

Merle Bush

2-6-38



# Matilda

JULY, 1938.

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# "Matilda"

An Official Treasure Bag for Guiders' Information for Victoria, Australia.  
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Editor: MARGOT ANDERSON, Guide Headquarters, 60 Market Street, C.1.

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July, 1938.

No. 12.

## EDITORIAL.

Would Editors of various pages please send copy to me at H.Q.'s not later than the 17th of each month, please.

Also would the editors notify their committees of the meeting to be held at H.Q. on July 29th to discuss Matilda. As I have been at a distance from the city all of this year and trains most inconveniently arrive at 10 p.m. on Friday nights, I have been unable to call a meeting and I feel sure this one should benefit the magazine considerably.

—————:O:—————

## WHAT WE ARE DOING?

"A dream come true." That is what the Guide House Supplement writes about our Guide Camp House. I expect you have all read it and realised that at last we have a Guide House of our own. It has been a long dream some of you have felt, I know, and slow in being realised, but I am sure that everyone will whole-heartedly agree that it has, and will be worth while. Worth while holding fast to our aim of obtaining something that will be of value and pleasure to all Guides, now and in the future, fully paid for and endowed. If some of us have grown weary in the effort to achieve this end, or even have had to pass on in life out of Guiding to other responsibilities and may not actually share in the pleasure of using it, it still has been worth while. For we hope to pass on to future generations of Guides, a gift that has naturally some responsibilities (all possessions have those) but not overwhelming ones.

We have worked hard and patiently—I don't think it is putting ourselves on the back to say that—and we have been wonderfully encouraged by the help of our generous friends. Every Guide, I am sure, felt a thrill when they heard that our Girl Guide Day, May 24th, the purchase contract was signed and they really owned a Guide Home.

Many of us have been there, and have seen the beauty of its surroundings and felt the peace and tranquility of its trees and paddocks and pool. It is in our hands what we bring to it and make of it in the future.

Shall we be there in conference or at training weeks, honestly striving to widen our minds through thought and discussion and bring to Guiding something of value? Shall we be there in Camp, or at Campercraft, Woodcraft, and Handcraft Weeks. Shall we be there for Happy Rallies or Field Day?

Shall we be there conferring with other organisations, each deriving help from discussions of common problems, and different methods of dealing with them?

Shall we be there giving pleasure and health to poor and less fortunate children than ourselves from the city, even if they are not Guides?

Or shall we be there only for rest and thought, for companionship and fun, for spiritual rejuvenation?

In whatever way we are there the Guide Camp House will become what we make it. We now have a Home of our own that we can fashion to our own liking, where we can plant traditions that may help later generations, where we can sew seeds of friendship, co-operation, service, happiness and understanding.

Not one or two can make it of full value, everyone must bring something of himself to add to the whole, good, bad, or indifferent. Well! what's it going to be from you? "Our dream has come true," are you going to ensure that it has a happy ending?

—————ENID FAULKNER.

—————:O:—————

## COMMISSIONER FOR TRAINING.

Everyone, I know, will hear with great regret of Miss Bush's resignation as Commissioner for Training. She has, for 10 years, given more thought, time and care than any of us can estimate to the Training branch and members of the Guide Movement in Victoria owe—and would like to give her—the most sincere thanks for the great amount she has done for their welfare.

Although she can no longer continue as Commissioner for Training she is still in charge of the Correspondence training, also she is not giving up her other Guide work and I know that we will always be able to have her advice and her help whenever it is needed.

Owing to Miss Bush's resignation the Training department has been in need of a new Commissioner for Training, and Miss Elaine Moran has been asked by the Executive Committee, and has agreed, to take that position, and we welcome her to her new responsibility.

—————SIBYL CHAUVEL.

—————:O:—————

## GUIDE HOUSE.

On 19th June Lady Chauvel, on behalf of the Guide Association in Victoria, formally took over the property at Britannia Creek. Mr. and Mrs. W. Angliss were present, also Mrs. Littlejohn, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Tate, Miss Bush, Mrs. Springthorpe, Mr. and Mrs. Colin Templeton, and a number of Guiders who had joined in the outing arranged some time previously by Brownie Guiders. Everyone was delighted that this outing should, quite by chance, have been arranged for this very important day.

—————S.H.I.

—————:O:—————

## TWIGS.

For some considerable time, the need has been felt for some group in Guiding that would satisfy

older Rangers wishing to go on from their Companies, or Guiders wanting some activities, such as hiking, camping, etc., outside their own Companies.

During the past six months, a group of people have been experimenting in this direction. To further the experiment, they now wish to increase their numbers to 32, and would like those people interested to get in touch with the Secretary, Marge Young, 3 Burnley Street, Richmond, E.1. Phone J.1931 for further details.

Present members: F. V. Barfus, Margaret Fowler, Fran Sears (Pres.), Jean Brown, Ruby Romanue, Mavis Kalton, Florrie Martin, Naomi Hayward, Wilma Lucas, Edith Pulz, Marge Young, Joan Alston.

:O:—

### MATILDA COMMITTEE.

It has been suggested that all members of the committees that are responsible for pages for Matilda should meet at H.Q. on July 29th, at 8 p.m. to discuss Matilda generally.

MARGOT ANDERSON, Editor.

:O:—

### CARLTON DISTRICT JUMBLE

To augment their Camp Fund the Carlton District will hold a Jumble Sale on Saturday afternoon, July 16th in St. Jude's Hall, Lygon Street, Carlton. Donations of clothing, furniture and sports goods, suitable for the sale, will be gratefully received and may be left at Headquarters, or if the Secretary, Miss E. Allan, 169 Munro Street, N.13 is notified, arrangements will be made to pick up parcels before the 16th.

:O:—

### GUIDING AT CHILDRENS' COTTAGES, KEW.

(Written by S. J. Cantor, Children's Cottages, Kew.)

The Guide Movement very naturally spread, not only into many lands, but also far and wide in every land. So it embraced the blind, the deaf and the crippled. Over a dozen years ago it spread, in England, to include the backward and mentally defective. Now, for the first time in institutions for the mentally subnormal, the Movement has come to Australia. Girl-guiding among these subnormal children has been a real success.

The Movement has had encouragement from various sources. Guide Headquarters has given valuable assistance; various societies and people have also helped; while visits from other companies of Girl Guides have increased the interest of the handicapped Guides. What a lot, too, they have learned! Tying knots, learning all about flags, playing exciting games, all mean much in the life of such a Guide; and then wasn't it wonderful to be invested and wear the new uniform just like the Guide outside?

Guiding has helped these backward girls in other ways. They certainly had improved wonderfully; quite a number have now found homes with kind people; and after years in the institution they have been able to begin a new life in the great world outside. Friendships, training, and a knowledge of the Guide Law can do a lot for a girl; to these handicapped Guides it has brought a fuller life and years of happiness.

—S.J.C.

## YALLOURN DISTRICT NEWS.

### 1st Yallourn Guide Co.

Probably there is something in superstition, and this Number 13—the Yallourn Guides thought so, any way, for at the beginning of their 13th year of Guiding they lost their Captain, Mrs. Dann, who had been with the company almost since its inception. Mrs. Dann has been promoted to District Commissioner, so we have not lost her altogether.

During the year, however, things were growing a little brighter until on September 16th, a case of Poliomyelitis broke out, and we had to suspend operations for almost two months—during which lots of 2nd Classes were nearly finished, and we started again in November with a great burst of enthusiasm.

We have suddenly turned all scotch, and have named our new patrol the Scotch Thistles—we'll be wearing tartan ties next, who knows?

The 13th Birthday Party was held on Saturday, June 4th, and was certainly a great success from everybody's point of view. Mrs. Dixon had offered a prize for the best decorated table, and competition was at its height for the coveted trophy. After a difficult and gruelling task the judges, Mrs. Cox and Mrs. McKay, awarded the prize to the Wattle Patrol for a table that (we think) would have done justice to the Lord Mayor's dinner party.

Visitors from Moe and Morwell, the Local Association, and Scouts came, and the Guides entertained them during the evening with games, dialogues and a selected Camp Fire entertainment.

On Monday, the King's birthday, four of us Guides decided to go for a hike. It was a glorious day, but we did not set out until 11 a.m. As it was so late we did not go far, but we hiked for about 1½ miles and found ourselves at a shady spot on the Latrobe River.

As soon as we arrived we lit our fire, putting potatoes on the bottom and building the fire over them. By the time we had eaten a cold lunch the potatoes were ready and they were scrumptious with plenty of butter. Then we made a damper by mixing flour and water in a billy lid into a dough and putting a daub on the end of a green stick. We cooked it over the ashes and then pulled the dough off the stick and then filled the hole left with butter and sugar. It was delicious! Like hot scones only much better! By the time we had eaten several dampers, we were so full that we wondered if we could ever want another meal!

We had two dogs with us and one was awfully funny. He started to bark and could hear his own echo across the other side, but was too scared to swim across to see where the other dog was.

We cleared up, and put our haversacks on our backs and set off for a wander along the river. We saw some of the loveliest maiden hair fern and picked some bulrushes. The reflection of the white trunked trees and green wattle trees made a beautiful picture in the river. We wandered round for a few hours and then decided to return home. We walked homewards along the narrow bush track singing, as at the end of a perfect day.

### Yallourn District.

Boolarra has now been attached to our District

and we give them a true Guide welcome. There is a live L.A. Guider and a few Guides and a prospective B.O., and we trust that in a short time we will have both an active Company and a Smiling Pack.

Morwell Company, after many struggles, is now settling down and working well. They have been knitting comforts for the Sale Red Cross. Seven new Guides enrolled last month. Brown Owl now has a Tawny to help with her Pack and their meetings are bright and happy.

Moe have just lost their Brown Owl, who has been transferred to Camberwell. Before leaving they gave her a farewell party and hoped she would carry on with her work in her new area.

The 1st Moe Company gave their mothers a party on May 11th, celebrating Mother's Day on the previous Sunday. It was a great success and a kindly thought of the Guides.

They have been promised a piece of land, and Guiding hopes are that they'll soon be able to build a home of their own on this land in which they can carry on their activities. May they be successful.

Yallourn Brownie work has been greatly hampered by lack of Guiders. One pack has been in recess for some time and now the 1st Pack has lost its Brown Owl. One volunteer has come forward, so now we may smile again.

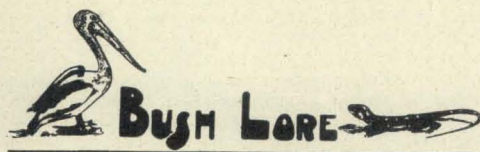
The Guide Company is very crowded, and we hope to start a second company shortly. A new Guide is doing her training, which, when finished, will enable her to make a start.

Six dozen skeins of wool are being knitted for "After Care," and we hope to have this finished by the end of June.

Thinking Day pennies were well remembered by the Guides and Brownies, but we think that 22nd February is an awkward time as we have not commenced our meetings then.

Six dozen pots jam were sent for the jam appeal to H.Q.'s.

—A.D.



Editor: ELSIE SYDES.

### Explaining Nature.

I have been asked to tell Matilda:—

1. How to explain Nature to new Guiders.
2. How to explain Nature to new Guides.

And to be quite frank, my only answer is that I haven't the faintest idea!

How do you 'explain' Nature? Has anyone succeeded in doing such a thing ever? It seems to me that Nature is just one vast mystery, and I don't think that anyone ever will explain it—indeed, I should be rather sorry for the disillusioned person who did.

### The Caterpillar Mystery.

Just recently I caught a caterpillar on an orange tree—a green caterpillar, with yellow spots, whose colouring so mixed him up with the tree that, whenever I looked for his brother,

whom I left on the tree, I could never find him for quite five minutes. How can you 'explain' that? Well, I put that caterpillar in a box—presently he crawled up the side, and in a couple of days turned into something else—a grey, knobby thing. But why grey? I watched his brother in the tree, and when he turned into knobblies he was attached to a branch—and anything more like a stick of that orange tree you couldn't find. From green and yellow to grey. In a few months' time I know that my caterpillar will turn into a glorious black and white butterfly, elegant and fairylike. Presently it will lay an egg—oh dear, I forgot I'd made it a gentleman!—and the cycle will start again. Can anyone explain that? Isn't it enough to 'stand and stare'—and think with awe of the Creator of it all?

### Nature Explained!

That is the only way I know to 'explain' Nature to Guiders and Guides—get them looking at an 'orange tree,' open their eyes and ears—first by having as many Company meetings as possible in the open air, and stopping in the middle of anything to pursue a butterfly or listen to a bird—unfortunately 'Nature' won't wait till you've finished your session on Snakebite!

We who have grown up unseeing must make the deliberate effort to see and hear—but you've no idea how automatic it becomes, and bird songs will reach you through all sorts of surrounding noises and situations.

The children have the advantage in that their eyes and ears have not become dulled with time and it is our boon and privilege to prevent it happening.

### Nil Desperandum.

Don't despair, Guiders, at your total lack of knowledge—the whole book is open for you to read—and that perhaps is what is so daunting—it is so vast. But don't try to read it all at once—look in your own back yard—you must have a bit of grass or bush—how much do you know about them? Snapdragons are the hosts of many creatures. Have you ever really looked at the markings of a sparrow? You must have blackbirds about—is their song of the whole year? Do you ever take your knitting to the park—don't look for hosts of birds—can you see one, and listen how it sings, or doesn't it? Have you ever looked in the Astronomical Memoranda, under the little map in the Argus, to see what that magnificent star in the north-west is at the moment? The bark of trees—is it all the same? And have you ever explored the bark of the rough trunks?—they are perfect treasure houses. Don't be perturbed when you don't know what it is that you find. You and your Guides are looking—and that's what we want. Read the article on "The Out-of-Doors" in the April "Guider"—an excellent article.

### The Reward.

There is just one thing about this Nature—she doesn't give up her secrets all of a sudden. She is slow, like my caterpillar. You cannot hurry her—but her reward is rich and lasting—something that you will never lose—it 'sticketh closer than a brother.' Do not try to explain it all—just 'stand and stare.'

—M.H.

### Calendar Hints.

Last month I suggested keeping a Calendar, as a good way to interest your Guides. This month I am putting in a short list to give you a still better idea of it.

### The Calendar Comes Into Being.

- Jan. 2, 1925.—Found hawk-moth caterpillar in garden.  
 „ 6, 1925.—First miniature sunflowers out.  
 „ 17, 1925.—Scarlet flowering gum in bud.  
 „ 20, Scarlet flowering gum out.  
 „ 29, 1922.—Pink flowering gum a mass of bloom.  
 „ 10, 1920.—Magpies carolling in afternoon. (N.B.—Do they carol more at one time of year than at another—you listen and see). LOOK FOR CATERPILLARS, BUTTERFLIES, MOTHS, FROGS AND TOADS OUT AFTER RAIN.  
 Feb. —LOOK FOR CATERPILLARS, ETC., AGAIN, ALSO WASPS AND DRAGONFLIES.  
 Mar. 12, 1928.—First Easter daisies out. Moths and caterpillars plentiful.  
 Apr. 24, 1921.—Saw first robin. (Bendigo).  
 Aug. 9, 1919.—Heard cuckoo. 1930.—Ground-lark's nest—3 eggs.  
 Sept. 25, 1930.—Chats' nests empty. Yellow-tufted honeyeater's nest with 2 eggs in.  
 „ 13, 1930.—Yellow-tufted honeyeater's nest—2 eggs.  
 „ 7, 1930.—Hops on elms.  
 „ 3, 1922.—Elms in flower.  
 Oct. 5, 1930.—Nests of thrush, wee-bill, oriole, yellow-tufted honeyeater (2 young).  
 August.—Look out for Cuckoo.  
 October.—Nests, wild flowers, snakes, blackbirds singing.  
 Nov. 1.—Reed-warbler whistling in evening.  
 „ 7.—White cedar has just pushed off all its berries and now has new leaves and flowers out.  
 LOOK OUT FOR REED-WARB-  
 LERS SINGING, YOUNG MAN-  
 TIDS, BRONZE CUCKOOS,  
 WOODSWALLOWS.

### Magpies on Roads—A Theory.

I have a theory about mags. being on the side of the road so often! They pick up insects that fall stunned from hitting passing cars. This idea came to me on a recent trip, when a magpie walked across in front of oncoming cars, and with his back to a fast car, which missed him by inches, pecked away at something good on the edge of the bitumen. Food scraps from cars may be another attraction as I saw one having a go at a half-eaten apple lying beside the track.

### And Do Magpies Eat Worms?

A discussion in a newspaper seemed to suggest they do. Our pet magpie during his 12 years existence has shown a marked liking for cutworms, takealls and such destructive pests, and will not touch worms, except funny little red ones, and these only when the other insects fail. S.O.S. TO COUNTRY GUIDERS AGAIN!

### And What Do Quail Eat?

Some say wheat, some say insects. But what do they eat?



(Joint Editors: M. BUTT, M. HESPELTINE.)

"The wonders of Nature exist for everyone, and are found in all places. The men who have travelled most widely are those who have really seen what lies close about them at home."

DONALD CULCROSS PEATTIE.

:O:

### NATURE PROGRAMME FOR JULY.

There are flowers in July you know, so before coming to the meeting, hunt round and find them.

For the opening: each six has as many sheets of paper as Brownies and as many pencils. Each six is to become a row of houses with gardens—the sheets of paper in front, on the paper is printed or drawn all the flowers that the Brownie has seen that week. When the streets are complete Brown Owl tells Tawny that she has heard of some nice houses for sale and would Tawny come along to see over them? Brown Owl has recently become a House Agent and wants to buy quite a number of houses. They visit each street and inspect the houses, commenting on the appearance of the steps (shoes), verandah rails (belts), window boxes (hands), alas so frequently visited by snails, and brass doorknockers (badges). Then Brown Owl decides to buy the house and gives a cheque to the owner, it needs a penny change to make it right. The owners are invited to have a ride with Brown Owl in her car as far as the city (fairy ring) and so they form up behind her. After the fairy ring the pow wow circle is formed and the lists of flowers are read out and the Pack discusses winter, and plans a winter garden.

After this a warming game should be played. I might suggest this from "Foxlease." So many

as four Brownies are chosen and each are animals with distinctive noises as ducks, cows, etc. The others know which animals these four are. At a given signal the four chase the others, should an animal catch a Brownie she must make the noise of that animal before the animal can count ten, if not she too becomes that animal, joins hands and chases with it.

After a while the game is stopped and those not caught form the head of the procession proudly marching, then come the most of the animals, then the next number, etc., all imitating their animals.

Handwork.—Each six is to make a scene to represent "Winter." There is a supply store run by Tawny from which materials can be obtained. Each six should be given a box lid, and in the supply store should be dead twigs, green twigs, coloured paper, mirrors, small boxes, paper and coloured chalk. If the Pack are fairly bright they might be given a slip of paper to say where the scene should be 'Greenland,' 'Victoria,' 'Holland,' 'Queensland,' etc.

After this another warming game such as "Storm's Up" (also learnt at Foxlease).

Brown Owl is a shed, a Brownie is a storm, and behind her are scattered small pieces of wood. The story is that the Brownies go to the woods to collect wood for their good deed, but should the rain come they must rush for home, leave the wet wood in the shed and go and change. They are not wet unless the storm touches them, and if dry they bring the wood to their corners. The storm can not touch them till Brown Owl has said "Storm's Up." Wet Brownies have to change (in imagination) and miss a turn to do so.

Before the Brownies go home it would be as well to remind them of the numbers of children just like them, but who have not enough clothes to keep them warm, nor enough food when they are hungry. When they have a story, might I suggest one written by E. Thompson Seton, Cherry Kearton or some other true Nature story. Before leaving, ask what trees have kept their leaves and which ones have shed them, and suggest they should verify their statements by finding these trees for themselves and be sure next day to ask about the trees.

—L.T.

:O:

### STOP! LOOK AND LISTEN!

When you are driving a car, aren't pedestrians awful? and aren't the juvenile section far the worst offenders? I am sure all motorists must welcome the new section for Brownies. Any test for this should, I think, be thoroughly realistic. Make the Brownie pilot you across the road, and I think the best way of testing road sense is not to tell her she is being tested but to watch her when she is crossing streets ordinarily.

A good way to introduce Brownies to this part would be to take them to a busy road and let them watch the people crossing, then after a few minutes ask them what they think about it— which people are the best at crossing and which the worst and why? Get them to pretend they are motorists and then say which people make it harder for driving and which make it easier—and why? Then suggest to them that there are a number of children who are rather stupid about this sort of thing, and that you would like to have a number of posters to try and interest

them in crossing carefully, in avoiding playing games in different parts and suggest that you think the Brownies could draw them; they might even add warning rhymes.

A game you could play is this: Divide the hall by chalk lines into streets which cross, down the centre mark the half way line which may not be crossed by "cars" unless they are overtaking other cars and have signalled correctly (arm extended horizontally). Then divide the Brownies into "reckless drivers" and pedestrians. The pedestrians have to cross over without being hit, if they are hit they have to try and cross again. The drivers may travel at any speed they like, but must obey the policeman at point duty. Should a driver decide to turn, he must signal first. There should be more drivers than pedestrians so that there is every chance of the pedestrian being hit—and by the way it is better to have the "cars" tigt the pedestrians, a real collision might be more effective in driving the lesson home, but would scarcely be worth it. Tawny might be policeman more successfully than a Brownie, but whoever runs this job should not have very long at it. The whole idea of the game is simply a preliminary to a discussion on the subject.

—L.T.

:O:

### "BROWNIE HOWLERS."

"Brown Owl, when are we going to be unrolled as Brownies?"

"You should breathe in through your nose and out through your mouth, so that the fresh air doesn't bump into what's coming out."

"My father's domineering at the election."

:O:

### STREET SCENE.

A pile of match boxes, cotton reels, milk bottle tops, etc., was in the middle of the hall, an equal distance from each "Six Home." The Brownies ran a relay, each taking one object at a time to her "home." Then, after counting to see who won, these bits were made into vehicles and people, Pack Leader supplying scissors, glue, needles and cotton and drawing pins as required; and two large sheets of newspaper folded lengthways were crossed to form the intersection of two streets.

The Elves produced orderly double rows of cars with drawing-pin headlights to show which way they were going, a tram-car was in its proper place, and the pedestrians' behaviour must have gladdened the heart of the policeman on point duty. But down the road lay heaps of wheels and other parts, which might have indicated reckless driving when out of sight of the police.

The fairies' policeman was a mighty being with a gum-nut helmet, but he seemed likely to fall before a large bus which occupied the middle of the road. A cardboard shop stood on one corner and all pedestrians kept to the safety of the foot-path.

Traffic lights which showed all colours at once were a feature of the Pixies effort. "That's a motor-bike," they explained, "and a fat lady and a thin man." "But what's that?" asked the Elves, gazing at a rectangle of match-boxes piled high with most of their bits. "That is the dust-cart" cried the Pixies crushingly.

—H.G.

**A PACK GOOD TURN.**

4th Canterbury Pack held a very successful bazaar in aid of the Aftercare Fund. The Brownies themselves made the baskets for the sweets, covered shoe trees and coat-hangers, and made kettle holders. Parents and friends made sweets and guest towels. They took many weeks to make, but on the day everything was sold within 1½ hours. £6/1/- was sent in to the fund.

:O:

**IMPORTANT NOTICE.**

Brownie Page Committee will meet at 7.30 p.m. on Friday, 29th July. A combined meeting of committees for Matilda will meet at 8 p.m.

:O:

**BREVITIES.**

Are your Brownies with two years' service wearing one numbered star now? Are you?

Do you sometimes decide who is to be "out" in a game by asking a question such as "What flower is blue?" or "In what direction is that tree?" and seeing who answers correctly first.

Do your Brownies ever stand in a circle, and try to throw their pennies into a box?

How much have your Brownies seen or heard of the Guide Company since you resumed meetings?

:O:

Amendment to Stradbroke Cup programme:  
**BROWNIES.**

A.: Scrap-books. These are for Nature and are to be illustrated.

B.: Useful article to be made with decorative tacking.

C.: Modelling in relief some part of Pack life; or a model fairy ring to be made with any scrap material.

:O:

**BROWNIE GUIDES' COMMITTEE.  
FOR CAMP HOUSE FUND.**

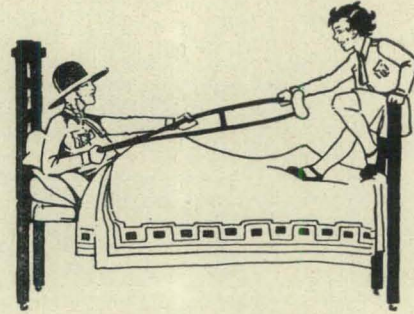
Brownie Guiders, have you raised your £1 for the Camp House? If not, why not? Do so as soon as possible.

The committee is having an evening at Headquarters on 18th August, so keep this date and watch Matilda and the daily press for further particulars, and we promise you the best evening you have ever spent. Do not forget the date. The fund is growing so help us.

Previously acknowledged . . . . .	£32	8	6
• Jumble Sale . . . . .	17	13	2
Mrs. Tate . . . . .	1	0	0
1st Brighton Pack . . . . .	2	0	0
1st Glen Iris Pack . . . . .	1	0	0
Mrs. Beaurepaire . . . . .	1	0	0
Cororooke Brownie Pack . . . . .	1	0	0
1st West Melbourne Pack . . . . .	1	0	0
Miss Wood and Tawney Owl . . . . .	1	0	0
Tatura Pack . . . . .	1	0	0
4th St. Kilda Pack . . . . .	1	0	0

The committee has endowed a week to be known as the Brownie Guiders' Week.

—B.C.



Editor: Joan Alston.

**GUIDERS! DO YOU KNOW—**

That the Extension Branch promised to endow a day for the Camp House? They chose June 20th and they are thrilled to think that it was the first day we really owned the property.

In order to finish paying for the day, the Extension Rangers, led by 2nd Prahran, are having a "Robbery Party." It will be towards the end of July.

We believe there will be a cabaret, competitions, side-shows, fun and food!

Entrance fees will range from 1d. to 3d.

Watch the Guide notes in the daily papers for the exact date, place and time.

:O:

**THE "AFTER-CARE" RULES.**

Post Guiders, here is a song for your Company letters. It was written by Shirley Hocking, aged 13, of the Kookaburra Patrol, 8th Post Guides.

(Tune: "Little Brown Jug.")

I must lie straight in my bed,  
I must never lift my head,  
I must keep my arms at rest.  
I must always do my best  
To help the nurses and doctor, too,  
To make me strong and walk once more.

Other things that I must do,  
Eat my fruit and "veggies" too.  
If I don't, Nurse will say,  
"Fruit aperient for you to-day."  
When rest hour comes around  
Books away and not a sound,  
And if I follow every rule,  
I will soon be back at school.

:O:

**RANGER PAGE.**

Editor: ELSIE ARMSTRONG.

Somebody did a golden deed  
Somebody proved a friend in need;  
Somebody sang a beautiful song,  
Somebody smiled the whole day long.  
Was that somebody—you?—

The Guide Law from the Ranger Point of View.

:O:

**"A Guide's Honour Is To Be Trusted."**

Because a Guide says "On my honour it is so," nothing within her power should prevent it from being so. And so we find our small Guides very often with the idea that the only time absolute truth matters is when they say "Guide's Honour."  
But what about all the little statements and ac-

tions that have not been qualified by that phrase?

Herein lies the basis of dependability. How often are we 'let down' by folk who say they will do a thing and then just don't? How often are we led astray by a statement (especially one read carelessly from a newspaper or book) passed carelessly on by somebody who is not quite certain whether what she is saying is absolutely correct or not? Is this being quite honourable? And is someone going to suffer as the result of our careless thinking and speaking? These are the questions we should ask ourselves before passing on second-hand or only half-gleaned information.

Truly, we learn by our mistakes, but frequently a little discipline of thought and word will save us from an error that may cause both ourselves and others misery and worry. We should be able to feel that because a girl is a Ranger she can be depended upon in every way—she has a standard to live up to, and she will not let that standard down by thinking or asking dishonourably at any time.

Most important of all is honesty with ourselves. We find that the people who influence us most in life are those who believe in us; and when folk believe in us, we find that we, too, have something to pass on to others. But nobody will believe in us if we cannot believe in ourselves.

"To thine own self be true—

And it must follow as the night the day,  
Thou canst not then be false to any man."

—E.A.

:O:

### How to Record and Keep A Household Budget.

In preparing budgets for household purposes, a knowledge of what constitutes balanced meals is necessary. For the home manager, a general knowledge of the nature of various foods should be enough for making the suitable adjustment in the distribution of proteins, carbohydrates, fats, etc. in each meal.

We know that certain foods supply the body with a definite amount of heat, and this heat is measured in Calories. It has been stated that, in Australia the average man needs about 4,600 Calories per day, and the average woman about 3,600 (1,000 for each meal and the 600 distributed between teas and supper).

Feeding a family on a small income is a difficult task. Knowledge of food values is essential—kinds of food and when in season, and which foods will give the greatest food value for the least money; what Calorie value is, what price should be paid for body-building material—that is, for protein, iron, calcium, etc., and for the other factors in diet. For example, sugar and oatmeal have the same fuel value per pound (1,800 Cals.) and their prices vary (oatmeal 3d., sugar 4d.). But, pound of sugar yields only fuel, while one pound of oatmeal gives 300 Cals. protein, and as well, nearly a whole day's requirement of carbohydrate for a man, as well as phosphorus and iron.

(To be Continued.)

—E.A.

If there are any Rangers living in the Brunswick or Royal Park districts who would like to take on, for service, the visiting of Extension Rangers, kindly send their names and addresses to Miss E. Armstrong, 221 Williams Road, South Yarra.

## CAMPING.

### Indoor Camp Test and Pack Holiday Permit.

Will Guiders who wish to attend lectures in connection with the above certificates please let the Camping Secretary know by the 12th July. If there are sufficient applications a course will be arranged to commence at Headquarters probably on 15th September and will consist of six weekly classes. The Guider in charge will be Miss Clare Broadhurst. Guiders taking the test must be warranted, have attended an approved camp or training week, and be nominated by their Commissioners. Nomination forms are obtainable at Headquarters.

### Campcraft Badge.

A course of training for this Badge will be arranged later in the year for Rangers and Guiders if sufficient people want it. In order that arrangements may be made, will you please let the Camping Secretary know before the end of July, if you would like to attend. Rangers' applications should be countersigned by their Captains. Remember that you should have had two weeks in camp before taking the tests for the Badge.

### Camping Secretary.

Miss V. Harrison, Captain of the East Malvern District Rangers, has generously consented to act as Hon. Secretary for the Camping Dept. In future correspondence in connection with general Camping matters should be addressed to Miss Harrison at Headquarters.

### Camping Week-ends For Guiders.

Are you one of those Guiders who has always wanted to camp and has never had the opportunity? Well, here is your chance! Week-end camps are being arranged at Gipton, Frankston, on 17th-18th September, 15th-16th October, and 19th-20th November. The fee will be approximately 6/., not including fare, which is 3/- second return. Please send your application to the Camping Secretary at Headquarters with 2/6 deposit, stating clearly which week-ends you are applying for. If you wish to apply for more than one week-end please enclose a deposit for each. Kit lists will be forwarded to applicants. The camps will not be held if there are insufficient applications. Please apply before 10th August.

ELAINE E. MORAN,  
Commissioner for Camping.

:O:

## TRAINING CLASSES.

### Woodcraft Week.

Are you coming to the Woodcraft Week for Guiders, which is going to be held under canvas at the Camp House? There will be training in all branches of Woodcraft from stalking and Nature Study to hiking and wide games. The dates, arranged tentatively, are from 27th August to 3rd September, to fit in with school holidays. It would be a great help if Guiders would write to the Training Secretary at Headquarters and say whether they would like the week at these dates or later in the year, say during October. Please send this information by 12th July. If more than twenty-five applications are received the fee will be 22/6, if less than twenty-five it will be 30/-.

Final applications should reach the Training Secretary not later than 1st August and should include 5/- deposit. Should the date of the week be altered to October because the majority wish it, the date of final applications will be extended. Watch the newspaper Guide columns in the third and fourth weeks of July for final information!

### First-Class Training.

In response to requests from Guiders, a series of classes in first-class work is being arranged. The first will be held on *Monday, 18th July*, and the subject will be judgment of heights, weights, etc. The second and third classes will take place on *Mondays, 1st and 8th August*; Mr. Fyffe, who is, the Commissioner for Ambulance of the Boy Scouts' Association, has generously consented to take two evenings on the first aid section of this test. It is hoped that there will be a big attendance as Mr. Fyffe is an expert in first aid training, and it is a great opportunity for Guiders to improve their practical knowledge of this subject. It would be helpful if those hoping to attend these classes wrote to the Training Secretary beforehand in order that we will know how many to expect.

A *Brownie Refresher Course* is being held in response to requests from Brownie Guiders. The Course will begin on *Wednesday, 6th July*, and will consist of four classes, the subsequent dates being *Wednesday, 13th, 20th, and Thursday, 28th July*. It is essential that all Guiders should bring sandshoes.

Miss E. L. Lardner will be in charge of the Course, and it would be helpful to her if the names of Guiders who intend coming to the classes were sent to the Training Secretary beforehand.

A *Course of General Guide Training* began on *Tuesday, 14th June*, in charge of Miss G. H. Swinburne.

The above classes will be held at the Guide office, 60 Market Street, Melbourne, at 8 p.m.

ELAINE E. MORAN,  
Commissioner for Training.

:O:

## AIR SAFETY COMMITTEE.

The Air Safety Committee of the National Safety Council of Australia, whilst realising that directional wireless and a guiding beam are the ideal aids for guidance of pilots, has, from time to time, sought the assistance of authorities concerned in the laying down of the name of any particular town in some way, say, for instance, painted on the roof of a building so that a pilot who had lost his bearings might, by means of this sign, which would be clearly visible from the air, safely continue his journey.

They asked several Councils to paint the name of their town on the roof of a prominent building. This was done in many instances. They then asked the Committees of various schools if they would lay down the names of their towns in white stones, or stones or kerosene tins painted white, in fact, any material at all could be used that would be reasonably lasting. The first town at which this request was put into operation with the assistance of the head teacher, Mr. A. B. Crosbie, and his scholars, was Strathbogie.

The name Strathbogie, which is shown in the accompanying illustration, is set down in stone block letters and raised above the ground level about four inches. The stones are squarely

shaped and embedded in the ground, all joints being set in concrete:

The lettering should be ten feet in length, by five feet in width, with seven feet between centres, the letter strokes being one foot wide. Letters should be large enough to be visible from the height of at least 3,000 feet.

The Air Safety Committee has now sought the aid of the Girl Guides' Association in this work of laying down the names of towns in white stones, etc. It is felt that in many country centres the National Safety Council might have the co-operation and help of local Guide Companies in doing this valuable work for safety in the air, and an appeal is made to you to assist.

Naturally, it is advisable, when selecting a site for the name of a town, to secure as flat a surface as possible. If in undulating country, the top of a hill is the most suitable position. If the name is placed on the side of a hill, it means definitely that the view of such a name is only visible from the air should a pilot be approaching towards that side of the hill on which the name appears. If he happens to be a little over the brow of the hill, the name would be hidden from him. Local conditions, of course, will govern the choosing of a site, but it must be taken into account that at all times the question of giving the greatest visibility from the air must be the major point to be considered.

One of the reasons for advocating the laying down of names is that pilots in the past have brought their planes down to low altitudes in the endeavour, for instance, to read the name on a railway station sign, and hit a tree, and fatalities have occurred, the reason being that the name of the railway station, placed on two standards, can only be read from the air at an angle not a very great height from the ground. Aviation as a means of transport must become more common, and, therefore, it is felt that added safeguards, should a pilot lose his bearings, become more essential.

A point to be considered is that sometimes the name of a town off a main air route or at a small centre may be more valuable than at a large provincial or country centre on a main air route. The reason is that well-known towns might be easily distinguishable from the air, whereas, if a pilot loses his bearings, he might get into rugged or bad flying country, where the name of a small, out-of-the-way town, picked up when flying, would be of great assistance to the pilot.

It is hoped that local Guiders will take up this matter, the idea promoting greater safety in the air and making the rising generation airminded.



A PICTURE NIGHT in aid of Girl Guide Funds will be held  
at Hoyt's Regent Theatre, South Yarra, on 29th July, 1938.

Come and see 'Stage Door'.

TICKETS: 7/6, 3/6, 2/2, 1/7½, available at the Girl Guide  
Office or from Miss Florence Mitchell, 418 Glenferrie Road,  
S.E.2.

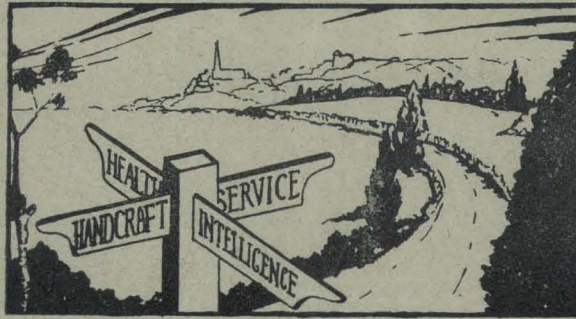
STOP PRESS.

GUIDE HOUSE.

A good name is wanted for our Guide House, and everyone is asked to send in their best suggestion. If you send Aboriginal names, please give their meaning.

All suggestions will be published in the next number of Matilda, and we intend asking you to vote. Please send all suggestions to me, care of the Girl Guide Office, before 18th July.

M. Littlejohn.  
Guide House Committee.



# THE SIGN POST

## RELAY RACES.

### Snake Bite.

Patrols are numbered and standing in files. Guider calls a number, that Guide runs round chair, and back to Patrol. The one back first is asked a question on the treatment of snakebite. If the answer is incorrect, the second Guide has an opportunity to answer. Points allotted for speed and correctness.

### Morse.

Prepare picture cards with morse symbols—e.g., Ship, S, having 2 or 3 of each letter. Place the cards around the room, and allow the Guides to look at them first. Then Patrols are numbered and stand in files or in patrol corners. Guider signals a letter and calls a number. That Guide must find a card with the symbol on it and bring it to the Guider, telling her what the letter is. (This game may be played by Guides who have never learnt morse, because if the symbol dash dash dot dot is signalled, they will look for a card with that symbol, and then find that it has a picture of a zebra on it, and will tell the Guider that the letter is "Z.").

:O:\_\_\_\_\_

## MORE THOUGHTS TO TAKE HOME.

"It will not matter in the years to come  
Whether I sucked the stone or had the plum,  
But it will make a difference to some  
If I am nice to-day."

"Doing nothing for others is the undoing of one-  
self,

We do ourselves the most good doing something  
for others."

"If this bit of England be  
Worthier because of me,  
Stronger for the strength I bring,  
Sweeter for the songs I sing,  
Purer for the path I tread,  
Lighter for the light I shed,  
Richer for the gifts I bring,  
Happier because I live,  
Nobler for the death I die  
Not in vain have I been I."

—F.D.

:O:\_\_\_\_\_

## EDITOR'S NOTE.

I feel sure something must have happened to Signpost copy this issue as these two articles and the play for St. George's Day were sent without any signature of notice. The printers did not return the play so the page is very small.

## GUIDERS' COMMITTEE.

### Guiders' Annual Conference.

The conference will be held in September and the Guiders' Committee will be glad to receive any suggestions.

Training classes will be arranged for those who wish to attend. Further details will be given in next issue of Matilda.

### New Committee.

As the new Guiders' Committee will take over in October, will Divisional Commissioners please appoint a representative for their Division for the coming year.

Next Guiders' Committee meeting will be held on 18th July.

BEATRICE CERUTTY,  
Sec. Guiders' Committee.



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## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

20th April, 1938—

*Present:* Lady Chauvel, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Littlejohn, Mrs. Tate, Misses Broadhurst, Bush, Purnell, Ritchie, Swinburne.

*Agreed:* That the system of registrations should be altered and made current throughout the year. That the list of names suggested for the Victorian Sub-Committee on Guiding be approved. That leave of absence be granted to Mrs. Belcher during her absence abroad.

5th May, 1938—

*Present:* Lady Chauvel, Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Ebeling, Mrs. Littlejohn, Mrs. Tate, Misses Black, Broadhurst, Moran, Purnell, Ritchie, Lascelles, Swinburne and the Secretary. Lady Chauvel welcomed Miss Black as Commissioners' representative in place of Mrs. Eadie, who is abroad.

*Agreed:* That a picture night be held for general funds. That the Guide House Committee be enlarged. That the Guiders' Committee be asked to decide on the order of preference for the designs submitted by the States for an Australian emblem for wear overseas. That the Association was in favour of Guides assisting in the laying down of names of towns for the guidance of airmen. That Mrs. R. T. Robinson be granted leave of absence during her absence abroad.

*Reported:* That Miss Moran had agreed to be Commissioner for Training. That Miss MacLeod had agreed to act as Commissioner for Tests and Badges during Miss Hayman's absence abroad. That as the N.S.W. Guides have been asked to run the hospital at the Scout Jamboree, the All-Australia Camp has been reluctantly cancelled. That the proceeds of the jam market were £46.

18th May, 1938—

*Present:* Lady Chauvel, Mrs. Faulkner, Misses Broadhurst, Cameron, Mrs. Ebeling, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Littlejohn, Mrs. Tate, Misses Lascelles, Moran, Purnell, Ritchie, Swinburne and the Secretary.

*Agreed:* That Miss Florence Mitchell be asked to convene a sub-committee to run a picture night. That the Guide House Committee include a definite representative of each branch of the Movement. That 10th and 11th August would be suitable dates for a meeting of the Federal Council in Brisbane.

*Reported:* That Miss D. Coles had agreed to represent the Association on the Playgrounds Association of Victoria. That the Guiders' Committee had drawn up the syllabus for the Stradbroke Cup Competition for 1938. That the delegates to the 10th World Conference would be Miss Elizabeth Pitt (N.S.W.), Mrs. Donald Eadie (Victoria), and the visitors, Mrs. T. O. Guthrie (Victoria) and Mrs. Yeates (W.A.).

2nd June, 1938—

*Present:* Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Ebeling, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Littlejohn, Mrs. Tate, Misses Black, Cameron, Broadhurst, Ritchie and the Secretary.

*Agreed:* That the Guiders' Committee be asked to do the final choosing for representatives of each branch on the Guide House Committee. That Miss Moran be a delegate to the meeting of the Federal Council. That 50 Rangers and

Guiders be asked to take charge of collection boxes at the band performance for the Red Cross Appeal on 26th June.

*Reported:* That the contract for the sale of Britannia was signed on 24th May. That a World Camp, to which 100 Australian Guides are invited, would be held by the Hungarian Girl Scouts at Godollo, Hungary, in the summer of 1939.

15th June, 1938—

*Present:* Lady Chauvel, Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Littlejohn, Mrs. Tate, Misses Black, Cameron, Moran and the Secretary.

*Reported:* That a meeting to interest people in the picture night would be held at Mrs. Eric Harrison's home on 30th June. That, as Miss Pitt is unable to attend the 10th World Conference, Mrs. Eadie will be leader of the party and Miss Moore the second delegate. That the voting for the Australian emblem had resulted in Queensland's design being chosen, a map of Australia on a green ground with the word Australia in white. That Mrs. Ebeling was in charge of arrangements for the Red Cross collection on 26th June. That a letter had been received from the Boy Scouts Association congratulating the Guide Association on acquiring a property. Routine and financial business was discussed at all meetings.

S. H. IRVING,  
State Secretary.

It is regretted that reports of meetings did not appear in the June issue of Matilda.—S.H.I.

## SCHOOL BLAZERS

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