



Girlguiding

Durham South

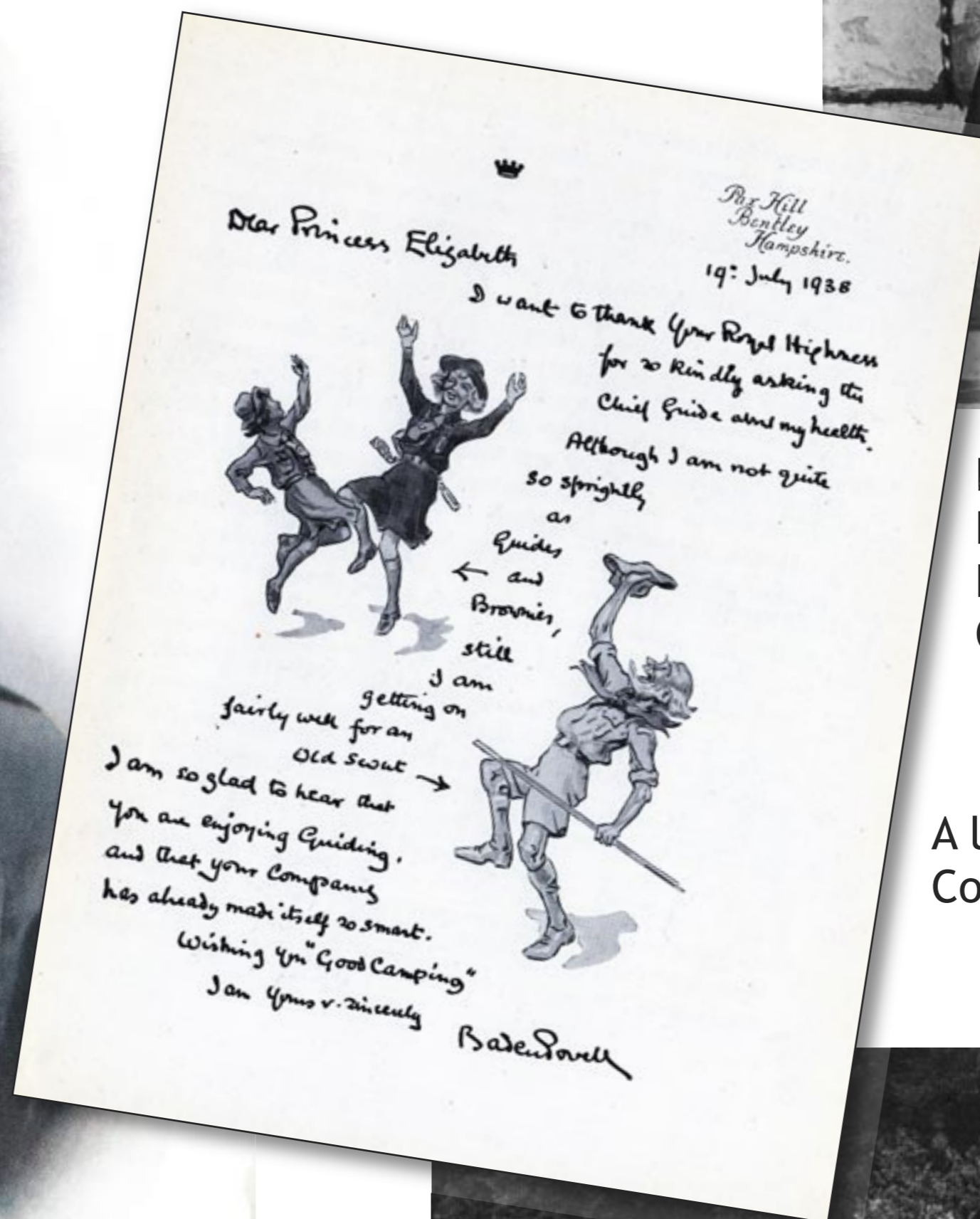
girls in the lead

Girlguiding at the Palace

In 1937 a lady called Violet Synge was asked to set up a very special new Guide company. The 1st Buckingham Palace Brownie Pack and Guide Company began in June 1937, with 14 Guides and Brownies recruited from friends of the Princesses, cousins and children of the staff at the Palace.



Princess Margaret as a Leprechaun, Princess Elizabeth as Second of the Kingfisher Patrol, with their mother Her Majesty the Queen at a march past in Windsor.



A letter sent to the Buckingham Palace Company from Lord Baden Powell



The 1st Buckingham Palace Guide Company in 1942, led by Princess Elizabeth.

The Little House was given to Princess Elizabeth as a 6th birthday gift from the people of Wales. In 1940, the Princess gave permission for the Little House to be used as the design for The Little House emblem, which was to be awarded to a Guide for gaining the badges of Cook, Child Nurse, Needlewoman, Laundress, Homemaker and Hostess.



The Princesses, just after sending a message to the Chief Guide by carrier pigeon.



The Princesses were enrolled by their aunt, HRH The Princess Mary, President of the Guide Association



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The Queen in Girlguiding



Princess Elizabeth as a Sea Ranger.

Despite the Second World War, the Princesses joined camps each year, although they were not always able to sleep under canvas because of the dangers of German bombs.

Before the Princesses moved up to Sea Rangers in 1943 and 1946 respectively, they both gained First Class badges.

A badge was issued to commemorate the Coronation of the Queen in 1953, and Princess Margaret replaced her sister as the Chief Ranger of the British Empire.



In 1946, Princess Elizabeth became the Chief Ranger of the British Empire. At the age of 20, the future Queen was still taking part in camps wherever possible. The 500lb wedding cake of Princess Elizabeth and Lieutenant Mountbatten was made from ingredients sent by the Australian Guides.



The Queen is greeted by Guides at Kirkby Stephen in 1991.



“While the core values of guiding have remained constant, I have been delighted to watch it evolve, led by the ambitions and needs of the girls of the day.”
HM The Queen, 2009

Two of the 1st Buckingham Palace Guide Company were bridesmaids at the Queen’s wedding