

NOVEMBER 2003 £1.80

Guiding

m a g a z i n e

**Are you ready
to recruit?**

Get walking



Girlguiding UK



Contact Information:



Girlguiding UK



Welcome

The stars shone brightly on October 11 as 10,000 Girlguiding UK members gathered together at Wembley Arena for this year's BIG GIG. Headlining the event were our old friends and BIG GIG veterans Atomic Kitten, along with rising boy band D-Side and a whole host of other chart-topping acts. We'll have a full report and pictures in next month's magazine, but in the meantime you can find out more by logging on to the Girlguiding UK web site.

Of course the BIG GIG is just one of hundreds of exciting Girlguiding UK events that take place all over the UK throughout the year. From local fun days and camps, to sporty events or crafty sessions at Training and Activity Centres, Girlguiding UK has something to offer everybody. As November is Recruitment Week, don't forget to let all your potential helpers know about the fantastic opportunities that are open to them as adult members in their own right, as well as through working with young people. Some final hints and tips for your Recruitment Week plans can be found on pages 6 and 7. Don't forget to let us know how you get on!

Victoria

Victoria Wheeler
Editor

ACTIVATE

Take your unit on a trip around the world with our special games and activities from China, Australia and the USA.

Volume 91 Number 11 November 2003 £1.80

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Prepare yourself for Recruitment week

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Cover photography by Henry Iddon

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NEWS IN BRIEF

WORLD THINKING DAY 2004

All Girlguiding UK members are welcome to apply for tickets to the UK's largest World Thinking Day event at Cardiff International Arena on **February 21**. Tickets cost £8 and are available for two time slots — either 11am-4pm or 12 noon-5pm.

You can travel the world with a friendly red dragon and experience different cultures, music, craft, games and challenges at this special event.

For more details and to book a place, call Girlguiding Cymru on **01686 688 652**.

BROWNIE BIRTHDAY

Don't forget that Brownies celebrate their 90th birthday in 2004. Look out for details of gifts and commemorative items that will be available from January 2004 in December's *Guiding* magazine.

A special design has been chosen by Brownies to celebrate their birthday and it will feature on all commemorative items.

RNID CHRISTMAS STARS

The telephone number to find out more about the RNID's Christmas Stars Appeal in last month's *Guiding* magazine, page 18, was wrong. The correct number to call is **020 7296 8399**. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

WALKING TRAININGS

The following trainings will be held at YHA Bryn Gwynant, Snowdonia. For further information contact Pat Wheatley at CHQ on **020 7834 6242**, ext 205 or email PatW@girlguiding.org.uk. Some bursaries are available.

- Level 2 Training and Assessment, £70, **November 14-16.**
- Mountain Leader Training, £150, **November 10-16.**
- Level 3 Training and Assessment, £150, **November 11-16.**

STICKER PACK

Look out for full details of the new Rainbow Guiders' Sticker Pack in next month's *Guiding* magazine. The new pack contains 300 colourful stickers — 16 different designs, in multiples of 20.

Please note: these are not the same as the description of stickers in *Guiding* Essentials 2003-4. The stickers described in the catalogue are no longer available.

Top dog designer!

Guide Allyson Phillips has won the silver prize in the national Togs for Blossom competition.

Entrants in the competition, run by Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, had to design an 'off-duty' coat for Blossom — one of the charity's smallest Hearing Dogs.

Allyson, from the 3rd Rochdale Guides, won second prize in the 12-16-year-old category with her coat featuring the night sky and shiny stars.

The competition was part of Hearing Dogs for Deaf People's first ever Togs for Dogs Day. The day gave children of all ages the chance to

learn more about people with hearing loss who depend on Hearing Dogs, and to raise money for the charity by donating £1 to wear their own clothes to school or their unit meeting.

Allyson's winning design was made up by professional dog coat manufacturer dogMCUK. She was also presented with a certificate, a copy of veterinary surgeon Bruce Fogle's book and a photograph of Blossom wearing her coat.



Hearing dog Blossom models Allyson's winning design

HEARING DOGS FOR DEAF PEOPLE

Paving the way

Brownie Lois White has won the runner-up prize in the Young Pavement Artist Competition.

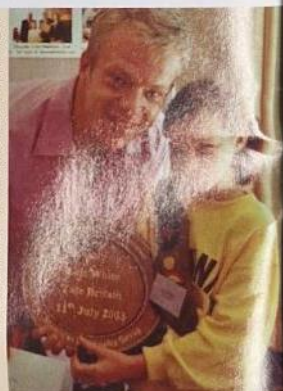
The theme of this year's competition was 'the coastline' and Lois, from the 2nd Hanwell Brownies, impressed the judges with her picture of a smiling orange crab.

The Young Pavement Artist Competition was started in 1986 to raise money for people with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, a fatal muscle-wasting disease. Since then it has grown into a major competition which has raised awareness of the disease and inspired young people to use their artistic talent.

Lois was presented with her award at the Tate Britain, London, by CBBC presenter Mark Speight.

Guide Rosalind Stoddart and Brownie Alana Beedour were highly commended in the competition.

YOUNG PAVEMENT ARTIST COMPETITION



Lois receiving her award from CBBC presenter Mark Speight

Work experience



Take our Daughters to Work Day 2004 will take place on **March 18**, celebrating the tenth year of the initiative.

In 2004 girls are being encouraged to go on group visits to view a variety of jobs within one organisation, rather than shadowing one person all day. This approach will hopefully enable girls to take a more informed approach to the world of work.

In next month's *Guiding* magazine there will be a free booklet of activities and ideas of how to get your unit involved in Take our Daughters to Work Day. For more information about the event, visit www.girlguiding.org.uk/daughters or email daughters@girlguiding.org.uk.

- Look out for regular updates in future issues of *Guiding* magazine.



CHIEF GUIDE'S DIARY

The Chief Guide, Jenny Leach, visited members at international camps around the UK this summer. She joined participants at Cleveland International Camp in Guisborough; WINGS in Windsor; WAVE in Cheshire; Intr@net in York; Bridges in Rickmansworth; and North Tyneside's camp in Seaton Delaval.

The Chief Guide said, 'All the camps I've visited this year have been different, but each one has provided outstanding and exciting opportunities for the girls attending.'

She was also impressed by the service element at the

camps. 'Girls have been really connecting in helping local communities and individuals in ways that have been exciting and satisfying,' she said.

The Chief Guide also met with Queen's Guides at receptions in Sandringham, Lorne, Westminster and Wigan, and attended the LaSER (London and South East England Region) Annual Review in East Grinstead.

In October the Chief Guide represented guiding at a conference for women's organisations and she will attend Girlguiding Edinburgh's AGM later this month.

Opening doors for guiding

Jacky Ramsden, Girlguiding UK's Outdoor Activities Adviser, opened a new Tesco store in August after being hailed a 'local hero'.

Jacky, a Ranger Guide in St Annes on Sea, was given the opportunity following a local newspaper's search for 'someone who selflessly does things for others'. Several members of Girlguiding Flyde South Division nominated Jacky for her help and inspiration to others.

Jacky first volunteered for guiding over 25 years ago. When she became ill with an incurable neuro-muscular disease and was forced to give up a promising career at British Aerospace Engineering (BAE), she focused all her energy on guiding. As well as being a unit Guider and Association Adviser, Jacky is a Mentor and Trainer.

As part of the opening ceremony at the Tesco store in St Annes, Jacky was presented with a cheque for £500 for her Ranger unit.

Fellow member Muriel Ward was one of many guiding friends who were full of praise for Jacky. 'Jacky is a constant source of knowledge and support for her fellow Guiders,' she said. 'Her smiling face has been seen at many events over the years and is well remembered by all those who meet her.'

It's not the first time Jacky's dedication has been recognised. In 1998 she was the recipient of the Lancashire Woman of the Year award.



Jacky Ramsden declares the new store open

READY TO RECRUIT



Girlguiding UK



10-16 November 2003

AFTER MONTHS OF PLANNING RECRUITMENT WEEK IS HERE!

By the Reach Out and Recruit Team

You only need to look at the waiting lists many units and Districts across the UK have to see how popular guiding is. But while it's great that guiding's so popular, long waiting lists can give parents and girls a negative image of Girlguiding UK. Since more volunteers means that more girls can get involved in guiding, Recruitment Week is the perfect opportunity to do something about these waiting lists.

DIFFERENT APPROACHES

This Recruitment Week keep in mind the saying 'If you don't ask you won't get'. Quite simply, one way to get volunteers is to ask. But make sure that you're familiar with the individual and their needs and restrictions before asking.

A less direct approach to take – and one that works best when you don't know the individual – is to arrange for current volunteers to attend your unit meeting or Recruitment Week event and have them tell potential volunteers what they have got out of volunteering. Whatever approach you take, try to follow up on all attendees with a reminder of the volunteer roles available.

Parents from Thurrock West Division were given a taste of guiding



DAVID HENDERSON

RECRUITING FOR ALL

It may be that someone is interested in volunteering, but in a role that you don't require. In this case, don't turn them away. Another local unit could need their help. Give them the details of local units or pass their details on to the units.

Or it may be the case that your unit needs another Leader, but as a result of Recruitment Week you only get the offer of help for an occasional helper. So what to do? Welcome your new occasional helper with open arms of course! There could be many reasons why they can't volunteer regularly *right now*, but that may change in the future.

But help could be right under your nose in the form of current volunteers. Use Recruitment Week as an opportunity to talk to them about their role – they might be ready to take on a new or additional role within the unit. You just need to ask.

A TASTE OF GUIDING

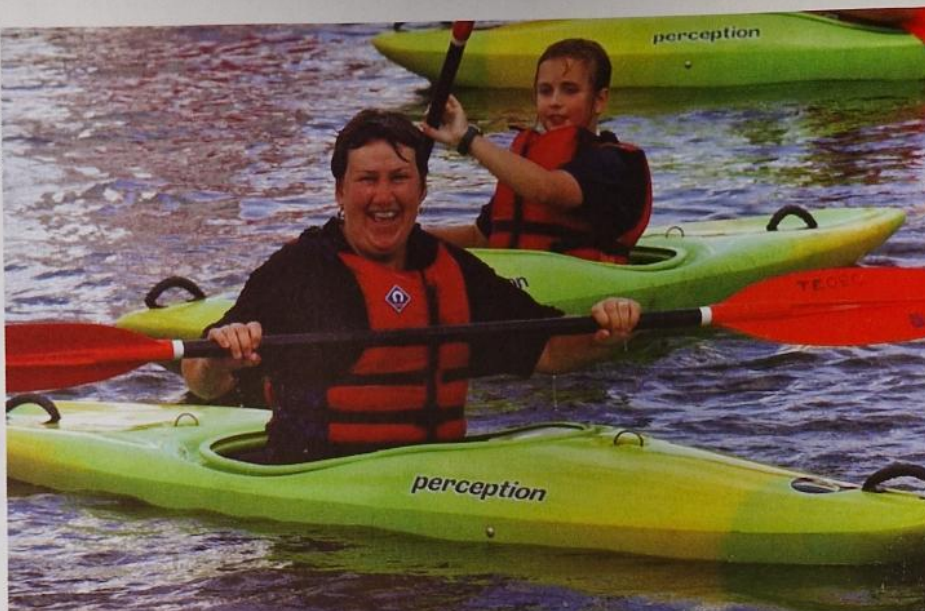
Thurrock West Division held a mother and daughter day to show mums of girls from all sections just how much fun their daughters have in guiding.

The aim of the event, which was funded by the Division, was to encourage the mums to become Unit Helpers and Leaders.

Altogether 110 mums and their daughters met at Grangewaters Activity Centre in Essex for an action-packed day. Activities included boating, abseiling, canoeing, mountain biking, archery and team games.

Guiders at the event took the opportunity to ask the participants whether they had ever considered becoming involved in guiding.

David Henderson, one of the organisers of the event and PRA for Thurrock West felt that the event was a success: 'Everyone had a fantastic day and we now have several potential new Leaders.'



Participants enjoying the mother and daughter day

OFFERING SUPPORT

If you get an offer of help, remember that a new volunteer will need ongoing support whatever their role and experience. You might like to follow this checklist of ideas taken from the *Recruitment Toolkit Part 1* to support your new recruit.

Before the meeting:

- Send a welcome letter that includes a role description and a set of frequently asked questions and their answers. Also include details of meeting times and directions on how to get to your meeting place.
- If possible, get the relevant Commissioner to meet with the volunteer for a chat and to complete the relevant paperwork (see 'The Paperwork' box).

During the meeting:

- Give the volunteer a tour of the premises, introducing them to the girls and other volunteers.
- Explain how your unit and the local area works and give a rundown on basic guiding terminology.
- Provide a list of helpful local names and contacts.
- Check that the volunteer is okay and knows what they need to do. A note or phone call after their first meeting to thank them would be nice support.
- After they've been there for more than a month you might want to have a more focused discussion with them on how they're going. After a year you might want to review their contribution and encourage them to do more — and send them another note of thanks. All volunteers need to be thanked regularly.

ON THE LOOKOUT

Whatever the outcome of Recruitment Week, recruitment is ongoing. Whether it's giving new members the *Parents* leaflet to take home and read or organising a recruitment event such as a mother and daughter day.

As an added bonus, taking part in Recruitment Week can help girls gain their Friends 2003 Badge and help existing members to earn their Chief Guide's Surprise Yourself Challenge — all while helping to reduce those waiting lists!

USEFUL RESOURCES

The *Recruitment Toolkit Part 1* has more practical ideas for supporting new volunteers. Until January 2004 you can buy the Toolkit Parts 1 and 2 together for the special price of £19.50 (a £2 saving), available from Trading Service, order code **6934**.

For the latest information on Recruitment Week visit www.girlguiding.org.uk.

LET US KNOW

Don't forget to tell us about your Recruitment Week event. Or you might want to contact us with feedback about the week. Contact the Membership Development Team by emailing join.us@girlguiding.org.uk or write to them at the CHQ address on page 30.

THE PAPERWORK

All volunteers aged 16 and over (including Girlguiding UK members) who intend to work directly or unsupervised with girls and young women must complete the form W/R. It also applies to all adults attending camps and holidays as well as new Guiders and Unit Helpers. Volunteer Instructors complete form W/In.

As the Association works towards the full implementation of CRB (Criminal Records Bureau) checks, in some areas there may be additional paperwork to complete.

REDUCE THE RISK

BEING PREPARED CAN HELP YOU AVOID POTENTIAL ACCIDENTS

By Jennie Lamb
Head of Guiding
Development, CHQ

When did you last take a careful look at your meeting place? Are you taking unnecessary risks each and every week? Yes, accidents do happen, but there is a lot we can do to avoid them.

SPOT THE HAZARDS

The first thing you need to do is make a list of potential hazards — this will be different for each venue and for each age group. Why not get the girls to help you.

In guiding most accidents happen in or around the meeting place, and most are avoidable. There are always children — and adults! — who fall over for no apparent reason, but piles of chairs falling on Brownies and girls head butting radiators

could easily be avoided.

If you're not sure about risk assessment, get a copy of *Being Prepared*, order code 6013, price £5, or request a training session.

RECORD THE INCIDENT

When an accident does happen, you need to complete and send in a Notification of Accident Form to Aon (the address is on the form). Remember, sending in a form is not a black mark — it proves you are efficient and understand good practice.

Always record even minor incidents in your programme book, or an accident book if you have one. If you find out at the next meeting that something you felt was minor has since involved a trip to the doctor or to

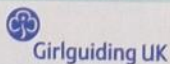
hospital, complete the form recording what happened the week before and the developments during the week. Even several weeks on it's not too late.

You need to complete a form when:

- You seek medical help
- You pass a girl to her parents to go for medical help
- The incident may worsen, for example, a bang on the head or a cut that is difficult to clean.

If in doubt complete a form. It is short and simple to fill in. Copies are downloadable from the web site at www.girlguiding.org.uk or are available from your Commissioner. And remember, risk assessment is about being prepared.

Assistant Manager: Camping and Outdoor Activities



Waddow Hall Training and Activity Centre comprises of a fine manor house set in 178 acres of Lancashire countryside. It offers the opportunity for young people to experience a whole range of adventurous activities that include canoeing, archery and orienteering. The extensive grounds also provide ideal opportunities for conservation work and environmental projects.

Supporting the Centre Manager, you will be responsible for all the functions related to the provision of outdoor activities. You will contribute to the development of Waddow Hall estate including the expansion and growth of a wide range of adventurous activities, camping and self-catering facilities.

The successful candidate will have experience of leading and managing a team, delivering excellent customer service, marketing and promotion to achieve income generation targets, managing projects and routine tasks with conflicting priorities and have a minimum of four years management experience in the outdoor or leisure industry.

Circa £21,888 p.a. plus benefits

For application information call: 020 7592 1892, email: hr@girlguiding.org.uk or apply on line at www.girlguiding.org.uk. The closing date is November 21, 2003

Registered Charity no. 306016



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Activity Instructors



We are looking for motivated, energetic instructors to deliver our 2004 Activity Programme at centres across the UK.

You should hold at least one of the following:

BCU Level 2 Training, SPA Training, Girlguiding UK's climbing/abseiling scheme Level 1 assessment, GNAS.

We provide training opportunities, flexible contracts, work placements and the opportunity to participate in an exciting, challenging and highly rewarding environment.

To apply online please visit www.girlguiding.org.uk.

Alternatively email: hr@girlguiding.org.uk or call 020 7592 1892.

Charity no. 306016



Girlguiding UK



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

NEW EDITIONS

TWO NEW GIRLGUIDING UK RESOURCES WILL HELP ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS YOU HAVE

By Jane Mason and Ann Matthews
Adult Support, CHQ

If you think no Girlguiding UK resource could possibly answer all your questions, you're right. But two resources coming out in January promise to be invaluable sources of information for every Leader or adult involved in guiding. *The Guiding Manual* and *The Guiding Handbook* contain useful information for everyone, from Leaders, Commissioners and Advisers to Treasurers and Secretaries.

To help you ensure that your unit runs in a safe and effective way that meets the needs of everyone, *The Guiding Manual* and *The Guiding Handbook* have both undergone major reviews. Information has been updated and new information added in easy-to-read and easy-to-find formats.

THE UPDATES

Providing background reference material and important advice on activities, *The Guiding Manual* (fourth edition) is a must-have for every unit.

Chapters are included on Girlguiding UK; policies and guidelines; structure; members, supporters and affiliated organisations; finance, property and insurance; and legal. Activity information covers general rules, safety rules on adventurous activities, residential events, and an A-Z listing of activities.

The Guiding Handbook (formerly the *Guider Handbook*) will be produced as a series of A4 booklets comprising *The Guiding Handbook*; *Guidance Notes for Guiders*; *What You Need to Know about Record Keeping*; and *What You Need to Know about Safety*.

THE NEW LOOK

The format of separate booklets for *The Guiding Handbook* has been chosen so that any future amendments made to the booklets mean only the individual booklet need be purchased, not the whole resource.

The Guiding Handbook is the core booklet, covering many aspects of guiding — from a brief overview of the sections to a basic understanding of how the Five Essentials fit into each of the sections. *Guidance Notes for Guiders* gives a much more detailed overview of the sections in the form of a booklet per section.

The *What You Need to Know about Record Keeping* booklet contains information on keeping unit records, weekly programme notes and meeting notes. There is also simplified unit accounts information which replaces the existing *Unit Accounts* pack and includes sample pages and blank account sheets that you can copy and use.

What You Need to Know about Safety includes helpful hints

on playing games safely, risk assessment, residential events and transport. Challenging behaviour and bullying are also covered as well as your responsibilities as a Leader and how to deal with suspected child abuse.

ACCESS FOR ALL

It's important that every Young Leader and adult member of Girlguiding UK has access to a copy of all of the appropriate resources. Therefore purchasing *The Guiding Manual* and *The Guiding Handbook* is a legitimate unit cost, for which money from unit funds should be used.



MORE INFORMATION

For more information on *The Guiding Manual* contact Jane Mason at CHQ on 020 7834 6242, ext 273. For information on *The Guiding Handbook*, contact Ann Matthews on ext 201.

Look out for details of how to order your pack in a future issue of *Guiding* magazine.

RAINBOW RESEARCH

BEFORE THE RAINBOW RENEWAL BEGAN,
WE FOUND OUT JUST WHAT IT IS A GIRL
WANTS AND NEEDS

By Joanne Hobbs
Development Manager
Programme, CHQ

In last month's *Guiding* magazine we introduced the volunteers who make up the Rainbow Renewal Team. But before this group could be formed and start developing a new Rainbow Programme, Girlguiding UK staff and volunteers had to research the Rainbow age group to form the basis on which to work.

THE CHALLENGE

Part of this research was done internally and involved pilot projects and questionnaires, the results of which were published in last November's *Guiding* magazine. We also looked at external research which had been conducted on the developmental stages of girls aged five to seven.

The key finding of this research was that each child is an individual and so will develop skills at their own rate. As such, in terms of development, five-year-old girls are very different to seven-year-old girls. The challenge for us therefore is to develop a programme that meets the needs of each individual girl in the unit while maintaining a high level of interest throughout the whole unit.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

In terms of social development, five-year-old girls are just starting to develop cooperative play and learning to share time, materials and affection. Five-year-old girls want to do what everyone else does whereas seven-year-old girls like to be put in groups but are also starting to enjoy individual challenges.

Friendship roles also change during this period. At the ages of five and six a girl changes her friendships easily but at seven years of age she wants to have a best friend.

Girls of Rainbow age are also heavily reliant upon adult approval. They are eager to please and help, but are very sensitive to any criticism. Positive affirmations are the key to building self-esteem and constructive criticism – helping the girls to improve in a positive manner – is important.



PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

The key aspect of physical development for girls aged five to seven is that they have lots of energy. They need a lot of space to run around and for active play, but for many girls, outside of school sports, Rainbows may be their only opportunity to get outdoors and participate in physical activities.

FULL OF QUESTIONS

As any Rainbow Leader will have observed, girls in this age bracket ask a lot of questions. This is because they're developing their language skills and are interested in learning about the world. As a result they try to find out things by questioning others, particularly the adults they trust.

Rainbows are also developing their understanding of their world. This includes understanding the difference between right and wrong and understanding what a promise means. This is the key stage in girls starting to understand the Rainbow Promise.

GETTING TO WORK

All this information is being taken into account in developing the new Rainbow Programme. It will ensure that the new programme is stimulating and challenging and is adaptable enough for Leaders to meet the needs of each girl.

At the stage where so much learning and developing is going on in their lives, Rainbows is an interesting and challenging section to work with. As a Rainbow Guider you have the chance to really help them grow and develop.

● For more information on child development see the *Educational Framework for Guiding*; take a look at *Development from Birth to Eight* by Jennie Lindon, published by Routledge, ISBN 0415186935, or visit www.raisingkids.co.uk.

MOTIVATING THROUGH CHANGE

LEARN HOW TO DEAL WITH CHANGE POSITIVELY

By the Positive and Effective Leadership Group

Change. Some of us seek it out; some of us avoid it at all costs; most of us begrudgingly accept it. But with the saying 'The only constant in life is change' ringing true, we all need to find our own ways of dealing with it.

Knowing we must face change however, doesn't make it any easier to deal with. But maybe that's because we've got the wrong outlook. After all, the reason the majority of us react so badly to change is because we believe we can't control it. But we can, whether it be at work, socially or in guiding. That's because we all have the same choice in our lives — we can choose to fight change or we can choose to accept it.

A CHANGE FOR THE BETTER

When dealing with change we need to consider the reason for the change. Both the recent Guide and Brownie renewals — which have elicited a range of reactions from members — were undertaken to make guiding more appealing to the youth of today. The bright and modern new look and updated, contemporary programmes may not appeal to older Girlguiding UK members, but they do to our young (and potential) members.

But the reactions were to be expected — as human beings, we can't help but have strong feelings when faced with changes to something we believe is important. It can be difficult to accept change when we have such strong feelings.

FIND A FOCUS

If you find yourself feeling like this, challenge yourself to find a positive reason for the change. For example, if you're not dealing too well with the new changes to the Brownie Programme, focus on something that you really like about the Brownie Renewal. It could be one of the new resources, a new badge, even your Brownies' reaction to the new uniform.

If you concentrate on looking for one thing that you really, really like you will inevitably find other things you like along the way.

POSITIVE EXPERIENCES

While we may not initially be too accepting of the change, we need to be aware that our reactions can affect others. If we have a positive outlook then others will pick up on this and may be motivated by our outlook. Likewise, if you're struggling to accept a change, look for those around you who are

being positive about the change.

Just remember, we all have the choice. Choosing to look for the positive aspects of change makes it not only easier to accept, but gives us the chance to 'infect' others with our positive outlook.

After all, Girlguiding UK needs to be undergoing constant change if we're to call ourselves a Movement.



HENRY IDDON

If you are struggling to accept a change, talk to others who are being positive about it

GUIDING THE

BROWNIE PACKS ARE BREAKING DOWN CULTURAL BARRIERS IN TOWNS DIVIDED BY RACE

When white and Asian youths clashed on Oldham's streets in 2001, the town near Manchester made headlines worldwide. The fighting and rioting lasted two nights, by which time Oldham, with its population of 219,000 consisting of 24,600 residents of Asian origin – 14,000 of Pakistani, 9,000 Bangladeshi and 1,600 Indians – had become synonymous with racial tension.

But many in the town refused to accept this reputation. Instead they set about building a brighter future through initiating projects that would serve the whole community and give everyone a stake in the town.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

One of these people was Maureen Haddock, the head teacher at Burnley Brow Community School; a school made up predominantly of Bangladeshi students. When contacted by Girlguiding UK, Maureen felt that guiding would benefit

the girls at the school and welcomed the opportunity to meet with Denise King, Girlguiding UK's Chief Executive, when she was visiting her home town.

Meanwhile, Denise met with local District Commissioners to explore with them how they felt about guiding in the town. They recognised it wasn't going to be easy. In fact with Oldham divided into mainly white, Pakistani and Bangladeshi areas and with none of the Commissioners knowing anyone from Burnley Brow Community School, it didn't seem promising at all.

But Lisa Ryan, District Commissioner for Chadderton South, the area covering the school, was determined to see the project succeed. 'I went back to my District to ask for support in initiating the new Brownie Pack and found that all Leaders were very supportive,' she recalled.

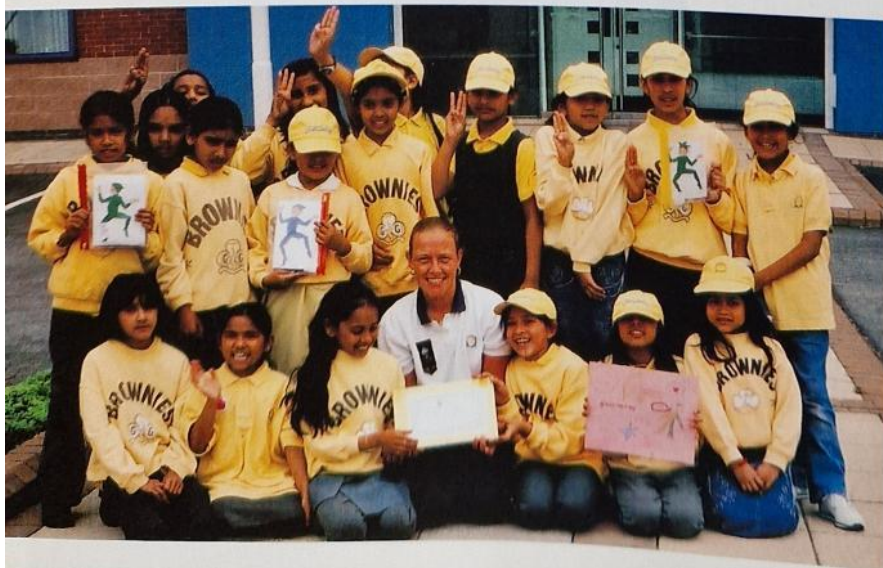
'Many parents saw Brownies as being a religious group'

Maureen spoke to the staff at Burnley Brow about starting a Brownie Pack at the school and four members – one of whom was already an Assistant Guider – offered their help.

Just before Christmas last year an informal assembly was held at the school with girls from Lisa's Brownie Pack, Denise King, the County Commissioner and the Division Commissioner.

'We told the girls all about Brownies, what they are called in Bangladesh and played some games,' said Lisa. 'We also gave every girl a goody bag with a pencil, notepad, a copy of *Brownie* magazine and a Brownie information sheet that was translated so the parents could read it too.'

The Burnley Brow Brownies with District Commissioner Lisa Ryan



WAY

By Isobel Durrant

BUILDING ON RELATIONS

Burnley Brow School has a strong relationship with the local community and the fact that Brownies would be held at the school made parents more comfortable about their daughters attending. Learning that Brownies was part of a worldwide organisation with groups in many Muslim countries also helped.

But there was still one major hurdle to overcome. As the girls attend classes in the local mosque most evenings, the only way they could be involved was by holding Brownie meetings straight after school. So one day a week, just after school ends, teacher Denise Kettering changes into her Guider uniform and emerges as Brown Owl.

There had been concerns about how she and the girls would cope with this sudden change of role, but so far it hasn't been a problem.

'I change into my uniform and they take off their sweatshirts (the school uniform of yellow polo shirts doubles nicely as a Brownie uniform) and put on their baseball caps,' Brown Owl explained. 'And as we go to the meeting I say, "I'm not Mrs Kettering now, I'm Brown Owl. This is my different hat", and we get on with it.'

The Brownie Pack has been so well received by both the girls and their parents that there are now 30 girls on the waiting list to join.

A SIMILAR STORY

In Nelson, Lancashire, there's another new Brownie Pack attached to a school with a very high Asian intake — Lomeshaye Junior School. The impetus for this Pack came from the head teacher who had secured New Opportunities Funding for a range of after school clubs. There had previously been a Pack at the school but it closed when the teacher who ran it left.

The head teacher approached young

English Support Assistant Kirsten Walmsley to run it. At first Kirsten was reluctant. 'I'd had no contact with the Brownies since I was a Guide in my teens,' says Kirsten, 'But I knew what a commitment it was and I didn't want to let anyone down.'

When another member of staff agreed to run the Pack, Kirsten volunteered to help, but she found herself Brown Owl after all when that colleague left the school.

At Lomeshaye the girls were accepted on a first come, first served basis and it wasn't long before the quota of 24 was reached. But after a few weeks girls began dropping out. The girls told the Leaders they enjoyed Brownies but had to leave. It turned out they were getting in trouble for arriving late at the mosque.

Fortunately, one of the school staff is also a mosque teacher and was able to arrange for the girls to be a little late once a week.

It is having such good community

'There are now 30 girls on the waiting list to join the Pack'

relations that has been a major factor in the success of the school's Brownie Pack.

'It helps that the Pack meets on school premises,' said Kirsten. 'The school has an excellent relationship with the community, and is well-respected and trusted. Parents know that they can come to the school and ask questions at any time.'

Meeting on school premises has also helped quell parents' fears. 'As many Brownies meet in church halls many parents saw Brownies as being a religious group,' explained Kirsten. 'At first there were also problems attending County Fun Days as they are often held in Church schools, but now all the girls are allowed to go.'

A few adjustments to the Brownie

Programme have been made for the girls — there's no prayer to end their meetings and no parade. 'We wanted to give the girls more control over the programme,' said Kirsten, 'and the new Brownie Adventure fits in well with what we've been doing.'

At Brownies girls are being introduced to things outside their normal home and school experience. 'Many of the girls are scared of animals so we've had Hedgehog Rescue and Barn Owl Bill to visit,' says Kirsten. 'It was brilliant to see them overcoming their fears and holding an owl. When their parents arrived they dragged them inside to see too.'

THE HARD WORK

While Kirsten may have been reluctant to take on the role of Leader to begin with, it's a job she now loves. But a lot of work and dedication was needed to get the Brownie Pack up and running, and Kirsten's the first to admit she's often in need of help. Her first point of call is the Brownie coordinator in her area.

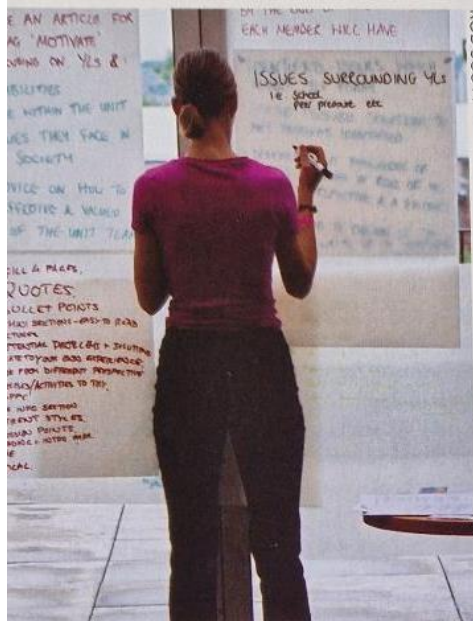
'She's fantastic and always makes time for me,' says Kirsten. 'Had it not been for her I'd have probably given up.'

In both Oldham and Nelson, if staffing allows, they would like to offer more girls the opportunity to get involved with guiding, perhaps through starting Rainbow or Guide units.

Meanwhile the good reputations of the Oldham and Nelson Brownie Packs continue to grow. Feedback from parents is also good, and little sisters are already stating their intentions to join when they're old enough.

But the best measure of success came in August when Kirsten received a call from a mother from a neighbouring town asking to put her two-year-old daughter's name on the waiting list. It's proof that everyone's hard work is paying off.

LISTENING CULTURE



ROB SCOTT

The Innovate workshops produced a magnitude of ideas and proposals

Following on from the report in September's *Guiding* magazine about this year's successful Innovate forum, here's a closer look at what happened at some of the workshops and how the findings are being developed throughout Girlguiding UK.

Before each Innovate takes place, various Girlguiding UK Advisers and Working Groups propose issues that they are currently developing to form the topics of Innovate workshops. Members of the Innovate Planning Team then develop workshops around these issues, write a report after the event, and then present the report to the appropriate Adviser or Committee.

SPIRITUAL CHALLENGE

The Beyond the Promise workshop looked at the barriers that prevent spirituality from being included in a unit programme.

Group members thought that contributing factors could be lack of confidence about the topic, Leaders' own beliefs and prejudices, the type of meeting place used, and a lack of awareness of the difference between religion and spirituality. The group also created activities for all sections to use to explore spirituality and a full report on the workshop has been presented to Girlguiding UK Faith Adviser Libby Spence.

ARTS STRATEGY

The Girlguiding UK Arts Strategy for 2005 was the focus of the Lights, Camera Action workshop.

Participants developed ways for the theme of film and video to be used in activities and challenges. They also suggested how members could be made aware of the strategy.

MEET OLIVE BLIGDON, A DISTRICT COMMISSIONER WITH A DIFFERENCE

I'm 38 years old and have been registered blind for more than 16 years. I'd just qualified as a primary school teacher when my eyesight started getting bad and I never got a job as a teacher — mainly because there was not enough awareness about disabilities then.

Instead I learned typing and computer skills, which have helped me a great deal. I also started volunteering. The first volunteering I did was at mother and toddler groups, and a woman's group where I was chairperson and later treasurer. During this time I also ran a discussion group for partially-sighted people.

I'm not a 'power person' but I do like to organise and I find that volunteering with groups gives me the chance to do things that I might have done as a teacher.

GUIDING BACKGROUND

As a girl I was a Guide myself, so three years ago I plucked up the courage to ask my local Guide unit if they would like me to help out. Nowadays there are a lot of concerns about the capabilities of people who look after children, but Girlguiding UK has been very supportive. After some initial apprehensions I've even done basic first aid training.

GUIDING

I hate people assuming that I can't do things because I'm blind. A big problem for people with disabilities who want to volunteer is that they often think 'Oh I won't be able to do it', and often other people think they can't either. I just want people to give me a chance and if I can't do it, well fair enough, but I would like to try.

I believe that you've got to try your best and guiding has given me so many opportunities to do this. But I also believe that if you're going to try then you've got to be willing to accept both failure and praise. I've learnt to laugh at my mistakes — like speaking to the wrong people or tripping over the odd tent peg at camp!

But it's not just what I get out of it, it's what the girls get out of it. For them it's a learning experience to see how I do everyday things.

NEW OPPORTUNITY

I can't describe how it felt to be asked to be District Commissioner in Banff, Grampian. It certainly raised my confidence levels to know others think that much of me.

I'm very stubborn and like to do things myself, but I do know that my eyesight is getting worse and there are things

FEEDBACK FROM THE RECENT INNOVATE FORUM IS ALREADY BEING USED TO SHAPE THE FUTURE OF GIRLGUIDING UK

By Catriona MacMillan
Project Coordinator –
Senior Section, CHQ

GOING UP

The Moving on Up workshop identified that Guides need to know more about the Senior Section so they are confident in joining it.

The group felt that Guides would be attracted to the Senior Section by increased freedom, independence and flexibility. They also thought that the wide programme of opportunities that are available to Senior Sections members needs to be emphasised.

The Guide Programme was also under scrutiny in the Go For It! Review workshop. All of the contributors to this session were Young Leaders or Guide Guiders. The young women gave their opinions on the Guide Programme and the results of the workshop have been fed back directly to the Guide Evaluation Working Group.

VALUING MEMBERS

Valuing our members between the ages of 18 and 30 was the mission of the Leading into Our Future workshop.

Workshop participants considered ways to promote, recognise and value the part that young women play in Girlguiding UK. They felt that there was a great need to encourage recognition for all levels of the work carried out by volunteers and this has been reported back to the Positive and Effective Leadership Group.

WAGGGS INITIATIVE

Innovate also hosted a workshop for the WAGGGS initiative for teenage pregnancy.

As a result a report was produced highlighting the need for more provision of social issues awareness within Girlguiding UK training programmes and additional advice for Leaders.

INNOVATE 2004

Innovate is open to Senior Section members aged 16-25. If you, or a guiding friend, would like to be kept up to date with plans for Innovate 2004, you can register your interest now at www.girlguiding.org.uk/members/seniors.

AMBITION

By Olive Bligdon
Girlguiding Scotland

that I just can't do any more. So I get someone to help me and there's nothing wrong with that. Because some things such as reading take me a lot longer to do than other people, I need to be really organised. Just like our motto, I have to 'Be prepared'.

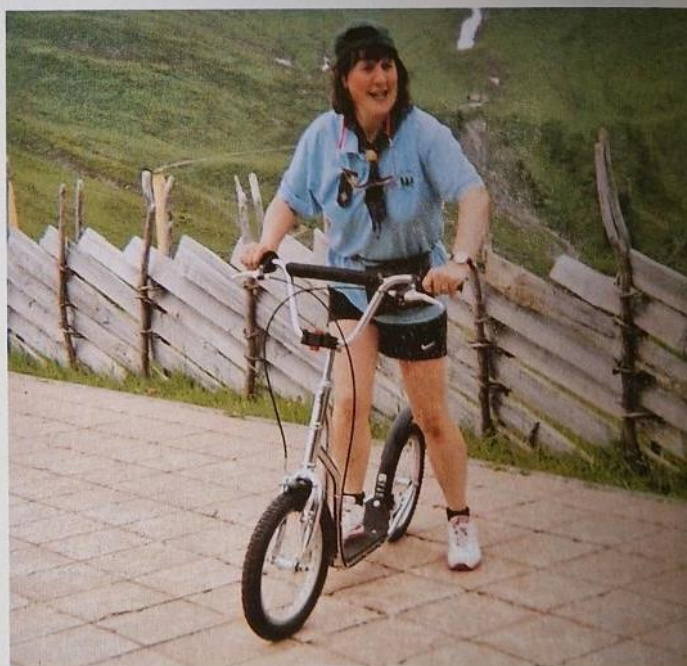
A VOLUNTEER AT HEART

Not long ago I found out about LEAD Scotland (Linking Education and Disability) through my social worker. Since then I've been helping a visually-impaired student learn keyboard skills that will help him with his work at college.

One of the things I like about volunteering is that it makes you useful. You're not getting paid to volunteer but it's giving you a chance to try something new. I get so much out of volunteering — it fulfils my ambitions.

YEAR OF AWARENESS

2003 is the European Year of People with Disabilities. The year's objective is to drive progress towards achieving equal rights for people with disabilities. Find out more by visiting the web site at www.eypd2003.org.



Being registered blind hasn't stopped Olive Bligdon taking part in guiding activities

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November 2003

Activate

Get ready for World Thinking Day with our international activities

What's hot

We've got lots of last-minute festive ideas to help your unit celebrate Christmas, including ideas for food and decorations.



Pull out and keep

Contents

Let's decorate 2

Festive baubles to make

Wei Qi and Mah Jongg 4

Ancient games of skill

Global games 6

Running all over the world

Australia night 8

Fun down under

Festive food 10

Easy Christmas treats

Girl Scouts of the USA 12

Thanksgiving activities

Confidence builders 14

Looking good, feeling great

Leaders' note

We've also got some great international ideas to help you plan your World Thinking Day activities — including some brilliant Chinese games that are most suitable for the Senior Section.

Each girl can make a set of special tree decorations to take home

Let's

You will need

- 600g flour
- 150g salt
- A small jug of water
- Paints and brushes
- Varnish
- Cord or ribbon
- Star-shaped cutter or template made from card



Top tips

- Uncooked dough can be kept in a plastic bag in the fridge for several days.
- As well as stars you could try other shapes — maybe people or trees.
- Try using dough stars to make a hanging mobile.

Dough stars

These salt dough stars are an ideal holiday activity. Alternatively, they could be made over a number of weeks.

Mix the flour and salt in a bowl and then gradually stir in enough water to make a dry but workable mixture.

Knead the mixture into a dough. If it's a bit sticky add a little more flour. Place the dough on a floured surface and roll it out to about 6mm thick.

Use the cutter to cut out lots of stars. Roll out the dough as many times as needed until it's all used.

Place the stars on a baking tray and make a small hole in each so they can be hung up later. Bake on the coolest oven setting for 2–3 hours or until the dough is hard but not brown. Cool on a wire rack.

Once the stars are cool they can be painted. When the paint is dry you can varnish them.

Finally, loop a piece of cord or ribbon through the hole so that the star can be hung on a tree.

Warning

The dough stars are not suitable for eating.



Seed bells

Here's a crafty idea for an unusual decoration that can be made by girls of all ages.

Cut out three identical bell shapes — one from cardboard and from two from felt. With the cardboard in the middle, stick the three pieces together.

Stick seeds on to the bell to make a pretty pattern, such as a star. Finally punch a hole in the top of the bell so it can be hung up.

You will need

- Thin card
- Felt
- Scissors
- Glue
- Seeds such as melon, pumpkin or sunflower
- A hole punch

Top tip

Make trendy 'rustic' looking bells by sticking seeds on to recycled card and using twine to hang them up.



Orange drops

If you want a 'natural' look for a Christmas tree then these decorations are just the thing.

Lay a twig or a short piece of cinnamon stick across a dried orange slice. Use a piece of wire, about 30–40cm long to wrap around the stick and the orange.

Finish off by threading a hanging loop of raffia or twine through the top of the wire.

You will need

- Raffia or natural coloured twine
- Glue
- Scissors
- Dried orange slices
- Thin fuse wire or fine copper wire
- Cinnamon sticks or short twigs

Top tip

Dried orange slices can be bought in craft shops, however it's very easy to make your own.

Cut an orange into 5mm slices. Lay them out on a wire cooling tray and then put the cooling tray on a baking sheet. Dry the orange slices in the oven on a very low setting. Turn them over frequently to avoid curling and check often to make sure that they don't burn.

The slices may take up to four hours to dry.

decorate

Bead garlands

Collect scraps of brightly-coloured paper to make stunning garlands.

Cut the scrap paper into long strips. Brush a thin layer of glue along one side of a strip of paper, leaving a 4cm strip without any glue on.

Lay the cane across the unglued section of paper and roll the paper tightly around it to make a bead.

When you reach the end of the paper leave the cane in place while the glue dries. Repeat with the other strips of paper, leaving space between each bead.

When the glue is dry, slide the beads off the cane. They can now be threaded on to cord to make an unusual tree garland. Don't forget to tie knots in each end of the cord so that the beads don't fall off!

Top tip

Experiment with the length and width of the paper strips to make wider and fatter beads.

You will need

- Coloured scrap paper (glossy magazine paper is ideal)
- PVA glue
- Glue brush
- Garden canes, about 50cm long
- Cord or string

Print it

There are plenty of ways you can decorate your own cards, gift tags and paper with our printing ideas

Easy stamp

Draw a simple outline picture, such as a holly leaf, on a piece of thick cardboard or craft foam.

Cut it out and glue the leaf on to a bigger piece of thick card.

Press the leaf into an ink pad or dip it in some paint and stamp away!

Great ideas

The girls can use any of the following ideas to make their own cards, gift tags or wrapping paper.

As well as materials to make the stamps, you will need ink pads and/or paints and suitable card and paper to stamp on.

Make sure that the paper you want to stamp is thick enough to wrap around parcels.

You will need

- Scissors
- Thick cardboard
- Paper
- Paint, ink pads
- Glue and latex glue
- String
- Natural sponge
- Household sponges



Sponge pieces

Use a piece of natural sponge pressed lightly into paint to produce some interesting patterns.

You could also experiment with sponge shapes. Try cutting regular household sponges into shapes and using them to print with.

Silly string

Cut out a piece of thick card, about 6cm square. Cover one side of the card with latex glue.

Cut a piece of string 15-20cm long and press it on the glue in any pattern you like. This could be a heart, swirls or something more festive.

Wait until the glue has dried before pressing the string side on to an ink pad and using it to stamp!

Top tip

Experiment with bigger pieces of card and longer bits of string to produce more detailed stamps.

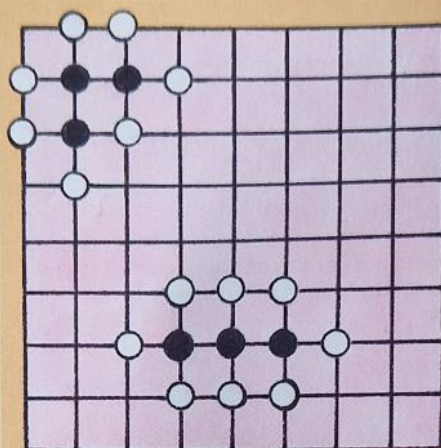
Wei Qi!

Get in an international mood with a traditional Chinese game

The game of Wei Qi, sometimes known as Go, was invented in China more than 3,000 years ago and is still extremely popular there.

To learn to play the full game would take a long time so we've simplified the rules based on the idea of the 'capturing game' — the method used to teach complete beginners how to play.

Perhaps Senior Section members can learn how to play first and then teach the Guides.



You will need

- A large piece of stiff card
- 40 black stones
- 40 white stones
- A pen
- Paper
- Ruler

The board

First mark out the board. You will need to draw a grid of nine evenly spaced horizontal lines and nine evenly spaced vertical lines. Take a look at the illustration if you are unsure.

Unlike many board games this is played where the lines cross, not on the actual squares, as you would with draughts for example.

Leaders' notes

- Stones can't be moved once they have been played.
- The illustrations are for guidance only.

Start the game

Flip a coin to decide which player will be black and which will be white. Traditionally black and white stones are used as playing pieces but you could use draughts or even card circles.

The game begins with an empty board. The player with the black stones is the first to move, placing a stone anywhere on one of the 81 intersections (where the lines cross). Players can place stones on the very edge or corner of the board.

The white player now places one of her stones on the board.

Players then take it in turns to place their stones on the board, forming groups, such as those in the illustration. Have a look at the Aim of the game box for a fuller explanation.

Aim of the game

The aim of the game is simple — to capture your opponent's stones.

To capture an individual black stone, or a group of black stones, the white stones player must place a white stone on every line that touches the black stone or group of black stones. They have then surrounded the stones with their own pieces.

The illustration shows that to capture the group of three black stones in the left-hand corner, you'd need seven white stones.

When the group of three black stones are arranged in a straight line it takes eight white stones to capture it. Using that arrangement would have made it harder for the white stones player to take the black stones.

The winner is the first to capture one, or a group, of their opponent's stones.

It's a fact

On the eve of the Chinese New Year families sit up until the early hours of the morning playing traditional card and board games.

Many of these are very old and have been played for generations, with the rules and pieces being passed down to children from their parents and grandparents.

It's a fact

In the UK, Wei Qi is known as Go. Find out more at the British Go Association's web site: www.britgo.org.

Mah Jongg

Learn a simplified version of the card game that has been played in China for 1,200 years

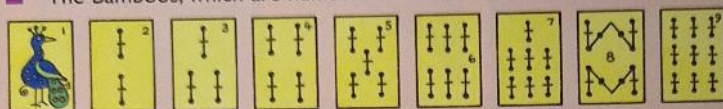
The tiles

Like Wei Qi, Mah Jongg in its fullest form is quite a complicated game.

Our rules have been greatly simplified to make it easy and fun to play. Mah Jongg is played with four players who are each given the names of a wind: North Wind, East Wind, South Wind and West Wind.

The game is played with 'tiles', which are very similar to playing cards. In a set you will find the following tiles:

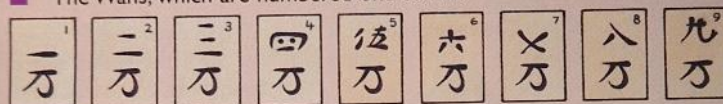
- The Bamboos, which are numbered one to nine



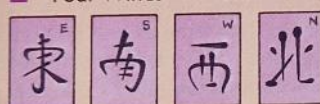
- The Circles, which are numbered one to nine



- The Wans, which are numbered one to nine



- Four Winds — North Wind, South Wind, East Wind and West Wind



- Three Dragons — green, red and white.



There are four sets of the above tiles, giving a total of 136 tiles. Each set is pictured here. You could blow these up on a photocopier or make a simple set writing 'one bamboo', 'two bamboo' and so on, pieces of card.

It's a fact

The real Mah Jongg game includes more tiles and lots more complicated rules. Find out more at www.mahjongg.com.

Aim of the game

The aim of the game is to collect a winning combination of 14 tiles, called Mah Jongg.

Combinations of tiles are called:

- Chow — a consecutive sequence of three tiles in the same suit, for example, one, two, three bamboo
- Pung — three identical tiles of the same suit
- Kong — four identical tiles of the same suit.

The winning combination can be any combination of Chow, Pung and Kong (using 12 tiles) and must also include an identical pair of wind or dragon tiles (making up the 14 tiles). For example, a winning combination could be two Chows, two Kongs and an identical pair of dragon tiles.

Play the game

Firstly set up your tiles, face down, in piles, to form the sides of a square. This is known as the wall and symbolises the Great Wall of China.

Each of the four players are dealt 13 tiles from 'the wall', except the East Wind who gets 14. The East Wind starts the game by discarding one of her tiles, face up, into the space in the middle of the wall.

Any player can pick up this tile by shouting 'Chow', 'Pung' or 'Kong', depending on what sequence they are trying to make (see Aim of the game box). If two or more players want the tile, it is the first to shout who gets it.

If no one shouts for the tile, the player on the right of the East Wind must pick up another tile from the wall.

Each time a player picks up a tile they must put down another one in the middle of the wall. This tile can be picked up immediately by another person. If no one wants it, it is spent and must stay where it is for the remainder of the game.

All players should have 13 tiles except when they want to shout 'Mah Jongg', in which case they will have 14, having just picked up a tile. If their tile sequence is correct they are the winner!

World games

Get physical with these games from different parts of the world

La araña

This game is from Spain and la araña means 'the spider'. It is best played outside in a large playground.

Before you start, draw two parallel lines on the ground about seven metres apart. This is the spider's web. Choose one girl to be Araña, the spider. She must stand in the space between the lines, while the rest of the girls all stand behind one of the lines.

The spider shouts out 'Araña!' and all the other girls must cross to the other line. The spider must try to tag girls who are in her web, anyone she touches joins hands with her to become a bigger spider. Once the spider is made up of more than two people, only the girls on the end of the spider can tag — the chain should not be broken! Keep playing until only one person is left to be tagged.

Leaders' note

You could use these games as part of your World Thinking Day celebrations.

Top tip

Instead of chalking a line, you could mark it out with masking tape.

Egg roll

This ball game is played by girls in Iceland. You will need a football to play.

All the girls stand in a circle with their feet apart. One girl is given the ball, she must roll it along the floor, aiming to get it between someone's feet. No one is allowed to move their feet or try to dodge the ball.

If a 'goal' is scored then the girl whose feet the ball went between is out and she must stand with her feet together. Someone else is given the ball, this can be a girl who is out. Carry on until only one person is standing with their feet apart!

Leaders' note

Has your unit got a favourite game with an international flavour? If so, please write to us at the address on page 30 and tell us about it.



Leaders' note

The rabbits could 'bunny hop' as well as hop on one leg.

Gradai kha dee-o

Gradai kha dee-o is a game from Thailand, it means 'one-legged rabbit'!

Mark a dividing line along the middle of your playing space and divide the girls into two equal groups.

One group is chosen to be the rabbits. They stand on one side of the boundary. The other group stands on the opposite side of the boundary.

The rabbits take it in turns to hop over to the other side and tag a girl from the other team. Girls on the other team must try to escape the rabbits by hopping away, but they must stay within their side of the boundary. Two or three rabbits could go over at a time to make it harder.

When a rabbit has tagged someone she must hop back to the rabbit's side and another rabbit goes to tag someone.

Anyone who has been tagged sits to the side and encourages her teammates.

Chucky four corners

Chucky four corners is played in Ireland. It is a game for five people to play at once, so is ideal for small groups.

First find a place with four corners. Whoever doesn't get a corner is 'on'. Standing in the middle of the four corners the girl who is 'on' closes her eyes. The girls in the corners shout 'Chucky, Chucky', and try to swap corners with someone else. Whoever is 'on' turns around and tries to get into someone's corner while everyone is switching. If she gets a corner, the girl left with no corner is now 'on'.

Leaders' note

The game could be expanded to include two more people, but you will need to add two more 'bases'.



Pairs' challenge

Rainbows need to pair up to take part in a special challenge evening

Reader idea

Rainbow Guider Wendy Gambrell from Kent devised this special challenge evening for her unit.

Wendy says that the girls enjoyed the activity as it was something a bit different to their normal unit meeting.

The Rainbows play in pairs, hence the activity's name. Try pairing older and younger girls together so older girls get a sense of responsibility and younger girls can be helped out if needed.

Each pair is given a hoop which is placed on the floor — this is their home base. If you don't have enough hoops you could use chalk to mark out the area or even ropes.

The Leader places items around the edge of the room. For example, if you have six pairs of girls you could use six of each of the following:

- Rainbow-shaped cards (each one a different colour)
- Balls
- Pieces of A4 paper
- Pencils
- Simple jigsaw puzzles.

How to play

Give each pair a coloured card corresponding to the six rainbow-shaped cards you have placed around the room.

The pairs go off together to find their matching card and take it back to their home base. Each card is left in the girls' respective home base.

The Leader then calls out an item that has been placed around the room. The pairs go together to fetch the item and take it back to their own bases, placing it inside the hoop. The Leader then calls out another item.

When all the items have been found and placed inside the hoops, the challenges begin.

The challenges

The Leader explains each challenge for the girls to perform, in their pairs, using the items that they have collected and placed in their hoop.

The challenges are as follows:

- 1 Take it in turns to say colours of the rainbow.
- 2 Throw the ball to each other ten times.
- 3 Complete the jigsaw puzzle.
- 4 One Rainbow from each pair goes up to the Leader who whispers an item to draw with the pencil on the paper. Each girl returns to her partner and draws the item. The other Rainbow tries to guess the item and goes to tell the Leader. If her guess is correct, the Leader tells her another item to draw for her partner.

The girls could have two or three goes each. Items that you could ask them to draw could include a pencil, a bucket, a fork, a teddy bear and a banana.

- When all the girls have finished their challenges you could give out 'Well done' certificates to each Rainbow to show they have successfully completed the Pairs' challenge.

Time for a song?

If you have time at the end of your challenge, you might like to end with this singalong activity.

All the girls stay in their pairs and walk around holding hands, singing this song (to the tune of *Charlie is My Darling*):

We're walking round together, together, together.

We're walking round together, What shall we do now?

The Leader calls out an activity and the pairs perform it, still holding hands. The activities are:

- Skip around
- Clap your own hands then you partner's (Rainbows will need to let go of hands to do this one!)
- Sidestep (hold both hands)
- Touch knees (hold both hands)
- Wave to other pairs
- Hop around.

Repeat the song, calling out a different activity each time.



Australia night

Celebrate Australia Day on January 26 with an exciting theme evening

Leaders' note

You can start to plan your World Thinking Day celebrations with this Australian night and the USA-themed evening on pages 12 and 13.

You will need

- Fresh sliced bread
- Softened butter
- Hundreds and thousands (sugar sprinkles)

Fairy bread

This easy-to-make treat is a favourite at Australian children's birthday parties.

Butter the bread, taking care that you cover the whole surface, especially near the edges.

Sprinkle hundreds and thousands over the buttered bread, covering it generously and pressing down gently with the side of a butter knife so they stick.

Cut the bread into four triangles and serve.

Food for thought

Other favourite Australian treats include Anzac biscuits and lamingtons.

Try to find recipes for lamingtons and Anzac biscuits. Can the girls find out why they are called what they are?

It's a fact

Bush tucker is the name Australians give to the huge array of wild edible fruits, flowers, animals, insects and so on found in the Australian bush.



Quick quiz

Challenge the girls to unscramble these letters to find some famous Australian cities and landmarks.

- EGRAT RIABERR EFRE
- HPETR
- CLIAE GSPRNSI
- LDGO STCOA
- DNEYYS EAOPR SOHUE

Answers: Great Barrier Reef; Perth; Alice Springs; Gold Coast; Sydney Opera House.

Obtain some travel brochures for Australia so girls can see pictures of the places they have unscrambled. You could ask the girls to match the pictures to the names.

It's a fact

The place that we formerly knew as Ayers Rock is now known by its original Aboriginal name, Uluru.

Uluru is a sacred place that is a very important part of Aboriginal heritage.

Damper

Damper is a tasty campfire treat said to have originated in Australia.

There are many different recipes based around a flour and water mix, but this one is sure to please your unit.

Mix the dry ingredients together. Cut the margarine into small cubes and rub into the flour until it looks like fine breadcrumbs.

Slowly mix in enough water to make a pliable dough. Break off a piece of dough and roll it, in your palms into a long sausage shape. Wind the sausage around a clean, green stick. Hold over the campfire embers until golden brown and cooked through.

Slide the damper off the stick, be careful as it will be very hot. You can eat it as it is or dipped in jam!

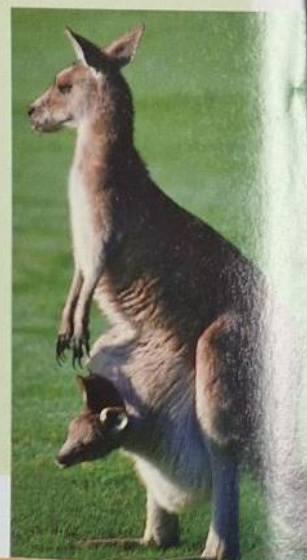
You will need

- 450g flour
- 125g powdered milk
- 1tbsp sugar
- 125g margarine
- 375ml cold water
- Jam
- A clean, green stick
- A campfire!

Boomerang!

Boomerangs were originally used for hunting animals as they can be thrown great distances.

You can have a go at making your own working boomerang from card (see the *More ideas* box). Younger girls will have just as much fun decorating a boomerang shape.





Senior Section Residentials

This *Hotline* contains new content and standards for two new separate types of Senior Section Residentials, these are:

(1) Peer Group Residential Guidelines

(2) Senior Section Permit — Module 10, Travelling abroad and Senior Section permit events overseas — guidelines.

The introduction of peer group residentials acknowledges the good practice established under the Duke of Edinburgh Award's scheme and reflects how young people already go away under that scheme. The Travelling Abroad module was also recommended by Innovate 2002 workshops, as a way of encouraging interest in international opportunities.

The following information is structured with an introduction to each new area, followed by the new material itself. These changes are also available on the Girlguiding UK web site, www.girlguiding.org.uk. These types of residentials appear in *The Guiding Manual 4th Edition*, available in January 2004.

(1) SENIOR SECTION PEER GROUP RESIDENTIALS

Many young women like to go away together, for example camping in guiding friends' gardens, staying at a seaside caravan park or staying in a youth hostel while on a shopping trip to a UK city.

From January 2004 the **Senior Section Peer Group Residential Guidelines** make this type of trip possible within guiding without the need for an accompanying Adult Leader with a warrant or a Senior Section member with a Permit.

These guidelines are not intended to cover expeditions such as those undertaken within the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, which have their own guidelines.

PEER GROUP RESIDENTIAL GUIDELINES

Until now Senior Section members could only take part in residential experiences in one of two ways. 1) As a group led by an Adult Leader who holds (or is working towards) a residential licence or 2) As a group led by a Senior Section member who holds (or is working towards) the Senior Section Permit. This arrangement no longer reflects what many of our Senior Section members do outside of guiding or what is acceptable under other schemes promoted within Girlguiding UK. These Guidelines will make it possible for a group of Senior Section members to stay without an adult or the Senior Section Permit.

From January 2004, following residential training as a group, Senior Section members may go away as a peer group without a permit holder or licence holder present. While away, the peer group must be supported by a supervisor, who meets with them at least once every 24 hours and is within 30 minutes' travelling time of the group.

Overall responsibility (see below) for the event will lie with the Senior Section Guider and a Camp or Holiday Licence holder, neither of which has to be the supervisor. The Licence Holder may also be the Senior Section Guider, in which case only one person has responsibility.



It is anticipated that Senior Section members will use this opportunity to organise their own events, attend events run by outside agencies as well as more traditional activities such as overnight events, night hikes, holidays and camps. Some of the venues involved may not be those traditionally used for guiding events. For example staying in a holiday village together or attending a festival.

The Peer Group

- The minimum age for a Senior Section member to take part in a Peer Group Residential is 14 years
- There must be a minimum of four and a maximum of seven members
- They must work together as a group and take on joint responsibility for:
 - Training together
 - Submitting all forms in a timely fashion
 - Risk assessments.

Peer Group Training

All Senior Section members taking part in the residential must undertake peer group training together prior to the event. The training is intended to be run over two, one and a half hour sessions or as a single, extended session. The training should be run by a Guider who must hold a Holiday and/or Camp Licence and has experience of the age group.

As a minimum for every residential, the entire peer group must undergo some training together. The training should be appropriate to the planned event. There may be individuals who require additional training to the rest of the group, if so, the peer group may provide this. It is not appropriate for a new member to join the event after the group training has taken place.

Peer Group Training assessment checklist

Emergency First aid

- Cuts and abrasions
- Bleeding
- Burns and scalds
- Sprains and fractures
- Hypothermia
- Sun and heat exposure
- Common illnesses
- Contents of first aid kit
- Stings and bites
- Any additional topics relevant to individual group members

Team building — use teamwork activities as appropriate

- Agree individual responsibilities for residential
- Agree group charter — covering acceptable behaviour and so on

Personal safety, as appropriate for city or country and according to girls' experience

- Environmental hazards such as. E-Coli, blue-green algae, and so on
- Water safety
- Country code
- Keeping together as a group and looking out for each other

Risk assessment and emergency planning

- Look at benefits, hazards, risks, management of risks — see *Being Prepared*
- Consider possible emergencies and what the group would do
- The need for home contact procedure



Catering

- Food storage (if applicable)
- Balanced menu
- Food hygiene
- Any additional topics relevant to individual group members

Care of tents/residential facility

Finance

- Budgets
- Importance of receipts — for both credits and debits
- Preparation of statement of income and expenditure

Forms and administration

- G/C (Information & Consent: Holiday/Camps) and G/H (Information: General Health)
- A/P (Application: Camp/holiday run by Guide or Senior Section permit holder)
- Home contact list for supervisor and group
- Relevant resources
- Thanking supervisor and any other helpers.

The Guider(s) with overall responsibility

- Discusses plans with the group, draws up a schedule of relevant training — see the Peer group training assessment checklist above
- Appoints the supervisor in conjunction with the group
- Ensures that form A/P and any other forms as appropriate are submitted in a timely fashion and consent received
- Ensures a copy of the group's plans and A/P are sent to the supervisor
- Takes the whole group through the training, adapting where necessary and involving others as appropriate — for example, someone who knows the area of the visit, those who have a particular skill and so on
- Ensures the plans of the group are coherent, logical and appropriate
- Ensures parental consent is received for all group members under the age of 18 years using G/C and that the parents/carers understand the nature of the residential
- Ensures that health forms (G/H) are completed and kept with individuals
- Facilitates the making of a group charter
- Facilitates the group's risk assessment for the event, taking into account personal safety, health and so on
- Briefs the supervisor about the group and the event and receives confirmation from the supervisor accepting their responsibilities
- Informally reviews the experience with the group to ensure that they gain maximum social and personal benefit from the experience.

The Supervisor

- Must complete the relevant recruitment procedure — in an emergency, he/she could be left in a one to one situation
- Must be within 30 minutes' travel time and available at all times to deal with problems. For example, a teacher who would have to leave her class to attend an emergency would not be considered suitable as a supervisor
- Takes responsibility for the safety and pastoral care of the young people
- If the residential involves walking in open country or activities in a remote setting and any members are aged under 18 years, *The Guiding Manual* procedures must be followed. The



supervisor should have the relevant walking qualification unless a member of the group holds the relevant qualification.

- Discusses the group's plans with the Guider(s) with responsibility, confirming he/she will be available for the group
- He/she should receive a copy of the group's plans and meet them within six hours of arrival
- Must meet with the group at least once every 24 hours, more if they are undertaking adventurous activities
- Checks the group has their health forms with them
- Has a copy of the emergency contact numbers for the group members
- Monitors the well-being of the group and any changes in group dynamics. If conflict occurs, he/she may have to facilitate discussions to resolve the conflict.

(2) SENIOR SECTION PERMIT — MODULE 10 TRAVELLING ABROAD

The existing Senior Section Permit enables any Senior Section member to take up to eight Senior Section or Guide Section members on a camp or holiday. Module 10 — Travelling abroad is an additional module, which allows these camps or holidays to take place abroad for Senior Section members. It is written for use by Senior Section members wishing to plan and organise a guiding group trip abroad.

The introduction of a Travelling Abroad module to the Senior Section Permit is partly due to the outcomes of the 2000 Residential Review and two Innovate 2002 workshops — *International crème de la crème* and *Guide to getting away*. Both workshops addressed ways of encouraging more interest in international Guiding and assisting in the organisation of international trips. The Module also recognises what is becoming common practice for young people of Senior Section age, the desire to travel as a group abroad.

A set of Guidelines has been produced to accompany the Permit Module 10. These guidelines are for use by anyone who plays a role in the planning and organising of an overseas residential event. The new Senior Section Residential resource, due for publication in February 2004 will also include information on Overseas Residentials that should be read in conjunction with Module 10 — Travelling abroad and the Events Overseas Guidelines.

Module 10 TRAVELLING ABROAD

This module allows a Senior Section Permit holder to take a minimum of four and a maximum of eight Senior Section members, including herself, abroad.

Before starting on this module you must already hold the relevant Senior Section Permit and have organised and led at least one other camp or holiday as appropriate following the award of your Permit. When working towards this module, check *The Guiding Manual* before making any plans.

Element 10a

Gain permission and begin preparation

How do I achieve this?

- i) Discuss the possibility of travelling abroad with your Senior Section unit/group
- ii) Discuss ideas and plans with your Senior Section Guider, Commissioner, International Adviser, the Mentor appointed for the trip and other Advisers as required
- iii) With help from the group, investigate the opportunities available and their associated cost
- iv) Investigate the laws and customs of the country you propose to visit and how they effect young women



- v) Find out who is able and likely to take part
- vi) Complete Girlguiding UK Permission to Plan (G/P) form and gain the appropriate permission
- vii) Discuss fund-raising and finance with participants
- viii) Identify skills and allocate tasks among the group, while keeping overall responsibility
- ix) Identify a source of support in the country to be visited and gain their agreement
- x) Investigate the need for an International Introduction Card with your County International Adviser.

When investigating opportunities, give consideration to the age, ability and experience of the participants. Consider the language, culture and health issues involved. Explore the accommodation available and means of travel and whether visas are necessary. Information about international opportunities can be obtained from Country and Region publications, *Guiding magazine*, Guiders, Advisers, training or brochures from commercial organisations.

The Girlguiding UK and WAGGGS web sites (www.girlguiding.org.uk and www.wagggsworld.org) and web pages of other Guiding/Girl Scouting Associations have details of international camps. Important information and travel advice can be obtained from the Government's Foreign Office web site: www.fco.gov.uk.

A discussion with your International Adviser will provide you with more information about suitable opportunities as well as details of how to take your plans forward.

Your Commissioner and County International Adviser should be able to give you information on local funding sources. When considering finance, consider how you might access money quickly in the case of an emergency.

The source of support in the country might include the UK Contingent Leader at a large camp, a representative of the holiday company organising the holiday, a Guiding or Scouting unit in the country, a manager of the Guiding/Scouting campsite or centre.

Authorities overseas sometimes see an Introduction Card as confirming your status as a bona fide Girlguiding UK group.

Element 10b Plan the event

How do I achieve this?

- i) Prepare and agree a budget with the other participants
- ii) Collate all relevant information and ensure an information sheet is prepared for participants
- iii) Continue to discuss plans with the participants
- iv) Provide an opportunity for parents/carers of any participants who are aged under 18 years to discuss the event
- v) Provide detailed information to source of support in the country to be visited
- vi) Make and confirm booking and travel arrangements
- vii) Complete A/P form and gain permission
- viii) Ensure health and consent and/or booking forms are completed
- ix) Appoint a Home Contact in the UK and ensure they have all relevant travel plans.

The budget should include all possible costs including: meetings; travel; insurance; accommodation; event fees; equipment purchase and hire; activities; food; drink and incidentals. In addition include an emergency fund — 5 per cent of the total trip cost is recommended. If this is unspent, it should be returned to the participants once all the invoices are paid.

The information should include details of travel plans; costs (including a deposit); venue/accommodation; health issues; possible programme options; timescales and payment plan.

Young women aged 16 years or over may complete their own health forms. Parental consent must be obtained for all participants aged under 18 years. For all participants, you should devise a booking form — completion and payment of a deposit demonstrates commitment to the event.



Before you reach the stage of confirming bookings and travel arrangements, collect a non-refundable deposit from all participants to cover the costs incurred.

Element 10c *Involve participants*

How do I achieve this?

With the group you must:

- i) Plan and agree the activities for the event
- ii) Agree a Group Charter
- iii) Arrange a schedule of what has to be done, by who and when.
- iv) Consider the potential problems that may occur while you are away and make contingency plans. Discuss with the Mentor, Senior Section Guider/Adviser.

The Group Charter should include agreements on behaviour, expectations and roles such as how to make decisions as a group, financier, the interpreter if needed and so on.

Before making your contingency plans, identify any possible hazards, quantify the likelihood and severity of risk and agree how best to reduce and manage them. Give thought to how you might manage an emergency situation. The Girlguiding UK publication *Being Prepared* would help you structure your risk assessment, for example, help you consider how you would cope with a medical emergency. Also consider some training as a group — look at Peer Group Residentials and the Peer group training assessment checklist for suggested training topics.

Element 10d *Manage the event*

How do I achieve this?

- i) Coordinate the event, continually assessing risk and incorporating flexibility as required and involving all participants in decision-making
- ii) Advise the source of support of any problems or changes of plans.

Element 10e *Evaluate the event*

How do I achieve this?

- i) As a group, discuss what went well, any difficulties, skills learned and recommendations for the future
- ii) Provide a report and thank all those who helped you with your event
- iii) Prepare a simple statement of income and expenditure and show them to your Guider/Commissioner and the participants. Agree with the Guider/Commissioner and your unit how to deal with any shortfall or surplus.

Who you report to and how depends on the nature of the group (whether you are a unit, District or Division). If your District has helped you in preparation, it is considerate to circulate a report or your County may wish to include a short report in its Annual Review. What is most important is that you share your adventure with local Guides and other Senior Section members.

SENIOR SECTION PERMIT EVENTS OVERSEAS — GUIDELINES

As from January 2004, Senior Section members who hold and have used the Senior Section Permit may be assessed for taking a Senior Section group abroad and module 10 of the permit is introduced accordingly. The extra module will enable Senior Section members to attend umbrella events, to enjoy a trip abroad, take a well earned rest after exams, explore a city and so on. Appropriate support must be established in the country to be visited. If any of the group members are aged under 16 years the Senior Section Permit holder must be at least 18 years of age.

The key role is the Mentor who may or may not be the Senior Section Guider/Adviser. The Permit Holder and Mentor will need support from:

- The Senior Section Guider/Adviser (if different from the Mentor)
- The local Commissioner



- The County International Adviser
- The source of support in the country to be visited

Other support roles may include:

- The County Outdoor Activity Adviser
- The County Adviser for Members with Disabilities.

The Permit Holder

The criteria in Module 10 are the minimum standards that must be met for each Senior Section event overseas.

The permit holder must:

- Hold a permit with the relevant modules for the type of holiday planned i.e. Module 7 if it is to be a camp and Module 9 if it is to be an expedition. An Overnight Permit is not sufficient. She must also have used the permit since gaining it
- Hold or be working towards Module 10 Travelling Abroad
- Talk to her Senior Section Guider at the earliest opportunity about her plans
- Keep in touch with her Mentor, Senior Section Guider/Adviser while working towards the module
- Coordinate the group — listen and respond to their ideas and concerns
- Ensure everyone is completing their agreed tasks and meeting deadlines
- Carry out a risk assessment with the group and continually reassess safety aspects. Discuss with mentor, Senior Section Guider/Adviser
- Coordinate the group in writing a group charter
- Coordinates the group's training needs as decided by the group
- Ensure clear and robust accounts are kept — by its very nature, an international trip involves more financial risk
- Be aware of any health issues, including the wider implications of travelling abroad and respect confidentiality
- Do not hesitate to contact relevant Advisers or your Commissioner — they are there to help. A problem shared might be a problem solved!
- Keep in touch with the source of support in the country to be visited, as needed
- Provide a report and thank all those who have helped you with your event.

The Senior Section Guider

- Is enthusiastic and positive when initial ideas are raised
- Seeks support if she is not experienced in this type of event herself
- Introduces the Permit holder to her local Commissioner, the County International Adviser and other Advisers as appropriate
- Seeks a suitably experienced Mentor in consultation with the Permit Holder, the International Adviser, the Outdoor Activity Adviser and the Commissioner.
- Helps the Permit Holder match the group's skills to the planned event. If necessary contact an appropriate Adviser for suitable training for the group
- Keeps a watching brief on the plans.

The Mentor

A Mentor is appointed for every Senior Section trip overseas. The Senior Section Guider/Adviser may hold this role. The Mentor:

- Is used to working with the Senior Section age group
- Has relevant experience, including leading a trip abroad which may include visiting the particular country, attending a similar event and so on



- Keeps in regular contact with the Permit Holder and the group
- Ensures timescales are met
- Alerts the local Commissioner to any problems
- In discussion with the group directs them to the appropriate Adviser or source of help
- If the group membership changes, reassesses and reviews the training needs and monitors the change in group dynamics
- Signs the elements 10 a, b and c of the module to say that everything is in place before the event takes place.

The local Commissioner

- Assists in appointing the Mentor
- Keeps in touch with the Permit holder during the planning stages
- Signs forms G/P and A/P
- In conjunction with the mentor reviews any problems and should they prove insurmountable, advises the permit holder to delay or cancel
- Seeks an opportunity for the group to share their experiences within the local guiding community

The International Adviser

- May meet with the group but this is not essential
- Advises on forms and insurance
- Links the group with people who have visited a similar area or taken part in a similar event
- Advises on cultural aspects/ health concerns/ safety aspects of travelling
- Issues an International Introduction Card for the group if needed.

The source of support in country to be visited

The form of support will vary with the kind of trip being planned. It could be a Guider or an organising group at an 'umbrella' event, a Centre manager, a local Guiding contact, or the representative of the travel company being used. The source of support should be aware that they are providing the support and what is expected of them prior to the trip.

The Mentor and the group should discuss the types of problems that might arise and decide on the most appropriate form of support. The support needed may include:

- Provision of local knowledge and advice before the trip
- Emergency support
- Emergency contact from the UK if normal contact chain fails
- Notification to the home contact in the event that the group doesn't arrive.

Animal magic

You may recognise this game as a version of 'Fruit salad'. It is an excellent way to introduce some Australian animals to the girls.

Choose four of the following animals that can be found in Australia.

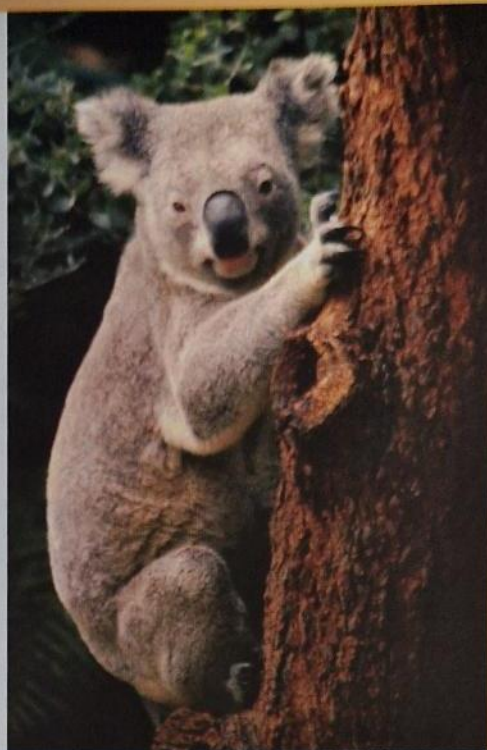
- Koala
- Kangaroo
- Kookaburra
- Wombat
- Tasmanian Devil
- Platypus
- Crocodile
- Emu.

All the girls sit on chairs in a circle. Go around the circle giving each of the girls one of the four animal names you have chosen in turn.

Ask one girl to stand in the middle of the circle to start the game and call out the name of one of the animals. All the girls with that name stand up and change places. The girl in the middle must try to sit on one of the empty chairs. The girl who is left standing takes a turn in the middle.

Into extra time

Find out more about the animals on the list. What do they look like? What sort of homes do they live in? What do they eat?



More ideas

- Find out more about Guiding in Australia by logging on to the official site: www.guidesaus.org.au/.
- For more information about Aborigines and their stories, log on to this web site which is linked to the Australian Museum: www.dreamtime.net.au.
- You will also find lots of good information and stories on this web site: www.astronomy.pomona.edu/archeo/. Log on, click on the 'Oceania' link, then click on 'Australia'.
- Log on to www.cher.com/amiel/boom/cardboard.html for some great plans for making cardboard boomerangs.
- Learn more about bush tucker at this web site: www.globalgourmet.com/destinations. Once you've logged on, click on 'Destination Australia' to find everything you need to know.

Singalong

Learn the words to some Australian songs such as *Kookaburra Sits in the Old Gum Tree* or *Waltzing Matilda* and sing them at your meeting.

Aboriginies traditionally use rain sticks as part of their ceremonies. You could use sticks as percussion instruments to accompany your songs.

The Girlguiding UK publication *Music for Fun* has instructions on how to make a rain stick. The resource costs £5 and is available from Trading Service or your local depot, order code 6015.

Story time

Aborigines are famous for their story-telling skills. All off their history is passed down from generation to generation through the spoken word.

Practise your story-telling skills by telling a traditional Aboriginal tale to your group. See the *More ideas* box for sources.

Alternatively, start them off with the extract below and then get them to split into smaller groups. Each small group should decide how the story ends and then take it in turns to act it out to the rest of the group.

Sisters Kimberly and Stacey live in the middle of the big city. They are on a beach holiday with their parents and younger brother Jack.

One day the sisters are asked by their parents to look after Jack while they go to the supermarket. While their parents are gone...

Great debate

Australian Guide units are sometimes different to those in the UK in that some focus on one particular skill such as outdoor activities or sport. Others are organised according to age.

Ask Senior Section members to debate for and against this way of working to be introduced to Girlguiding UK. What are the problems you would encounter? What are the benefits of the system? Decide what special units would suit Guides in the UK.

Festive food

There's something for everyone with our fabulous festive spread

Baby puddings

This delicious recipe makes about 20 Christmas puddings that don't need cooking! They are ideal for small groups of girls to make as they can each have a go at a different part of the recipe.

Melt the chocolate, butter and golden syrup in a saucepan on a low heat. Keep stirring and don't let the mixture get too hot or boil.

Meanwhile, someone else can put the biscuits into a plastic bag and crush them with a rolling pin — they need to look like fine breadcrumbs.

Mix together the crushed biscuits, melted chocolate mixture, dried fruit and glacé cherries.

Put the mixture aside to cool, preferably in a fridge, for about 20 minutes.

Use your hands to roll tablespoons of the mixture into about 20 balls (puddings), if it is very sticky you can dip your hands in icing sugar.

Dust your work surface with icing sugar and roll out the white icing until it is quite thin.

Use a knife to cut out circles with wobbly edges. Brush the tops of the puddings with warmed apricot jam and stick the icing circles on top.

Roll out the green icing until quite thin and cut out holly leaves using a small cutter or a template. Finally, use the sugar balls for the berries or make them from red icing. Stick to the puddings with apricot jam.

You will need

- 200g plain chocolate
- 50g butter
- 2 tbsp golden syrup
- 225g digestive biscuits
- 50g dried apricots, finely chopped
- Apricot jam
- 50g sultanas
- 50g glacé cherries, chopped
- 75g ready-to-roll white icing
- 50g green ready-to-roll icing
- Edible sugar coated red balls or 25g ready-to-roll red icing
- Icing sugar for dusting

Fairy cakes

Decorating cakes has never been so much fun!

You will need

- 12 home-made or shop bought plain small sponge cakes
 - 250g white ready-to-roll icing
 - Small quantities of ready-to-roll icing in green, red and brown
 - Red sugar balls
 - Silver balls
 - 2 chocolate flakes
 - Black liquorice strips
 - Chocolate chips
 - Royal icing (this can be bought in packets which you just add water to)
- Buttercream made from:
- 100g butter at room temperature
 - 150g icing sugar, sieved
 - 50g plain chocolate, melted

Leaders' note

Plain cakes can be transformed into Christmas wonders with a small selection of ingredients. The quantities given are enough to decorate 12 fairy cakes — four of each design.

Christmas puds

Make the chocolate buttercream by beating 100g of butter until really soft and gradually mixing in 150g of icing sugar. Finally stir in 50g cooled, melted chocolate.

Spread some buttercream icing on top of four cakes. Don't use it all — you will need some to decorate the other cakes.

Roll out some of the white ready-to-roll icing and cut out shapes to look like the brandy butter topping on the Christmas pudding. Place them on top of the cakes.

Next, cut some holly shapes from the green icing. You can use red sugar balls or tiny pieces of red icing to look like holly berries. Use a little royal icing to assemble the holly on top of the puddings.

You will need

- 250g block white marzipan
- Green, yellow and orange powdered food colouring
- Cloves
- Petit four cases
- Grater

Marzipan fruit

You often see marzipan fruit around Christmas time. Girls of all ages can have a go at making their own. One 250g block of marzipan will make around 15-20 fruit pieces, enough for a Patrol-sized group.

Divide the marzipan into three pieces and colour one piece light green, one orange and one yellow. Do this by kneading in a pinch of powdered food colouring.

Tear off hazelnut-sized pieces and shape them into apples, pears, oranges and lemons. Texture the oranges and lemons by rubbing gently on a grater. Gently push a clove into each fruit to look like a stalk. Place the fruit in petit four cases and leave them to dry.

Top tips

- Make fancy boxes to put a selection of fruit in. They make a lovely gift.
- If you don't have powdered food colouring you can paint the fruit after you have made them, using a new paintbrush and liquid food colouring.

You will need

- 1 egg yolk
- 4 tbsps clear honey
- 55g butter or margarine
- 55g soft brown sugar
- 225g plain flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 2 tps ground ginger
- 30g cocoa powder
- 1 tsp mixed spice
- 85g icing sugar
- Food colourings
- 1 tbsp lemon juice
- Icing tubes or icing in an icing bag
- Shaped cookie cutters
- Rolling pin
- Palette knife
- Baking sheet
- Wire rack

Lebkuchen

Lebkuchen are traditional spicy German biscuits that are usually baked around Christmas time. They are often heart-shaped and decorated with different coloured icing then hung on Christmas trees.

This recipe makes 15 biscuits but the quantities can easily be doubled.

Preheat the oven to 200°C/Gas Mark 6 and grease two baking sheets with butter.

Put the honey, butter and sugar in a saucepan over low heat. Stir until the butter has melted, but make sure that the mixture doesn't boil. Leave it to cool.

Sift the dry ingredients into a mixing bowl. Add the egg yolk and mix in the melted butter mixture.

Knead the dough into a ball. Roll out the dough on a floured surface — it needs to be about 0.5cm thick. Use cookie cutters to cut out different shapes, such as hearts and stars.

Use a palette knife to lift the biscuits onto a baking sheet. Make a hole in the top of each biscuit so it can be hung up later.

Bake for 7-8 minutes or until golden brown, then lift onto a wire rack and leave to cool. The biscuits can then be iced with the icing tubes. Finish off by threading cord or ribbon through the hole so they can be hung up.

Top tip

- If time, space or cooking facilities at your meeting place are limited you could make the biscuits at home and take them to the meeting to be decorated

Santa heads

Roll out some of the white icing and cut out circles to fit four fairy cakes.

Stick the circles on the cakes with a little of the chocolate buttercream. Roll out the red icing and cut out four triangles, each one making a santa hat. Stick the hats on the white heads using a little royal icing.

Carefully pipe royal icing across the hats to make a 'furry' band and on the face to look like a beard. Finish off the faces with liquorice features and chocolate chips for eyes.

Red robins

Roll out the red icing into circles large enough to cover four cakes.

Spread a little of the chocolate buttercream on the tops of the cakes and place a red circle on each one.

Roll out the brown icing and cut out four circles to form the robins' faces. Stick them on top of the red bodies using a little royal icing.

If the girls would like to add little details such as a tail or wings, they can do this by putting little blobs of buttercream in the appropriate places and then pressing crushed flake on top.

Finish off the robin with edible silver balls for the eyes.



Girl Scouts



Find out about Girl Scouts and hold a Thanksgiving party to celebrate World Thinking Day

It's a fact

Thanksgiving is celebrated throughout the USA on the fourth Thursday in November. This year it will fall on November 27.

The first Thanksgiving in the USA was a feast in 1620 shared by the Pilgrims and Wampanoag Indians, who shared their corn, squash and wild turkeys.

Girl Scouts on the web

■ Find out all about the Girl Scouts of the USA at its official web site www.girlscouts.org. You'll be able to find out about the programme, uniform and much, much more.

It's a fact

Juliette Low was the woman who introduced Guiding to the USA in 1912.

Legend has it that she once let her cousin braid stringy toffee into her hair and had to have the whole lot chopped off!

American Girl Scouts

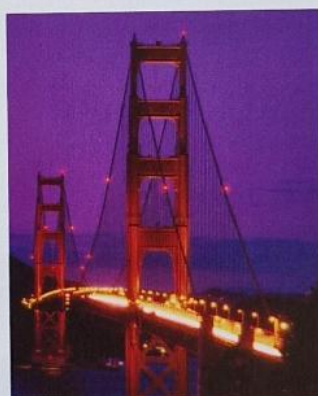
There are more than three million members of Girl Scouts of the USA. There are five different age sections in Girl Scouting:

- Daisy Girl Scouts, ages 5-6
- Brownie Girl Scouts, ages 6-8
- Junior Girl Scouts, ages 8-11
- Cadette Girl Scouts, ages 11-14
- Senior Girl Scouts ages, 14-17.

There are also four Programme Goals that run throughout the different age sections:

- Developing self potential
- Relating to others
- Developing values
- Contributing to society.

Girls Scouts of the USA has started a special new project, Girls Go Tech, where girls discover technology by exploring their surroundings and finding out about relevant careers.



Make it harder...

For older girls, include some pictures that they have to think about a bit harder to find something positive to say. Perhaps a snake, an urban landscape and so on.

Gratitude bag

This game helps girls to think about things they should be thankful for. Even if you're not holding a Thanksgiving theme night it's still a great game to play.

Cut out enough pieces of card or paper for half your girls. They only need to be about 5cm square. Write 'Thanksgiving' on each one and put them in the bag.

Now look through the magazines and catalogues and cut out pictures of things that the girls could be thankful for, such as trees, a plate of food, an animal and so on. You will need the same amount of pictures as 'Thanksgiving' cards. Put the pictures in the bag too.

Each girl takes it in turn to pull out a piece of paper from the bag. If she pulls out a Thanksgiving card she must tell the others something that she is thankful for. If she pulls out a picture she must tell the others why they should be thankful for the item shown.

Carry on until everyone has had a turn.

It's a fact

Thanksgiving was declared a national holiday in the USA in 1863 by President Abraham Lincoln. Americans consider the holiday very important and always try to spend it with their families.

You will need

- Card or strips of paper
- Old magazines and catalogues
- Scissors
- Pens
- A bag

of the USA

Twenty questions

This is a good game for girls to play in their Sixes or Patrols when they have five minutes to fill.

One girl is chosen to think about something relating to the USA, this must be a person, place or object. The girl then says 'I am thinking of something in the USA'.

The rest of the group try to guess what the girl is thinking about by asking no more than twenty questions that can be answered 'Yes', 'No' or 'I don't know'.

Each girl asks a question in turn and she can only make a guess after she has asked a question and received a reply.

The girl who guesses the answer correctly then takes a turn to think of something. If no one gets the right answer in the twenty questions, the girl reveals the answer and someone else takes her place.



Thanksgiving dinner

Make your tummy rumble with this Thanksgiving memory game.

All the girls sit in a circle. Choose one girl to start. She says 'At Thanksgiving dinner I like to eat turkey'. The next player must repeat 'At Thanksgiving dinner I like to eat turkey...' and add something else that she would like to eat, such as gravy or roast potatoes.

This continues all the way around the circle with each girl reciting the foods in the exact order they have been given and then adding a new one.

If a girl makes a mistake she sits in the middle of the circle and the game continues. The person left who can perfectly recite the Thanksgiving menu wins!

Make it easier...

If you have very young girls, give them a helping hand instead of making them sit in the middle!

Ideas to go

- Make American-themed place mats for a Thanksgiving meal.
- Cook up some hot dogs as a special treat.
- For lots of Thanksgiving information, history and ideas, log on to: www.holidays.net/thanksgiving.



Stars and stripes

The American flag has 50 stars on it. Each one represents one of the states that make up the modern-day United States. Each of the 13 red and white stripes represents the 13 original states.

Americans are very patriotic and you will see the American flag everywhere you go, in shops and outside houses.

Think of ways in which you could use the flag, or parts of it, to make a special USA-style decoration. How about cutting out red, white and blue stars and stringing them together to make bunting that you can hang around the room?

It's a fact

The following towns are all real places in the USA. Don't they make you feel hungry?

Bacon (Indiana); Big Rock Candy Mountain (Vermont); Cheesequake (New Jersey); Hot Coffee (Mississippi); Pie Town (New Mexico); Tortilla Flat (Arizona); and Chocolate Bayou (Texas).

Turkey time

The very first pilgrims ate turkey for their Thanksgiving dinner, just as we like to eat it at Christmas.

The traditional turkey is still a big part of the Thanksgiving holiday. You'll find lots of Thanksgiving crafts, including turkeys at this web site: www.kids-domain.com/craft/_Thanks.html.

Confidence

Following on from our self-esteem games in September, we've got some more great activities to help your unit feel good about themselves

Warm fuzzies

Brownie Guider Emma Hood, from the 18th Lowestoft Brownies in Suffolk, saw the request in September's issue to surprise yourself by sending in an Activate game and decided to do just that!

Emma's game is called Warm fuzzies and she made it up especially for her Brownies as a confidence building activity.

Some preparation

Before you play you will need to do some preparation. The whole Leader team can get involved in this.

Cut out 40-50 circles of card, they can be any size, but need to be large enough to write a sentence on. On each card write a different sentence, such as the following:

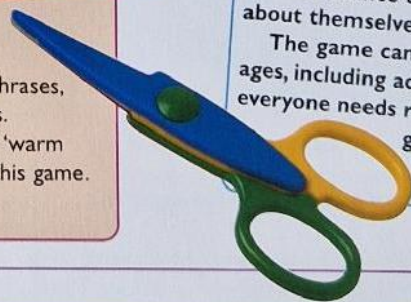
- You have a nice smile
- I would like to know you better
- I like your shoes
- You always try hard
- You are good at playing games
- You always look nice and tidy
- You were nice to me when I was sad
- You helped me when I was stuck.

You don't have to think of 50 completely different phrases, some of them can be repeated on different card circles.

When you have finished you will have made a set of 'warm fuzzies'. They can be used over and over again to play this game.

You will need

- Scissors
- Card
- Pens



To play

All the girls sit in a circle. The fuzzies are placed face down in the middle.

Pick a girl to start the game. She picks up a card from the middle and reads the sentence out loud to the rest of the group. She then gives it to another girl who she thinks it applies to. Keep playing until all the cards have been used up.

Emma says that her Brownies always have big smiles by the end of the game and always feel much better about themselves!

Leaders' note

Make sure that all the Leaders play the game too so that you can give a card to anyone who doesn't have one so that everybody has the chance to feel good about themselves.

The game can be played by all ages, including adult groups — everyone needs reminding how great they are once in a while!

In a word

Do your Senior Section girls believe in themselves? Do they have a positive self-image? Try this exercise to find out.

Give the girls 60 seconds to write down as many words as they can to describe themselves. They shouldn't talk to anyone else and should write down the first words that come into their heads.

When the time is up ask the girls to look again at the words, how many were positive and how many were negative? Can they change the negative words into positive ones?

For example, someone who describes herself as loud would do much better if she said she was an extrovert! You could also change impatient to determined, picky to thorough and so on.

builders

Ideas to go

- Ask the girls, in small groups, to make up and perform a song with the title *I Feel Great*.
- Get your Senior Section girls to make a list of activities they think would boost their self-esteem, such as a manicure night. Try to do one self-esteem activity every term.
- At the start of a meeting tell the girls that during the course of the evening they must keep a smile on their faces and compliment at least three people.
- As a group, get together and think about your favourite campfire songs. Can you agree on one that makes you all feel happy and upbeat? Sing it at the start of your next meeting.
- Make a unit yearbook to show all the great things you have done together throughout 2003.



I'm great!

Girls of all ages will enjoy making a collage to show everyone how great they are!

Give each girl a sheet of paper. Ask everyone to think about their best points, things they like to do and skills that they have.

The girls then cut out pictures, words and phrases from the magazines and newspapers to build up individual collages that illustrate all the good things about themselves.

Ask everyone to look at the collages when they are finished, can you guess who they belong to?



Leaders' note

You may need to encourage some girls who find it difficult to be positive about themselves.

Surprise yourself!



Have you taken part in the Surprise Yourself Challenge yet? If not, don't put it off any longer.

Trying something new is a great way to boost your confidence and make you feel great! And who knows, taking part in the challenge may lead to a whole new hobby for you...

■ Don't forget to let us know how you, your unit and your guiding friends have surprised yourselves so far. We'd love to hear from you! Please write to us at the address on page 30.

Acting up

The web page below from a New Zealand teaching magazine has some brilliantly simple ideas for boosting self-confidence through drama. Visit www.teachingonline.org/drama2.html.

The ideas would be especially good for a Young Leader to implement with a younger group.

Motivate

Have a look back at our Motivate supplements for more activities about self-esteem.

If you haven't got them, you will find them at www.girlguiding.org.uk, keyword search 'motivate'.

Look out for the next Motivate supplement in January's *Guiding* magazine, it's all about good practice in guiding.

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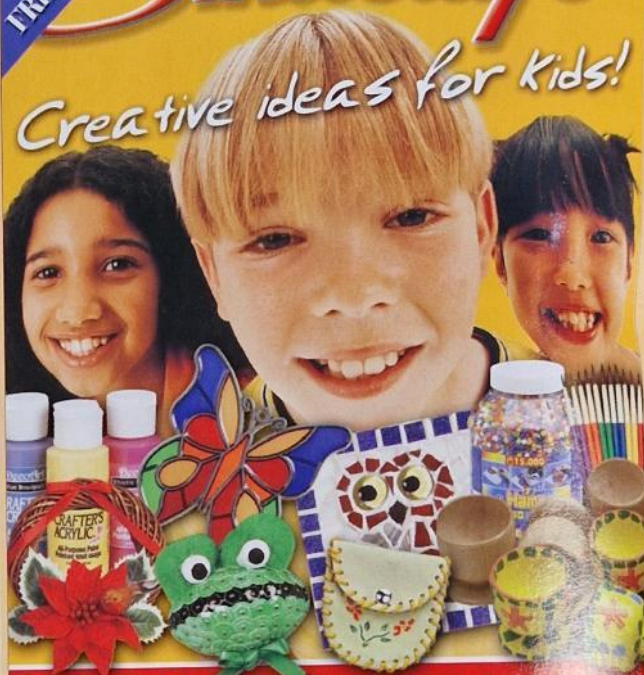
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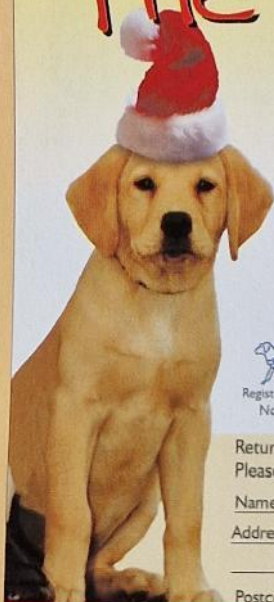
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SUPPORTING ROLE

By Catherine Slater

MEET ALISON PLUMMER, CHAIR OF THE ADULT SUPPORT SUB GROUP



'I was thrilled and excited by the invitation to become the Chair of the Adult Support Group,' said Guider and Trainer Alison Plummer.

'Having been the Chair of Adult Support in Scotland I feel that I have some idea of what the role involves and I see it as a new and exciting challenge.' Alison, a Leader with the 222nd Glasgow Guides, was nominated for the role by the Chief Guide, in consultation with the Chair of Guiding Development. She began her three year appointment in July.

In her role so far, Alison has attended an induction day at CHQ and has spent time getting to know the rest of the Adult Support Group. She also attended the Programme to the People weekend at Waddow in September where she 'gained a great understanding of the Positive and Effective Leadership Project and met a lot of key volunteers from all Countries and Regions'.

WORKING TOGETHER

As well as working for Girlguiding UK on a national level, the Adult Support Group works closely with volunteers at a local level. 'It's so important that we listen to the needs of local Guiders,' Alison explained. 'We frequently consult local Leaders as part of the research before starting any project. All of the working groups are made up of a range of unit Guiders with a variety of skills and experience.'

As Chair, Alison's role is to ensure that the group strives to meet the objectives outlined in the 'Group work' box on the right. She also works closely with the working groups and other sub-groups of Guiding Development — Programme and International. This role involves partnership working with the Adult Support staff team — especially the Development Manager.

Alison, who lives just outside Glasgow, in South Lanarkshire and works as a biology and

microbiology lecturer at a local college, has been involved in guiding since she was a Brownie. As an adult she has taken on many roles including County Programme and Training Adviser and Adviser for Prospective Trainers and Tutors for Scotland.

BUILDING LINKS

Last year Alison travelled to Ghana, Africa, as part of the Scottish Training team to continue the work of developing links between Girlguiding Scotland and the Ghana Guide Association. 'In the three weeks there we trained more than 400 Commissioners, Advisers, Guiders, Guides and even the occasional Scout!' she said.

Alison's passion for guiding has been passed on to her family. Her late husband Andrew was an Ambassador, her elder daughter Kirsty is a Ranger and Young Leader and her younger daughter Heather is a Guide. 'Andrew was a great support to me in all my guiding activities,' Alison said. 'And when I discussed this new position with the girls they both said "Go for it mum!". It is with their blessing and support that I take on this challenging role.'

GROUP WORK

The work of the Adult Support Group is wide and varied involving a number of initiatives and projects. The priority areas are:

- Positive and Effective Leadership
- Reviewing the role of the County Commissioner and her support
- Assessing ways of delivering information and training to make sure that messages are conveyed accurately and effectively to adult members.

The nine members of the group also work to identify and implement appropriate support systems for adult volunteers and to review the training needs of new and experienced Guiders.

INTRODUCING GIRLGUIDING UK'S SPORTS STRATEGY

Next year has been designated the European Year of Education through Sport and also sees the 2004 Olympics in Greece, so it certainly looks like Girlguiding UK will have a helping hand in increasing girls' interest in active lifestyles!



Guiding magazine November 20

WALK FOR THE WORLD

NEXT YEAR GIRLGUIDING UK WILL UNDERTAKE A MAJOR FUND-RAISING INITIATIVE IN SUPPORT OF WAGGGS

By Hilary Cooper
Chair, Girlguiding UK Walks
for the World Working Group

Can you imagine what life would be like without guiding? It's something hard for us in the UK – the birthplace of Guides – to imagine. In some countries however Guiding is still in its infancy. But the good news is that it's spreading.

At the World Conference, which is held every three years, countries without Guiding are voted in to become members of The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS). WAGGGS staff then work with women in the countries to help them start up new Guiding Associations. This gives girls who would otherwise never have had the opportunity, the chance to benefit from the fun, friendship and learning that Guiding offers.

SUPPORTING WAGGGS

Next year Girlguiding UK will support the work of WAGGGS. The initiative, called Girlguiding UK Walks for the World, invites members of all ages to take part in a range

of walking-themed fund-raising activities. It could be leading a ghost walk, offering a dog walking service or hosting a catwalk show — it's up to you.

An information pack containing activity ideas, interesting facts and case studies of what members around the world get up to will be distributed in April.

BENEFITING EVERYONE

It's not only WAGGGS that will benefit from the fund-raising efforts. All money raised is being divided equally between WAGGGS and local guiding. So if you have a local guiding project that needs support, need to raise funds for your unit activities, or want to contribute to a District event, Girlguiding UK Walks for the World can help.

Girlguiding UK is aiming to raise £500,000 — that's £250,000 for WAGGGS and £250,000 for local guiding. It might sound like a big target but it works out to be

less than £1 per member. Activities can take place at any time up until World Thinking Day 2005 and all members are encouraged to do their bit to 'walk the world'.

Members of all ages are invited to take part in Girlguiding UK Walks for the World



EDDY PEARCE

A HAPI OUTCOME

ONE WAGGGS PROJECT HAS HELPED YOUNG PEOPLE LEARN MORE ABOUT THEIR HEALTH

During 1999, WAGGGS got together with Family Health International and the Indian Bharat Scouts and Guides (BSG) and came up with HAPI — the Healthy Adolescent Project in India.

Participants follow a badge curriculum covering a range of health issues including food and nutrition, disease prevention, reproductive health and self-esteem. Using games, quizzes, role playing and songs, participants have fun while learning about important topics.

OPEN DISCUSSIONS

For BSG members involved in the project, HAPI is an invaluable source of information on health and personal development — particularly on topics that their parents feel awkward discussing.

As one participant explains, 'Being

female, we do not know in detail how family planning is done, how one can take precautions against pregnancy, because in our house all these topics are not discussed in detail.'

Another participant explains how the project has helped clear misconceptions. 'We've come to know that AIDS is caused by things like sharing needles and it is not spread by shaking hands or by talking to sufferers. We've been taught how to help them and not discriminate against them.'

IMPORTANT ROLE

Through HAPI, BSG members have been trained as peer educators and challenged to take their new knowledge into the local community and share it with friends, family and neighbours.

This project has shown the community,

and other organisations, that the BSG is a capable and skilled organisation that has an important role to play in informal education. As a result of HAPI, the BSG has become highly respected.

WAGGGS SUPPORT

HAPI is just one example of a successful project that has been facilitated by WAGGGS. Much of HAPI's success comes down to the hard work and commitment of individuals who have given their time to the project. But without WAGGGS to offer the training and support HAPI may never have happened.

Put another way, they did it because they are Guides — they are Guides because of WAGGGS. You can find out more about the worldwide work of WAGGGS by visiting www.wagggsworld.org.

CULTURAL EXCHANGE

A GRANT FROM THE WINSTON CHURCHILL MEMORIAL TRUST HELPED ONE ASSISTANT GUIDER TO EXPERIENCE JAPAN

By Catherine Slater

'The most important thing that I learned is that I should value who I am as a person and what I have to offer,' said Caroline Iddon, Assistant Leader on an international exchange programme to Japan. 'I feel that the trip enabled me to gain much more confidence and I would definitely consider taking full leadership responsibility in the future.'

Caroline, an Assistant Guider with the 27th Wolverhampton (St Jude's) Guides, was able to take part in the exchange programme because of a Travelling Fellowship grant from the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust.

Each year the Trust awards 100 Fellowships to British citizens to take part in individual projects overseas. The Trust selects different categories each year – such as arts and crafts, education and training, sport and science and technology – under which project applications can be submitted. Applicants must demonstrate that their project will be of benefit to themselves and their community. Young people under the age of 25 and people working within the voluntary sector are particularly encouraged to apply.

COVERING COSTS

Caroline was pleased and surprised to be awarded the grant. 'Each year about 2,500 applications are made and 170 people are interviewed for the 100 Fellowships,' she said. 'The competition was tough and I was very surprised to receive one – especially as Fellows usually spend a few months overseas and I was applying for funding for a two and a half week trip.'

The Fellowship covered the costs of Caroline's flights,

insurance, uniform and equipment. She also carried out small fund-raising activities to cover additional costs such as gifts and film processing.

The exchange trip was organised by Girlguiding West Mercia. Thirteen girls, aged 14 to 17, and four Leaders were selected to travel to Japan to experience its culture, learn more about Guiding overseas, sustain existing links with the Japanese Girl Scout Association and establish new ones.

Caroline, who had never travelled outside of Europe before, was selected as an Assistant Guider by her County Commissioner and the Guider in charge of the project. 'I had participated in a GOLD trip to Poland in 2002 and was keen to use my experience to travel further afield,' said Caroline.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

The participants fitted a lot into their 17-day trip. Caroline said, 'Our full and extremely varied itinerary provided lots of opportunities for us to immerse ourselves in this new and exciting culture.' They explored Tokyo, went to a traditional tea ceremony, had a lesson in the art of kimono, made noodles, represented Girlguiding UK in the Fuji Festival parade, toured the ancient Japanese city of Kyoto and took a cable car tip over Mount Fuji.

During the visit, participants stayed with Japanese families. They also spent five days at a camp with 400 Guides from all over Japan. 'This provided us with a valuable opportunity to learn more about Girl Scouting in Japan,' explained Caroline.

Caroline is very grateful to the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust for enabling her to take part in this trip of a lifetime. 'As a final year university student I found it difficult to raise money and the grant provided a big boost to my funds,' she said. 'But the Fellowship is much more than money. It gave me the opportunity for personal growth and development through the experience of leadership and a different culture.'

FURTHER INFORMATION

The closing date for applications for 2004 Fellowships has passed. Categories for the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Travelling Fellowships 2005 will be introduced on June 4, 2004. The closing date for applications will be in the last week of October 2004. In November, shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview to take place in London in January 2005. The award winners will be announced in February 2005.

For more information about the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, visit www.wcmt.org.uk or call 020 7584 9315.



CHRISTINE SPENCER

Caroline Iddon and some Japanese Girl Scouts enjoying a boat trip near Mount Fuji

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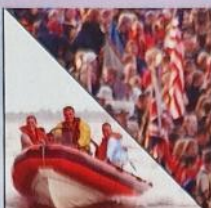
31st July - 7th August 2004

www.essexscouts.org.uk/jamboree

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jamboree@essexscouts.org.uk

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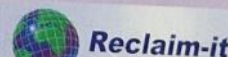
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2004 June- Open Activity Day

2005 Spring Bank Holiday- Weekend Event

2005 July/ August (co-ordinated with European

Scout Jamboree)

2007 Spring Bank Holiday- 'Weekend Event'

2007 July/ August- 'International Experience'

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You can raise vital funds to help some of the poorest people in Africa and Asia gain access to drinking water and sanitation by performing a panto.

WaterAid has produced a Pantomime Pack which contains all the inspiration you need to stage its pantomime *Aladdin and the Magic Bucket*.

The pack contains a 24-page script, suggestions for costumes and sets, original songs and information about WaterAid. Money to fund WaterAid's work can be raised through ticket sales.

To order your free panto pack email community@wateraid.org.uk or phone 020 7793 4563 during office hours.

PROMOTE FAIRTRADE

Do you have any budding poets in your unit?

Christian Aid and Divine Fairtrade chocolate are offering top chocolate prizes for poems to persuade people to choose Fairtrade chocolate. Divine chocolate carries the Fairtrade mark which means that farmers are ensured a fair price for their produce.

The competition is open to everyone aged seven and above (including adults) and is split into three age categories. Younger winners will be rewarded with a chocolate extravaganza party for their friends and older winners will receive a month's supply of Divine chocolate and book tokens.

For more information about the competition visit www.divinechocolate.com. The deadline for entries is **December 15**.

TAKE UP THE CHALLENGE

Help raise disability awareness in your unit by taking part in the Sponsored Citizenship challenge.

The challenge is organised by Whizz-Kidz, a charity that helps children with disabilities by providing wheelchairs and tricycles. Participants are sponsored to give something up to experience a little less freedom or to make something better for a family or community member.

For a resource pack – including ideas for sponsorship, sponsor forms, balloons, stickers and posters – or for further information about the challenge, email c.ellson@whizz-kidz.org.uk or call 020 7233 6600.



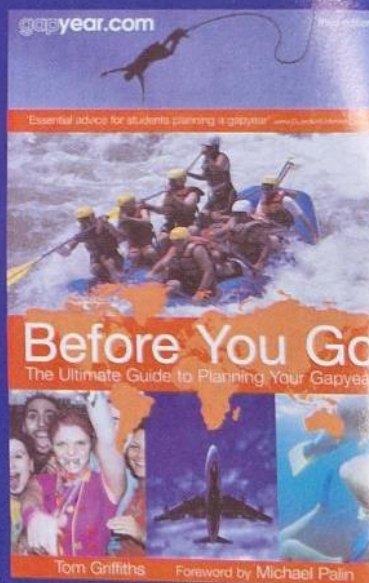
LORD OF THE RINGS

Fans of the films will love the *The Lord of the Rings Trilogy — The Exhibition*, showing at the Science Museum, London, until **January 11**.

The exhibition includes hundreds of artefacts from the films, including models and armoury, and demonstrations of the special effects used to bring the story to life.

Visitors will be transported into the world of Middle-Earth where they will be met by Frodo and his Hobbit companions, the wizards, the Black Riders and the fearsome warriors — all in the authentic costumes created for the films.

For more information and ticket prices, please call **0870 870 4868**.



GREAT MIGRATION

Help raise money for endangered turtles through the Marine Conservation Society's Great Migration event.

The event has been inspired by the behaviour of baby turtles who, after hatching, swim for 24 hours to escape predators close to the shore. Great Migration participants are encouraged to collectively match the 6,800 miles covered by leatherback turtles migrating around the Atlantic.

Participants must be sponsored to cover a measurable distance in any way they choose — such as running, walking, cycling or swimming. There is no minimum or maximum distances and anyone can take part.

For more information call Sue Ranger at the Marine Conservation Society on **0198 956 6017** or email sue@mcsuk.org.



MIND THE GAP

Do you know any Senior Section members who are planning a gapyear? If so, then a new book will help them to have a safe and enjoyable time.

The third edition of *Before You Go*, by Tom Griffiths, is packed full of essential information and advice, checklists and useful contacts.

From camping to insurance, the book offers a comprehensive guide to issues affecting backpackers. There are also suggested itineraries and useful web links.

Before You Go (ISBN 0 7475 6638 0) is published by Bloomsbury Reference, priced £7.99.

Tom Griffiths is also the founder of the web site www.gapyear.com which offers a complete guide to taking time out.

EMERGENCY CARD

Have you seen the Personal Details Card for Emergency Use in the new Guiding Essentials catalogue (page 43). It's a convenient credit-card size, so can easily be carried whilst out and about. Leaders can use it in place of a full health form for residential events, too. Order code **6533**, price 35p.

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NEW GFI!

Look out for an exciting new GFI! — Go For It! Communicate.

Guides love to communicate, whether it means going hi-tech with mobile phones and the Internet or just having a good old-fashioned chat. This fun-packed Go For It! is full of activities on the theme of communication — such as turning a Patrol member into a robot, texting a story or sending a message by rocket post!

As a bonus, the Go For It! also includes a great CD-ROM with games and resources. It can be used on PCs and Macs, and would make an ideal basis for a Patrol or unit computer evening — though there's plenty of activities that you don't need a computer for.

Go For It! Communicate is available from Trading Service, order code **6683**, price £5.30.



ICANDO EVENTS

For more information about any of the following events, please call ICANDO on **020 7592 1818**.

- Winter Wonderland — Rainbow day, **January 31**. Three hours of winter fun without getting cold!
- The Valentine Event — Guide and Senior Section day, **February 14**. A three-hour themed visit, with extra activities based on Valentine's Day.
- Thinking Day — The World Centres, **February 21**. Enjoy a three-hour visit as part of your World Thinking Day celebrations, with extra activities from around the world.
- Leap into the Future — activities for all ages, **February 29**. It only happens every four years!
- GFI! London, 2004 dates: **March 13, May 22, July 3, July 17 and October 23**.
- There are dates available for sleepovers during the next few months, please call ICANDO for details and dates (number as above).

ICANDO is now welcoming school parties to sleepovers during the week. If you are a teacher, why not ask us for details of how we can help make your visit to London special.



WHAT'S ON DIARY

These residential opportunities are open to any Association member — Commissioners, Guiders, Senior Section members, Guides, Brownies and Unit Helpers as relevant. For more details of the content and cost, please phone/email the appropriate centre.

BRONEIRION

01686 688204

brone@talk21.com

November 28-30

Christmas Around the World event — open to all

December 6-7

Friends of Broneirion

Christmas party

February 20-22

Themed activity weekend — for Guides

HAUTBOIS

01603 737357

angliahq@angliaguides.org.uk

November 3-6

Card making event — open to all

November 14-16

Christmas Capers — for Guides

December 30 – Jan 2

New Year's party — open to all

January 16-18

Guitar/recorder course — open to all

January 23-25

Craft weekend — for Guiders

February 6-8

Hautbois Action Team —

environmental project for girls

February 13-15

Health and Safety/ Risk Assessment training

FOXLEASE

02380 282638

foxlease@girlguiding.org.uk

November 7-9

Training for those working on the Leadership Qualification and qualification Mentors

November 17-21

Midweek craft course for Guiders

December 5-7

Guiders' training — Brownie Adventure

December 5-7

Peer educators' training

December 12-14

Senior Section Christmas Boogie

January 9-11

Ideas to activate your unit

— Rainbow, Brownie and

Guide Guiders

January 16-18

Guiders and Patrol Leaders

January 23-25

Developing your people skills in guiding — for Guiders

January 30 – February 1

Brownies Badges weekend —

Brownies with their Guider

February 9-11

Midweek training — self-esteem and self development

BLACKLAND FARM

01342 810493

blackland@girlguiding.org.uk

November 8-9

Girlguiding UK climbing training scheme, level 1

December 13-14

Girlguiding UK climbing training scheme, level 1

January 17-18

Girlguiding UK climbing training scheme, level 1

WADDOW

01200 423186

waddow@girlguiding.org.uk

December 5-7

Festive fun and friendship — ideas for Rainbow and Brownie Guiders

December 5-7

Baden-Powell Challenge

Adventure

January 2-4

International weekend for Guides — crafts, music, games from around the world

January 9-11

Programme ideas for Brownie, Rainbow and Guide Guiders

January 16-18

Baden-Powell Challenge Adventure

NETHERURD

01968 682208

bookings@netherurdhouse.freeuk.com

November 14-16

Trainers' weekend — working to meet training needs in Scotland

November 21-23

Singing circle weekend for Leaders

LORNE

02890 423180

lorne@girlguidingulster.org.uk

Contact the Training and Activity Centre for details of dates in the new year

THE NEXT STAGE

AS STAGED BADGES ARE PHASED OUT, SENIOR SECTION MEMBERS WILL HAVE TO LOOK WIDER FOR ALTERNATIVES

By Catriona Macmillan

Project Coordinator — Senior Section, CHQ

As a result of the recent changes to both the Guide and Brownie programmes, Staged Badges are being gradually phased out for all members. This means that in the future Senior Section members will need to look wider for alternatives to the Staged Badges. But don't worry, there are plenty of opportunities.

DEVELOP SKILLS

Many Staged Badges have equivalent levels within nationally recognised qualifications. For the Swimmer Badge there's the Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) awards, for the Rider Badge there's Pony Club awards, and for the Lifesaver Badge there's the Royal Life Saving Society (RLSS) UK awards. For others, you may choose to develop your skills through further study – such as night school or college classes – in things such as photography or needlecraft. You can then share your achievements in these classes with other members of your Senior Section Group.

The full range of Senior Section badges is likely to be available

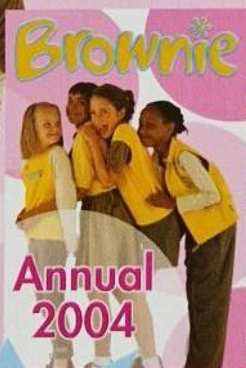
until the end of February 2004 after which they will not be restocked (remaining stocks will however be sold as required). As a result of this, if you, or a Senior Section member that you know, are planning to complete a Staged Badge towards any part of your Senior Section Programme (such as Look Wider or the Queen's Guide Award) it is advisable to purchase the badge during the next six months. This way you can ensure you have it for when you have completed the syllabus.

EXTRA QUALIFICATIONS

And don't forget that additional qualifications to Staged Badges are available through Girlguiding UK Optional Training Modules, or Training opportunities such as the Walking Scheme, which will enable you to develop your chosen skills further.

But whatever route you choose, remember Staged Badges were only one way to achieve your goal, and their phasing out should not restrict your ideas or plans!

Don't miss Brownie Annual 2004



The fun-filled **Brownie Annual 2004** is bursting with great crafts, tasty recipes, amazing facts, brain-teasing puzzles, stories, poems, a fantastic competition and much, much more. Any seven-to-ten year-old girl will love it and it's an absolute must-have for Brownies.

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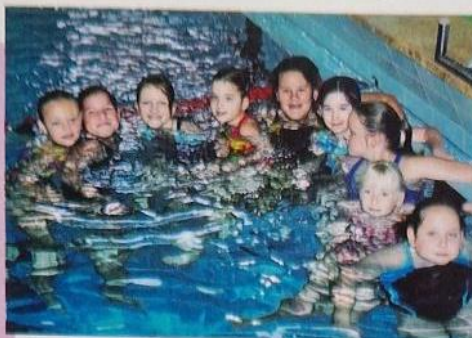
Leaders!
Make sure your
Brownie parents know
where to get a copy of
the **Brownie Annual
2004!**

Brownie Annual 2004 is also available from WH Smith and all good bookshops

Making a splash

Forty Rainbows, Brownies and Guides from BGIFC Riyadh Saudi Arabia took part in a sponsored swim for the UK's National Asthma Campaign.

The girls raised a splashing £3,063.



JANE WILLIAMS



ANN JOHNSON

Creative thinking

These Young Leaders from Girlguiding Esher Division got crafty to complete the Creativity Octant of Look Wider.



JANE STAFF

Floating fun

The 1st Pilloxhill and Greenfield Brownies took the plunge at a watersports evening.

These girls are happy their raft is staying afloat!

compared to us. We looked untidy as none of us matched in what piece of uniform we had on. We did not look smart and I felt embarrassed.

The new uniform is all well and good, but there is so much of it. There needs to be some sort of consensus on exactly what should be worn while representing Girlguiding UK both here and abroad so that we can stand proud together and look respectable.

Kate Vale
7th Frimley Brownies
Surrey

Recognising help

Having read the September issue of *Guiding magazine* I can empathise with Keith Piggot about the lack of uniform for Unit Helpers.

I am a regular Unit Helper with the 2nd Ulverston Guides. I frequently attend camps, sleepovers and other trips. I find it is at these events where a uniform would be useful. On several occasions I have felt it would assist the public we meet at these events if I had some sort of 'formal' clothing as a means of recognition. I tend to purchase and wear the casual guiding clothes to identify that I belong to the unit.

As you are currently looking at Adult wear maybe you could consider the

possibility of developing a 'uniform' for those committed to guiding but who haven't taken their warrant. I am an Affiliate member who can't commit time every week due to the shift pattern I work.

Also better categorisation of the Adult wear would help distinguish who can wear what, as sometimes I feel it can be a little confusing.

Christine Allison
Barrow-in-Furness
Cumbria

Mission possible

I have recently become a Girlguiding UK Trainer and was asked to run a Training at our Region Day.

Panic set in until I remembered that I could contact the Resources Library at CHQ for some help. So I duly emailed the Guiding Development team and had a swift response of 74 pages of books under various headings.

I chose three books and was delighted to receive them by 'snail mail' the very next day. The books are on loan to me for one month and are proving invaluable for my Training preparation.

Thank you so much for coming to my aid.

Clare Popley
Hove
Girlguiding LaSER

● The CHQ Resources Library is available for use by Trainers and Advisers. If you would like to find out more, please contact Pat Wheatley at CHQ. Email: PatW@girlguiding.org.uk.

Misleading media

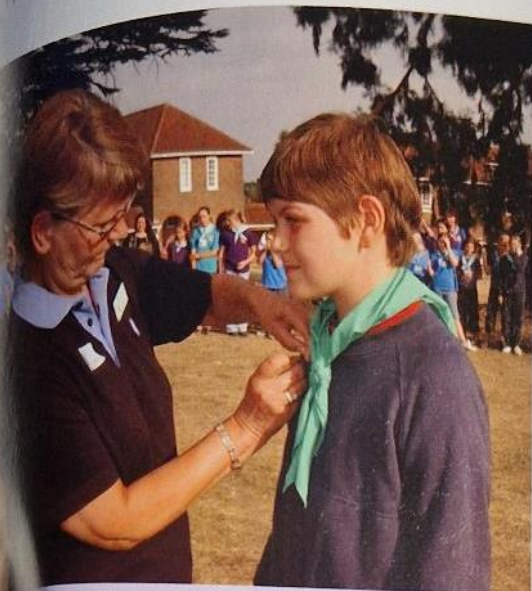
It has been great to hear first-hand from local Brownie Guiders and Brownies themselves how well they have responded to the new Brownie Adventure.

It was therefore with real dismay that I read a recent article in a daily newspaper which suggested that Brownies has gone politically correct and thrown out all that is valuable.

If only they knew about the strong links forged between Brownie Leaders and parents; if only they had really read the programme. It made me realise how hard we will all have to work to make sure that people understand what we are really trying to do. Perhaps we could all take up the challenge of writing letters to the editors of these newspapers.

Moirá Cairley
Clydebank Trefoil Guild

● The majority of media coverage on the new Brownie Programme has been positive. Coverage has included Sky News, Parenting magazine and She.



DAVID HENDERSON

Promising start

This new Guide was one of two members to make their Promise in front of the Chief Guide, Jenny Leach, at the Anglia '03 Bridges Camp.

FIE RASON



Back to basics

The Goddington Guides had fun 'surviving' their summer camp.

With the theme 'I'm not a celebrity, get me out of here!', the girls successfully completed the Survival Badge and Go For It! I will survive!



SUE BAGNALL

Gala girls

The 1st, 2nd and 3rd Beighton Brownies had a fantastic time on their Wizard of Oz float at their village gala. Here are the girls following the yellow brick road.



BARBARA WILLIAMS

Feeling frosty

These girls from the Droitwich Guides chilled out on a trip to Adleboden, Switzerland — in the ice caves on Jungfrau Mountain!

Circus skills

This Rainbow from the 1st Alington and Poringland Unit had a great time clowning around at a Division circus activity afternoon.



DENNIS MORREY

GIVEAWAYS

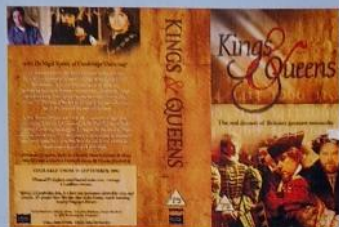
Kings and queens

Kings and Queens is the critically acclaimed Channel 5 series that traces the lives of some of Britain's most infamous and influential monarchs. First shown last year, the series was Channel 5's highest rating series with more than 1.5 million regular viewers.

All 12 episodes are now available on double video and DVD from Partner

Entertainment. Each episode focuses on one monarch, examining their reign and its effects on British history.

Guiding magazine has 20 Kings and Queens videos to give away. Mark your entry Guiding magazine/Kings.



BBC WORLDWIDE

Christmas card kits

Making Christmas cards with your unit doesn't have to result in chaos.

The new paints, pens, clay and stencils from Oasis Art and Craft Products Ltd are easy to use and mess-free.

Products include Reeves Glitter Paint, available in 12 vibrant colours; Spoty Paint Markers from Color & Co, which come with

Christmas stencils; Sculpey modelling clay; and Inscribe's Creative Edge Decorative Craft Scissors.

Guiding magazine has 13 sets of these products, worth £24.90 each, to give away. Mark your entry Guiding magazine/paints.



Taste sensation

To celebrate the launch of new STARBURST® SOUR CHEWS, Guiding magazine has 12 Starburst 'Get them before they get you' kits, to give away. The kits are packed with tricks, toys and sweets, making perfect presents or prizes for your unit.

The chews come in four fruit flavours: sour apple, raspberry, pineapple and cherry and are definitely not for the faint hearted!

Mark your entry Guiding magazine/Starburst.

*STARBURST® is a registered trademark of Mars UK Limited



GIVEAWAYS

INTERNATIONAL FLAVOUR

Guides from America, Western Siberia and Nigeria had a fantastic time at Intr@net — Girlguiding North East England's international camp.

Participants had the chance to surprise themselves and do something new with sightseeing trips, adventurous outdoor activities, challenges and community action activities.

The camp also boasted a coffee shop, faith tent, craft tent, computer lab and gym as well as its own web site and daily newspaper.

International visitors at the week-long event were also joined by Guides from Scotland, Ireland and London and the South East.



JOANNE THORNTON

SUPERMARKET SWEEP

The 12th Folkstone Brownies learned all about healthy eating during a special trip to their local Sainsbury's.

The girls listened to a talk by a nutritionist, took part in a quiz and went on a touch, see and feel tour around the store picking out healthy food.

They then enjoyed fruit drinks and fruit before leaving with healthy doggy bags.



KENT REGIONAL NEWSPAPERS

RACE FOR LIFE

Sixty-seven members of Girlguiding Evesham Division took part in a 5-km run to raise money for Cancer Research UK.

The Race for Life event in Evesham was one of 130 that took place across the UK during the summer. The Evesham Division members ran in memory of Guider Eileen Huband who died from cancer last year.

Despite the heat, the cheers from other Guiders encouraged participants to complete the run — and raise £1,000 for the charity.



KATIE JOHNS

If you want the chance to win one of our great giveaway prizes, the closing date for entries is November 28. Photos, letters and competition entries should all be sent to Guiding magazine, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT. You can also email guiding@girlguiding.org.uk.

BIG BIRTHDAY



The 1st Griffithstown Guide unit celebrated its 80th birthday this year.

A special evening to mark the occasion was held at the local community hall. The girls celebrated the past, present and future through songs, readings and poems. The unit's new flag was also dedicated at the event.

Highlights of the unit's birthday year have included taking part in the Gift of Life Walk to raise £142 for Kidney Research Wales, and a pumpkin party and sleepover that raised £30 for UNICEF.

HAPPY PACKERS

The 21st Chester Brownies helped raise money for a local hospice by packing bags in their local Marks & Spencer.

The girls spent four hours helping to pack bags and chatting to shoppers about Brownies.

Their efforts raised an amazing £1,200, helping Marks & Spencer on the way to its total of £1,800. The money will go to the Hospice of the Good Shepherd in Chester.



CAROLINE BALLARD

GOING FOR GOLD



Senior Section member Heather Mansell was pleased to gain her Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Heather, from Stafford, completed the Bronze and Silver Awards before gaining the Gold.

The awards have seen Heather go from being a complete novice at photography to excelling at it. She now takes exceptional photographs which she develops herself.

Heather, who has achieved all this despite having Downs Syndrome, was presented with her Gold Award by her former Ranger Leader Liz Hurst.

STAR RANGER

Ranger Amelia Scholey from Scarborough has been presented with a Star of Merit for outstanding courage.

In 2001 Amelia was diagnosed with restrictive cardiomyopathy – a rare condition where the heart muscle becomes stiff and can't expand fully – after the death of her brother from the same condition.

Following two heart transplant operations, she had a long stay in London's Great Ormond Street Hospital in 2002.

Amelia – who has been praised for her 'get up and go' attitude – was presented with her award by Angie Goddard, Chief Commissioner for North East England, during a County camp.



ANN EDWARDS

IN DECEMBER'S **Guiding** magazine

WEB WATCH

Find out what happened when Girlguiding UK invited 60 Guiders to a web forum to give feedback on the site.

ROYAL VISIT

A report from HRH The Countess of Wessex's first appointment as our President — presenting Queen's Guides Brooches at CHQ.



HENRY IDON

BIRTHDAY BROWNIES

Celebrating in style — find out more about the Brownies' 90th birthday.

Plus all the latest news, your views, and much, much more...

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Dorothy Langton - North Walsham Guides

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