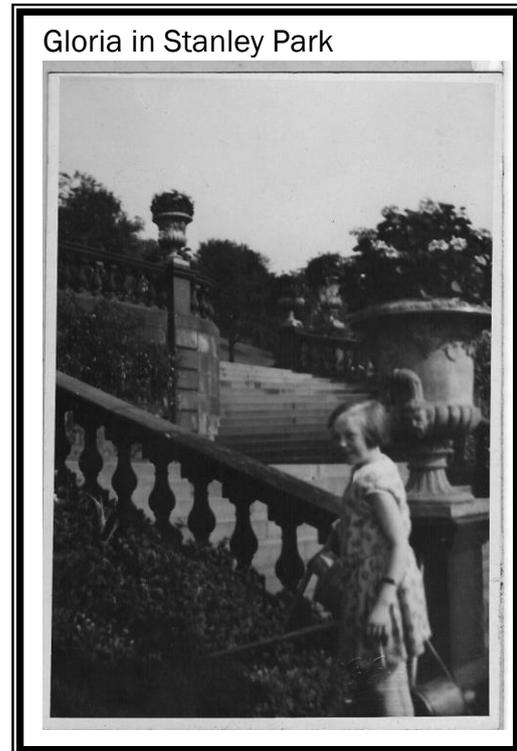


Gloria Joan Quayle

Gloria Joan Quayle was born on 7 January 1920 at 125 George Street, Blackpool, the daughter of Herbert and Myra Quayle. Her father came from the Isle of Man and her mother from Nottingham. Her parents met during the First World War and were married in 1918. Gloria wrote about her holidays and excursions and there is mention of many visits to family in Nottingham and the Isle of Man.



There seems to be a time in her childhood when the family lived in Preston. There are photographs of her and Peter in Preston and between the ages of 12 and 15 Gloria was a member of 10th Preston (St Philip's) Company Girl Guides. She went to a Guide camp at Hazleslack Towers, Nether Kellett, nr Lancaster with the Preston Guides.

In 1936 the family moved to Cleveleys and Gloria left school and worked in a Fish & Chip restaurant and later for the Ministry of Pensions at Norcross.

As Guide Leader in 1939



Gloria held a Warrant as **3rd Thornton Girl Guide Leader** from 1938 to 1950 and in 1942 she went to Waddow Hall at Clitheroe to be tested for her Camper's Licence, returning there to camp with Guides in 1943, 1944 and 1945.

Escort to Ranger
World Flag
14th May 1939,
Divisional Service,
Fleetwood



Gloria wrote about her holidays with family to London and Nottingham. In 1941 she sailed from Fleetwood with her father to his native Isle of Man for a holiday with family and friends, from then on she came to love the island and was proud of her Manx heritage.

Gloria's brother Peter was a pilot in the Second World War and was killed in action in 1943. Soon afterwards her parents moved to her father's birthplace, the Isle of Man, leaving Gloria living on the Fylde Coast and working for the Ministry of Pensions at Norcross.

She wrote the following about travelling to a Guide camp in 1946:

"I had a week at home in Lonan (Isle of Man) and then on the Saturday morning Father took me down to Douglas to catch the 6am boat to Fleetwood. There I picked up my bike at the left luggage office at Fleetwood Station and caught the ferry to Knott End. From there I started off for my journey to a camp-site near Newby Bridge. It poured down and I eventually took shelter in a smithy, I think at Forton. I then battled to Lancaster, where I took a train. I had to change at Carnforth and had to travel in the fish van for the next stage of my journey. Eventually I cycled into camp. It was about 4pm when I arrived to be met by some Guides asking "What's for tea?" I said I had been up since 5am to get there and perhaps they could get some tea for me!"

Gloria receiving a trophy in 1946



Gloria left the Civil Service at the end of 1946 (maybe the jobs were of a temporary nature) and went to live for a time with her parents in the Isle of Man, her address in her 1947 diary states Lonan, Isle of Man. However, she came back to the Fylde to take her Clerical Officer exam in February 1947 and returned to the area to live in April, taking up a position at Norcross once again. Before she left the Isle of Man she arranged a camp, which included Guides from St Stephen's, Blackpool and 4 groups from the Isle of Man.

She was very proud of her Manx heritage, this is obvious from the photograph below where she is standing next to the Isle of Man Steam train proudly wearing her jumper showing the 3 legs of Man.



During the rest of 1947 Gloria visited the Isle of Man almost every weekend, except when there was a Guide Church Parade. In 1948, 1949 and 1950 Gloria led a Thornton Cleveleys District Guide Camp in the Isle of Man

Although Gloria worked for the Ministry of Pensions at Norcross and went to the Isle of Man to her parents' most weekends she always managed to get back just in time for work! She wrote:

"I used to leave on the Manx Electric Railway on Sunday evening at 22.15 on the 'Glen Special' from the Fairy Castle halt to the Derby Castle, and then get the bus down to the harbour for sailing just after midnight (boats did not sail on Sunday in those days). I landed in Liverpool about 5.30am, went to Lime Street for a train to Fleetwood, had to change usually at Kirkham and sometimes at Poulton for Thornton. On arrival, about 8.00am I walked down to Four Lane Ends to a friend's for breakfast and cycled to the office at Norcross for an 8.45am start."

Gloria left Guiding in 1950. However, she also held Warrants as **Cubmaster for 2nd Cleveleys** from October 1947 to February 1951 and as **Cubmaster for 1st Anchorholme** from February 1951 to June 1954. She was also Acting Group Scout leader for a time before she left in 1954.

In 1953 Gloria accompanied 3 scouts from her 1st Anchorholme Troop to the Isle of Man. The scouts were going to "Yn Chaglym" the Coronation Gathering in the Nunnery Grounds. She wrote:

"I stayed in a hotel on the front but visited the camp where the boys were surprised to see peacocks wandering round the grounds. We went on a coach trip and had strawberries and ice cream at Rushen Abbey."

Gloria kept her diaries from 1946 to 2003 and we have a little insight into her daily life. There are numerous entries in her early diaries which include camps (often to the Isle of Man), carol services, handicrafts, badge work and badge testing, concerts, St George's Day Parade, all showing her to be an active member in Scouting and Guiding.

Gloria was a member of St John's Ambulance for many years holding numerous First Aid certificates and she also taught typing and shorthand at a local centre during the 1950s.

In 1958 Gloria married Allan Eastwood. They had known each other for many years as he was Assistant District Commissioner of the Thornton Cleveleys and Anchorholme Boy Scouts Association, the same district as Gloria.

Gloria and Allan Eastwood

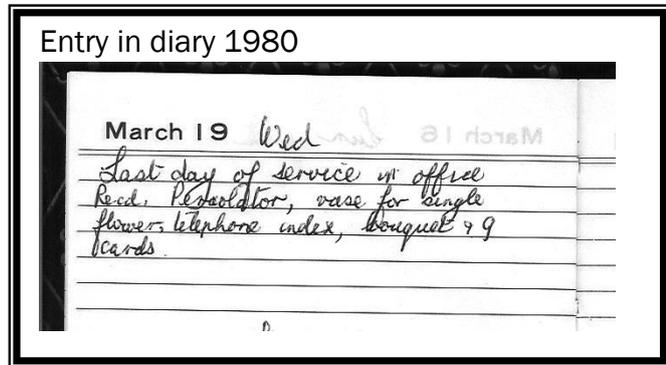


On 2 August 1958 Gloria Quayle married Allan Eastwood. Allan had returned to England after spending 2 years in Australia. Before going to Australia he had been Assistant District Commissioner in Scouting for Thornton Cleveleys and Anchorsholme until his resignation in 1953, and had known Gloria for a number of years.

They went to the Isle of Man for their honeymoon. From then on they spent many holidays abroad, camping initially, and then in 1967 they bought their first camper van and they holidayed all over mainland Europe, England, Scotland and the Isle of Man. They also had a flat in Spain for a number of years.

In 1974 they holidayed in the Isle of Man and visited one of Allan's distant cousins, Eric Houlgrave and his wife Kathleen. This was their first meeting. Eric was the Deputy Director of the School of Art in Douglas. Eric's daughter, Deborah, said that he and Kathleen had spent their honeymoon in the Isle of Man and liked the place so much they went back to Leeds, packed their bags and moved to the island.

Gloria retired from the Civil Service in 1980, her official last day being 14 April but the entry from her diary shows 19 March as her last day in the office and she received "a percolator, vase for single flower, telephone index, bouquet and 9 cards".



In 1982 Gloria and Allan moved to Peterborough and in 1986 moved to Nottingham. They had family living in both areas.

Allan continued with his love of painting, as you can see from the many paintings in their house in the photograph.



In 1988 Gloria had a mild stroke and even though she fully recovered they didn't travel abroad again.

1991 saw them return to the Fylde Coast to live at 323 Fleetwood Road, purchasing the house for £59,000!

In 1992 they returned to the Isle of Man for a visit – seemingly the first since 1976 when Gloria’s mother, Myra, died. They met Allan’s cousin, Eric Houlgrave, once again but in the intervening years Eric’s wife, Kathleen, had died and he was now married to Stephanie.

Gloria typed her recollections of holidays from 1923 (she was aged 3) to September 1993, when she and Allan went to Kendal for a few days in their camper van. Her last entry says:

“On Tuesday, 12 April 1994, Allan who was the Light of my Life, died suddenly at home and since then I have not been away.”

After Allan’s death she seemed to live very quietly and as a pastime entered competitions, winning a number of small prizes. This was probably to occupy her time. She still kept her diaries but they were only filled with everyday bits and pieces and in each of them she named her next of kin as a close cousin on her mother’s side from Nottingham, Eric Thomas Pierrepont. He died in 2004.

Gloria died on 20 May 2006. They are both buried in the Churchyard of Christ Church, Meadows Avenue, Thornton Cleveleys.