

Contact through the "Wychwood"

Last November, I received a letter from a lady in America (Mrs Brenda Bishop née Brewerton) who had seen the June/July and August/September copies of the Wychwood from a friend who had visited her. She had enjoyed the magazine so much she was enquiring about subscribing. She was thrilled to see the picture of Milton Institute celebrating their 80th anniversary, especially the picture of Mrs Burson, Mrs Timms and Mrs Rathbone as she was a member herself.

I showed the letter to my mother and she thought the maiden name was that of her Guide Leader in the early 1940s. A few phone calls to other old Guiders and Mum said she would write and find out if it was her. A subscription was taken out and Mum and Brenda now correspond regularly!

Brenda helped to run the guides with Mrs Betty Scott and Agnes Dore. When Mrs. Scott was made Commissioner and Agnes had a full-time job, Brenda ran the guides alone. Meetings were held in the loft of Mr and Mrs Mawl's house in Frog Lane. She left Milton in 1946. I currently send out 22 postal subscriptions all over the country and overseas. A few are given as Christmas presents which last a whole year.

Please contact me if you would like to send someone a magazine.

Doreen Barnes.

Dear Editor,

A friend kindly sent me a copy of a "The Wychwood" for December / January 98/99, and low and behold there I was in print on page 27 "JockeyJean Rose"! I remember this quite vividly, trotting around the stage in the red jockey costume, complete with bells and a broom handle with a horse's head between my legs, made by my late mother! Was it really over 50 years ago?

I remember some of the names, especially Venitia Viner, who was my bridesmaid 38 years ago.

In Shipton I lived in the cottage whose garden ran down to the old Beaconsfield Hall, so we never had far to go to regular dances held there each Saturday where my mother and father took active roles, (the late Mr & Mrs Ernest Rose).

We later moved to the newly built station house where my father was the Stationmaster in the then functional railway station. I left Shipton in 1951 and now live near Minehead, Somerset.

Thank-you for reviving old memories, and my friend for taking the time and trouble to send me this copy which I will keep in my bulging scrapbook!

Yours sincerely, Jean D. Grandfield.