





GIRL GUIDES IN BAMPTON



Lord Baden Powell, founder of the Scout movement initiated the Guides when he noticed a number of girls wanting to do the same things as the boys. In 1910, the first Girl Guides came into being and in 1914, the first Brownies were formed. They were called Rosebuds to start with, but no-one liked the name!

The movement has grown over the years and now there are Rangers, Guides and Brownies in most countries of the world. A new idea for 5 to 7 year olds is Rainbow Guides and there is also a Trefoil Guild for retired guide leaders to keep up with old friends and new developments.

The Guides these days still do the same things their great-grandmothers did, and more. They still go camping and hiking, have fun at meetings and learn new skills to pass badges. They are also aware of the problems which face people today, and are concerned about the environment. The uniform was modernised last year and the girls all seem to approve of the changes.

We owe a debt of gratitude to all the past Guiders, who gave so generously of their time and expertise in the early days. New recruits are urgently needed so that present day girls can continue to learn new skills and enjoy the comradeship of the Guide movement.

Oxfordshire has a very active Guide and Scout presence therefore it is a shame that the Guide and Brownie packs have closed in Bampton. This is not from lack of interest by the children but because no adults can be found with the time and enthusiasm to be the Leaders. It is hard work but fun and very rewarding.

As far as most people can remember the Bampton Guide and Brownie packs were formed in 1949 by Mrs Margery Bullen who ran them for 10 years with the help of Mrs Ewings and Eileen Graham. Mrs Jeanne Gascoigne took over the Guides in 1964 and was their leader until 1978.

Mrs Meg Daley has been running the Brownies for the past few years assisted



by Miss Elizabeth Tanner who was Lieutenant of the Guides before that. Mrs Mavis Clack and the late Mrs Margaret Wythes were Brown Owl and Tawny Owl in the 1970's and before that Mrs Ham, Mrs Dora Ewings and Mrs Lyn Barber ran the 1st Bampton Brownies.

I would like to thank all the past Guiders in Bampton, who have given their time and energy to the girls, and who will not be forgotten and hope to hear from anyone interested in taking on the task.

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(If anyone has memories of the Guides and Brownies in Bampton prior to 1950, the Editor would be very glad to hear from them. Old photographs and pack records would also be of interest.)

**Remembrance Sunday 1950
Ann Spurrett, Dinah Dafter
(colour bearer) & Barbara Green.**

**Blenheim Palace 1955.
Mrs Bullen and Mrs Ewings
meet Lady Baden Powell at
a Guide Rally**



photo: Mrs M. Bul



jo1 Guide Camp c1943 – 44

img303 A page from The Beam 1991 volume 6 No3 about the Girl Guides in Bampton. It gives the history of the Girl Guide movement. There is a rather dark picture of Mrs Bullen (wife of Dr Bullen of Bampton) and Mrs Ewings meeting Lady Baden Powell at a Guide Rally. It is thought that the “Bampton Guide and Brownie packs were formed in 1949 by Mrs Margery Bullen who ran them for ten years with the help of Mrs Ewings and Eileen Graham. Mrs Jean Gascoigne took over the Guides in 1964 and was their leader until 1978. Mrs Meg Daley has been running the Brownies for the past few years assisted by Miss Elizabeth Tanner who was Lieutenant of the Guides before that. Mrs Mavis Clack and the late Mrs Margaret Wythes were Brown Owl and Tawny Owl in the 1970s and before that, Mrs Ham, Mrs Dora Ewings and Mrs Lynne Barber ran the 1st Bampton Brownies.” In 1950 at the Remembrance Sunday Ann Spurrett, Dinah Dafter (colour bearer) and Barbara Green represented the Brownies.