket a bit like placing a message in a bottle. What messages would girls send to the inhabitants of other planets?



Hurray for ballet!

Dance plays a big part in Russia's cultural heritage — from Cossack acrobatics to beautiful ballet.

Russian ballet companies are ranked as the most skilled in the world.

Find out more about the Bolshoi Ballet, as well as famous Russian dancers such as Anna Pavlova and Vaslav Nijinsky.

Padroogi pack

The North East England Guide Association has produced a magnificent *Padroogi Pack* as part of their campaign to raise Russian awareness.

Padroogi is the Russian word for female friends, and is very applicable to the Association. The *Padroogi* pack contains dozens of ideas for all sections, and includes a special challenge — complete with stickers.

The packs — which are specially drilled to put in a ring binder — are available from North East England Headquarters. Please send a cheque for £4.33 (this includes postage and packing) to: **Padroogi Packs, The Guide Association, 106 Heworth Green, York YO3 7TQ.**

Bear fact

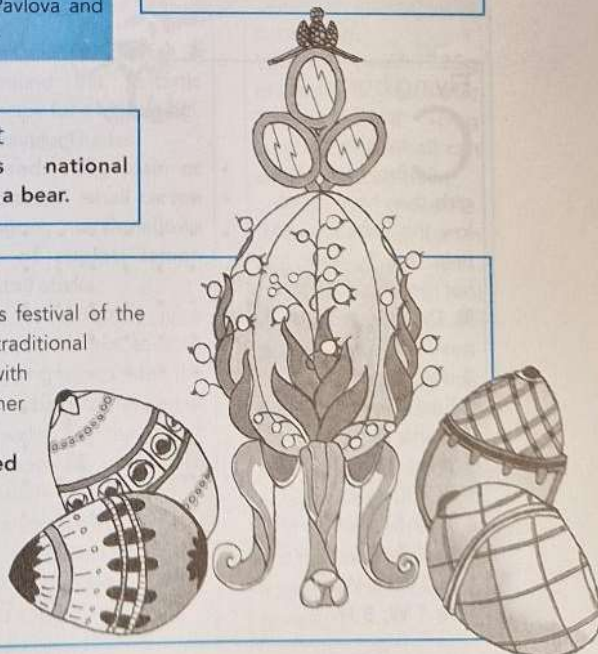
■ Russia's national emblem is a bear.

Russian festivals

Easter is the main religious festival of the Russian calendar. The traditional Easter fast is broken with a meal of special eggs and other traditional foods.

■ Make your own decorated Easter eggs.

■ Find out who Peter Carl Fabergé was, and discover what his connection is with Easter eggs.



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brownie guiders

Keep busy in the run up to Christmas with our mixed bag of ideas – dip in for activities, games and even party ideas

By Guides Cymru Brownie Advisers
Illustrations: Emma Damon



Kim's game

Play Kim's game, but theme all the items to be remembered. For example, ask the girls to remember all the Christmas items on a tray, or all the objects that are connected to autumn.

Fruit salad

Ask half the girls to each bring an orange to the meeting, the others should each bring an apple. Cut the oranges in half and scoop out the middles.

Chop up the apples and mix with the oranges. Serve the girls with a fruity salad in half an orange.



Personalised tablecloths

For Packs that are planning a Christmas party, a decorated tablecloth is just the thing on which to set out the food.

Large, white, paper tablecloths can be bought from supermarkets and cookshops. Let the girls decorate them with a seasonal pattern, using felt-tipped pens.

If you are planning a Christmas party, don't forget to involve some badgework – cooks, hostesses, and entertainers can all get involved!

Christmas compass picture

Brownies can use compass points to plot this picture – which will then reveal a very seasonal type of tree.

You will need: A4 sheets of 1cm squared paper; pencils; colouring pens; rulers.

Starting at the bottom of their squared paper, right in the middle, ask the girls to plot each of the following squares with a cross.

■ 7 squares West; 2 North West; 3 East; 3 North; 6 West; 1 North; 4 North East; 3 West; 1 North; 3 North East; 2 West; 1 North; 6 North East; 6 South East; 1 South; 2 West; 3 South East; 1 South; 3 West; 4 South East; 1 South; 6 West; 3 South; 3 East; 2 South West.

When all the points have been plotted, you should have a picture of a Christmas tree. Brownies can colour in the trees and stick them on to a card, or make them into a decoration.

Adventurous girls could even cross stitch the simple design to make an extra-special Christmas card.

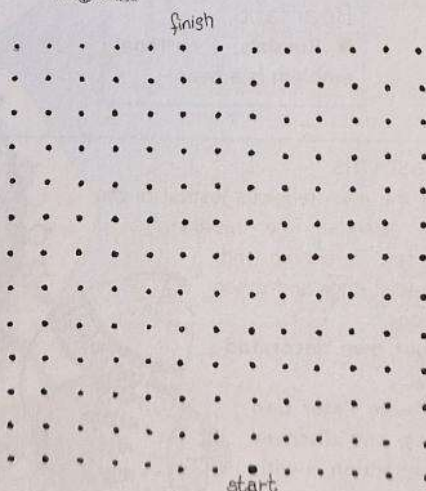


Flying home

Copy this puzzle to give to the Brownies. The girls then have to follow the directions to help Owl fly back to her nest.

■ Directions to the nest are:

3 dots North (N);
2 East (E);
1 South (S);
1 West (W);
1 S; 2 E; 4 N;
4 W; 2 S; 1 W;
4 N; 4 E; 1 S;
1 E; 2 N; 4 W;
1 N; 1 W; 3 N.



Brownies under the blanket

Girls can use up some energy and get guessing, as they play Brownies under the blanket.

Ask the girls to whizz around the room, pretending to be mice, aeroplanes or elephants. When you shout 'Stop!' the Brownies should curl up on the floor with their eyes shut tight.

Cover one of the girls with a blanket and shout 'Ready!' The girls then open their eyes and guess who is under the blanket.

You can play for whatever length of time you like.



Skipping snakes

Keep all your Brownies fit and wide awake with this great game of skipping snakes, that needs no equipment.

The whole Pack joins hands in a circle, then skips round singing the nursery rhyme Pop goes the weasel. When the song finishes, the Guider shouts 'Heads' or 'Tails'.

When the word heads is called, the girls break up into their Sixes. They make a straight line behind the Sixer and finish with the Second. The first team to do this and sit down, scores a point.

If the word tails is called, the Six must get in a straight line behind the Second, with the Sixer at the end.

After dinner mints

Anyone who's hosting a dinner party will find that these delicious mints – which are quite straightforward to make – will round off a meal very nicely indeed.

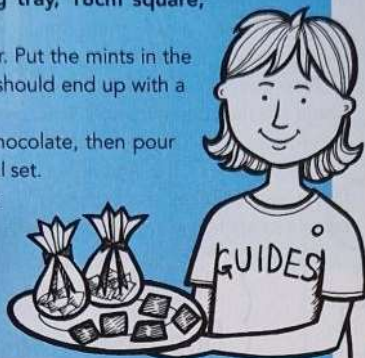
You will need: strong food bag; 225g melted chocolate; 1 packet extra strong mints; shallow baking tray, 18cm square; greaseproof paper; rolling pin; spoon.

Line the baking tray with greaseproof paper. Put the mints in the bag and crush them with the rolling pin. You should end up with a coarse powder.

Stir the powdered mints into the melted chocolate, then pour the mixture into the baking tray. Refrigerate until set.

When the chocolate has set, cut or break the mints into pieces before serving.

■ **Fundraising idea** — wrap the mints in cellophane and tie with a pretty ribbon. Everyone will want to buy your gourmet mints!



guide guiders

Chocoholics beware!

This page is full of great ideas for fun or fund raising, and there's hardly any cooking required

By Chris Harris

Illustrations: Anthea Whitworth

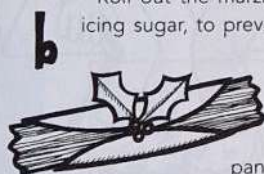
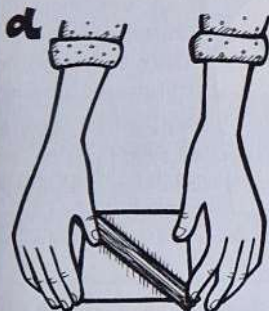
Flake parcels

These chocolate flake parcels are very simple to make, but look – and taste – absolutely wonderful. Make them for the cake stall at your Christmas bazaar or as presents for friends and family.

You will need: marzipan; small chocolate flake bars; green fondant icing; red glacé icing; icing sugar.

Roll out the marzipan on a board sprinkled with icing sugar, to prevent it sticking. When it is quite thin, cut it into approximately 6cm squares.

Place a small flake diagonally across a square of marzipan (a). Pull two opposite corners together (b) and add a small sprig of holly cut from green icing. Finish with berries made from red glacé icing.



Hot Sauce

Make this simple hot chocolate sauce as a perfect accompaniment to camp sponge puddings.

You will need: 225g chocolate; 25g butter; 2tbs golden syrup; 2tbs water.

Melt all the ingredients together, mix well and serve!

Chocolate fudge frosting

Any girls who are making sponges for a cake stall, can use this frosting as an alternative to butter icing.

You will need: 225g melted milk chocolate; 225g sieved icing sugar; half a small can of evaporated milk.

Melt the chocolate. While it is still hot, beat in the evaporated milk. Allow the mixture to cool slightly, then stir in the sieved icing sugar.

Put the mixture in the fridge. When it has stiffened, use it to fill a swiss roll, a Victoria sandwich or fairy cakes.

If you are not able to put the icing in a fridge, it will just take longer to go stiff.

Chocolate cases

Perfect for a coffee morning or a special dinner, these chocolate cases are quite simple to make but look spectacular.

You will need: melted chocolate; a tin of mandarin oranges; a packet of trifle sponge or home-made sponge; whipped cream; paper bun cases.

Coat the inside of the cake cases with melted chocolate. It is advisable to use two together so that they retain their shape better. Leave the chocolate to set and then add another layer.

When the chocolate has set, peel away the cases.

Open the mandarin oranges and reserve a few whole segments. Mash the rest of the fruit with the sponge. Put a spoonful of the mixture into each chocolate case and top with whipped cream.

Decorate the cream with an orange segment and a drizzle of melted chocolate. Keep your confections in the fridge until you need them.



Swiss alpine fondue

Wrap your tastebuds around this fantastic recipe for a fondue dip. It's a great treat for Guides.

You will need: 125g plain or milk chocolate; 1 small carton orange yogurt; marshmallows or chunks of apples; lemon juice; cocktail sticks.

Squeeze some lemon juice over the apple chunks to stop them from going brown. Melt the chocolate in a bowl over a pan of simmering water. Stir the yogurt into the chocolate and then mix until smooth.

Spear marshmallows or chunks of apple on to cocktail sticks. Dip them into the chocolate mixture, then eat and enjoy.



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debate of the age

The millennium Debate of the Age is an opportunity for young people to discuss, and influence, the society in which they live both now – and in the future

Illustrations: Kate Taylor

Background to the Debate

Advances in medical science and general improvements to our way of life mean that the general population is living longer and, therefore, getting older.

This ageing of society as a whole is a new phenomenon. This presents new challenges and problems to the population.

The Debate of the Age seeks young people's views on health, family, work, homes and transport. This, hopefully, will help young people to see how current changes will affect their future.



The Chief Executive writes...

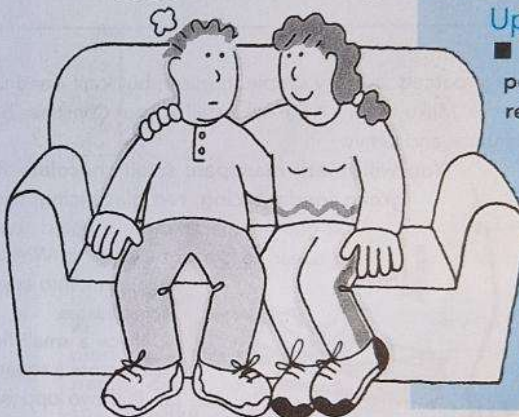
The Guide Association is looking forward to celebrating the millennium and the contribution that some 700,000 members make to society.

The Debate of the Age is an exciting opportunity for our members aged between 5-25 to raise awareness of issues around health, self-esteem and body image. We are keen to promote healthy lifestyles which give girls and young women the confidence to play a full role in society as responsible and active citizens.

Terry Ryall

The Guide Association Chief Executive

I'd like to kiss her.....
But she smokes.



Up in smoke*

■ By the age of 15, 24 per cent of all girls are regular smokers.

In small groups, talk about this shocking situation. How do the girls feel about it? Is it reasonable to say that in a class of 15-year-old girls, a quarter of them would be smokers?

Work in progress

Explore the theme of work — which is one of the featured subjects in the Debate of the Age remit. Use this activity as a starting point for discussion.

Divide the girls into small groups. Present each group with a copy of the following profiles:

- Single woman, aged 20. Well educated and career minded.
- Married woman aged 50, with a grown-up family.
- Single mum, did quite well at school, aged 30.
- University educated woman, aged 30, single and who enjoys working.
- Married woman, aged 24 with a young family.
- Married woman, aged 40, no children.

Next, give each group the following list of jobs:

- Part-time librarian.
- Computer programmer.
- Sales assistant in a clothes shop.
- Freelance journalist.
- Part-time school administrator.
- Manager of a whole food café.

Ask the girls to try to match each of the women with a job. There are no right or wrong replies. Can the girls give reasons for their answers? Can they think of any different jobs for the women?

Eating disorders*

■ 45 per cent of girls — some as young as 11 — are concerned about their weight.

Talk about how healthy eating — which doesn't mean making yourself hungry — and exercise can benefit your life.

■ *Information supplied by the Debate of the Age.



Respect for age

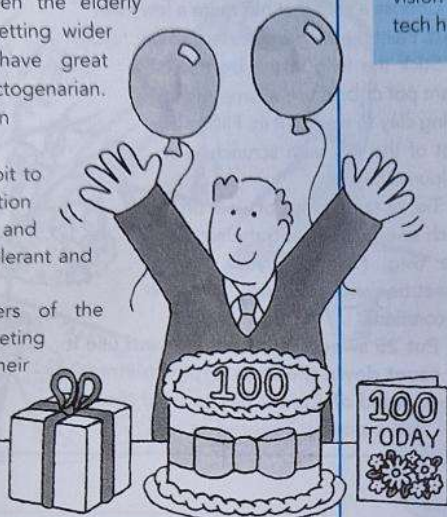
At the present time, almost 32 per cent – one third – of the population, is over the age of 50. It is estimated that by 2021, this will rise to 41 per cent.

By 2031, there will also be some 34,000 people over the age of 100 – back in 1951, there were only 300 centenarians.

The age gap between the elderly and young people is getting wider – a teenager may have great difficulty relating to an octogenarian. This can lead to alienation and disrespect.

Your unit can do its bit to start to close the generation gap in your community and help to foster a more tolerant and understanding society.

Invite older members of the Movement to your meeting and ask them to share their memories – both of Guiding and society as a whole. You can talk about food and fashion, even dating and music.



50 years of health

The National Health Service is 50 years old. There have been many amazing technological advances during this time.

Talk about the different ways in which medicine has made a difference to people's lives. Get the girls to draw their own vision of a health service for the future – such as a high-tech hospital ward.

Association debate

Give your girls the opportunity to make their own contributions to the Debate of the Age.

You can start by using the activities and facts on this page to raise awareness within your unit. Each activity has been designed to slot into one of the key areas of The Debate of the Age (these are outlined in the Background to the Debate box).

As an Association, we are particularly interested in the health area of the debate.

Under-age sex*

■ **45 per cent of British girls claim to have had penetrative sex before they are 16.**

Do the girls feel that there is a right or wrong age to start having sex – and that under-age sex is illegal? Do they know about safer sex and the facts behind sexual health? Find out the facts from your local clinic.

Your chance

■ **The Debate of the Age is our chance to discuss our reactions to change, design policies to improve our lives and shape our future society.**

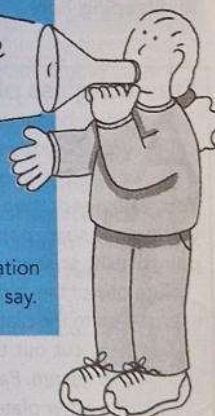
Young people's week

Watch out for

more news of Young People's Week. This will take place next April and is a chance for young people to voice their opinions and get involved with decision making.

There will also be Youth Innovation grants to help young people have their say.

Is everyone listening?



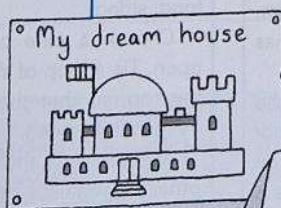
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Homes for the Millennium

The demand for new homes is on the increase. Estimates show that some 5 million new homes will need to be built in the 25-year period between 1991 and 2016.

Ask younger girls to design their own dream homes. Older girls can think about practical housing for large numbers of people.

What factors should be taken into consideration when designing homes for the Millennium?



Further information

■ Any feedback from these pages, or questions about The Guide Association's involvement with the Debate of the Age, should be addressed to: Judy Edwards, The Guide Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.

■ You can also write to: The Debate of the Age, Walkden House, 10 Melton Street, London NW1 2EB.

■ The Debate of the Age website: www.age2000.org.uk

■ You can also Freephone The Debate of the Age: 0800 783 4652.

coping with Christmas

It's never too early to start on your plans for Christmas – if you need a few ideas to help the festive season jingle along, we have just the thing...

By Shirley Stanniforth, Sarah M. Thurleck and Anne Reader
Illustrations: Michelle Draycott

Party games

When you're hosting a unit Christmas party, don't forget to play a selection of traditional games. These are often the most popular, even with slightly older girls.

Try out one of the following games to start you off:

- Pass the parcel
- Blind man's buff
- Sardines
- Sleeping lions

Stained-glass plates

Add a bright and festive touch to your windows with our beautiful stained glass-effect plates.

You will need: two paper plates; red and yellow tissue paper circles; green paint; paintbrush; scissors; glue; marker pen; glitter.

Turn one of the paper plates over. Follow figure one and draw a Christmas tree on to the plate.

Carefully, cut out the shaded part of the plate, leaving the tree still attached to the rim. Paint the whole thing green and leave it to dry.

Take the other plate and cut out the centre section so that you are left with only the rim. Paste a layer of glue around the upper side of the rim, then stick alternate coloured tissue around it until the whole of the gap has been filled.

Once the green paint has dried on the Christmas tree silhouette, paste a layer of glue all over the underside. Stick this on top of the other plate so that the tissue is sandwiched in the middle.

Your stained-glass plate is now ready to hang in a window!

■ If you have large sheets of tissue paper, use one large circle instead of smaller ones.

■ Attach thread to the top of the plate and hang it from a curtain rail.



Christmas sweet fun

Everyone will love to make this super Christmas tree with a difference, it's just the thing for a table decoration or even a gift for younger children.

You will need: large twigs; wrapped sweets; coloured wool; sticky tape; small plant pot or box; modelling clay; tinsel; paint; paintbrushes; coloured paper.

Choose a twig that has quite a few forks on it. Paint the twig and leave it to dry.

Stick the twig in the bottom of a plant pot or box, use a lump of modelling clay to wedge it in. Fill up the rest of the pot with crunched-up coloured paper.

Tie, or tape, loops of wool on to each sweet then hang them on to the twig. Finish off your super sweet tree with some tinsel or other decorations.

■ Put 25 sweets on each tree and use it to count down the days until Christmas.

■ Instead of a plant pot to hold the twig, use half a potato covered in foil.

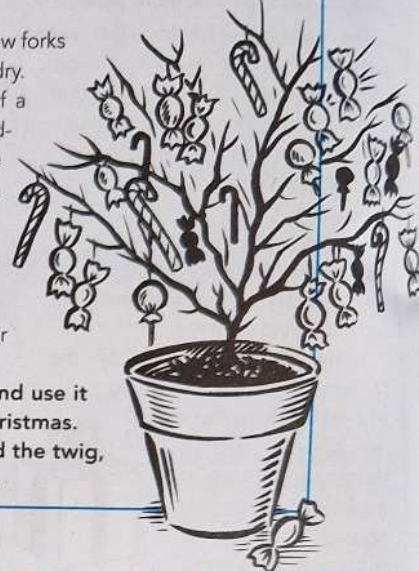


Fig 1

Crack-a-joke

Home-made crackers are fun to make, especially if you have to write your own jokes to go inside.

Give the girls a selection of cardboard tubes, crêpe paper, glitter and glue. They can then start making their own crazy crackers. You could make paper hats to go inside, along with a sweet and, of course, some terrible jokes.

Pine-cone feeders

You could give these pine-cone feeders as a present to anyone who loves to watch wild birds in their garden.

You will need: large pine cones; lard; raisins; breadcrumbs; unsalted nuts and seeds, or wild bird food; string.

Choose a pine cone that is open. Tie a loop of string around the top, so that the cone can be hung in the garden.

Melt the lard and stir in the other ingredients. When the mixture has cooled slightly, dip the pine cone into it.

Make sure that the mixture gets in between all of the spines.

Leave the cone to cool, then hang it in the garden and wait for the birds to come!



Wrap it up

Anyone who needs a last-minute Christmas craft for a meeting, can organise a session to make some super snowflake gift wrap.

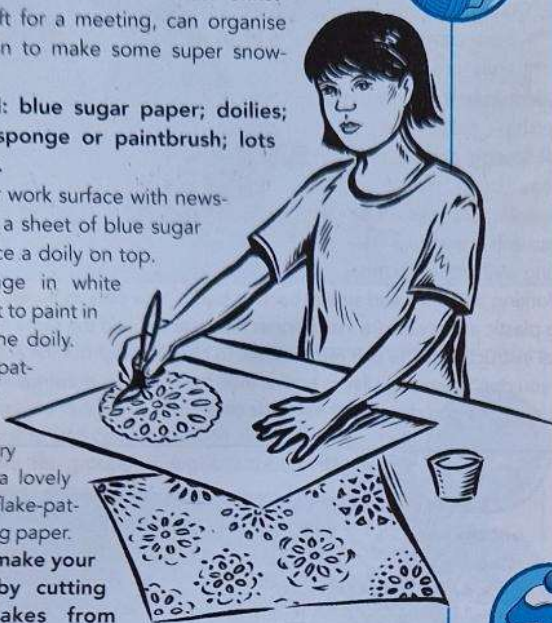
You will need: blue sugar paper; doilies; white paint; sponge or paintbrush; lots of newspaper.

Protect your work surface with newspaper. Lay out a sheet of blue sugar paper and place a doily on top.

Dip the sponge in white paint and use it to paint in the gaps on the doily. Repeat the pattern all over the paper.

When it is dry you will have a lovely sheet of snowflake-patterned wrapping paper.

■ You could make your own doilies by cutting some snowflakes from thin paper.



Best-ever Christmas cookies

Cut cookies into seasonal shapes for a great Christmas fundraiser, crunchy party food or tasty decorations.

You will need: 75g sugar; 100g butter; 2 eggs; 300g flour; 2tsp baking powder; 1tsp vanilla essence.

Sift the flour and the baking powder together. Preheat the oven to Gas mark 5, 190°C or 375°F.

Soften the butter, add the sugar and beat until creamy. Beat in the eggs and essence then mix in the flour.

Form the dough into a thick sausage and wrap in greaseproof paper. Chill for three to four hours.

Roll the dough into thin biscuits, you can use fancy cutters if you like. Place on a greased baking sheet. Bake for 7-12 minutes or just until they start to turn golden brown.

Cool the cookies on a wire tray. They can be iced, decorated with small sweets or sprinkled with sugar.

■ Before you bake the cookies, make a small hole at the top. When they are cooked, thread thin ribbon through. The cookies can then be used as decorations.



Count the baubles

Test the girls' athletic skills – as well as their mathematical talents – with this sparkling Christmas game.

You will need: tinsel; cardboard box; plastic baubles, one for each girl, or plastic balls; plain labels; pen.

Randomly label the baubles with the numbers 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50 and 100. Put them in the bottom of the box with lots of tinsel on top.

Divide the girls into equal teams. Team members have to take it in turns to run to the box, gently pull out a bauble and return to their places.

When everyone has extracted a bauble, add up the scores for each team. The team with the least number of points wins.

Play the game again, but change the winners – don't tell the girls – to the team with the most points.

What's that carol?

For a fun game that everyone can join in, mime the titles of Christmas carols for teams to guess.

You can also try to draw a carol so that team members have to guess its title.



Rustic charms

Older girls can make clever Christmas decorations from fruit. Just slice oranges and apples very thinly, then dry them out in the oven. The oven should be at its lowest setting.

Decorate the dried fruit with ribbons and then it's ready to be hung on your Christmas tree.

■ Make more rustic decorations from hessian, rough string, corrugated card – even twigs and bark.



Festive napkin rings

Rainbows and Brownies will love to make a matching napkin ring and coaster that will brighten up their families' festive tables on Christmas Day.

You will need: cardboard tube; crêpe paper; tinsel; small Christmas decorations; medium-weight card; glue; scissors.

Cut rings – about 4cm wide – from the cardboard tube and cover with crêpe paper. Decorate the rings with tinsel and baubles.

The girls can take their napkin rings home to decorate their festive tables.



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senior section guiders

Communication and leadership skills, international news and activities, pass on these pages to give your girls some inspiration for their meetings

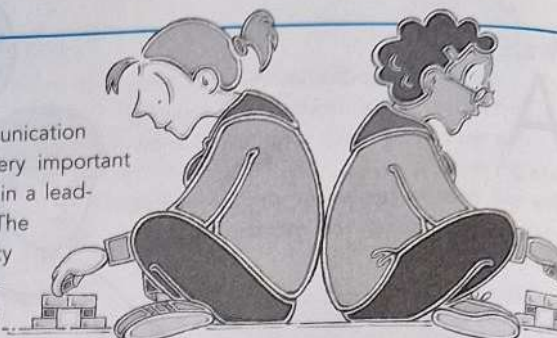
By Val Heward and Anne Reader
Illustrations: Ellen Hopkins

Learning to communicate

Good communication skills are very important for anyone in a leadership role. The following activity has been designed to get your unit communicating well with each other.

Working in pairs – and sitting back to back – one person builds a simple item using plastic activity bricks. Her partner then has to build the same item, following verbal instructions. The pair remain back to back throughout the activity.

If you don't have any plastic bricks, then make simple drawings with paper and coloured pens and describe these instead.



Leadership

The Leadership octant is not just about leadership within Guiding. Leadership skills are an important part of everyday life and should be developed.

Baden-Powell said that leadership is 'an art to be practised', and many of the activities within the Leadership octant can help you do this.

The octant says that a good leader should fulfil the following criteria:

- Be able to decide what the aims of the group are and have a sense of direction.
- Help members of the group work together as a team.
- Be accepted by the group as a leader.
- Set a good example for the group to follow.
- Inspire members of the group to do their best.

Get together to think of your own criteria for a good leader.

International selection

Attending a selection for an international event is not the awful ordeal that many people mistakenly assume it to be.

Selection days and weekends are usually a lot of fun — giving you the opportunity to make new friends and learn new skills.

Selection events are usually held in the autumn. You can get details from your Guider, Commissioner or County International Adviser.

If you're not selected at the first attempt, don't be put off, the right trip for you may be happening next year!



Seminars

Attending a seminar as a representative of your Guide Association, is a very exciting and worthwhile challenge. It is an opportunity that is open to many Senior Section members.

These seminars are publicised in *GUIDING*. Your Guider should also receive flyers containing information.

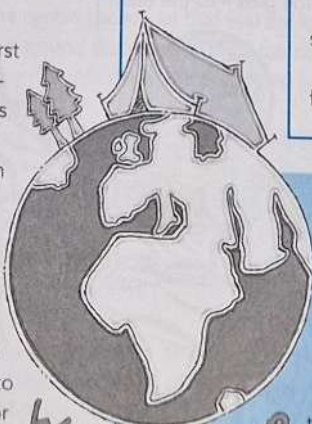
Some seminars are held locally, in European countries, or further afield — possibly Our Cabaña or Sangam.

The world camp

Seventy-five years after the first World Camp, Foxlease is playing host to the last one of this millennium during July 1999.

Foxlease is The Guide Association Training Centre for the south of England, based in the New Forest — an ideal base for a world camp.

Counties are now arranging selection weekends for the camp. It will definitely be an event that you won't want to miss, so contact your Senior Section Adviser, or International Adviser, for more details.



World Camp

World camp challenge

Girls who are not able to attend the World Camp, can still get involved with the World Camp Challenge.

The challenge is open to all age groups, from Rainbows to members of the Trefoil Guild. Everyone who takes part will gain a valuable insight into the traditions and cultures of participating countries.

There will also be plenty of exciting programme ideas for units, as well as lots of fun for everyone.



Follow my leader

Finding out what makes a good leader can be fun. However, not everyone's idea of what makes a good leader will necessarily be the same.

- Try to find an adjective beginning with each letter of the alphabet to describe a good leader.
- Choose one letter and think of lots of words to describe a good leader, all beginning with that letter.
- Ask everyone to bring in a picture of someone – dead or alive – that they consider to be a good leader. Use the photos to start a discussion.



Disaster debate

Get involved in a lively debate to exercise the unit's leadership and communication skills. The activity is suitable for groups of eight, although it can be adapted for larger groups.

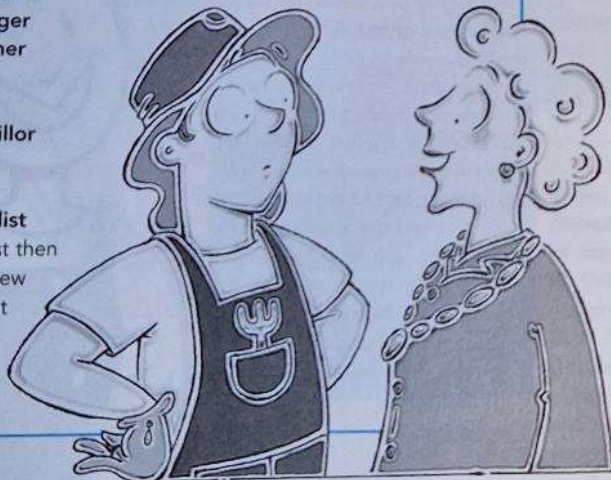
First of all, make everyone aware of the following scenario: A deadly virus has been released into the atmosphere. You are one of eight people who have managed to reach an airtight, nuclear shelter.

However, there is only enough air to allow two people to survive until the virus has dispersed. Try to justify why you should be one of these two people.

Each member of the group is then given a card with one of the following jobs written on it.

- Shop manager
- Young mother
- Doctor
- Accountant
- Local councillor
- Guider
- Teacher
- Horticulturalist

Everyone must then assume her new identity and put forward her case for survival.



Russian food

- Lots of Senior Section activities revolve around food, National Russia Awareness Day needn't be an exception! Find out about some of the traditional foods that are eaten in Russia and cook them for yourselves.



Russian-style decorations

Traditionally, Russians decorate everyday objects with red, black and gold paint. The results are a bit like traditional bargeware.

Decorate plant pots and wooden spoons then sell them to raise money for your Country or Region's Russia project.



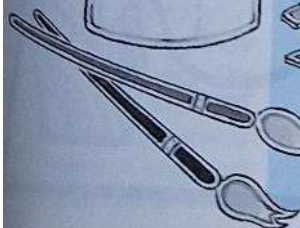
Amazing mosaics

Many Russian churches are decorated with beautiful mosaics. Try to find some books that illustrate them.

Reproduce a mosaic design for yourselves. Pieces of broken eggshell make a brilliant mosaic medium, you can paint it, stain it and varnish it.

Mosaics can also be made from material, paper and broken tiles or even china.

- Hold a competition to produce the most imaginative mosaic.



Russia Awareness Day

You should know by now that the National Russia Awareness Day is happening over the weekend of October 31 to November 1. If you don't know anything about it, start by reading pages 23, 38 and 39!

After a long absence, Guiding is slowly being re-established in Russia. All of the UK Countries and Regions are involved in fundraising events to help and are linked to a particular region of Russia.

The activities on this page should help to get you in a Russian mood.



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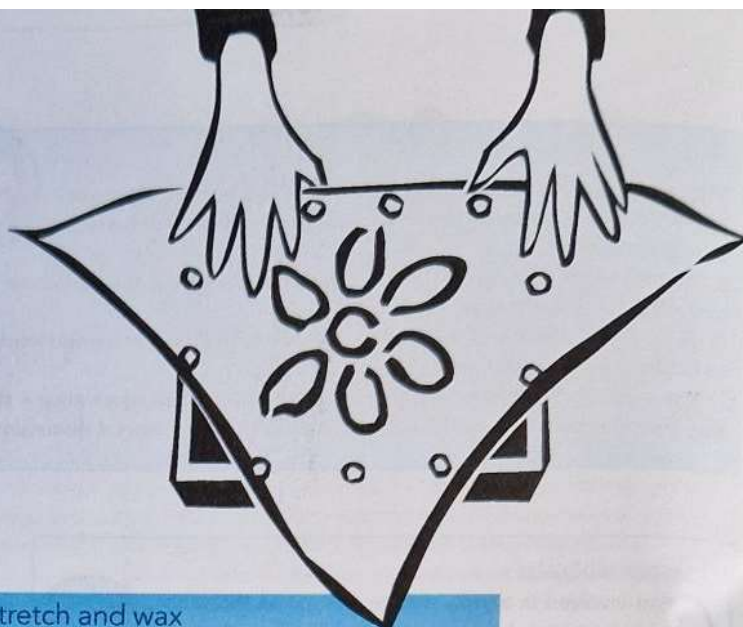
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crafty ideas

Your unit will love making this beautiful batik neckerchief, using the traditional craft of wax painting on cloth

Adapted from WAGGGS Arts in the Programme
Illustrations: Martina Farrow



You will need:

- Old cotton sheeting
- Scissors
- Needle and thread
- Candles
- Old wooden picture frame
- Drawing pins
- 2 contrasting cold water dyes (one light, one dark) and fixer
- Rubber gloves and apron
- Plastic bucket to mix dye in
- Lots of newspaper
- An iron

Stretch and wax

2 Stretch your necker over an old wooden picture frame and secure it with drawing pins. Be careful not to break the threads of the fabric.

Lightly mark out a design in pencil. Light a candle and carefully drip the wax over the lines of the design.

Dry and dye

3 Allow the wax to cool thoroughly — it should be transparent when held up towards the light.

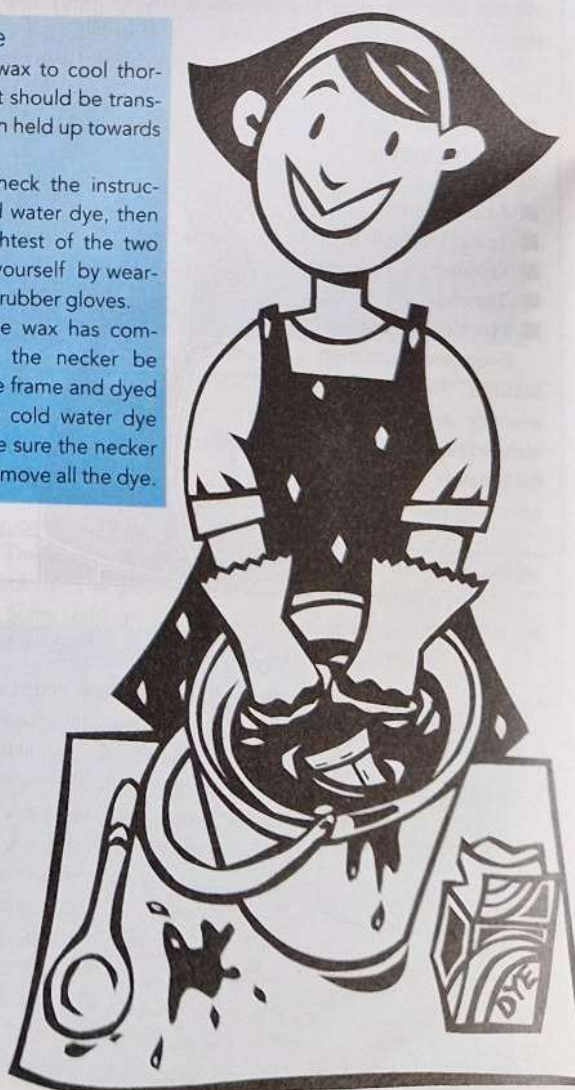
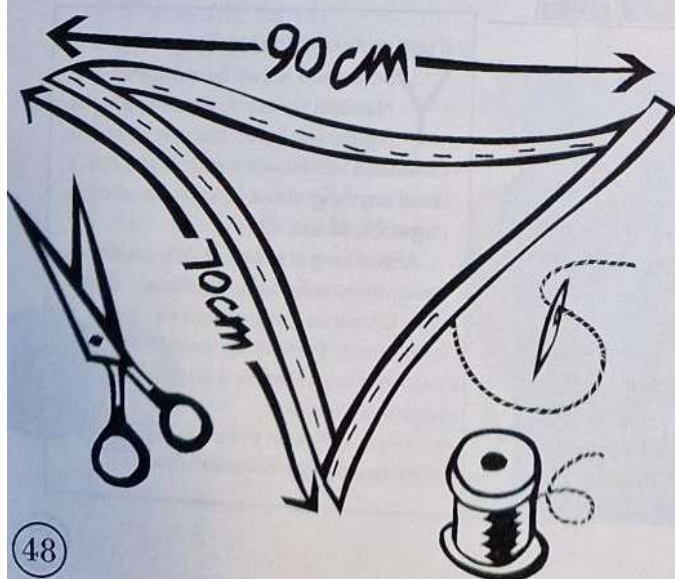
Meanwhile, check the instructions on the cold water dye, then make up the lightest of the two colours. Protect yourself by wearing an apron and rubber gloves.

Only when the wax has completely set, can the necker be removed from the frame and dyed according to the cold water dye instructions. Make sure the necker is rinsed well to remove all the dye.

Make your necker

1 Before you start melting wax and dyeing cloth, you will need to make your basic necker.

Using your own neckers as a guide, cut a new one from plain, white, cotton sheeting. Turn under a small hem on each side and stitch neatly.



Wax it again

4 Once the neckerchief is dry, repeat step 2 and draw another wax design on it.

Once the wax has set, dye the necker again using the darker colour dye. Alternatively, you could try tie-dyeing the necker with the darker dye — do be careful not to break the wax.



Iron it

5 When the necker is completely dry, sandwich between thick layers of old newspaper or lots of paper towels.

Set the iron to hot and iron on top of the newspaper sandwich. The paper will absorb the wax from the necker, leaving behind your brilliant batik design.

You will need to change the newspaper several times, as it will quickly get clogged with wax.

■ A heavy, dry iron is more effective than a steam iron. If you have to use a steam iron, make sure it hasn't got any water in it!

■ Do be careful not to get wax on the iron — about five layers of newspaper on top of the batik should stop the wax from soaking right through.

Safety warning

■ Do be very careful around naked flames. Girls should be supervised at all times.

■ This activity should not be carried out under canvas.

■ It is up to the individual Guider's discretion as to whether this activity is suitable for her unit, although it not recommended for Brownies and Rainbows.



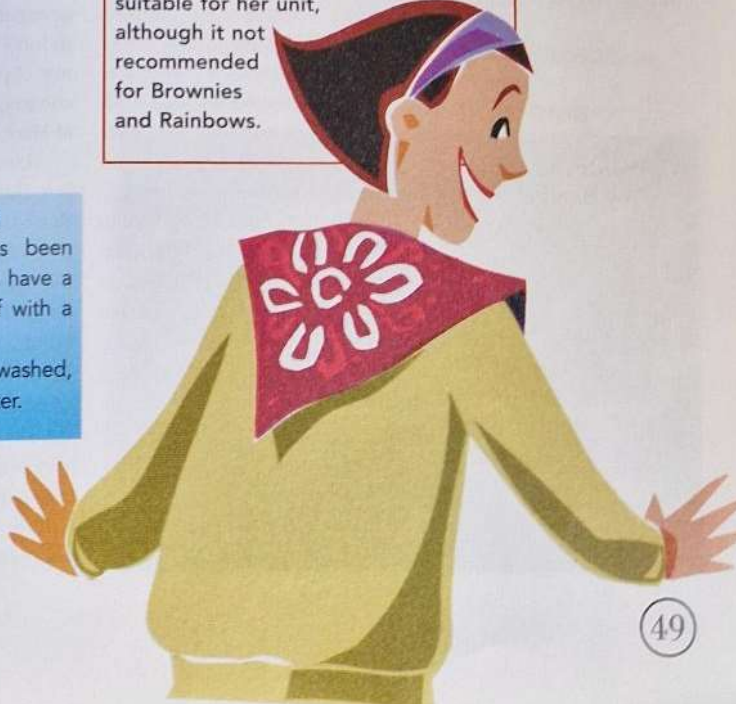
The finished article

6 Once the wax has been ironed out, you will have a fantastic neckerchief with a trendy difference.

If a necker needs to be washed, do it separately in cold water.

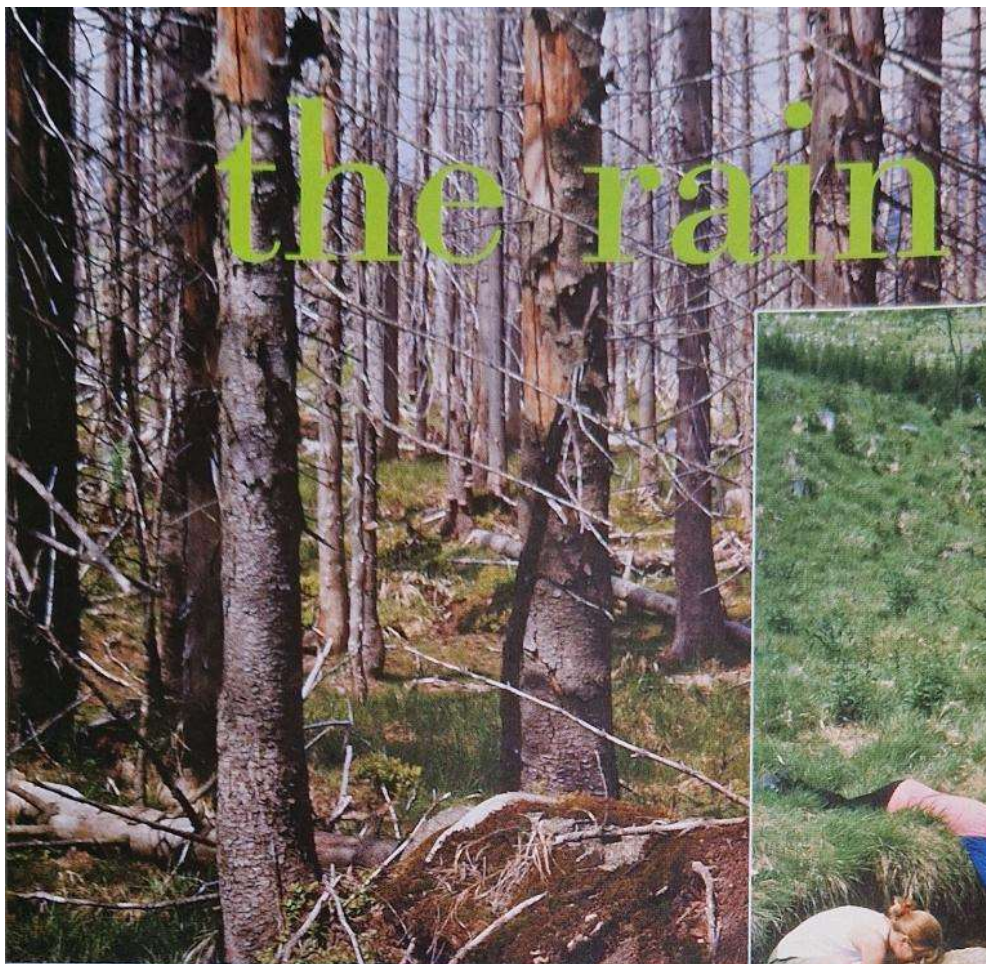
Patrol identity

■ Individual groups or Patrols may like to create their own identity by making neckers in the same design and colours.



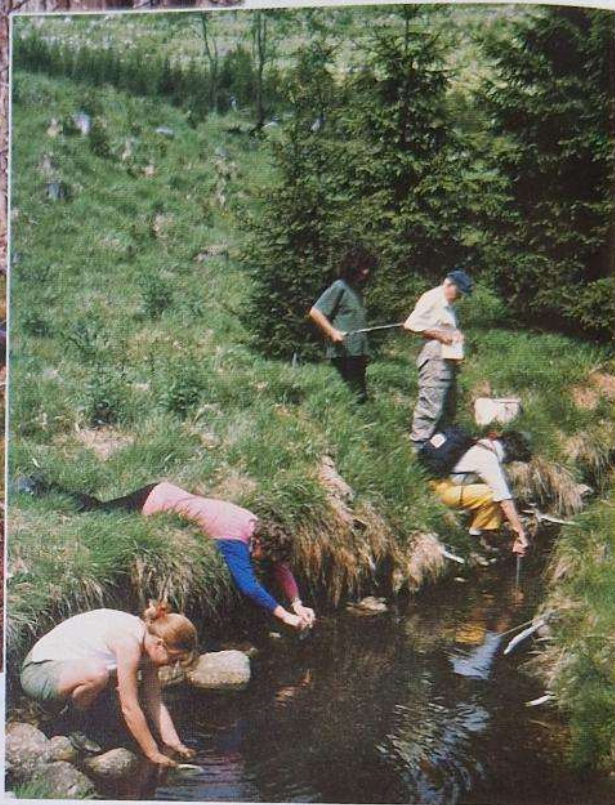
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the rain that



The terrible beauty of a blighted landscape — the wood cannot even be used as timber

Team members take stream samples. Growing trees behind them will eventually die from the effects of acid rain



**No birds sing
and trees
cannot survive
in a landscape
scarred by
acid rain**

**Words and photos
by Hazel Mitford**

Guiding offers many opportunities but, very occasionally, a chance presents itself that makes you think 'This is it. If I pass this up I'll regret it forever.' That's how I came to apply for an Earthwatch Millennium fellowship.

Funded mainly by lottery money, with a contribution from Royal & SunAlliance, I was awarded a two-week, all-expenses-paid field trip to Bohemia to study acid rain with Professor Josef Krecek from the European University, in Prague.

The theme behind all such fellowships is Agenda 21, which arose from the Rio Summit earlier this decade. Its message can be summarised as: 'Think globally, act locally', a phrase that applies equally well to Guiding. Working in small groups within local communities, the results may seem quite modest, but when added to other initiatives, the cumulative effects can be truly global.

Before I left on the trip, I had to raise £100 through my local community. Although it was disconcerting promoting myself as a worthy cause, this proved to be a valuable experience in itself.

I sent press releases to local newspapers and radio, wrote letters to lots of local firms and explained my plans to my church congregation and the management at Harrogate College where I work.

Many of the letters drew a blank, but they were all worth while in that they provided me with a chance to explain what I was doing and why.

A church meeting, for instance, would not normally want to get involved in the issues behind acid rain but, because these were people I knew personally, I had a forum.

I was able to explain, get lots of free advertising, and gain insights into how to publicise and interest others in important issues — skills

which I will certainly use in the future as a Unit Guider.

We all need to be aware of this technique. For example, when we invite someone to test badges or help with specialist skills at a unit meeting, we can also use this as a forum to promote Guiding, possibly drawing the press in too. Every time we invite an 'outsider' into our meetings, we are extending our influence.

If I learned a lot before I set off, it was nothing compared to my actual time in Bohemia. The intensity of the experience was such that I felt I'd been given an extra life, one that had to be crammed into two weeks!

We were based in a small village, Bedrichov, in the Jizera mountains. The team was multi-national and multi-disciplined so we all had different skills to share. Most of the work was out of doors — collecting stream and reservoir

kills

samples; taking measurements; looking at rainwater; counting the number of fish, small organisms and plankton present at different places; estimating tree vitality.

Usually we walked but sometimes we used a boat. In the evenings, we looked at our samples in more detail, sorted out our data and took turns to give the others a valuable 'presentation'.

Some of the team talked about other research they'd done in exotic parts of the world. I took everyone on a ramble, identifying plants and telling folk stories about them as we went. 'Forget-me-not', I've discovered, is the same in German, Czech and English.

In the valleys the vegetation was beautiful — meadows full of a huge variety of flowers and most types of tree growing reasonably well. Above 800 metres however, it was a different story. Here the silvery conifer branches rattled forlornly as the wind swept through. Piles of branches littered the landscape like bones in an elephants' graveyard. Sounds of life such as bird song were absent.

The trees had been replanted five times but, whenever they reached a certain size, they inevitably died, because they were unable to stand the biological stresses any longer. Ironically, the whole area is part of a nature reserve. The whole upland landscape has been changed so there is a lot of work to do.

Acid rain also results in fish abnormality and death with high concentrations of heavy metals in their organs. This is a problem if people then eat the fish, as they could also be affected. The results of drinking the water which, of course, everyone living there has to do, is only now being considered.

Acid rain is a classic example of the Not In My Back Yard — NIMBY — attitude. Pollutants produced in one area are conveniently carried by the wind to

cause problems elsewhere.

Sulphur dioxide from power stations has been the main culprit. Some of this has come from the Czech Republic itself, but emissions from the former East Germany which are now being cleaned up, and Poland — still continuing to a certain extent — have had a major effect.

The Jizera mountains may seem distant to Guiders in the UK but parts of Scotland are similarly affected. Emissions from English industry have also caused huge damage across Scandinavia.

It's easy to condemn big industry for causing acid rain but, perhaps, we need to be aware that as individuals our influence also has repercussions in many ways, often on an international scale.

My visit gave me a huge insight into the science behind this and other issues in the Czech Republic. Yet, as we talked and discussed anything and everything, I gained a glimpse of much else besides — Czech politics, economics, history, geography, geology, music and art. As the Czech members of the team frequently gave different answers to the same question, this also broadened my horizons.

We visited museums, factories, castles, churches and local 'pubs'. Josef, our leader, was a great music lover and took us to live performances at every opportunity. I was even invited to 'have a go' on the organ in St Francis's Church in Prague. Mozart called it the greatest organ in the world. I stroked its yellowed keys amazed to think the great musician himself had once played it. Although he would have had no idea what life would be like in the 20th Century, he was capable of inspiring me so long after his death. Let's hope the effects of acid rain are less enduring.

I am now home concentrating on family, work and Guiding. However, the final part of the award involves a personal action

plan to continue community involvement. I had expected this to be a chore but have found it quite the reverse. Being given the opportunity to get many others involved in environmental challenges is a privilege.

Of course, I'm encouraging my Guides to participate in the Environmental Challenge, but I'm rapidly discovering that one thing leads to another. An activity here and an article there can really make a difference. It's the same with Guiding. It can change the quality of people's lives and their environment on a global level. What a challenge!

Although I'm one of the first people to gain such a fellowship, it is the Government's intention that thousands more will be made available. Mine was environmental but others are planned in areas of health, education, faith, technology and so on.

● For further information on projects and Millennium Awards, ring 0171 880 2030.

Acid rain is a name given to rain containing acid formed in the atmosphere especially from industrial waste gasses.

Hazel Mitford is a Guide Guider, who also helps with a Brownie Pack at St Paul's (11th Harrogate) in North Yorkshire.

Until recently, she was also a Rainbow Guider. Her two daughters are both Guides. ■

Hazel Mitford with Professor Josef Krecek, taking measurements from a reservoir in the Jizera mountains



information

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Note All copy for inclusion in January's *GUIDING* should reach CHQ by October 24. Please address all contributions to the Editor, Nora Warner. Anyone wishing to have photographs returned that are sent to *GUIDING* must include a s.a.e.

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4.30pm). It is closed Bank Holidays and over Christmas.

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

your letters

Tolerance of all faiths

A letter in June's *GUIDING* about 'exclusive' prayers provoked a response from several readers.

A friend's name

I am a Christian and when I talk to my Lord, and friend, I find it natural occasionally to address Him by name. I would expect anyone of a different faith to do the same and would respect their rights — not discourage them.

It seems to me that tolerance should extend to all members, and potential members, of the Guide Movement. Telling *anyone* that to mention the name of their God is unacceptable is not tolerance. Tolerance, after all, is about inclusion, not exclusion.

Perhaps, what should really concern us is when people who solemnly promise 'to love my God' can be said to pray 'automatically, without forethought'. Surely, this hypocrisy is far more worrying than any sincere Christian mentioning the name of Jesus as a natural part of her conversation with Him.

Incidentally, I am at a loss to know why it is that the followers of Jesus are the only people whom it is politically correct to discriminate against in this country.

Christine Martin
Sheffield

Deterring Christians

Having read the letter, I felt I must respond. I do not think your correspondent, The Guide Association, or anyone, has the right to tell Christian clergy that they may not pray in the name of Jesus in a service that is happening in a building dedicated to Christian worship.

Large-scale events, such as Thinking Day gatherings, do not need to be held in churches, as there are plenty of other large buildings available. For example, civic halls, theatres, leisure centres... and anyone who feels strongly about keeping the contents of such a gathering 'neutral' could investigate these venues.

The writer also argues in favour of not using the name of Jesus in unit prayers, even if the Guider knows that all its members are Christians, in case this deters anyone from joining! It would seem that she wishes her prayers to be inclusive of everyone *except* Christians.

The Lancashire East County prayer ends with the words 'through Jesus Christ our Lord', and the issue of dropping this sentence was debated a number of years ago in case it offended other faiths.

A large number of Christian Guiders said that they found it equally offensive to be told that they may *not* pray in the name of Jesus, an aspect that often seems to be pushed aside.

Judith A Diggins
Brownie Guider
Lancashire

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

Church of convenience?

The letter certainly made me think. Prayers should be suitable for the group concerned, and we should know the beliefs of the girls in our units.

The thing that really makes me cross is the assumption that churches can be used like hiring the school hall, only they are bigger and cheaper!

The building is there because the Christians keep it going for Christian purposes! All are welcome — my own church is welcoming the District to its family service on Sunday, and I am sure that our vicar would be only too happy to have a special service just for the District, but I know how much it costs to keep the building going and would be very concerned if the Christian message was not part of the service.

I suspect the clergy might not be so happy to allow the use of the largest building in the area — usually rent free — if informed of our non-Christian status. On this matter, I realise I live in a backwater and that for many people other beliefs are in the majority. But, please, do not expect to use a Christian building and deny its rightful purpose.

On another matter, I have recently heard the suggestion that the Patrol system should be abandoned, if it does not seem to work. I seem to have heard that many employers like good team members when looking for new staff. Perhaps helping the Patrol system to work would help the girls to become good team members.

Rosemary Saxey
Assistant Guide Guider
Shaftesbury, Dorset

Spectacular prize

I was fortunate enough to win four tickets to the Royal Tournament in a recent *GUIDING* competition. Our initial doubts over whether to take our six-year-old and four-year-old daughters were quelled by the Press Office, so we decided we would.

What an experience for us all! We would never have gone to such an impressive show if I had not won the tickets. The vast size of Earl's Court made the whole show a massive spectacle.

We certainly intend going to see the show again next year, and my fellow Guiders are hoping you will run a similar competition next year so they can win tickets and come with us!

Thank you very much.

Sarah-Jane Gee
Ipswich

In it together

Margaret Birkinshaw wrote in August's *GUIDING* that she has a Trefoil Guild sweatshirt but doesn't think this is appropriate wear when representing her Guiding County. Does she not realise that the Trefoil Guild is part of the Guide Movement? That is the reason Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers, Young Leaders, Guiders and the Trefoil Guild all have the same badges — but in different colours — to make us realise we are all in the same Movement, having made the same Promise?

Foky Bradshaw
Shaldon, Devon

Radical review

I was very pleased to see that Guide Trefoil badges are being reviewed. I would like to make a suggestion, that is radical, but which I believe has advantages.

I find two problems with the present system of syllabuses linked to the age of the Guide. One is that of the less-able girl who is keen, but not up to coping with the Trefoil her calendar age requires, and so can become left behind and discouraged.

The other difficulty is that of trying to programme in so many options. I know the Patrol system is supposed to take care of that, but who can honestly claim 100 per cent success with the Patrol system?

I find that, left to themselves, the girls would rather play rounders or swop make-up tips or just chat.

So I suggest a bank of options to cover the Eight Points, which can be used for any of the Trefoils. In other words, if staffing required, the whole unit could spend an evening on the same option or choice of options covering one of the Eight Points, with every age group knowing that it counted towards their own particular Trefoil. Thus avoiding more-able girls feeling they were being held back.

At the end of the year, Trefoils could be awarded, colour-coded, according to age as at present, provided that all Eight Points had been covered. Given a reasonable number of options, repetition year by year should not be a problem.

I really feel that this more relaxed scheme would help Guiders working alone, and it would also get away from seeming too much like school — a common complaint we've all heard from the girls.

Let's emphasise the fun and fellowship of Guiding a bit more and have less pressure to achieve. The girls — and surely most Guiders — have enough pressure in their lives already, what they need is light-heartedness and encouragement. Don't we all?

Jenny Holden
Glider
Liverpool

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.

Power of positive thought

We are fortunate that Guiding attracts many high-achieving women, so awards of national honours are not unusual and receive little publicity. Despite this, I would like to offer my congratulations through *GUIDING* to one of this year's recipients of an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Penny Haycraft, just-retired Commissioner of the British Virgin Islands, has worked tirelessly to raise the profile of Guiding and her island country. She has really taken 'Looking wider still' to its fullest extent.

With the support of her tiny, but enthusiastic group of leaders, the 160-strong Association has enabled many girls to enjoy camps and visits overseas, to welcome visiting Guide groups to their islands, and to keep Guiding in the public eye in this community of 16,000.

For those of us who are occasionally daunted at the thought of recruiting enough leaders, or of fund raising for one or two girls from a District to travel overseas, the determination and 'can do' attitude of this smallest of Guide Associations provides us with an example of positive thinking in action.

Terrena Hull
Burnham, Slough

Robyn needs a loving home

Parents for Children is a small, voluntary adoption agency which seeks families for damaged children who need a secure future, in a loving home.

At the moment, we are having a lot of difficulty in finding a family for Robyn. He is now five and a half but, because of a brain injury sustained as a baby, functions more or less like a 12 month-old child. Despite his difficulties, he is a smashing little boy who is very responsive and rewarding to care for.

Having some knowledge of Guiding, I know the organisation's values of care and service are just what we are looking for and that many Guiders have the personal qualities of practical warmth, organisational skill and the ability to stimulate and motivate children, which will be needed to parent Robyn.

If any of your readers would like to think about taking him into their family, and would like to discuss this further, I would be very pleased to hear from them at: Parents for Children, 41 Southgate Road, London N1 3JP. Tel 0171 359 7530 or local call number 0845 307 6653.

Thanks for your help.

Jill Low
Senior Placement Practitioner

Memorable young woman

I felt I must write to tell you about a very special Young Leader, Vicky Zirker.

She started at 2nd Abbots Langley Brownies when she was seven. It was the usual story, more leaders were needed, so she persuaded her mum, Rosemary, to become Brown Owl.

She joined 1st Kings Langley Guides but, due to a lack of leaders, transferred to my unit — 3rd Abbots Langley Guides.

Vicky completed her B-P Trefoil and was so proud on the night of her presentation.

As the Young Leader Guider in Kings Langley District, I had the pleasure of working with her again. She worked with her mum with the 2nd Abbots Langley Brownies until her parents moved to Peterborough.

Vicky faced the hardest decision of her life: whether to stay and finish her GCSEs or to go to a new school in Peterborough. She decided to stay with some friends in Watford to finish her exams, but when that didn't work out, she came to live with my family instead.

Although under a lot of pressure with her GCSEs, Vicky used her time wisely. She never missed her Brownie meeting and worked alongside the new team that had taken over from her mum. She quickly completed her Basic Leadership Certificate.

When she moved to Peterborough, after her exams, she couldn't settle with a local unit. She phoned me to say that instead of Brownies, she

would be doing voluntary work with children with disabilities, but that she would like to continue helping us with Pack Holidays, camp fund raising and so on.

Vicky was proud to tell her friends she was a Young Leader and happy to wear her uniform in public. She even volunteered her boyfriend to help at Young Leader trainings. Her commitment to Guiding was exceptional for a 17-year-old. I hope that everyone who met her feels as privileged as I do for having been part of her life.

Vicky died on Friday, June 3 in a tragic car accident. Let's hope that our little ray of sunshine can be an inspiration to others.

Tina Willmore
Hertfordshire

Don't miss out on the fun-packed 1999 Annuals!

These two fab Annuals make the perfect Christmas present for all Rainbows and Brownies — they'd be great for would-be Rainbows and Brownies, too.

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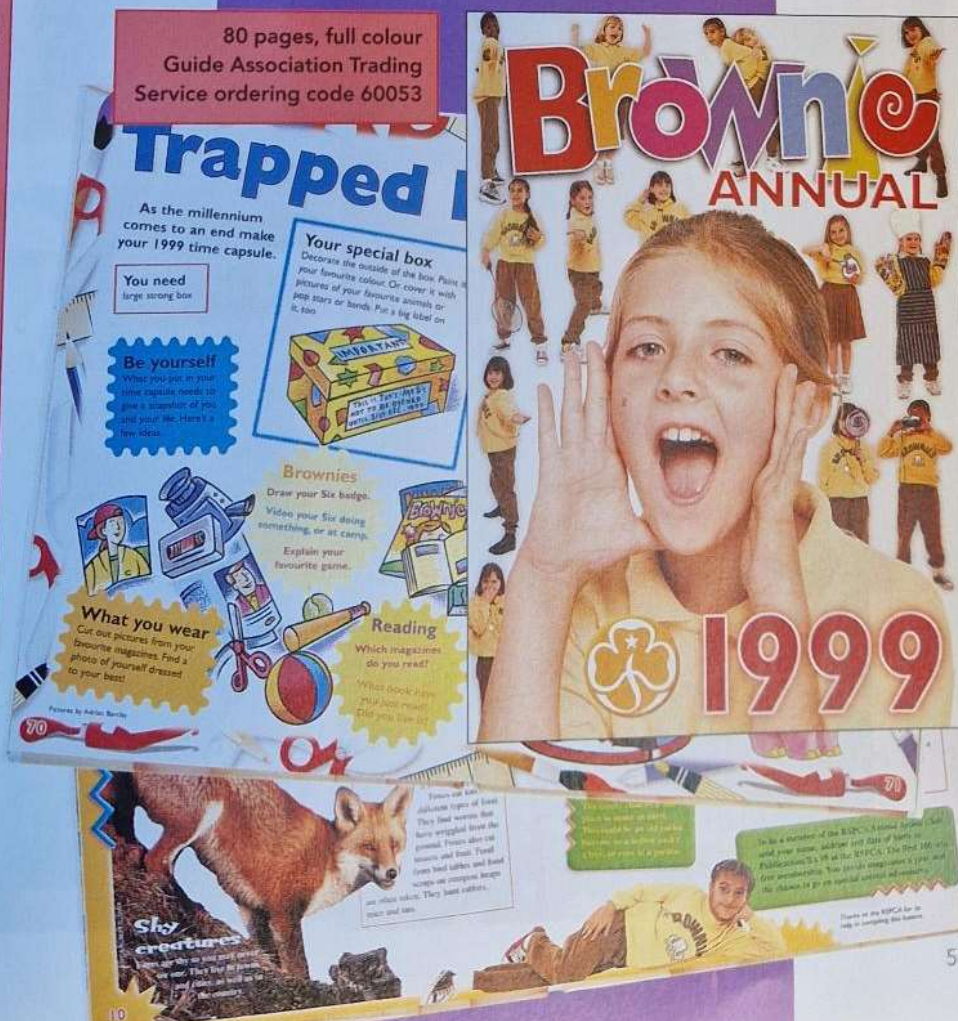
THE GUIDE ASSOCIATION

Publishing for its members

GUIDING October 1998



64 pages, full colour
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80 pages, full colour
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Russian Rainbows

These happy Rainbows from Durham are showing off their very beautiful Russian headdresses. The chic chapeaux were created as part of a Padroogi Day, a North East England project to raise awareness of Guiding in Russia.

MARGARET WHITTAKER



Beachcombers

Guides from 3rd Thelwall unit in Cheshire obviously spotted something really interesting on their beach walk. The girls were snapped gazing intently while listening to Island Ranger Vicky, en route to Hilbre Island, on the Wirral.

Staple diet

Cooking up a feast for her fellow Patrol members, is Guide Catriona Strachan. Catriona's culinary treat was some traditional Irish potato bread, just the thing to keep everyone on top form through a week of activities at Netherud.



CHRISTINE WILSON



SHEILA RANDALL



LANCASHIRE EVENING POST



COURTESY OF THE EXPRESS AND ECHO EXETER

Fall in for scrubbing duty

On stand-by, armed with brush and bucket, are Brownie Guides Emily Tombs, Katie Granger and Stephanie Lewis from Topsham, Exeter. The Pack helped out by cleaning a fire engine at the local station — raising lots of money for orphaned children in Mozambique.

Stepping out for asthma

Wearing their best smiles, as well as their wellies, are Brownies from Hornby, North Lancashire. The girls took part in a two-mile sponsored

walk and raised lots of money for their favourite asthma charities.



HERALD EXPRESS, TORQUAY



CLAUDIA SMITH

What's all this then?

Breconshire Brownie Guider, Donna Powell, made an extra-special friend at this year's Trooping of the Colour in London. George, the jolly policeman, was only too happy to smile for the camera while Donna posed in his helmet.

Don't miss our caption competition

We loved this photo so much, we're offering a £10 garden voucher to the person who comes up with the best caption. Just what do you think Brixham District Commissioner, Anne Irvine, is doing?



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.



SHEILA BROWN

Boxing clever

Happiness is... a County fun day! A beaming smile says it all, as one young visitor comes to the end of a tunnel trail at Manchester County Fun Day. Girls and Guiders from around the area enjoyed an action-packed day out at the Seven Springs camp site, Disley.

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making merry

Where will you be spending Christmas and New Year? Some of our members will be spending theirs with 27,000 Scouts – both male and female – on the other side of the world.

Their festive destination is South America. They will be heading for Chile, a long, narrow strip of land to the west of the Andes.

from two of our Regions – Midlands and South West England – under the leadership of Karen Edwards, have joined together with Scouts from Gloucestershire, Hereford and Worcester.

Don't think for one minute that the girls will be doing all the cooking. Not likely; the boys will be taking their turn. At their training weekend at Bromsgrove, both sexes were trying to improve their culinary skills

through a *Ready Steady Cook*-style competition.

The young people in this group will be able to share a family Christmas meal before leaving on Boxing Day.

At the Jamboree, each Patrol will buy food daily from one of the many supermarkets using Condors, a form of currency minted especially for the event.

Greater London Kent girls, plus Gill Dawson, their leader, and the rest of unit 19 also fly out on Boxing Day, so they know they'll be having a ball in Chile. But, just for good measure, they held a ball as part of their fund raising and dressed up for the great occasion.

The leader of the girls from London South East, Chris Adamson, attended the last World Jamboree in Holland, so will be able to prepare them for what to expect at this huge event which

starts on December 27.

Finally, on the same day, a small group of Guides from Hertfordshire – with leader Tricia Dundas and the rest of unit 22 – will take off to join in the experience of a lifetime.

Guide Association members are also included in the 250 or so international service team who will help to run the behind-the-scenes organisation at the Jamboree and put on the activities.

On December 31, typical New Year celebrations will take place at the Jamboree. Home hospitality is being laid on for the UK Guides in Argentina and Brazil after the event.

Think of us as you raise your glasses to welcome in the last year of this millennium – we'll be anything but Chilly!

● Denise is The Guide Association's representative on the Jamboree Management Committee.

**Jetting off for
a trip of a
lifetime —
Guides fall in
for the World
Scout
Jamboree**

By Denise Lord



KAREN EDWARDS

Dinner is served: The girls and boys worked well together during the Ready Steady Cook competition at Bromsgrove

The Guide Association's contingent of about 60 girls and leaders have been invited to fly out with the 1,700 UK Scouts to the World Scout Jamboree.

On Christmas Eve, just as the UK's Christmas celebrations begin, Gill – aka Rikki – MacKenzie and girls from the Anglia Region will meet up with Scouts from London, Bedfordshire and the Isle of Wight en route to Picarquin, the site for the 19th Jamboree. So they'll probably be tucking into their roast turkey and stuffing in Santiago.

Each Jamboree unit is made up of 36 youngsters and four leaders. Although the number of Association members attending is comparatively small, unit 18 has more girls than boys. That's because girls



TRICIA DUNDAS

Wet'n'wild: Cate – a Young Leader – and Becky – a Girl Scout – got to know each other better at a training event held at Alton Towers

executive news

To wear, or not to wear

At their meeting in June, members of the Executive Committee backed a suggestion by North East England that Brownies should be allowed to wear unit neckerchiefs, as an alternative to the official yellow one.

It was agreed that wearing unit neckers would help with identification at large-scale events. However, it is up to each Brownie to decide whether to wear one or not.

The decision on whether a unit should have neckerchiefs should be taken during a Pow-wow. The Pow-wow should also decide whether they should be yellow or in unit colours.

Leading the way

A new adult leadership scheme has been agreed with a target date for introduction — January 2000.

Guarding members

Revised swimming guidelines are to be included in the edition of *The Guiding Manual*, due out next year. They will highlight the change in emphasis from life saving to life guarding.

Essential essence

A training qualification based on the national standards for training and development with a specific module on the 'Essence of Guiding' has been agreed.

It is expected to be offered to prospective Trainers from January 2000, but it is intended that it will be open to any warrant or appointment holder.

Taking precautions

In future, adult-only groups taking part in adventurous activities are to be asked to use the A/s Form to let local Guiding know they are in the area.

It is intended as a precautionary measure, in case the group needs local support should an incident arise that they are unable to deal with themselves.

Smoothing the path

Following feedback from the Parliamentary Reception, Gillian Shaw, the External Relations Adviser, is developing a support resource to provide advice on promoting links with MPs.

Cooling a crisis

The Public Relations Department is working on producing a blueprint showing how to avoid — or manage — a crisis situation.

Royal photo shoot

A Brownie and a Guide were invited to have their photos taken with Prince Charles when he cut into a celebration cake at the launch of this year's National Volunteers Week.

RICHARD BLOOMFIELD



Fit for a Prince; Brownie Eleanor Rand-Weaver and Guide Laura Hillyer were happy to help Prince Charles launch National Volunteers Week

Helping out

Next year the Trefoil Guild will be awarding grants of ten per cent of their total costs to members who are going overseas on GOLD projects.

Trees of remembrance

At the Trefoil Guild AGM in June, a cheque for £5,500 was handed over to a representative of the National Memorial Arboretum project.

It will be used to plant a trefoil shape grove of trees as a way of remembering all those whose lives have been affected by war. Planting is expected to begin later this year.

Changing faces

Former London and South East Chief Commissioner Billy Everett becomes Chairman of the Trefoil Guild next month (November). She will take over from Jill Hancock.

Collette Kemp is to be the new Chairman of the Catholic Guide Advisory Council.

The new Chairman of the Association's British Youth Council delegation is Kate Jennings.

Chairmen chosen

Sue Fortunka — currently the Association's Public Relations Adviser — from this month becomes the Chairman of the Marketing and External Relations Committee.

Starting from last June, Susan Wieck is Chairman of the Adult Support Group.

Also dating from June, Gillian Saville was appointed Chairman of the Programme Group.

The Chairman of the Trading and Publishing Group is Lesley Read.

Ambassadors appointed

This month Ruth Goggin becomes Russian Coordinator and Jo Coast, Europe Adviser.

Moving into management

Sharon Turton and Angela Milne have joined the Foxlease Management Committee.

Congratulations...

were sent to the following members of the Movement who received awards for service to the community, particularly through Guiding, in the Birthday Honours list.

MBEs have gone to: Betty Addison, North Yorkshire; May Alderson, Wales; Elspeth Crawford, Ayr; Dorothy Creer, Lancashire; Penny Haycraft, British Virgin Islands; Jean Howard, Surrey; Muriel Smith, Buckinghamshire; Lucy Harper-Tarr and Josephine (Jo) Pearse, both Northamptonshire.

Joan Whiteside was awarded the OBE for her work in consumer affairs in Northern Ireland.

Boxed gifts

The Trefoil Guild has become Guiding's link with the Aquabox scheme run on behalf of Rotary International of Great Britain and Ireland by the Rotary Club of Wirksworth, Derbyshire.

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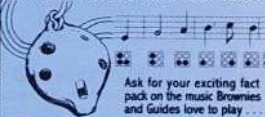
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I have this habit of talking to my patients while I treat them and, in the course of conversation, I often mention my involvement with Guiding. In the case of females who happen to be in the right age range, I *invariably* mention it.

Quite often, they will reply that they too, have been involved in the past as a Brownie or Guide.

Whenever I get what seems to be a positive response, I just keep on talking while giving treatment. Well, you never know. I might get them back into Guiding and trained as a leader. Or, if they happen to be young enough to have daughters of a suitable age, they might suggest that they should join the Brownies, Guides or even Rainbows.

Not long ago I was chatting to a patient who, to my delight, took more than a passing interest in what I do in my spare time. With her consent, I passed on her name and address to the local District Commissioner, Janet Hand. Janet later told me that this lady had quickly become an asset to one of her Guide units and said: "Keep on talking, Clare. We could do with more Guiders!"

That is one positively identified success but I'm sure I've had others, and there will be one or two more before I've stopped talking.

My Guiding began as a Brownie, then Guide, at Sanderstead, Surrey. In 1965 we moved to Lancing, West Sussex, where I became warranted as an Assistant Brownie Guider.

In 1966 I moved to London to train at the Middlesex Hospital as a physiotherapist. During holidays I helped to run a Brownie Pack at Sompting, near Lancing. At the end



of 1969 I returned home, acting as an unwarranted Guide Guider until I married in the summer of 1970.

Langley, my husband, was a Scouter when I met him at North Finchley, where I lived while at the Middlesex. We set up home in Hove. He helped with a Venture Scout Group at Sompting but I then decided not to have anything more to do with Guiding for a very long time.

It didn't work out that way, of course. Lynne, who was born in 1972 and Jenny in 1975, both wanted to be Brownies. So, in a rash moment, I said: "If you want any help...". The Pack did not need any but I had a call from Hove Division Commissioner, who asked me to become District Commissioner for Hove North. I did the job for more than six years.

Then the local Division Commissioner retired and I was asked to take over. For once I didn't say a lot — just a weak "Yes". I did the job for another six years.

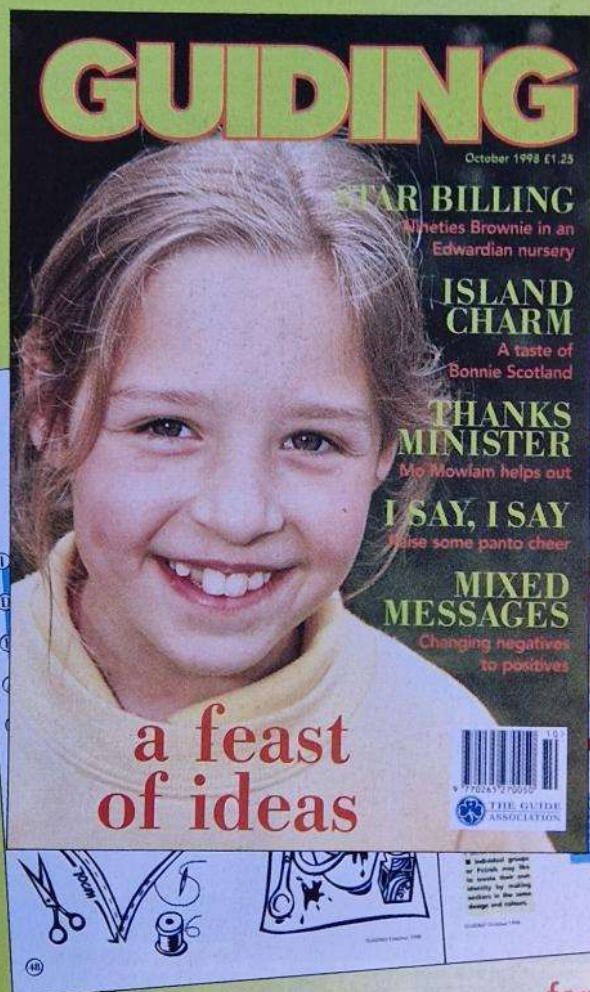
It took rather longer to think it over before agreeing to become County Commissioner. I wanted to know how much time this job would involve, but I was aware that the County Executive team would be very supportive, so I took over in March 1995.

I work full time, for several GPs and with my own private patients. I play tennis regularly and am chairperson of my local church youth committee.

It's a busy life, but there's always time for talking and spreading the word about Guiding. Especially if you've a job like mine and have a captive audience! 7

ZENITH PHOTOGRAPHIC

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