

Matilda

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

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GIRL GUIDE WAR APPEAL

THOSE of you who were present at the ceremony at which the cheque for £2000 was handed to Sir Guy Royle for the R.A.N. Relief Fund must have been thrilled at this culmination of a work which reached such proportions during the three years of its existence. Not only Guide people but many willing outside sympathisers helped unstintingly to make it such an outstanding success.

Truly "the reward of a thing well done is to have done it." Yet it was gratifying to hear the appreciation of those who have realised all the work which has been done to achieve the amazing results of the Victorian Girl Guide War Appeal.

Lady Chauvel outlined the history of the Guide War Room. In a little over three years — for this appeal has been officially closed since the end of last year — the astonishing sum of £12,794 has been raised! In the first few months we concentrated on making children's garments only, our object being to give comfort and warmth to the bombed and evacuated children of England. Later on our thoughts went to the men of His Majesty's mine sweepers and trawlers who kept the sea lanes free for the transportation of these gifts. So a few months later we extended our energies to woollen comforts for these men. In all 97,775 garments have been sent — 78,365 for children and 19,410 for the men.

Those of us who worked in the receiving room handling the lovely garments: sorting and tying them into bundles; matching gaily coloured jumpers to sets consisting of skirts and bloomers; sewing tabs with the magical words, "Girl Guide Association, Victoria, Australia" on each article; watching the cases

packed and wheeled away on the first part of their long and dangerous journey, felt the thrill of pioneers who blazed a path of adventure in the history of our land.

How eagerly we awaited the first word of their safe arrival! It seemed months before the first letter of acknowledgment arrived. It was a day of great rejoicing. Relief mingled with pride as we read of the almost incredulous delight and astonishment expressed. Could this really be the work of children? Well, it wasn't all—not quite—as we were lucky to have amongst our workers Guiders, mothers, members of Local Associations and many outside friends. But many of these worked untiringly to instruct and help the children to reach the standard we had set, and kept up to the end.

Later still our greatest thrill was to receive letters from the recipients themselves; little notes quaintly expressed in unformed childish handwriting painfully executed, sometimes in pencil. One little girl said "Mine is the blue"—confident we must know the exact garment she had received! Another included thanks for her little sister whom she said was "too young to write." Letters from little boys were included in these treasures in our files.

Soon afterwards we were receiving letters from the men. Their great joy was in the warm woollen shirts, for up to that time no other comfort parcels had included shirts, and —to quote one of them—"If you knew what an east wind is like in the North sea you'd know how appreciated they are."

So truly "the reward of a thing well done is to do it." But who will say that these words of appreciation did not spur us on to further efforts?

Thus Lady Dugan's words to us were an inspiration to carry our banner of Guiding forward to whatever lies ahead. She told us that wherever she goes in the country or the towns she finds the work of the Guides is outstanding

in leadership and steady work, ever in the forefront of service for others.

With the coming of clothes rationing when we could no longer buy materials or wool, or send garments away, it was decided that the sum of £2000 which still remained to our credit should be devoted to provide holidays for the children of the ratings of the R.A.N. It would be known as the Girl Guide Holiday gift. The money—invested in bonds—would be sufficient to bring in interest the sum of £65 a year, which would provide for between 30 to 40 children each year the sort of camp Guides enjoy.

Then followed the handing over of the cheque. Two Brownies and four Guides, picked from six Companies from the whole of Victoria, were the fortunate and proud members to represent the Association in this ceremony. They were:—Margaret Wallace (4th Malvern Co.); Nola Tulloch (1st A Sale Co.); Marjorie Jenkin (1st Nyah Dist. Co.); Janice Bathurst (1st Maryborough Co.); Norma Cook (1st Trafalgar Brownie Pack); Margaret Burgess (2nd Brighton Beach Brownie Pack).

It was fitting that the Guide from Malvern (Margaret Wallace), should have been spokesman, as this district (associated with East Malvern) has contributed outstanding and consistent work during the whole period.

Her words—spoken clearly and without a trace of nervousness, despite photographers' inevitable contributions to the tension she must have felt—were inspiring in their simplicity.

"I have the honour to present to you a cheque for £2000 from the Girl Guide War Appeal. We hope the sailors' children will enjoy their camping holiday as much as we do ours." Thus we pledged ourselves to share with others the heritage we as Guides possess.

Sir Guy Royle in accepting the cheque said that the story of the gift and its purpose would be posted on the notice board of every ship in the R.A.N., in whatever part of the world it was serving, so that the men would know of the goodwill of the Guides of Victoria. He told us amusing stories of various methods of "giving" adopted by himself as a mischievous school boy.

He knew that the sailors would welcome the chance of showing their appreciation of this generous gift, and on their behalf invited as many Guides as could come to spend a day at the Flinders Naval Base, some time when the weather is more suitable. He would like us to know the sort of thing sailors learnt to do to protect the shores of our homeland, and to keep the sea lanes safe for the transport of men and materials so vital to our safety.

He asked Guides to give a thought to sailors on stormy nights, and to say before turning over in their warm beds, "Thank you, sailor. Good night." In this simple way he showed us how much we owe to the men who sail the seas, and revealed his faith in the power of thought.

And so this ceremony—simple yet impres-

sive—ended. Yet—as a stone cast into a pond creates ripples which spread to its boundaries—this phase of our work is not ended, but is absorbed into another, offering further opportunities of service.

Of the Girl Guide War Appeal we can truly quote—

"But of the deed, the glory shall remain,
And cause your name with worthy wights
to reign."
M.R.F.

BADEN-POWELL MEMORIAL FUND

THE CHIEF SCOUT MADE THIS POSSIBLE FOR YOU.

On the Way.

"A day of terrific travelling. We left Lucerne at 9.15 this morning and proceeded by lake and mountain, all very magnificent, with patches of snow and sometimes snow-covered peaks in the distance. Up and up Brunig Pass, the train becoming cogwheel to go up and down; this lasting for nearly two hours—creeping round the edges of mountains, where you looked sheer down into chasms! We came via Interlaken, Spiez and Frutigen, where we got into a motor-bus and went another precipitous drive."

Adelboden.

"Two rushing mountain torrents, a village on the slope, chalets dotted everywhere, pine trees few and many, mountains rising sheer, cloud-tipped, snow-capped in the background—at the end of the valley a great waterfall in two great leaps, falling thousands of feet, capped by a huge white mountain—Wildstrubel."

Our Chalet.

The bell is the gift of the Founder—a model of an old Swiss bell. It is hung on the verandah, where meals are served. Round it is written "May the voice of this bell call to happy refreshment of mind and body the Guides and Guiders of many lands."

The Chief Guide gave the chain for the bell, and upon it is written "And may the links of Guide friendship throughout the world prove as strong as this chain."

The wide spreading roof is of copper held down by rows of great stones; the wood has been left the natural colour; the foundation is of solid stone. Across the front is written in German, "God bless this House, and all who enter and leave it." The other side is more variously decorated. In the angle of the roof the World Badge, on either side a black bear, crest of the canton of Bern—on each shutter a Swiss wild flower in a threefold design.

On the floor, for rugs are dressed sheepskins, the gift of Victoria.

To obtain water a stream had to be bought and a wooden pump lifts the water into a great wooden trough.

At the opening "Falk" said "I foresee the most sincere happiness for the future of this house, for the one who has given it to us. for those who work there, for all who shall come there."

After the first camp fire was said:—
"O God of men, unknown to many,

Give us strength to live well;
Stern with ourselves; indulgent to others.
Faithful to the Law that we have accepted,
Faithful to the Promise that we have made
to serve You."

INTERNATIONAL GAMES.

Other Lands.

Let the Guides draw a number of small flags, about 1 in. long (these may be found in the Guide Painting Book) and hide about the Club Room—or, better, outside. The Patrols find them and may check the country they belong to from the Book if necessary, and then draw something characteristic of the country.

International Knowledge.

Each Patrol sits round a table, having a plate, knife, fork, table napkin and cake of hard chocolate. They are numbered, and the Guider asks a question of number ones. If the answer is correct, they may start to eat the chocolate, and may go on eating until another correct answer is given. Type of question: What is Our Chalet? Where is Our Chalet? Who gave us Our Chalet? Who opened Our Chalet? What Flag flies there? Who is in charge of Our Chalet? The answers to all these questions can be found in recent "Matildas." By the way, only the bit of chocolate popped into the mouth must be touched by fingers.

The World Flag.

Each Patrol has a World Flag postcard (obtainable from H.Q.), paper, blue and yellow pencils. They look well at the postcard. On the whistle. No. 1 begins to draw, on the whistle again No. 2 takes over, and so on for a stated time. Give points for correct proportions rather than speed.

Picture Gallery.

Cut portraits of famous people from different nations out of newspapers. Number these, cut off the captions giving the names of people, and keep a list. Place the pictures round the room and get Guides to make a numbered list of the names.

Switzerland, The Centre.

Guides in circle. Some objects which represents Switzerland in the centre, and a North

point marked on floor. Each Guide represents a country where there are Guides, and when the name of that country is called, she runs out and, according to the position of that country in relation to Switzerland, stands to the south, west, etc., of the object in centre. If she is correct, she stays there and scores one point for patrol. If incorrect, she runs to outside of circle and does not score.

Play these games and help the Guides to "look wide and wider still."

RECOLLECTIONS OF OUR CHALET.

My happiest recollection of our Chalet is the welcome I received on my first visit—and the feeling of being one of the family returning home on my second visit. Falk was, to my way of thinking, the ideal person for her job. The shy, quiet girl got the right kind of handling to bring her out and help her join in—for you know there are shy Guiders. Falk always seemed to know and somehow helped them out of it. I can't exactly explain. The house had an atmosphere of love and joy which could be felt by those living it in—in fact I think visitors felt it too. The eternal beauty of the mountains, the glory of snow, and, in Spring and Summer, the carpet of flowers, all helped to make my visits there a never-to-be-forgotten memory. And last, but by no means least, the friends that one made.

—M.L.D.

THIS MAN BADEN-POWELL.

Caught out—and by a woman!

One evening, the Founder was walking in a garden with Lord Meath's daughter. Pointing to some footprints on the ground, she asked him what had made them. "A cat," he replied. "Yes, but what colour?" Well, he looked for sign everywhere, but none could he find. After a long search he confessed he could not tell, and asked her if she knew. "Yes, it was a light tortoiseshell cat."

Astonished at her cleverness, B-P. asked if he might hear how she knew this. She replied "Well, you see—I saw the cat."

SERVICES EQUIPMENT.

Will you please take notice that the equipment which was loaned to us by the R.A.N. and the R.A.A.F. so that we might have something tangible to show the Guides has been returned "in good order and condition"? It was felt that all Guides who would be likely to see it at H.Q. would have done so in the three months these articles were on display in the Shop. We are grateful to the officers who made the equipment available, and are sorry more Districts did not avail themselves of it to show their Guides.

List of Gifts to June 18th, 1943.

Previously acknowledged	£526	15	6
Colac Guiders' Club	0	12	0
Mrs. Colin MacDonald	5	0	0
Miss Florence Mitchell	5	0	0
Interest, C'wealth Savings Bank	0	4	10
1st Toorak Co.	3	0	0
Kew L.A. and Guides	1	16	0
Geelong Districts Nos. 1 and 2 . .	6	16	0
1st Geelong Guide Co.	2	0	0
7th Geelong Guide Co.	0	10	0
3a Geelong Ranger Co.	5	5	0
Mrs. Guy Bakewell	2	2	0
5th Caulfield Guide Co.	1	10	0
6th Kew Guide Patrol Leaders . .	1	0	0
Castlemaine L.A.	1	0	0
Mrs. Eric Roberts	5	0	0
Miss N. Cornu	1	0	0
3rd East Malvern Ranger Co. . .	1	5	0
Miss D. Holtz (certificates) . . .	5	0	0
Hawthorn District (certificates)	8	0	0
2nd Caulfield Guide Co.	2	0	0

Grand Total at June 18th, 1943 £579 16 8

ALTERATIONS TO GUIDE SECOND - CLASS TEST

The following alterations to the Second Class Test were published in "The Guider" of May, 1943, and will come into force in Victoria on 1st September. Up to that time Companies may either continue with the old Second Class or the Shortened War-Time Alternative; after that date this new test will be the only one used.

SECOND CLASS.

Before being awarded the Second Class Badge the Guide must show that she is trying hard to keep the threefold Promise.

Section 1.

1. Have passed Tenderfoot Test.
2. Receive and answer a message in Morse across a reasonable distance out of talking range.
3. Recognise 12 living things in their natural surroundings, to include any of the following: animals, birds, fish, insects, reptiles, trees, plants or constellations. Discover by observation something of interest about each.

Or

Contribute six interesting notes made from personal observations to a Patrol Nature Log Book.

Or

Keep an individual Nature Log Book containing at least 15 interesting entries made from personal observation.

Or

Stay still alone for half an hour in the

open, and afterwards report on anything she has seen or heard or smelt.

4. Be able to stalk and track.

Section 2.

1. Be able to square lash and show practical use of six of the following knots:—reef, sheet-bend, clove-hitch, timber-hitch, bow-line, sheepshank, fisherman's, round turn and two half hitches, and packer's knot.
2. Make a fire out of doors, using not more than two matches, and cook on it.

Section 3.

1. Know how to be healthy and show what she is doing to keep the Rules of Health (the Guide Health Leaflet to be used.)
2. Cover a mile at Scout's Pace in 12 minutes (30 seconds' error allowed each way).

Or

Have done four walks of at least 3 miles.

Section 4.

1. Treat simple cuts, burns, fainting and choking, and stop bleeding (with pad and bandage on the wound only); know simple treatment of shock; apply large armband and bandage sprained ankle.
2. Make a Morse signalling flag (24 in. by 24 in.) or alternatively make some other article useful to others.
3. Strip and make a bed properly, and show she is putting her knowledge into practice at home.
4. Be able to telephone, and know the local bus routes. (Telephoning may be omitted if there is no telephone in the neighbourhood.)

For Australian Guides the prevention and treatment of snakebite is included in the Second Class Test.

FIRST CLASS.

With regard to the First Class Test only the First Aid section has been altered as follows:—

Section 4.

Para. 4 (a) Be prepared to treat for shock (immediate and delayed) after injuries and accidents:—haemorrhage (arterial, venous and capillary), with various methods of arresting (excluding tourniquet); asphyxiation (artificial respiration, Schafer's method).

(b) Know how to deal with the following accidents:—fire accident (including clothes on fire), ice accidents; drowning and resuscitation, unconsciousness from accidents, fits and fainting.

(c) Understand the preparation of bed for patient; the changing of sheets, and the prevention of bed sores. Use a clinical thermometer and make and apply fomentations.

PHONETIC ALPHABET

You will have read in the April "Matilda" of the new phonetic alphabet, and now it was necessary for Rangers and Guiders doing the Signaller's Badge to learn it, but that for Second Class Guides could, for the present, keep on with the alphabet as given in the Guide Diary. However, as the new phonetic alphabet has now come into general use, it has been decided that it will be less confusing if the Guides learn it too for their Second Class.

With the change in the morse section of Second Class, making it an essentially outdoor test, a phonetic alphabet of some sort becomes absolutely necessary, but unless the Guides all use the same alphabet confusion may still occur. For instance, NAN might easily be mistaken for MAN, and so do away with all the value of phonetics, and completely alter the sense of the message. If your Guides have learnt another set of phonetics, let them change over. It will not take long, and they will not mind if you put it to them, that they will, by so doing, come into line with other organisations and services, and so be able to co-operate in an emergency.

Here is the new alphabet for the benefit of those who have not yet seen it:—

Able	How	Oboe	Victor
Baker	Item	Peter	William
Charlie	Jig	Queen	X-Ray
Dog	King	Roger	Yoke
Easy	Love	Sugar	Zebra
Fox	Mike	Tare	
George	Nan	Uncle	

S.M.M.

ALTERATION IN THE USE OF THE FULL AND HALF SALUTE

(Reprinted from "The Guide" of 21st January, 1943.

The salute is a sign of friendship and respect. A friendly sign between all those who have made the Guide Promise. This friendly sign dates back from the olden times when, if you met a friend, you held up your right hand to show that you were unarmed. Our sign, the three fingers, shows as well that we have made the three Guide promises. We also use this salute as a sign of respect given to the things that stand for our loyalty to God, our King and our Country, therefore we salute the Union Jack, our Company Flag, and salute during the National Anthem when we are in uniform, if we are not in church, then we stand at attention. We must explain to our recruit why she is using it, and also to remind her that a friendly sign is not given without a smile. Also that she can play a game with herself to see, when she meets another Guide, or Guider, whether she can sal-

ute and smile first. To salute well, the three fingers should be straight, the little finger and thumb bent across the palm of the hand touching, and the first of the three fingers should almost touch the brim of the hat, or just above the right eyebrow when without a hat. The palm of the hand should face forward with the elbow bent, but in a comfortable position. This full salute is given when in full uniform with or without a hat. The half salute is given to the shoulder, elbow tucked down and palm forward. This is used when out of uniform.

WARRANTS AND REGISTRATIONS

Captain.

3rd Essendon, Mrs. D. Anderson; 1st Glen Iris, Miss J. Brown; 1st Aberfeldie, Miss N. McPherson; 12th Lone Guide Company, Miss M. Smith; 1st Burwood, Miss C. Rogers; 1st Koroit, Mrs. H. Mackay.

Lieutenant.

1st Koroit, Miss M. Handley; 7th Ballarat, (St. Peters'), Miss P. Rowland; 1st Glen Iris, Miss J. Cotter; 1st Gardiner, Miss M. Burr; 2nd Benalla, Miss B. Soden; 1st Benalla, Miss P. Smith; 2nd Heidelberg (Austin Hospital), Miss M. Williams.

Tawny Owl.

1st Koroit Pack, Miss M. Dobson.

Registrations.

12th Malvern (Huntingtower) Guide Company.

CANCELLATIONS.

Captain.

Miss G. McBain, 1st Hartwell; Miss E. Hill, 1st Pomorneit North; Miss M. Nicholson, 1st Sandringham.

Lieutenant.

Miss J. Arthur, 1st Hawksburn.

Brown Owl.

Miss U. Hands, 1st Daylesford; Miss L. Thomas, 1st Hartwell Pack.

ANGLICAN GUIDERS.

A meeting for Anglican Guiders is being arranged by the Anglican Youth Council on Saturday, 31st July, from 2.30 to 6.30 p.m., at the Church of England Home for Children, Wilson Street, Brighton.

Subjects for discussion: How to take a Prowow on the Guide Law and Promise; The Practice of Prayer — Some difficulties and suggestions.

Guiders are asked to bring something to eat for tea. Further particulars from Sister Julian, C.H.N., 265 Spring Street, C.1.

MISS PURNELL.

Her many friends will be glad to know that Miss Purnell has arrived back safely in Victoria after her time in India. She should have some interesting tales to relate of her experiences.

RANGERS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE VICTORIAN RANGER COMMITTEE,

Held at Headquarters on Thursday, 27th May, 1943, at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Miss Broadhurst in the chair, Rangers Flora Craven, Joan Smith, Joan Shillington, Greta Richardson, Elsie Kemp, Audrey Machin and Greta Roach.

Apologies were received from Joan Drowley and Beryl McNee.

A welcome was extended to the two new members, Joan Shillington (3rd East Malvern) and Audrey Machin (St. Kilda).

The Minutes of the Previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

It was noted that the meeting called for the 20th May had been cancelled.

Business Arising from the Minutes.

Country Dance Party. A report on this fixture was placed before the committee and showed that 49 Rangers and friends attended, and a profit of 15/7 was made. The financial statement was read and received by the committee. It was suggested that in future this fixture might be held on a week-night.

Ranger Conference. The conveners, Flora Craven and Elsie Kemp, reported that this will be held on Saturday, 17th July, from 2.15 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., at Guide Headquarters. Six fixtures have been suggested for the coming year, and twelve nominations received for the 1943-44 committee.

In accordance with the minutes of the meeting held on 4th September, 1942, the committee suggested the following discussions, which will take the form of debates—"H.E.S. and Its Advantages?" and "The Future of the Victorian Ranger Committee?" Decided to ask Dr. Mona Blanch to give a Health Talk and show Films.

Prisoner of War Fund: It was reported that the total amount collected to 27/5/43 was £49/2/1, £5/0/9 having been received since the last meeting.

Correspondence. A letter was received from Miss M. Esler, secretary, 1st Metropolitan Cadet Company, thanking the committee for inviting the cadets to all Ranger activities, and asking what subscription they were expected to pay to cover circulars, etc. sent to them, and it was decided to ask the company to hold the matter over until after the conference.

Finance. The treasurer, Greta Richardson, reported a bank balance of £2/3/1.

A resignation was received from Daisy Rackham (4th Preston) and the committee accepted this with regret.

The meeting then closed.

Greta Roach, Secretary.

BROWNIES

THE MAKING OF A CEREMONY.

Why is it that ceremonies are such a bug-bear to so many Brown Owls? At a training week we hear the constant demand for them. And how difficult it is for the trainer to satisfy that demand. She may—and does—tell us different ceremonies, but these are little help. For the Pack Ceremonies should be the expression of each individual Pack, and each Pack should have its own. We learn that ceremonies are the beginnings of ceremonial and reverence. Might we not call them "the outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace"?

And now let us study them in that light. First let us consider what that "inward and spiritual grace" is. It is the spirit of the Pack. It means we no longer have from 12 to 18 small girls, but one Brownie community, with a common aim and interest. The Pack has, in effect, developed its own tradition. Not until that happens will we find the Brownies able to construct their own ceremonies. Do not expect to find it in a day; it takes many months to grow and blossom. The blossom is a visible sign that a plant is alive and growing. So the ceremony is the "outward and visible sign" that our Pack spirit is alive and growing.

It is just a year since the first Brownies were enrolled in my Pack. To-day they made up a ceremony for service stars. This is how it developed: In the Pow-wow I asked "Brownies, do you know why I wear stars on my pocket?" Of course they did, and were very excited when I said some of them were due for their first star. We immediately began to think how we should award it. I told them two ceremonies I knew. They liked one because it had singing in it. So we gained our first point—we must sing! Everyone then began to think very hard what we should sing, and this is what they composed:—

"We our Brownie lore have learned

And our Service Star have earned."

(Tune: Brownie Song).

The only word I supplied was "lore," as they wanted one word to include all Brownie activities.

The next point was how should we stand. First a diamond shape was suggested but not approved of, and then, much to my surprise and pleasure, the Pack—for it was not even just one Brownie—suggested we should form a shamrock. I asked why, and was told it was because the Guides wore it as their badge. I said I thought it was a good idea, as our Service Star would show we had reached the first milestone on the Girl Guide Road. I took off my badge and held it up for all the Brownies to see. How should we make the three leaflets? Quickly came the reply that each Six

BADEN-POWELL MEMORIAL FUND**JULY 31ST.****1932**

ON JULY 31st, 1932, "OUR CHALET" WAS OPENED. THE CHIEF SCOUT SAID

"We are here to open this beautiful home which has been provided, thanks to the generosity and forethought of Mrs. James Storrow for the Girl Guides and Girl Scouts of all nations.

"It will in effect be a school of universal goodwill and understanding among the future women of the world. Everywhere to-day men are striving through leagues and legislation to restore harmony and happiness to a world torn and worn out by war. But leagues and legislation are of little avail unless there is behind them the spirit of toleration and amity on the part of the people themselves. . . . We need a practical training in unselfish goodwill for the Future.

"This training we have in embryo in the Girl Guides and Boy Scouts' Movements. The opening of this Chalet means, therefore, the opening of a school of goodwill among the future women of all nations. The leaders will gather here, in this beautiful and inspiring centre, as Guides from all nations, to meet for recreation and to learn Guiding, but they will go forth from here as apostles to all nations to spread the ideal and the practice of selfless goodwill and comradeship for others, regardless of any differences of country, creed or class.

"This new spirit is one that is vitally needed in the world to-day. Patriotism for one's country is a noble inspiration, but there is often the danger of its becoming selfishly narrow in its outlook. The need then is for a wider outlook and of friendly understanding towards others. This spirit is essential if we are to have peace and happiness in the world. This spirit has, too, a higher attribute—it is the spirit which is essential for bringing about God's reign upon earth—the reign of peace and goodwill among men.

"Therefore from my heart I wish success to the Chalet."

1943

Have YOU given to the Fund?

You have? That's fine . . . keep it up.

You haven't? Now is the time.

British Guides number 400,236.

Victorian Guides number 8283.

In 3 months British Guides averaged 7½d. per head.

In 3 months Victorian Guides averaged 4½d. per head.

In 10 months British Guides averaged 2/6 per head.

To equal this, Victorian Guides will need to give £1160 by October.

In 6 months we are half way to that goal.

Four more months in which to equal the fine effort of British Guides!

What a grand response on July 31st.
WE CAN DO IT!

Red. Blue. Yellow. Green. Orange.

These Rings on the Chart at H.Q. will have, very soon, a Sky-Blue Ring added to them. And after July 31st?

Will the Chart-Painter run out of colours?

**JULY 31ST IS TO BE OUR NEXT PEAK PERIOD!
THE MONTH IS HERE! THE DAY WILL BE HERE SOON!
HELP TO MAKE IT VICTORIA'S BIGGEST DAY FOR THE FUND**

should form one—and Brown Owl and Tawny Owl should be the stem. Next came the question, where would the stars be? One Brownie suggested on the totem, but another said they should be hidden in the grass at the foot of the totem, and each Brownie should find her own. This was agreed upon. "Would the Brownie just take it and return to her place?" I asked. My question was greeted with horror. NO! Of course the Brownie would give it to Brown Owl to pin on her, and then Brown Owl must "say something." What she would say was left to me. Obviously it was my turn to add to the ceremony, and my suggestion that I should make up a short rhyme about each Brownie as I pinned on her star was received with much gladness.

And so our ceremony was evolved. It was the possession of the Pack; the expression of its spirit. It belongs to the Brownies, and will become an integral part of their Brownie life. They have known the joy of creation, the satisfaction of achievement. What right have we Brown Owls to deny them this pleasure?

—M.H.J.

(Reprint from "Matilda," August, 1933)

IDEAS.

These have been contributed by Southern Suburbs Division.

Semaphore Game.

Make a set of cards with pictures of various objects pasted on (i.e., house, cat, dog). These are laid on the floor in front of Brown Owl. Brownies stand at other end of hall. Brown Owl signals a letter, and all Brownies who can read it run up and find a picture of something beginning with that letter. All Brownies who are correct score a point or bean. The first Brownie to reach six takes over the signalling until another Brownie reaches six. It is necessary to have a number of pictures beginning with each letter used. —A.N.

A Quiet Game.

One Six are Indians sitting round a fire, they are under a spell, and cannot move or open their eyes. A prisoner is tied to a tree nearby. One by one his friends (who are some distance away) try to creep up and rescue him without being heard by the Indians. If the rescuer makes a noise the Indians grunt. At one grunt rescuer is wounded, at the third he is dead, and must stay where he is until the end of the game. —V.C.

Handcraft.

Dye some beans red, white and blue. Give each Six a supply of these to make a design, such as one of the flags of the Saints or the Union Jack, or any design they like to invent. When finished they can visit each other to see the completed designs. —A.N.

Inspections.

Two Brownies are chosen to be King and Queen. They are seated at one end of the hall on a "throne." The remaining Brownies are gathered "in the village square" at the other end of the hall. The King's messenger (pack leader) gallops up, proclaiming that pages and ladies-in-waiting are needed for their Majesties, but only the best and neatest will be chosen. Inspection then follows, and when the prospective pages and ladies-in-waiting have been chosen, they are taken and presented to the King and Queen, by the Royal Messenger. They must bow and smile a cheery Brownie smile, then stand on either side of the throne. The remaining Brownies who can improve any blemishes in their appearance, by cleaning badges or washing hands, can be included among the pages and ladies-in-waiting. Coloured cardboard crowns, and a rug thrown over the chairs for the throne, helps to create atmosphere. —N.M.

If a Magic or Nature Programme is chosen, this inspection will fit in quite well.

Magic a forest glade. Magic the Brownies into flowers. They must pose in the form of the flower they have chosen. Brown Owl and Tawny, whilst walking through the forest, taking care to avoid the "pond," come upon the glade of flowers. They are very delighted and curious to examine the flowers, and to guess what they are. They express disappointment when they find that some flowers have dusty leaves, having been missed by the raindrops. When inspection is finished, "Magic" the flowers back into Brownies, and any who were dusty can wash or clean their badges. —N.M.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Would givers of cheques please make these out to **Baden Powell Memorial Fund**, and so simplify matters for the Hon. Treasurer?

RECEIPTS. Please read **CAREFULLY.**

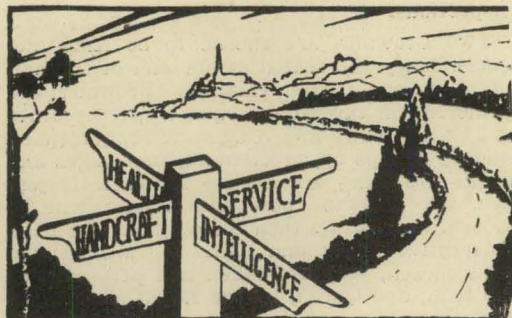
To save postage, receipts may be obtained at Headquarters on application. They will be posted only if stamped and addressed envelope is forwarded.

Contributions and progress totals will be acknowledged in "Matilda" each month.

You will receive a Give-Lend Voucher when your final amount comes in.

1. Make out cheques, postal notes or money orders to **Baden Powell Memorial Fund.**
2. Address letters to Secretary, B-P. Memorial Fund, Girl Guide Association, 60 Market Street, Melbourne, C.1.
3. Please send money in round sums of pounds and shillings (not pence).

M. HOFFMEYER, Convener.



THE GUIDE LAW.

Reality, 1943.

"I would carry a heavy bundle for some one in the street"; "I would give up my seat in the tram"; "I would help an old lady across the road."

I am sure you would. These instances are given over and over again, and though each Guide must experience and realise them for herself, do Captains feel that they are unreal? They are sincere, the Guide is willing to do the best she knows, but they sound conventional and ready-made, as if they are not touching the practical temptations and difficulties of the life of a Guide in 1943.

Rules such as these are part of a ready-made code; they have been established to meet conditions that have been the same for a long time, and in living up to them the Guide is conforming to a recognised standard. A child needs such definite rules, and looks for leadership. What must I do? Scouting and Guiding have been planned to express ideals in single, simple actions, they have been planned for boys and girls.

To-day children are exposed to new influences and inventions for which the code has not been settled; which are new to Grown-ups, too, so the Grown-ups cannot give the lead—but they blame when things go wrong. To apply the Law to these new ways of life may mean pioneering, not conforming to what other people do, but standing out from the crowd. Every Guide needs a standard applied to detail, and strength of leadership and comradeship to work it out.

The invention emphatically in my mind is Wireless.

Wireless has swept our imaginations, it is marvellous, and a mighty power for good, but radio manners, and especially serial manners for children, are a problem for us all. How can we learn to use radio only for good, and never lower the standards of courtesy, consideration and duty?

In a boarding house in the mountains two people were sitting reading by the landscape window. The wireless was making strange and ugly sounds. One went to turn it off. A visitor spoke from the writing desk where she had not been seen. "Please leave it; I turned

it off the station on purpose, but I have promised to call the others in ten minutes when the races come on."

A Sunday School teacher called on a girl of ten; in the middle of a sentence the girl rushed away to the wireless and mother carried on the conversation; the girl could hardly be induced to say "Good-bye" to her teacher, far less nearer to the door.

A friend called to enquire for a little boy who had been ill. He was in the sitting room with his mother. He crouched by the wireless, and every time the ladies laughed or spoke above a very low voice, there was a scowl from the corner.

"I cannot go to bed early, I never finish my home-work. Was not — funny last night?"

Just before tea mother says: "O, Nora, I had visitors unexpectedly this afternoon, and we are short of milk"!!!

It is not easy for the children, it is not easy for the parents. Parents are so often grateful to the wireless when children are sick or must be left alone; shall they allow it or forbid it entirely to suit themselves? Radio is new, they are not sure how much they are asking children to give up—where the proportion lies.

"You don't understand—it's a serial"—is a strong rejoinder, because grown-ups are not sure that they do understand; they are aware of a very strong force making demands on the children's time and interest, and are not at all confident that they can keep it in its place.

The Radio Manners Code is still to be made, and it must be made with the children because they are the ones to whom the experience and the difficulties have come.

Guiding Can Help.

1. Guiding can help indirectly by giving other interests and enthusiasms, other subjects of conversation among a large group of friends, by a sense of happiness and control of life that makes any special "draw" seem less important.

2. Guiding can help directly by bringing the difficulty out into the open and looking at it as a job to tackle, a pioneering job that will help us and put us in control of our own life, by the standards of the Law.

One Way. The Law is on the programme. Guiders ask Court of Honour if they may arrange a "sealed" item.

Guiders ask one patrol to prepare an "act," like one of the instances described above.

For the meeting chosen, the hall is prepared like a radio station. Guiders announce a great new Session, "What would YOU do?" Answers to be posted or telephoned, may be individual or discussed in groups, a secret sign to be put on answer, and duplicate to be pinned inside pocket flap. A person may send more than one answer. Are you ready? The curtain rises on our radio stage (or television, if you prefer it). The patrol chosen does the act; all discuss, write, rush to tele-

phone or to post answers. Announcers keep excitement by counting numbers coming in, giving time limit, etc. When all are in, announce grand total of — answers; our session is grand, has beaten records; a success. The judging committees will work.

Divide the answers equally between patrols, and let each patrol decide on the best out of every five or ten answers, according to numbers. Announcer may either keep quiet, or make a running commentary. "Committee No. 1 has discarded three, Committee No. 2 has only two left, will it be yours? They have finished, they are coming." Representatives of patrols read out chosen answers, full committee discusses the chosen answers, and decides upon the very best. Variation, do not have answers marked. Discuss best name for Session. Repeat as desired, with each patrol in turn inventing its own problem. Decide whether the patrol which acts should also send in answers or should conduct the station.

Notes for Guiders.

You will be asking Guides:—1, To work out something that had not occurred to them. 2, To accept new ideas. It will take time; there may be resistance, but much of what seems resistance will only be bringing forward their own old idea to test it out, or genuine surprise that there might be another way.

Certain Guides will respond to the idea of Liberty; to allow a pastime so to take control that our actions are determined for us at certain times each day is to be bound, unadaptable, UNREADY.

Goodnight,

G.H.S.

UNIFORM — AN ASSET OR A LIABILITY?

Not so many years ago, to venture out in Guide uniform was to encounter curious looks and jeering or wondering remarks. To-day all is changed, many and varied are the uniformed women in our streets, and all pass without comment or remark. Among these we see the Guide uniform, one of the oldest and longest established of all, but does it always hold its rightful place among them in appearance?

As one who has attended many conferences, and looked round at the Guiders gathered there, I cannot truthfully answer yes to this question. Can you? And why is this the case? Is it because in mufti a girl spends time and trouble on her appearance and general turnout, but uniform just gets thrown on any how and any way? Or perhaps the wearer is known among her intimates as "a good sort of person, but one who does not care about looks or clothes." They may take her for granted, but what sort of impression does she give of Guiding to the general public who do not know her idiosyncracies. That is

the whole point. We, as a Movement, are mainly judged by our appearance and behaviour in uniform. We believe in Guiding and are proud to be Guides, so let us show this to the world at large by our bearing and appearance.

Perhaps you might ask upon what foundations I am basing these criticisms? Here then are individual items. First and foremost, our hats. Much has been said and written about the style of Guide hats, but at the moment, like it or not as the case may be, that style is our official uniform, and as such should be uniform. A.W.A.S. and W.K.A.N.S. have hats with creases in the crowns, Guiders do not; an A.W.A.S. does not remove her crease, neither should she put one in. The hat itself is neither a Paris model to be worn on one side, nor is it a halo, yet both fashions are seen. (Also, believe it or not, I have recently seen a hat pin introduced!) We inspect our Guides for unbrushed nats, wavy brims or stained and worn ribbons—let us first be sure of ourselves. Then ties. Why is it that so few women, unless a member of one of the Services, can wear a tie neatly? In the days of white shirts this was more noticeable, ties were loosely knotted and untidy, not pulled well up to the collar, but even to-day with overalls we still sometimes see the same thing. The overall itself should be pressed each time it is worn, and a little starch does keep it fresher.

Let us take next those accessories which need polishing—badge, warrant brooch, State badge, whistle, knife, stars and belt buckle. Quite a list, isn't there? How many of them did you polish before you last wore uniform? The thing that most frequently misses, judging by its appearance, is the crown of the State badge. Do give it a really good clean next time! Then, of course, there is boot polish required for shoes and belt, appearance and thrift. Leather lasts much longer when polished.

Then there are what we call the technical errors, things that are not apparent to the uninitiated, but are definitely wrong. Among these we could list the wearing of second class and proficiency badges and cloth State badges. They should all be removed as soon as a Guide or Ranger becomes a Guider. Lan-yards too are not official uniform in Victoria, although they may be worn to a Company meeting if desired. A Guider wears only one numbered service star, with no cloth background, denoting her total number of years of service in the Movement as Brownie, Guide Ranger and Guider. One last complaint is the position of the warrant badge, its correct position is "just below the knot of the tie," not wandering half way down to meet the Tenderfoot badge.

Then there is the question of make-up. If we think a shiny nose and unreddened lips detract from our appearance in mufti, would they not do the same in uniform? Make-up is meant to enhance and not detract from

one's beauty, though, so don't be too lavish with the rouge and lipstick! Hands, nails and hair all add to or mar the final result.

Even when all these details have been attended to, all can be ruined by a slovenly walk or a sloppy carriage. Part of the Second Class health rule and carriage test is "look neat." It is a test to be lived all the time, in uniform and out, not to be passed and forgotten. We read the following paragraph in the Girl Guide Diary: "Guides are always being asked to do all sorts of jobs. If someone walked into your Company meeting and wanted an important message delivered, would she choose you? What would influence her choice? Surely your appearance, clean and tidy uniform, well ironed tie, polished badge and belt, tidy hair, clean hands, and **altogether a look of alertness.**"

Perhaps this all sounds rather bitter and critical, but it is not meant to be taken in that way. There are, I am quite ready to admit that, dozens of Guiders who do wear their uniform well, and this is not addressed to them, but there are, too, this other variety. Can we, all of us, have a thorough inspection of ourselves, pick upon our weak spots, and remedy anything that needs it? Remember, we represent not only ourselves, our Company, or even our State, we represent too the Guides of the whole world—of China, France, England, Poland, America and Belgium. And by the mere fact of wearing uniform we are demonstrating, too, our faith in the ideals of Guiding as set forth in the Laws and Promise. We have the faith and we have the pride, let us show them to the world. "The Guide Movement is judged by the appearance and behaviour of the people in it."

—"Captain."

LONES

Although the whole basis of Guide training is character building, I wonder if we realise enough the significance of this important fact? And what an opportunity we Lone Guiders have in dealing with the country child.

I am sure we are all agreed that, in contrast to the city child, the country one develops certain characteristics more quickly; a sense of responsibility, resourcefulness and independence are three of these qualities that are forced upon her by circumstances.

Contrast the daily life of the two. The city child has only a short distance to go to school. Her transport is easy, usually by trams which are frequent and comfortable. She has nothing to do beforehand except to get herself ready. She returns home in the mid-afternoon, when her work is usually over for the day, except for school home-work. Her evenings are pleasant relaxation, with all the comforts of modern civilisation—electric light, hot water

laid on, all amenities to hand. In her leisure hours she can choose her companions; there are entertainments to enjoy; she has no responsibilities.

The country girl's daily life begins very often before it is light. She usually has to travel many miles to school. Sometimes she has to ride, which means catching and saddling her pony herself. If she travels by bus, she usually has to walk some distance to reach it. Often she has to help herd the cows before she leaves.

On her return home—often not until towards evening—there are countless little jobs to do of which the town girl knows nothing. Chickens to feed, a pile of wood made ready for the stove or bath, lamps to fill.

I have often quoted the day's programme of a girl of twelve, who lived in the hills beyond my country home. She was the second eldest of six children. Her first duty was to milk the cow each morning, then catch and harness the horse to the gig, and drive her two smaller sisters seven miles to school. Before returning home she had to collect the mail. On arrival there was either the cow to milk again, or at certain times of the year, if there was any light left, to go into the fields either planting or digging potatoes or any other urgent farm work required. This girl's one ambition was to become a nurse, which she later achieved. I am sure she has made a good one. Certainly she had the spirit of Service.

These girls must surely gain a sense of independence which is the keynote to the development of character. Their responsibilities give them an assurance which their city cousins—living their sheltered lives—cannot gain until many years later.

Contrast also the artificial pleasures of the town girl with the natural ones of her country cousin. The greatest delight of all town children are moving picture shows—which could have so much educational value, but instead are a menace to both the mental and moral outlook of a child's mind. Film producers save their consciences by pronouncing such-and-such a film as "Not suitable for general exhibition," and thus sanctimoniously wash their hands of any evil effects their productions may have on the adolescent mind.

Those pictures that are labelled "For general exhibition" are either of the "custard pie throwing" variety, or of blood and thunder adventure. One has only to visit a cinema at a Saturday children's matinee and endure the din from excited youthful voices to realise the harmful and unbalancing effect of this hysterical state of mind.

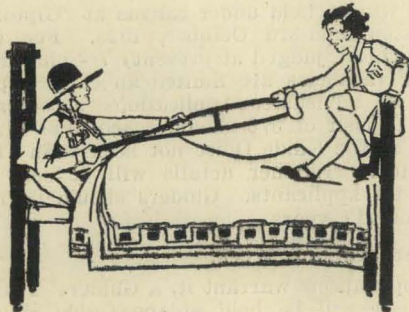
The town child feeds on excitement, and takes her pleasures with nerves strung up. She is surrounded constantly by crowds attending competition sports, parties and shows. She must have companionship because she has never known the lack of it.

On the other hand, the country child has a tranquil mind. She is used to doing things

alone; she has not had to develop the shrewdness necessitated by "holding her own" with wits sharper than her own. Her pleasures are the natural ones of her surroundings. She lives close to Nature, absorbing its beauties, learning its lessons and gaining thereby patience and serenity. Her pets—and what country girl is without several?—teach her understanding and kindness. Her work in the fields or in the garden brings her closer to her Creator.

This, then, is the material we Lone Guiders have to deal with. The way is clear. All we have to do is to lead them down the path their feet are already treading. What a privilege it is to show them the fulfilment of Guide principles through their daily lives! How satisfying to make them realise that their very existence is the embodiment of all true Guide teaching!

M.R.F.



Editor: Miss S. R. Foott.

AN EXCITING DAY AT MARYSVILLE.

May 29th was a Red Letter Day at the Victorian Deaf and Dumb Institute at Marysville. At least, it was a Red Letter Day for the Guide Company. Here is what some of the Guiders themselves wrote about it:

"... My Patrol is the Poppy Patrol. On the 29th of last month (May) in the morning the Girl Guiders were very busy, because we polished our belts and badges, and ironed our uniforms and ties. When we had finished, we changed into uniforms before dinner. After a while we saw the bus, Mrs. Black on it. Then we went for our dinner. When we had finished, we shook hands with Mrs. Black. I knew her because she came here last year. . ."

—Kath Maslem.

... Miss Barrett (Captain) asked me to go and see Mrs. Black, and I said 'Hello, Mrs. Black,' and she shook hands with her left hand, so I did, too. She told me that she was pleased to see me and she said that she was disappointed not seeing me last year when I was sick. I had scarlet fever. In the afternoon we put on our Guide hats and went to

the ball-room. Then Miss Barrett told us that Mrs. Black, Pat Boardman, Diana Davey and Dorothy Quince would go first and would put tracks for us to follow. We waited about 20 minutes and then we started following the trail, and it led to the local sports ground. After a while we formed into Patrols, and marched in horseshoe formation for the Enrolment ceremony. The Color party came and stood beside the Rose Patrol. Ellen Beasley, Margaret and Joan Ormandy, Laura Wheeler, Margaret Pratt and I were enrolled as Guides. When the ceremony was over, we sat on ground sheets and Mrs. Black told us a story about two Guides, and Miss Barrett interpreted it. . ."

... Margaret Thornton.
". . . We began to play games and hid behind the trees. After the games, Kath, Thelma and I passed the morse test for our second class badges. Thelma is my sister. Then we returned to 'Marylyn' and we shook hands with Mrs. Black and she got into a bus and returned to Melbourne (actually Healesville). I started Guides about three years ago. Last March the Guiders went for a walk to the Taggerty River, about 2½ miles. We stayed there for a day. We had a good time. Miss Barrett took some of the Guiders to Mt. Gordon, about 4½ miles, last month. At last we arrived there on the top. We had a marvellous view. We could see the Melb. road and the Taggerty river. . . My Patrol is the Wattle. I am the P.L. . ."

—Jean Ladlow.

HOUGH! FOR THE HIKER'S BADGE

"Hough" is the greeting the Red Indians call when they give the Woodcraft Sign (the design of the Hiker badge you long to wear on your sleeve). You make the woodcraft sign with the open hand, little finger and thumb up, other three fingers down over palm. Compare the effect with the Hiker badge design (P.O.&R., page 61).

Of course, the first thing to make sure of is that you are keeping your Hike Log; if you haven't started, now is the time. Don't write essays—a "record" can be in note form, something like this:—

"Diamond Creek rly. Stn., Saturday, 19th Sept., 1942. Spring. 9 a.m. train from P. Bridge. 8 of us. Sunny, but chill wind from S.W. Clear sky except in S., where dark cloudbank looked as if rain might come later, and it did—about 3.45 p.m.

"Started from Station 9.45, followed map North along Creek (willows on bank looked lovely, like green hair), road very rutty, water lying in puddles, gravelly edges, also gravelly in padocks near gateways. Wattle everywhere, lovely. Saw 3 robins (flame-breasted, I think), and some little birds, brownish, with yellow under tails, in flocks of about 12, funny little chirpy call. Must

look them up in book. Without getting through fences, I found nine different notes: out (give names or descriptions or sketches, so that you can find out later what they were and add details in margin).

After walking $\frac{1}{2}$ hr., turned uphill towards N.E.—lovely view, especially with wattle out everywhere. Road soon turned N. again, and after we'd gone about 2 more miles, turned sharply W., and after $\frac{1}{2}$ mile reached creek (11.50). Lunch here (give menu and how cooked, what wood used, what kind of fire, with sketch). In sand beside creek saw foot tracks of dog and some large bird (think it hopped). Track like this (sketch it).

And so on. The syllabus says your record should give (a) season of year; (b) place and method of getting there; (c) object of hike"; but the most important point is to show by your notes that you have the "seeing eye"—that you use all your senses (sight, smell, taste, hearing, feeling) and also that you "put two and two together." That is called "deduction," and the more intelligently you manage to "deduce" facts, the more woodcrafty you become. In the above notes, we "deduced" from the cloudbank in the South that rain was approaching. We "deduced" from the position of the tracks that the bird had hopped.

You probably know that the Founder could tell from wheel-tracks the direction, speed and weight of the vehicle that made them; that's done by deduction, too—try it!

By the way, you needn't wait for a Company hike—a Patrol, one of two or three Guides (ask Captain's permission first) or a personal one you do with a friend in the week-end for an hour or two, can be recorded in your Log, too. It does not matter, either, whether you go on foot, bicycle or horseback, but I don't think a car would do—it scares all wild life and goes so fast that you can't see, hear, smell or touch things.

So—"Pack up your dinner in a haversack, and hike, hike, hike!" —Yabinga.

Training and Camping

(Elaine Moran)

GUIDERS' TRAINING CLASSES.

Guide First Class Training.

If applications warrant it, this Course will commence on Tuesday, 10th August, at the Guide Office at 7.45 p.m. sharp, and not on 13th August, as previously published. It will consist of three classes on 10th, 17th and 24th August, and three afternoons on 14th and 28th August, and 4th September. The fee will be 1/6 per head. Uniform will be worn, and Guiders should bring sandshoes,

notebook and pencil, and other equipment as notified from week to week. Applications should reach Miss Macartney at the Guide Office not later than 30th July.

Guide Elementary Training.

If applications warrant it, a course of Elementary Training for Captains and Lieutenants will be held at the Guide Office, commencing 7.45 p.m. Thursday, 16th September. Guiders must be nominated by their Commissioners, application forms will be available at the Guide Office or by post from Miss Macartney (please send stamped addressed envelope). The fee will be 4/- per head, payable in advance or at the first class. Applications should be in not later than 1st September. Uniform will be worn at all classes, and notebook and pencil and sandshoes should be brought. Guiders should be not less than 17 years of age.

Guiders' Training Week-end at Gipton.

This will be held under canvas at "Gipton," Frankston, 2nd-3rd October, 1943. Fee (as far as can be judged at present) 7/- plus fare 3/-. As vacancies are limited an early application is advisable. Applications accompanied by deposit of 3/6 should reach Miss Macartney at the Guide Office not later than 11th September. Further details will be sent to successful applicants. Guiders should be not less than 17 years.

Summer Training Week.

If applications warrant it, a Guiders' Training Week will be held at the Guide House from 31st December to 8th January. All Guiders are invited to apply stating which type of training they require — Brownie, Guide, Ranger or First Class, etc.—and how long they have been Guiders. The training will be arranged according to what is required. The fee will be 30/- plus fares. Application forms will be available from Miss Macartney after 1st August. Guiders are asked to apply as soon as they know definitely they will be able to go. Guiders should be not less than 17 years.

PLANS FOR SUMMER CAMPS!

Land Work Camps.

A Land Work Camp for members of the Guide movement of 15 years and over will be held during January. Guides will attend in shifts of a week or a fortnight. Guides will work 4 hours per day. The camp will be under canvas, and campers will do the cooking and ordinary camp chores, in Patrols. A qualified staff of Guiders will be in charge. Application forms for all the Guides of one Company who wish to attend (not for single Guides) will be obtainable after 1st August at the Guide Office, or by post from Miss V. Harrison, 126 High Street, Glen Iris, SE6 (please send stamped addressed envelope).

Guide Camps.

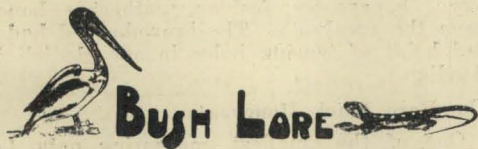
Many Companies are going ahead with their plans for camp next January. Company camps are the very best camps of all for Guides. However, there are Guides whose Captains have not the slightest hope of getting a Camper's Licence during the war, and the Camping Committee would like to help some of them to get to a camp. If any District or Company has been thinking of Camp, and wondering how it could be done, will the Commissioner or Guider responsible write to Miss Harrison, 126 High Street, Glen Iris, SE6, before 28th August, and we will see what can be done to help them. Please state the number of Guides wishing to attend, and the names and qualifications of any Guider able to go on the staff. We cannot promise that we will be able to run Camps for all who apply, but we will do our best!

Guiders Please Note—Urgent!

Before you make plans for your holidays in the summer, will you please consider the possibility of (i) attending a Training Week or a Campcraft Week; (ii) gaining Camping experience and giving service to the Movement by attending as a member of the staff of a Guide Camp. THIS APPLIES PARTICULARLY TO TEACHERS.

Guiders' Campcraft Training.

For training in general Campcraft—Pioneer and Campcraft badges, Camper's license, and Quartermaster's certificate—and for testing nominated candidates for the above subjects, a Camp for Guiders will be held at the Guide House from 31st December to 8th Jan., 1943. Fee 30/- plus fares. Guiders attending should be not less than 17 years. It would help greatly if Guiders wishing to attend would let Miss Harrison, 126 High Street, Glen Iris, SE6, know as soon as they can, and state if there is any particular training or testing required.



(Editor: Elsie Sydes.)

THE CHIEF SCOUT ONCE SAID . . .

"You may say 'Yes, but I can't get to the mountains, and primeval forests. How, then, am I to see and understand the wonders of Nature and her messages?'

"You can do almost as much in your own country if you will come away from the towns and suburbs, and get out into the open, into the woods and meadows. . . taking with you your little canvas home, your blanket, your cooking pot—and freedom."

And I would add that even in your own back yard there is something going on.

Insect Life Inactive.

Most insect life is inactive at present, spiders have apparently disappeared, dead flies can be found on walls or in places where they have hidden in vain from the cold. Wasps have vanished, too, but I was surprised to see one—a small black one about 3/4 inch long—on the inside of the kitchen window about a fortnight ago. I don't think he would survive the cold outdoors very long. Warmer days we see a few slow bees about. An occasional very "dopey" cricket is dug up in the garden. The busy ants no longer race about. Could we but see beneath the surface of things we would see the preparation for the new insect life in the spring.

Vine Moth Caterpillar has Enemies.

Perhaps it is as well we can't see the army of insects that are being prepared to invade our gardens. Even they have their enemies! This year I have found many caterpillar remains on the grape vine and each skin—all that remained—had a collection of tiny cocoons stuck upon it. I think these are cocoons of the tiny parasitic wasps. Whatever they are, they are certainly the cocoons of some parasite that has fed on the caterpillars. Unfortunately when I went to collect some specimens the frost had caused the leaves to fall and I could not find any.

Sundews.

The tiny flat kind of sundews are showing through already. And do your Guides watch the mosses and lichens spring to life again? This is really one of the miracles of nature, to see the dried-up pieces of lichen which in the summer were dead to all intents and purposes, come into life once more.

Elm Flower Cycle.

In 1928 I made some notes on trees in Bendigo, and they show the time of flowering of the elm, the time the "hops" or "seeds" took to grow, and the fall of these, followed by the growth of leaves. Here they are:—

August 8, tree outside our house in bud.
August 25—Tree in flower (looks very red)
September 7—Hops just forming.
October 8—Hops falling (wind blowing them down green).
October 15—Leaves coming.

This tree is always a bit later than many others. In Park August 18, and one tree in full bloom. In Park September 15, and elms covered in hops—masses of them.

Leaves falling end of March and during April. April 23, some have lost all their leaves, except a handful, others still have almost all their leaves, even green.

Elm Flower.

If you look closely you will see that the flower is a mass of small green trumpets

with lots of stamens coming forth. These are a brownish pink and give the tree its color when flowering. I counted the green trumpets in one flower, and there were 23 and 20 in another. Each small trumpet turns into hop or seed, making an enormous number. The trees appear a light green when laden with these. The hops are a bright green when young, with reddish marks where the seed is. If you pick some up you will see the seed in the centre of the flat green disc which is really a "wing" for the seed to fly down with.

Other Wings.

If you have an ash or a sycamore tree near you or in your garden, don't forget to watch them flower and then see their lovely wings, especially the sycamore's.

You will see bunches of seeds hanging on the ash right through the winter, and those that don't finally get blown off must be pushed off by the new leaves. And don't forget to see the black ash buds, the various catkins as they come, the white fluff from the poplars, the balls on the planes. If you are curious enough, pull one of these balls to pieces and you will find inside many seeds—small, hard and brown, with lots of brown fluff on them.

More About Honey-Eaters.

Australia is rich in honeyeaters and I always think that Bendigo is a favourite spot of theirs, for the number of varieties in and about the town was very comprehensive. Honeyeaters range from the smallest variety, measuring 4.3 inches, to the larger clan, wattle-birds, measuring 14.5 inches. And there are all sizes and colorings in between. Some are very shy, others not so shy, but all are noted for their quickness of movement and the consequent difficulty in observing them. This is most noticeable when you get two species that are much alike, and you need a thorough look to decide. The honeyeater is usually most disobliging on these occasions. They follow the flowering of the eucalypts to a great extent, so that this year you might find them plentiful in a locality you visit and another time they will be practically non-existent. Now for a few notes on the different species.

White-Naped Honeyeater.

One of the smaller honey-eaters, 5.5 inches, very common. I have seen them in all hilly timbered districts visited, e.g., Bendigo, Castlemaine, Dandenongs, Daylesford. Usually seen in large numbers working together in the trees. Tamer than most honeyeaters. Quite attractive, though not so showy as others—olive upper and the coloring to distinguish them is by the black head and hind of neck with a narrow white band on the nape and a small naked patch about the eye, this patch being orange-scarlet. The breast is white. They keep up a constant noise while feeding, not very loud, but rather a peevish, nondescript whistling.

The most intimate glimpses I have had of these is when they have visited small mountain pools for a drink. The naked patch has then been seen quite distinctly.

Brown-Headed and Black-Chinned Honeyeaters.

Both these belong to the Bendigo district, and I have heard the brown-headed in other timbered areas too. Both move in small flocks of 4 or 5 in case of black-chinned, and half a dozen or more in case of brown-headed. It sounds somewhat similar in description to the white-naped, you listen—greenish-olive upper; head, nape dark brown; whitish band on nape continued as brownish-white band on head; under creamy; bare skin about eye greenish-blue in winter, dull yellow (delicate flesh-tint) in summer. Under actual observation I don't think you will have any trouble, as the white-naped is more decided in coloring, perhaps you could say brighter. Certainly his head is quite black, and his breast quite white. Then the small flock is a clue, and the song. The brown-headed has a rather harsh sounding, rattly song, which it emits when in flight. Once you track it down you will always be able to identify this bird and know that it is in the locality, even if some distance away. I think song is a great means of identifying any bird, seen or unseen. It makes you prick up your ears and be on the alert to see the bird.

The blackchinned has a louder musical call, also letting you know he is about, and nutting you on your tiptoes. He is bigger than the brownheaded, being 6.7, and that extra inch make a considerable difference in real life. Coloring is upper olive, head and nape black, with a white band this time distinctly from the nape right round to the eye. The sides of the throat are white and in the centre is a black patch, hence the bird's name. These are the most conspicuous features for identification purposes. Very often the black chin is easily seen when the bird is hanging upside-down, honeyeater fashion, gathering honey from the eucalypts. The brownheaded had a bad habit of tearing holes in our gladioli in Bendigo.

The Rare Black Honeyeater.

One of the smallest, measuring only 4.4, this honeyeater is very rare, and Bendigo is extremely lucky in having a pair that nest outside the town. I have not been lucky enough to see it, but I believe one of our naturalists, Miss Watson, has. I'm wondering if she'll tell "Matilda" about it?

White-Eared Honeyeater.

This is a bigger bird, being 8 inches, and very distinctive, with its general yellowish-olive coloring with dark head and black chest and throat, giving the appearance of a black hood, and then the distinct white ear patch as contrast. It is a noisy bird, and its loud notes can be heard ringing through the tree tops. It seems to like the bigger timber. I

have seen it at Mount Macedon and in the Dandenongs. Many years ago there was one building at the Guide place, "Gipton." I have also seen it around Castlemaine, but I don't think it goes much farther North, being more a Southerner. Ballarat district is another locality where I have seen it. It is very active, and hard to get a good look at as a result.

GUIDERS' CONFERENCE.

What happened on October 10th, 1942?

We had a Guiders' Conference. Do you remember some of the things we planned to do?

Do you want a Conference this year?

At that Conference we nominated five Guiders to the State Council, and gave them the job of arranging the 1943 Conference too.

Well, they have got together and planned this year's Conference for October 16th; and now they are asking you what you wish to discuss at this Conference; so will you carefully turn out your "think box", and if you find anything which needs discussing, write to the State Secretary at the Guide Office, by August 4th; and tell her whether or not you would be willing to introduce your subject at the Conference.

For the Guiders' Committee, H. GROSS.

MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Held at the Guide Office on 20th May and 3rd June, 1943.

Present 20th May: Miss Cameron (chair); Mrs. Blackwood, Mrs. Buckley, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Springthorpe, Misses Holtz, McKellar and the Secretary.

3rd June: Miss Cameron (chair), Mrs. Bakewell, Mrs. Blackwood, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Littlejohn, Misses MacLeod, Moran, Ritchie and the Secretary.

Reported that arrangements had been made for the ceremony of handing over the cheque for £2000 from the War Appeal to the Royal Australian Naval Patriotic Committee on 19th June. The following districts have been chosen to send representatives to present the cheque—Nyah West, Trafalgar, Maryborough, Sale, Malvern and Brighton.

That six more cases of clothing were ready for dispatch to England.

That Mrs. C. McD. Forster had agreed to represent the Association on the Better Education Campaign Committee.

That a letter had been received from Lady Dugan thanking the Association for message and flowers sent after her recent accident.

That Miss Moran had prepared the section on the Guide Movement for the brochure which was being published by the Associated Youth Committee on Youth Work.

Agreed that the following should represent

the Association on the study groups being formed by the League of Nations Union Post War Reconstruction Commission. International, Mrs. Blackwood; Educational, Mrs. Edmondson; Social Services, Miss Cameron.

That a meeting of Division Commissioners should be called to make arrangements for the Commissioners' Conference, and that a meeting of Guider representatives on the Council be called to arrange for the Guiders' Conference.

Routine and financial business was transacted.

M. E. BUSH.

Patrol Leaders.

"Receive and answer a message in Morse across a reasonable distance out of talking range."

Do you know what that comes from? It's the new morse section in the Second Class Test. Don't you think it's a nice, exciting section, too? Really going outside and sending a message, that's what signalling should be, not just single letters sent across a hall. Your Tenderfoots should now feel that they are really learning and doing something that is of practical use, and it's up to you, Leaders, to see that they do feel like that, and are thrilled. What about starting by telling them the stories of the lost plane over Albury, or the City of Benares? Do you know them yourselves? One night a plane was circling over Albury, having completely lost its bearings and, realising that the people of the town signalled the word "Albury" to it in morse by means of car headlights. When the City of Benares was torpedoed in mid-Atlantic one of the lifeboats contained, among others a small Scout; days later, as a searching plane flew overhead, he semaphored "City of Benares" to it. Little did that Scout think when he learnt the code how grateful both he and other people would be that he had done so. And, who knows, chances such as those may come to any one of you. It will be too late then to wish you had passed your Second Class! By the way, did you know there really was a Mr. Morse? Samuel Finley Breese Morse, to give him his full name. He was an American who invented the electrical telegraph at the beginning of the last century. Something else to tell your Tenderfoots.

When you started signalling did you talk about dots and dashes, or did you say dits and dahs instead? I hope you used the latter method! If not, change over to it to-day, and teach all your Guides that way. It is the system used by the Post Office, Services, and all trained signallers. Perhaps you ask why? I hope you do! It's always best to find out the whys and wherefors of anything, especially if you are going to teach other people! Now, just suppose you have learnt the code in the old way of dots and dashes from a book. Some-one signals a letter to you—you do four things.

1. Watch the flag.

2. Say to yourself dash dot dash dot.
3. Think of the book with —.—. printed in it.

4. Say to yourself —.—. that's C.

But if you have learnt by sound from the start you only do three things.

1. Watch the flag.
2. Say to yourself dahdidahdit.
3. Know dahdidahdit is C.

Quicker, isn't it?

When you set to work with your Tenderfoots don't let them have any printed form of the morse code. Signalling is a thing you DO, and the code consists of SOUNDS, neither of them things to be learnt by sight or from a book. Teach your Tenderfoot one or two letters at a time and let her get used to the sound of them; let her sing them over and over to herself and to you so that she gets the "feel" of their rhythm (a dah three times as long as a dit), that is the method the R.A.A.F. uses. You will notice that a dit is shortened to di unless it comes at the end of the symbol. Thus we get B dahdididit, W didahdah, S dididit, etc.

When you are actually sending a message there are a few procedure signals that you will need to know. For instance, it would be waste of time starting to send the message if the person who was to receive it was not looking, wouldn't it? It is usual to work with a team of four when sending a simple message. There is the "signaller" who is sending the message, and the "receiver," to whom it is being sent. These two never take their eyes off one another during the course of the message, so it is necessary to have other people there to read it out and to write it down. Beside the "signaller" there is the "reader," who sits with her back to the "receiver" and gives the message, letter by letter, to the "signaller." The "writer" sits beside the "reader" with her back to the "signaller," and writes down the letters as the "receiver" gives them to her.

To start the message the "signaller" sends VE (barred—meaning the letters are conjoined, and should be sent as one symbol—.—.—.). This the "receiver" answers with T. The "signaller" goes on sending VE (.—.—.) until she gets her answer, then she starts the message, read out to her, letter by letter, by the "reader." At the end of each word the reader will say "group," and the "signaller" brings down her flag. The "writer" will tell the "receiver" if she has got the word, if she has the "receiver" sends back T, and the "signaller" carries on. If she does not receive T she repeats the word again. At the end of the message the "signaller" sends AR (barred: —.—.). This is also answered by T. Then the "writer" checks through the message, and if it makes sense she tells her "receiver" to send back R. This completes the communication between them. If either side wants to send a further message they must call up with VE again. Suppose the "signaller" makes a mistake? She then sends eight

dits, gets answered by eight dits, and starts the word again. This all sounds rather complicated on paper, but get out and DO it, and you will be surprised how simple the procedure really is. As I said before, signalling is something you do, not something you read about. That's why it is so hard to explain on paper.

By the way, you would never speak of A, B and C in signalling, would you? You would always use a phonetic alphabet. Do you know about that? You see, some letters sound very alike. Your "reader" might tell you to send B, and you might think she said V. It would upset the message a bit, wouldn't it? To prevent that happening, every letter has its own name, and instead of saying B and V you talk of Baker and Victor. You may have learnt a different alphabet, as the phonetics have recently been revised. We now use the same phonetic alphabet as that employed by the services, ARP and other organisations. I am not going to waste space by printing it here as it is published on another page of this issue. Ask Captain to give it to you.

I have been speaking as though a morse flag was the only means by which you could send your message, but read the heading again. It says "by some form of morse," so you can take your pick. I really think, though, that you will find a flag is the most satisfactory method. Try a torch, if you like, but be very careful of your rhythm, and do go slow. It is very easy to send fast, but quite a different matter to read the message. I doubt very much too if the torch would carry well over 200 yards, however I am saying that without having tried it out, so go ahead and experiment and you may easily prove me wrong!

Each Patrol should own at least one flag. I know its hard in days of rationing but that just makes it more of a challenge to you to produce something! I have heard of flour bags being used, perhaps you can think of something else, too? Anyway, if the worst comes to worst, why not a patchwork flag? If possible keep to white as it shows up best, but in an emergency anything will do.

Don't wait until your Tenderfoot knows the whole code to let her start signalling. Send messages with the nine or ten letters she knows, and let her "reader" or "writer" help her when necessary; or let her be a "reader" or "writer." You'll see then how anxious she will be to learn more so that she can send and read longer and more exciting messages.

Start on the morse in this way as soon as you like. People who have nearly completed their Second Class on the old system can continue in that way if they prefer it, but by September we will all have changed over. The alteration in morse is not the only change, ask Captain to tell you the others. We will have articles on them too in other months, but I think this is enough to keep you busy for the present. Don't you?

"Tul-Kara."