

Merle Bush

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Matilda



JUNE, 1939.

"Matilda"

An Official Treasure Bag of Guiders' Information for Guiders of Victoria, Australia.

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VOL. XV.

JUNE, 1939.

No.12.

The Matilda Committee regrets that, in the May issue, they inadvertently infringed the policy of the Girl Guides Association by making the columns of Matilda available to the propaganda of another movement and the Executive Committee regrets that, in deleting the letter from copies still on hand, the cover of Matilda had to be cut.

--The Editor and the State Secretary.

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GUIDERS' COMMITTEE.

At the Guiders' Committee meeting on Friday, May 5th, the chief business discussed was the Reception to be held in the Union House, at the University, for Miss Martin, on Monday, June 19th, at 7.45 p.m. It is hoped that this evening will give as many Guiders as possible an opportunity of meeting Miss Martin.

A happy evening with competitions and entertainment will be spent.

The next meeting will be held on Friday, June 2nd, at 8 p.m.

—MARY NEWELL, Secretary.

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YES—THE CONFERENCE AGAIN!

We know you are all very "Conference-minded" this year, but just to remind you we are setting out the following facts:—

- (1) Conference will be held during September.
- (2) Plans must be made well in advance.
- (3) We are aiming to give details of the programme and the subjects for discussion, in the August "Matilda"—so, if you have any suggestions for the programme; suggestions for speakers; suggestions for subjects for discussion

SEND THEM IN NOW!

We are looking forward to a bulging mail-box.

Thank you,

—INA WATSON,

Chairman, Guiders' Committee.

P.S.—If you are sending a subject for discussion please write a short note giving a few of your ideas on the matter, and why you wish that particular subject discussed.

WALKABOUT! WALKABOUT!

More Plans For Walkabout.

For your interest we are printing below, a list of all the Divisions in Victoria and what they are doing for the Walkabout. As you will see, not all of them have answered, but the Committee has the feeling that they are planning something so exciting and interesting, requiring so much thought, that they couldn't possibly get their ideas thought out by the required date!! Here's to hoping.

You will find this list interesting, I think, and you will see that the displays will be very varied in their interests. There is some over-lapping in the goods for sale, but where that happens, it was thought that the demand for those articles would justify this. There is just one doubt that the Committee has on its mind—it is this—the goods offered for sale are not the kind to bring good prices; they are mostly small prices. This is not a complaint, as we realise that these goods are portraying the industries and products of your district. We may be quite wrong in our doubts, but, being a Committee, we must be prepared for this and take necessary precautions; and this is what we ask of you—that your display and the goods you offer for sale, should strike such an attractive note that people will buy, and then buy again. Let your display be so original, so interesting, so good in its quality that, having visited the Walkabout on the first day, one member of the public will say to her friends that night "My dears, do go to the Guide Walkabout at the Town Hall, it is just too interesting for words. There is the most intriguing model poultry farm from down Aspendale way and they sell anything from day old chicks to feather dusters. My dears you simply must go." And so they do; surely the best publicity we can have. Will you give your Guides the best training they

can possibly have, in insisting that their work should show good workmanship, good quality and good finish. If all these things are insisted on, then there will be such a demand that we will need the quantity as well! So quantity as well, if you please!

I am sorry we cannot give you a plan of the final lay-out of the stalls as we promised to do last month; but this is rather impossible until we receive all returns from the Divisions. But I can give you a scheme for the construction of the stalls. Here it is.

The Committee wants to do away with any rigid formality and wish the Divisions to work out their own scheme and arrangements as much as possible. We want to dispense with counters, and no provision is being made for them unless specially asked to do so. The idea being that the stall should be left open to the public gaze to give full view of your exhibit. A rope or wooden bar will be placed across the front to keep back any intrusion of the public.

Half the stalls will be arranged around the walls of the Town Hall, and the provision for these will be a back wall and two side partitions six feet high. It is thought that, in many cases, the back wall will be used as the background for your exhibit, this extending forward into the body of the stall as shown in drawing 2 in the slip enclosed with your Matilda. This will leave the side walls available for shelving to hold your saleable goods as shown in drawing 4. These shelves can be in the form of steps, the highest narrow in width, but becoming wider as they descend as shown in drawing 5. It is realised that some of you may require a higher back wall than the one we intend to provide, but we think that Divisions can do their own extending with the aid of cardboard or light wood placed on top of the existing wall. You will not be able to go too high as all stalls around the walls will be under the balcony.

As well as the rail or rope across the front to keep back intruders, another wooden rail will reach across the front of the stall from the top of the side partitions. This will form the base for the naming of your stall—see drawing 6—we hope that this naming of your stall will carry an original idea!

For those stalls contained in the body of the Town Hall, arrangements will be slightly different. The present idea is that these stalls will be in blocks of four as shown in drawing 7—with a big model of the Guide House in the very centre of all.

Holders of these stalls will have the use of two walls only, but will have the extra advantage of

having two sides roped off, and open to show their exhibit. Considerable ingenuity can be shown in the arrangement of these stalls; and shelves will be supplied if specifications are sent in early. A top rail will be supplied to hold the name of the stall as already mentioned for the wall stalls.

The Committee wish to impress on you that these arrangements are not binding in any way, and, if any Division wishes to carry out their own scheme they are at liberty to do so. However, we wish them to take full responsibility for that work, but will help them in any way possible. Any Division wishing to do this must let us know by July 1st, as it is necessary that costs and specifications must be obtained from a carpenter to do the scheme here submitted to you.

Quite a number of pageants, miming shows, physical culture displays are being arranged which will add to the general interest. A wish has been expressed from a friend outside the Movement that the stage should be transformed into a camp scene with a camp-fire and all; and that guides in the Hall should, when called, come up and make an impromptu camp-fire ceremony. This sounds a good scheme so we hope to carry this out. This will necessitate the learning of the same songs, but if we fall back on old favourites such as Fires Burning, Kookaburra, Three Pirates, Ole Clo, The Sun is sinking in the West, Three Wood Pigeons, Oh, How lovely is the Evening, Tinker Terry, each Campfire lights anew, There's a long long worm a-crawling, Crocodile, this should not need any great preparation. More suggestions will be given later about this when we have had time to work it out; but this is just to let you know.

Divisions And What They Intend To Do.

Croydon: No suggestion as yet.

Eastern Suburbs: Tuck Shop (this may be changed) selling jams, sweets, etc. Lucky Dip.

North-Eastern Suburbs: Leather, Seedlings, Sweets.

Outer Eastern Suburbs: White Horse Inn; selling fruit drinks, kitchen ware, and a market. They will do an historical pageant.

Southern Suburbs: A seaside scene; selling beach goods, sweets.

Outer Southern Suburbs: Poultry Farm; selling from day old chicks up to feather dusters. They will have a Lucky Dip.

South-Eastern Suburbs: Dandenong Market, seedling nursery, milk bar. Selling all sorts of things in the market.

South-Western Suburbs: Biscuit factory; sweet factory; selling home-made biscuits and sweets.

Western Suburbs: A model hospital; selling toy beds, dolls, etc.

Ararat and Stawell: We hope they will help the Wimmera.

Ballarat: No reply as yet.

Barwon: A scene showing Corio Bay and the You Yangs and the salt industry; selling salted nuts, etc.

Berwick: Rock Garden: selling rock plants, apples.

Camperdown: This and That Stall; selling just anything.

Clunes: Working in Districts, Clunes, Maryborough, Carisbrooke, Daylesford, and Smeaton are each demonstrating its products, industries, etc. They will have a stall whereupon articles produced will be sold.

Gippsland: No definite reply; but we think they are doing a dairy farm and the Yallourn scheme.

Hamilton and Coleraine: No reply as yet.

Mornington Peninsula: A Cottage Garden; selling seedlings.

Mortlake: No reply as yet.

Northern: Representing the Garden of the North and will try to represent the industries of the northern division. The scene will contain a large doll's house, nearby will be a tree representing the fruit industry. Sheep will be represented by Echuca, Deniliquin, Moulamein, Swan Hill and Ultima and Rochester, Colbinabbin, Kyneton, Tongala, Tatura and Kerang will concentrate on dairying products. Gold mining will be represented by Bendigo, Maldon and Korong Vale.

North-Eastern: Wool Industry; selling woolly goods.

Polwarth: No reply as yet.

Upper Goulburn: No definite scheme; but have it in mind.

Western: No definite scheme, but there is a talk of doing Henty Brothers at Portland.

Wimmera: Products of the Wimmera.

Lone Guides and Rangers: Map of Victoria marking all places where there are Lone Guides and Rangers. They will send what they can.

Poster Competition.

We wish to keep this before you so that we will have good results on 14th July. Will you please tell any of your friends who have artistic tendencies that here is a good chance of winning three guineas. We are hoping for very good results.

This is all for this month. Thank you for reading this long article!!!

—CLARA BROADHURST,
Walkabout Chief.

GUIDE WEEK

Guide Week is now over. It is not possible to give a full account of all the activities that took place, because the reports from the country centres have not all come in as yet. This is the first time for ten years that we have celebrated Guide Week in Victoria, and it is pleasant to know that in England thousands of Guides were also enjoying it at the same time.

We opened our Guide Week with Church parades in districts, when each Guide was urged to attend her own church in uniform. During every morning in Guide Week, through the courtesy of 3DB, Guiders broadcast during the women's session, on various subjects concerning Guides and Guiding. The first speaker was Miss Alfred, who spoke about Guide Week itself; Miss Harrison talked on Rangers, Miss Sutton on Guides, and Mrs. Frank Tate and Mrs. Guy Bakewell on Brownies and the International side of Guiding, respectively. These talks were extremely interesting, and already country people are writing in for details about Lones and Guiding generally.

Nothing definite was arranged for the Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights. Many companies had their own special activities, some holding parents' evenings and open nights, when friends were asked to come to the Company meetings. In some districts the Guides combined with the Scouts in socials and campfires.

Wednesday, the 10th, was the night of the Guiders' dinner. This was a very successful affair; over 130 Guiders were present, including Lady Chauvel, the State Commissioner, and overseas and country Guiders. The speaker for the evening was Mrs. J. D. G. Medley, who gave a most interesting talk on "Service."

Friday night was the Film Night, held at St. Peter's Church Hall, Eastern Hill. This was very well attended, over four hundred Guides and Brownies and their parents and friends being present; in fact, we began to wonder just where we would put everybody if any more arrived! The films shown were those of the Baltic Cruise, when we saw scenes taken in Poland, Norway, Holland, and other countries on the occasion of the visit of the Chiefs and six hundred Guiders and Scouters from Great Britain; also a film of their Royal Highnesses, Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaref, in Guide and Brownie uniform at Windsor Castle, and the film of the Sea Ranger training held on the old wooden battleship Implacable in Portsmouth Harbour.

Possibly the most exciting events of Guide Week were the Rings of Adventurers held in country and metropolitan centres on the Saturday

evening. This was an idea which has been carried out in England for several years, when the Editor of The Guide magazine went round the countryside holding huge campfires in different parts of England.

In addition to the twelve combined rings, small rings were held in some of the country districts, and we have had news of rings at Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, Warragul, Wangaratta, Frankston, Hamilton, Poowong and Minyip in the country, and Footscray Park, Fawkner Park, Canferbury Guide Hall, Oakleigh, and Heidelberg in the Metropolitan area. The numbers attending the rings varied, from sixty in some of the country ones to over six hundred at Fawkner Park. Pennies were saved during Guide Week in different ways; these were handed in at the Rings, and the methods by which the money had been saved were told to the Guider collecting them. We heard of Guides going without sweets, without comics, staying away from the films, and running errands and earning pennies by similar means. These pennies are being given to some cause chosen by the districts concerned; in most cases it is the local hospital. The total amount given in the metropolitan area amounts to approximately £10.

A fitting close to Guide Week were the Guides' Own services which were held in many districts on the Sunday afternoon, thus bringing to an end a very successful Guide Week.

We would like to thank all those who have helped to make the Week such a success; Messrs. Hicks, Atkinson & Co., who lent us a display window for the whole of the Week; Newspaper House, who lent us their window for the preceding week; the Mutual Store, for the loan of the two models for the window display; the management of 3DB for giving us the broadcast sessions, and to the Commissioners of the Districts where Rings of Adventurers were held.

Wangaratta District.

Guide Week, from May 7th to 14th inclusive, was begun in Wangaratta by a Church Parade on Sunday morning. Each Guide attended her own church in uniform, when special prayers were said, and as in the Church of England Cathedral, a special children's address was given to the Scouts and Guides.

On Wednesday representatives of the Girl Guides attended a social held by the Scouts Committee in their Log Cabin. No picture night nor dinner was held, but those who could listened in to the broadcasts.

During the afternoon of Friday, 12th, the Brownies held a special meeting, and in the evening the Wangaratta Guide Coy. had an open meeting, when parents and a few others at-

tended. It was a particularly good meeting and took the form of a ceremonial with a few vigorous games in between. Five Guides were enrolled—seven received second-class badges, and three 3-year service stars. A further ceremony was the Investiture of six Patrol Leaders and a 2nd, this was carried out beginning in the darkness with the large "Flame of Guiding" and showing it gradually increasing.

Misses Mary Lambe and Zoe Jermyn motored to Wangaratta for the Ring of Adventurers held at 6 p.m. in the Wilcox Hall, owing to the damp weather. It was attended by the Rutherglen Guide Company of 15 Guides and the Captain, Miss Iggsten, who brought a Post Guide. They were our only neighbours who braved the damp afternoon and foggy night, to come. The 2nd Wangaratta Coy. (which is quite full) a Post Guide from Hansonville, a Lone from Springhurst, the Wangaratta Brownie Pack, a Lone Ranger Captain, an English Guider, Miss Bickersteth, the Upper Goulburn Division Commissioner, and own own Division Commissioner were all there. Each placed a log of wood on the camp fire which was lighted with a piece brought from the Camp House. £1/3/11 was collected in pennies, saved during Guide Week, chiefly in self-denial—and given to the Wangaratta District Base Hospital, which includes Rutherglen. The Ring of Adventurers was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

On Sunday a "Guides' Own" service was held in the Scouts' Log Cabin, kindly lent by the County Commissioner for Cubs. It was conducted by Miss Lambe, who gave a splendid address on the Guides in Poland, the prayers and lessons were read by the P.L.'s and all joined in the hymns.

About 45 Guides, Guiders and Brownies and about 35 others were at the service. Miss Lambe and Miss Jermyn's hard work, help and encouragement were greatly appreciated.

—LORRAINE DOCKER,

Wangaratta District Commissioner.

The Ring of Adventurers at Hamilton.

We had a very happy Ring at Hamilton on Saturday evening. As the weather was so uncertain, we arranged to have it indoors. The State School authorities kindly allowed us the use of their Kindergarten, which is a very cheery room with a big open fire place—so we formed a huge double half circle facing the fire, which was lit by Miss Harlock with the piece of wood from the Guide House. For punk the Guides collected fallen oak leaves. We soon had a lovely fire, and each Company added their piece of wood.

We were very delighted to have Miss Black and Miss Harlock with us, also 58 Guides from

the Division, Monivae, Hamilton, Dunkeld and Coleraine—many of them travelling long distances from Coleraine and Monivae. We all thoroughly enjoyed the singing, and most of the songs were known to us. Everyone was very thrilled with a beautiful story Miss Harlock told. "Taps" was sung about 7.45 p.m. and then supper, and finally a Ranger enrolment.

The pennies which the Guides brought to the ceremony are being given to the Hamilton Community Hospital.

—ELSIE M. DAVIDSON,
Division Commissioner.

Kew District.

Guides' Own was held on Sunday, May 14th, in the "Ruyton" grounds through the courtesy of Miss Daniel. There was a good representation of Guides. Mrs. Eddy had kindly arranged the Order of Service and a copy of this was given to each member present. This enabled the Guides to follow with greater interest. Mrs. Eddy presided and the Readings and Prayers were taken by the Guiders, after which Miss Bunning gave a talk on "Service."

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District News

OAKLEIGH, MURRUMBEENA AND CARNEGIE GIRL GUIDES' LOCAL ASSOCIATION.

The monthly meeting of the Executive of the above Association was held at "Braemar," Murrumbena, on March 28th.

As it was the last occasion on which Mrs. J. W. Springthorpe, the District Commissioner, would preside in that capacity, there was a big muster of members. Miss Florence Piesse, the Commissioner-elect, was also present, as well as several old ex-members who attended later to do honor to Mrs. Springthorpe.

She stated that for health reasons she had regretfully been compelled to relinquish the District Commissionership which entailed a great deal of work; but her interest would still be in the districts as Divisional Commissioner.

She thanked the Executive for their loyalty and support. They had been a happy band of workers since the inception of the Guide

Movement in the three districts and she felt quite sure that that same loyalty and support would be extended to her successor.

Mrs. McSheedy on behalf of the Executive presented her with a very beautiful sheaf of flowers, at the same time expressing regret that she would no longer preside at the meetings. The members would loyally help Miss Piesse in every way.

Mrs. Springthorpe then handed Miss Piesse, on behalf of Lady Chauvel, her Commissioner's Warrant, and fastened her cords, etc., on her uniform.

At the close of the meeting, Mrs. J. Nicholl, a former secretary, handed in a cheque for £5, to go towards the Guide House funds; Mesdames Burton and Hunt, two more ex-members, each donated £1/1/- towards the same Fund.

A very enjoyable supper and chat followed the meeting.

M. INGRAM,
Hon. Secretary Local Association.

EUROA NEWS.

During March our Guiders attended a trainees week-end conducted by Miss Hoffmeyer, at Benalla. Guiders were present from Euroa, Benalla and Wangaratta.

The programme commenced on the Saturday with knotting and erecting a flag pole. Later in the day we had a "Company Meeting" of two patrols. Two Guiders were appointed patrol leaders.

On the Sunday we joined in with the Benalla Guiders and Brownies and we had a Guides Own Service. In the evening we went to church, after which Miss Hoffmeyer gave an address on company accounts.

Guide week, which is just over, was enjoyed by our company. Commencing on the 7th May, our Guides attended their own churches. Joining the Scouts on the Wednesday night, the Guides attended a social. Thursday night was parents' night at our company meeting. The week ended with Our Own service conducted with the Scouts.

Our Guides are busy preparing for the Walkabout; as wool is our display, the girls are working well ahead.

—VEENA HALSALL.

THE CHIEFS.

(By Heather Baden-Powell)

"We feel quite guilty," the Chief Scout writes from their new little home in Kenya, "sitting here in this sunny verandah morning after morning, when we think what ghastly weather you have been having this winter at home."

The Chiefs have temporarily deserted their Pax home in England in favour of Paxtu in Kenya, a little bungalow—consisting chiefly of verandah—facing out over a garden of gorgeous flowers across a green valley to snow-peaked Mount Kenya 40 miles away. How they love their new house! The Chief Guide addresses her letters from "Heaven," and there they are living in peace and sunshine in their African paradise with day after day of perfect summer blue skies, and at sundown when the air becomes cool they go indoors to a log fire and red curtains—all the joy of a winter evening, without the bitter cold.

The Chief Scout is fit and well and the doctors are quite surprised how wonderfully he has recuperated. He has been able to go fishing again, in a trout stream in the valley below the garden, and has a quiet Somali pony to ride up the steep path afterwards. The Chief Guide says he looks fitter than ever, but she sends him to bed when he looks tired. Although he is enjoying being lazy, he seems to be pretty busy too, for he is constantly writing and drawing for the Scout papers, painting and sketching their lovely garden and the native peoples, and at the moment he is painting a picture of their garden and Paxtu through the trees.

A little while ago they went and spent two nights at "Treetops," a little house built high in a huge wild fig-tree twelve miles out in the forest, looking out over a water-hole where as soon as darkness comes on the wild animals come out to drink. From their safe hiding place the Chiefs watched all night through the comings and goings of the wild game, and saw three elephants, 20 buck, 20 baboons, 13 forest hogs, and 19 rhinoceroses, as well as lots of other smaller animals like porcupines and monkeys.

So that she can understand and talk to the natives, the Chief Guide has set herself the task of learning Swahilli, the language which

is most used in East Africa, and she sends herself to school every week for her lessons, and does "home-work" every day. She has also been playing tennis and gardening, and she loves digging amongst the arum lilies, kannas, and other tropical flowers which grow in such profusion. But her chief distraction is her pet animal. It is a Hyrax*, which runs about after her wherever she goes, comes when she calls, sleeps on her pillow, sits on her lap when she is typing, and is quite devoted to her.

Thus it is that the Chiefs are living in Kenya, delighting in the perfect view, the climate, and their new home.

*Hyrax is a kind of rock rabbit—the "coney" of the Bible.

DID YOU KNOW

THAT A RIVER COULD GET RUSTY ?

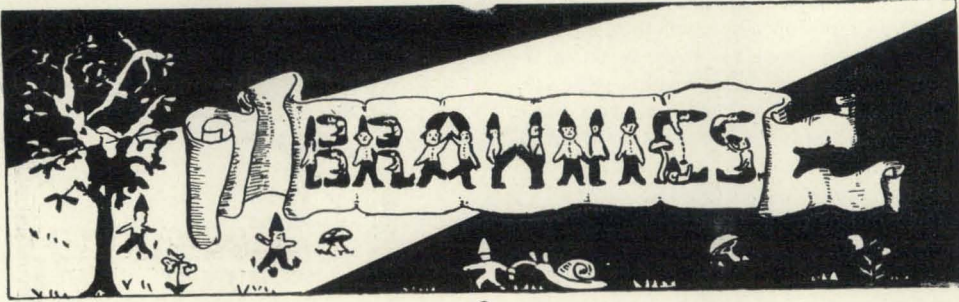
There is one which is subject to this phenomenon—the River Ob, which falls into the Arctic Ocean, and runs through the North of Siberia.

The Ob contains a great amount of iron. Every year when it freezes over the iron is cut off from the air. The result is that the metal precipitates.

The whole underside of the ice is covered thickly with rust, and even the fish and other creatures become rusty. In the lower reaches the water, ordinarily quite clear, becomes cloudy and discoloured. The whole river, 2300 miles long, becomes poisonous.

People living near it have to quench their thirst with melted snow, and most of the fish leave the river and seek safety in the sea. They are told by instinct when the time arrives for their annual exodus.

In the spring the ice thaws and the air renders the river free from poison. The fish immediately return. They swim up the stream in such vast numbers that they are packed tightly together. Any boat that tries to navigate the river at this time forces thousands of fish on to the flat banks, where the natives kill them with sticks.



A wise old owl lived in an oak;
The more he saw the less he spoke;
The less he spoke the more he heard,
Why can't we be like that wise old bird?

Brevities.

(1) Do you know that a Brownie should have a Transfer Form when transferring from one Pack to another?

(2) That there is a new P.O. & R. out and there is a slight alteration in Ball Throwing for Golden Bar?

(3) That there are now two Pack Badges which the whole Pack may work for and a Pack Certificate will be awarded?

(4) That there is a shortage of Brown Owls and can YOU do anything about it? (Mrs. Tate would be pleased to hear from you).

What Brownies Did in Guide Week.

I enjoyed Guide Week very much. On Thursday, the 11th, two Tweenies were enrolled. A little Brownie received her service star on the same day. On the Friday evening I went to see the moving pictures. I saw Brownies and Guides from all over the world. We saw Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret in their uniforms. On Sunday, 6th, a Boy Scout wore his uniform to Church and I wore mine, too. I am looking forward to another Guide Week next year when I will be older and understand more about Brownies and Guides.

June Rusden (aged 9.)

Some Golden Bar Games—The Winds.

Four Brownies, the winds are at their "homes" (trees, walls or chalked bases) one in each direction from the remainder of the Pack, who form a circle and dance round singing to the tune of "Girls and Boys come out to play."

North wind, South wind, east or west
Which one do you like the best?
Summer north wind's very hot.
South wind cools us down a lot
West wind brings the colds and rain
East wind blows them back again.
So north wind, south wind, east or west,
Which do Brownies like the best?

Brown Owl names a direction and the Brownies run to the home of that wind, chased by all the other winds. Those caught change places with the wind that caught them, and remain winds till they catch someone else.

Busy Crossing.

Draw on ground or floor an intersection, foot-paths, and wall, divide Pack as equally as possible into four, and send each group to the end of a street (at equal distances from the intersection) where about a dozen objects are placed on the ground. The Brownies become vehicles and pedestrians, two one behind the other make a car which can carry two objects at once, pedestrians and cyclists can carry only one. They all try to fetch articles as quickly as they can from the opposite group to their own, all can run at once, and no one must try to prevent the opposite group to their own, all can run at once, and no one must try to prevent the opposite group from taking their objects, but everyone must keep the rules of the road. Brown Owl and Tawny are policemen, one on point duty and they stop any "lawbreakers" who must forfeit two or three of their groups articles. The group with most articles at the end wins.

If the Pack is very new to traffic rules, have only two groups, opposite each other, and for a very advanced Pack let them go straight across, and make left, and right turns in rotation.—H.G.

Brownie Cottage.

As we turned in at the back gate at Britannia Creek, we drew a big breath of delight. We were on OUR Property. The house looked homely, standing among tall trees and shrubs, with one tall, slender liquid amber, its leaves turning to russet and gold at the far side—but this time we were not visiting the house. Over the little bridge we went, and up the hill to the cottage nestling among is creepers. Here lots of paint is required to brighten up its drab walls, and many repairs are needed before the first Pack holiday. It would love a present of a bath heater besides a hundred and one other things, but somehow to-day one's mind pictures it as a place with cream walls and bright ceilings ringing with the laughter of happy

Brownies—or perhaps the Extensions will be pushing their prams up and down the long sloping ramps specially made for them to reach the high verandahs. Brown Owls imagine your very own Pack having a holiday in this lovely place. Waking up in the morning to the sound of carolling magpies, looking out over the shining tree-tops playing games and exploring among the trees and to bed at night with the song of birds and Brownie Taps.

Have you your Pack Holiday Permit? —M.B.

Brownie Guiders Library.

Brownie Guiders! do you know that there is a Brownie Library at Headquarters for your use. It is situated in a cupboard in the Meeting Pool.

Have you run out of stories? There are a large collection of books of stories to choose from. Are you thinking of a concert? There are songs, plays, poems and all sorts of suggestions to help you. Handicraft books, Nature Lore, Reference Books all there. All we ask you to do is to enter your name, date and number of book in the book provided, not to keep the book longer than a month as others need it and please put 1d. in the little Brownie Money Box to help buy new books.

Next time you visit Headquarters, just have a look at the Library and we can assure you, you will be agreeably surprised.

—:O:—

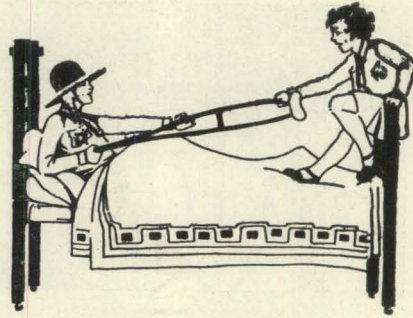
OUR ARK.

(From the Council Fire)

Our Ark, the World Hostel for Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in London, has really opened its doors, and its first guest has set us well on our way as an International Hostel. Swiss by birth, she is married to an Englishman, and is Captain of a troop of American Girl Scouts in China. On the same day came a Scottish Ranger, and very soon the Netherlands, the United States of America, Australia, and England, sent their first representatives.

These Guides proved themselves real pioneers, accepting all vicissitudes with cheerfulness: bare boards, incessant hammering, and even a breakdown in the hot-water supply. Now the workmen have left and the house is rapidly becoming more orderly.

Every day Guides or Brownies from some corner of the earth send us gifts towards the equipping of Our Ark—lovely presents on which they have spent a lot of time and thought. Many things are still needed, but we look forward to the day when we can proudly say: "This house was furnished by the Girl Guides and Girl Scouts of the world." "Pen" (Warden of "Our Ark")



Editor: Joan Alston.

A New Post Guide Company.

Guiders, a new Post Guide Company has been formed. For a long time it has been felt that there was need for a special company for Extensions who were too ill, mentally incapable, or too busy with school or craft work to be able to join in the work and correspondence needed in an ordinary Post Company.

The new Company will have a budget once a month, like other Post Companies, but it will have articles and work that do not need answering, news of general Guide interest, and notices of all Guide activities in which Extensions could join—rallies, camp-fires, Extensions camps, etc.

In this way the children will be kept in touch with Guiding, even though they are not able to answer competitions, etc., and do badge work regularly.

If you have any Guides who you think are eligible for this Company, please get in touch with Miss S. Foott, 24 Murphy Street, South Yarra, S.E.1. —J.A.

The Rings of Adventurers.

It was very thrilling that so many Extensions were able to be present at the various Rings of Adventurers on the Saturday of Guide Week.

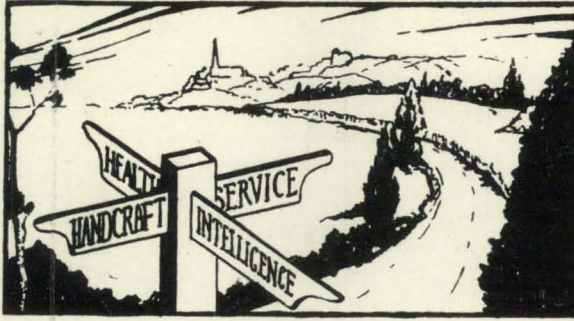
The Deaf and Dumb Company was at the Fawkner Park Ring and so were a couple of Post Guides.

At the Wangaratta Ring, one of the three Extensions present put a log on the fire for the Extension Branch.

There were Extensions at other Rings too, but I do not know any details.

It was grand for these children to be able to join in these combined Guide activities, and in future would it be possible for Districts and Divisions who are arranging such things, to

(Continued on Page 17)



THE SIGN POST

Editor: Elizabeth Alfred.

PATROL CORNERS.

Just what do Patrol Corners mean to the average Guide? I am sorry to say that I am afraid some of them might reply "Oh, some part of the hall where we sit for Patrol Time." Yes, and what is that part of the hall like—just bare walls, with a semi-circle of hard shiny chairs to sit on. How uninspiring!

The chief idea of a Patrol Corner is, in my opinion, that it should really be cosy and secluded, and that it should show at a glance to what patrol it belongs.

Imagine the impression on a recruit when she enters a Guide Hall for the first time and sees many little people laughing and chatting as they decorated their corners. She is immediately curious and then thrilled when she finds what they are doing.

When I first joined a Guide Company, competition corners were done between each patrol every week, but these later became a bore because the children ran out of ideas and only one or two did the work. After this, competition corners were only done once a month on some special subject, and the other nights the Patrol Corners were just made a Patrol "home" at the Company meeting. The emblem was put in a prominent position, with the patrol motto and call on either side, and, of course, the patrol notice board showing all items of interest in the Guide world and a chart of the tests passed was not forgotten. Next, charts on knots, morse, tracking signs, guide laws, etc., were placed around for reference during Patrol Time, and the corner was finished with the Guides' cushions placed in a semi-circle around their possessions. These little "homes" were no trouble to arrange, especially as two orderly Guides were on duty each week, and they helped to give the hall a Guidey atmosphere for the meeting.

For those Companies who have never tried the idea of decorating corners, the first essential thing to obtain is a Patrol box—of course, in-

scribed in some way with the name of the patrol—where permanent articles, such as a photo of the Chiefs, flags, bandages, notice board, knotting rope and charts for reference are kept. The next important thing is the Patrol Notice Board, without which no patrol should be; this can be made of just ordinary three-ply painted with the Patrol colours, but one I saw was made of wood gathered on a hike or in camp and lashed together. All notices of interest to the Patrol, such as hikes, church parades, competition points and tests passed, should be displayed here each week.

Now what about something to sit on?—a most necessary thought! Shall hessian cushions or mats about 18 inches to 24 inches square are quite easy to make and not too bulky to store; these can be dyed in Patrol colours, or kept a natural colour with the Patrol emblem worked in the centre.

One of the Guides might like to make a Patrol tablecloth for her Second Class, and this helps to add to the attractiveness of the corner.

Having made these few things, the Patrols can now think about ideas for charts on the various tests. To collect charts on Tenderfoot work, arrange a competition one night and see what this brings forth—it may mean heaps of interesting things if the Patrol Leader leads her patrol properly and sees that everyone brings her contribution, even a new recruit. You will have to be most definite about the charts being on cardboard as otherwise they will be produced on paper and will soon be in four pieces.

After a Tenderfoot chart competition, comes one on Second Class, and why not First Class, too. Besides the fun of doing these charts, it helps the children with learning their test work, and it is marvellous what original ideas they have for making them look attractive.

To give the children an idea of what you mean by a chart you may have to show them a sample and, for this purpose, a book at Headquarters entitled "Patrol Charts" might be of great assistance.

There is one hint I would like to give readers before passing on to competition corners, and that is "DO NOT HOARD OLD CHARTS." At the beginning of each year, I think it is a good idea to have a complete clean out, and have a competition for fresh charts.

Now that you have obtained all your permanent patrol possessions, why not have a competition corner once a month, sometimes giving the Guides a special subject, and then again letting them choose their own. Here are a few suggestions:—

Ambulance work, nature or an out-of-doors corner, bringing in tracking, stalking and fire-lighting, knots (definitely not charts, but the corner arranged to show practical uses of knots), the legends, a camp corner with a miniature camp with the tents made of paper, or choose certain badges they might be working for.

You will no doubt be able to think of hosts of others.

The above is just one Guider's ideas on Patrol Corners, and probably there will be many of you who will not agree. If so, I would be most interested to receive criticisms if you would address them to the Editor of the Signpost Page.

—B.M.M.

—:O:—

UNIFORM AND HOW IT SHOULD BE WORN.

On looking around at a gathering of Guides, one finds that, instead of there being only one way of wearing the uniform, there are apparently many. This, I feel, is due to lack of supervision on the part of the Guider, and in some cases, lack of knowledge.

The correct manner for the wearing of the Guide uniform is carefully laid down in P.O. & R., Rule 33, Page 41, and it seems that, having read this, no Guider should have any doubt as to the desired appearance of her company. However, perhaps some of us haven't read it recently.

Let us first consider the various badges, emblems and tapes which the Guide wears. The State badge is worn on the left shoulder, just above the name tape; the name tape is sewn over the shoulder knot where this is sewn on to the sleeve seam. The appearance of these badges and tapes is improved if they are sewn on all round, instead of just at each end. The ends of the shoulder knot should be even, and not of varying lengths. The Patrol emblem is worn above the top left pocket, and service stars are worn on the flap of the pocket. In the case of a

Guide who has Brownie Wings, these are worn between the pocket and the patrol emblem. A Guide does not wear the Brownie Golden Bar—the only signs of Brownie service are her stars and her Wings.

Guiders should aim at a standard length of ties in the Company. There should be a space of about two inches between the tie and the belt buckle, and the tie should be about 3in. wide. (If it is more than 3in. it hasn't been folded correctly!) The Tenderfoot badge is worn in the centre of the tie, not just below the knot or an inch from the bottom.

The 2nd Class badge is worn below the shoulder knot on the left arm (about half-way between elbow and shoulder). Child Nurse, Ambulance and Sick Nurse badges are worn under the 2nd Class badge. When a Guide is awarded the 1st Class badge, the 2nd Class badge is sewn in the centre of the 1st Class, and the latter is then sewn in the place where the 2nd Class was. All other proficiency badges are worn on the right arm, beginning either at the shoulder or the cuff, not the elbow.

In the case of Patrol Leaders, the stripes should be worn on the top left pocket, half an inch wide and one inch apart. (I have seen Leaders wearing stripes $\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide, and sewn only at top and bottom; it looks mean and untidy, don't you think?) The hat badge is worn pinned into the hat, above, and not on, the band. The whistle is worn on a white lanyard, attached to the belt on the right hand swivel. The Patrol Second's stripe should be $\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide and worn in the centre of the top left pocket.

Guiders, would you insist on navy or black bloomers, and no petticoats? (If the parent insists on it being worn, then the petticoat must be tucked into the bloomers).

This brings us to the overall itself, and the hat. These should be kept well brushed, and the overall ironed regularly. Nothing looks worse than an overall which hasn't been ironed for three or four months! (They could be washed occasionally, too!!)

I imagine you Captains are going to have a busy time at inspection next week!

Before we leave this entrancing subject, I would just like to speak about Guiders' uniforms. Why is it that Guiders wear the skirts of their uniforms about six inches longer than any other skirt they possess? And why do they wear their hats for such a length of time that they wouldn't be seen dead in them under any other circumstances? Isn't it worth while trying to look attractive in our Guide uniform? We go to enough pains over our appearance in mufti, yet appar-

ently some of us fling on our uniforms in about five minutes, cram our hats on our heads any old way, and tear out of the room, without so much as a glance at the mirror. Apparently, I said.

Let's do something about it, shall we? What about inspection at the Guiders' Conference—wouldn't we be able to hear it?

—M.E.A.

—————:O:—————

SCOUTING GAMES.

The following games have been played successfully by our company and are most popular with the children. We have played them in country with much cover, low lying scrub, and ti-tree, and also in woods with less cover. The night game was played on a very dark night, in more or less open country, with a few bushes and trees.

Before playing the Guides were told this story, which can be elaborated by the Guider:

"Mary Smith, the only daughter of a multi-millionaire, has been kidnapped. The gangsters, fearing capture, have abandoned her in a hiding place, intending to return later in the night, but are captured and shot before they can do so. In the meantime, several other gangs have heard of this, and set out to try and discover the whereabouts of the child."

Any number of Guides could play this game; we had ten, and found it a good number. The kidnapped child is left somewhere within given boundaries; these should not be too great, a radius of thirty yards is sufficient. The searching gangsters are all armed with electric torches, and at a given signal go forth to look. It is best to give each Guide an approximate spot from which she is to start. The Guides work individually, not in sides, and try to kill off anyone they see moving about. In order to "kill," the torch must be shone on their feet. We found it necessary to make a rule that the killer must be within ten yards of her prey, and as this distance is difficult to judge at night by excited Guides, we also made a rule that the torch could not be raised above the level of the elbow; a rule which must be adhered to strictly. When a Guide is "killed" she must stop playing and return at once to a neutral home, and the game is over when the kidnapped child is found and returns to the Home with her captor, or when all the gangsters are killed off.

Another game was played in daylight; any number can take part, from four on a

side to eight or ten. The Guides are divided into two tribes, Mohawks and Indians. A Prisoner is selected from one, and handed over to the other tribe, who proceed to tie her up in their camp, while her own tribe disappears into the bush. They have to try to rescue her, and creep past the guarding Indians. The defenders must leave the prisoner and go at least fifteen yards from her, so that she is not visible to them. They take up positions, from which they should not move, and wait for the attackers to advance, which they do on a given signal. The attacking Guides, if seen by a defender and recognised, can be killed by their name being called out, when they must return to a neutral camp and cease playing. If the attackers can call out the name of a defender before being seen themselves, the defender is dead and must stop playing. The prisoner is allowed to try to free herself (this will encourage accurate knot tying) to prevent the prisoner from getting away by herself). If she is successful with or without aid from her own tribe, she crawls away outside the enemy camp.

—M.A.L.

—————:O:—————

ENQUIRE WITHIN.

Q.: Does a Guider wear the Brownie, Guide and Ranger service stars, separately, or does she wear one star for the whole period of her service in the Movement?

A.: A Guider wears just the one star showing the whole length of service. (A Ranger wears a star for each Branch of Service, i.e., a 3-year Brownie star, a 5-year Guide star, and a star showing length of service as a Ranger).

Q.: Can Captain and Lieutenant wear brown shoes and stockings when the Company wears black?

A.: P.O. & R., Rule 24, Page 21, says:—"Shoes and stockings—black or brown (as worn by the Company.)"

Q.: "I have noticed some Guiders wearing the hat brim turned down all round, with the cockade attached to the crown of the hat. Is this correct, please?"

A.: In Victoria, it is optional to wear the brim up or down.

(N.B.—Guiders who may have any queries may forward them to the Editor of the Sign Post Page, when the answers will be published in this column).

THE RANGERS' PAGE

Acting Editor—F. E. BATTEN.

To watch plants grow and blossom; to put all our energy and strength into our work; to read; to think; to love; to hope; to pray; these are the things that make us happy.

—————:O:—————

KNOW THE TRAFFIC CODE.

From the National Safety Council of
Australia.

CODES FOR PEDESTRIANS.

- 1.—Always look both ways before attempting to cross the street.
- 2.—Always conform to Police and Traffic signals, danger signs and to the signals of other road users.
- 3.—Proceed from one footpath to another by the shortest and most direct route. **Don't Jay Walk.**
- 4.—Always remember that the SAFETY of the Public comes FIRST.
- 5.—Always walk on the left-hand side of a footpath where a footpath is provided, but if no footpath, and you are compelled to use the road, walk **against** the oncoming traffic.
- 6.—Always see the way is clear before stepping from behind or alighting from any vehicle, and take the shortest and most direct route to the nearest footpath.
- 7.—Always cross at intersections or cross-overs. Wait for the green light before crossing intersections controlled by traffic signals.
- 8.—Always watch for traffic turning left at intersections.
- 9.—Always remember that moving vehicles require time to slow down or stop, particularly when the road is wet or slippery.
- 10.—Always refrain from alighting from or joining a vehicle in motion.
- 11.—Always pay attention to the movement of traffic. Don't rely entirely on signals when you are crossing a road.
- 12.—Always wait on and hail tramcars from the **footpath** except where a safety-zone is provided.

CODES FOR CYCLISTS.

- 1.—Always keep as near to the left as practicable unless overtaking other traffic.
- 2.—Always keep a good lookout, especially when riding with dropped handle-bars. Always remember that the faster you are travelling, the smaller is the margin of safety should an emergency arise, and the more serious then must be the result of any accident.
- 3.—Always remember that special care is necessary when light is bad or when roads are wet, slippery or otherwise dangerous.
- 4.—Always remember that you cannot be certain of the movements of pedestrians. Be ready for children who may suddenly run on to the road and for people who may step from a refuge or footpath. Make allowances for the hesitation of the aged and infirm and for the blind.
- 5.—Always be prepared to meet pedestrians and led animals coming towards you on your own side of the road.
- 6.—Always keep a straight course and always ride in single file whenever road or traffic conditions require it and never more than two abreast. Avoid riding between tram-lines whenever possible. Don't attempt to gain a forward position in a traffic block by riding along the narrow spaces between stationary vehicles.
- 7.—Always avoid riding close behind fast moving vehicles. Always leave enough space to allow for their slowing down or stopping suddenly. Never hold on to another vehicle.
- 8.—Always take special care of crossroads, corners and bends. Never cut corners when turning to the right. When turning from one road into another, go slow and give way to any pedestrian crossing the roads out of which or into which you are turning.
- 9.—Always avoid overtaking if by so doing you are likely to inconvenience or endanger any other road user.
- 10.—Never overtake at crossroads or at a blind corner or bend or at or when approaching the brow of a hill. Before you

stop, slow down or change direction, give the appropriate signal clearly and in good time.

11.—Always be assured that your bicycle is equipped with efficient front and rear lamps.

12.—Always remember that the SAFETY of the Public comes FIRST.

RANGER TOUR OF NEW ZEALAND.

We now have more definite information about the proposed Ranger Tour of New Zealand, in which Victorian Rangers have been invited to join a group of N.S.W. Rangers.

The party will sail on the "Awatea" on 12th January, returning to Sydney on 2nd February. The tour, which comprises both North and South Islands, will cost £39/10/-, plus personal pocket-money.

Applications, on special forms obtainable at the Guide Office, and accompanied by a deposit of £10, should reach the Commissioner for Rangers, c/o Headquarters, 60 Market Street, Melbourne, C.1, not later than 1st August.

Applicants should be active Rangers or active Ranger Guiders; other members of the Movement over sixteen years of age may apply, however, and if there are any vacancies their applications will be considered.

—:O:—

ROMANTIC ADVENTURE.

(From the Girl Scout Leader.)

It is dusk, and the strident noises of the city street are hushed for a moment by the ever-recurring but nevertheless still miraculous soft loveliness of twilight. Harsh gray buildings assume a gentle aspect. A stray dog pads noiselessly down the cool pavement and stops to sniff at the warm moist earth of the only lawn in the block. Over head the blazing colours of sunset have dimmed to a gentler radiance, and silhouetted against the rose and purple of the evening sky are the imposing branches of an oak tree. Stop for a moment and you will discover the miracle of baby leaves unfolding.

Even in a large and very businesslike city there are opportunities for adventure in the Nature field. It is a challenge and a joy to the leader of a city troop to give her girls an awareness of the beauties of nature, though there may be only one tree in the block. To the stress of modern city life, an enjoyment of nature offers a peaceful and a happy contrast.

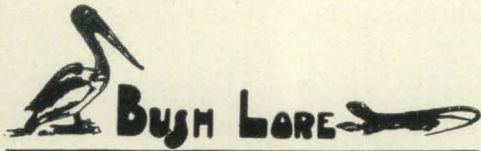
A girl who has developed an interest in nature and the out-of-doors has a hobby that doesn't cost much and pays never-failing dividends. Adventure lurks in every stump or blade of grass.

"How can we stimulate an interest in nature?" many leaders ask. The Nature field of the girl Scout program, with its many suggestions of activities, offers a clue to the solution of that problem. Giving girls one interesting and worth-while nature experience is much more valuable than sitting in a troop meeting room for six weeks and talking about nature. Exploring a stream bed to see what can be found in it is an experience any girl will enjoy—and if nature work is to be effective it is important that the girls do enjoy it! A game we think fun is based on what is found in the stream bed. Divide the group into smaller units and let each select one part of the stream to explore. Allow about ten minutes to see which group can discover the largest number of plants, animals, insects, and so on, in the "staked area" in that time. In playing games be sure to have an exciting title; this one is sometimes called "Go Fish."

With city troops, to be sure, stream beds are practically impossible except on hikes. Well, then, take your girls on hikes; and if you want to do some worth-while nature work, don't spend all your time cooking. Make a list of the possible places to which you can take your troop, and find out what the nature possibilities are for each spot. The badge activities give some good suggestions. Is there a state park near you? Or a reforestation project? There may even be a quarry in the middle of the city. It might be fun to find a clay bank and dig out some clay to be used at the next troop meeting for modeling.

A city hike may lead to interesting nature discoveries. A troop in Baltimore, working on Second Class in the Literature field, walked down town to the library to save car-fare. On the way the girls discovered that a stream they had never known about runs right past the chief railroad station in town; they observed about ten different kinds of building stones, and enjoyed about eight florist shop windows. When they reached the library, one group found the science room and learned where some good nature books could be found. On the desks in the various rooms in the library there were attractive arrangements of flowers, which several girls commented on.

(To be Continued.)



Editor: ELSIE SYDES.

The Vault of Heaven.

We inhabitants of the earth enjoy a piece of good fortune to which we give very little thought, which, indeed, we take almost for granted as the air we breathe—I mean the fact that we have a transparent atmosphere. Some of the other planets, for instance Venus and Jupiter, have atmospheres which are so thick with clouds as to be totally opaque. If we had been born on Venus or Jupiter, we should have lived our lives without ever seeing through the clouds, and so should have known nothing of the beauty and poetry of the night sky, and nothing of the intellectual excitement and joy of trying to decipher the meaning of the vast panorama of lights which are scattered round us in all directions in space.—From "The Stars in Their Courses," by Sir James Jeans.

Honey Eaters—A Big Australian Family.

In May, 1936, the first notes on honeyeaters appeared, and dealt with the white plumed and fuscous, and how to distinguish one from the other. June, 1936, came the white-eared, New Holland and crescent, in August the spinebill; 1937 was a blank, but in 1938 we had interesting notes on the crescent, seen at the Guide House and in the hills, the spinebill seen at Cockatoo, and helmeted honeyeaters at Woori Yallock.

Localities: Leach says, "The most characteristic family of birds of the Australian region. They are provided with a brush tongue, which is used in brushing up honey from the flowers. They have usually a long, slender, curved bill, suitable for exploring flowers. Their feet are well developed and strong, for they are used while hanging in all sorts of positions as the flowers are explored. No less than 88 honeyeaters are found in Australia, but they are often restricted to very limited areas, so that no district would contain many kinds."

Localities—Something Definite To Go On

The following honeyeaters have been seen firsthand by Matilda readers, in the localities given. The list is very incomplete, so could we have the honeyeaters that live, visit or frequent your district, or that you have seen in other districts? This will help others to keep an eye out for them, and also give us an idea of how common or how rare (numbers of the bird seen help here too—

whether you saw two or twenty) different species are and how widely distributed. Get your Guides to help!

Black-chinned, Bendigo; brown-headed, Bendigo, Ballarat, Castlemaine, Daylesford, Guide House; spiny-cheeked, north of Swan Hill; white-naped, Daylesford, Bendigo, Dandenongs; singing, Portland, Sorrento; regent, Bendigo; tawny-crowned, Whipstick area, near Bendigo; blue-faced, Golf Links, Bendigo; black, North Bendigo; painted, Bendigo; eastern spinebill, Ballarat, Bendigo, Daylesford, Cockatoo, Macedon; fuscous, Bendigo; white-eared, Mornington Peninsula (Gipton), Macedon, Ballarat, Warburton (Guide House), Castlemaine, Daylesford; yellow-winged (used to be called New Holland), Macedon, Castlemaine, Bendigo (rare), Ferntree Gully or Dandenongs; crescent, Macedon, Omeo Valey, Belgrave, Ballarat, Guide House, Ferny Creek, Daylesford, Helmeted Wooriyallock, yellowfaced, Ballarat, Daylesford, Castlemaine, Bendigo; noisy friar-bird, Bendigo; little wattle-bird, Bendigo; red wattle-bird, Bendigo, Ballarat, Daylesford; yellow-tufted, Bendigo, Castlemaine; white-plumed or greenie, Bendigo, Daylesford, Lubeck, Melbourne; noisy miner, Harcourt, Ravenswood, Bendigo, Newstead, Swan Hill, Castlemaine.

Helpful Hints For Honeyeater Hunters.

Small flocks: Brown-headed and white-naped move about in small flocks. Songs and calls: Get to know these, as they are a tremendous help in identifying, especially similar kinds.

Habitat: Honeyeaters like timber and scrub, where they can get food, honey and insects and also plenty of cover. A great many of them are stationary in habit, but some are nomadic. Like most birds good and bad seasons affect these, especially as regards blossoming of trees.

Open Forest: Spiny-cheeked, blue-faced, red wattle-bird, and noisy miner are frequenters of bigger more open-timbered country, with cleared lands adjacent.

Bendigo is very rich in honeyeaters.

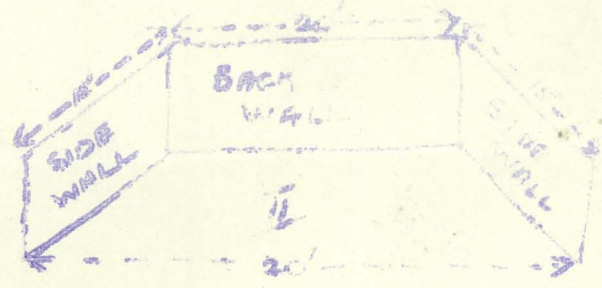
Widely Distributed: Brown-headed, white-naped, singing, spinebill, white eared, yellow-winged (rare in some districts and very common in others), crescent, yellow-faced, red wattle bird (often seen in flocks, quite big ones), Greenie, noisy miner.

Observation: As honeyeaters are very quick in their movements and very restless, the best plan is to stand very still and be patient. By that I mean stay in the one spot and wait until the bird comes near—going after it is not likely to be successful. Field-glasses are almost a necessity as so many work high in the trees, and are hard to watch or identify otherwise.

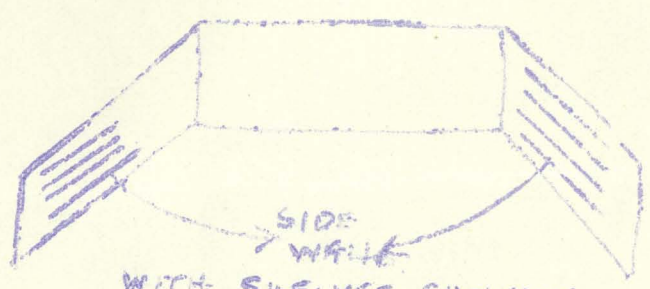
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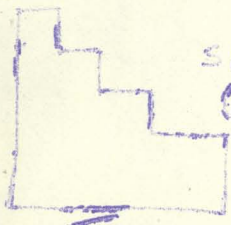
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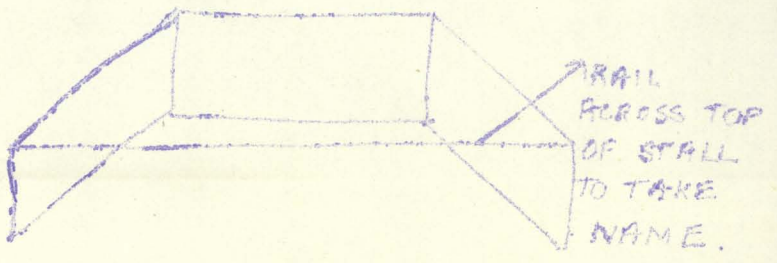


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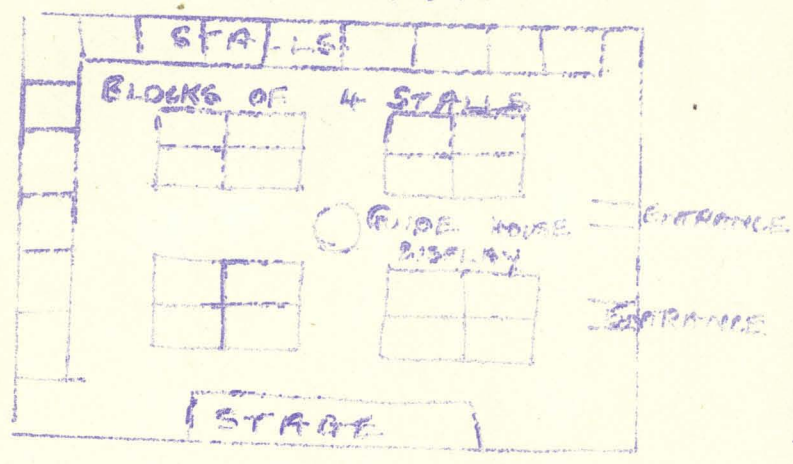


SHELVES (SIDE VIEW)

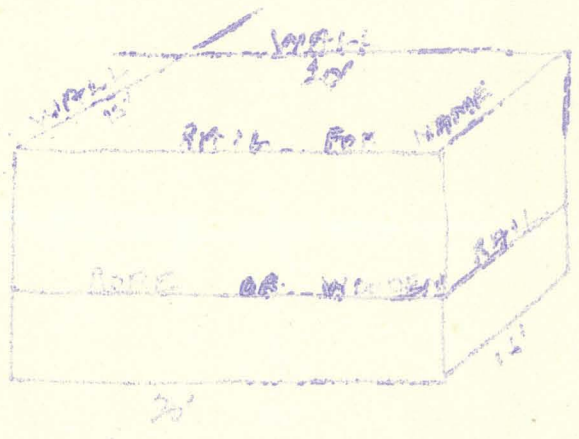
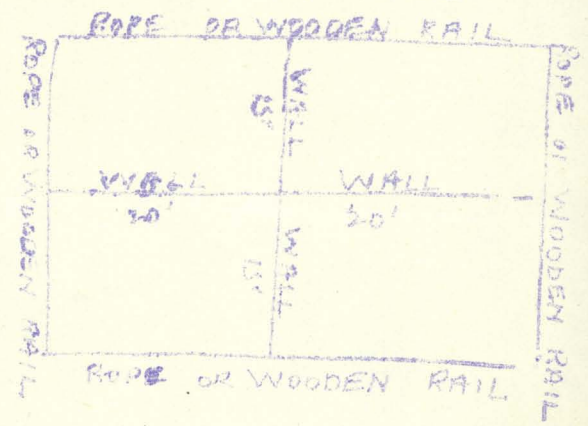
V



TOWN HALL



BLOCK OF 4 STALLS IN BODY OF HALL



STALLS IN BODY OF HALL

Watching and waiting is very worthwhile as these birds are so lively and interesting with their noisy and varied calls, and their wonderful ways of hanging and moving at all sorts of angles. And so, 'Good Hunting!' readers and don't forget your little friend "Matty."

Competition For Your Guides.

Keep a honeyeater diary in the Company for the month of July. In it enter all observations of these interesting birds. Give kinds seen, how many, where seen, i.e., district and type of country or timber. Watch, if any, are nesting early, take note of nests and eggs.

:O:

GUIDE HOUSE NOTES.

Great preparations are being made for June, when the house and cottage will be in use for training, during Miss Martin's visit. The cottage is being painted inside by working bees of rangers—and volunteers are still wanted for this job. The verandah is being repaired, new boards being put in where necessary and a chain wire railing will be run round the edge in place of the present somewhat shaky wooden one. Various alterations to windows, etc., are being made inside the house so that it will be much improved for future Pack or Extension Holidays. The Brownie Guiders Committee are spending the best part of the first £100 they raised towards this Cottage, as the ceilings have to be painted by experts and need three coats so that the painting bill is going to be expensive.

A House Committee has been formed consisting of Mrs. Littlejohn, Misses Drury, Andrews and Barfus, who will inspect the house in turn periodically and see that it has been left clean and tidy after week or week-end camps.

The new crockery has now been unpacked and stowed in the cupboards. It is an attractive off-white in colour, with a floral design of unusual colouring—you feel you must drink your tea so that you can see the "pretties" at the bottom of the cup!

A breakage box is going to be kept in the kitchen and the price of all breakable articles will be listed by the Committee, so that the necessary amount for replacement can be put straight into the box.

The Furnishing Committee have a special request to make. All of you fortunate people who have had weeks or week-ends at the house, will have noticed that there are no pictures on the walls or knick-knacks on mantelpieces and shelves. This does not mean that people have not

offered to give us these things but there is a particular reason for their absence. The Guide House Committee feels that if you go to the house for a week-end or even a week, time is far too short for you to have to be spending it in more housework than is absolutely necessary. So the House has been furnished as simply as possible—you know how trying it is at home to have to move all the things off shelves before you can dust them, and then carefully put them all back—hence our House is very plain and simple as a Camp House should be. Instead of offering us pictures therefore, if you want to make a present to the House, will you consult the Furnishing Committee before buying anything?

A through telephone to the Warburton exchange which is continuous is to be installed during the month. The construction of the line will cost £60, but this amount will be refunded by the G.P.O. at the rate of £4/17/6 per year over a period of twelve years. For the first twelve years the rent will be £1/10/-, but thereafter the amount will be £6/7/6 (if you are good at maths. you will see this because we will not be receiving the £4/17/6 refund after this). This is a very expensive item, but the Committee feel it is vital to have a reliable service. The Girl Guides Association through the Executive Committee have kindly loaned the Committee the necessary £60 so that the work could be put in hand at once.

The Sea Rangers have discovered that the brass work of the mantelpiece in the Ranger Room has two ships thereon—so they have decided to work and give Sea Ranger Bed Spreads for all the beds in this room. They are simply delightful (we saw the design). On a material of white-flecked blue, dolphins disport themselves round a sailing ship (only a Sea Ranger would be able to identify the type of craft, of course), and among the dolphins are starfish and sea-horses, making a most attractive border.

:O:

CAMPING AT THE GUIDE HOUSE.

In last issue there was a slight mistake in the details of hire charges. The correction should read:—Tents: 5/- per tent per week (or Easter)—including poles and pegs.

(Continued from Page 10.)

"look up" the Extensions and invite them along too? Sports, field days, concerts, camp fires—all these would be run for them and a chance to meet other Guides. Please ask them!

—JOAN ALSTON.

CAMPING and TRAINING

FIXTURES DURING MISS MARTIN'S VISIT

Welcoming Party.

Members of the State Council, Commissioners and Guiders will welcome Miss Martin at a party at the Club House, Melbourne University, on 19th June, at 8 p.m. Arrangements are in the hands of the Guiders' Committee, and those desiring to attend should notify their Division Guiders' representative by 1st June. The cost will be 2/- per head.

Commissioners Conference.

This will take place at the Guide House from 22nd to 26th June, 1939.

Interstate Diploma'd Guiders' Conference.

This will follow on from the Commissioners' Conference at the Guide House, from 26th to 30th June, 1939.

Guiders' Training.

Ranger Guiders' Training Week-end at the Guide House 30th June to 3rd July. Fee according to number of applications. About 15/-.

Guide and Brownie Guiders' Training Week at the Guide House 7th to 14th July. Fee 30/-. Fares second return rail from Melbourne 5/9, bus 1/3.

Applications for both the Week-end and the Week, accompanied by deposit of 5/-, and 5/9 for rail ticket if desired, should reach the TRAINING WEEK SECRETARY at the Guide Office, not later than 8th JUNE. Full details, kit lists, etc., will be sent to successful applicants. Deposits will not be refunded if withdrawal is made after 16th June. Any guider who has not previously attended H.Q. classes or a Week, nor been nominated for Correspondence Training, should send a signed nomination form from her Commissioner with the application.

Wimmera Division Training at Donald, 21st to 24th July. A limited number of Guiders from other Division is invited. A number of Guiders will be accommodated at Richavon,

Donald, others will be billeted in the District. Applications, accompanied by a deposit of 2/6, should be sent to Mrs. Guthrie, Division Commissioner, Richavon, Donald, and further details will be sent.

Training Classes in Melbourne, 20th June and 18th July, please watch guide columns in the daily papers for information about the place where the classes will be held.

Outdoor Training near Melbourne; 15th and 29th July. Details in next Matilda. Keep the dates free!

Ranger Dinner and Campfire, 15th July.

Commissioners for Departments; morning tea, 19th July.

Extension Guides, visit to the Orthopaedic Hospital, Frankston, Saturday morning, 29th July.

In addition, arrangements are being made so that members of Local Association, Trainers and Correspondence Trainers, Headmistresses and School Guiders may have the opportunity of meeting Miss Martin.

Camper's Licence.

As a result of much hard work at the Guiders' Campercraft Camp last summer the following Guiders have earned the Camper's Licence. Misses Elizabeth Alfred, Nancy Farmer, Lorna Fordyce, Hazel Gross, Mrs. O. Knight, Misses Margaret and Marjorie Lester, Elaine Medcalf, Marjorie Nicholson, Audrey Sides, Cynthia Sutton. There are three other Guiders still completing the tests.

Guiders' Week-ends.

The week-end 3rd-4th June has been cancelled owing to insufficient applications. Arrangements are being made to hold the two week-ends, 5th-6th August, Miss Alfred in charge; 7th-8th October, Miss Bunning in charge. Fee, 9/-, including fare, for each week-end. These week-ends are being arranged with the idea of giving new Guiders, and Guiders who have never camped an opportunity to have a taste of camping. "Gipton," Frankston, where the camps will be held, is in a delightful part of the healthy country about

a mile and a half from Frankston station. There is a small hut, and permanent washing and sanitary arrangements on the site. Campers sleep in tents and cook out of doors. Guiders hoping to take the Camper's Licence tests in the summer should find these week-ends an opportunity for some practice.

Camps For Next Summer!

The Camping Committee is getting busy already with plans for Camping at the Guide House next summer. There will not be so many Headquarters Camps arranged, so that the Camp Sites may be available for Company and District Camps.

These are the proposed plans: **Guiders Campcraft** for testing Camper's Licences, and giving general campcraft training from 27th December to 3rd January, 1940. **Ranger Combined Camp** from Boxing Day over the New Year. **Patrol Leaders' Camp** from 5th to 12th Jan. **Guide Combined Camp** from 13th to 20th Jan. These dates are approximate. Fee for Guiders' Camp will depend on numbers, from 22/6 to 30/-. Fee for Rangers, Patrol Leaders and Guides, 22/6. Fares, rail return from Melbourne, under 16, 2/10, sixteen and over, 5/9; bus return 1/3.

Patrol Leaders applying should be under 15 years on 1st Jan., 1940, should be second-class guides with two years' guide service.

Guides applying should be under 15 years on 1st Jan., 1940, should have one year's guide service, and preference will be given to second-class guides.

The **Camp for Licensed Guiders** will be held at "Gipton" this year over Cup week-end.

Quartermasters' Week-end.—Will any Guiders or Rangers who would be interested in a Quartermasters' Training Week-end in the Guide House later in the year please communicate with the Camping Secretary.

Camp First Aid Test.—A course of lectures for this test will be held later in the year. All Guiders working for Camp Adviser, Camper's Licence, or Campcraft Badge tests should be prepared if possible to attend this course. Any Guider or Ranger who is recommended by her Commissioner and Camp Adviser may attend the course. She should have had previous experience of camping under canvas, and practical experience in First Aid and Nursing. Only those who prove during the course that they have had first aid experience will be examined.

Full details of the syllabus will be found in P.O.R., 1939, page 162. It would help with arrangements if intending candidates notified the Camping Secretary as soon as possible.

Indoor Camp Test and Pack Holiday Permit.

—A change has been proposed in connection with training for this test. It is suggested that three classes be held in Melbourne and two week-ends at the Guide House. Will any Guiders who are interested please notify the Camping Secretary.

NOW IS THE TIME TO COMMENCE YOUR CAMPING PLANS FOR NEXT SUMMER.

—ELAINE E. MORAN.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Minutes of Meetings.

4th MAY, 1939.

Present.—Lady Chauvel, Mrs. Ebeling, Mrs. Littlejohn, Miss Broadhurst, Miss Purnell, Miss Russell, Miss Swinburne, and the Assistant State Secretary.

Reported.—That the Guide House telephone would be attached to Warburton exchange within ten days.

That forms for the Women's Voluntary National Register were being received.

That the Trustees of the Walter and Eliza Hall Trust had allocated £34 to the Girl Guide Association, Victoria, for 1939.

That the Guiders' Committee had made tentative arrangements to hold the welcome to Miss Martin at the Union Building.

Agreed.—That arrangements for Guide week be approved.

That Mrs. F. W. Faulkner be nominated to attend the Round Table Conference.

That Victoria offer hospitality to delegates to the meeting of the Federal Council.

That it would not be practicable for Guides to help the League of Youth by distributing membership badges.

That the Editor of Matilda be communicated with in regard to the publication of a letter asking for membership to another Movement, and that the letter be deleted from copies still on hand.

Routine and financial business was discussed.

F. V. BARFUS,
Assistant State Secretary.

Evan Evans

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17th MAY, 1939.

Present.—Lady Chauvel, Mrs. Ebeling, Mrs. Tate, Misses Broadhurst, Boyes, Bush, Cameron, Coles, Lascelles, Purnell, Swinburne and the Secretary.

Reported.—That 17 divisions had notified their plans for the Walkabout, answers were yet to come from 11 divisions, that arrangements were in hand for the Poster competition, that there will be entertainments of 15 minutes each held each night.

Agreed.—That Guide Week be discussed at the meeting of the Federal Council.

That Miss Sheila MacLeod be asked to represent the Guide Association on the Governing Council of the League of Youth in place of Miss Joan Harper whose resignation had been received with regret.

That there should be published an addition to the apology from the Matilda Sub-committee to read as follows:—The Executive Committee regrets that, in deleting the letter from copies still on hand, the cover of Matilda had to be cut.

That members of the State Council be invited to take part in the welcome to Miss Martin.

Routine and financial business was discussed.

S. H. IRVING,
State Secretary.

GUIDE SHOP.

Hats.—From the 1st June, all Guide hats will be 5/11, plus postage. The new hat is of a softer felt and is more pliable. We are expecting good results from these. In future a 6 $\frac{7}{8}$ hat will not be stocked, and sizes will range from:—22 $\frac{1}{2}$ —6 $\frac{1}{2}$; 21—6 $\frac{3}{8}$; 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ —6 $\frac{3}{4}$; 22—7; 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ —7 $\frac{1}{2}$. There is no difference in the Guider hats at all.

Pack Holidays.—This is a small book for the use of Brownie Guilders giving ideas on Pack holidays. This is a welcome addition to the Brownie Guiders' library of books. Price, 6d., plus 1d. postage.

Annual Reports.—The shop is having a small sale of old Annual Reports and Biennial Reports. These are going cheap, and will be extremely valuable for Log Books and Scrap Books. The price for Biennial Reports, 6d.; and those for Annual Reports, 3d., plus postage. There is only one kind of Annual Report the 22nd.

—CLARA BROADHURST.