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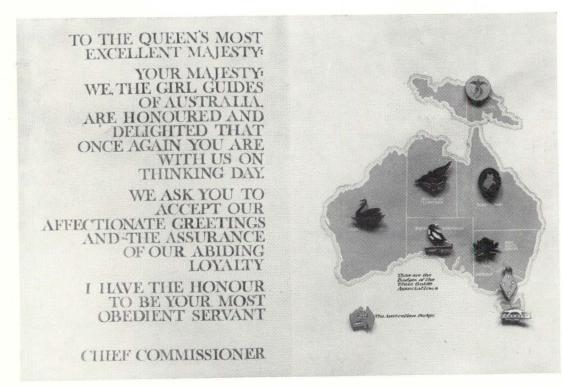
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APRIL, 1963.

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The following is copy of a letter received from Australian Headquarters acknowledging Australia's Thinking Day Message to Her Majesty the Queen, which message was in the form of an illustrated Thinking Day Card.

> H.M. YACHT BRITANNIA, at Melbourne, 23rd February, 1963

Dear Mrs. Buntine,

I am commanded to ask you to convey to the members of the Girl Guides Association of Australia the sincere thanks of The Queen for the kind and loyal message contained in the interesting and beautifully executed "Thinking Day" card, and which Her Majesty, as Patron, deeply appreciates.

> Yours sincerely, (Signed) EDWARD FORD.

Mrs. M. A. Buntine, M.B.E., Chief Commissioner.

THINKING DAY CARD

The card was designed, and the lettering decided upon, by the Australian Public Relations Sub-Committee in consultation with the Chief Commissioner and the Australian Secretary. The metal badges were contributed by the States.

The actual work was done by Mr. Oscar Skalberg, who has designed our (Australian) Report for 1961 and 1962; he is a former Scout, and did this as a gift to our Association.

South Australia delivered the card to the "Britannia"-the "messengers" were Ranger Heather McLean, Guide Janice Boyce and Brownie Lynette Kiddle.

Vice-Admiral Sir Roy Dowling, Australian Secretary to The Queen, undertook to see that it was handed over at the appropriate time.

FROM THE STATE COMMISSIONER

28/2/63.

I have been busy writing "thank you" letters to the many kind friends who helped to make our Royal Visit-Thinking Day weekend so special-firstly, to our State President, Lady Brooks, not only for the privilege of our Brownies and members of the Extension Section lining the drive of Government House for the arrival there of the Queen and H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh, but also for sending our Thinking Day Message to the Queen at sea. I was happy to tell her that we received a reply from Her Majesty cabled from the Royal Yacht "Britannia" in time for our Links of Friendship Festival. For those who did not hear it there, the Private Secretary to Her Majesty said: "I am commanded to ask you to convey the warm thanks of The Queen to the Girl Guides and Brownies of Victoria for their kind Thinking Day greetings, which Her Majesty has received with much pleasure."

I have thanked, on your behalf, the Hon. the Premier of Victoria, Mr. H. E. Bolte, and his Government for inviting us to attend the splendid reception in the Melbourne Town Hall, for allocating space to us at the Henley Staging, for granting free travel to our country members to and from the city, and for permitting us to choose two Senior Branch members to open the door of Her Majesty's car.

I have thanked Sir Frank Richardson of Cox Bros. (Aust.) Ltd. and the other generous supporters who made it possible for us to enter that very lovely and appropriate float in the Moomba Procession. I'm sure that Her Majesty appreciated the design, centred around the Queen's Guide Badge, which was submitted by Mrs. Chamberlain for Diamond Valley Division.

I have thanked Mr. Dwyer, who, with Mrs. Dwyer of our Public Relations Sub-committee, decorated our building so tastefully. And did you see our lovely shop window, dressed for the occasion by Miss Sophie Wirth, our Publicity Secretary?

There were so many people to whom we were grateful for help in connection with that simply wonderful Campfire at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl, within our own ranks, as well as outside, and I hope that everyone has been thanked. Our organisers, Miss Peg Barr and Miss Peg Edmondson, certainly knew exactly what we would like best and gave it to us quite magnificently. They were given most valuable help by Miss Lilian Beard and her team of assistants from the Senior Branch, by our Guide Choir under Mrs. Clarke, and by the visiting artists.

What a strenuous, as well as important, weekend it was for our Senior Branch, with their own dawn Thinking Day Service at Headquarters on Friday, a dawn start down the river and up the Bay for the arrival of "Britannia" on Saturday, followed by final preparations for, and the production of, the finale to our Campfire. And are we not fortunate to have such a clever person as our Mrs. Walker to write special songs and music for our special occasions?

You will read descriptions of every outstanding event in this issue of "Matilda," but there will be others—personal, Company, District and Division—that we will all cherish, with the added joy of having shared them with our sister Guides from all over the State.

We had a guest from England, too-Lady Gibbs, cousin of Miss Anstice Gibbs, Chief Commissioner for the British Commonwealth, and herself recently retired from the position of Overseas Chief Commissioner. During two years' residence in Melbourne she was once District Commissioner for South Yarra. From this connection, maintained by frequent visits to Australia, we feel that Lady Gibbs is definitely "one of us," and it was, therefore, a particular pleasure to have her call at Headquarters on 20th, when our recentlyretired State Commissioner and her assistants were "At Home" to all of us.

That was THE MOST WONDERFUL day. Crowds of people from every Section of the Movement came throughout the whole day to express for themselves and others their appreciation and affection for Mrs. Fairbairn, Mrs. McKay and Mrs. Orr. It made a pleasant and excellent opportunity, too, for people from the different Sections to meet each other, and for Mrs. Catomore and I to meet everyone-and I believe it was a wonderful day for the shop. It has been suggested-and not only by Mrs. Rawson !- that it might be a good idea for the State Commissioners to be "At Home" at Headquarters now and then. Do tell us what you think of this. If enough people wish it, we shall certainly be happy to do so, with the added pleasure of commemorating this first occasion.

I was able to tell Mrs. Fairbairn, Mrs. McKay and Mrs. Orr that over and above your personal gifts to them, there was then an amount of approximately £280 for them to use as they wished. They have decided that they would like it to be spent for the promotion of camping, perhaps to help in purchasing a new site to be developed according to our needs. That surely will help the whole Movement in Victoria, which is their prime wish.

They were very delighted with their small personal gifts. As Mrs. Fairbairn has a special love for Lalique, we found her a rather lovely bird piece. In the photograph published in the February "Matilda" of the farewell cake made and decorated by Mrs. Gray, who noticed a silver salver? It was one of the two similar ones presented to Mrs. McKay and Mrs. Orr. I hope you are as happy with our choice of your token gifts to them as I know you will be with their return gift to us. One way and another, 20th February was an intimate highlight in this month of highlights—and for the very best of Guide reasons. It emphasised our happiness in working together, in appreciating the things other people do, and in being together and enjoying the deep content of true friendship.

Joyce E. Price

OUR GRATITUDE

So many of our Guide friends who were unable to come to our "At Home" have either written or telegraphed farewell and thanks to Mrs. McKay, Mrs. Orr and myself.

We started off writing our thanks to you, but now, owing to numbers, we feel you will forgive us if we tell you through "Matilda" how thrilled we are to have your kind messages.

Thank you all for everything you have given and done for us. We are most touched and very happy you feel the way you do.

Bless you all-our love,

4 Factor

GUIDE PROPERTIES

It is with sincere regret that we announce the resignation of Mrs. G. O. Reid as Convener of our Property Sub-Committee as from 28th February. Mrs. Reid has done such splendid work for a very long period in helping Districts and Headquarters with advice on property matters, and we know that you would all want to join with us in expressing a sincere "thank you" to her.

Would Commissioners and Local Associations please note that, for the present, all queries in ocnnection with Guide Properties should be referred to Guide Headquarters.

* * * *

Every man takes care that his neighbour shall not cheat him. But a day comes when he begins to care that he does not cheat his neighbour. Then all goes well. He has changed his market-cart into a chariot of the sun.

THE ROYAL VISIT - 1963

EXTRACT FROM BOROONDARA CADET COMPANY LOG

23rd February, 1963:

4.00 a.m.: Cadets made their way to the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse at the heads of Port Phillip Bay. Daylight had not yet come, but brilliant in the darkness were the flashing red and green vertical signals below the main lights, 177 feet high on the lighthouse.

Using this brightness Cadets checked the Shipping Schedule for the day. The chart showed under the heading, "Shipping Due":-

0500 hours—R.Y. Britannia; H.M.A.S. Anzac; H.M.A.S. Quiberon; H.M.A.S. Queenboro

4.10 a.m.: A few people had already gathered at the lighthouse, and the Cadets found a superb position overlooking the entrance to Port Phillip Bay, and to the south the Cruising Station 15 miles out. We could see the lights of two ships at the Cruising Station, but too far away in the darkness for certain identification!

4.30 a.m.: Lights of two ships coming closer! Yes, the Royal Yacht "Britannia," followed by H.M.A.S. "Anzac"! Shapes of both ships were made very clear by the dozens of lights illuminating them from head to stern!

5.00 a.m.: Right on time the Royal Yacht entered Port Phillip, followed by her escort. Cadets watched this wonderful sight of THE Royal Yacht and escort pass Queenscliff and turn into the channel towards the Port of Melbourne.

CHIT CHAT ON THE ROYAL VISIT FERRY

"Sailing down the river on a Sunday afternoon"—only this was Saturday at 6.30 a.m.! "Who'd be a Girl Guide at this hour of the morning?"

Would you like to listen in to some of the conversation on that ferry?

"I'm going to join up Seas—for the hat!" "Coo, feel this boat rocking—now I know why I joined Land Rangers!"

Guider, producing many odds and ends from her handbag, bemoaned the fact that the plastic coat wouldn't fit in also; bright Extension suggested—"If you'd wrapped your lunch in your coat instead of paper it would have fitted!"

"My mum'll say when I get home, 'What did you see?' and I'll say 'the back end of a boat'."

"I've been waving madly to the folk on that ship and they won't wave back."

"Well, what do you expect, you're not the Queen."

After a wait off Williamstown for permission to travel back up-river, time was marching on and breakfast was a long way off. One poor hungry soul—"It's all right for the Queen, she's had her lunch!"

But we sang and we talked and we had a lovely time. It really was a wonderful experience to be one of the flotilla of small boats out on the Bay to welcome the Britannia, and I'm sure those present will never forget the sight of the Royal Yacht and the Anzac as they slowly entered the mouth of the Yarra.—N.D.Y.



FLOWERS FOR THE QUEEN

"I did want to take them right up, Brown Owl," was the remark of one of two very thrilled Brownies as they stepped sedately back on to the wharf from the gangway of the Royal Yacht "Britannia" after having solemnly handed over a basket of flowers from the Girl Guides Association of Victoria for the Queen. The flowers, in the colours of the Association, were roses, dahlias and

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larkspur, backed with gold leaves and decorated with blue and gold ribbons.

The morning started early for the Brownies —so excited that breakfast had to be forced on them—with a visit to Headquarters, a chat with Mrs. Orr while waiting for the flowers to arrive, and then being photographed like film stars, finally the drive to the "Britannia." No hope had been given of their seeing the Queen as it was intended to reach the ship after Her Majesty had left, but as we were quite early and were able to park very close to the river the Brownies had a front-line view as the Queen passed in the Royal Barge. I'm sure you will feel they deserved it.

Thoughts of crowds and barriers at our destination were rather disturbing as we had no actual pass, but there were no crowds and the barrier was manned by a group of most helpful and understanding police—one of whom escorted us through the barrier to the security officer, who duly gave the flowers, and us, a very close scrutiny. Satisfied no bombs were hidden, he was only too happy to allow the Brownies to take the flowers up the gangway and to permit the taking of more photographs.

Carrying a basket just about as big as themselves, and the gangway barely taking the width of them plus the basket, the Brownies' progress was slow. So studied was their every step that one of the seamen waiting at the top of the gangway met them threequarter way and took the flowers—thus the opening remark. The Brownies' descent was as perfect as their ascent, despite the many members of the crew waiting patiently and good-naturedly to go aboard.

Questioning two still rather awed Brownies on the way home if they had seen the Queen clearly, brought the disappointed reply from one that she had only seen the Queen's face and didn't see any crown; but I'm quite sure these two will never forget the Saturday morning they delivered flowers to the Queen from the members of the Girl Guides Association.

The following is a message from Her Majesty the Queen in appreciation of the flowers and message sent to her by the Victorian Brownies, Guides and Seniors. Dear Mrs. Price,

I write at the Queen's Command to thank the Victorian Brownies, Guides and Rangers for their kind and loyal message, and also for the beautiful flowers which accompanied it.

Her Majesty deeply appreciated this thought for Her, and I am to express The Queen's most sincere thanks.

> Yours sincerely, (Signed) Mary Morrison, Lady-in-Waiting.

THE ROYAL ARRIVAL AT HENLEY STAGING

On Saturday morning, 23rd February, about 500 excited Guides, with a few Senior Branch members, gathered on the "tan" near Government House, preparatory to marching into their positions on the Henley Staging where they were to welcome the Queen and Patron of their Association.

The day was clear and sunny with a right blue cloudless sky. The roads and lawns were dappled with sunshine peeping through the thick leafy foliage. Just as the elements turned on their best for this occasion, so did the Guides. Well pressed uniforms, neat, and with sparkling faces, they marched eight abreast (with an occasional giggle, a skip and sometimes a little run) to their places on the lawn beside the Staging.

What a magnificent position from which to view the Royal landing! The girls were truly appreciative of the privilege extended to them.

After waiting some time a hush came over the crowd, and then suppressed excitement sprang forth, as a police launch came up the river. The Guides were tense. The Naval Band—immaculate in their white uniforms started to play. Then the glorious moment as the Royal Barge rounded the river and there was the Queen and Prince Philip. How the Guides cheered.

Excitement as the Royal Couple disembarked at the Staging. All necks strained so as not to miss a second of this wonderful moment. Then—about face from the river and the Guides swarmed to the barrier separating their enclosure from the road. Attention, and silence as the Band played the National Anthem. All eyes riveted on the Queen as she inspected her Naval Guard of Honour. Then a proud moment for Sea Ranger Lesley Nicholson as she opened the car door for Her Majesty. Then wave upon wave of shouting as the Royal car drove alongside the Guide enclosure and everyone present had the thrill of seeing The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh.

-X.L.



Royal Visit Window – Guide Shop

OPEN DAY AT HEADQUARTERS

Thinking about the Link of Friendship Weekend, Miss Macartney said, "Why not have Open House, and invite the country Guides to see THEIR Headquarters?"

Volunteers from the staff were called for, and a roster compiled. And then in they came, and how glad we were to welcome all our sister-Guides.

Sometimes we had a moment to find out where they came from—Nhill, Hamilton, Frankston, Rochester, Paynesville, Red Cliffs, Mildura, Geelong, Cobram, Sea Lake, Carlton and Carnegie to mention just a few.

We showed them the offices and explained who worked there. We tried, too, to explain what the various people did.

I might add that the Guides were interested to see how "Matilda's" labels are printed on the Addressograph machine.

The switchboard proved a great attraction, especially the fact that by simply pressing a small button it was possible to speak to anyone in the building. The most popular "press" of all, we told them, is when each button is pressed twice—the signal for morning and afternoon tea! It was fun seeing you all—thank you for coming.

You can be assured that a warm welcome awaits you all whenever you can come again.

G.T.

ROYAL SATURDAY

By a fortunate coincidence my brother-inlaw, a Merchant Navy officer, was in port during Royal Weekend-his ship was berthed at the "mouth" of Victoria Dock, and the whole family was invited down to see the Britannia arrive. How beautiful she looked in the bright morning sunshine!-the hull deep navy-blue in colour, with an irridescence about it ("a special maritime paint with a high varnish content" we were told), the decks with fresh white paintwork and lined with smart sailors, the band on an upper deck playing gaily, and flags, flags, flags! Besides the colourful signalling flags which "dressed" the ship, there were the Union Jack, the Royal Yacht Squadron flag, and-most interesting of all-the Queen's new Australian Standard. Illustrations cannot do justice to this lovely flag-the Queen's own device of "E" surmounted by a crown and surrounded by a roundel of roses, in gold on a blue circular ground, which is superimposed on a large golden Commonwealth Star, this in turn lying over the official emblems of the six States in the same order as they appear on the Commonwealth Coatof-Arms—all in golds and reds, with a splash of blue in the Victorian portion which balances perfectly the colours in the rest.

Like all the other ships in port, "our" ship was dressed with gay flags, and, as the Britannia passed, dipped its ensign and blew cheery blasts of the siren. Following the Britannia was the spick-and-span destroyer, H.M.A.S. Anzac, lined, too, with sailors in their "whites," and worthily upholding the honour of Australia with their precision.

Then the family continued homeward while I made my way to the "Operation Link-Up" meeting place Already there were the other hostesses from our District, also the Guide from my Company who had been one of the 500-strong welcoming party on the Henley Landing Stage. Her eyes were shining with the joy of having been so close to the Queen, and others, too, at our meeting place had stories to tell of seeing her as she made her Royal way along Swanston Street.

Shortly after noon our country guests arrived, were quickly sorted out, and departed with their hostesses.

We had half an hour to wait for a train. We strolled along Swanston and Collins Streets to Russell Street, calling in at the Guide Shop, and looking at the British Commonwealth display in the Training Room, and the window display. The autographed photograph of the Queen, then Princess Elizabeth, taken in 1943 in Ranger uniform, had pride of place in the window.

Later we walked down to the Myer Music Bowl through the mild, faintly-misty evening.

The programme represented an excellent balance of songs we could all join in—old favourites and new ones, action songs and "plain songs"—and finely-performed songs and international dances; and the pageant which formed the finale was imaginative and most moving.

My Guides and I are glad, indeed, to have taken part in "Operation Link-Up"—we feel we have made new and lasting friendships. Truly, the rewards of Guiding are greater than all one could ever put into it!

Lesley Fullagar, Capt., 1st Upwey Coy.

TO SEE THE QUEEN . . . OPERATION LINK-UP

What a wonderful weekend it was-in spite of the apprehensions about weather, and crowds, and would we have enough beds. As ever, in the end, we had beds to burn. Judging by the keen disappointment of Guides who didn't have a guest, it was excitingly apparent how popular these weekends are. It was a pity that the summer vacation made it so difficult for arrangements to be carried out easily, and obviously caused the comparitively small contingent to come. However, the 1500 country members who did make the journey seemed to have a "WOW" of a time. And the thrill of seeing Her Majesty was surely worth the effort. What a gracious person she is, and how proud we can be of our Queen and H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh. Have you ever thought how much our Royal Family puts into their job? Because surely being "on camera" almost continuously and never, but never, letting us down in the smallest was is no sinecure.

And the Campfire. Our very sincere thanks to Miss Barr and all concerned in the huge success it was.

It was nice to see our State Commissioner and her A.C. looking so glamorous as they popped in on their way to "see the Queen" on our behalf.

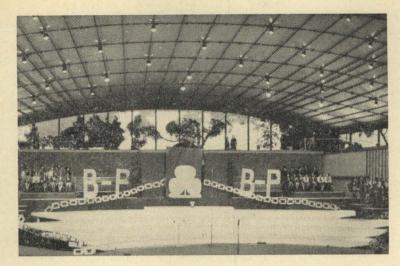
As I mingled with Guides, Rangers and Guiders at the station on Monday night, and asked here and there if the weekend was a success, there wasn't any doubt, dead tired as they all were.

Above all, the Campfire was the highlight of their stay. We must make space to say congratulations to Diamond Valley for their magnificent Float. Did you notice how Her Majesty and The Duke talked about it?

Despite the work involved, we must have more of these Link-up Weekends. Not necessarily on a State basis, although they are the most exciting . . . wouldn't **you** like to "be in it" again?

Here, indeed, was our Fourth Guide Law working at its best.

E.B.



THE LINKS OF FRIENDSHIP CAMPFIRE

Some of the Links and the Bowl Stage

A calm, hazy evening—a Music Bowl set in lovely gardens—light stars twinkling in the roof—many thousands of Brownies, Guides, Rangers and friends—and wonderful singing and dancing. What more could we ask to complement the Royal Weekend and make it a stimulating memory for us all?

Songs from many lands—action songs where we stamped our feet and swayed together; songs some of us learnt many years ago, but were still new to other friends in the Movement; songs sung by the Guide Choir to delight us with their harmony; songs and more songs in which we lifted our voices and nearly the roof of the Music Bowl, too!

Dances from the Chinese Overseas Students' Association and from Plast, the Ukranian Youth in Australia Association — dances which showed us their lovely costumes and their dexterity, both with their feet and with long and colourful scarves. It was nice to have them joining with us in our festivities.

Even links with the actual Royal Visit, as our State Commissioner and Assistant State Commissioner came by on their way to the State Reception, and when they read to us the message received from H.M. The Queen, thanking the Guides of Victoria for their Thinking Day Message.

The Scouts helped us, too, and we welcomed this help from our brother Movement on this Thinking Day occasion.

We remember the luminous portrait of Lord Baden-Powell, and the stirring finale so well staged by the Senior Branch. I wonder



The Chinese Scarf Dance



The Ukranian Dancers

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how many Guides present at the Music Bowl have already decided to "Come and join us?"

We think of, and thank, the planners and organisers of the programme—Miss Peg Barr, who so ably led the magnificent gathering with such charm; the firm of Suttons, who kindly arranged for us to have the use of the organ; all the performers, especially our visitors; and each and every Brownie, Guide and Ranger who entered into the spirit of the Campfire, and the Weekend to strengthen the Links of Friendship.

Dear "Matilda,"

Mac, our Postie at Headquarters, has brought us some lovely letters since our Royal Visit weekend, and these have told us how much everyone enjoyed our Links of Friendship Festival. Naturally, I am very pleased that everyone present, particularly the Guides and Brownies, had such an enjoyable evening, and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking everyone who was there for making it so. It was YOU PEOPLE WHO WERE THERE who got the evening off to an exciting and happy start, and who sang so joyously, who made the Campfire, so to you goes a big THANK YOU, but there were also lots of people behind-the-scenes who gave a big helping hand, and I would like you to know who some of these were-

Miss P. Edmondson (Co-organiser).

Members of the Senior Branch.

Miss L. Beard and her team of helpers who arranged the Senior Branch Finale, providing of decorations, lights and other odd jobs.

Mrs. J. Clarke and the Guide Choir.

Guides of Boroondara Division who dressed so colourfully for the opening ceremony. Guides from some of our National Companies who came in their national costumes and took part in the opening ceremony.

Miss P. Wilson and her team of ushers.

Miss M. Owen and St. John Ambulance men who were on duty to give first aid.

Suttons Pty. Ltd. for their generous gesture in providing us with the organ.

GTV9 who helped with lighting.

Three wonderful Scouters from Brunswick who provided valuable brawn.

Plast, the Ukrainian Youth Association, who gave us such a colourful picture of their national dances.

The Chinese Students' Cultural Club who performed that fascinating and lovely scarf dance.

David Donaldson and Pat Granger for art work.

Mr. P. Fiddian and the Music Bowl authorities, and last, but not least-

The anonymous benefactor who, by his generous donation, made it possible for us to hold this function at the Bowl.

Thank you, each and every one.

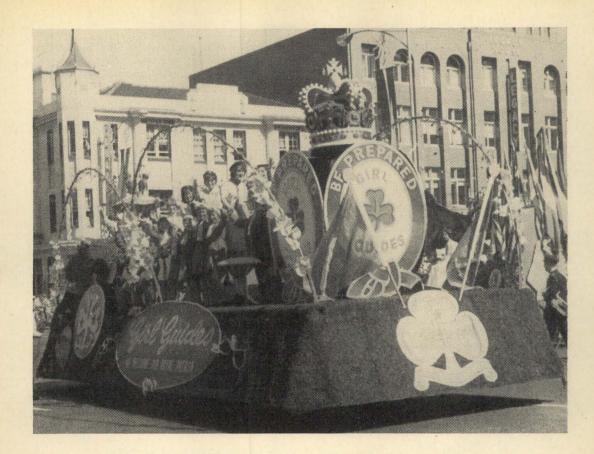
May I share one of our letters with you all? It's one that makes us realise that there were lots of other folk who contributed towards our Royal Visit weekend happiness, too!

"May we of 1st Sea Lake offer a whacking big "bravo" to you and your back-room girls and boys for all our tour weekend from the lovely soft seats in the Mildura-Melbourne train provided by Headquarters to the earth tremor recorded out the "Bowl" way, not forgetting the wonderful look that Her Majesty gave us at Henley Staging or our wonderful hostesses, their hubbies and their families who gave Mum a bit more free time for entertaining us. I don't think our Queen was treated any better than we were."

Yours very sincerely,

P. Barr.

Music Bowl Campfire – Senior Branch Finale



THE GUIDE FLOAT – MOOMBA, 1963

It is now more than 12 months since Diamond Valley District was asked to "do" the 1963 Moomba Float, and when we accepted, little did we realise how special it was going to be. After we got over the initial shock and began to think we had better do something about it, a Committee was formed with one representative from each District and "Div." as chairwoman. Our first job was to see the 1962 Float being prepared and to see it on the great day in all its glory.

During the next few months it was discussed in the Districts, and when Divisional Commissioner was asked to present our ideas to Publicity we realised it was time we really made up our minds. By then there was talk that this **may** be a Royal Moomba, and so, among the suggestions presented to Publicity was one that we should adopt the Queen's Guide Badge as our theme, and after much discussion(?) it was decided that with our limited finance we should make it very simple but, we hoped, elegant!

So many wonderful people agreed to help us in various ways, and we began to prepare to tackle our task in the school holidays.

And then it was announced that it **would** be a Royal Moomba! Such a high standard was required that, with our limited finance, it seemed impossible for us to enter, so a halt was called to our plans. However, Moomba Committee wanted us to enter to represent the Youth Groups, and, eventually, many donations were received to assist us. Just the week before Christmas, Sir Frank Richardson intimated that he would especially like his experts at Foys to help us, but would we leave discussions till after the holiday period. By this time we were nearly nervous wrecks, but decided to cast care aside and enjoy the Christmas break.

January arrived, and lunch with Sir Frank Richardson was followed by the announcement that if we would permit them to help us they would do the whole thing **and** pay for it! In the interest of the Movement it was decided to accept this generous offer, although, we must confess, it was a little disappointing to our Division. Our original idea of the Queen's Guide Badge was accepted but embellished, and then followed several weeks of phone calls and discussions with Mr. K. Bandman, Director of Displays for Foys.

International Harvester kindly agreed to let us use one of their trucks and also provided the driver. Eventually, on the Friday before the procession, we went to view the progress. Imagine our amazement when we saw this immense truck covered with a timber and wire-netting frame and some bits of green lawn. We wondered how on earth it would ever be finished on time. So back again on Sunday just to make sure! Well, it looked as if it would possibly be ready if everybody stayed up all night. They had decided to change the layout on the back, and our carefully planned 12 personnel (4 Brownies, 4 Guides and 4 Seniors) were not going to be enough. Would we get a few more? Just another 12 Brownies and a couple more Guides would do!

So back to the telephone. It was a lovely day and we had our Link-Up visitors from Banongill, so, of course, most people were not at home to answer their phones. However, about 10.30 p.m. everything was finally organised. And so to bed, when most of 1s put Brownies and Guides on and off floats all night!

Up bright and early to be out at the float by 7.30 a.m. It was a glorious morning and the feeling of a wonderful day ahead seemed to be everywhere.

Believe it or not, the float was finished There it was in all its glory, perhaps not as we had originally planned, but a float our Movement would be very proud of. The driver arrived on time—all the men arrived to see everything was just so. This was a good start. Up into the cabin with the driver (what a business) and we were on our way. What tremendous skill is required to manoeuvre a vehicle of this size out of doorways, around corners, over gutters, down tramlines and through traffic lights, and finally to Spot No. 5 in Lonsdale Street. Our personnel began to arrive, and how proud we were of those shining badges and faces. We were besieged by commercial photographers and honoured by visits from important people to wish us well.

The wait seemed to pass quickly because there was so much to see. We were allowed to move into Swanston Street, and what a magnificent sight that was! The decorations, hundreds of people, the lovely sunshine and in the distance the Royal Cars arriving at the Town Hall.

Then we were on our way—and what an exciting experience it all was, the girls on the float cheering and waving, the crowds giving them a wonderful reception. Everyone turned and waved to Her Majesty as we passed and she gave us a lovely smile.

Right along the route there were groups of Guides, all so very thrilled to see their float. As we passed these groups the driver would honk the horn!

And so to Alexandra Avenue where there was a wonderful reception awaiting us. Everyone seemed very thrilled with our float and, of course, we were too.

After an event such as this there are so many "thank you's" to be said, and Diamond Valley Division would like to say, "thank you, all" for a wonderful experience. —B.C.

AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Asked to take charge of our Division Brownies to line the drive at Government House to see the Queen, I accepted with pleasure—and then, never having attended a function of this type, began to have misgivings. How would we get there? The crowds? The weather?

The weekend was beautiful, but would our Brownie luck hold for Monday? But 350 Brownie smiles brought another glorious day.

We assembled on the lawns under shady trees and relaxed there until shortly before the Queen arrived. As I packed my excited Brownies into the car for our homeward trip I wondered why I had ever worried! It had all gone so smoothly, and we were so happy sharing the excitement with the Brownies, some of whom I had known only by name a few hours before.

The smooth running of the afternoon was, I feel, the result of very careful thought and planning—and the Brownies and I say thank you for a memorable day.

Middle Brighton Guider.

WITH THE BROWNIES AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE

"The Queen was a lovely lady who sat in an open car—we cheered and waved flags, and she smiled and waved back to us.

We waited for two hours before the Queen arrived, but it did not seem long . . . When she drove by it was worth every minute . . . I thought the Queen was very lovely . . . I am sorry that the Duke went to the cricket, but our dear Queen drove past in the open car. She waved to us and we all waved back."

> Robyn and Heather Phipps, Heather Philpott and other Brownies.

I had been invited with Brown Owl and eight other Brownies to line the drive at Government House to see our Queen.

I spent a lot of time in the morning polishing my shoes and badges.

We were able to walk through the gardens and see our own Guide float which had taken part in the Moomba procession. I wish I could have been one of the Brownies chosen to ride on the float!

Government House looked very nice, and I think it would be lovely to live there. We practised where we would stand when the Queen came, and near us were some deaf and blind Guides. We were asked to cheer very loudly when Her Majesty came by so that they would know.

The waiting time passed quickly. Then we saw the policemen on motorbikes and then our Queen. She was smiling and waving and looked straight towards US. We cheered and waved—it was wonderful to see her in her pretty hat and dress.

Margaret Ellis, 5th Brighton Pack.

HAPPINESS

Half the happiness of living Comes from willing-hearted giving; Comes from sharing all our pleasures, From dividing all our treasures. And the other half is loving First the Lord, then all things living. So, each mortal should be sowing Love seeds while his life is growing, For all happiness in living Comes from loving and from giving. —A. Van Lee Carrick.



THE ROYAL VISIT CAR DOOR OPENERS

What a wonderful evening it was for us when we found we had been chosen as door openers for our Queen and her household during the Royal Visit to Victoria.

We had many practices over the past few months in preparation for our great day.

After Her Majesty inspected the Guard of Honour on the day of her arrival, Lesley came forward and opened the door for the Royal Couple. "I was feeling very nervous and excited beforehand, but when the actual moment came I felt quite calm." Only too soon was that wonderful moment over.

Monday came—and Janis' great moment had arrived.

She took her position outside the Royal Children's Hospital and waited in readiness for Her Majesty. "As the Royal car approached I felt very excited, but, like Lesley, I was calm when the actual moment arrived."

Monday evening we both had the pleasure of attending the farewell of Her Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh. As the Royal Yacht pulled away from her moorings, we thought of our proud moments, and the honour the Girl Guide Association had been given during the Royal Visit to Victoria.

Lesley Nicholson (Sea Ranger), and Janis McKenzie (Air Ranger).

A ROYAL WEEKEND

As I was one of the lucky ones who were able to see Her Majesty closely and speak to her, I have been asked if I would share the lovely experience with all my sisters in the Movement.

The exciting weekend of the Royal Visit began for me when I was down at the wharf at 6 a.m. on Saturday to see off the two boatloads of Rangers, Cadets and Rovers who were going out into the Bay to meet and welcome HMY Britannia. As the two decorated boats (one carrying a big Guide Badge and one a Scout Badge) slipped down the river in the early morning light, I was longing to go with them, but, on the other hand, would not have missed the landing at Henley for anything in the world. Here the sun was shining brightly on banks of flowers and on the red carpet laid from the bank out on to the pontoon at which the Royal Barge would tie up. Just to the right of the landing was a space reserved for five hundred Guides, and all along the river bank and across Anderson Street Bridge the crowds were banked thickly waiting for the moment when the Barge appeared, glittering in the sunshine and making an arrow of ripples in the quiet water. Her Majesty walked up the steps right beside me (and this was one occasion when I could use my camera and get a most wonderful photograph). After she had inspected the Naval Guard she and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh stepped into their car-the door of which was opened for her by Sea Ranger Lesley Nicholson of SRS Quadrant (the door of the second Royal car was opened by Janis McKenzie, an Air Ranger of ARF Jason). They drove along the footpath right beside the ranks of cheering Guides who had been specially chosen from every Company throughout the State.

As Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were only a few feet away from the Guides anyone who kept her head should have been able to get a most wonderful photograph of them. Immediately after this we drove directly to the races, where I had the great privilege of sitting in the Royal Box and having lunch at the next table to the Royal Party.

On the way home from the races I flew out to the Myer Music Bowl to see the

rehearsal of the wonderful Senior Branch Display and Song, then home to dress for the magnificent State Reception at the Town Hall, at which our State Commissioner, Mrs. Price, and Mrs. Catomore (Assistant State Commissioner), represented all the Guides in Victoria. It was a glittering scene with lovely evening gowns, jewellery and tiaras, and the whole stage banked with flowers with a little fountain playing in front of it; and when the trumpeters played the fanfare which announced the entrance of the Oueen and the Duke of Edinburgh, and she came in her lovely deep green frock with the Order of the Garter across it, it was a scene straight out of a fairy tale. A little later I was fortunate enough to be invited to relax in the Lady Mayoress' room where Her Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh shortly joined us.

While we were waiting for them I parted the curtains to look out at the scene in Swanston Street, and as soon as I looked out everybody waved cheerfully, glad to have someone to wave back at them. The crowds were brilliantly lit with floodlights and packed from the barricades right back to the shop windows, right over the crossing of Collins and Swanston Streets, and as far as I could see down Collins Street. But directly in front of the crowds at the Town Hall steps, immediately opposite where Her Majesty would step into her car, was one small Brownie! When the Royal Couple came out on the balcony to wave to the crowds the cheering was almost deafening; then they came in to join us in the Lord Mayor's room and stayed chatting quite happily for some time. It was here that I first discovered how gay and informal and relaxed Her Majesty can be when she does not have a battery of cameras trained on her, and those of us who had the opportunity to chat with her or with His Royal Highness found ourselves completely at ease-and I may add, completely enslaved!

The next morning I was in at HQ at 9 a.m. to see the 13 attractive Senior Branch entrants for "The Sun" Miss Teenage Quest and then went home to dress for the concert at the Myer Music Bowl in the afternoon. Here my husband and I were to have the honour of looking after the Royal visitors. Having been put so completely at ease by them on the previous night, and having been carefully rehearsed by the Royal Tour officials at the Bowl a day or two before, it was not possible to feel the slightest bit nervous. Waiting for their arrival in the bright sunshine surrounded by happy crowds in a holiday mood, I was only conscious of great pleasure at the prospect of meeting again two of the most charming people I have ever met.

The afternoon was over all too soon (both the Queen and the Duke expressed surprise that an hour could have gone so quickly!) and it was time to go home and dress for the most wonderful event for me of the whole tour, dinner on HMY Britannia as the guest of Her Majesty and the Duke. It is very hard to describe this evening to you because it was so wonderful I know I will want to talk in a series of superlatives! The table was glittering with silver and crystal and decorated with perfect pink roses and carnations. Her Majesty looked wonderful in a simple sheath frock of white, heavily encrusted with gold embroidery, with a simple train falling from her shoulders. The dinner was simple, but of absolute perfection (if any of you want to know what we ate you must ask me sometime).

Quite the most wonderful time of all was the relaxed and happy gathering after dinner in the lovely drawing room of Britannia, when Her Majesty and His Royal Highness moved among their guests and talked to them all in the most friendly and interested way.

Her Majesty has always had my devotion as my Queen, but now she has it even more deeply as a **person**, vivacious, gay, charming and friendly, while her beauty puts any film star I have ever seen completely in the shade.

I only wish you could all have been with me to share in all those lovely moments.

A. F. Rylah.

THANKS BADGE

Congratulations to the following recipients:-Thanks Badge: Mrs. W. H. C. Hughes, Headquarters; Lady Knox, Ferntree Gully Division; Mrs. H. A. M. Watson, Ferntree Gully Division; Mr. H. A. M. Watson, Ferntree Gully Division.

PHOTOS

With the exception of photos on pages 205-209 and 217, all photos are by Betty Revnolds.

AT HOME

On Wednesday, 20th February, our ex-State Commissioner, Mrs. Fairbairn, and her two assistants, Mrs. McKay and Mrs. Orr, held an "At Home" at Headquarters to give members of the Movement an opportunity to say farewell in person.

What a happy—though hectic—day it was; proof, if proof were needed, of the love and gratitude felt by us all for these wonderful people.

The first arrivals were well ahead of starting time, and the pace didn't slacken all day. From far and near they came—Guiders, Commissioners, Local Associations and staff—our youngest visitor was an adorable future Brownie who, sitting in her pram, said her "thank you" with smiles.

One L.A. came in force, and were able to have a meeting round a table, with numerous cups of tea. From what I heard, this year's Conference should be a great success.

What a warm and happy atmosphere there was at our get-together—friendship, happiness and fun. How precious our Guiding sisterhood is.

This day, I am sure, will always be a treasured memory of Mrs. Fairbairn, Mrs. McKay and Mrs. Orr, and we who worked with them will long remember them, and with affection.

P.S.—I think we should have more of these get-togethers, don't you?

-C.C.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS

Received with gratitude-

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FLASHBACK ON CAMPING FROM THE HARASSED CAMPING DEPARTMENT: WAS IT YOU?

Would you believe?... in the recent camping season seven campsite bookings were cancelled at the last moment! Also two bookings for Guide House and one for Brownie Cottage—too late for them to be re-booked! A cancellation fee of 10/- has recently been introduced, but, alas, too late to catch these cancellations! Conscience money will be readily accepted! The Camping Department is forced to consider the need to increase this fee to offset the risk of such loss of campsite rent and equipment hire. We don't want to do this, so it is up to YOU!

One Company, which booked Guide House for an indoor camp in January, has not yet arrived! It was a cold, wet day, and the Warden had taken the trouble to have the fire lit ready for them, and did so again for the next two days!

In some cases of cancelled camps, notification was not sent to the tradesmen—or not until too late—and they were left with unsaleable bread, meat, milk, fruit, etc. We have asked that they send accounts to the campers concerned, and are sure you will agree that this is only fair.

The milkman has been worried by orders not being sent in good time before camps. He needs them at least a week beforehand. Please give Mr. Holland the time, as well as the date that your camp will begin, so that he knows when the first delivery is to be made.

Camps must be self-contained with all their arrangements. The showers and toilets at the Guide House and Brownie Cottage are for the use only of the campers in the House and Cottage. This is because of the septic system and the limited hot water supply. Imagine the thoughtlessness of the campers from the paddock who used the House showers at 1.30 a.m.!

We all know that coppers are not rubbish dumps, and that all rubbish must be properly disposed of before the campers leave, but rubbish has been found left in coppers after campers have departed! Tins should be burnt, bashed and buried; bottles washed and take home, or left with the Warden. Hike tents at Janet Whitlam Memorial Park are for the use of Senior Branch members only. And hike tent pegs are **not** brailing pegs! Who didn't read the label, and who didn't put them back in the right place after using them in the wrong place? Twenty dozen hike tent pegs are now missing!

Tents at Gipton were folded with grass inside. How cosy for the grass, but imagine the mildew!

The Camping Department would like to cease disposal and clearing operations and concentrate on cosy, competent camping!

M. McDonald, Camping Adviser.



CAMPING DEPARTMENT

The following Courses have been arranged for 1963:

Camp First-Aid Course: Daytime and evening classes will be held, commencing on Friday, 26th April, at Headquarters, and continuing for four weeks. Daytime: 10 a.m.-12 noon. Evening: 7.45-9.45 p.m. Application ONE WEEK before. Fee—7/6.

Pack Holiday Training and Indoor Camp Training: Daytime class commencing Monday, 24th June, for two weeks. 10 a.m.-12 noon. Evening class commencing Monday, 24th June, for two weeks, 7.45-9.45 p.m. Application ONE WEEK before. Both classes will combine for weekend at Guide House 13th-14th July.

Q.M. Course: Daytime and evening classes commencing on Wednesday, 3rd July, for four weeks. Daytime, 10 a.m.-12 noon. Evening, 7.45-9.45 p.m. Application ONE WEEK before. Fee—7/6.

Campcraft Training: A Campcraft Training Course has been arranged for three nights at H.Q., and two or three weekends at the Guide House. Dates are as follows: Tuesdays, 17th and 24th September, and 1st October—7.45-9.45 p.m. at Headquarters, and weekends at the Guide House, 19th-20th October, and 9th-10th November. Application to Camping Secretary by 30th August.

M. McDonald, Camping Adviser.

TRAINING ADVISER

Would Commissioners please note that Mrs. R. E. Gregory, who has been appointed to succeed Mrs. Walker as Training Adviser, will take over her duties on **1st June** and not 1st May as previously advised.

TRAINING DEPARTMENT

Each of the following dates indicates commencement of a Training Course. Preliminary, General and Senior Branch Courses are held once a week for six weeks, plus one outdoor session.

- *Tuesday, 28th May—6.30 p.m. Guide Preliminary. G.I.C.: Miss S. Wirth.
- *Wednesday, 29th May—10 a.m., Brownie General. G.I.C.: Mrs. E. Newton.
- *Thursday, 30th May—10 a.m., Brownie Preliminary. G.I.C.: Miss D. Holtz.
- *Friday, 31st May—8 p.m.: Guide General. G.I.C.: Miss M. Waudby.
- Tuesday, 4th June—10 a.m., Guide Preliminary G.I.C.: Miss S. MacLeod.
- Thursday, 6th June–6.30 p.m., Brownie General. G.I.C.: Miss N. Lee.
- Tuesday, 2nd July-8 p.m., Brownie Specialised.
- Thursday, 4th July—8 p.m., Senior Branch Specialised.
- Friday, 5th July-7.45 p.m., Guide Specialised.

Please note.—Courses marked with * have been altered due to school holidays.

Application forms must be filled in for all Courses, but it will be noted that Commissioner's signature is required on application form for first Training undertaken ONLY.

Application to attend a Course MUST reach the Training Secretary ONE WEEK before the commencement of Course.

Fee for Courses—7/6. Special Trainings— 2/6 per night. All fees may be paid to the Trainer at first class of each Course.

Cynthia M. Walker, Training Adviser.

FOUND

A beret, with name-tape "Julia M. Short," was found in the street after the Royal Visit weekend. The owner may claim the beret from Headquarters. STAFF

A position is available as Guide Travelling Trainer for Victorian Headquarters.

It is not necessary to have special Training qualifications, provided Guider is warranted and has had experience with a Company. Salary according to experience. Provident Fund Benefits. Liberal Annual Leave.

Further information from State Secretary.

Can YOU imagine! Can you IMAGINE!

DO you imagine what it is like to be a Brownie trying to reach the Golden Ground? We can imagine what it is like to be a Guider searching for ideas. On Thursday, 2nd May, at Headquarters from 10 a.m.-3.30 p.m., the Brownie Committee hope to help anyone interested with ideas for Special Programmes and suggestions for equipment. Mrs. Hartley Watson has kindly consented to show some of her movie films of Brownie Revels at approximately 11.45 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. The themes chosen for these might help you with an idea for your next Revels.

Everyone welcome? Yes, Commissioners, too!

The Girl Guides Association of Queensland are holding a Campcraft and General Training Week from 3rd May till 11th May at Kindilan, the State Training Centre.

Camp Fee — £5/10/- including transport from Brisbane.

Please apply direct to Training Adviser, Girl Guides Association, 335 Boundary Street, Brisbane.

W.A. FRIENDSHIP CAMP

24th-31st August, 1963 (six places)

For 2nd Class Guides over 14. Cost, £7, and approximately £21 fares. Apply to Camping Secretary by 8th May, 1963.

REMINDER — CONFERENCE

Metropolitan Patrol Leaders. Saturday, 27th April, 10.30 a.m.-5 p.m. Bring cut lunch, afternoon tea, mug, 2/- fee.

APRIL, 1963.



TO ANGLESEA WITH THE F.N.C.V.

Guiding has a happy knack of resisting attempts to pigeon-hole its many activities, and that's how it was with this Guiders' outing. With the co-operation of the Field Naturalists' Club of Victoria, the day was planned by our Training Department to help leaders with the outdoor side of Guiding. It could equally well have been an exercise in roadside awareness specially chosen as preparation for PLAN EVERGREEN. And what privileged people we are to be invited by the Field Naturalists to join in one of their club excursions.

We met at the Three Kings on the Geelong-Anglesea road, with the sun shining and a fresh sea breeze coming over the sandhills. Soon a bus-load of Field Naturalists was leading our column of assorted cars along a narrow road into the bush-covered hills. Out in front were the club leaders for the day, Mr. and Mrs. Cheslin, two charming and capable people who had planned the whole expedition to include as many local nature treasures as was possible in one day.

First stop was to introduce some lovely tiger orchids—bright sulphur-yellow with two large brown spots—growing on the roadside embankment. Just near, but hard to see unless you knew where to look, there were onion orchids. Children sometimes call their quaint little flowers "green beetles." We saw a tuft of flax-lily growing on the bank, too—starry, bright blue flowers with yellow and brown stamens. Easy to remember that **Dianella** is the flax-lily's lovely botanical name and that later it will have big berries like polished blue beads.

Stopping again further along the road we wandered off in groups using our hosts as walking encyclopaedias to answer our many questions. Single-filing along a kangaroo path through a swamp, we saw purple pyramid-flower and umbrella fronds of coralfern made soft green mounds for us to step over. The air was honey-scented from the pale cream bottle-brush flowers of swamp paper-bark which grew there in tall, dense thickets.

On higher ground on the other side of the road there were spider orchids—so many of them we had to tread carefully not to damage any—and a heavenly blue lobelia with each flower a perfect litle fleur-de-lys (or Scout badge worn upside down!).

Two distinct kinds of purple flag (iris) grew beside the road, one with its threepetalled flower on a long stem, and the other with hardly any stem and needle-thin leaves. To add a splash of yellow there were several members of the vast pea-flower family wedge peas, flat peas, bitter peas and a showy orange-red parrot-pea.

Lunch by the roadside, then on to visit the Anglesea Brown Coal Mine, where we listened to a fascinating talk by the mine manager. He told us of the extent of the coal measures in this part of Victoria and how the system of open-cut mining operates in this area. A point of special interest was that the ancient trees from which this brown coal was formed were beeches (Nothofagas) whose descendants linger on in the deep forest gullies of the Otway Ranges.

Next our convoy swept around to the south and along a high ridge not far from the coast. This is grass-tree country with the typical spikes of "yakka" or "black-boy," as they are often called, standing up like candles from the centre of a tussock of fine, needlepointed leaves. We stopped to see a mass flowering of conosperm—lovely feathery umbrella-heads of white flowers—and walked through a tangle of starry white and pale pink fringe-myrtle (Calytrix) Another stop to look for orchids produced curious green and brown leek-orchids and a bearded greenhood complete with beard.

Back on the coast road and approaching the town, we made a special halt for a sunorchid in a roadside paddock. Sure enough, there it was — **Thelymitra fuscous-lutea** and as our friends the naturalists called it that we learned no other name! This sunorchid has a single large leaf—rather like lily-of-the-valley—and we saw many of them round about in the low grass and scrub.

Our last visit was to a roadside reserve near one of the most populated parts of Anglesea. The reserve is on a high bank falling away in a cliff face and a tangle of native vegetation to the foreshore. By some miracle this area has been preserved as a perfect garden of wildflowers. There, for the first time, we saw the paper-flower (**Thomasia**) with delicate mauve flowers and velvety leaves; there we wandered through an unbelievable profusion of blue pincushions and spider orchids; and there we stood and gazed down on a cushiony bank of fan-flower and heard the story of Scaevola "the one-handed," after whom the tiny one-sided flowers are named.

And so off on the long drive home with memories of a day of seeing and wondering and learning—a lovely day, and we do thank the Training Department for planning it for us, and the Field Naturalists for having us along.

CAMPFIRE THOUGHTS

When sun goes down and camp fires fade, We turn our thoughts to He who made The whispering trees, so straight and tall, Throwing shadows over all; The grass is green beneath our feet. The carols of the birds, so sweet, That call to us that day is done-Our work, our play, our joyous fun. We drift away in dreamless sleep, Nor watch the moonbeams slowly creep Across the sky; until at dawn The rising sun heralds the morn. And so, another day begun, We gladly thank our Heavenly One. His children here He safely kept While all the campers quietly slept. We rise refreshed to start our day, As each one in her guiding way Renews afresh her promise true To 'Do her best' the whole day through. M. L. Townsend.

STOP PRESS

Annual Scout and Guide Service to commemorate St. George's Day will be held at St. Paul's Cathedral on Friday, 19th April, at 7.45 p.m. Singing will be led by the Guide Choir.



Presentation of the highest Training Award for the Girl Guides Association, the Training Diploma, to a Guider from Singapore, Miss Ng Seoh Seoh.

The presentation was made by Miss C. Broadhurst, Training Adviser for Australia, in the V.I.P. Lounge, A.N.A. Terminal, Essendon.

Miss Seoh is the first Guider from Singapore to gain the Australian Training Diploma.

There are 2041 Guides in Singapore — Chinese, European, Malay, Indian and some other races. The girls, in spite of their varying cultural and social backgrounds, are not in segregated units, and, because of this, have a common bond for their activities and are able to learn tolerance at an early age.

LET US PRAISE GOD-

- For Mirth—That unites us with others and refreshes us for our work: may He help us to keep it kind and true.
- For Good Friends—To rejoice with us in our joys, to cheer us in our troubles and to lighten our tasks; may He help us to repay them in fellowship and service.
- For the Trees in Spring and the Fruit Blossoms—For the smell of the country after rain; for the green grass and the flowers; for the clouds and sun and hill and mountain streams; and for the joy of work attempted and achieved.
- For the Gift of Wonder and the Joy of Discovery—For the everlasting freshness of experience; for the newness of life each day as we grow older.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

BETTY SKIPS AND SEWS ON BUTTONS

When Betty did her skipping she checked the length of the rope by standing with both feet on the middle of it and pulling the ends straight up to see that they just reached her ears, but when she skipped she kept her arms and legs very straight, her head and shoulders were pulled back, and her chest pushed forward. "I think you're trying too hard, Betty," said Brown Owl. "You're breathing in through your nose, which is good: but your forehead is where the top of your head should be." She got Betty to stand with the top of her head highest, so that she was erect and not strained back, then to skip in that position remembering to let her knees bend a little as she touched the path, and with her arms straight but not rigid. "That's much better," said Brown Owl. "Practise that for a few weeks, landing on the balls of your feet, and then I'll watch you again."

Tawny taught Betty to sew on buttons. She had a circle of thick cardboard with four holes in it like a very big button, a piece of loosely-woven woollen material, and a bigeyed needle which she threaded with wool, tying the ends together to make a double thread. She took the needle through from the right side so that the knot with its ends cut off marked the place for the button, then she brought it back through one hole of the button, and down through the next, then passed it on to Lorraine who stitched through the same two holes, and each of the six Brownies in the group did likewise. Next, Tawny stitched through the other pair of holes and everyone had a turn at that, then the needle was brought through the material behind the button, and each twisted the thread round tightly, binding the stitches together, which Tawny explained made it much stronger, and Lorraine finished it off on the wrong side with several stitches one on top of the other. There were both four and two-holed buttons, and Tawny said that those who felt that they could manage it should take a four-holed one, and the others could start with two holes. Of the four who chose four holes, three-including Bettymanaged quite well, and Tawny started them off sewing the big "button" again through the diagonally opposite holes to make a cross, while she helped the others who didn't find buttons so easy.

Betty and Lorraine practised at home, and next week brought buttons they had sewn on really well. Tawny checked that their buttons were exactly opposite the button-holes, and said they were very good. Carole was ready to sew a button on a garment, but the others needed more help from Tawny, so she gave Lorraine and Betty each a coat button, and explained the buttons on coats have to be sewn with a stem or shank, to allow room for the thick material to go under the buttons. She showed them how to hold a match on top of the button, taking the stitches over it. Each got tangled at first, and had to start again, but evenually managed it, and Tawny told them to slip out the match, pull the button into its place, bring the thread through the button again, and wind it tightly round the stem from the button to the material, finishing it off on the wrong side. There was a loose button on Betty's coat, and she sewed it on; her mother was pleased and so was Tawny.

Tawny had another big "button"—part of a cotton reel had been cut off to make one side flat—and this was stuck on to a circle of stiff cardboard. Each Brownie in turn took the needle through the material, then the cotton reel shank and through the material again; then they wound the thread round between the button and material, and finished off strongly.

Then each sewed a real shank button on just as they had the big one. At Pow-wow Tawny told Brown Owl that she thought Lorraine, Betty and Carole were ready to do their button test; and when Brown Owl had seen them each sew a button on a garment and a different type on a piece of material, she said they sewed on buttons excellently, and she signed their cards.

DO YOU APPROVE?

Do you approve of the way Betty's Pack is being run? Answer the questions, then turn to page 231 where you will find Betty's Brown Owl's answers.

- 1. Shouldn't you test skipping ropes by putting one foot in the middle and hold-ing the ends out at shoulder height?
- 2. What is the correct way to sew on a fourholed button?
- 3. Would sewing two and four-holed buttons or four-holed with a cross, and two pairs, count as different methods?

PATROL LEADERS' CORROBOREE AT "MARYBROOKE" IN SHERBROOKE FOREST

Guides from all over Victoria met at Headquarters early on the Friday afternoon. We boarded our train and went to Belgrave, then by bus to "Marybrooke" where we were to stay. It is very pretty there, with the forest surrounding the outskirts of a lovely house. The first night we were all very worn out, so went to bed early. Second day it rained a drizzly rain all day, but we ventured on an excursion into Sherbrooke Forest (of course, all well equipped with rain coats and hats and strong shoes). This excursion was in the form of an aboriginal hunt for our dinner. We also made different objects out of natural materials. After dinner three Senior Guides came to talk to us on each form of Senior Branch Guiding - Land Rangers, Sea Rangers, Air Rangers and Cadets. The Rangers staved to tea and after this we had a big Campfire.

The third day was nice and sunny and most of the girls ventured out to have a ride on the Flying Fox which some Scouters had kindly put up for our use. Then we went for a lovely walk through part of the forest in search of lyrebirds. Can you imagine a trail of 100 practically in single file, "stalking." We were fortunate in seeing several lyrebirds and they sang and danced for us.

Mr. Bill Onus, an aborigine, came to speak to us on the life of his people, and taught us some steps of a corroboree dance. This was a wonderful sight, but a terrific noise, when 100 of us danced.

During the afternoon a "Guides' Own" was held. Mrs. Stuart spoke on "Service" and the Patrol Leaders took part in readings and prayers and we all joined in the singing of the hymns.

Soon it was time to start packing and saying our goodbyes, and the bus came to take us to the train at Belgrave, where we went our various ways home.

We think, speaking for all the girls, we had a marvellous time, and would like to thank the people at "Marybrooke" and the Guiders who gave us a wonderful time.

> Heather Fehring and Carol Blythe, 1st Echuca Guide Company.

EXTENSION "GOOD TURN" TO GUIDE HOUSE

Some time ago, 26 Guiders, Guides and Rangers, from 1st Melbourne Extension Ranger Company, 1st Victorian Post Ranger Company, 6th Brighton (Handicapped) Guide Company, 1st Victorian Post Guide Company, Yooralla Guide Company and R.V.I.B. (Burwood) Company, spent a working weekend at Guide House.

Our purpose for the weekend was to take an inventory of everything in the House and to make both the House and the garden clean and tidy in readiness for the coming camping season.

Most of us arrived at Guide House about the middle of Saturday morning, so jobs were well under way before lunch. In the afternoon work continued, both in the grounds where fallen timber had to be gathered and burnt, and in the House itself. During the weekend, cupboards and drawers in all rooms of Guide House were emptied and the contents sorted, laundered, counted or discarded, according to their condition.

On Saturday evening we were joined at our "Campfire" by Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell and Mr. Miller. During the evening Mr. Mitchell, as last year's Shire President and one of the organisers of January's bush fire evacuation from Guide House, accepted, on behalf of the people of Yarra Junction, two hand-made trays for use in the town's Public Hall and Sports Pavilion. Each tray had a photo of evacuated Guides under the glass of its base.

A short Guides' Own Service was held on Sunday morning before we picked up the last threads of our jobs, which were mostly finished soon after dinner; then came final Colours, afternoon tea and home.

At the same time as our Extension Guides and Rangers were cleaning and counting in Guide House, a group of Scouts and Rovers from Balwyn, camped at Brownie Cottage, were working with a motorised saw to clear away those trees which had been unrooted or badly broken by the winter's storms. As some compensation for the trees thus lost, two new trees were planted by Extensions and Brownies in a short ceremony on Saturday afternoon.

JOAN STREITBERG.

APRIL, 1963.



SENIOR BRANCH WEEKEND

Thinking Day

Rangers and Cadets sleeping at HQ! Having an enrolment there in the early hours of the morning! Why? So they could be "on deck" in plenty of time for the Senior Branch Thinking Day Service in Russell Street at 6.30 a.m. on 22/2/63!

Police in Russell Street at 6 a.m.! Why? So they could direct traffic (particularly heavy buses!) around the Horseshoe that spread right across the road to the trees in the middle when the Colour Parties broke the flags on the roof of H.Q. to mark the dawn of another Thinking Day. Then a quiet Service in the Training Room attended by or State Commissioner, then a talk from the Ranger and Cadet who recently represented us at Britain's Panorama (and who made it all come alive for everyone there), a tape recording of the Chief Guide's welcome to the Panorama delegates, and then breakfast together before everyone dispersed to the day's work. Thanks to the Senior Branch Central Committee for organising it.

To Meet "Britannia"

At 6.30 a.m. on 23rd February, two gaily decorated ferries carrying 240 Rangers and Cadets and Rovers slipped from Princes Bridge down the Yarra to join the fleet of small craft waiting to cheer the arrival of the Royal Yacht; Britannia and her naval escort passed within 100 yards of the ferries, and excitement was at fever pitch as everyone hoped the huge Guide and Scout emblems would be noticed on the yacht. When the ferries tried to return they found the river was still closed to traffic and they were stopped by a naval launch which eventually gave them special escort up the river past "Britannia" which by then was anchored at North Wharf. Thanks to Miss Butler for arranging it all.

The Door Openers

Sea Ranger Lesley Nicholson of S.R.S. "Quadrant", and Air Ranger Janis McKenzie, of A.R.F. "Jason", had the honour of opening the car door for Her Majesty and His Royal Highness at Henley Landing Stage and at the Children's Hospital respectively; they carried out their duties perfectly and the whole Senior Branch was proud of them.

The Music Bowl

How many were at the "Bowl" on Saturday night? 10,000? 12,000? Who can say now, but I am sure no one who was there will forget the magnificent finale staged by the Senior Branch, with the flags of 95 countries carried on to the stage, the portrait of B-P that glowed out of the darkness, and the wonderful, rousing song from 300 throats a special Senior Branch song written just for that occasion — that brought a wonderful night to a close. Thanks to Miss Beard, who organised the Senior Branch Display.

Mirror, Mirror on the Wall . . .

What was going on at H.Q. on Sunday Make-up, hair styling, pretty morning? frocks, pretty girls . . . no knotting or tracking or First-Aid or marching, but charm and colour and fashion and laughter-can you guess what was going on? Upstairs a panel of five judges was choosing (and it took them a long time and a lot of thought) the Girl Guide (Senior Branch) candidate for the Miss Teenage of Victoria, 1963. Thirteen attractive Rangers and Cadets wearing their prettiest clothes and answering questions on everything from "How would you address H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh if you were presented to him?" to "How would the Common Market affect Australia?" Congratulations to Sea Ranger Sandra McDonald, of S.R.S. "Galatea," who has been selected to represent us. Thanks to Mrs. Tucker for organising it.

And What Else?

Everywhere, all the long weekend, there were Brownies, Guides and Senior Branch out taking part in the fun. Cadets who slept at Pt. Lonsdale so they could be out on the point at 4 a.m. in the dark to see the brilliantly lit "Britannia" and H.M.A.S. "Anzac" pass by; Air Rangers from the country who visited Essendon and were entertained there by courtesy of T.A.A.; Seniors on the "Guide Moomba Float" (wasn't it wonderful?); in the crowds to see Her Majesty pass by, down at the wharf to gaze at "Britannia" . . . everywhere, everywhere, for the whole of the fabulous weekend!

TRAVELLING TRAINER

A full-time Travelling Certificated Trainer is required by the New Zealand Girl Guides Association. Applicant must have a good sound up-to-date knowledge of all Branches of the Movement, be resourceful, responsible, and able to organise herself and her time. Salary: £700-£800 New Zealand currency, plus travel, living and uniform allowances.

Further details on applications to the General Secretary, Girl Guides Association New Zealand (Inc.), P.O. Box 2622, Christchurch, New Zealand.

SKIING FOR SENIOR BRANCH

Are you a skiier who is just beginning? Would you like to try skiing?

Then keep 27th-29th September free for a weekend at Mt. Buller. This weekend will suit beginners as it is fairly late in the season and great quantities of snow cannot be guaranteed.

Approximate cost-£5, plus ski hire.

Firm bookings with deposit will be required later, but if you are interested, please advise Miss J. Parrott, 4 Keeble Street, West Geelong. Numbers will be limited to 30.

WOODCRAFT DECATHALON

11th-12th MAY, 1963

At Janet Whitlam Memorial Park.

This is to be a Campcraft Training Weekend with a difference.

Rangers who attend are to be self-contained —responsible for their own food, equipment and transport.

Some ridge tents will be available for those who do not have hike tents for sleeping.

Fee for the weekend-7/6.

Applications, together with 5/- deposit per person, to be sent to:

Miss H. Boreham,

28 Sanders Street,

West Cobourg, N.13

no later than 10th April, 1963.

Please indicate if you will require tent accommodation.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Katrina Boas, Donna Seary and Faye Williams, all of Kew District Rangers, on completion of the full Ranger Service Star.

A. Rylah, Senior Branch Adviser.



"MISS SENIOR GUIDE"

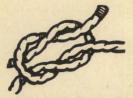
"Miss Senior Guide," our Senior Branch entrant in the Sun Miss Teenage Quest in aid of the Royal Women's Hospital ("the mothers of tomorrow help the mothers of today") is Sea Ranger Sandra McDonald of S.R.S. "Galatea."

Congratulations, Sandra, and also to the twelve other Senior Branch members who entered the Quest—we hope you found the experience interesting and rewarding. All the entrants were of such a high standard that the panel needed an extra 2½ hours before they could reach a decision. We are very grateful to all five members of the panel, who took infinite pains to ensure that each girl was given an equal chance. They were— Miss Elly Lukas, Mrs. H. Fader, Mrs. Eccles McKay, Mr. Osbourn Shave, and (for a short while) Mr. Brian Naylor.

LAW AND LEISURE WEEKEND

The Senior Branch will be holding a Law and Leisure Weekend from 8th-10th June. Location not yet decided. People will be sleeping indoors, but please bring sleeping bags.

Approximate cost will be £2. Would people interested please contact Miss Val Ward, 21 Fairbank Road, Moorabbin, phone 97 6335?



TRAINING PAGES

TREES AND GUIDES GUARDING OUR HERITAGE

By L. C. Edgar, Assistant Director, Natural Resources Conservation League of Victoria.

This month we promised to talk of trees and shrubs of distinction for which there is a place in the home garden on an averagesize allotment. In a subsequent article I will be talking of the value of native trees and native gardens, but for the present no distinction will be made.

If you drive through suburban streets you will not go far before you have observed that some species occur over and over again. But if a certain tree is a lovely thing to you, then plant it, even if nearly every other house in your street has one. The opposing idea to "a thing of beauty being a joy for ever" is that things become "hackneyed." This is an expression frequently heard in music. Is a beautiful tune less beautiful if its beauty is such that everyone loves it and wants to hear it? If you love a Liquidamber, and there are a number of Liquidambers in your street, is there any reason why you should not have one, too? Of course, there are many other lovely trees which you may grow to add variety in your street and whose beauty can be shared with others. The tree you plant in your garden is yours, but its beauty belongs to all who pass by.

In selecting trees for garden planting many people are apt to pass by a suitable subject because it is slow growing, or, like the Tulip Tree, very slow in producing flowers. This is a pity, as much potential beauty can be passed over in this manner. The years go by all too quickly, and with many other items to watch, the slow growth of some is not really noticed and the final result can be very rewarding.

This month I deal only with deciduous trees. Many of these are quite handsome even when without leaves in winter-time, and they provide many changes throughout the year. The breaking of the new foliage is always interesting, and in some species there are spectacular effects at this stage. Who does not marvel at the loveliness of the young pink foliage of the Chinese Cedar (Cedrela sinensis) every spring? The many spring-flowering subjects include the flowering fruits, which light up our gardens from winter until mid-spring with their masses of blossoms—the flowering plums, almonds, peaches and, finally, cherries.

Deciduous trees and shrubs, too, give many brilliant contrasts in colour. Some have purple foliage, some gold, and between the others all possible shades of green. There are variegated foliage trees which stand out from the greens around. The silver ash-leaf maple (often called the Ghost Tree), the variegated pittosporum and euonymus (Spindle Tree) contrast strongly with the purple foliage of Prunus nigra, or the purple Berberis.

In late autumn the deciduous trees attain their final glory with scarlet or gold, purple, orange or red, or all the varying combinations of these which nature displays to us in autumn.

Silver Birch is lovely in a home garden, Elms and Poplars, though fine for parks and large gardens, are too vigorous and can cause damage to paths and buildings and even invade homes of neighbours. Golden or Claret Ash are also fairly vigorous, and are splendid shade trees. They need to be planted with care in selection of site, and are not suitable for a tiny area. All the flowering fruits may be used, but it is necessary to make a selection, as a garden full of deciduous trees would be unbalanced. Next month we will talk of evergreens.

STARS APRIL

One of the most beautiful constellations in the sky rises in the south-eastern sky this month. Look just above the horizon between south and south-east, and you will find the graceful curving sweep of Scorpio the Scorpion, with the bright red star Antares for its heart, and a curved barb tail at its end. Scorpio lies on its side when it rises, but as it moves across the sky it turns over and dives almost headlong into the west; the last we see of it when it sets is the barb tail. It can be seen from April to October.

(Refer "Easy Guide to the Southern Stars," Map 16. Remember also roneo'd sheets available from Headquarters.)

THE ROYAL STYLE AND TITLES

Australia: Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom, Australia and Her other Realms and Territories, Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.

Nigeria: Elizabeth the Second, Queen of Nigeria, and of Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth.

-From "The Monarchy and the Commonwealth," United Kingdom Information Services.

THE BRITISH NATIONAL ANTHEM

The British national anthem — "God Save the Queen"—originated in a patriotic song first publicly performed (in London) in 1745. The song came to be referred to as the national anthem from about the beginning of the nineteenth century.

Both the words and tune of the song are anonymous, and may date back to the seventeenth century. They were first published in 1744 in a collection of songs called "Thesaurus Musicus."

After the news of the defeat of the Young Pretender at Prestonpans reached London, Dr. Thomas Arne, the composer of "Rule Britannia" and "leader of the band" at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, arranged "God Save the King" for performance at the theatre by soloists and chorus after the play on 28th September, 1745. The performance was a tremendous popular success, and it was repeated nightly thereafter. A few days later a setting arranged by Arne's pupil, Charles Burney, was performed at Covent Garden. It was then taken up by other theatres, and soon spread outside London. By 1747 it became customary to greet the King with it as he entered a place of public amusement.

The words of the song at this time were consciously intended to be anti-Jacobite. The words in the second and third verses (e.g., "confound their politics") referred to the Jacobites, not to some enemy of the country as a whole. With the removal of the Jacobite threat (after the Battle of Culloden in 1746) the words became increasingly anachronistic. But, although numerous new versions have been attempted, none have supplanted the old, and the national anthem remains in a form very little different from that performed by Dr. Arne in 1745. However, it is now only the first verse — expressing hopes for the sovereign's long and prosperous reign — which is normally sung.

European visitors to Britain in the eighteenth century seemed to have been struck by the popularity of the words and tune of "God Save the King," and also to have realised the social and political advantage to a country of possessing such a recognised musical symbol. In 1763 the tune appeared in Holland under the Dutch title, "D'Ongeveinsdheid" (Sincerity), in a publication, but its British origin was acknowledged. In 1790 a newspaper in Denmark published a poem written for the birthday of Christian VII and intimated that it could be sung to the tune of the British "God Save the King." In 1794 a German newspaper provided a set of verses modelled on those of Denmark, "Heil Dir im Siegerkranz," and this song was officially adopted by a number of the German states, including Prussia, Saxony, Hanover, Brunswick and Weimar. It became so well known there that the tune was soon believed by many to be of German origin. Some time later Russia adopted the tune, Russian verses were written for it, and the song remained in use for State occasions until 1833, when a new national anthem was composed. In Switzerland, which has no official national anthem, the British tune has long been used with the poem, "Rufst Du, mein Vaterland?" in the German-speaking part, and with the poem "O monts independants" in the Frenchspeaking parts. Liechtenstein uses the tune for its "Liechtensteinvolkshymne," and at one time Sweden used it for a national song.

"God Save the King" was sung in the American Colonies before independence, and use continued to be made of the tune after the creation of the United States of America. The song now usually known in the United States as "America" ("My Country, "It's of Thee"), with words written by Dr. S. F. Smith in 1831, is sung to the tune of the British National Anthem.

(From the British Office of Information.)

EQUIPMENT DEPARTMENT

OPEN-Week Days: 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Saturdays: 9.5 a.m. to 12 noon. Holiday week-ends excepted.



GEELONG DEPOT: Guide Hall, Myers Street, Geelong

GUIDES

When ordering Guide skirts, state	waist
and length. Guide blouses, bust me	asure.
Guide Skirts, all sizes	
Guide Blouses, all sizes	
Guide Ties	
Guide Berets, standard size	8/-
Guide Beret Badges	1/6
State Badge	1/7
State Badge	2/8
World Badge	2/-
World Badge Belt	7/-
Swivel	1/-
Knotting Rope	1/-
Fawn Sox, all sizes	6/9
Navy Pants, all sizes	6/9
Navy Half Slips	12/6
Guide Whistles	3/-
Diary	2/9
Pouch	4/-
Guide Miniature Badge	1/3
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BROWNIES

Uniforms, length: 28, 30, 32, 33,	
34, 36, all sizes	36/9
Ties	3/-
Cap	6/9
Belt	4/6
Pouch	4/-
World Badge	2/-
Sox, Fawn, all sizes	6/9
Fawn Pants, all sizes	6/9
Diary	2/9
Emblem	9d.
Brownie Miniature Badge	1/3
Brownie Mag.	6d.
Brownie Cardigan, 26, 39/6;	
28, 39/6; 30, 40/-; 32	42/-
GUIDERS	
GOIDERS	

Jackets, all sizes	£5
Skirts, state waist measure	60/-
Blouse, fused or soft collar 2	
Tie, Brown or Blue	
Beret, state size	
Belt	7/-
Swivel	

BALLARAT DEPOT:

4 Grenville Street South, Ballarat. Wednesday, 2.30 to 4.45 p.m. Saturday, 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Knife	12/3
Whistle	5/-
Metal State Badge	3/-
Guide Badge	
World Badge	
Brown Owl or Captain Patch	1/-



Remembering the story in February's "Matilda" of the interdependence of trees, soil and water, it was interesting to read in a recent issue of the "Guider" of the appeal made by Peter Scott, C.B.E., D.S.C., for the Wildlife of the World.

He wrote:—"How much does it matter if the world's wildlife disappears, if we wake up one day to find that there are no more rhinoceroses or giraffes, lions or walruses, koala bears or giant tortoises? Why should we care?

"I want to explain why it does matter, and why I and a good many other people have come together to draw attention to the problem, to raise a World Wildlife Fund. Many an animal species is threatened with extinction at this moment, not so much through the killing of the animals themselves, as through the destruction of the habitat—the place where they live. There is an intimate relationship between soil and water and plants and animals—and man himself—which we are only now beginning to understand. This makes up the science of ecology; and very often if one factor in the relationship is altered the whole system breaks down."

If you are interested in the determined effort that is being made to Save the World's Wildlife, donations, large or small, can be sent to the World Wildlife Fund, 2 Caxton Street, Westminster, London, S.W.1. England.

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TO "MATILDA," MAY, 1963-64, IS NOW DUE.

Complete this form and send to GIRL GUIDE HEADQUARTERS, 20 Russell Street, Melbourne, C.1. marked "Matilda."

Early renewal will be appreciated.

Remember, 30th April is the due date. The May issue will not be posted unless subscription is received by this date. So HURRY and make sure that you do not miss any issues of "Matilda."

If you are a new subscriber, please write "NEW SUBSCRIBER" across top left hand corner.

I enclose herewith my subscriptions — each 10/-. (No exchange necessary on country cheques.) Receipts will not be posted unless requested.

If you have a friend who is interested in Guiding, why not send her a subscription as a present?

The addresses to which "Matilda" is to be sent are:-

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Ad	dress	
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Ad	dress	
3. Name.	Mrs./Miss	
Ad	dress	
Company	Pack L.A.	

Do not send this form to the Editor.



BROWNIE BETTY (Continued from page 224)

4. Why were two of the Brownies taught a third method when they could have passed with two?

ANSWERS

- 1. Both methods give the same result if arms are really horizontal, but Brownies often drop their arms a little.
- 2. There is no one correct way. The stitches should be the same as on other buttons on a garment, and the button must be sewn neatly and securely in the right spot.
- 3. No. Sewing straight through a button is one method, sewing a button with a

shank is another, and making a shank with thread is the third.

4. Golden Bar standard is elastic requiring each Brownie's best. The Brownies who were especially good at sewing learnt more than the bare requirements of the test.

A LETTER WITH THE RIGHT IDEA !

"Probably you will be inundated with really good accounts of various events of "Operation Link-Up"—but if everyone held back on the assumption that you would have plenty it would be a lean harvest indeed!"





NEG.

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