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Guiding

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**Inviting MPs
to events**

**Postcard campaign:
how will you
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Welcome

It's great to be appreciated...

In an Association first, you will find, enclosed with this magazine, a voucher book full of special offers, competitions and money-off coupons — exclusive to Guide Association members. The participating companies think that we are a great organisation — so go on, treat yourselves.

MPs at The Guide Association's successful parliamentary reception were also impressed with our members, and are keen to help promote the Association. So, on page 12 there's some useful advice about how to make the best use of your MP at a local level.

As the warmer weather tempts us outside, we have some great outdoor activity ideas on pages 6/7 and 12/13 of *Activate*. It's Earth Day on April 22 and these ideas will help your girls to explore their environment. For the more adventurous, our feature on page 23 gives the lowdown on sand yachting.

Continuing the environmental theme, our main feature, on pages 14/15, explores some of the issues concerning genetically modified food, and looks at the advantages of organic alternatives.

Our Millennium Service project was launched at Waterstone's flagship store in Piccadilly on Thinking Day. Find out more about the launch on page 5, about Book Aid International's work in Kenya on page 17, and see the related activities on pages 10/11 of *Activate*.

Don't miss the latest news on the Guide Section Renewal — about Guide-led changes to the uniform — on page 11. And find out about the postcard campaign for Reach Out and Recruit Month on page 9.

And finally, have you made something with your girls that you think would be of interest to other readers? If so, send in your idea or recipe — with a photo of the finished product — for the *You made it!* feature and, if we use it, you'll receive a bumper bundle of books.



Rainbows had fun at the launch of the Association's Service project

Guiding magazine

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and fresh opportunities for
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Activate — full of great ideas

Our great new pull-out section is packed
full of brilliant activity ideas for you to
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Cover girl Amy, from the 29th Eastbourne
(St Andrews) Guide unit, is having a splashing time
COVER PHOTOGRAPHER: MOOSE AZIM

What & when

In this section you will find information about events, fresh opportunities and new resources and initiatives

competition

We have a winner!

We are pleased to announce the winner of our international photo competition, which was launched in July's issue.

The winner is Kathryn Walsh of Eston Rangers, Cleveland, with her picture, printed here, taken during a service project in Mexico, in August last year. We felt that her photo captured the spirit of international Guiding.

Kathryn has won a camera and a photo album.



Kathryn Walsh's winning image of international Guiding in action

interest

Badgers club

Did you know that there is a badge collecting club especially for members of the Guide and Scout Associations?

Every new member of the International Badgers Club receives a catalogue of worldwide badges, a magazine six times a year, and a club badge.

The club boasts 1,000 adult and child members from over 31 countries.

As part of its recruitment campaign, members of the club are available to give talks about badge collecting in section meetings.

Membership forms are available from camp sites, the club's Web site — www.IntBC.org, or from the Membership Secretary Michelle Iddon, at 21 Lynfield Road, Great Harwood, Blackburn, Lancashire BB6 7TS, e-mail asstmemsec@IntBC.org.

thinking day

Millennium memories

The past, present and future of Guiding met for the 5th Reigate Guides on Thinking Day this year.

The unit celebrated in a very special way for the Millennium, by taking a trip on the London Eye, before the attraction was open to the general public — which was quite a coup for Guider Barbara Wing.

It was a significant day for the unit for several reasons. After 47 years of being the Unit Guider, it was Barbara's last day. Barbara had made her Guide Promise on Thinking Day in 1946.

As the London Eye turned — so slowly, that from a distance it looks stationary — the group spotted several of the capital's most famous landmarks. These included Big Ben, where District Commissioner Rosemarie Belcher told the girls she had made her Promise, behind the clock face, when she was in Barbara's Ranger Unit.

On the way down, two Guides were presented with their Yellow Trefoils and the messages from Princess Margaret and the Chief Guide were read out.

Barbara said: 'I have been able to share the joys of the past with so many girls. Now they're ready to use their Guiding skills to do their best to make a positive difference.'



On top of the world: The 5th Reigate Guides had a 'flight' on the London Eye on Thinking Day

tv appearance

Chocaholic Guides

Four Guides from Wood Green, North London, were filmed for an edition of BBC2's *Food & Drink* programme in February.

At the time of going to press, no definite date for the broadcast was available, so in case it has not yet been aired, look out for Guides on a TV screen near you!

Cara MacDonald, Tiffany Sterling, Molly Cooney and Meral Gulderan took part in a feature on chocolate in the programme. This involved visiting Roccoco — a chocolate shop in London's King's Road — with celebrity chef Rosemary Shrager and chocolatier John Huber, then on to Ackerman's chocolate factory, where they made chocolate, and then to The Chocolate Society for some serious chocolate tasting.

Food & Drink is broadcast on BBC2 on Tuesdays at 8.30pm.

special events

Annual parade

The Westminster Catholic Guide Guild is holding its annual parade and Mass on Sunday May 14 this year.

It will take place in Westminster Cathedral at 1.45pm. Guides from Southwark, Brighton and Arundel will be taking part.

For more details, contact Kathleen Mulvey on 020 8806 1712 (evenings only).

Trooping the Colour

Twice the usual number of girls are being invited to take part in the Millennium's Trooping the Colour.

The dress rehearsal will take place on June 10, with the actual event happening on June 17.

So bring your girls along — this is a special, not-to-be-missed opportunity. Contact Patricia Gordon at CHQ for more details on 020 7592 1845 or e-mail PatG@guides.org.uk.

financial

Unit accounts

The Charities Commission has decided that, in England and Wales, only units with an annual income – from all sources – exceeding £10,000 need to complete an annual report form.

Unit accounts must still be completed as described in the Unit Accounts Pack.

international

INTOPS weekends

If you want to go on an Association GOLD trip abroad, you must first attend an INTOPS selection weekend. The next INTOPS weekends are planned for:

September 22-24 at Lorne
October 13-15 at Foxlease
November 17-19 at Waddow

For more information contact Kate Turner, Guiding Development, at CHQ.

Free gift for members

Have you seen the voucher book that came with this issue of Guiding magazine?

Thousands more are waiting to be claimed for Guides, Senior Section members, leaders, helpers and Commissioners.

All the companies that contributed to the booklet think that we are such a terrific organisation that they wanted to give us a treat.

The booklets, which are free, come in lots of 25. So if you've got 24 girls and three leaders, for example, order two packs, and give the surplus to new girls as they join. District Commissioners could send for a pack to distribute among Brownie and Rainbow leaders and helpers.

Many of the vouchers last for several months, and some are valid right up until the beginning of 2001.

This is another first for The Guide Association, and we hope that you will like the booklets. Please let the Marketing & External Relations department at CHQ know what you, your girls and your colleagues think of them.

To order your copies, send your name and address to Trading Service, Atlantic Street, Broadheath, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 5EQ — postage and packing is free.



service project

Grand London launch

Authors, journalists and special guests mingled at the launch of The Guide Association's Millennium Service project on Thinking Day.

The launch took place at Waterstone's flagship store in London's Piccadilly. On one floor, leading children's authors, including Jacqueline Wilson — who recently came in the top five in a poll to find the UK's favourite authors — read stories to groups of Rainbows, Brownies and Guides, as Guiders looked on.

On another floor, speeches were made by the Chief Guide, authors Beverley Naidoo and Elizabeth Laird, and BAI Director Sara Harrity to a large audience, which included the High Commissioner for Zimbabwe.

Girls then joined BAI staff in stamping books for shipment overseas, and making bookmarks.

Book Aid International, together with Rotary International, will be collaborating with The Guide Association to raise funds, raise awareness and collect books for resource-strapped organisations overseas.

For details of how you can take part in the project, see January's *Hotline*. If you need more copies of this, contact Nicola King in Guiding Development at CHQ.



Jacqueline Wilson was one of the children's authors who read to the girls at the launch of The Guide Association Service project

New badge

A new badge has been designed for holders of any of the seven Camp & Holiday Scheme Licences — including the Overnight Licence. The modular format of the scheme has made the change necessary.

The badge, which can be worn on the badge tab, will be awarded when a Guider first gains a residential qualification. However, Guiders who already hold a licence will be able to buy the new badge if they wish.

The badge is obtainable through County channels only — and costs £1.75.



trefoil guild

New publication

A new publication — *Welcome to the Trefoil Guild* — is out now.

This essential handbook replaces all previous editions and amendment sheets. It is packed with advice on running Guilds at all levels — such as organising meetings, events and outings. It also contains a wealth of general information, and the fully-revised Trefoil Guild Constitution.

Welcome to the Trefoil Guild is available from Trading Service, order code 63321, price £2.05.

What & when

training

Water Safety Course

The Water Safety Course is a new training opportunity which will soon be a requirement for the revised Walking Scheme qualifications.

A course is being run at Foxlease from September 22-24. For further details, telephone Jane Mason at CHQ or e-mail: JaneM@guides.org.uk.

funding

Look out for Lloyds

The Lloyds-TSB Foundation is gearing up to help local youth groups — including Guides and Scouts.

The foundation will launch its Community Programme of funding this year, along with a Collaborative Programme which will focus on partnerships at a regional level.

For details, contact the Foundation by calling 020 7204 5278.

Halifax handouts

Your unit could get a little help from the Halifax. The bank gives grants to groups working to get involved with their community, or to improve it.

For more information, write to: The Group Community Affairs, Halifax plc, Trinity Rd, Halifax, West Yorkshire HX1 2RG.

safety

Child Safety Week

June 19-25 is Child Safety Week.

The organisers — the Child Accident Prevention Trust

(CAPT) — would like organisations to support the week by staging their own discussion groups for parents and children specifically about child safety. See February's issue of *Guiding* magazine for ideas...

For a free resource pack, send a sae with a 33p stamp to: CAPT, 4th Floor, Clerks Court, 18-20 Farringdon Lane, London EC1R 3AU, marking your envelope Child Safety Week/*Guiding* magazine.

For more information about Child Safety Week, call the Information Officer at CAPT on 020 7608 3828.

days out

V&A backpack tours

Children can turn detective for the day at the V&A.

Young explorers can strap on one of six themed back-packs full of hands-on activities related to the collections.

The tours — which are so good that they won the Gulbenkian Prize for Most Imaginative Education Work — are suitable for children aged five to 11 years — and take place on Saturdays from 1.30pm to 5pm.

Children aged three to 12 can also have fun making, drawing and exploring with the museum's Activity Cart. These activities take place between 10.30am and 5pm on Sundays.

For information about group visits, telephone 020 7942 2197.



Getting kitted out for a fun day at the V&A

VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM

International experience

This year, the British Council will give awards of around £1,000 to 500 young people who are keen to experience other cultures.

Youth Millennium Awards are aimed at 18 to 28-year-olds, who are active in their local community. The international experience that award-winners hope to gain should be of benefit to that community.

For details, contact: The Information Unit, Youth Exchange Centre, The British Council, 10 Spring Gardens, London SW1A 2BN, or call 020 7389 4046.

Nationwide grants

The Nationwide Foundation offers grants of between £500 and £10,000 for projects that encourage participation in local communities and anti-crime schemes.

To find out more information, contact: The Nationwide Foundation, Nationwide House, Pipers Way, Swindon, Wiltshire SN38 1NW.

String of Pearls

If you're bringing your Pack or unit to the Heritage Centre this year, why not take advantage of the London String of Pearls Millennium Festival at the same time?

During 2000, more than 60 of the capital's greatest landmarks are offering an extravaganza of privileged access, exhibitions, and entertainments, with over 300 events — many of which are free.

You can obtain a Festival Programme by sending a cheque for £1.50, along with your name and address, to:

The London String of Pearls Millennium Festival, 1 Hobhouse Court, Suffolk Street, London, SW1Y 4HH.

You can also find out more information by visiting the Web site at

www.stringofpearls.org.uk.



resources

Get ready to volunteer

Volunteers Week is coming up on June 1-7.

If you would like to organise an event, you can order your free copy of the *Guide to Taking Part* by contacting Joyce Olong on 020 7520 8912, or write to: the National Centre for Volunteering, Regent's Wharf, 8 All Saints Street, London N1 9RL.



The residential opportunities listed below are open to any Association member – Guiders, Young leaders, Commissioners, Guides or Brownies – as relevant. For more details please phone the appropriate centre.

Foxlease 01703 282638

Up in the Air: For 9 and 10 year-old Brownies with Guider April 25-27
Wide Games and Pioneering May 5-7
Campfire/Music and Drama May 5-7
RLSS Rescue Test May 12-14
Young Guiders 18– 26 years May 19-21
Go! Brownie Go! Guiders: with 9 and 10 year-old Brownies July 21-23

Broneirion 01686 688204

Programme ideas with crèche April 14-16
Warm Welsh Welcome May 26-29
Millennium Madness Holiday June 21-28
A Taste of Guides (Girl event) June 30-July 2
Adventurous Activities for Guides June 30-July 2
Training for the Out of Doors September 1-3

Hautbois 01603 737357

Birdwatching May 8-12
Brownie and Guide Activity Weekend July 7-9
Heraldry August 14-21
Outdoor Pursuits Badge for Guides September 1-2
First Aid Sept 29-Oct 1
Over the Rainbow to Brownies: Rainbow/Brownie Guiders October 6-8

Blackland Farm 01703 282638

Day Camp April 25
BCU 1 & 2 Star Kayak May 6-7
GA Climbing Scheme, Level 2 May 6-7
GA Climbing Scheme, Level 3 May 13-14
Introduction to Walking Skills May 14
Beginners Rock Climbing May 20-21
Day Camp May 30
Day Camp May 31

Netherurd 01968 682202

Guiders and Patrol Leaders May 19-21
Guiding through the ages June 9-11
Music in the Programme September 1-3
Programme ideas for all September 22-24

Waddow 01200 423186

Leisure Break May 15-19
Programme ideas: Brownie & Guide
Guiders/Young Leaders June 16-18
Leisure Break June 19-22
Guide Day Celebration June 24
Programme Ideas for Rainbow Guiders July 7-9
Friends of Waddow Weekend July 14-17

competitions



Former Blue Peter presenter Tim Vincent launched the Royal Mail's Young Letter Writers' Competition

What & when

Write on!

Cash prizes and writing packs are up for grabs in the Royal Mail's Young Letter Writers' Competition, Break Time 2050.

Youngsters of all ages are asked to imagine what their grandchildren will do in their leisure time in the year 2050, and submit a letter to the Royal Mail about it by April 20.

For details and an entry form, call the Break Time 2050 Helpline: 01634 296 617 or visit the Web site: www.royalmail.co.uk/breaktime.

Picture perfect

Photographers have until April 20 to submit their entries to this year's BG Wildlife Photographer of the Year Competition.

There are 12 adult categories to enter, and the competition's junior section is divided into three age groups: 15-17, 11-14, and 10 years and under.

Entry forms are available from the BG Wildlife Photographer of the Year Competition Office – call 020 7942 5105 – or from the Web site: www.nhm.ac.uk/WildPhoto.



'Malachite kingfisher' – the winning image in the junior section of the BG Young Photographer of the Year 1999

challenge

Ship ahoy!

Your adventurous Senior Section girls could set sail for a life on the ocean wave, with the Sail Training Association.

The STA's Tall Ships scheme offers young people between the ages of 16 and 24 the chance to be a crew member on a voyage of up to 1,000 miles, visiting two or three northern continental ports on the way.

Most voyages begin and end at UK ports, and no sailing experience is necessary. All voyages qualify for the Residential Section of the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

Voyages cost from £719 to £1529, but there are 60 volunteer support groups nationwide that can offer advice about gaining sponsorship.

To find out more about voyages, and funding for them, contact the STA at 2A The Hard, Portsmouth, PO1 3PT, telephone 023 9283 2055/6. Alternatively, e-mail tallships@sta.org.uk, or visit the Web site at www.sta.org.uk/sta/.

corrections

BAI coordinators

● The contact number prefix for Mrs Elaine Ayre, coordinator for Lincolnshire North should be 01724, and not 01742 as published in January's *Hotline*.

● The telephone number of Charlotte Martin, the coordinator for Cheshire Border, has now changed to 01625 251 551.

Millennium events

The date for the millennium event at The Links, Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear in January's *Guiding* magazine should have read July 1.

Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

In this section you will find
Association news: decisions,
developments and appointments

*Modern lifestyles
demand a new approach
to recruiting volunteers*

By The Recruitment
Toolkit Working Party

Recruitment Toolkit

For some people in Guiding, recruitment means increasing the numbers of warranted Guiders. In an ideal world, this is something we would all support – and certainly should be written into your recruitment plan – but the reality is somewhat different.

Time management

Not all potential volunteers want to commit themselves to being a formal, warranted member of the Association. Just the thought of this could deter some from volunteering at all.

Some people do not have the time to make a regular commitment to Guiding. They are looking for a flexible opportunity that fits in with their very busy lifestyles.

So, when considering your area's recruitment needs, ask yourself:

- Does every task that needs doing require the new volunteer to attend every meeting, every week?
- How else could the need be met?
- Could you perhaps work with other units or areas to meet a recruitment need together?
- Could you shift resources around in order to meet some of your recruitment needs?



For busy women, the principle of small, manageable chunks works well in many areas

Division of labour

Your recruitment drive should be flexible enough to be customised to suit individuals, by listening to your potential recruit, and making the volunteering process as simple as possible.

This approach is not only effective when 'selling' Guiding to someone who does not want to go into uniform. By using this task-orientated approach, you will be able to divide up jobs among everyone within the unit or area.

There are three simple steps to developing this task-focused approach to recruitment:

- Identify all the tasks that need to be done within a unit or area, or that could be done if the resources were available.
- Work within the unit or area to determine what tasks can be done by existing Guiders or volunteers.
- Look at the list of remaining tasks. Explore how these tasks could be packaged together to form separate responsibilities.

Job descriptions

Once you have adopted a task-orientated approach – see above box – you will need to draw up a description of each potential volunteer's role. This is important as it will help both you and the volunteer to understand exactly what is expected of them.

Remember to base your requirement on the job that needs to be done, and not how it has been done in the past – or the person who did it. A new person

will bring in their own ideas which may benefit your unit or Pack.

Be up front

Be honest. If you need someone to attend every Pack or unit meeting for one and a half hours, say so. It is better to be up front now, than for the potential recruit to be misled – only to leave later because she is fed up.

It is no good saying

that the volunteer can do the job at a time that suits them when you expect them to be available for half an hour every Wednesday, when the group meets. Don't forget to be flexible.

Stick to the principle of small, manageable chunks. It is better to give a new volunteer a small job to do and to keep them enthusiastic, than to give them a more burdensome job and have them leave.

Placing people

Before you go out to recruit your Guiders and volunteers, it is important to stress, once again, that Guiding will appeal to different people in different ways. You therefore need to adjust your approach accordingly.

It is also important to make sure that the right jobs are given to the right people. We need to see some round pegs in round holes to make sure that the new recruit is happy and fulfilled – and so will continue her involvement.



Reach Out and Recruit Month

The nationwide postcard campaign — how will you use yours?

By The Reach Out and Recruit Month Working Group

Postcards are a fun and fast way to get messages across. These days you see promotional postcards in cinemas, libraries — even schools.

So that's why The Guide Association is having a nationwide postcard campaign as part of Reach Out and Recruit Month. This is the part of the campaign that everyone can easily take part in — because we are printing more than one million postcards, so that every member can have one to send, give or display as she chooses.

Your postcard

The postcards are free, and will be available from July to August. Enough postcards

will be sent directly from Trading Services to each Division, so that each member can have at least one.

We want to make as big a splash as possible, so the big question is, how can you use your postcards for maximum impact? What members of your unit will do with theirs could be a great topic for a Pow-wow or Patrol discussion.

For example, if your girls go to three different schools, you might agree that three of the cards should go to those schools. They could be displayed, or given to the school secretary — complete with contact details for parents who want to find out more.

PR opportunities

There are lots of ways to turn the postcard campaign into a local PR opportunity:

- If you are going to post your cards, send a photo of the girls posting them in a post box to the local newspaper, along with a suitable caption and a press release.
- If there is a large sorting office near you, one unit could arrange to take their postcards along to see how they will be processed. Send a photo of the visit to the local newspaper.
- Arrange for a unit to hand deliver a postcard to the editor of the paper — and ask if a photographer can be on hand to capture the moment.

Ideas for your postcard

- Display it in a window at home, school, or at the office
- Put it on a notice board at school, college, work or the corner shop
- Ask the local children's clothes shops to display one
- Give it to a parent or work colleague
- Send it to a friend you'd like to invite to attend a unit meeting or activity
- Go out on a unit visit and leave the postcard behind
- Place it in your local surgery, vet's surgery, library, or other community noticeboard.

Local planning

For the postcards to reach as far and wide as possible, they need to be targeted carefully and efficiently.

At most you should be aiming for no more than one per unit going to local people like the Mayor, and one per District to the MP. Therefore, we suggest that Guiders in a District and Division decide who is going to send postcards to whom, so that such people are not deluged, and cards wasted.

Cards sent to this kind of person should identify a particular group represented by the card — for example, 'from all the Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers and Leaders of Great Farnfield District'.

Postcards from CHQ

The team at CHQ will be sending out postcards to MPs, Lords, influential supporters, celebrities, and influential women. They will also be sending them to newspapers and magazines, to attract significant media attention.

Journalists and media contacts need information about how great Guiding is — we need to show them real examples of Guiding in action. If you have a relevant Guiding story, please contact Alison Rothwell, PR Manager, at CHQ. Tel: 020 7834 6242; or e-mail AlisonR@guides.org.uk.

You can also check out the new Noticeboard on the news section of the Web site: www.guides.org.uk.

money matters

Short Term Investment Service

The monthly interest rate after deduction of management commission was:

November 1999.....	4.162 per cent
December 1999.....	3.641 per cent
January 2000.....	3.906 per cent

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

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

Selling price.....	533.76p
Purchase Price.....	560.93p
Income Yield.....	2.85 per cent

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

awards

Association awards

MERITORIOUS CONDUCT
Star of Merit

Mrs Jill Le Guen
Brownie Guider Wirral
North West England

*This was awarded posthumously

Executive news

A summary of January's Executive Committee Meeting

AGM 2000

As 2000 marks the 90th anniversary of The Guide Association, this year the afternoon session of the AGM on Tuesday May 23 will take the form of an event entitled 'Today's Girl, Tomorrow's Woman'. Younger members will have the opportunity to present the Association's knowledge of girls and young women to a diverse audience.

Further details will be announced in due course.

Commonwealth Community Action Challenge

This is a challenge for members of the Senior Section throughout the Commonwealth which was launched at the 1999 Commonwealth Chief Commissioners' Conference. Details are in this issue of *Guiding magazine* – see page 16.

The challenge will run from April 18 2000 to August 31 2001. Countries and Regions will evaluate their projects in 2001 and submit one each to CHQ during September. During National Youth week in November 2001 the Association will evaluate these and select the one to be the UK's entry. This project will be evaluated with those from the rest of the Commonwealth during the Commonwealth Youth Forum in Manchester in July/August 2002.

Vice presidents

The Hon Mrs Clay has completed the Lady Baden-Powell's ten-year term of office and has therefore now moved to the Retired Category.

Sadly, Mrs Anne-Louise Laing died just before Christmas.

Marketing and External Relations

Staffing in the new M&ER Department is now complete and the department is now working on a number of projects.

There has been an unprecedented response from MPs to the parliamentary reception on January 18.

PR Forum – Foxlease

November 26-28 1999

This most successful Forum included sessions on a range of skills needed by PRAs, providing basic skills for the Country and Region representatives.

It also provided an opportunity for Advisers to meet together to discuss relevant topics and concerns.

Appointments

Anglia Chief Commissioner: Mrs Vivienne Scouse's appointment extended for one year w.e.f. January 1 2000.

Anglia Deputy Chief Commissioner: Mrs Sue Shooter's appointment extended for one year w.e.f. January 1 2000.

Walking Adviser: Mrs Mary Matthews (Scotland) appointed w.e.f. December 1 1999.

Water Safety Adviser/Boating Adviser: these two posts have been combined to form the new role of Water Activities Adviser: Mrs Cynthia Simister (originally Boating Adviser) until November 20 2000.

Camp Adviser: Mrs Sandra Arnold reappointed w.e.f. March 1 2000.

Commissioner Turks and

Caicos Branch Association: Mrs Patricia Smith, appointed w.e.f. October 1 1999.

Association Awards Committee: Mrs Elizabeth Dear (North West), appointed w.e.f. June 2000.

Guiding Development Committee: Miss Emily Barns (North East England), appointed w.e.f. January 1 2000.

Adult Support Group: Ms Sue Dyer (South West) and Ms Elaine Shields (Anglia), both appointed w.e.f. January 1 2000.

Programme Group: The Outdoor Activities Adviser and International Education Adviser were appointed to this group for one year w.e.f. January 1 2000.

W/R Forms

The revised W/R forms for new Guiders and Instructors have been approved and from January 2001 Counties will be responsible for taking up and storing references.

Guidelines in booklet form will be produced for each County.

The revised forms will be available during the summer.

Sponsorship policy

This policy has been circulated to the relevant areas of the Association for presentation to potential sponsors.

New Year Honours

The following Association members were honoured in the New Year Honours list:

OBE

Mrs Penelope Hardwick (L&SE)
Miss Phyllis Croft (SW)

MBE

Miss Vera Anderson (Scotland)
Mrs Margaret Cox (L&SE)
Miss Dorothy Harris (SW)
Miss Josephine Hudson (NE)
Mrs Dorothy Huggard (SW)
Mrs Joan Johnson (SW)
Mrs Mary Noyes (L&SE)
Mrs Nora Skeys (Midlands)
Miss Eileen Walker (SWE)
Mrs Daphne Suttle (Scotland)

Committee constitutions

The temporary constitutions in operation for 18 months for the main Committees and Groups after revision have been approved for use.

The International Group had submitted a proposed new way of working and a draft constitution will be submitted to the next meeting.

Association Junior Council

Following the success of the October 1999 Forum, the next Forum will be at Waddow from June 30 to July 2. The theme will be 'Innovation' but the Forum will focus on current issues for the Association. Participants will have the option of staying in the house or camping.

Guide Section Renewal

*Changes to the uniform
will be Guide-led*

By The Guide Section Development Group

This is the third article in *Guiding magazine* aimed at sharing as much detail about the renewal of the Guide section as is available. Last month's article discussed the renewed Guide Programme that will be introduced in the autumn. This article focuses on a different aspect of the renewal, providing detail of how the renewal impacts the Guide uniform.

Background

During the consultation and research, Guides throughout the UK, had clear views about aspects of the uniform. For example, the brightness of the blue, the quality of the material, and some of the designs were felt to be real barriers. Similarly, whilst the sash enabled Guides to display their badges, few enjoyed wearing it, and it was also felt to be impractical.

What Guides want

Guides want a range of uniform items that they are comfortable wearing, that fit their lifestyle, and are appropriate to the activities they undertake.

Having listened to Guides, observed common practice at units and events around the UK, and looked at the sales figures from the Trading Services, it is clear that many members do not wear uniform bottom halves. In the renewal, we are changing to a requirement for top half only.

By continuing with the most popular uniform tops in the current range, and introducing new items over time, the Association expects to deliver what the Guides want. The first additional items will be available from September.

The work to design the items is still ongoing, and samples have been shown to the Guide Advisory Group — the group of Guides from across the UK who have been involved in the detail of the renewal. The definitive list of additional items to be introduced in September will be known and publicised in the summer term.

Five Essentials

It is important to remember that the renewed Programme will be girl-centred, and based on the Five Essentials:

- Guides work together in small groups: the need for peer approval
- Guides are encouraged to govern themselves and make their own decisions: the need for girls to become more independent
- Guides have a balanced and varied programme: the need for a range of opportunities and experiences
- Guides care for the individual: the need for love and affection
- Guides share a commitment to a common standard: the need for girls to have a personal code they can live by and share with others.

Individual choice

Guides will continue to need to know the full range of uniform available to them, and be encouraged and supported in making their own choice of uniform. Similarly, the current good practice of negotiating with the Guides what is appropriate to wear on ceremonial and formal occasions will continue.

Unit guidelines

The Unit Charter, another aspect of the renewed section — see March's magazine — can be used to agree a collective approach to wearing uniform. This uses a process of genuine negotiation through Patrols and the Patrol Leaders Council. For example, a unit may agree that whilst any colour bottom half is worn in the unit meeting place, the Guides will wear dark colours when the unit participates in larger Guide events.

For activities that have specific rules in *The Guiding Manual*, the relevant clothing should be worn, and the reasons for this explained.

Adult uniform

The uniform for leaders in the Guide Section remains unchanged, as the range available is common to leaders of all sections. The Association has an ongoing programme of adjustment to uniform items and Trading Service welcomes customer feedback.

Further information

As the development of the uniform and badges moves forward, more detailed information will be reported in *Guiding magazine*. Briefing sheets on the renewal will also be published in the magazine and on the Web site, shortly after The Guide Association Executive Committee meetings in April and June.

Badges

The renewed Programme will reward achievement and participation in several different ways, but cloth and pin badges will remain a feature of the Programme.

A range of methods for displaying badges are currently under development. For example, an item of uniform on which badges can be displayed, a badge album, and a picture frame, are some of the ideas currently being worked on for Guides to keep and treasure their badges.

And finally...

'It is not obligatory to have any uniform — it is not the uniform that makes the Guide.'

Extract from *How Girls Can Help To Build Up The Empire*, 1912

In this section you will find good practice tips, support, advice and training and resource news

Parliamentary partnerships

Making the most of your MP — in ten easy steps

By Susan Kay-Williams
Head of Marketing and
External Relations



Guider Stephanie Basra with
Trade and Industry Secretary
Stephen Byers



Betty Boothroyd, Speaker of the
House of Commons meets the
Chief Guide Bridget Towle



Members
pose with
Conservative
MP Dominic
Grieve

At The Guide Association's parliamentary reception in January, MPs gave some very good advice about how to make best use of them for local publicity.

Inviting an MP can be good for both the Association and the MP concerned, but it has to be the right kind of event, and you have to give plenty of notice.

Useful tips

Here are some helpful tips for local use:

1. Know the correct name and title of your MP and find out the address of his/her local constituency office. For local events, this address is the best one to use.
2. MPs are usually in their constituencies on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Some are also there on Mondays. You stand more chance of getting them to come if you invite them to an event happening on these days.
3. MPs like photo opportunities, so organise a photographer. Mention in your invitation that there will be a photo opportunity, and ensure that the event lends itself to this.
4. MPs like to meet people. This means that they want to talk to the girls, not be stuck in some interminable formal event

where they are just one of the audience.

5. MPs are very busy. They will probably only want to come for half an hour, meet the girls, have a photograph taken, and go on to the next event. It is common for MPs to have their diary broken up into half-hour slots.

6. MPs get booked up early. As soon as you have decided on which of your activities you'd like him or her to attend, write with an invitation.

If possible, give them a selection of dates and events to choose from. If you only give them one option, it's less likely that they will make it.

7. What kind of events might appeal? An evening meeting where you have planned a fun programme, a unit camp, a Pack Holiday, or larger events where they can see more girls (even though they won't meet them all), a big international camp, Brownie Revels, and so on.

These larger events might include girls from more than one constituency, so you might like to invite all the relevant local MPs. Those

that come can be photographed with girls from their own constituency.

8. MPs attract the media. While it is always safest to have your own photographer on hand, you can notify the



Chief Executive Terry Ryall with
Virginia Bottomley, MP getting
acquainted at the reception



Sandy Kinnersley,
SEE, meets Sir
Brian Malwhinney

Positive links

By following the advice on this page you can build positive

links, so that the MP will be favourably disposed towards another unit or District that writes with an invitation.

It was clear at the parliamentary reception that MPs think The Guide Association is a good thing, but they would really like to have more opportunities to see Guiding in action.

So find the fun, the contemporary, the exciting things that you do, for them to come and see — not the old-fashioned and traditional.

Show them the best of Guiding in the 21st century.

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HDRA



Unmodified by human hand: The HDRA believes that organically-grown produce is best

Food scares have become a familiar occurrence, with warnings against everything from salmonella-carrying eggs to irradiated tomatoes. Just when it looked safe to go into the larder, the latest scare erupted: genetically modified (GM) foods.

Depending on who you listen to, they're either wondercrops, making images of starving peoples a thing of the past, or horrifying harbingers of doom, carrying the germ of human destruction beneath their wholesome exteriors. Since both views are put forward by 'experts', the average consumer is left confused and fearful, and not sure who to believe.

What are GM foods?

GM crops have had genes that control certain characteristics added, deleted or deactivated from their cells. The added genes may be from the same family of plants or imported from an entirely different species. It is this possibility that makes GM foods so different from the selective breeding and cultivation of animals and plants that has been going on for centuries.

Farmers have always crossbred to encourage desirable characteristics, such as disease resistance, to grow stronger with each generation. In this way, our cereals have been developed from grasses, and our domestic animals from their wild ancestors.

Now, there are all sorts of other developments in progress: the gene that protects arctic fish from the cold has been introduced to a tomato to make it frost-resistant; slow-ripening fruits have been developed, as have virus-resistant potatoes, sugar beet and papaya, salad crops with increased shelf life and decaffeinated coffee beans.

Advantages of GM crops

People who support the use of GM crops claim they could bring almost unimaginable benefits. Insect-resistant crops would mean less insecticide, and consequently fewer chemicals being released into the environment. They would also be more likely to survive, so yields

could increase dramatically. Currently seven per cent of the global maize harvest is destroyed by insects each year.

Pressure on land use continues, and it is estimated that the world's food requirement will double in two generations. Crops could be developed to survive flood, drought or frost — increasing yield and even wiping out famine.

Nutritional value could be boosted, helping the fight against malnutrition. Often, fruit and vegetables go to waste, either rotting in fields and orchards, remaining unsold, or damaged in transit. GM foods could be grown to withstand damage, stay fresh longer and ripen slowly.

Causes for concern

Prince Charles voiced the fears of many when he spoke of his concerns regarding 'the long-term consequences for human health and the wider environment'. GM foods could be a time bomb. Opponents feel that we are meddling with nature in a way previously undreamt of, and that we may launch ourselves on a road to destruction — with no return.

Arguments that GM crops will end food shortages are dismissed as disingenuous. The world already produces sufficient food; the problem lies in distribution. Moreover, the biotechnology (Bt) industry hopes to patent GM crops, creating a seller's market.

Traditional farming methods allow the farmer to retain seed from crops to plant for next years' harvest. This is particularly true of developing countries where, according to Emma Must of the World Development Movement, '80 per cent of crops are grown using farm-saved seed.' GM crops are sterile, so farmers will have to buy grain each year, meaning big profits for Bt companies and shareholders.

Making crops resistant to pesticides also cuts both ways. The plants may survive, but life around them dies, including birds and insects that pose no threat to the crops.

Fears about GM foods hit the headlines in February last year after tests indicated that vegetables developed to resist insecticides may cause stunted growth and damage the immune system. The scientist who made these results

Food facts

Are GM foods safe, or should we be buying organic alternatives?

By Isobel Durrant

public was forced to resign, but shortly afterwards 20 other scientists published a letter supporting him.

In the UK, still reeling from Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease – CJD or 'mad cow disease' – government reassurances cut little ice. Tony Blair's stated faith in GM foods seemed an echo of John Selwyn Gummer feeding his daughter Cordelia a beefburger at the height of the beef crisis. A MORI poll showed that 77 per cent of the public do not want GM crops grown in the UK, and 61 per cent do not want to eat GM foods. Even if GM foods turn out to be safe, many people do not want to be rollercoastered into a forced acceptance. Ironically, foods people turned to as safe during the beef crisis –

Domestic vegetable growing is now at its highest level since the war

veggie burgers, pizzas and soya products – may contain GM products.

Organic alternative

Although no GM foods are commercially produced in the UK, our supermarkets already stock a number of products containing GM ingredients – including soya and maize crops produced in the US and tomato purée made from GM tomatoes. Consequently, demand for organic foods is growing as the only way to be sure food is GM-free.

Until recently, there has been little opposition to GM foods in the US. Monsanto, the Bt industry giant, made donations to both the Democratic and Republican parties and by 1999 GM soya made up approximately half the soya harvest. Bt firms have intensively lobbied Parliament in the UK and our Government has been keen to embrace the technology and see the UK as a leader in this new industry. However, in the face of public opinion, in December

1999 it was announced that £140 million will be made available to convert land to organic farming – at present 75 per cent of organic produce is imported as home supply cannot keep pace with demand.

The United Kingdom Register of Organic Food Standards and the European Union set regulations that must be adhered to if farmers want to keep their organic status. These include crop rotation, no growth-promoting hormones, chemical fertilisers or pesticides and no routine use of antibiotics or other drugs for animals. Organic farmers must be certified by one of several organisations and produce carries a logo, making it easy to identify in the shops.

In January, organic farming received a boost when research carried out in Germany and Denmark concluded that organic crops contain more secondary metabolites, the substances that help fight cancer in humans, than conventionally-grown plants. They also have higher vitamin levels.

Domestic vegetable growing is apparently now at its highest level since the war. The Henry Doubleday Research Association (HDRA) – an organisation that researches and promotes organic food – can give people advice about growing organic produce.

Despite government endorsement, many people remain sceptical of GM foods, and supermarkets have found that GM-free policies pay. The Local Government Association, representing around 250 English and Welsh councils, has banned GM foods indefinitely. Organic foods have benefited from growing consumer awareness in a way that seemed unlikely even two years ago, as the truth of the saying comes home to us all, we are what we eat.

GM Crops & the Environment

BENEFITS & RISKS



The Food and Drink Federation informs consumers about issues relating to food safety

Useful info

- Monsanto plc — Freephone 0800 092 0401. For European issues visit the Web site at: www.monsanto.co.uk; for global issues visit: www.monsanto.com.
- National Farmers Union — Tel: 0171 331 7200. Web site: www.nfu.org.uk.
- HRH Prince Charles, Prince of Wales. Web site: www.princeofwales.gov.uk/forum.
- The Soil Association — Tel: 01179 142 449. Web site: www.soilassociation.org.
- Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food — Tel: 0171 238 6244. Web site: www.maff.gov.uk/food/novel/acnfp.htm.
- Food and Drink Federation — Tel: 0171 836 2460. Web site: www.foodfuture.org.uk.
- HDRA — Ryton Organic Gardens, Coventry CV8 3LG. Tel: 01203 303517. Web site: www.hdra.org.uk.

Further reading

- *Genetic Engineering, Food, and Our Environment* by Luke Anderson £3.95 Green Books ISBN 1-870098-78-1.
- *GM Free, a shopper's guide to genetically modified food* by Sue Dibb and Dr Tim Lobstein £4.99 Virgin ISBN 0-7535-0388-3.
- *How to Avoid GM Food* by Joanna Blythman £4.99 Fourth Estate ISBN 1-84115-187-4.



Challenging times

The Commonwealth Community Action Challenge for the Senior Section is now up and running



By The Community Action Team

This is it! The challenge for the Senior Section for the next 16 months. Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to be seen, be heard and be active.

Launched to the Commonwealth Chief Commissioners at their conference in Guildford last year, the challenge has been taken back to the Commonwealth countries.

Commonwealth Youth Forum

Each country is organising its own version of the challenge and, ultimately, one project from each country will be showcased at the Commonwealth Youth Forum in Manchester in 2002.

The Youth Forum will be an amazing opportunity to meet Senior Section members from around the world, to share the experiences of the challenge and of Guiding and life overseas.

In the UK, the challenge runs between April 2000 and August 2001, with each project expected to last for between three and six months. That leaves you plenty of time to find out more — and get going.

How the challenge works

The project is open to all members of the Senior Section, be they Ranger Guides, Peer Educators, Duke of Edinburgh candidates, GOLD participants, Young Leaders, or absolutely anybody else between the ages of 14 and 26.

Every member who participates in the challenge will receive a certificate

of achievement from The Guide Association for her Record of Achievement.

The aim behind any project decided on must be to make a real difference to the local community. By talking to others in that community, the Senior Section group or Lone should identify a real need that they believe they can fulfil.

The project must also involve working with others. 'Community partners' must be identified — they could be local councils, neighbours, charity organisations, or businesses. They should be included in discussions about the need for the project and ways in which they can work together with the Senior Section group.

The project must require a sustained effort from the group concerned. It should run for between three and six months, from start to finish (they can last longer if working well).

Why bother with community action?

The challenges brought by working with others can be tough, but the very process of discussion, persuasion and compromise make us all stronger and more confident individuals.

The great thing about working in the community is the chance to meet really interesting people, who can be an inspiration and offer huge amounts of help and guidance. People hold The Guide Association in high regard, so you will find that they are keen to support the ideas that the Senior Section have.

Working with, and in, the community also means that you are seen out and about, making

a positive contribution — working for change. Remember — the project must work to address a need that is specific to the community in which the group lives. Find out what those needs are, who can help, and then go for it!

THE GUIDE ASSOCIATION



For Rangers in Botswana past community projects have included planting seeds

Project ideas

- **Donate, don't dump** — Organise a furniture recycling service.
- **Dramarama** — Produce a touring drama project on an issue that is relevant to your community and perform it at schools and youth clubs.
- **Club it** — Invite local residents with disabilities to join you in regular social activities.
- **Heritage counts** — Get involved in local conservation and heritage projects.
- **Bums on seats** — Improve public seating in your area with sponsorship.
- **It's your shout!** — Organise a series of debates and seminars on topics which are close to the community's heart.
- **Garden army** — Gather ideas about community gardens and develop your own.
- **Do it your way** — Offer your DIY talents to do up the village hall.



THE GUIDE ASSOCIATION

Groups could lobby local businesses to help keep the streets clean

Getting started

To get involved, send off for a copy of the Commonwealth Community Action Challenge Poster and fill in the registration form attached. Instructions and support materials will follow, as well as local contacts.

Write to The Community Action Team at CHQ: 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 0PT, or call 0171 834 6242, ext. 252. Alternatively, send an e-mail to: RachelS@guides.org.uk.



April 2000

Activate

Come together to help save the earth!

Guiders' tip

Take a look at page 4, to see a great Rainbow craft idea sent in by reader Alison Long.

Why not send your ideas in to the You made it! section? There's a parcel of books for your unit if your idea is printed!



For Rainbows

There's some great crafts for Rainbows to enjoy on pages 4 and 5. Your girls will really love to make a silly scarecrow and to have fun with other ideas that are inspired by nature.



What's on

It's Earth Day on April 22. This is a special day with the aim of making us all think about the environment around us. Turn to page 12 to find out how your unit can get involved.

Contents

Paper play 2

Creative recycling crafts to try

You made it! 4

Make a Mothers' Day gift

Step out! 6

Al fresco activities to enjoy

Uniforms around 8 the world

A colourful way to learn

Tall tales 10

Legendary ideas

Earth Day 12

Down-to-earth fun

On the Line 14

Fun French fancies

...and lots, lots more

Pull out and keep

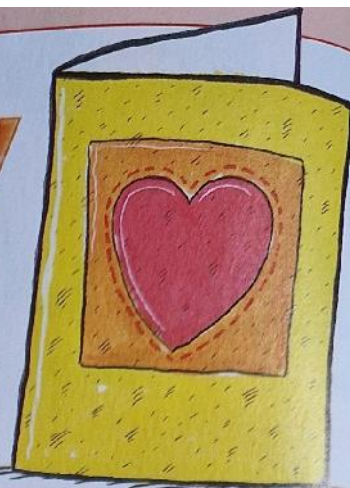


Paper play

Make your own paper and then use it to create a fabulous card

This paper recipe makes enough recycled paper to create a lovely greetings card.

You can add texture to the recycled paper by adding pencil sharpenings, old pot-pourri, even tea leaves and glitter.



You will need

- Approximately two A4 sheets of contrasting coloured scrap paper for each card
- An A4 sheet of light-coloured paper for each card
- A piece of aluminium mesh (the equivalent of 3 A5 pieces will be plenty) — you can get this from car repair shops where it is used to repair bodywork
- A metal tray
- PVA glue
- Folded card — A5 size
- A glue stick
- Absorbent cloths, such as old tea towels or kitchen cloths
- Newspaper
- Pieces of old sponge
- Water
- Empty ice cream tubs
- Aprons
- A liquidiser

1 Rip one of the coloured sheets of paper up into small pieces. Pour about a 5cm depth of water into the liquidiser and put the torn paper on top.

Liquidise the mixture until it is mushy. Add some more water — if you need to — until it has the consistency of thin pea soup.

Put the pulp into an ice cream carton and repeat the process with the other two colours.

2 Cut a piece of mesh that is slightly bigger than the folded piece of card — A5 size — and another one that is smaller — as in the illustration.

You also need to cut out a small heart shape from the mesh.

Cover the tray with a pad of newspaper and put an old tea towel or other absorbent cloth on top.

3 If you want to add petals, glitter or something else to the pulp, you should do it now.

Take the largest piece of mesh that you cut earlier. Dip it into the light-coloured pulp, making sure there is a good covering of pulp all over the mesh. It may take a while to get the hang of this.

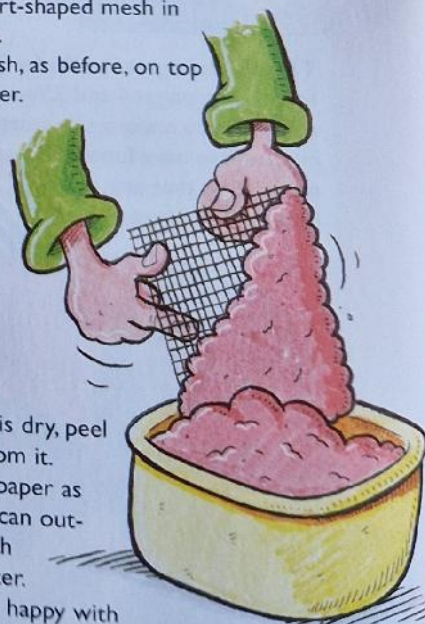
Carefully place the mesh, pulp side down, on top of the cloth and newspaper wad.

Carefully dab the mesh with a sponge to remove the excess water. Now take the mesh away from the pulp.

5 The paper is now ready to be decorated. Dip the heart-shaped mesh in to the contrasting pulp.

Carefully lay the mesh, as before, on top of the last piece of paper. Blot it well and then remove the mesh.

Lay another absorbent cloth on top of the paper and leave it to dry somewhere warm.



4 Use the same method with the smaller mesh to make another piece of 'paper' with one of the brightly-coloured pulps.

Carefully lay the smaller mesh — covered in pulp — on the still-wet first piece of paper. Blot, and remove the mesh from the pulp.

Top tip

Use the paper pulp recipe to make the stunning items that you'll find in the Pulptastic section on the next page.

6 When the paper is dry, peel the cloth away from it.

Decorate the paper as you wish — you can outline the heart with pens or even glitter.

When you are happy with your design, paint over the inner coloured square with a thin layer of PVA glue. This will dry to form a shiny coating.

Finally, use the glue stick to fix the recycled paper design on to the front of the folded card.

Pulptastic!

Use paper pulp to make jewellery, coasters and magnets

Paper pulp is a versatile modelling material.

Using the basic pulp-making method given in *Paper play*, your unit can have fun creating many more decorative and useful items.

Brooches and magnets

Place a pastry cutter on an absorbent cloth. Pack a generous amount of pulp into the cutter and press it into all the edges.

Push the sponge on to the pulp to blot off as much of the water as possible.

Carefully remove the cutter and leave the shape to dry in a warm place.

While it is still wet, you may decorate the shape with torn pieces of tissue.

To do this, tear up the tissue and lay small pieces flat on the wet surface. Press down to make them stick.

When the shape is dry, decorate it with paints, inks, glitter or anything else that takes your fancy. Finish off with two coats of PVA glue as a varnish.

Use strong glue to fix a magnet or a brooch pin to the back.

You will need

- Paper pulp
- Magnets and brooch backs
- Pastry cutters (any shape)
- Sponge
- An absorbent cloth
- PVA glue
- Strong glue or a hot glue gun
- Decorative materials such as tissue paper and glitter paints

Top tip

- Adapt this idea to make hanging decorations. Add holes around the edge of the shape and suspend beads or feathers. Don't forget a hanging loop.
- Large rounds of dry pulp can be made into coasters for your drinks.

Bowled over

Making a paper bowl is easy when you know how.

Drain some paper pulp with a sieve. Line a bowl with cling film and cover the area with a thick and even layer of pulp.

Gently but firmly, blot the pulp with a sponge. You need to remove as much water as possible, while keeping the surface as smooth as you can.

Decorate the inside of the bowl while it is still wet. Use pieces of torn tissue paper, pushing them down so that the surfaces bond together.

Leave the bowl in a warm place to dry, then remove the paper bowl and discard the cling film.

Trim the bowl if necessary and then varnish it. If you haven't used coloured pulp, paint the bowl before you varnish it.

Happy henna



Henna art is the latest, trendiest fashion for girls of all ages

If you are unfamiliar with henna body art, think of it as a cross between face painting and a temporary tattoo.

Dried leaves of the henna plant have been used as a cosmetic for centuries.

It is thought that Indian girls adorned themselves with henna designs as long ago as AD 350. This practice is known as 'mehndi'.

Paint crazy

If you are unsure about using henna, then body painting is a good alternative.

Using normal face paints, girls can paint simple flower designs on hands and ankles.

Great henna art book giveaway

If your unit is into henna art, then *Henna from Head to Toe*, by Norma Pasekoff Weinberg is a must.

Published by Search Press, the beautifully illustrated *Henna from Head to Toe* contains recipes, tips, history and step-by-step instructions.

For example, you can find out about traditional skin designs, how to colour your hair with henna and even how this amazing plant can cure a headache!

Henna from Head to Toe costs £8.99 and is available from good book and craft shops. You can also order it from Search Press books-by-post service — telephone 01892 510 850 for more details.

■ We have ten copies of *Henna from Head to Toe* to give away. If you would like the chance to win one, just send your details to Henna Book/Guiding magazine, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT. Alternatively, e-mail guiding@guides.org.uk with your details. All entries must be received by April 30.

Here are some useful facts about henna:

■ It is a natural pigment that is applied as a paste to the surface of the skin.

■ Henna kits can be bought everywhere — from fashion shops to health food shops.

■ Some commercial henna kits contain added ingredients that could cause skin irritation. Only buy pure, natural henna.

Alternatively, you can buy henna-style body paints from well-known manufacturers such as L'Oréal and Rimmel.

■ For more information, look in your library or ask for advice in a reputable 'new age' shop.

As mehndi plays a large part in many Asian cultures, it is also worth making enquiries at a local Asian community group.

You made it!

A reader and Rainbow Guider shares an activity that her unit enjoyed

This idea for a fantastic flower display was sent in by Guider Alison Long from Bath. The photo opposite shows her Rainbows having a great time making their displays, ready for Mothering Sunday on April 2.

If you've got an idea for a game, recipe or any other activity that your unit has enjoyed, then we'd love to know about it.

Write down the instructions clearly and enclose a couple of good, colour photographs. Send everything to:

■ You made it/Activate, Guiding magazine, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.

Every idea that is printed in *You made it!* will win a selection of books for the sender's unit.

You will need

- Newspaper
- Sheets from the *Financial Times* or another different-coloured newspaper
- Small plastic bottles — one for each Rainbow
- Glue
- Paint
- Dried flowers and grasses
- Paint and glue brushes

Guiders' note

This activity should be spread over three meetings.

1

Rainbows need to tear up pieces of newspaper and stick them all over their bottle — apart from the base which should be left clear.

Put the bottles in a safe place and leave them to dry until the next meeting.

2

Using a different-coloured newspaper — such as the pink *Financial Times* — the Rainbows should stick another layer of paper on to their bottles.

The reason for the coloured newspaper, is so that the girls can easily see where they have already stuck paper.

Rustic charms

Create country-style crafts just for fun, or sell them to make money for your unit!

Nutty family

These peanut people make great paperweights or novelty ornaments. Your unit could make them to sell at a fête.

Select a few peanuts that would make good 'people' — the nuts need to stay in their shells.

Stick a pair of joggle eyes on the narrower end of each nutshell. Decorate each nut with hair, accessories — such as a scarf — and facial features.

Finally, stick the peanuts on top of the pebble, in a family group.

You will need

- Peanuts still in their shells
- Small joggle eyes
- Marker pens
- Strong glue or a glue gun
- Scraps of wool and material
- Large pebbles

30 mins

Top tip

- The larger the pebble you are using, the more nuts you will need.
- If you are going to the beach, you may find some driftwood to use instead of pebbles.

Seed badges

Cut the card into circles — about 6cm in diameter — and fix a safety pin to one side with sticky tape.

Spread glue over the other side of the badge. Lay a selection of seeds or dried pulses around the edge of the card and

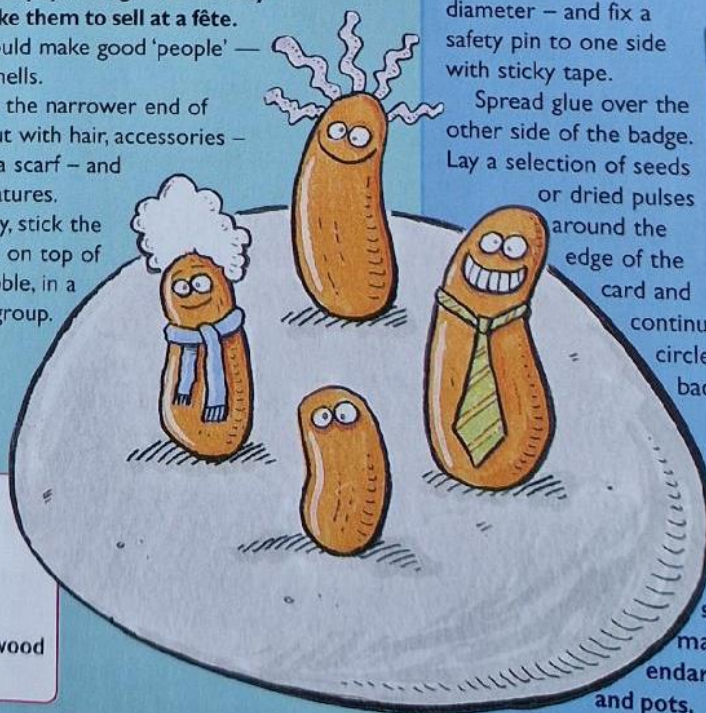
You will need

- Card
- Sticky tape
- PVA glue and glue brushes/spreader
- Seeds or dried pulses
- Safety pins

continue in decreasing circles until the whole badge is covered.

Once the badge is dry, girls can varnish their badges with a thin layer of glue.

Girls can decorate other items with seed mosaics. Try making cards and calendars, or decorating jars and pots.



3

Leave the bottles to dry. The Rainbows can then paint them with brightly-coloured patterns.

Fill the bottle with a selection of dried flowers and grasses. Alternatively, girls can make flowers from tissue paper.

Rainbows can take their bottles home to give as gifts.



USA cookies

If you tried to make the USA cookies that appeared in November's Activate, we are very sorry — we got the recipe wrong!

The correct ingredients are —

- 215g oats
- 350g sugar
- 1tbsps cocoa
- 125g condensed milk
- 225g butter
- 1tsp peanut butter

Many thanks to reader Hilary Prollins who spotted the mistake.

Free offer

One hundred wild flower kits to win

Add some real flower power to your meeting place with your very own miniature meadow.

Nouvelle — makers of premium quality recycled toilet tissue and kitchen towels — has teamed up with Plantlife — the Wild-Plant Conservation Charity to give us 100 Meadow Flower Kits to give away to readers.

Plantlife, led by David Bellamy, aims to conserve Britain's wild flower meadows because many of our native wild flowers have disappeared through pollution and destruction of the environment.

Nouvelle's kit contains the seeds for six types of wild flower (including poppies, cornflowers and marigolds), mini plant pots and a propagator.

If you'd like the chance to win one, please send your name and address on a postcard to:

Nouvelle/Guiding magazine, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.

Alternatively, e-mail guiding@guides.org.uk.

The closing date for entries is **April 30**.



Pots of fun

If you are having a summer fair, these decorated plant pots are bound to be a best-seller. You can sell them with or without plants in them!

Ask the girls to choose a plant pot — it can be plastic or clay. Everyone then creates a design that they can put on their pot.

Ideas that they could try are: sponging paint on to the pot; découpage with wrapping paper; sticking on sequins and glitter.

Once the pots are dry, they can be varnished, ready to sell.

Top tip

■ Instead of plants, fill a decorated plant pot with cotton wool and cotton buds.

You will need

- Plant pots
- Paint
- Sponges
- PVA glue
- Wrapping paper
- Scissors
- Sequins, glitter, wool and scraps of material

30 mins

■ Plant pots can also be used to hold kitchen utensils, make-up brushes, sweets... the list is endless!

For Rainbows

Scarecrow on a stick

Sam the Scarecrow makes a fabulous friend for a pot plant.

Using our picture to guide you, make a scarecrow template. It should be around 12cm high.

The girls should then use the template to make their own scarecrow from card.

Everyone can draw a face on their scarecrow. Cover the rest of the cut-out, collage fashion, with scraps of material and wool.

You will need

- Short garden canes
- Thin card — old cereal packets are ideal
- Felt-tipped pens
- Glue
- Scraps of material and wool
- A glue gun
- Scissors

Top tip

- Use straw and sacking to complete your scarecrows.
- Think of other items with a scarecrow theme that you could make, or even sell.



Illustrations: Duncan Scott

Step out!

Get outside and have fun finding out about your local environment

See the trees

Take younger girls for a closer look at some trees.

Use magnifying glasses, so that the girls can see what is under leaves and on the trunk.

Make a list of the things that you see, these might include: insects, fungi, droppings and the veins on a leaf.

Try to identify the trees using any books that you have. Girls can then make bark rubbings using the paper and crayons.

You will need

- Magnifying glasses
- Trees
- Nature books to help you identify trees
- Plain paper
- Crayons



Guiders' note

Get the girls to think about whether it is easier to identify a tree in the summer or the winter.



Develop an ecosystem

The idea behind this activity is to create and maintain an ecosystem that mimics the earth's climate.

Wash the container to remove any residue. Place 2-3cm of gravel in the bottom and add about 5cm of soil on top.

Make a small hole in the compost to place the plant in. If you can't get your hand into the jar, use a spoon handle to make the hole. Then use the spoon to lower the plant into the hole.

Lightly water the plant and the soil around it. Seal the container and place it out of direct sunlight.

The ecosystem should only need moisture once every month.

You will need

- A glass container that can be sealed — such as a sweet jar or a catering-size coffee jar
- Gravel
- Small plants — home-grown, or bought from a nursery
- Soil
- A spoon

Girls should see the plant grow in its own mini environment.

Into extra time

Grow the plants for this activity yourself.



Hidden from view

As well as being lots of fun, this game helps girls to learn all about camouflage.

Choose a safe area around your meeting place or holiday home. In the area you need to hide a variety of man-made objects.

Some of these should be very bright and obvious, others should be more subtle and blend into your surroundings. Place the objects at various heights along your trail, and don't tell the girls how many there are.

Divide your unit into small groups. Depending on the size of the area, girls can scavenge together, or you can start groups off at staggered intervals. Girls should write down, or remember, any items that they see.

When the girls have finished, lead everyone around so that they can see where the objects are.



Into extra time

- Give each group an object that they must camouflage and hide. Other groups must then find them.
- Look out for animals and insects that have natural camouflage.

Eco tips

- Be aware of plants and animals that sting and bite
- Always check the ground for plants and animals, before you kneel or sit
- Remember — don't use peat-based compost, because it is a non-renewable resource
- Disturbance to wildlife — that includes plants — should be kept to a minimum
- Carry out activities in safe areas
- If it's cold outside, then wrap up warm in lots of thin layers. If it's hot, don't forget to cover up and slap on lots of sunscreen.

Ideas to go

- Look into the sky at night and look out for the brightest object besides the moon. Find out what it is.
- Take a closer look at a spider's web and then make your own from thread or string.
- Go for a walk and list as many things as you can that signal the start of spring, or another change in season — such as buds appearing on trees, different clothes in shop windows, and so on.
- Have a go at growing vegetables in an unusual container.
- Wrap a variety of objects in silver foil and hide them in a given area for the girls to find.
- Stand still and shut your eyes. What sounds can the girls identify?
- Look out for animal homes in trees. Even in the city you'll probably see a crow's nest or a squirrel's drey.

Sleeping dogs

The aim of this game is to let sleeping dogs lie!

Choose someone to be the 'sleeping dog'. Give her the torch, blindfold her, and sit her in the middle of your playing space. Turn the lights off.

The rest of the group stands to one side of the play area — the aim is for them to cross to the other side without waking the 'sleeping dog'.

If the dog hears a noise, she points the torch in the direction it is coming from and switches the light on. Anyone caught in the beam of light replaces the sleeping dog.



You will need

- A torch
- A blindfold
- A chair

Top tip

It doesn't have to be dark to play this game. The dog can point the torch without switching the light on.

Warning

If playing in subdued lighting, clear all obstacles out of the way.



Mission possible

A two-part outdoor project for all sections

This is an outdoor project with a space theme that can be simplified for younger girls and made harder for older ones.

First of all you will need to set the scene for the girls:

Time has moved on and earth people are in regular contact with the planet Millennia. The girls have been invited to visit a unit of Guides (Rainbows or Brownies) and have been asked to take some samples of life on earth.

Younger girls

After you have set the scene, Rainbows and Brownies can be issued with this first challenge.

In small groups, ask girls to collect the following samples to take to the planet Millennia.

- 1 Something green
- 2 Something hard
- 3 Something wet
- 4 Something furry
- 5 Something round.



After they have had a go at the first challenge, girls can think about and show you the following:

- 1 Somewhere to hide
- 2 Somewhere to shelter from the rain
- 3 Two different types of tree
- 4 Somewhere wet
- 5 An area where nothing grows.



Older girls

Set the scene and then issue Guides and Senior Section members with the challenge to collect these items:

- 1 A sample of water
- 2 Some air
- 3 A leaf from a plant that stings
- 4 Evidence of an animal, other than a human
- 5 Something that helps plants to grow
- 6 Evidence that humans don't care for their environment
- 7 Something living that can be eaten.



Girls should now show or demonstrate the following:

- 1 A place to shelter (provide, or let the girls find, materials to make a survival shelter)
- 2 Evidence of creatures that fly
- 3 Evidence of human influence
- 4 The home of another animal
- 6 A source of water for an insect
- 7 Tracks from three different animals or three different modes of transport.



Guiders' note

- You can adapt the activities to suit the area you live in.
- You may like to spread the activities over two weeks.



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Uniforms around

Check out the dress codes in India and France

India

The Girl Guide section of the Bharat Scout and Guides became a full member of WAGGGS during 1948. At this time they were known as the Indian Scout and Guides.

Guiding was introduced to India in 1911 and today embraces some 950,000 members in its three sections. These sections are:

- Bulbuls — 5-10 years
- Guides — 11-17 years
- Rangers — 17-25 years

Bulbuls and Guides wear a royal blue dress with a brown leather belt and a unit scarf. Alternatively, the girls wear a blue skirt with a white blouse and a navy scarf.

Bulbul Promise

I promise to do my best
To do my duty to God and
my country,
To keep the Law of the
Bulbul flock
And to do a good turn every day.

The Bulbul Law: The Bulbul
gives in to elders. The Bulbul
is clean and courteous.
The Bulbul motto:
Do your best

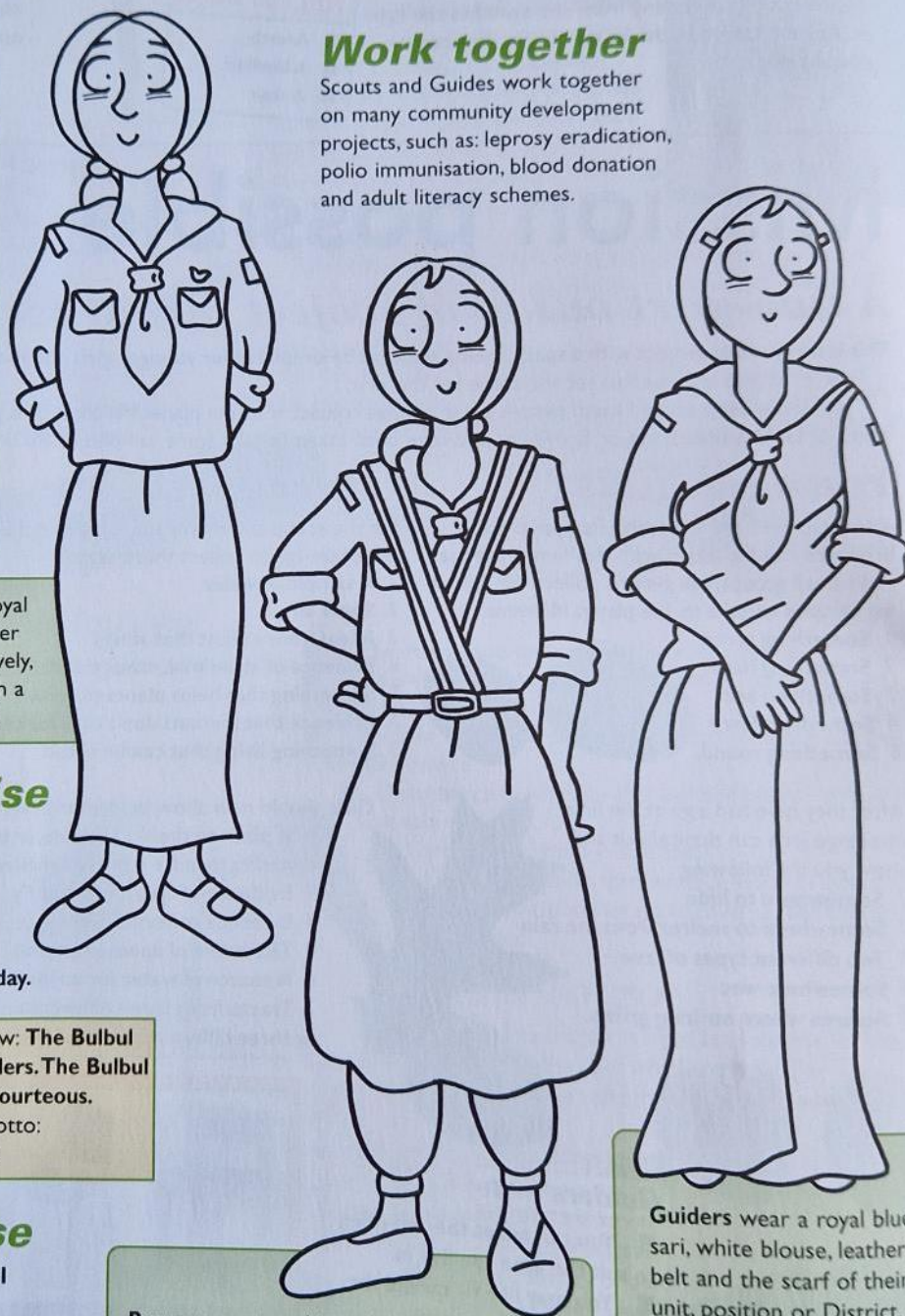
Guide Promise

On my honour I promise that I
will do my best
To do my duty to God and
my country,
To help other people and to
obey the Guide Law.

Motto: Be Prepared

Work together

Scouts and Guides work together on many community development projects, such as: leprosy eradication, polio immunisation, blood donation and adult literacy schemes.



Rangers wear a white salwar khamiz (baggy trousers and a long top) with a royal blue dupatta (long scarf worn over the shoulders), a brown leather belt and unit scarf.

Guiders wear a royal blue sari, white blouse, leather belt and the scarf of their unit, position or District.



THE **BIG** SURVEY

As we celebrate our 90th year it is time to look ahead. What are the good things about Guiding, and what would you change in order to make it as relevant as possible to young girls today? Would your Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, or Rangers agree?

Thanks to funding from the National Lottery Charities Board, I would like to invite every member to tell us what you think of Guiding and about our future development. I know that over the last couple of years we have asked groups of people for their opinion about the different programmes but this is the first time that we have been able to ask everyone the same questions. Using the survey form below, I would like to invite every unit, leader and commissioner to take part so that we can all plan our future together.

This is a new century, so what better time to look forward and help develop an even more exciting opportunity for you and your units and potential members. I look forward to hearing your replies.

Bridget Towle

*Bridget Towle
Chief Guide*

HOW TO TAKE PART

You will need a copy of this form for each unit, so please copy in advance. All entries must be returned on a copy of this form. Part one should be completed by your unit. Part two should be completed by the Guiders and helpers of that unit.

If you are a commissioner with no unit, complete part two on an individual basis. If you are a commissioner and a unit Guider, please complete an additional copy of questions 8-12.

The same questions apply to each section. For younger girls you may need to fill in the form but please use their answers, in their words. If you prefer you may wish to invite someone like a parent or a teacher in to the unit to run the discussion if you are not used to doing this.

The questionnaire can be used as part of a bigger topic about democracy, having your say, making your vote count etc. for a unit meeting with older Brownies and Guides.

Introduce the questionnaire by explaining the Chief Guide's request for your girls' opinions. Then split the girls up into small groups. You might like to do this by age as you might find different ages have different opinions. (For Rainbows, this can be done in one or two larger groups, depending on total numbers.)

Allow the girls time to discuss each question, ensure each girl contributes to the discussion. Give them some sheets of paper to write down their thoughts on each question. When they have discussed all the questions, come back into one group. Now read out each question, one at a time and ask for responses. The girls will then need to discuss and vote for their three favourite replies (see form). Please write the final choices from your unit onto the form in the girls' own language.

When you have finished all the questions with the girls, please answer question 6 before going on to Part Two. Completed forms should be sent to: Guide Survey, OLR, 59 Russell Square, London WC1B 4HJ by 8 May 2000.

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QUESTIONNAIRE

PART ONE

For use in a unit meeting.

Please relate each question just to your section (eg Brownies or Guides etc) Please use the girls' answers, in their words.

Q1

What are the three best things about being a Rainbow/Brownie/ Guide/Ranger/Young Leader?* *(responses in priority order)*

In our unit we discussed and voted for

1

2

3

*(*your section only, delete as appropriate)*

Q2

What are the three worst things about being a Rainbow/Brownie/ Guide/ Ranger/Young Leader? *(responses in priority order)*

1

2

3

Q3

If you are describing Rainbows/Brownies/Guides/Rangers to someone who knew nothing about them what three words would you use? *(responses in priority order)*

a)

b)

c)

Q4

What three things or changes could make Guiding more attractive to new members? *(responses in priority order)*

1

2

3

Q5

If you could change one thing to make Guiding even better, what would that be? *(responses in priority order)*

1

2

3

Q6

a) How many girls took part in this discussion tonight?.....number

b) What was the range of ages of girls taking part?.....yrs to.....yrs

c) What section are you? Rainbows/Brownies/Guides/Rangers/Yg Leaders*
*(*delete as appropriate)*

d) Which Guide District and County are you in?.....

e) How long has your unit been established?.....years

f) What type of area do you live in? (tick one box)

Rural/village/small town ☐ Suburban/larger town ☐ Urban/inner city ☐

g) How many leaders and helpers do you have?..... leaders helpers

QUESTIONNAIRE

PART TWO

For Leaders and Commissioners

Please submit one form for each unit, as a combined response from all leaders and unit helpers (Throughout for leader, also read helper). If you are a Commissioner with no unit, please complete part two on an individual basis. If you are a Commissioner with a unit, please complete an additional copy of questions 8-12 from your commissioner perspective.

Q1 How long has the Unit Guider/commissioner been in Guiding?..... years

Q2 Why did you decide to become a leader/commissioner?

Q3 What are the best things about being a unit leader/commissioner?
a) _____
b) _____
c) _____

Q4 What are the worst things about being a unit leader/commissioner?
a) _____
b) _____
c) _____

Q5 If you were describing being a leader/commissioner to someone who knew nothing about Guiding what three words would you use?
a) _____ b) _____ c) _____

Q6 What three things/changes could make Guiding more attractive to new members?
a) _____
b) _____
c) _____

Q7 If you could change one thing to make Guiding even better, what would that be?
a) _____
b) _____
c) _____



UNIT 101



INITIALS

QUESTIONNAIRE

Q8

What are the key benefits or opportunities of being a leader/commissioner?

Q9

What do you think are the main barriers to becoming a leader/commissioner?

Q10

What key things would you change about being a leader/commissioner to make it more attractive and to aid recruitment of new leaders?

Q11

What kind of support would make your life easier as a leader/commissioner?

Q12

Where would you like this support to come from?

LEADERS

a) How many leaders took part in completing this form?

COMMISSIONERS

a) Which type of commissioner are you? District/Division/County/Country/Region?*

b) Which Guide County are you in?

(*delete as appropriate)

Thank you. Please return your form to the address on the front.

HOTLINE • HOTLINE • HOTLINE

INSURANCE DETAILS 2000

The Association's Insurance Brokers are AON Risk Services Limited. All queries and correspondence must in the first instance be communicated to the Insurance Manager at Guide Headquarters and not to the Insurance Brokers.

The Association effects two insurance policies for the benefit of its members –

The Personal Accident and Public Liability Policy.

PERSONAL ACCIDENT

- A (i) The Guide Association and all its Members
(ii) Administrative Units including Friends of Guiding and Guides Cymru
(iii) The Trefoil Guild
(iv) The LINK International Fellowship
(v) Officers and Officials of any of the foregoing
(vi) Any voluntary part-time instructors
(vii) All non-members of the Guide Association whilst involved in, assisting or supervising Guiding activities
(viii) Prospective Members to The Guide Association prior to taking their Promise
(ix) Guide Association Members of Student Scout & Guide Organisation
(x) Self employed instructors whilst working for The Guide Association
- B Any Employee of The Guide Association
- C British Guides in foreign Countries whether Nationals of the Country concerned or not
- D Foreign or Commonwealth Guides visiting the UK at the invitation of the insured.

Plus the children of members in any of the above categories whilst their parents are involved in Guiding activities.
The Schedule of Benefits which is operative while taking part in any Guiding activities, including travel thereto and therefrom, is as follows:

SECTION 1 – PERSONAL ACCIDENT (Applicable to all categories of Insured Persons)

Circumstances	Limit
1. Accidental Death	£15,000 (over 18 years of age) £2,500 (under 18)
2. Permanent Total Disablement	£15,000
3. Loss of one or more eyes/hands/feet or any combination of these	£15,000
4. Temporary Total Disablement	£50 per week in respect of Insured Persons over 16 who are in full time employment £20 per week if aged 16 or over and unemployed (max. 104 weeks) reducing to 52 weeks in respect of illness/sickness.

These two benefits are restricted to those who have left school on the date on which the accident or illness occurs.

SECTION 2

(a) MEDICAL EXPENSES

Category A and B	£1,000,000 (Overseas)
	£ 10,000 (UK)
Category C	£1,000,000 (outside country of domicile)
	£10,000 (in country of domicile)
Category D	£10,000 UK

(b) TRAVEL AND INCIDENTAL EXPENSES

Up to £400 in respect of the cost of travel by public transport or private car (at a rate of 40p per mile) for the purpose of attending hospital/doctor's appointments for medical treatment necessary as a result of an accident.

It is important to note that whilst personal effects and clothing are covered if damaged as a result of an accident, you must still ensure they are fully covered by an "All Risks" Household Contents Policy.

The conditions of the Policy also include:

1. Benefits in accordance with the Continental Scale
2. Benefits payable as a result of illness (max. 52 weeks)
3. Benefits in accordance with the Schedule will be paid following assault
4. Exposure to the elements
5. Disappearance following believed bodily injury resulting in death.

It should be also borne in mind that the Personal Accident Policy is a private one arranged for the Guide Association and therefore, on a limited scale. Its intention is only to cover such expenses as would have been incurred did no such policy exist, and all claims will be considered on that basis.

Members who require higher benefits should take out additional personal insurance cover.

The Personal Accident Policy restricts benefits to death only for persons 75 years and over, other than in respect of Members of the Trefoil Guild where an extension in cover has been arranged as follows

- (a) loss of one or more eyes/hands/feet or any combination of these/loss of use – £15,000
(b) hospital cash (up to a maximum of 180 days) £10 per day

This Policy DOES NOT COVER LOSS OF EARNINGS RESULTING FROM AN INJURY, NEITHER DOES IT COVER CHILD MINDING EXPENSES, ANY TYPE OF CLASS OR LESSON, OR HOLIDAY COSTS. Although the policy is operative World-wide including USA and Canada, it is essential for all Members to take out travel insurance when going abroad.

Should an accident occur a Notification of Accident Form should be completed as soon as possible and forwarded to the Insurance Manager at Guide Headquarters. An acknowledgement will be sent together with an expenses claim form where applicable

and the form should be completed and returned to the Insurance Department at CHQ. When a claim has been agreed, the Brokers will notify the Association who will make the necessary payment.
A CLAIM UNDER THE PERSONAL ACCIDENT POLICY MUST BE MADE WITHIN A TWELVE MONTH PERIOD.

PUBLIC LIABILITY POLICY

The Association has arranged a general Public Liability policy to indemnify Insured Persons in respect of their legal liability for bodily injury, death or disease to any person, or for loss or damage to third party property.

Insured persons are defined as follows:

- (i) The Guide Association and all its members
- (ii) Administrative Unit, including Friends of Guiding and Guides Cymru
- (iii) The Trefoil Guild
- (iv) Link International Fellowship
- (v) Officers and Officials of any of the foregoing
- (vi) Any Employee of The Guide Association
- (vii) Any British Guide operating abroad under the Jurisdiction of the Guide Association
- (viii) Any person not acting as a member of another organisation who is authorised to be in charge of or supervise or otherwise assist in Guiding activities
- (ix) Children of Members of the above whilst their parents are involved in Guiding activities
- (x) Prospective Members of The Guide Association (prior to taking their promise)
- (xi) Guide Association Members of Student Scout & Guide Organisation
- (xii) The Guide Association Trust Corporation responsible for the management of any property; or
- (xiii) The Trustees of and/or members of the Committee responsible for the management of any property or premises belonging to or leased Trustees for any Unit.

Medical expenses are extended to include cost of purchasing emergency bandages up to sum insured of £25.00, and prescription charges if levied by the NHS hospital. This Section is extended to include costs associated with future Dental Treatment following an accident which required immediate emergency dental treatment, but which the qualified dentist confirmed could not be completed at the outset due to the person's age/circumstances which have been agreed by the Company.

The ONE-OFF PAYMENT IS A MAXIMUM SUM OF £1,500.

Reasonable overnight accommodation expenses,

- (i) subject to a maximum of £75 per night. There is a £10 franchise under the Personal Accident Policy which means there is no cover in respect of claims totalling less than £10.
- (ii) This policy has an extension of cover to include Professional Counselling in the event of serious accident, injury, hijacking, terrorism, criminal assault or suicide. Personal Effects, Clothing and Spectacles are covered up to £1,000 if **damaged as a result of an accident.**

The Public Liability Policy has been extended to include 'Member to Member' cover. The Employers Liability Policy has now been extended to include all the Guide Units and all Trust Corporation Properties to cover the Caretakers, Cleaners or Wardens/Honourarium to whom they pay a small weekly/monthly or yearly sum.

Commonwealth HQ in London takes care of certain insurance's such as Public Liability and Personal Accident for all recognised Guiding Activities. It is the responsibility of each unit to arrange insurance for its own property. The limit of indemnity is £20m, therefore it is not necessary to forward hire and letting forms to the Insurance Manager unless the limit of indemnity required is over £20m.

If certificate or the Policy Number is required as proof of cover this can be obtained from the Insurance Manager at CHQ. It is important to remember that Members of the Movement are also considered Third Parties.

This policy excludes the first £100 of each and every claim in respect of third party property damage. This excess must be met by the Unit involved. This cover relates to Public Liability cover only and not to Buildings Insurance Cover.

NOTE: You are responsible for the Unit's Property /Equipment and failure to insure adequately could result in your Unit facing disastrous financial consequences.

Other insurance's you may require
Personal Effects, Money held in trust (such as Unit Money, Subscriptions, Camp Fees & Pack Holiday

Money), borrowed equipment, minibuses, trailers.
For more information please contact:-

The Insurance Manager at Guide Headquarters will advise details of a contact name at
AON RISK SERVICES LIMITED,
Trinity Court, 2-4 West Street, Fareham, Hants.
PO16 0BH. – Telephone 01329 822999.
They will be pleased to offer advice and a competitive quotation.

CHQ have now been able to arrange cover for Depots and for the use of Minibuses. Contact Insurance Manager for details. Both premiums are very competitive.

the world

France

Les Guides de France is based on a Roman Catholic educational base.

France also has other Guide Associations – under the umbrella of Scoutisme Féminin Français – which caters for Jewish, secular and Protestant girls.

Guides de France are split up into four different age sections:

- Jeanettes — 8-11 years
 - Guides — 12-14 years
 - Caravelles — 14-17 years
 - Jeunes en marche — 17-20 years
- (Young people on the move)

Uniform

Each section wears a pair of beige trousers. Each section also has a different coloured shirt.

The girls can colour in the shirts for any section they like:

- Sky blue — Jeanettes
- Turquoise — Guides
- Red — Caravelles
- Green — Jeunes en marche

Law and motto

The Promises, Laws and Motto of the Guides de France are quite different to ours.

We've given you the motto, Law and Promise of the **Jeanettes**. If you would like to find out about the other sections, you can look in the WAGGGS book *Trefoil Round the World*.

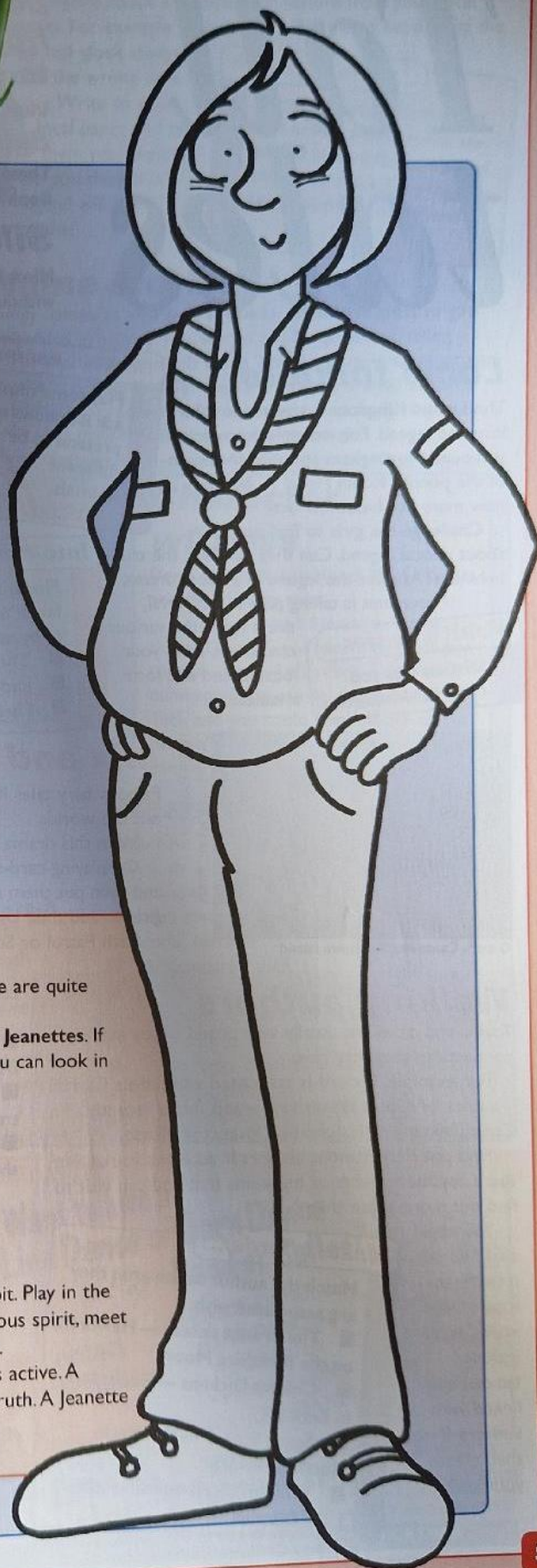
■ The Jeanette's Promise:

I Promise to do my best,
To love my country,
Accept the law of the Pack,
To do a good turn to someone every day
And bring joy into my home.

■ Motto: The forest

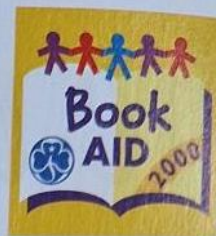
The world is a forest to discover, understand and inhabit. Play in the forest. Learn to be at ease everywhere. Develop a curious spirit, meet others, fend for yourself, discover nature, take initiative.

■ **Law:** A Jeanette is always clean. A Jeanette is always active. A Jeanette is always cheerful. A Jeanette always tells the truth. A Jeanette thinks first of others.



Tall tales

Delve into local folklore from home and abroad to discover the stories we tell and the way we deliver them



These activities are brought to you as part of our Book Aid International project.

Silent night

Mime is one way that we can tell stories without words, using only actions instead.

Ask the girls to practise miming actions, such as opening windows and doors; looking for an object then finding and using it.

Girls should remember to use different facial expressions and body language.

Once the girls have got the hang of this, they might like to put together a story using mime.

Make it harder...

While one girl provides the mime, another can provide the sound effects!

Local folklore

The United Kingdom is steeped in folklore and legend. For example, many tales surround Nottingham and that champion of the people, Robin Hood — but just how many are based on fact?

Challenge the girls to find out more about a local legend. Can they discover the truth behind it? Act out the legend in a short drama.

If your unit is taking part in a carnival, dress up as the various characters from your local legend and form a tableau!

Make it harder...

Discuss why you think folklore arises.

Make it easier...

Play some music and ask Rainbows to pretend to be different animals.



Into extra time

Find out about these regional folk tales. Are any based on true facts? You should be able to find out more from library books — or by asking older people who live in the areas they come from.

- The Lambton Worm — North East England
- Lady Godiva and Peeping Tom — Coventry, Midlands
- Fin M'Coul, Cucullin and the Giant's Causeway, Ireland



Giant's Causeway, Northern Ireland

PETER HAWKEY/
OXFORD SCIENTIFIC FILMS

Mix and match

Famous fairy tales have often had many different versions over time and throughout the world.

With this drama game, girls can make up new tales with old characters.

On playing-card-sized pieces of paper, write out the character names in the list and then put them in a pile. Do the same with the props and places lists. Get the girls to add their own suggestions to the lists.

Each Patrol or Six needs their own set of cards.

The girls must pick a couple of cards from each pile and then construct a story using those elements.

Share the stories with each other.

■ **Characters:** Cinderella, Fairy Godmother, witch, Sleeping Beauty, King, Jack, Queen, Prince Charming.

■ **Props:** An apple, a sword, a computer, a shopping trolley, some seeds.

■ **Places:** A castle, an office block, a party, a shopping centre, a woodcutter's cottage.

Walking authors

Towns and cities are usually very proud of any literary connections they may have.

For example, Oxford is associated with Lewis Carroll — author of *Alice in Wonderland* — and, more recently, Colin Dexter and his creation Inspector Morse.

Find out if any famous authors lived in your area. Are there any monuments or museums that you can visit to find out more about them?

You could also find out if there are any local guided walks which include famous sites linked with authors. If not, then create your own.

Make it harder...

Match the author to the area they are associated with:

- The Brontë sisters — Haworth, on the Yorkshire Moors
- Charles Dickens — Rochester, in Kent
- Bram Stoker — Whitby, in North Yorkshire
- William Wordsworth — the Lake District

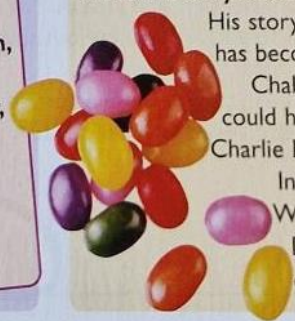
Master storyteller

Roald Dahl was one of the most famous children's storytellers.

His story *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory* has become famous throughout the world.

Challenge girls to create a character that could have visited the chocolate factory with Charlie Bucket.

Invent a super-duper magical sweet that Willy Wonka could have made in his factory. Draw pictures, or make a model of it, and explain why it is so special.

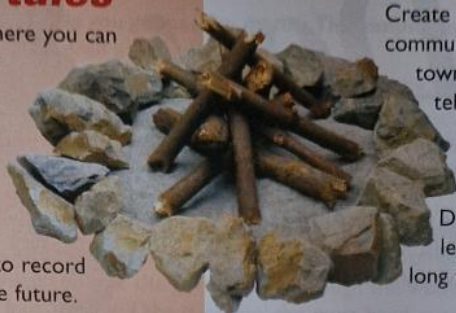


Fireside tales

Plan a camp fire where you can all swap your most thrilling yarns.

What are your unit's favourite camp fire stories and when did you first hear them?

Think of a way to record your stories for the future.



Create a myth

Create a legend about a landmark or feature from your local community. For example — how the hill came to be, or why the town hall clock always tells the wrong time.

Write to your local paper and tell them your legend.

Do you think this legend will last a long time?

Make it harder...

Swap any urban myths that you know. Urban myths are modern-day folk stories and old wives' tales. They usually start: 'A friend of a friend...'

Money matters

Just £1 can help a child overseas to read

As you know, throughout 2000, The Guide Association is supporting Book Aid International (BAI).

For more information, have a look at the article on page 11, and refer back to January's *Hotline*.

If you haven't started a BAI project yet, here's your chance to get started and raise some cash. There are lots of ideas in this section.

If you do hold a fundraising event, you can send cheques to: **Book Aid International, 39/41 Coldharbour Lane, Camberwell, London SE5 9NR.**

Town trail

Think of the name of an author and a book they have written.

Write each letter of the names on a separate piece of card.

Approach local shops, churches and so on and ask them to hide a letter in their windows.

Charge people to take part in your town trail. They have to find all the hidden letters and rearrange them to reveal the author and book.

Award a prize for the first correct answer out of a hat.

Make a special date for the town trail and let everyone know that it is part of the BAI project.

Into extra time

- Provide clues to each of the letters.
- Hide letters in all sorts of places, like the war memorial, the recycling bank and so on.
- This is a great event for the Senior Section to organise.

Name stories

Family names, as well as first names, often have great origins embedded in history. The stories can be quite fascinating.

For example, the family name 'Bourn' means a small stream — the first Bourn family may have lived by a small stream.

Girls can try to find out what their name really means or make up a plausible story to explain its origin.

Character witness

Dress up like Robin Hood, Maid Marian and their merry men.

Invite family and friends to a special themed camp fire where they must pay to take part in Robin-Hood-style entertainment. Food can be cooked by Friar Tuck and you could even charge to put people in the stocks! All the proceeds can be sent to BAI.

Ideas to go

If you have any great money-making ideas to raise cash for Book Aid International, then let us know.

In the meantime, here are a few more that you could consider:

- A sponsored spell
- A book swap — girls can lend out their favourite book and charge 20p for others to read it
- Wear fancy dress to a meeting and pay a small amount to do so
- Donate one evening's sub money.

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Earth Day

Celebrate a special day with some earthy ideas

Earth Day is an annual event that is celebrated around the world on April 22.

The day was started in 1970 by US Senator, Gaylord Nelson. The idea behind Earth Day is to have a special day to reflect on environmental problems and what we can do to tackle them.



Guiders' note

- Use one of our ideas to celebrate Earth Day with your unit.
- Publicise Earth Day throughout your community to make sure that everyone knows it is happening. The more people that know, the better!



Ideas to go

- Collect wood to make a sculpture.
- Practise woodwork skills or have a go at wood carving.
- Build a model using matches or lolly sticks.
- Find out what marquetry is, and try it out.
- Plant a tree.
- Visit a paper mill.
- Think of as many uses for wood as you can, and talk about why it is so important.



Address book

■ Friends of the Earth has over 250 environmental pressure groups in the UK. Contact them by writing to: Friends of the Earth, 26-28 Underwood Street, London N1 7JQ. Telephone 020 7490 15 55.

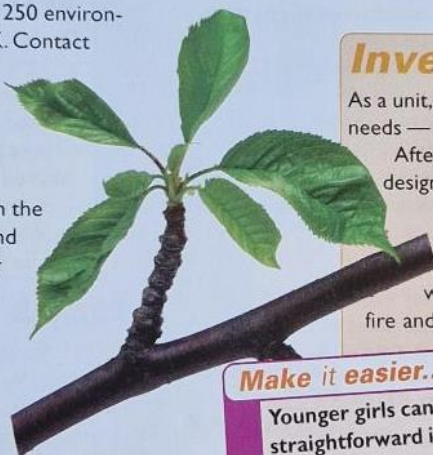
Web site: www.foe.co.uk

■ There are 46 Wildlife Trusts in the UK, protecting wildlife in urban and rural areas. To find out about your local trust, write to: The Wildlife Trusts, Harling House, 62 Copperfield St, London SE1 0DJ. Telephone 020 7921 5400.

■ For great games and activities, including special ones for Earth Day, take a look at: www.kidsdomain.com.

■ Visit the Earth Day network Web site at: www.earthday.net.

■ Trees of Time and Place organises walks in the woods — ring 0345 078139 for details, or visit www.totap.org.uk



Invent-a-plant

As a unit, talk about the basic things that a plant has or needs — such as roots, leaves, water, sunlight.

After your short discussion, challenge each girl to design a plant with particular specifications.

For example, girls could design a plant that can: protect itself from being eaten; collect water; protect itself from fire and so on.

You will need

- An assortment of collage and model materials — foil, wool, boxes, beads and so on
- Scissors
- Glue
- Needle and thread
- Sticky tape
- Card

30 mins

Make it easier...

Younger girls can have much more straightforward instructions.

For example, design a plant that: has orange flowers; is very tall; has long roots, and so on.



For Rainbows

The wasteful family

A story with props is a great way to demonstrate energy efficiency and over-consumption to Rainbows.

Make up a story about a day in the life of the Wasteful family and illustrate it with various props.

For example, at breakfast the family could waste their cereals; drive to school instead of walking; turn the heating up instead of putting on a jumper; leave the lights on when they are out; keep the television on standby — and anything else you can think of.

You will need

- Various props depending on your story, for example, a cereal box, a jumper, a toy car.

10 mins

Make it harder...

Girls can make up and act out their own stories.

Go wild!

Get your unit involved in the biggest-ever census of what's happening to the nation's native wildlife.

UK Wild 2000 has been organised by the BBC, YOC, Wildlife Watch and six other wildlife charities.

There's a new project and survey every month, details of which can be found in a special booklet. Your unit can get hold of a copy by sending a large sae to: UK Wild 2000, PO Box 1457, Bristol BS99 3NS.

You can also visit the special Web site at www.bbc.co.uk/ukwild.



Wild wide game

Play a wild wide game to help you get back to nature. This simple game is ideal for Guiders who haven't attempted a wide game before.

The aim of the game is for girls to make their way through the forest without being trapped by the wild cavewomen.

Cavewomen should dress up accordingly, with lots of mud, backcombed hair and perhaps even a bone or two! Cavewomen should also equip themselves with water squirters and noise-making items.

At the beginning of the game, all the girls assemble at a named starting point and shout 'If you're in there, make some noise!' The cavewomen then make as much noise as possible as the girls scatter through the woods.

Each child is given four tokens, if she is caught, she must hand over a token before she can be set free. After a token has been handed over, the girl returns to the start to make her way through the woods again.

You will need

- Tokens — such as dried beans
- A wooded play area with lots of cover
- Adults to play the role of cavewomen
- Water squirters
- Whistles, tin lids and anything else that will make lots of noise

Top tip

- Adapt the game to include a scavenger hunt that the girls should complete before they come out of the woods.
- Award a small prize to the first person who comes out of the woods.
- Set a time limit.
- If the girls run out of beans, let them collect more at the starting line.

Fun Quiz

1 Which mode of transport is your favourite?

- a) A car — it's quick and safe
- b) A bus — you can fit lots of people in it
- c) A bicycle — it keeps you fit and it's non-polluting

2 You're enjoying a slap-up picnic by the river. What do you do with your rubbish?

- a) Chuck it in the water — the ducks can pick the crumbs out of the wrappers
- b) Find a bin
- c) Take it home and recycle it

3 What do you do with your old magazines?

- a) Bin them — they're no good to anyone
- b) Burn them — then they don't end up in a landfill site
- c) Take them to the recycling bank

4 What sort of bag do you carry your shopping in?

- a) You always have the newest bag in the latest style
- b) You use the free plastic bags from the shops
- c) You have a fab patchwork shopping bag that you made from old clothes

Count up to see how many a, b, and c answers you scored. Now check out what your answers say about how planet-friendly you are.

Mostly a's

Oh dear! It's time to stop being so lazy and start looking after your planet! Get together with your friends and think of fun ways to help save the earth!

Mostly b's

Well done — you're quite a planet-friendly person, but there's always room for improvement. Start by being better informed about ways of being earth-aware.

Mostly c's

Excellent! You know just what's best for our planet — but do be careful that you don't start to bore people! Think of some great ways to get your community involved in planet-saving activities.

5 What do you do with your empty milk bottles?

- a) You don't have any — milk comes in cartons from the shop
- b) Take them to your local recycling bank
- c) Wash them out and give them back to the milkman

Into extra time

Discuss your answers to the quiz and the points that it raised.

Acknowledgement: Gillian Ellis



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On the Line

Discover France — our closest neighbour on the Meridian Line

Pêche à la ligne

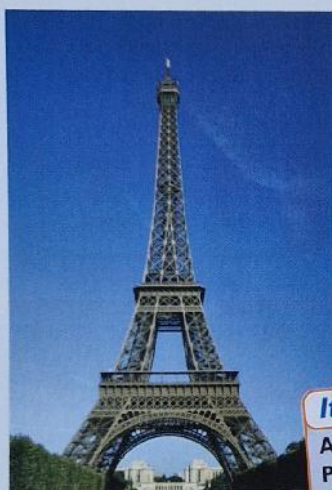
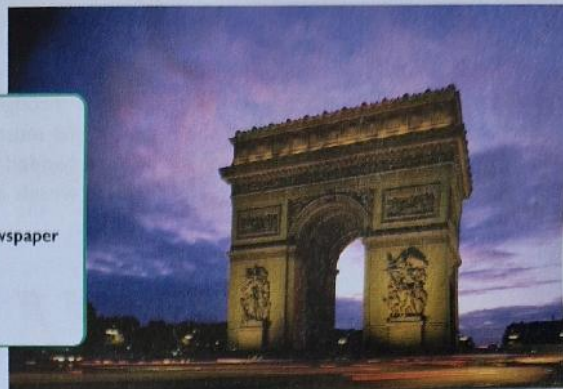
Pêche à la ligne (fish on the line) is a fun French game for a special occasion.

Tie string on to sticks to make fishing rods. Open out a paper clip and tie it to the end of the string to make a hook. Alternatively, you could use a magnet instead.

Wrap the sweets in newspaper and stick a paper clip to each one. Bury the sweets in the sand with the paper clips just showing. Girls can then use the rods to hook out the sweets.

You will need

- Sticks
- String
- Paper clips
- Sweets wrapped in newspaper
- Sand
- Sticky tape
- Magnets (optional)



It's a fact

A French Brownie Pack is called a 'ronde'.

Kit list

This is a scavenger hunt to play on your unit camp or holiday.

Here's a list of items that a French Guide or Brownie might find on camp.

Give each group of girls a French dictionary and a copy of the list — without the equivalent English words.

The girls then have a set amount of time to translate the words and collect all the items. The first group with all the correct items wins the game.

- La serviette (towel)
- Le savon (soap)
- Le tablier (apron)
- La casserole (saucepan)
- La terre (soil)
- La corde (rope)
- Les marguerites (daisies)
- Le pinceau (paintbrush)
- Le crayon (pencil)
- Le seau (bucket)
- Le parapluie (umbrella)
- L'appareil-photo (camera)

Make it easier...

Include French and English words on the list, so there's no need for a dictionary.

Chamboule-tout!

The name of this skittles-type game translates as 'knock them all over'.

Pile up the tin cans at one end of the room. Chalk a line about two metres away from the cans. Girls take it in turns to knock the cans down using only three balls each.

Score a point for every can knocked down and an additional 20 points if all of them are knocked down in one go. Award penalties for girls who step over the line.

Play in small groups. The first girl to reach a score of 50, wins.

You will need

- Clean, empty tin cans
- Beanbags or balls
- Chalk

Le feu rouge

Le feu rouge is the French way to say 'red light'.

Girls will love to play their favourite game of traffic lights — in French!

First of all, you should explain the actions:

- Le rouge — girls stand still
- L'orange — girls bob down quickly
- Le vert — girls run around the room.

Randomly shout out the actions at intervals to keep the girls moving!

Un, deux, trois, soleil

French children play games that are similar to ones in the UK, but have different names.

'Un, deux, trois, soleil' (one, two three, sun) is like 'Grandmother's footsteps', a game your girls may be familiar with.

One girl is chosen to face the wall at one end of the room and starts to chant 'un, deux, trois, soleil', as many times as she likes.

The rest of the unit stands at the opposite end of the room. As the girl begins to chant, the others creep forward. When she stops chanting and spins around, anyone caught moving is out.

The first person to reach the chanting girl takes her place.



Guiders' notes

- For more French fun, get your girls to colour in the uniform on page 9.
- You may also like to take a look at the Guides of France Web site: ourworld.com-puserve.com/homepages/guidesdefrance

Knights and horses

French girls call this game 'Chevaliers à vos montures', which translates as 'knights, mount your horses!'

All the girls pair up and stand beside their partner in a big circle.

In the middle of the circle, place a neckerchief for each pair except one.

Start the game by shouting 'Knights, mount your horses!' Each pair must then perform a 'piggy back'. The leader then shouts twice around or once around.

The knights dismount their horses and run around the circle – once or twice – and back to their horses. The knight then crawls through her horse's legs to pick up a necker. The pair without a necker is out.

Return all the neckers except one to the middle. Knights and horses swap over and the game begins again.

Keep playing until only one pair remains.

Le menu

Plan a taste of France with a delicious three-course meal

Menu

Starter — Vichyssoise

Main course — Salade Niçoise

Pudding — Fresh fruit brulée

Senior Section girls might like to prepare this menu in advance and bring it ready-cooked on the night. Alternatively, cook it in small groups at the meeting.

Each of the recipes takes less than 30 minutes to make. However, the dessert needs to chill for an hour, so make it right at the start of the meeting.

The amounts given are to serve four people — increase the ingredients proportionally if you need to.

If you are making large amounts, you may need to adjust the cooking times accordingly.

Vichyssoise

Girls will need a blender to make this delicious traditional French soup.

Melt the butter then add the leek and onions. Cook on a low heat for five minutes until the vegetables have softened.

Add the stock and the potatoes to the saucepan. Bring to the boil and cook for ten minutes, or until the potatoes have cooked.

Blend all the ingredients until they are smooth. Return the soup to the pan and slowly stir in the cream. Season to taste and then heat gently.

Serve the Vichyssoise with chunks of crusty bread.

You will need

- 25g butter
- 2 leeks, sliced
- A chopped onion
- 500g potatoes cut into small cubes
- 600ml vegetable stock
- A 142ml carton of single cream
- Salt and pepper
- Crusty bread

Fresh fruit brulée

Slice the fruit and arrange it in the bottom of a soufflé dish or ovenproof bowl.

Place the biscuits on top of the fruit and spoon on the crème fraîche

so that it covers everything. Put the dish in the fridge for at least one hour.

Switch the grill on to a high heat. Remove the dish from the fridge and sprinkle the sugar on top.

Put the dish under the grill for one or two minutes, just long enough for the sugar to caramelise.

Decorate the brulée with mint leaves and serve.

You will need

- 227g strawberries
- A ripe peach
- 125g white seedless grapes
- 8-10 ratafia biscuits
- 400g crème fraîche
- 125g soft brown sugar
- Sprigs of mint

Top tip

If you prefer, prepare the brulée in individual ramekin dishes.

Salade Niçoise

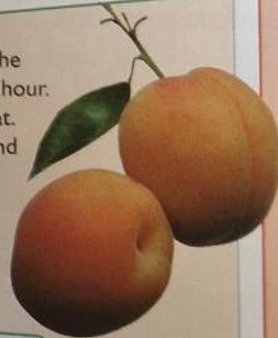
Cook the rice and drain it well. Meanwhile, make the dressing by whisking up the oil, vinegar and mustard. Add a good pinch of mixed herbs.

Drain the tuna and mix it into the rice along with the dressing. Chop up some olives and the radishes and stir these into the rice too.

Finally, quarter the tomatoes and add these to the salad. Garnish with strips of lettuce and serve.

You will need

- 400g canned tuna
 - 200g long grain rice
 - Black olives
 - 4-6 radishes
 - 4 tomatoes
 - A green pepper
- For the salad dressing:
- 1tbsp olive oil
 - 2tbsp wine vinegar
 - Strong French mustard
 - Mixed herbs
 - Lettuce to garnish





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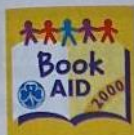
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Aid in action

A look at how Book Aid International helps people in Kenya

By Book Aid International

Fourteen-year-old Jennifer grew up in a shanty town in Mombassa. When her father died, financial hardship reduced the family to begging. 'My big sister introduced me to a blind man to beg with,' she said. 'I gave him my eyes and slept with him in exchange for shelter. He would also give me half a day's collection which I would give to my mother.'

Jennifer was helped by the Wema Centre in Mombassa — a shelter that offers young street girls the chance to live a normal life.

Through its partnership with the Kenya National Library Service, Book Aid International has provided the centre with books on dress-making and pattern-cutting, dictionaries, and business textbooks, to help equip girls like Jennifer with the skills to rebuild their lives.

Limuru Girls' Centre

BAI also supplies reading material to the library centre at the Limuru Girls' Centre in Kiambu. The centre was set up to provide training in agriculture and clothing technology for young girls from needy families. The students spend a lot of time doing practical work on the farm or in workshops, but books are vital to enhance their studies.

Lucy Gitonga, the manager at the centre, said: 'The books were brilliant — just what we needed. They will go a

great distance in helping the young women in their work.

'The consignment is a wonderful gift to all those who are here and the young women who will be passing through our doors in the future.'

Women in Kenya

The refugee camp has also started up its own Guide Movement for the women there.

As in the UK, Kenya has a very strong Guide Association, which encourages participation in various development projects for women locally.

Involvement in such activities helps to improve girls' confidence, and gives them enthusiasm for their role within the community.

In most parts of Sub-Saharan Africa, the drop-out rate among schoolgirls is high. It is often the case that culture or religion discourages the education of women. The empowerment of women must respond to needs in relation to the traditions inherent in societies.

However, raising awareness of the benefits of reading encourages women to become more actively involved in making choices that will improve their own lives and those of the community around them.

Kakuma refugee camp

When refugees in the Kakuma refugee camp in northern Kenya set up their own



BOOK AID INTERNATIONAL

These children at Kakuma refugee camp have formed a drama group to act out stories from library books

library centre, BAI supplied much of the material needed.

Organising the centre has helped to enhance community spirit and initiated problem-solving abilities in people suffering from the terrible effects of war.

Books on craft and design have also proved useful for developing practical skills, and assisting in the production of goods in the camp.

World Book Day

On March 10 schools across the UK will be taking part in activities to mark World Book Day, for which BAI is the official charity.

On this day we would like everyone to think about children and adults in parts of the world who do not have access to reading material.

Schools will be organising events to celebrate books and reading, and every child in the UK will receive a £1 book token. Last year schools raised over £40,000, enabling BAI to send an amazing 40,000 books to developing countries.

● For details of World Book Day events in your area, visit the Web site: www.worldbookday.com.

For BAI-related activities, turn to
Activate pages 10&11.

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Quality not quantity

By Liz Smith
Adult Support, CHQ

Let's invest in the individual — with the new Adult Training Qualification

Have you ever considered how the success of a training event should be measured? By the head-count in a session, or the numbers coming through the door at a County Day? Or should it be judged by whether the needs of the individual are being met?

With the introduction of *Training Opportunities* — the Adult Training Qualification, which incorporates modules from the national standards for training and development — there are implications for everyone involved in the organisation of training sessions.



The national standards that prospective Trainers are now starting to work towards are good practice for all those involved in the delivery of training — for both organisers and Trainers. These standards

Training in small groups yields better results, and ultimately, better Guiding

define a 'small group' as up to six and a 'large group' as over twelve.

This will stretch the already busy Trainers even more, but just think of the specific needs of individuals being identified and met if you did start to work with such small numbers. Think also of the benefits to the girls, if they were to have really well-trained leaders.

With the new qualification it is

hoped that more people will come forward to work towards becoming Trainers — those who want to train adults. How much less daunting the whole process would be for prospective Trainers if they could start by working with smaller groups with particular needs.

Time to care

So what about the care of the individual? A one-and-a-half-hour training session with 30 participants means three minutes of individual care from the Trainer for each person — that is as long as no one takes more than her allotted time!

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Small group work

Have you ever been guilty of cancelling a training session because only four Guiders had applied? It might have been just the right session for those four, and resulted in better quality Guiding in their units.

One-to-one training

Several of the modules making up the new qualification require the prospective Trainer to work with an individual to do the following:

- Identify individual learning needs
- Design training and development sessions for learners
- Create an environment conducive to learning.

As a result, it is necessary to consider the who, how, where and when questions about the opportunities for one-to-one training, and ensure that the connection is made.

Adult members are all individuals with their own learning needs, so let's start investing more than three minutes in each of them.

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on the line.

Vive la différence!

By Caroline Thom
International Manager, CHQ

France is our neighbour on the Meridian Line

In many respects, life in France is similar to ours. The French enjoy many of the same festivals, listen to the same trans-Atlantic music, and play the same sports.

Many things associated with France have become familiar — baguettes, quiche and camembert have become popular choices in our diet.

But there are differences: most shops close at Saturday lunchtime and don't

re-open until Monday, coffee is drunk from a bowl at breakfast and you can refill your wine bottles for less than a pound.

Associations in France

Guiding in France is also different to Guiding in the UK. A young member there can belong to one of five different Associations, which together form the Scouting Federation. Of these five, only Guides de France is for girls alone, and has a Roman Catholic educational basis.

Guides de France is concerned with community development, and has special units called 'Unités Soleil' (Sun units) which were formed to attract youngsters from immigrant families and children from disadvantaged backgrounds. These provide opportunities to form intercultural friendships and the chance to learn about other religions.

Projects

Guides de France has a big national project this year called 'Luttes contre la violence' (Fighting against violence), which it has linked to the WAGGGS Building World Citizenship theme of peace.

During the Lent period, all the Brownies (Jeanettes) will take part in a project called the 'KMS Soleil', an inter-association Catholic project to learn about development projects and to support such projects throughout the world. The Guides of Cambodia and Rwanda



EVIA TISSEYE

In France Brownie-age girls are called Jeanettes

were two of the ten projects chosen to use as a source of information and to support financially.

Guides and Rangers (Caravelles) also participate in the Lent campaign, and this year they will be studying Central America. Again, the main theme is peace and non-violence. They will be taking part in a sponsored run to help raise funds. In September there will be a joint training session for leaders in Rwanda, in conjunction with the Rwandan Guides Association.

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THE GUIDE
ASSOCIATION

Activities

In *Activate* - pages 14/15 - you'll find activities enjoyed by Brownies and Guides in France, some of which are similar to the kind of games we play here.

We are working with Guides de France on the On the Line project, swapping more activity ideas with them, and other Guide Associations along the Meridian Line. These activities should be available in the autumn. Look out for more details in future issues of *Guiding magazine*.

In the meantime, if you would like to find out more about France — to learn why French food is world-famous and how to make a crêpe; to read about the biggest annual sporting event in the world, and see what the French like to do in their spare time, check out a virtual journey through France by visiting the Web site www.ontheline.org.uk.

Now turn to...

- **Activate** pages 14/15 for related activity ideas.
- **Activate** pages 8/9 for yet more information about Guiding in France — uniforms and so on.

classifieds

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Let Peace Walk the Earth

Global unity and peace were celebrated at Thinking Day 2000 services in Glasgow and London

Scottish Guides went to the ends of the earth to entertain their guests at the UK's biggest Thinking Day 2000 celebration. They hosted a whistlestop tour of the five continents through an extravaganza of music and dance — giving a glimpse of the global vision of the Guide Movement.

Over 8,000 girls from Scotland were joined at Glasgow's SECC by Guides from North East England and other parts of the UK, as well as BGIFC Guides. Other special guests included MPs, representatives of the business world and voluntary organisations, and representatives from Countries and Regions, who attended a reception hosted by the Chief Guide Bridget Towle before the service.

Behind the scenes

The celebration was the culmination of several months of hard work by the Scottish Guides. Its 200-strong choir and 300 dancers only assembled fully for the first time on the day itself. Girls from Shetland, Orkney, Galloway and the Western Isles, had been unable to reach rehearsals on the mainland, and had practised separately in their Counties.

Guides journeyed from the far-flung corners of Scotland — and beyond — to attend the service. A specially laid-on train brought many from the north, and others living in remote areas not served by rail, arrived by coach. Girls from Shetland

had travelled overnight by boat to reach the mainland, before travelling down to Glasgow.

Global community

Proceedings began with a dramatic parade with banners and flags, accompanied by the beating of an African drum. The 'tour' began in America, with large video screens either side of the stage showing a montage of images from the USA, and live displays of line-dancing and cheerleading.

It continued with a taste of Asia, Africa, Europe and Australasia, before returning to the UK with a simulation of a thunderstorm by The Drummer Boys from London, and a display of Scottish dancing.

Continuing the global theme, video messages from around the world, filmed at the World Camp, were screened. Those gathered renewed their Promise with the Scottish Chief Commissioner, reflected on the meaning of Thinking Day, and sang *Look into the Future* — the winning song of Scottish Guiding's Millennium Song Competition — written by Guide Heather Bamforth (see the box on the left). The year 2000 Service Project, with Book Aid International, was launched to Scottish Guiding as part of the celebrations.



Scottish Guides end their music-and-dance tour of the continents with a flourish

MARY PATERSON

Peace pledges in London

Meanwhile, services were held by London and South East England Region in Westminster Abbey, St Margaret's and Central Hall.

Special guests included the Lord Mayor of Westminster, Lord and Lady Baden-Powell, and other civic leaders. They were among 5,000 people who attended — all of whom offered up their own action for peace, which they pledged to carry out during the coming year.

Floral tributes, including three in the form of white doves of peace, were laid on the Founders' Memorial. A Guide and a Scout, accompanied by the Region Chief Commissioner, Frances Drake, and the Chief Scout, George Purdey led the renewal of the Guide and Scout Promises.

In the afternoon, the Central Hall became the venue for a circus show, cream teas, silk painting, and other activities.

Look into the Future

*Look into the future — what do you see?
Guides in every country in harmony.
Where there's fun and friendship
that's where we'll be.
Let the Guiding light shine bright!*

*Look into the future of our old world.
Holding hands in peace, let flags be unfurled.
Caring for the planet, saving the world.
Let the Guiding light shine bright!*

*Look into the future what will Guides do?
Helping other people, trying things new.
Facing every challenge, we will get through.
Let the Guiding light shine bright!*

By Heather Bamforth

MRS PAT RAWSON



Staffordshire Brownies take time out on the steps of Central Hall, London, after a 5am start

● Of course these were just two of the many Thinking Day events that were held across the UK. We hope everyone enjoyed their celebrations.

In February's issue a reader asked for help with a problem

One of my Brownies, who made her Promise when she was seven, now says she does not believe in God and refuses to read closing prayers even when these are 'readings' rather than prayers.

How should I respond to this?

Here's a selection of the answers we received:

As my unit is attached to a church, I would suggest helping her to find another unit where closing prayers are not read out.

Read poems, or use sayings from books such as *Sharing/Seeking/Searching* that are not religion-specific. [These books are available from Trading Service]

Should you be having prayers? We should be encouraging openness to all religions.

I would congratulate her on having thought about the issue and not being prepared to say something she doesn't believe in.

She could be helped to write her own readings or to understand how the given readings fit in with her beliefs.

Could the girls take it in turns to choose a reading throughout the year, so that they are involved in the decision-making about what is meaningful?

Speak to the Brownie, and explain what other people think. She could join in to be considerate of their views, ignoring her own for a short time.

Perhaps you should ask her how she would like to close the meeting — for example, in silent prayer, or with no prayer or reading at all. I close my meeting with Brownie Bells and I think that is sufficient.

It might help to speak to her parents, to get the whole picture. Perhaps a discussion with all the Brownies would help, to get various views.

The girl should not be made to read the closing prayers. The Guider could talk to the girl about her beliefs and then review the situation in three month's time.

Many thanks to everyone who responded including: Anne Esslemont, Durham; Marilyn Preater, Leeds; Ffion Emyr, Pembrokeshire; Rachel Callen, East Anglia; Cathy Heaton, Worcestershire; Janet Little, York; Lisa Milton, London; Sarah Tansley, Birmingham; and Ysanne Rickards, Guide Association Faith Adviser.

A reader is asking for your advice about a difficult Guiding situation that she is facing

One of my Guides has asked if her sister can join our unit. The problem is that her sister is 14, and has Down's Syndrome.

She is very keen, but I am worried that if she joins, our unit's activities will not be suitable for her age or abilities. The average age of my Guides is 12.

I run the unit with one other Guider, and we don't know what kind of impact her joining might have on the unit, and whether or not we will be able to cope.

How can I respond to this request in a way that takes everyone's best interests into account?

● What would you do? Write in, or send an e-mail, to the relevant address on page 3.

● Have you got a Guiding problem that you'd like to share with other readers? Write, or send an e-mail — keeping your letter as brief as possible — to the relevant address on page 3.

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Riding on a breeze

Experience the thrills and spills of sand yachting

By Jacky Ramsden,
OAA, North West England

There is nothing so exhilarating as speeding over the sand, with the sound of the sea in your ears and the wind in your hair — or so the Guides and Rangers from Fylde South Division in the County of Lancashire West would tell you.

Their newest activity is sand yachting. Sand yachting combines the grace and beauty of sailing with the thrills and spills of motor-racing. It is one of the few sports where women can compete on equal terms with men, and children with adults. Strength does not come into it.

Getting started

The best place to start is to contact the sport's governing body — The British Federation of Sand & Land Yacht Clubs. Find out your nearest sand yachting club, and arrange a trial session.

The Fylde South Division was lucky enough to be given a second-hand sand yacht, but you will need to work out what the club can offer your group in terms of yacht hire, as well as training and membership. The club should also be able to advise you if you decide to buy your own new or second-hand craft.

The sport is cheaper than you might imagine — you can pick up a second-hand craft for between £200 and £600. Nor are they expensive to maintain,

since there are no hidden costs like fuel, tax, harbour dues or mooring fees.

Fylde South Division negotiated with their local club, and after paying a group membership fee, arranged to house their yacht at the club, and secured the help of the training officer — a former European champion.

Having a go

Apart from helmets, no special kit is needed to try sand yachting. However, wearing trousers and long sleeved tops is a good idea, to prevent friction burns from the rigging, and waterproofs are necessary in case the beach is wet.

The initial instruction required is minimal, so you can get stuck in quickly. Because sand yachts are more stable and manoeuvrable than watercraft, learning is fun and easy.

Before long you can be skidding around corners, lifting wheels, taking part in competitions, or just sailing off down the beach. Modern sand or land yachts can be propelled by winds of less than 10 mph and can travel at two or three times the speed of wind, reaching speeds in excess of 60mph.

Your girls would probably enjoy sand yachting as much as these Guides – and Guiders – do

The thumbs up

Most girls give the sport the thumbs up and think it's absolutely great. It's good to see them giggling as they grind to a halt in soft sand, tear along the sand working out how to turn, or just occasionally unceremoniously tip themselves out.

There are just a few who find that the thrills and spills are not quite their cup of tea but they inevitably enjoy helping the others and shrieking encouragement.

The only unpredictable factor is the wind — you may need to have an alternative activity up your sleeve, just in case.

The Guides, Senior Section members and Guiders of the Fylde South Division now use their sand yacht regularly. Last year, one of their Guides won the Fylde International Sand Yachting Club's junior race.

Guidelines

The Guiding Manual, 3rd edition makes no mention of sand yachting, but the following good practice tips are recommended:

- Sand yachting is not suitable for Rainbows.
- Sand yachting should not be attempted on the public highway.
- The Guider must obtain written permission from parents for each participant under 18 years of age.
- Instruction must be given in safe driving skills, how to handle the yacht correctly, and what to do in an emergency.
- The yacht used should be well-maintained and designed for the terrain where it will be used.

Contact

For further information, contact Roy Laurie, the British Landsailing Secretary at the British Federation of Land & Sand Yacht Clubs, 9 Derwent Park, Wheldrake, York YO4 6AT. Tel: 01904 448 618 or visit: www.landysailing.org.



Free as the wind: Fylde South Division was lucky enough to be given a sand yacht

The Debate of the Age

By Judy Edwards
Guiding Development, CHQ

The Guide Association is helping to close the age gap

Members young and not-so-young represented The Guide Association at the Debate of the Age Final Conference, last December.

Two Trefoil Guild members attended the four-day event, along with Young Leaders Lynzi Humphreys and Helen Dowden, and Guide Erika Bell — with their Guiders Pam Hall and Victoria Blythe. They were also joined by other Guiders, the Community Action Adviser Margaret Lester, and Chief Guide Bridget Towle.

The background

The Girls Get Real! Forum in January 1999 was the first involvement that The Guide Association had with the Debate of the Age.

A Hotline questionnaire followed, and a summary of the resulting report appeared in October's *Guiding* magazine. This report helped to inform the content of the Final Conference.

The Trefoil Guild played a major part as Debate Partners in the 'Voice of Experience' strand of the Debate — together with representatives of Trades Unions and pensioners' groups.

The Trefoil Guild sent its own healthy lifestyle questionnaire to its members. A discussion of the resulting

report took place in October, and in November, Trefoil Guild representatives attended a reception at St James's Palace — hosted by Prince Charles — in support of the Debate and the organisations behind it.

On the agenda

The conference was structured around five areas: Health and Care, Values and Attitudes, Built Environment and Transport, Work and Lifestyles, and Paying for Age.

It was an opportunity to discuss the issues and decide on propositions to put to the Government addressing the problems associated with an ageing society.

Responses

Participants called for a challenge to attitudes and stereotypes in society. Across-the-board age neutrality — treating people according to their skills and experience rather than their age — was the overriding demand.

The following needs were identified as being important:

- Homes which cater for a lifetime of different needs.
- Finding financial solutions and structures for the NHS, or alternatives to it.
- Integrated public/private transport systems.

● Flexible lifestyles and working patterns catering for every person in every situation.

Visions of the future

BT futurologist Ian Pearson, and Alexandre Sidorenko, the Officer in Charge of the United Nations' Programme on Ageing, spoke on the future shape of society. Home Office Minister Paul Boateng also spoke, and thanked everyone for their work.

Finally, participants had the task of prioritising a set of propositions — which will be used to produce a final report. When it is completed, later this year, this report will be presented to the Government.

Web site

For more information on The Debate of the Age, visit www.age2000.org.uk or e-mail debate@ace.org.uk.

Feedback

● 'I was proud of the Guides who were involved in mixed-age discussion groups. They had the confidence to contribute and to ask for clarification when the debate went into technical jargon.' Bridget Towle, Chief Guide


● 'Opportunities like this enable one to see the Association from a different perspective, are interesting and fun, and are accepted as a "thank you" for the contribution given to Guiding'. Sandy Kinnersley, Anglia Guide Adviser

● 'I was extremely proud to represent the Association at this event. We were instantly recognised because of our uniform, and our opinions were well received'. Beverley Stephenson, County Ranger Adviser, SWE

● 'In my work in the NHS I will introduce the concept of age-neutrality and valuing everybody for who they are and what skills they have to offer.' Amanda Cornish, Peer Educator, LSE


● 'The conference was a great experience. Also, it counts towards your Record of Achievement and your English GCSE.' Lynzi Humphreys, Guide, NWE

● 'Take up Community Action and have a say!' Margaret Lester, Association Community Action Adviser



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E-mail: warden@silverwoodscouts.f9.co.uk

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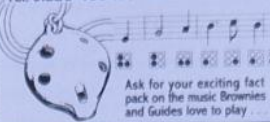
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Long haul

Guides from 1st Boxford, Suffolk had a great activity day, spending their time at Sudbury activity hall.

This leafy backdrop provided the dramatic setting for Samantha Segger's intrepid rope crossing.



LIL BENTON



JULIA THOMSETT

Pastry chefs

Apparently the Brownies from 1st Chagford, Devon make excellent pastries. Here the girls are demonstrating their cooking skills by mixing up some biscuits to sell.



ELIZABETH GRIFFITHS

News & views

In this section you will find your news, opinions, issues for debate and details of special offers

Please keep sending in your Guiding photos, we love to see them. Each month there's a special prize for the best photo and £5 for every other photo we print. Please include a sae.

Under cover

Anne-Marie Hayman (right) rests with Michelle Close after working hard to pass her Patrol Camp Permit assessment. Both girls are members of 1st Lenham Guides, Kent Weald and proved they were an excellent team.

Wives and Daughters

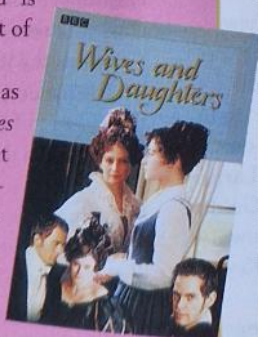
Wives and Daughters, the classic novel by Elizabeth Gaskell, televised on BBC 1 last autumn, has been released on video and is now available to buy.

Starring famous names such as Francesca Annis and Michael Gambon, *Wives and Daughters* is set amid the broad range of middle English society, on the eve of the industrial revolution. The story charts the life and loves of Molly Gibson.

Wives and Daughters is produced by BBC Worldwide, and is available as a boxed set of two videos.

Guiding magazine has five copies of the *Wives and Daughters* video set - worth £19.99 each - to give away to our readers. To enter the competition, post or e-mail your answer to the question below to the appropriate address on page 3, along with your details. All entries to arrive by April 30.

What is the name of the leading heroine in *Wives and Daughters*?



Student leaders

A reader responds to a letter in February's issue.

Keeping in touch

I left home four years ago, leaving my unit, and lost touch with The Guide Association.

In my first year at university, a SSAGO (Student Scout and Guide Organisation) society was set up. This group has formed close relations with both local Guide and Scout Associations, placing those who wish to help in units, and being a link for those wanting to keep in touch with the Associations.

Joining the society has been one of my best decisions, because I have made some wonderful friends there.

Jo Hobbs

Chair, University of Wales, Cardiff Student Scout and Guide Society

• Contact SSAGO by writing to the SSAGO Secretary at CHQ, or by visiting the Web site at www.ssago.org.uk.

Book appeal

Some years ago, I bought a delightful book from The Guide Association, which has not been returned by one of my borrowers. The book was *A Song to Sing & a Tale to Tell*.

I approached my local Guide shop, only to find that the book is out of print. Does anyone have a copy they no longer want?

Miss E.M. Weston

10 Nutmead Close

Child Okeford, Blandford

Dorset DT11 8EZ

Brownies to Guides

Readers respond to a letter about the age range of the Guide Section.

Getting together

Some of my Guides recently organised a Russian evening for a local Brownie Pack. At least one Brownie who wasn't too keen on going to Guides now can't wait.

The Guider who wrote in could ask a Guide to become a Pack Leader, with the prospect of a Service Flash badge for the girl, and an extra pair of hands for herself.

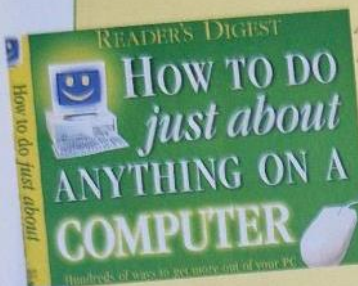
Janet Warren

2nd Ashted Guides, Surrey

special offer

Computer know-how

According to a recent report, half of all homes in the UK will have a personal computer by 2002. Now there is a book that covers all aspects of using a home computer, and demystifies PC jargon for technophobes of all ages.



HOW TO DO JUST ABOUT ANYTHING ON A COMPUTER – just published by Reader's Digest at £29.99 – teaches you about everything from surfing the net for homework research, to designing birthday cards – all in clearly-illustrated and easy-to-follow steps. You

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We have five copies of **HOW TO DO JUST ABOUT ANYTHING ON A COMPUTER** to give away to readers. For a chance to win, send your answer to the question below, along with your details, to: *Guiding magazine/ ANYTHING ON A COMPUTER*, at the address on page 3. Or, if you already know how to, e-mail us at guiding@guides.org.uk. All entries to arrive by April 30.

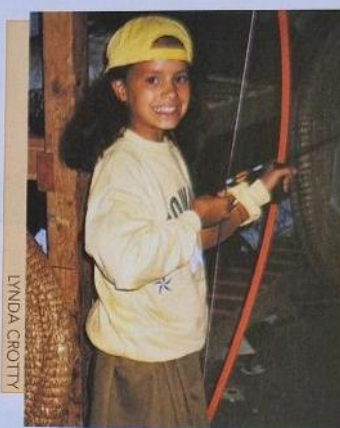
Who publishes **HOW TO DO JUST ABOUT ANYTHING ON A COMPUTER**?

picture this



Wash and go

Guides from the 1st Watlington unit, Buckinghamshire, spent a weekend at Ivinghoe. The girls visited the zoological museum, walked to Ivinghoe Beacon and then cooked a three-course dinner – and, of course, cleared up afterwards!



Hot shot

Brownies from the 1st Netley Abbey Pack, Southampton, enjoyed some target practice during an archery session at Pauline's Lodge, their local camp site.

Here, Jessica Grossett prepares to hit a bullseye.

letters

No to new section

I feel that the age range for Brownies is right as it is. Most girls tend to be ready for Guides between ten and ten-and-a-half years old.

A unit with three Brownie Packs feeding it should be thriving. Why is it failing? Do the Brownie and Guide Guiders not work together?

We run a Guide meeting annually to which Brownies aged nine and over are invited. They also visit for a day at camp.

Please don't think of a new section. Support your local Guide unit, find out why the girls don't want to be Guides, and help sort things out.

Kathryn Lynch
Guider, 3rd Milton Guides, Kent

A taster of Guides

I have been working with Brownies for over ten years, and have at times had a similar problem.

Where girls had reached the age when they could move to Guides but

preferred to remain at Brownies, I created a separate Six for them. I would give these older girls challenges, based on the same theme as the rest of the Pack, but which reflected the standard of the Guide Programme. I would also give them other responsibilities to assist me in the running of the Pack.

By doing this, I tried to give these older girls a taster of what Guides was like and in some instances, the girls who had been reluctant to move up to Guides were soon keen to move on.

Julie Larner
Assistant Brownie Guider
1st Loughton Brownies
Milton Keynes

● The publication *Go! Challenge* was produced especially to be used with older Brownies who need more challenging activities. Girls choose one of 18 challenges, though they can do more if they want to! Order code 65730, £4.00.

Through the ages

Every month this year, bar January, we are taking as a theme a century of the last millennium.

We started in February – with 1000 – and used some of the super Viking-themed ideas from January's *Guiding magazine*. March was 1100 – stained glass windows and cone hats – and in April it is the turn of the 1200s. We will be making jewellery to celebrate the culture of the Aztecs, who were at their peak in this century.

During the year we are likely to be making our way through the Black Death, Wars of the Roses, the building of the Globe Theatre, the Great Fire of London... the choice is endless.

We will round off the year with a trip to CHQ and the Heritage Centre, and also plan to visit the Millennium Dome at some point during the year.

Julia Scott
7th South Wallington Brownies
Greater London West

out and about



Photocall

Trefoil Guild members from North Tyne-side pause for a photo in front of the ruins of Dunstanburgh Castle.

Hilary Cooper had been leading the group on a hike along the Northumbrian coastal paths.

MARGARET WHITTAKER

MAGS ENGLISH



All steamed up

The competition was hot in the annual 'Joe Bate Indoor Cooking Competition' in Hazel, Grove, Stockport. Five teams of four Guides competed, cooking a two-course meal for four people on a double gas burner, with a budget of £5.

The winning team cooked wholemeal pancakes stuffed with turkey and stir fry vegetables, followed by melon balls with orange zest and kiwi fruit.



RUGBY OBSERVER

Fire escape

Eight-year-old Rebecca Garrard, of the 23rd Rugby Brownies, kept a cool head when a fire broke out in the house where she was staying.

Rebecca and her friend were sleeping at her grandmother's house when Rebecca woke to discover that an electric blanket had caught alight. Rebecca stayed calm and made sure everyone else was awake before evacuating the house.

In recognition of her prompt action Rebecca was awarded the Star of Merit at a ceremony at Rugby Fire Station.

achievement

funding

Lottery grant

Enthused by their own successful application for a grant from the National Lottery Charities Board, the 3rd Aberdare Brownies are urging other units to apply.

The Pack has received £1,720, which has helped to buy craft equipment, storage cupboards and a long-awaited pack flag. The arrival of the cheque coincided with the Brownies' 50th anniversary, making it an extra special celebration.

Book recommendation

I'd like to recommend a book that I think might interest other Guiders.

The book tells the life story of a teacher and Guider who was brought up in Yorkshire in the mid-20th century. Guiding has influenced her life so much, that I would love other Guiders to share her experiences.

The book's title is *We'll See the Cuckoo*, and is by Jean Brown, ISBN number: 1-85821-161-1.

Liz Johnson
Chester

Pack reunion

The 5th Stoneleigh Brownies will be celebrating their 50th anniversary in October 2000.

I would be grateful for any response from past Brownies, leaders, or anyone else, who'd like to join our celebrations.

Avril Hancox
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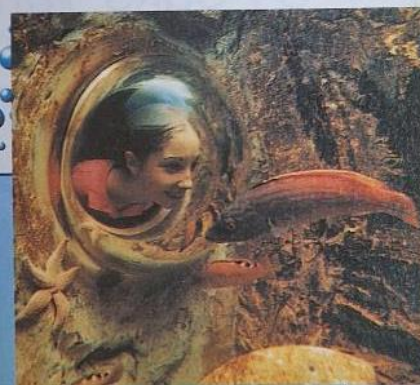
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Guiding magazine has free entry for a unit – up to 35 people – to a Sea Life Centre of your choice, and the winners will also receive a free goodie bag on the day. For a chance to win, send in your answer to the question below, along with your details to: *Guiding magazine*/Sea Life at the address on page 3, or e-mail: guiding@guides.org.uk. All entries to arrive before April 30.

What is the name of the new special feature exhibition at Blackpool Sea Life Centre?



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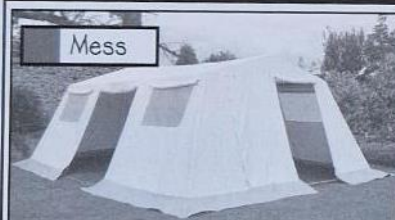


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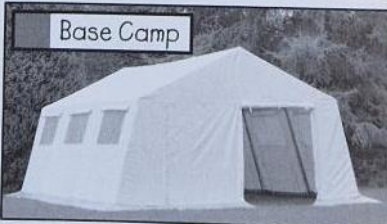
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Children's life line

Pauline Fitter MBE, a Guide Leader from Haslemere District in Surrey, devotes much of her time to helping children in Belarus who are suffering from the effect of the Chernobyl disaster.

A trustee of the charity Chernobyl Children Life Line (CCLL), Pauline is very aware of the continuing disabling effects of radiation in the atmosphere. CCLL brings children to England for a month to recuperate.

One group of children from Belarus went with Pauline's Guides to camp — including the young man pictured, who was celebrating his birthday. On Thinking Day, girls from the whole District built a shoe box mountain. All the boxes were filled with toiletries for every child in a village of orphans in Belarus.

When they return to Belarus, the children receive letters and postcards from Guides and Brownies in Haslemere District, so the contact is maintained.

For more information about Chernobyl Children Life Line, Tel: 01428 642523, Fax: 01428 651642, or visit the Web site at: <http://homepages.nildram.co.uk/~vicmizzi/site/default.htm>.



PAULINE FITTER

Musical talent

Rachel Bartholomousz — a Brownie with the 11th Caterham Pack, Surrey — was delighted to be picked from 800 girls to play Molly in the musical *Annie*.

The role involved a change in lifestyle for Rachel — who was only six when she got the part — as the show went on a six-month national tour. Every child's part had three girls cast, so each child only worked one week out of three. The children had a chaperone and a tutor to keep them busy when they weren't rehearsing for their eight performances a week.

Rachel made lots of friends on tour, including stars such as Lily Savage and Lesley Joseph — with whom she is pictured here.

Rachel has been recast in the new tour that starts this month.



D. BARTHOLOMOUSZ

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In May's Guiding magazine

Service project

How the books that you donate will help people overseas — plus advice about which books are most suitable.

Keeping fit

We have some activities inspired by the Olympic games, and others that will lure your girls outside.

New leaders

We continue our in-depth look at the new Adult Leadership Qualification, moving on to Module 2.

Training adults

Would you make a good Trainer? Find out what it entails — and how you could get involved.

All inclusive

Advice about including girls with disabilities in your unit, from a member who is herself, disabled.



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