

Matilda

Registered at the G.P.O.,
Melbourne, for transmission
by post as a periodical.

Vol. XLI.—No. 10.

MAY, 1963.

PUBLISHED BY THE GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION, 20 RUSSELL STREET, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.



FROM THE STATE COMMISSIONER

There is never any question of anti-climax in the Guide Movement, even after such an outstanding event as the Royal Visit. Never a week, or even a day, passes without something of interest to Guides taking place somewhere in Victoria. Thank you, "Matilda," for enabling us to share these things.

I have a special piece of news for you this month. Mrs. Richardson, of Woorndoo, has accepted the position of Assistant State Commissioner. Those of you who know her will be very happy about this, I am sure. Those who don't can read something about her in this number, and it will be a pleasure in store for you to get to know her. With Mrs. Catomore and myself, she will share the opportunities of visiting you in your own regions as soon as possible so that we can give you understanding support.

It has been a month of many meetings—quarterly, as well as the normal monthly meetings—at Headquarters. The State Council had a busy evening planning ways and means of helping the Movement. In return, Mrs. Fox, our Brownie Adviser, gave the Council a splendid overall picture of her Branch, and Miss Shirley Long, recently returned from training in the Northern Territory, spoke with knowledge and appreciation of the problems in that area and of the steps being taken to meet them. Those privileged to hear her must have felt even more pleased that Victoria has a further opportunity to assist Guiding there by "lending" two of our Trainers—Miss Margaret Mellor and Miss Norma Sims—for ten weeks from 1st July. Moreover, through the good offices of our Honorary Treasurer, Mr. Gregory, General Motors-Holden's Ltd. have kindly provided a van in Alice Springs for their use.

Both Regional Chairmen and Divisional Commissioners have come to town for the first time for the year, enabling us all to take a State-wide view of our Movement. In addition to this valuable aspect of these meetings, it is such a pleasure to get to know each other better, as we share our "ups" and "downs." This seems a good moment to say what a thrill it was to meet 29 new Commissioners on the first day of their weekend training under the wing of

Mrs. Osbourne Shave; and to add that one rarely goes into Headquarters these days, or nights, without finding the Training Room in use. Remembering all the other work going on out in the field, one can positively feel us expanding.

The Advisers, too, have met. It was the last meeting for Mrs. Stuart as Guide Adviser, and her Assistant, Mrs. Moors, and for Miss Lambe as Extension Adviser. Miss Shirley Luke assisted Miss Lambe for her first two years in office, after which Mrs. Needham, and later Miss Doris Kane helped her. We thank them all sincerely for their valuable service in these capacities, and welcome as their successors Miss Bunning for the Guide Branch and Mrs. Moors for the Extension Section.

The Executive Committee has had two marathon meetings this month, an extraordinary one to prepare for the Federal Council Meeting, to which Miss Barr and Mrs. Osbourne Shave will accompany me as delegates, and Mrs. Gregory and Mrs. Richardson as observers, as well as the normal meeting. Miss Vera Fowler attended the latter for the newly-formed Property Sub-Committee, which has now taken over the duties carried out so faithfully over many years by Mrs. Reid. We wish Mrs. Reid a happy holiday abroad as an introduction to a well-earned rest.

Central Conferences have started, too, with the Senior Branch Conference at Guide House—a happy and valuable weekend that not even the rain could mar. The Public Relations Sub-Committee came in early with an energetic day's workshop followed by an afternoon Conference for Publicity Secretaries and Observers—both highly successful. Headquarters personnel have shared, too, in well-attended regional gatherings in Otway and Ballarat Regions.

You will all have had in mind yesterday's fete held by the Extension Section to augment the fund for their trip to New Zealand in January, 1965. The weather wasn't very co-operative, but taking this into account the attendance and sales were good. I'm sure that those who were prevented from going will add their contribution later.

Beyond our own immediate circle of activity—we were invited to attend the function

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ASSISTANT STATE COMMISSIONER— MRS. G. RICHARDSON

You will have read in the State Commissioner's Diary the happy news of Mrs. G. Richardson's appointment as Assistant State Commissioner. Those of us who have known Mrs. Richardson personally are particularly thrilled to learn of this new appointment, and we know that everyone will be eager to give her a warm welcome to this office. What a grand addition to "the team" she will be!

Mrs Richardson (or Flora, as she is known to so many throughout the State) has given wonderful service to the Movement over the years. She started her Guiding as a Guide in Perth in 1933, transferring later to Brighton, where she became a member of the Company at her school, Firbank C.E.G.S.S. A few years of other activities—university, teaching, marriage, family—and she was in uniform again, this time as a District Commissioner at Woorndoo where she had helped to start Guiding. Under her leadership Guiding flourished throughout the area, new Districts were started and a new Division mushroomed almost overnight. Mrs. Richardson became Division Commissioner of this new Division—now called Mortlake—in 1957, and later, when the Regional Scheme came into operation, she was appointed Regional Chairman for Western Plains Region.

Recognising Mrs. Richardson as an excellent Commissioner and a grand person, the State Executive Committee invited her to represent the State at a Commissioners' Conference in New South Wales a few years ago, and she was also chosen as one of our members to participate in a recent All-Australia Commissioner Training.

Those of you who have not yet met Mrs. Richardson have a treat in store—her kindly smile, her sound counsel, her understanding and her wide experience being just a few of the qualities and characteristics she will share with us all as one of our Assistant State Commissioners.

Congratulations and welcome, Flora.



The smallest good deed is better than the grandest good intention.

18th WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE WORLD ASSOCIATION

The Chief Commissioner of the Girl Guides Association of Australia, Mrs. M. A. Buntine, will attend the 18th World Conference of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts to be held at Nyborg, Denmark, from 18th-24th June.

Australia's second delegate is Mrs. R. G. Cameron, Assistant State Commissioner of Western Australia, our two Observers being Mrs. C. O. Fairbairn, Vice-President of the Girl Guides Association of Australia, and Miss M. Lambe, Australian Adviser for the Extension Section.

ANOTHER ICE CREAM FOR "THE CHIEF"

I know you will all be anxious to know what Victoria contributed to this special birthday present for the Chief Guide and the total amount sent from Australia.

Set out below is a statement which will show you the different amounts contributed by States, which remitted in a total amount of £665/1/10 (Australian). Isn't that wonderful, and won't the Chief Guide be thrilled when she receives it?

New South Wales	£104 3 7
Queensland	61 18 7
South Australia	65 10 2
Tasmania	76 0 11
Victoria	342 4 4
Western Australia	15 4 3
	£665 1 10

Congratulations to all members of the Victorian Association, who contributed so generously to this fund.

We realise that Brownies, Guides, Rangers and Cadets must have denied themselves many "ice creams" to produce an amount of £342/4/4.

Betty M. Macartney, State Secretary.

WARRANT TEST FOR GUIDE GUIDERS

Alteration to Rule 50, Clause B (3):

"Understand the importance of co-operation between Company and Pack; where possible visit Ranger or Cadet meetings and show that she understands the fundamentals of the Senior Branch training and the importance of the follow through to Rangers or Cadets."

"PREPARING YOUTH FOR MARRIAGE"

In Australia this year there will be approximately 76,000 marriages. Of these, one in nine will end up in the divorce courts. Many thousands more will end in separation or desertion, and thousands again will continue in gross unhappiness. This year, too, one in twenty-one of all babies born in Australia will be born to unmarried mothers.

The realisation of these staggering facts has led to the establishment of an Australian Marriage and Family Week Council, composed of representatives from Church, Medical, Youth and Educational Groups. The Girl Guides Association is one of the groups represented.

This year the theme of Family Week is "The Community's Responsibility in Preparing Youth for Marriage," and Youth Movements, such as the Girl Guides and Boy Scouts, can do much in preparing and developing the youth of today for their role as the husbands and wives of tomorrow.

During the week, 12th-18th May, it is hoped that everyone will participate in Family Week activities. Church services and television and radio programmes are just some of the ways that the Council will use to bring the importance of preparing youth for marriage before the public. In addition, the Council would like to feel that the leaders of the different youth groups will play some part in helping to overcome the problems.

How can Guiders help in promoting this Week? Some ways are:—Discussions and talks at Guide meetings and Local Association meetings; discussions after seeing the TV programmes.

For further advice on how you could make the most of this Week, contact your Association's Representative on this Council—Mrs. Judith Alexander, phone 28 0222 (during weekday afternoons).

GUIDE PROPERTIES

Commissioners and Local Associations are reminded that Mrs. G. O. Reid, who, for many years, has served the Association so magnificently as Convener of our Property Subcommittee has resigned (refer April "Matilda").

All queries relating to properties should now be referred direct to Guide Headquarters.

B. M. Macartney, State Secretary.

"PHOTO BY BETTY REYNOLDS . . ."

How many times have you seen this in "Matilda"? And in our Annual Reports, our pamphlets, etc., etc., etc.?

Miss Betty Reynolds, Sea Ranger Guider and associated with Guide Public Relations for Australia, has done a tremendous amount of photographic work for the Guide Movement, and for Headquarters in particular.

We thought we would like to turn the tables this time and publish a photograph OF Betty Reynolds. So now you will recognise the Guider who is clicking the camera in those official areas, and pose pleasantly for her.



A THOUGHT

"In my last letter I ended by saying that space was coming to an end. It had more than come to an end, for I had written too much for the good friends who produce this circular to duplicate it in the wide spacing previously used. They had to switch over to closer spacing, and that left me bemoaning my lack of space followed by a page and a half left blank! How often this happens in spiritual matters, too, when we stop short, thinking that we are finished, when Christ is able to make ample provision of grace and strength for every need. Perhaps we do not like the possibility of being squeezed up a bit to make more room!"

THE MEANING OF GIRL SCOUTING

(Written by Nancy Arnold, Troop 136, for a Neighbourhood Scouts' Own.)

What does Girl Scouting mean to each of its three million adherents? Probably three million different things, for each of us has her own favourite memories!

Of camp—of the friends we made there—of the skills we learned and taught one another, of the enriching experience of living together in harmony with nature; of joint activities and projects with other Troops; of parties, where we met new friends and compare common and differing experiences; of service projects where fellow-Girl Scouts work side by side to uphold the same Promise and the same Laws, and of neighbourhood get-togethers such as this Scouts' Own, where the silence of thoughts common to all of us brings us closer together.

Together—that is the key word of Girl Scouting. Successful Scouting is the combined efforts, the composite talents, the collective fun of every girl's unique contribution.

You can't be a Girl Scout all by yourself. Most assuredly, you can "do a good turn daily," all by yourself. You can be "loyal, trustworthy, cheerful, thrifty, and clean in thought, word and deed" all by yourself, but it is as a Troop that you are "a friend to all and a sister to every other Girl Scout."

As a part of your Girl Scout Troop you learn that everybody has something special to contribute—something unique that makes the Group as a whole a little different—and a little better than it would be if it were run only by your own ideas.

—Reprinted from the Santa Clara County Girl Scout Leaflet, California, U.S.A.

ANGLICAN YOUTH CONFERENCE

St. Andrew's Church, Brighton, was the site on 16th March for a Conference of Anglican Guide and Scout personnel sponsored by the Archbishop's Diocesan Scout and Guide Advisory Council. The subject discussed was how Guides and Scouts can be of help in the Anglican Church Youth Groups.

Bishop Sambell gave the opening address, followed by Mrs. Fairbairn speaking for the Guides and Colonel Black for the Scouts. Time did not allow for the expected group discussion, but it is hoped that further arrangements will be made for this to take place.

FREEDOM FROM HUNGER APPEAL

Many of you will have seen in the papers that Sir Dallas Brooks officially opened the FREEDOM FROM HUNGER APPEAL on the 19th of March, 1963.

Many Guide Companies and Brownie Packs have already sent in donations for this Appeal, and many more are doing something for it at the moment.

The money is to be sent to our Headquarters, 20 Russell Street, Melbourne, and to be marked, "Freedom from Hunger Campaign."

We hope to have a nice sum to present to this Appeal by the end of May.

The money is needed to keep all the projects working that have been started by the countries of the world. Australia has projects in Burma, Pakistan, Indonesia, India and Ceylon.



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in the Town Hall at which Sir Dallas Brooks officially launched the Freedom from Hunger Campaign. We were included, too, in the guest list for the Garden Party given by the Government of Victoria at Government House to say farewell to Sir Dallas and Lady Brooks. And we shall be privileged to go into the grounds of Government House again to wave them on their way to board ship for a well-earned holiday. From the small surplus remaining from your contributions we have bought a copy of "Realms and Islands," by Marnie Bassett, as a "bon voyage" gift from all of us to our State President. To end the month we were allotted places at the farewell service to His Excellency and Lady Brooks in St. Paul's Cathedral. But it is not an entirely unhappy ending, for our sadness at losing them is lessened by the knowledge that they will soon return as residents of Victoria.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:—

QUEEN'S GUIDES—

Zelda Akers, 1st Orrvale Coy.; Patricia Bakewell, 1st Clyde Coy.; Lynne Barnes, 2nd Cheltenham Coy.; Anne Barwick, 2nd Beaumaris Coy.; Robyn Baxter, 17th Geelong Coy.; Robyn Bell, 3rd Benalla Coy.; Gail Birkenhead, 1st Edithvale Coy.; Janet Butson, 2nd Murrumbena Coy.; Vivien Champion de Crespigny, 1st Bentleigh Coy.; Sandra Coombs, 1st Drysdale Coy.; Lorraine Coutts, 7th Ballarat Coy.; Lorraine Crawshaw, 2nd Sale Coy.; Ann Cronin, 3rd Williamstown Coy.; Judy Davidson, 1st Mooroopna Coy.; Rayna Deearth, 1st Drysdale Coy.; Faye Dixon, 6th Bendigo Coy.; Kay Drew, 2nd Benalla Coy.; Diana Duff, 1st Hampton Coy.; Barbara Duke, 1st Frankston Coy.; Laurice Edney, 1st Orrvale Coy.; Robyn Exell, 1st Bendigo Coy.; Kaye Ferguson, 5th Victorian Lones; Heather Fleming, 2nd Warrnambool Coy.; Robyn Fleming, 1st Minyip Coy.; Glenys Fletcher, 1st Queenscliff Coy.; Ruth French, 1st Lake Bolac Coy.; Marianne Fricker, 1st Mitcham Coy.; Margaret Gooch, 5th Victorian Lones; Kay Gorman, 1st Casterton Coy.; Joy Grandin, 3rd Moorabbin Coy.; Cheryl Greer, 2nd Traralgon Coy.; Shirley Hempel, 12th Victorian Lones; Ronda Henning, 1st Minyip Coy.; Elizabeth Hepburn, 1st Deepdene Coy.; Helen Iser, 4th Bendigo Coy.; Gillian Jones, 2nd Beaumaris Coy.; Jillian Jones, 5th Geelong West Coy.; Janice Kearns, 1st Casterton Coy.; Lesley Kefford, 4th Geelong West Coy.; Cheryl Kelly, 1st Newport Coy.; Wendy Keys, 4th South Yarra Coy.; Krystyna Kinowski, 3rd Cheltenham Coy.; Merylyn Kleinert, 1st Forest Hill Coy.; Helen Lamb, 2nd Sale Coy.; Catherine Lawson, 1st Moorleigh Coy.; Katrina Legg, 2nd Canterbury Coy.; Heather Llewellyn, 1st Heyfield Coy.; Alix McEwin, 1st Beaumaris Coy.; Elaine Macdonald, 1st East Brighton Coy.; Janis McKenzie, 4th Box Hill Coy.; Carol Martin, 2nd Sandringham Coy.; Mary Miller, 2nd Canterbury Coy.; Elizabeth Moffatt, 2nd Canterbury Coy.; Prue Newbery, 3rd Bentleigh Coy.; Christine Nicholls, 2nd Doncaster Coy.; Lynette Nickelson, 1st Drysdale Coy.; Meg Page, 1st Cheltenham Coy.; Vera Pollard, 5th North Kew Coy.; Pauline Preston, 2nd Geelong West Coy.; Elizabeth Price, 2nd Caulfield Coy.; Marilyn Prince, 1st East Ringwood Coy.; Ann Radford, 2nd Balwyn Coy.; Margaret Ridland, 2nd Beaumaris Coy.;

5th VICTORIAN LONE GUIDE COMPANY GET-TOGETHER

We are a very scattered Company, with members living as far apart as Wanganella in N.S.W. to Gippsland in Victoria, and when, early last year, Joan suggested that we meet and get to know each other, the question was when and where?

Ann suggested that a good place and date would be the Shrine of Remembrance, for two of our Guides would receive their Queen's Guides Certificates at the Presentation at Government House in October. So, that day, Captain, Lieutenant, several of our Lones, their parents and friends met for lunch beside the statue of Simpson and his donkey. Our Lone Adviser, Mrs. Stone, was with us for a while.

Then we visited the Shrine and later presented our two Queen's Guides with gifts from the Company to show them how proud and thrilled we were that two of our Lone Guides had earned such a high award. With a Lone Guide from 12th Company they are the very first Lone Queen's Guides in Victoria.

During the day we took many photos which will bring back happy memories of our first Queen's Guides and of our first Company Get-together. We hope to meet at least once a year, so that we can renew friendships and get to know new members of our Company.

L.B.

Barbara Robinson, 11th Ballarat Coy.; Pam Rose, 3rd Glenroy Coy.; Julie Rothwell, 1a Mildura Coy.; Sandra Russell, 7th All Saints' Coy., Geelong; Pam Schmid, 6th Hawthorn Coy.; Lynette Sharp, 5th Box Hill Coy.; Heather Sims, 2nd Caulfield Coy.; Janice Skeels, 1st Heyfield Coy.; Janice Smith, 1st Wangaratta Coy.; Peta Snellgrove, 1st Corryong Coy.; Heather Snookes, 4th Preston Coy.; Rosemary Stuart, 1st Clematis Coy.; Annie Swanink, 1st Newborough Coy.; Judith Synnot, 1st Morwell Coy.; Jillian Thomas, 1st Montmorency Coy.; Kathleen Tisdall, 1st Cheltenham Coy.; Tiina Varnik, 3rd Benalla Coy.; Mary Vibert, 2nd Shepparton Coy.; Susyn Wellman, 1st Rochester Coy.; Jeanette Williams, 1st Drysdale Coy.; Jennie Wyles, 6th Kew Coy.; Margaret Yandell, 4th Bendigo Coy.

THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE

From talk by Miss Dorothy Pearce, Almoner Royal Hobart Hospital.

Recently I came upon this advertisement in an English Literary Journal: "Yas Mina Orphanage, near Tunis, 100 Algerian refugee orphans sheltered. They have been eating earth to allay hunger pangs. Please help us to support this act of mercy—10/- feeds, clothes and educates a child for one week."

It struck me that here, basically, were the needs of the people—to be sheltered, fed, clothed and educated, and to know that somebody, somewhere, loves you enough to hand over 10/- to save you from starvation.

If I were preaching a sermon on this subject and needed a text, I should choose the following extract from an old prayer—"Grant that they (the people) may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil the same." This sums up the two aspects of service to one's fellows—firstly, acquiring the skills to serve; and secondly, seeing where the service is needed so that the spirit and skills are not wasted with consequent frustration to the individual.

In training people for service there is one priceless factor with which the Trainer can start. This is the innate desire in most people to help their fellows. In most cases this is near the surface and easily released. In others it is buried fairly deeply and a certain amount of digging and experimenting is necessary before it is apparent, but there are, fortunately, very few people in whom this desire is completely lacking.

In the early stages a child will often want to serve only on her own terms. Thus she may help only the people she knows and likes, or only gives the sort of service which she knows she is good at or which involves her in the least physical effort. I imagine it is one of the tasks of a Guide Leader to foster and develop and channel this desire to serve and to infect those in her charge with her own enthusiasm for community service.

In fostering this spirit of service in young people, I think you will find that at first they need to be given tasks where they are sure their service will be acknowledged. When we are teaching a child to talk, one of the first things we harp on is that he should say "thank you" when we give him something.

And while they are still very young they come to expect this from others. In some people this expression of thanks is later forgotten or suppressed. If a young person embarking on a career of service does not get acknowledgement she will be discouraged and may lose interest. Thus it is often most profitable to start them off either in their own homes or in a group they know or perhaps in an old people's home where there is no shortage of well-bred old ladies who will tell them how kind they are. If their services are obviously appreciated, they will leave with a feeling of satisfaction and will look forward to helping again.

To find that the most worthwhile service must sometimes go unacknowledged is a bitter lesson which even Christ Himself had to learn. Do you remember when He healed ten lepers and only one returned to thank Him. His disappointed reaction was, "Were there not ten of you?" But He did not give up healing people after that.

It is only the most mature and secure person, usually with very strong spiritual motivation, who can go on serving others without acknowledgement. It is certainly too much to expect of young people with little experience. But it is probably the highest form of service and should be the distant goal of those who are training the young in service.

The difficult thing is that the people who are in the greatest need of help are often the very ones who are incapable of, or are determined not to, express appreciation. Suppose, for instance, you decided to take a couple of selected girls from a home for delinquents for an outing. Now, these girls would only be committed to such a home after all other enlightened methods have failed, so it's no good getting all idealistic and kidding yourselves that you will achieve in one day what parents, probation officers, school teachers and other enlightened people have failed to achieve over a period of years. They may come and have a good time and thank you at the end, but the girls may not turn up or they may refuse to join in your activities. They may disappear and find their own way back to the Institution, or be picked up later by the police and taken back to face whatever punishment awaits them.

Well, what are you going to do about it? Are you going to say, "that experiment was a failure—we'll look for some other group to help," or are you going to say to the

authorities, "Please select your girls more carefully next time," or are you going to say, "Well, we didn't get very far with them, but we hardly know each other yet, so keep on sending them if you think it will do them any good. We realise that some contact with normal people will help their adjustment when they are discharged."

This is just an example of how the most worthwhile service can be the most unrewarding, and, as I say, it is not for the very young and inexperienced.

I assume, rightly or wrongly, that, with very few exceptions, service to others begins in the home.

I do not know whether it still goes on, but from time to time I have heard an unfortunate criticism of the Guide Movement, a criticism with which you are doubtless familiar; namely, that some Guides are so busy doing their good turns outside that they tend to neglect their duties at home.

This, of course, is a matter of training and for parent co-operation. It seems to me that a balance should be achieved through parent meetings where training programmes could be discussed, the purpose of training explained to the parents, and the parents given the opportunity to make suggestions. It seems pretty obvious that if a girl received training at Guides in such things as cooking or flower arrangement, but finds that these tasks are jealously fulfilled by her mother so that the girl never has a chance to apply what she has learned, then she will be only too pleased to run off at weekends to a place where her services will be utilised and appreciated, leaving home perhaps without even making her bed.

While parents need to be encouraged to be tolerant at first, it is important that the teaching should be sound and high standards should be insisted on. While a damper which is iron hard and black on the outside and all gooey in the middle may be highly exciting during a Guide's first camp, the family will expect something more edible if the Guide undertakes to cook the Saturday dinner for them. I cannot believe that even Guide Leaders are real experts in all the domestic arts, and I do not think it should be regarded as an admission of failure if they call in outside experts to conduct special classes in certain fields.

PACK HOLIDAY

We were very excited one day at our Brownie meeting to hear that we were to have a Pack Holiday with the Brownies from Dunkeld. Our camp was held in the shearing quarters at Mt. Koroite, a property near Coleraine, about 19 miles from Hamilton.

There were eighteen happy, excited Brownies and "Doc." with our two Pack Leaders, "Pansy" and "Daisy," who gave us the most wonderful meals.

We had a good look around our quarters and found that we were situated on a big hill overlooking the Glenelg River as it wound its way to Coleraine.

The next day we had a barbecue lunch, where large quantities of chops and sausages were eaten. We all felt very strong then and went on a hike.

"Daisy" and "Pansy" found that one day while we were having lunch they had four-legged visitors to their room—two cows. We were pleased to welcome two-legged visitors (our parents and friends) on the Sunday afternoon.

We entertained the Coleraine Brownies one afternoon and we had a Church Parade at the Presbyterian Church.

On the last night there was great fun and games, and feast with the biscuits and sweets that our parents had given us that afternoon.

When we had packed up the next morning two of the Brownies went with "Boss" to the homestead to give a gift to our hostess, Mrs. Baulch, and thank her for allowing us to use the shearing quarters.

We all piled on the bus and came home laughing about the fun we'd had in the tin tubs we used as baths, and all the enjoyable things we had done together.

Jane Critten, Imp Sixer, 1st Hamilton Pack.

I think that the aspect of parent co-operation is important, too, in money-raising projects. It is very frustrating for parents if their daughters neglect their normal household chores while they rush out earning "bobs for jobs!"

If such schemes can be fully discussed at parents' meetings beforehand, the parents can then work out with their children how much needs to be done at home and the value of the jobs and how much time can be allocated to outside jobs.

(To be continued.)

THE OLD RUSTIC CART BY THE HILL

(With apologies to a well known song.)

Captain, Q.M. and eight Guides of the 1st Newhaven-San Remo Company left Newhaven on a beautiful morning, with Western Port Bay like a sparkling sapphire as we farewelled it from the Bass Hills.

Having made an early start we reckoned on excellent timing, but one should always "Be Prepared!" As the main road was closed to traffic near Gembrook we had to take a detour. Cap was leading the way and her car skidded in the soft surface and slid sideways into the low embankment. Fortunately, no real damage occurred, and the Guides went off in search of help and came back with a very obliging gentleman and his tractor.

The girls covered the softer areas of the road with branches and aided in the rescue; and we were only about half an hour later than we anticipated when we reached Guide House. Here we were welcomed by the Tester who made us a steaming cup of tea, but Cap's troubles were not yet over. Munching a ginger nut, she managed to break her teeth! The eighth Guide Law was then definitely put into practise!

Fate wasn't really kind to us, as rain poured most of our stay. We had always been told, "You have never camped until you've camped in the wet." Now we know!

Our cart—a rare piece of elegance—was found to have enough lead rope on it to hang a horse. One and a half wheels somehow kept it upright, and it shrieked its protest against heavy loads to and from the main equipment hut for the rest of our stay.

We had possums, too, who misappropriated the dried fruit that was meant for our plum pudding.

We had great help from a Guide who stayed on with us and taught us many new Campfire songs, and had a cheerful word for all.

Our Company shared Campfire with the 1st Minyip Company in the B-P Hut.

On Sunday the sun shone and the world looked a different place. This was the day we were striking camp. Q.M. had a little trouble with a bull-ant whilst attending to the grease trap. The bull-ant won, leaving its mark.

ECHOES FROM THE ROYAL VISIT

MY VISIT TO SEE THE QUEEN

At last the day dawned—I got up at 6.30 a.m. When the train arrived in Shepparton there were lots of Guides from further north on it. We had reserved carriages, and there was plenty of talk and excitement.

At Essendon Station I met my hostess—Brownie Helen Currie.

Soon, off we went to see the Queen at Flemington Racecourse. We cheered and waved our flags, and had a beautiful view. Later we joined the Essendon Division in a Thinking Day Ceremony, and were taken by bus to the Myer Music Bowl for the Camp Fire Concert.

On Monday we went into Melbourne to see the Moomba Procession; the floats were beautiful, especially our own Guide one.

We had a lovely weekend; our hostesses were very good to us, and we all thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Robin Onley, 2nd Shepparton Coy.

LINKS OF FRIENDSHIP WEEKEND

The news that the Queen was coming to Australia was exciting, but also disappointing to us, because she was not to visit our area. Naturally we were thrilled when we heard of Operation Link-Up — and we were the guests of the Ringwood Guides.

On Saturday morning some of us had places at the Henley Staging to see the Queen. Our loud cheering brought us a special wave and smile from Prince Philip. On Saturday evening we joined the hundreds of other Guides at the Myer Music Bowl. On Monday we saw the Moomba Parade, and gave a special cheer for the Guide float. Later we saw the Queen again, entering the gates of Government House.

We arrived home on Monday night, tired but happy. We want to thank the Commissioners, hostesses, our own Guiders, and all who helped to organise the Link-Up.

Janet Lalor, 1st Terang Coy.

Dianne Saunders, 2nd Terang Coy.



The time for departure came—but not far along the road home the girls cheered up and sang many songs.—Que-ee.

P.L. CONFERENCE — BENDIGO

The Annual Conference of the Patrol Leaders of the Bendigo and nearby Divisions was held recently at McGillvray Hall at the Bendigo Technical College.

There were about 75 Guides present, and they came from Echuca, Kerang, Swan Hill and Bendigo Divisions. Mrs. C. K. Hyett, Regional Chairwoman, was in the chair.

Five P.Ls. from the Bendigo Division, with their assistants, organised all the speeches, afternoon tea, collecting of Conference fees, etc.—in general, they organised the Conference.

Mrs. Stuart, Guide Adviser, and her team of assistants from H.Q., showed the P.Ls. many new and interesting games.

During the afternoon there was a Question Box—among the questions asked were:—

1. Why do Guides wear berets instead of hats?
2. Why do Guiders wear high heels and make-up when the Guides aren't allowed to?
3. Why do Guides have to wear dark petticoats?

All the Guides present had a very enjoyable and beneficial day. The visiting Guides also had a brief opportunity to see something of Bendigo during the lunch break.

Sandra Townsend, P.L. Boronia Patrol,
1st Eaglehawk Coy.

CONVENERS FOR HOSPITALITY

It is with sincere regret that we announce the resignations of Mrs. H. Barclay and Mrs. T. Alston, who have so willingly arranged hospitality for Guide, Guider and Commissioner visitors to Melbourne for a number of years.

To Mrs. Barclay, who has looked after hospitality for our young people for a great number of years, we owe a great debt of gratitude. To Mrs. Alston, who was appointed Convener for Hospitality (Adults) to succeed Mrs. Wallace in August, 1961, we express our sincere appreciation.

We know that all our country members who have been looked after by our Conveners for Hospitality will wish to add their grateful thanks for their many kindnesses.

Please note that requests for Hospitality should be forwarded to Headquarters until a new Convener(s) is appointed.

TOORAK COLLEGE HOST TO BROWNIES

Mt. Eliza District Brownies had a thrilling Thinking Day Ceremony on the eve of the Royal Visit. It took place in the beautiful grounds of Toorak College, where they played games from other countries and joined in the chain of thought which encompasses the world on this day, making a spiritual link with all other Guides and Brownies.

We formed up beneath a magnificent gum tree, and each Sixer led her Six forward, laid down the Brownie Badge of her chosen country, and sent a special message of greeting to the Brownies of that country.

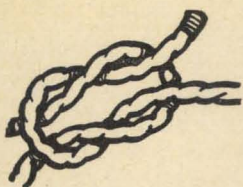
A Golden Hand Badge was presented to one Brownie by Miss Bush, the College Headmistress.—I.T.



By now you will all have seen the Evergreen transfer, and many Guides and Brownies have already helped speed it on its way to every corner of Victoria. I think we would all like to join in saying a special thank you through "Matilda" to Mrs. Jenny de Nijs, who created such an attractive and appropriate design for us.

Some of you will remember Mrs. de Nijs as Jenny Schulof, who was a Ranger and Square Centre Leader—and who, now, incidentally, helps each month to "make up" "Matilda."

Word has already gone out of the Natural Resources Conservation League's offer of 25 trees, free of charge, to every PLAN EVERGREEN tree-planting project. We are indeed grateful to the League for this generous and very practical help with our plan. Our thanks go, too, to the Assistant Director of N.R.C.L. (Mr. Edgar) for his notes for the guidance of groups who are undertaking this type of project.



TRAINING PAGES

TREES FOR ROADSIDE PLANTING

There are certain preliminary considerations requiring attention before planting can begin.

Firstly, it is necessary to obtain the approval of the controlling authority. This will be either the municipality or the Country Roads Board, except in some areas where some other department, such as the State Electricity Commission, is responsible.

The controlling authority may also exercise its undoubted right to approve or otherwise of the species of tree selected for the planting.

Roadsides often present difficult conditions to the tree-planter. In general, weed growth is prolific, and it is sometimes impracticable to give regular attention to trees after planting. Also, where drainage is poor, run-off from the bitumen causes constantly wet soil on the roadside during the winter months, the soil becoming very hard under long dry summer conditions.

Some of these difficulties may be overcome by group planting—that is, concentrating a number of trees in a small area. This allows for better preparation of the soil, as an implement can be used and gives a more natural look to the planting. Avenues of trees are more suitable for special purposes, such as approaches to towns or to lead up to some architectural feature.

Space does not permit the making of detailed lists of appropriate trees, but some considerations on which choice should be based are as follows:—

Firstly, they should be hardy and of species known to do well in the district under similar conditions. Many such can be determined by making observation in undisturbed natural areas or in well planted farms and parks. Usually, native species are best for these plantings—the majority of them being able to adapt themselves to a wide range of conditions. Nevertheless, many exotic species are very suitable. Avoid trees which may become a nuisance by vigorous

sucker growth, and select those suitable to the conditions prevailing on the roadside.

Finally, where conditions are tough and little attention is possible, small plants will establish themselves more readily than large, especially where they have the well-developed and comparatively large root system of the tube-grown tree.



STARS

MAY

If you have been keeping your eye on Leo, which I hope you learned in March, you will notice that it has moved across to the northwest. In its place, just above the north-eastern horizon, you will find a very bright golden yellow star, the beautiful Arcturus, in Bootes the Herdsmen. This is a northern constellation, so we, so far south, only see it for a short time—from May to August.

Bootes consists of Arcturus, two groups of stars on either side of it, and a single star lower down in the sky below Arcturus.

Close beside Bootes is a pretty semi-circle of faint stars with one bright one—this is the Northern Crown, Corona Borealis.

(Refer "Easy Guide to the Southern Stars"—Leo, map 9; Bootes, map 14; Corona Borealis, map 14.)

PRONUNCIATION—

BOOTES (BOOTEZ—"o" as in go).

ARCTURUS (Ark-tu-rus).

CORONA BOREALIS (Corr-owna bore-ee-ah-lis).

THE COMMISSIONER VISITS A COMPANY

So your Commissioner is coming to visit the Company. How do you feel about it? Are you pleased—or are you worried stiff? (What will she think of me? What will she say? Should I salute first?)

It's grim, isn't it—that sort of panic? And it certainly shouldn't happen in Guiding. But I suppose it's natural enough if we're new—before we realise that the Commissioner is in this business for the same reasons that we are in it—to help the children—and she can best do that by coming to us as a friend, to see what help we need and what help she can give us. And that is just what she does.

And when we are busy being nervous about her visit—do we ever stop to think how she might feel—particularly if she is new? Did it occur to you that she might be nervous? (What shall I do when I get there? How will I know just when to go in? I might arrive in the middle of a game or something—and spoil it? Do I salute first?)

So, dear Captain, what can you do to make life easier for you both?

I'll tell you—you should arrange with your Commissioner exactly what time you wish her to arrive—and let her be clear what will be expected of her during the meeting. In other words, don't spring an enrolment or a talk on her without warning. Also, have two Guides stationed outside at the time she's expected. What a cheering sight for a new Commissioner to find two smiling Guides to welcome her. One will then run ahead to tell Captain of her arrival so that there will be no awkward interruptions. Easier for you and certainly easier for your Commissioner. And, as first impressions mean a lot, the courtesy shown on her arrival will pave the way for a successful and happy visit to your Company.—C.W.



It shouldn't be necessary to blow out the other person's light to let yours shine.

COURTESY THE FIFTH LAW

"Of Courtesy, it is much less
Than Courage of Heart or Holiness,
Yet in my walks it seems to me
That the Grace of God is in Courtesy."

—Hilaire Belloc.

How often do we ask our new Recruits what they understand by the Fifth Law, and get the reply, "Standing up for old ladies in buses?" Perhaps it is even more vague. I have had the answer "What people have to do when they meet the Queen!"

We hear people make remarks about "old-fashioned courtesy" sometimes. This is, to my mind, a tragedy. Why should being polite and thoughtful be old-fashioned? How much more is involved than standing up in buses, and surely it is our job as Guiders to try to overcome the prevalent lack of courtesy among people in this rushing modern world.

Surely being courteous means more than just being polite. It goes far deeper, and involves, first of all, unselfishness and thinking of other people before oneself. It takes a long time and considerable patience to make a child think of others before herself. The small baby is only concerned with its own wants and requirements, and very slowly, and with training, it begins to realise that its desires must gradually give way to the convenience of other people.

Modern life and home training does not do as much in this direction as was done in the past. It is our duty to tackle the problem thoroughly and see whether we can help our Guides to think more of others and be real examples of "old-fashioned" courtesy as a sort of "leaven" in the community.

How can we do this?

The most important and valuable form of training is by our example. Someone once said: "It is not what you teach Guides that matters. That is only half of it. What they catch counts even more."

Are we always courteous ourselves?

Do we shout at them during our meetings? In these days there is so much noise around children that they tend to ignore the quiet command. If we refuse to speak when they are talking they will soon learn to be quiet

to hear what we have to say. Our Guide hand signals are a great help here. How often I wish I could use them in my job as a teacher!

Do we always give the Guides a polite greeting or say goodnight when we leave them? Do we always make a point of saying thank you when someone holds open a door for us? I vividly remember holding a door in a shop in Melbourne while streams of people passed in and out, and I think I could have spent the day there without notice if I had not decided that I had had enough!

Then there is the courtesy of replying to invitations when we receive them. It is always wise to reply directly the invitation is received instead of putting it aside and then just remembering to ring up the day before, or often, I am afraid, not replying at all if we are unable to accept. If we think at all about our hostess we must realise how inconvenient it is not to know how many people are coming until the last moment.

Other letters, too, are only too often left unacknowledged in these busy times. If someone has taken the time and trouble to write to us, expended the cost of postage on us, and possibly a number of other people, asking a question that requires an answer, it is quite unpardonable to leave the letter for weeks without replying, and only too often never replying at all. This I am afraid is one of the besetting sins of Guide people in connection with communications from Headquarters, and quite apart from the expense wasted in postage, and the secretary's time and trouble, it often means that some plan involving other people is held up because of the selfishness of a few. Are we punctual when we go to meetings or other functions? That is one of the most important ways of being thoughtful for others. Our later arrival is certain to have wasted someone else's valuable time.

We live in a community that believes that everyone is equal, but we do have respect for the positions that certain people represent. A young person should always rise when someone much older comes into a room. An adult should rise when a person in a much more senior position comes in. If it is at a Company meeting it is usual for everyone to rise when the District Commissioner

enters and, of course, we would all rise if our State Commissioner came in.

These are all small points of courtesy in which we can lead our Guides by example. They are not always things which can be taught by talking to the girls. The important thing is to develop a tradition of thoughtfulness, of putting oneself in the position of the other person, and thinking of others first. It is a sort of "do-as-you-would-be-done-by" attitude to life, and our example and the habits we encourage in our Guides are sure to make a tremendous difference to their future behaviour.—M. C. Hodgkin.

(Reprinted from "The Courier," 1954).

CEREMONIES

Small Ceremonies are used for many and varied occasions in the Pack, and if made up by the Pack, will be of infinite value in training the Brownies, and also be something that belongs entirely to the particular Brownies that created them.

You may see, hear or read of a Ceremony that you think is very good. It appeals to you. With every good intention you may take that ceremony to your Brownies, tell them of it, try it out and then use it. It goes quite well, but—

For a moment I want you to let your minds dwell on the aim of all Guiding. We are training young folk not so much with the positive things we can give them, but by activities and skills that draw from within their own ability to plan and think for themselves. A ceremony copied from another Pack does not give scope for any of these qualities to be drawn into use; it is but copying someone else's ideas, parrot-fashion, hence the fact that it does not go over with as great gusto as the Guider thought it would.

Guiders are probably thinking to themselves, "then why print instructions and ceremonies used by others if they are not to be copied." They may also follow with the thought, "Anyway, my Pack hasn't any ideas of their own and when I ask them to make them up they haven't anything to say."

Programmes, ceremonies and many other parts of our Brownie work are written out to give you **ideas to work on**. Always following in any such material follows the statement

that such are but suggestions, and not to be followed exactly as printed. You cannot plan unless you have something to pattern your thoughts on.

In exactly the same way, so a Pack cannot make up its own ceremonies unless the Guider gives it something to use as a pattern. I do not mean that she should tell them the ceremony she knows of, but she can introduce the subject to the Pack, explaining why it is required what has gone before to make it necessary and so on. In her own mind she must have the essential points clear and then by introducing the topic, asking leading questions, which will bring positive answers, she will draw from the Brownies ceremonies made up by themselves.

Let us imagine that a Brownie is to receive a service star. Brown Owl is aware of this by referring to her register month by month. Mary-Lou is due for a star, and others will be receiving theirs soon. She could hand the star over there and then with nothing more than a few words—or she can lead her Pack into the ways of making their own ceremony for the presentation. If given the opportunity, and a little encouragement, it will be an odd Pack who will not wish to make up a ceremony for this and other occasions.



Who were the lucky people at this weekend? Hurstbridge, Eltham and Diamond Valley Companies — and we all join in thanking our D.C. and Guiders for making this weekend possible.

N.J.B., 1st Diamond Valley.

BOOMERANG OF GUIDING

The Boomerang of Guiding was the theme of our recent P.L. and Seconds' Training Weekend, not a camp, but a real live-in Conference at the A.N.C.M. holiday home at Montrose.

The whole weekend was based, not so much on the actual skills needed by a P.L. such as tying knots or erecting flagpoles, but on the Art of Leadership, through a deeper understanding of what Guiding is and what each Guide and Guider personally expected to gain from their experiences, for, like a boomerang, everything we give out in Guiding returns to us.

Despite the cold wet weather we still managed to hold our outdoor sessions on "Taking Your Patrol for a Hike" and "Planning Patrol Times," and it was so organised that every girl in the Patrol had to assume responsibility when faced with different situations.

Discussion Groups on "The Spirit of Guiding" and "Learning Through Fun" made a great many of us think deeply about our previous ideas, and I as a Guider learnt a great deal from the girls about fellowship and fun, which were the things we felt made up the Guiding Spirit. Another session made us realise that we all can give a new twist to anything, as the Guides invented their own games for future use in their Patrols. All these newly created games had to be played to prove their "workability," and so we all could go home knowing at least 15 new games to use.

A "Charm School"—where the use of make-up, manners in public, dress taste and hairdos were discussed not only for Guides but for adults, too, and how often we found that consideration, observation, and the 5th Guide Law meant CHARM.

Question Box was so well filled one session was not enough, and the range and scope of the questions showed how concerned the girls are with trying to live their Law and Promise in an uncertain world.

The weekend rounded off with a Campfire on the Saturday night, when songs, old and new, almost brought the house down, and on Sunday with one of the most moving Guides' Own I have ever attended.



COMING EVENTS

Check individual notices for details.

27th April-4th May: Willing Shilling Drive and Exhibit at State Savings Bank, Elizabeth Street, Melbourne.

5th May: British Commonwealth Youth Sunday.

11th-12th May: Senior Branch "Campcraft Decathalon" — see notice page.

10th-17th May: Senior Branch "Moot Karingal," Sydney.

8th-10th June: Senior Branch "Law and Leisure Weekend," Ballarat (see notice page).

17th June: Local Association Conference.

21st-23rd June: Commissioners' Conference.

14th July: Senior Branch Day Trip to Snow.

31st August-7th September: Youth Council of Victoria Youth Week (Guide Association participating).

1st-8th September: "Senior Week" — see notice page.

27th-29th September: Senior Branch Skiing Weekend—see notice page.

19th-28th September: Guide Display Stand, Royal Show.

5th October: Guiders' Conference (tentative date).

12th-13th October: Senior Branch Bird Watching Weekend.

28th October: Annual Meeting, Girl Guides Association.

November: "Operation Koala" — Tree Planting Day.

9th November: Senior Branch Archery Training and Practice.

26th-30th November: Guide Historical Exhibition — H.Q. — including "Matilda" material.

14th-15th December: Senior Branch Weekend Rowing Regatta.

STATE CAMP, 1964

An All-Victoria Camp is to be held from 10th-17th January, 1964, and the Organising Committee would be interested to hear from any Guiders who would like to serve on the staff — Campers, Q.Ms., First Aiders, Life Savers, General Helpers will all be needed. Please contact the undersigned as soon as possible if you are interested in helping with this event. Further details of the camp will be given in the next "Matilda."

P. Barr, Convener, State Camp.

B. D. McNally, Camping Secretary.

CAMPING DEPARTMENT—PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATES FOR CAMPCRAFT TRAINING

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 p.m.-9.45 p.m. Applications **no later than 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 p.m.-9.45 p.m. Applications **no later than one week before**.

Campcraft Training: (Please note change of dates.)

A Campcraft Training Course has been arranged for four nights at Guide Headquarters, and three weekends. Dates are as follows—H.Q., Monday, 26th August; Thursday, 12th September; Tuesday, 17th September; and Tuesday, 24th September, 7.45 p.m.-9.45 p.m. Weekends—Guide House (Indoor) 28th-29th September. Guide House (Outdoor), 19th-20th October. Janet Whitlam (Outdoor), 9th-10th November. Applications **no later than 12th August**.

All applications for above Courses to be sent to Camping Secretary, Guide H.Q.

M. McDONALD, Camping Adviser.

TRAINING COURSES

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. Specialised Courses may vary from four to six weeks.

Application forms must be filled in for all Courses, and 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 to be paid to the Trainer at first class of each Course.

Tuesday, 28th May—H.Q. Guide Preliminary. 6.30-8.30 p.m. Guider-in-Charge: Miss S. Wirth.

Wednesday, 29th May—H.Q. Brownie General. 10 a.m.-12 noon. Guider-in-Charge: Mrs. E. Newton.

Thursday, 30th May—H.Q. Brownie Preliminary. 10 a.m.-12 noon. Guider-in-Charge: Miss D. Holtz.

Friday, 31st May—H.Q. Guide General. 8-10 p.m. Guider-in-Charge: Miss M. Waudby.

Tuesday, 4th June—H.Q. Guide Preliminary. 10 a.m.-12 noon. Guider-in-Charge: Miss S. MacLeod.

Thursday, 6th July—H.Q. Brownie General. 6.30-8.30 p.m. Guider-in-Charge: Miss N. Lee.

Tuesday, 2nd July—H.Q. Brownie Specialised. 8 p.m.-10 p.m.

Thursday, 4th July—H.Q. Senior Branch. 8 p.m.-10 p.m.

Friday, 5th July—H.Q. Guide Specialised. 7.45 p.m.-9.45 p.m.

Country Weekends:

1st and 2nd June—Horsham.

29th and 30th June—Mildura.

Details of future Training Courses are found in "The Commissioner's Diary," also the January/February issue of "Matilda." However, it is advisable to check "Matilda" each month in case of change of dates.

Cynthia M. Walker, Training Adviser.

THANK YOU

Our sincere thanks go to Commissioners, Guiders, Rangers, Guides, Brownies, the L.As.—everyone concerned for your help and support at our Fete, held at the School for the Deaf, 30th March.

The Extension Section.

Nell Hutton, 1654 High St., Glen Iris.

SINGING GROUP

Do you enjoy Campfire singing? Would you like to learn some new songs now and again? Would you care to meet with other Guiders and sing for the fun of it?

If the answer is "yes" to all these questions you will be interested in our Singing Group, a group of Guiders who used to meet together once a month for a friendly sing-song. There have been requests that we should reform this group, and we will be glad to do so if sufficient people are interested. If you want to join in, please send a stamped addressed envelope to Miss P. Barr, c/o Headquarters, so that further details can be sent to you.



LAW AND LEISURE WEEKEND

This weekend, organised by the Senior Branch Central Committee, will be held at Banksia Lodge, Eastborne Road, West Rosebud, Queen's Birthday weekend, 7th-10th June.

Cost—£3 if transport is required, £2 otherwise (cheques should be made payable to the Senior Branch, Girl Guides Association, and Money Orders payable at Moorabbin P.O.). Fees should be sent with applications to Miss V. Ward, 21 Fairbank Road, Moorabbin, phone 97 6335. As this information is unavoidably late, application will be received up to 25th May, but later applications cannot be considered.

The train leaves Flinders Street Station at 6.26 p.m. Friday (those who wish to meet at Frankston Station should be there at 7.20 p.m.). Buses will take us to Banksia Lodge. A bus will be at Frankston Station at 10 a.m. Saturday to meet the 9.7 a.m. train from Flinders Street. Buses will leave on Sunday in time to catch the 3.37 p.m. Melbourne train. Departure time for Monday afternoon will be notified later.

We will be sleeping indoors, and you are required to take your own linen and cutlery. Tennis courts are available and swimming if the weather is suitable.

NOTICE

Mrs. A. G. Rylah, Senior Branch Adviser, will be overseas from 10th May until early July. During her absence, Miss M. Z. Owen, 383 Upper Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe (45 3657) will act in her place.



SENIOR BRANCH SKIING WEEKEND 27th-29th SEPTEMBER

This weekend has been arranged particularly for beginners, as snow conditions cannot be predicted in advance. Any experienced skier willing to come and help teach will be most welcome.

The bus will leave Melbourne at 6 p.m. on Friday, 27th, and return by 10 p.m. on Sunday, 29th. Food, accommodation and bus fare will cost £5.

In addition, each girl will need to hire ski boots, skis and slacks. You will be informed of arrangements for this after application.

This weekend is limited to 30.

Applications, and £5, to—Miss L. Parrott, 4 Keeble Street, West Geelong, Victoria.

SNOW BARBECUE AT MT. DONNA BUANG

The Senior Branch are holding a Snow Barbecue at Mt. Donna Buang on Sunday, 14th July, for all Rangers, Cadets, Recruits and Senior Branch Guiders who would like to come; in the case of Recruits, their own Guiders are asked to see that they have received some instruction in looking after themselves in the wet, suitable clothing to wear, outdoor cooking and strict obedience to instructions. The Police Search and Rescue team came to give us special training in March, it would be a pity to have to call them out in earnest!

Bring all own requirements for a barbecue lunch, including meat; slacks and boots may be worn with uniform if desired. Buses will leave H.Q. at 9 a.m. sharp on 14th July, and return there about 7.30 p.m., but there may be considerable traffic delays on the road home. Applications and 15/- (total cost) must reach Miss Glenda Luttrell, 65 Raleigh Street, Windsor, S.1, by 22nd June.

SENIOR BRANCH WEEK

31st AUGUST—8th SEPTEMBER

The object of Senior Branch Week, 1963, is to make known some of the activities of Guiding in the Senior Branch in Victoria. With this object in view, it is hoped that all Senior Branch Units in the State will participate in the following programme:—

OPEN NIGHT: Each Unit to arrange Company, Crew or Flight programme to which Guiders, Guides, L.A. members, families and friends of members be invited.

7th SEPTEMBER, in Nicholas Hall, Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, SENIOR BRANCH PROGRAMME provided by all Senior Branch Units competing in the following three sections:—

Section 1. MANNEQUIN PARADE. A parade of outfits suitable for—

Class 1—Casual wear.

Class 2—Street wear.

Class 3—After five.

Class 4—Evening wear (short or long frock).

Each Unit is requested to enter a team of four members, one in each of the above classes. Mannequins will be judged on suitability of the outfit chosen, accessories, make up, poise and deportment, and points will be allocated to the Unit.

Section 2. FLOWER ARRANGEMENT COMPETITION. Using any natural foliage or any other accessories if desired, Units are requested to enter in the following classes--

Class 1—A shoulder spray suitable for evening wear (approx. 8 in. in length.)

Class 2—A dress spray suitable for day wear. (Length to be less than 6 ins.)

Class 3—An artistic arrangement using one flower.

Class 4—An artistic arrangement using three flowers.

Class 5—An artistic arrangement using five flowers.

Class 6—An arrangement of foliage.

Class 7—A dried arrangement.

Class 8—A large container arrangement suitable for an entrance hall.

(Note.—Individual Rangers or Cadets may only enter two classes of the above section. The winning Unit will be decided on the total number of points from all classes.)

Section 3. TABLE DECORATIONS. Settings suitable for:—

Class 1—A children's party.

Class 2—A formal dinner.

Class 3—An "after theatre" supper.

This section will be judged by popular votes.

(Note.—Entrants in Section 3 may provide own tables, OR card tables will be supplied if requested on application form.)

ENTRANTS MUST provide all other table appointments in Section 3—e.g., china, silver, glass, linen, etc., if necessary.

Containers must be provided by entrants for both Sections 2 and 3 where necessary.

COMBINED CHURCH SERVICE will be held on Sunday, 8th September.

See June "Matilda" for further details of your SENIOR BRANCH WEEK, 1963.

Laurie Sharp, Convener.

SENIOR BRANCH CONFERENCE-CAMP, 1963

Over the last long weekend the Senior Branch held their combined Conference and Camp at Guide House, camping in an astonishing variety of little lightweight tents as well as (for those who have not yet been able to acquire a tent of their own, of belonging to their Unit) a number of ordinary ridge tents. There were 130 in camp, including several Extension Rangers (some of whom camped out, and some slept in the house). They divided into groups of about 10 for sleeping and catering, each group appointing their own Q.M. and preparing and cooking their own group meals. When it rained on Saturday (and again on Monday) the more experienced campers in each group showed the "tenderfeet" how to cope with it, but honesty compels us to admit that the first steady shower on Saturday afternoon sent quite a number of new chums scuttling for the shelter of the B-P Hut where they spent the night—let's hope that by this time next year they will be experienced "old hands" who can remain snug and dry in a hike tent, whatever the weather!

There were discussion sessions, both with and without the Guiders, Campfires (both organised and spontaneous!), a Seniors' Own, a breakfast hike, and on Sunday a fascinating day-long demonstration from the Police Search and Rescue Squad, who gave both theoretical and practical training in bush-

craft and in many of the clauses of the new syllabus of the Senior Branch Emergency Squad—How not to get lost in the bush, what to take on a roving hike, what to do if you are lost, how to make a bush stretcher and how to carry a casualty on it. We saw one Guider being triumphantly borne off towards the swimming pool by her own Crew (and it is not easy to get off a stretcher being carried at shoulder height!). The party returned without their patient; enquiries only elicited shrieks of laughter, so it may never be known what happened to her!

Anxiety was somewhat relieved after lunch, however, when a thorough search of the pool by police "frogmen" produced only two pennies, a pair of sunglasses and a broken comb . . . but, in case anyone feels like dashing up on a treasure hunt, the pennies were thrown in deliberately for the frogmen to locate!

Then a demonstration of how to lower yourself down a cliff on a rope by abseiling—impressive to watch, but MUCH more impressive to try, as some of the Seniors found out . . . It was an extraordinarily interesting day, whether we were hearing of the conduct of recent searches (of which we had read in the papers) or the story of ones long past; examining the First Aid kits carried by these men on their bush work or watching them unpack and explain and lay out for our inspection the whole of the gear they take with them on a search; they not only gave us a great deal of practical training, but a lot of food for thought as well—it was a day I would not have missed for anything.

The following articles were left at Guide House after the Conference Camp.

One pair blue and white rubber thongs, size 10; torch; white sandshoes, size 5½; blue track-suit top.

Would the owners please contact Jan Oliver, 123 Wellington Street, Windsor (51 1065) as soon as possible.



NEWS FROM MISS ELEANOR MANNING

This is to tell you all that I am very glad to be back in Australia, and to let you know what I have been doing.

I went, as you know, to Japan first. I had been asked to help them with the establishment of a "Commissioner System," and this involved finding out what scheme of administration they had adopted, and then making suggestions as to how the "Commissioner System" could be brought into it. Also a certain amount on Commissioners' Training.

They were most extremely kind, and lost no opportunity of taking me sight-seeing in between work sessions. I had most of my meals, for 24 days, with chopsticks! It's good for the figure! The Japanese food was lovely. It is quite surprising what one can do with raw fish, jellyfish, octopus, seaweed, and so on. There were also suki yaki and rice, of course. And one ate, mostly, at low tables, sitting on the floor.

Language was rather a difficulty, and I had to have an interpreter, so it meant saying everything slowly, phrase by phrase. Hard to keep the thread in a long session.

After a week in Japan I went to Korea. They have a dear little National Headquarters in Seoul. Quite large, really, and right in the centre of the city.

My job in Korea was to assess the readiness of the Association for full membership of the World Association, so I saw a great deal, visiting Troops all over the city and in rural areas and attending Trainings and Council Meetings and having long interviews with various Departments. Also, of course, many official calls.

I visited a Service Camp in action in a village outside Seoul. It was intensely interesting and well run. Senior girls were camped by the village, and each evening the local women came to a class in which the girls taught them reading, writing and arithmetic, and other girls took care of their children. Quite fascinating to see it in action.

The Girl Scouts are mostly in schools, and one sees that these are the only places where they can meet at present, for many reasons; transport for instance, but they are very keen.

In Korea I lived in motels and missions, and in one of the missions saw a blind school which was, as usual in places where there is

a great need, most heart-rending. They tell me people are too poor and struggling to do anything for their children if they are handicapped, so there's no future for the blind unless someone can teach them to earn their living and give them a feeling that somebody cares about them.

After Korea I went to Taiwan, otherwise called Formosa, but the correct name is the "Republic of China," and I shall call it "China" in future.

My job in China was to assess the readiness of the Association for Tenderfoot membership of the World Association. They were extremely good, and keen, and most anxious for international contacts.

I saw Company meetings and a Camp, and took a Ranger meeting, and, of course, there were the receptions, council meetings, official calls, lunches and dinners. I fitted in a great deal of sight-seeing, and really did get some knowledge of the life of the country.

I visited people in their homes, and toured the country to see Guiding in rural areas, and stayed in teachers' hostels, which are the most palatial places in the country. Teaching is the most honoured of the professions, and the facilities for teachers reflects this view.

After this, I went to Hong Kong for two days and SLEPT, and then to England.

In London work really started. This coming World Conference is going to tax delegates to the utmost I should think. Anyway, I felt taxed like anything at the Committee Meeting getting ready for it! I don't think there is any eventuality for which provision has not been made—except earthquake.

After the World Committee Meeting I went to India, and we had a look at the site for the World Centre, Asian Area. It is a lovely place outside Poona.

We had two long sessions with the architect, who is a woman, and is most interested in us, and in the purpose for which the Centre is planned.

On the way home I found myself on the plane on which the Tengku Abdul Rahman travelled from Calcutta to Singapore, en route to Kuala Lumpur. There was tremendous ceremony, and at Singapore they had a huge reception for him.

I am just off to Canberra with Mrs. Buntine to introduce her to all our friends there in the various Ministries.

BROWNIE BETTY

Betty was rather worried about laying a table. Months ago they had played a game about it and Brown Owl had told about a girl named Daisy who could never remember where to put things when she laid the table, until one night she dreamed about it and in her dream she could see a tablecloth with a picture of each knife, fork and spoon in the place where it should go, and after that she remembered the picture and so knew exactly where to put everything.

For the game they had three tables, on each of which Tawny had placed a large sheet of paper and some cardboard knives, forks and spoons (Brown Owl and Tawny had traced round real ones and the Brownies had cut them out and they were used for games and practising). Each Six stood in a line a few yards from their table, and when Brown Owl called, "Daisy, lay the table," the first one ran and placed the soup spoon in position, then ran back and touched the next Brownie who placed the knife, and so on, till the last one added salt and pepper. It was easy, because the outline of everything was drawn on the sheet of paper. The Pixies finished first, and then they all looked at the tables and decided that the Fairies was the best because everything was exactly in position. Then Brown Owl said they'd see if the Brownies could remember like Daisy, and she turned the papers over and they did it again without the outlines to guide them. The Fairies were last to finish, but again theirs was chosen as the neatest. They turned the Sixes round so the last one became first, and in the final game the Fairies were quickest and neatest. But Betty was worried because Brown Owl put the deserts spoon and fork inside the knife and fork and Betty's mother had taught her to put them across the top of the place.

Another day they played Giant's Dinner. Tawny was a hungry giant and when she pointed to a Brownie in the ring and said, "Bring me my soup spoon," that Brownie had to magic herself into a spoon without a point and lie in the right position in front of the giant's right hand, and if anyone did the wrong thing the giant roared, "Put her in the pot for supper," and Pack Leader put her in a circle of chairs which formed the pot. When Tawny pointed to Betty and said, "Bring me my pudding spoon," Betty put her

hands above her head to make a point and lay down beside the knife, but next day when she laid the table she did it her mother's way and wondered which was right.

When Brown Owl took a group of Brownies to practice table laying, Betty asked about it and Brown Owl said both ways were right, some people did it one way, some the other, and a Brownie could do either for her test. Then Carole said they didn't put a pudding fork at home, so need she do it at Brownies. "A Brownie has to know where to put a pudding fork," answered Brown Owl, "but when you lay the table at home you only put out what your mother wants. If you had peaches stewed with the stones in, your mother would probably want you to put out pudding forks for them."

They laid two places at the table and while everyone else turned their backs one Brownie altered something, then said "Ready" and the first to notice what was wrong corrected it and was out next time. Betty noticed that Karen had turned a knife over so that the sharp edge was to the right, then she changed a big and little fork.

When Betty did her test she used real cutlery and laid the table the Brownie way, being careful to put the cloth on straight, leaving room for the plates, and having the handles in a line about an inch from the table edge. She only touched the handles, put the salt and pepper shakers close together, and told Brown Owl she asked her mother if she wanted mustard, sauce, sugar or cream on the table. "Mummy says she doesn't mind which way I put the pudding things, so I sometimes do it like this at home," she explained, and Brown Owl said that such a good table-layer must be a great help, and that Betty had only her skipping to do to complete her Golden Bar.

Betty had been practising skipping, but was so anxious that she tripped twice, then she got up to twenty and Brown Owl said she was much better, though still a bit stiff. But it was Golden Bar skipping, with lots of room to improve if she did Golden Hand, and Betty ran home to show her completed Golden Bar card to her parents.

DO YOU APPROVE?

Do you approve of the way Betty's Pack is being run? Answer the following questions and turn to page 253 where you'll find Betty's Brown Owl's answers.

(Continued on page 253)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q.: Can a Guide still wear her old uniform?
If not, what is the cost of the new one?

A.: She may wear out her present uniform.
The cost of the new skirt and blouse is £3/1/-. Larger sizes £3/4/-.

Q.: Is a really useful purpose served by teaching Brownies semaphore when they do not continue signalling in Guides?

A.: Semaphore teaches co-ordination, and is excellent memory training.

Q.: Is it wise to make Guiding your whole life?

A.: Definitely not. Many and varied interests make a person more interesting and more versatile.

Q.: May Brownie Recruits and Guide Recruits take part in Willing Shilling?

A.: Yes.

Q.: Are Guides allowed to march on Anzac Day.

A.: Yes. This should be arranged by the Commissioner in conjunction with your local R.S.L.

Q.: Is it usual for L.A.'s to finance Guiders' uniform?

A.: It is usual for them to help with part of the cost.

Q.: Just what expenses do L.A.'s pay for Guiders and Commissioners as regards training and Conferences?

A.: Most L.A.'s pay all Guiders' Training fees and make substantial contributions towards their travelling and uniform expenses. An L.A. should pay all the Commissioner's administrative expenses.

WARRANTS, ETC., APRIL

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District Commissioners—Mrs. J. Smith, Mount Evelyn; Miss J. Mitchell, Prahran; Mrs. H. W. Pickup, Bunyip; Mrs. J. F. Bowe, Drouin; Mrs. D. Patton, Richmond-East Melbourne; Mrs. R. Mitchell, Woomelang.

Division Commissioners—Miss M. McArthur, East Gippsland; Mrs. A. McI. Marshall, Port Phillip; Mrs. F. Jewell (Acting), Eildon Weir.

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LIEUTENANTS:

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(Continued from page 250)

1. Should Brownies play team games like Daisy's Dream?
2. As two methods of table laying are acceptable, shouldn't Brown Owl? have said in the first place that hers wasn't the only way?
3. Did the Brownies cut between the lines of the cardboard forks?

DO YOU AGREE ?

1. Occasionally. Team games should be the exception, not the rule, at Brownies.
2. Yes.
3. No, only thick black lines divided the lines, cutting them out would have made them too fragile for games.

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