

MATILDA

NOVEMBER, 1973

VOLUME 51

NUMBER 5



PRESERVE US AND
YOU PRESERVE A
BIT OF REAL
AUSTRALIA

FRINGE LILIES

THYSANOTUS TUBEROSUS

THE NATIVE PLANTS PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF VICTORIA



From our STATE COMMISSIONER

Dear Members and Friends,

It is a gorgeous day and I am writing this letter sitting in the sun with Heidi our golden Labrador sleeping by my feet. The paddocks in front of me are beautifully green, and there is a mob of sheep peacefully grazing in the warmth looking as contented as Heidi and I feel.

The days of this last month haven't all been as peaceful as this — the first part was particularly busy being school holidays. Ann went for a couple of hikes with neighbouring Guides and had a marvellous time cooking a great variety of things. They looked as if they were going for a week.

The whole family went to the Gang Show which we enjoyed very much. I felt very proud of the members of the Guide Movement who were participating, and I am sure that they had lots of fun whilst doing a very good job.

The day school went back I was guest speaker at a C.W.A. Group Conference at Gisborne. I was delighted to speak to some members who had been Guides in England — and to meet one of our District Commissioners and a President of an L.A. Our two associations are very closely interwoven.

Jean, Lysbeth and I went to the East Metropolitan Luncheon at Tooley Pate Lodge at Launching Place. It was not a particularly nice day but even so the scenery was beautiful and it was wonderful to meet people from within the Region.

That day, 12th September, was a rather special birthday for Fred so we celebrated with dinner in town that night. If life is just beginning I hate to think how busy it will be.

The Girl Guides Association entertained the Hon. Brian Dixon, Minister for Youth, Sport and Recreation, to lunch at Headquarters. It was only a small luncheon to enable the Minister to speak to some of our Advisers and learn of our plans and problems. I think he now has a much clearer picture of Guiding and our aims and ideals and he gave us some indication of the way in which he sees us fitting into his overall plan.

Friday, 14th September, will remain in my memory for years — that was the day I made my T.V. debut on the Roy Hampson Show. I was very nervous when I arrived at Channel 0, but after talking to the make-up girl — an ex-cub mistress — and talking to Roy himself and never forgetting Marjory Lane's wonderful support, I quite enjoyed the experience. I hope that this will have some positive results.

I was delighted to attend the Ballarat Region L.A. Conference at Meredith. It was a very pleasant day and Senator Margaret Guillfoyle's talk on Loyalty — the theme of the Conference — was most thought provoking. I was delighted to meet the Brownie Guides and Guides at lunch time — it was a lovely thought that they should come to see me and I only hope they didn't miss out on their lunch.

On the way home I had the thrill of enrolling some Brownies in Ballan. I had noticed their very lovely hall with its very distinctive "Guide House" sign on the roadway as I drove through earlier in the day, and it was wonderful to be able to join in a meeting if only for a short while.

Jean and I went to the 21st Annual Meeting of the Auxiliary for Handicapped Guides. This group does a wonderful job helping our Extensions. I was particularly interested in the early history of the Extension Section.

The Region Commissioners' meeting as always was very busy, I had one eye on the clock all day — but I think we managed to cover most things. The time with the Advisers was particularly valuable.

We missed Miss Barr from our Executive Meeting, but she was returning from a short stay in hospital in Brisbane that night.

The agenda for Australian Executive Meeting, 6th - 8th November, was discussed.

(Continued on page 96)

MATILDA

PUBLISHED BY THE GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA
20 RUSSELL STREET, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA, 3000

State Commissioner: MRS. F. S. GRIMWADE

State Secretary: MISS M. W. BARR

Assistant State Commissioners: MRS. D. O. OLDFIELD

MRS. A. J. TURNBULL

Editor: MISS MARGARET SHAW

a "TALK-IN" on Guiding

In answer to a request from the Forest Hill L.A. for some Guiding personnel to tell us more about the movement, coupled with a plea from testers for help with Interest Badge assessment, and the Guiders' constant search for areas in which to encourage their Guides to take an interest, the idea of a Talk-in on Guiding in our district was born.

So that as many as possible would be given the opportunity to attend, three speakers were invited to present some of their ideas on Guiding, on each of five nights.

The speakers included Mrs. Goldsbrough (Ranger Adviser), Mrs. Fox (H.Q. Trainer), Mrs. Turnbull (Assistant State Commissioner), Mrs. B. Eager, Division Commissioner), and Mrs. McRae (Region Commissioner), who told us of various aspects of Guiding generally; Mrs. Gatehouse, Mr. K. Coppock, Mrs. B. Davies, Mr. J. Anner and Mrs. M. Winston, who related their reactions, as parents, to Guiding; Mr. G. Oakley (local dentist and politician), Mr. P. McCarthy (Nunawading Council youth worker), Mr. G. Walsh (local businessman and community worker), Rev. Collie (local Vicar) and Mrs. Dean (High School teacher), who put forward their thoughts on Guiding in the local scene.

Lively and interesting discussion followed each group of speakers, and continued over the inevitable coffee and Guide biscuits.

Each unit had prepared a display notice board and the three section uniforms were on view.

Many of the ideas expressed are ones which we quite expect, namely:

- that for each girl, Guiding is fun, and she enjoys it;
- that the girl is given the chance to balance the opinion of her parents and school teachers with that of another adult closely interested in her development;
- That she is allowed to progress at her own pace (no pressures, no competition) in avenues which interest her personally.
- that she is encouraged to be aware of other people's needs.

Parents, particularly, are very appreciative of the work and dedication of the Guiders, and they generally understand the limiting factor of each Guider's involvement in family and other community areas.

There were some points raised, however, which we would do well to consider.

Some parents feel that for young girls (12-13) the responsibility of Patrol leading is, at times, a little overwhelming. The girls need a greater amount of support from their Guider in the early stages of their appointments. Perhaps we lose some very conscientious leaders because they find it difficult to engage the co-operation of their patrols (products of this "do-what-pleases you" age).

Parents feel discipline is still most desirable.

Many would like to see an even greater emphasis placed on each girl's responsibility to react to the need of other people, to be tolerant of others and to respect their ideas and property.

They would like to see the girls encouraged to feel a sense of belonging to their local community, e.g. getting to know members of, and what other groups do, in the area. Are there any possibilities of joint participation?

Parents would like to see continued preservation of activities and attitudes which are unique and peculiar to Guiding (camping, out of doors activities).

This community tends to see no evidence of Guiding outside its uniforms, badge work, halls on council reserves, etc., and loyalty to itself. It is seen as a group to help its own members — this is, however, not regarded as a bad thing.

The fact that many of our Guides become leaders of units and other youth groups; that many actively participate in challenging community projects; that many more become conscientious mothers, vitally interested in the development of their own children; and that many choose, as a vocation, work involving service to others, is not immediately apparent to the onlooker. Some feel that Guiding should speak out on social issues, both local and world wide. Others suggest concerted support and maintenance of a community project (adventure playground, information centre).

Both parents and community people feel that halls, equipment, etc., are not used to the fullest, and that small group administration (District-L/A) tended to be wasteful and uneconomical.

The Guides themselves see Guiding as a life style pattern linking them with other people and membership of the community. They see it as an exciting learning experience, and are aware of a family feeling all over the world, because of its internationality. They all agree that camping and out of doors activities are wonderful, and that **Guiding is fun.**

Generally attendances were disappointing, but those involved felt this experiment was well worthwhile. J.R.



STATE COMMISSIONER

(Continued from page 94)

A committee under Chairmanship of Mrs. Farrow is to plan ways in which Victoria might make a greater contribution to the Irene Fairbairn Award Fund.

The afternoon following Executive I attended an Open Day at Grammar and saw new School House opened. The science class I attended brought back many memories. Rick and all the boys are very thrilled with their new boarding accommodation, as I am sure are the parents.

The Town and Country Trefoil held a meeting on 24th September and I spoke to them for a short while trying to indicate ways they can help us. The first call on their assistance is for help for the Trash and Treasure Stall at the Britannia Park Fair. From there Fred, Ann and a friend and I went to the Show and spent a very pleasant but exhausting day looking at everything. I took Martin out after school on Tuesday and saw more stock and ring events this time.

The Division Commissioner's meeting was well attended this time, and I think everyone found it very profitable and enjoyable. The Committee puts a great deal of work into planning these days, and the training session was particularly good, as well as being fun.

The sun has gone in and there are jobs to be done so maybe I had better return to the kitchen.

With love and best wishes,

Joan E. Grimwade



Except for articles where copyright restrictions are indicated, material in "Matilda" may be reprinted in Guide and Scout magazines without prior permission. A credit line would however be appreciated.

on coping with change

Humanity has always lived in a time of change, sometimes slow, sometimes fast. It was a time of speedy transition when Adam and Eve moved out of fruit-picking into agriculture.

During the past sixty years the conditions of life have been more altered than they were in all of the previous two or three thousand years.

The world is passing through a period of unsettlement due to automation, computerisation, the population increase, pollution of air, water and land, and the rising expectations of people in the developed as well as in underdeveloped countries. At this moment we are groping as if we were wearing new bifocals, not quite sure of how far away the ground is.

We are engaged not only directly with the machine and the computer and their complexities, but also in painful conflicts between science and faith, between industrialism and social reform, between art and artiness, between ideologies not efficiently thought out and the desire to wring the greatest possible pleasure out of life. We are confused by a surfeit of theories about our thinking, so that the chances seem dim of a human-being surviving a combination of complexes, reflexes, glands, sex and traffic.

Changes will come, and to dread or resent them renders us less practical in making the necessary adaptation to them. Instead of allowing the prospect to make us nervous, high-strung and tense, we can analyse the situation, recognise the worst that can happen, and try at least to improve on that worst.

One simple answer is to learn to understand this new era and to start promoting it. Study the changes that are taking place so as to use them to advantage. Get to know about what is going on, and join in it.

Once a thing has become a custom, some people suffer emotional disturbance when it undergoes change. Some believe that anything that has not been done before is unnecessary, and they are just as troublesome as those who believe that nothing should be done except for the first time.

Many intellectual, spiritual and political things have shifted from their old assigned places. Many dubious ideas are disporting

themselves in the attics of our minds and in the council chambers of the world. It is a hopeful sign when we recognise this state of affairs, because this awareness is the first step toward driving out what is destructive and establishing what is beneficial.

Satisfied people do not get things done. They have reached their goals, if they had any. They do not consider new ideas on their merits but with reference to beliefs which are in part a survival from primitive civilisations. They are afraid of innovation, and think up twenty objections to counter every suggestion for advancement. They have not grasped the fact that the greatest part of human enjoyment arises out of joys which are lovable because they are changing: children, forest trees, garden flowers, and cloudy skies. Music, for example, is a delight because of its rhythm and flow: the moment you arrest the flow and prolong a note or a chord beyond its time the melodious movement and the beauty are destroyed.

People who are not constantly replacing old ways and expectancies with new ones are in a sense ceasing to live, because not having and resting, but growing and becoming, are the chief ingredients of life and culture. Change from ignorance to knowledge, from clumsiness to skill, is a delightful experience.

(To be continued)



Unit News

Dear Matilda,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Point Lonsdale Company to tell you about our 11th birthday party.

I am delighted to say it fell at the same time as your 50th birthday, for which we would like to congratulate you.

Our party included an enrolment and a presentation of badges. The enrolment was all done by candle light. The presentation of badges was done by candle light too. We blew out the candles when we were told to fall out.

At the end of the ceremony a Guide who was with the company for the last time cut the cake, which had been iced and decorated with a camp scene by three Guides.

Yours sincerely,
Vickie Spencer,
Magpie Patrol,
Point Lonsdale Guide Company.

☆ ☆ ☆

MANNEQUIN PARADE

**Run by Ormond - Glenhuntly District to aid the Southern Memorial Hospital
Thoughts of some of the Brownies of
1st Glenhuntly Pack—**

When there was the Brownie-Guide Mannequin Parade there were lots of girls modelling lovely dresses. They modelled very well. Some Guides made their own clothes and modelled them. Some of the girls won sashes and prizes. All the Brownies made a poster and the best ones got prizes. Lots of people came.

First of all I thought it was very good and exciting. All the clothes that were modelled were very nice. What surprised me most was when Wise Owl called out my name for first prize in the poster competition.

On the cat walk, it was a bit scary, but I thought to myself, "I might as well get it over and done with". When I had had my turn, it was rather fun to watch how the other children modelled.

The sum of \$86.00 was raised for the Southern Memorial Hospital.

M. Cusworth, Brownie Leader

A VISIT TO A FARM

A good time was had by all when 1st Carlton Brownies and Guides spent a weekend on a farm. We stayed with Mr. and Mrs. Pickering of Watchem (near Warracknabeal). Twenty-seven Brownies, ten Guides and six adults made the trip. We travelled up by bus, stopping in Donald on the way for a delicious supper provided by the Guides and Brownies there.

Saturday was spent round the farm — we were able to watch the cow being milked, with the cat drinking milk spurted straight from the cow, helped feed the pigs, play with the dogs, watch a sheep shorn and make daisy chains. We also visited the local primary school, which has seven pupils.

Saturday evening was spent with the Warracknabeal Guides and Brownies and on Sunday we held Guides Own in the paddock.

This was the first holiday as a pack the Brownies have had though the Guides have been on several trips. We all enjoyed the weekend very much. The hospitality shown to us by the Pickerings and the Guides and Brownies in Warracknabeal and Donald was greatly appreciated.

Sue Glazebrook (Blue Jay)
1st Carlton Brownies.

* * * *

Dear Editor,

Our Company has had a very exciting year. In January we had a camp at Britannia Park and just recently we have returned from ten fabulous days at "Paxlease", South Australia.

At our last meeting we held a surprise party for our Captain, Kim, to celebrate her fifteen years in Guiding and the Company's 45th birthday. Mrs. Oldfield, once our District Commissioner, now an Assistant State Commissioner, and Mrs. Latchford, our present District Commissioner, were our guests.

The Patrol Leaders organised the party with the help of Aroo, our Lieutenant, and we had a few games, a camp fire and then supper, which included a big cake. The cake was decorated with a gold trefoil, lots of candles and a thank-you message for Kim.

For our birthday we endowed Guide House (Victoria) and "Paxlease" (South Australia) for a day.

Alison Pye, P.L., 7th Malvern Company.

QUEEN'S GUIDE, LONG SERVICE

Melton Mechanics' Institute was filled to capacity on the occasion of presentation of a Queen's Guide Badge and Guiding long-service awards. The District Commissioner outlined the long, conscientious and thoughtful service of four local Guiders, one of whom received her 25 year long service bar and three their 15 year bars.

Mrs. Marg Barrie began Guiding in Melton 26 years ago when she opened the 1st Melton Brownie Guide Pack with six members.

On being presented with their 15 year long service badges the Guiders said that they were always happy to be associated with the Guide Movement.

Then followed the Queen's Badge presentation to Helen Hurley.

The story of how the Brownies got their name was acted out, then how Helen was enrolled into brownies was depicted with Brownie Ring and Enrolment.

Brownie tests, activities and service were shown with songs and demonstrations.

Guides showed the Guide Promise Ceremony, then the guides mimed activities from interest badges.

Helen was presented with her Queen's Guide Badge by her captain. Helen spoke of her happiness in achieving the badge and hoped that other guides would follow on.

Supper was served by the supporting local associations.



I am in 2nd Box Hill Brownie Pack and we are 23 years old. This year we went on our first pack holiday up to Aldersgate, Belgrave Heights. On Saturday we climbed Mount Morton and on Sunday we had our own Church Service. Six girls took part in it. We did soap carvings and made a mural. We had a concert, too. Our thanks to everyone who helped us.

Jenny Prowse and Christine Cuff,
2nd Box Hill Pack

OCCASION: A buffet luncheon celebrated 50 years of Guiding in Canterbury District.

PLACE: Guide Hall, Faversham Road, Canterbury.

GUESTS INCLUDED: The Hon. Vernon F. Wilcox, Q.C., M.P., Attorney-General of Victoria, Member for Camberwell, and Mrs. Wilcox.

Mayor of Camberwell, Cr. Dorothy Laver.

The Hon. D. M. Baden-Powell, of Camberwell, grandson of our founder, Lord Baden-Powell.

Assistant State Commissioner, Mrs. A. J. Turnbull.

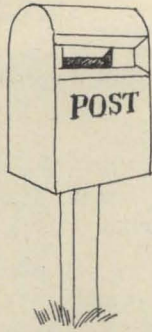
People associated with Guiding in Canterbury past and present, Guide Leaders, Guiding parents and the Guides and Brownie Guides.

Mr. Bill Holmes, President of the Local Association, and members.

Captain of the first Guide Company to be formed in Canterbury, then Miss B. Potter, now Mrs. J. M. Bridge with her first two patrol leaders. This Company formed in 1923 and met at the Canterbury Presbyterian Church, Canterbury Road, until the Guide Hall was built a few years later.

There are now three Guide Companies and three Brownie Guide Packs in Canterbury. These meet at the Guide Hall with the exception of one group who meet at the Balwyn Methodist Church Hall. At present, there are 106 Guides and Brownie Guides.

Brownie Guides, dressed in international uniforms, presented posies. Mr. Wilcox presented an Australian Flag, given by the Commonwealth Government to a District Colour party representing 1st, 2nd and 3rd Companies. Michael Baden-Powell planted a *Grevillea Robusta* (Silky Oak) to mark the occasion. As this grows between 50-100 feet, we hope it will be a landmark in our grounds for our centenary! There was a display of 'old-time' photographs and cuttings and some of the present Guides' work.



POST BOX FOR PENFRIENDS

Do YOUR Guides know about Post Box? You may not like letter-writing but that does not mean that you can forget about this aspect of Guiding. Keep information about Post Box on your Company Notice Boards!

Some of your Guides may have asked for penfriends and not yet been linked — perhaps this has happened:—

The country they have asked for is one in which Guides are numerically few and it takes a long while to link all the requests they receive.

Perhaps they asked for a foreign country and are not able to write in the language of the country. It can take several months to find a Guide who can write to them in English.

They may have exchanged several letters with penfriends and then decided that they are no longer interested nor have the time to write. What do they often do? Just stop writing without explanation! Their behaviour would be very much more Guide-like if they wrote and told their friends that they are unable to keep writing and that, perhaps, they can arrange for other Guides to write in their stead. If this is done the State Post Box Secretary (Victoria, Mrs. Williamson), needs to be notified please.

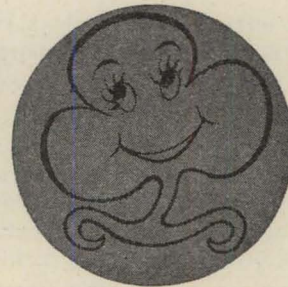
This often happens with Packs and Companies. Leaders change or the Unit goes into recess. PLEASE write to your link and explain what has happened. Your State Post Box Secretary can always arrange for another link for the overseas Unit and then no-one is disappointed.

Sometimes secretaries receive a letter that reads something like this: "I have heard from the penfriend you gave me but she

does not write about Guides." Writing and learning more about Guiding in other countries are two of the main reasons for Post Box. So please advise your Guides to tell their friends all about Guiding in Australia and to ask questions about Guiding in their penfriends' countries — there are sure to be differences.

Several Canadian, English and New Zealand Guides in the 10-11 age group are waiting to be linked with Australian Guides and for some months now I have been trying to link two 12-year-old French Canadian Guides who can write only in French. Is anyone in your Guide Unit interested? If so, write to your State Post Box Secretary NOW.

Jean Lazarides,
Australian Post Box Secretary
(Mrs. K. Williamson,
6 Haines Street, Cheltenham 3192
Post Box Secretary, Victoria)



"MATILDA" WALTZES ON

Now in 1973, Matilda goes a'waltzing, packed in dozens of navy blue bags — with "GIRL GUIDE" stamped in gold lettering on the outside.

The new Guide Headquarters has a fine parking bay off the lane at the rear and into this my car is reversed — and Mrs. Mackechnie packs the bags in neatly.

The Bulk Postage department at Spencer Street has been "updated" — and Matilda is conveyed to her despatch in very fine bins on wheels — while I cope with the important job of payment, rising and rising every month!

Mollie Stillwell
(Mrs. M. F. Stillwell)
Hawthorn.

(The previous article — "Matilda goes a'waltzing" — appeared in 1956.)

INTERNATIONAL DAY AT PUCKAPUNYAL

Have YOU ever been able in one afternoon to visit such far away countries as Korea, Japan, England, Scotland, India, Switzerland, Italy, Singapore and Malaysia, Papua and New Guinea and New Zealand?

Well, we did recently, when we visited Hume Region for its International Day at Puckapunyal Army Camp, near Seymour.

Among much travelled visitors present were International Adviser (Mrs. Lesley Dwyer), international committee members Mrs. Betty Pearson, Mrs. Margaret Walker and Miss Dot Nankervis; Miss Margaret Moore, recently returned from a camp in Norway; Miss Helen Stats, who attended a session at Our Cabana; and Mrs. Vicki Trembath, who attended a conference at Sangam.

Mrs. Dwyer opened the day in perfect weather, after the singing of the World Song and unfurling of the World Flag.

Guides had set up displays from "their" countries in the hall. The research, resource material and effort that had been put into these colourful displays were excellent.

Outside, each "country" had erected a tent and "their" national flag. As we visited each tent we were offered samples of national dishes — curry from India, sausages and mash from England, Swiss sausages, and grilled fish from Papua and New Guinea, to name a few.

After lunch we adjourned to the hall for a most entertaining concert, featuring songs, dances and games from each country and then several Guiders spoke of their overseas trips.

Among them were the District Commissioner from Seymour, Mrs. Gorman, who was in Malta for their celebrations on 50 years of Guiding; Margaret Moore, Helen Stats and Vicki Trembath.

Hiroko Mori, a Girl Scout in Japan before coming to Australia to study, spoke of the Girl Scouts of her country and their activities.

It was a very happy, worthwhile day and our congratulations and thanks go to all in Hume Region for allowing us to share it with them.

V.T.

CRASH

(Crazy Rangers Automobile Servicing Hints)

Fifty Crazy Rangers took Macleod Scout Hall by storm. Saturday morning five brave, unfortunate teachers from Watsonia Technical School undertook the dubious task of trying to teach us at least something about the insides of a car. I'm not quite sure how much we all remember, but we did at least get some idea about the electrical system, clutch, and other parts of the car.

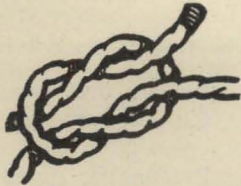
After an elaborate lunch of pie and sauce the Rovers invited us to pull tyres off and replace them; headlights were taken apart and re-assembled, and some number plates 'vanished'. Later some courageous(?) Rovers even let some Rangers loose on parts under the bonnet. I even heard someone comment that their car sounded a bit better after our tinkering, but perhaps that was just to stop anyone else having a go. Saturday night was spent watching films on Road Safety, Car Maintenance and Controlling Your Car in the Wet.

Sunday morning outside the Scout Hall we joined in a Rangers' Own and then adjourned to a garage showroom where we went through the Motor Mechanic's certificate. Then some Scouters let us at their Cars to look at the different parts everyone mentioned, getting a lovely shade of greasy black, especially those who'd forgotten their overalls on this occasion.

Sunday afternoon we had talks on insurance and on how the new metric system will affect us and our car — thus completing a very educational and enjoyable weekend.

Preston East Rangers





A LONG SERVICE BADGE

To a Good and Noble Garment

YOU have accompanied your owner to at least 690 Guide meetings.

YOU have carried her World Badge, Warrant Badge, Camp Permit and later her Camp Licence Badge, First Aid Badge, B.P. Badge 1957, Conservation Badge and many other short term badges, and you have not complained.

YOU have lost your bloom, you no longer shine a brilliant Navy blue, but show definite streaks of grey, purple and green amongst the blue.

Still, YOU do your best. What more can a poor Guider ask?

Will YOU now carry her fifteen year Long Service Badge or will the extra strain be too much for you? Will, perhaps your Local Association take pity on you and buy your owner a

NEW GUIDE JACKET

It seems that the Districts who change Guiders most frequently, have the Best Dressed Guiders, and are the best advertisement for the Movement. A new set of Guiders about every three years means a continual replacement of uniforms and therefore the Guiders look spic and span, whereas the Guider who keeps on keeping on is often still wearing her original uniform many years later. Do any of us wear a frock for "Best" 690 times or even 300? Yet some of us do this with our Guide uniforms.

Whose responsibility is it to see that our Guiders' uniforms are a credit to the Movement? Should a Guider who is doing her best for our Guides be expected to replace her uniform and bear the financial strain?

690 meetings — based on 40 meetings per year for 15 years, plus 3 Church Parades a year, 3 Hikes per year. PLUS.

D. Walker, 3rd Jordanville



"Yes, I know, dear, you want to quit. I've quit this Troop every year since 1924. Now, if you'll excuse me, I must register my great-granddaughter."

From the book "Girls! Scouts!" — Copyright by Warren Goodrich. Used by permission.

THE GUIDE SHOP will close for the Christmas-New Year period at 5.30 p.m. on **Friday, 21st December, 1973**, and re-open at 9.05 a.m. on **Wednesday, 2nd January, 1974.**

Members are reminded that the Guide Shop will **not** be open for trading on **Saturday mornings during January 1974.**

TRAINING PAGES



Christmas is coming,
The geese are getting fat.
Please put a penny
In the old man's hat.



Are there many nursery rhymes which relate to Christmas? **The Christmas theme** suggests unlimited materials for **Unit** programmes. It provides an opportunity to bring the world to your unit. Libraries have numerous books giving information on customs, traditions, special gifts, different festival periods, Christmas foods and stores and legends of other countries. Visitors anticipating spending Christmas in a strange land often welcome the opportunity to share their heritage with others. Girls can be given the opportunity in this way to develop deeper understanding of this religious festival.

If you lived in **SWEDEN** you would start your celebrations much sooner than we do in Australia. On 13th December, the shortest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere, a girl representing St. Lucia, dressed in a white frock with a red sash and a crown of pine and seven candles on her head, wakes the household before it is light with a tray of coffee and cakes. The 13th of January, St. Canute's Day, is the last day of Christmas. In the afternoon the local band meets in the square or market place to 'play out Christmas' with Christmas tunes, both merry and solemn. Then comes the children's turn. Home they go in groups to 'plunder the Christmas tree'. The 'plundering' is a party, with cocoa and cakes, games of all sorts and dancing around the tree. It ends in a proper plundering of the tree, where crackers, party hats, sweets and fruit have been hung up for the occasion. The tree is then carried out into the yard where the children sing farewell to the old friend, and to Christmas.

In many countries the animals and birds are specially remembered.

In **NORWAY** oat sheaves and smultringer (lard rings) are put out for the birds. According to tradition, church bells are heard chiming at 5 o'clock on Christmas Eve, 24th December, when the Christmas celebrations begin. On arriving home from church while the bells are chiming you find spareribs, boiled cod, 'litefisk' (pot-ash fish) or rice pudding waiting for you.

Soon you are walking around the Christmas tree that has exciting parcels underneath. Later you enjoy many kinds of home-made Christmas cakes, fruit and nuts. During the following days several parties will take place. In Norway they celebrate 20 days of Christmas.

Living on the farms, there is a kind old man called 'nisse'. He is always old and grey, and he is good if you are good to him. If not, he could do a lot of harm. So you will understand that every farmer must be on good terms with the 'nisse'. The 'nisse' loves porridge, in Norway it is called "rommegrot", and the farmer must never forget to bring a bowl of rommegrot to the barn on Christmas Eve. The nisse has always wooden shoes, white beard and a tall, pointed cap, and he is so tiny. He has not got a thumb. His hands are hairy and he hisses. The nisse is seen in the barn. Two kind eyes will suddenly look at you through a bundle of hay, or you will see him as a shadow darting across the floor as you open the door, and then he will disappear up into the rafters.

Christmas in **HOLLAND** is a time of secrets — the gifts for family and friends made in secret, wrapped in secret, and the tree decorated in secret. St. Nicholas brings gifts on 6th December, the children put out

their clogs filled with hay and carrots for St. Nich's white horse. In the morning, of course, the carrots have gone and there is a present in the shoe.

In BELGIUM and FRANCE crib scenes appear in most homes, and in all churches. Families attend midnight mass on Christmas Eve to celebrate the birth of Christ. No elaborate feast takes place on Christmas Day, but in many homes a cake in the form of a log may be served, this custom commemorates the legend that a medieval king of France once said he wished all in his kingdom to be warm at Christmas, so provided a yule log to every family. St. Nicholas visits the children with gifts on 6th December, he is accompanied by a black servant who carries a whip to chastise naughty children. Oats and titbits are always left out for St. Nicholas' reindeer.

Children in ITALY receive presents from an old woman called Befana. The story goes that the Wise Men in their wanderings to find Bethlehem called at her house for lodging, but she shut the door in their faces, and so, to make amends for the wrong she did, she has this Christmas task.

In MEXICO a Christmas tradition is the making of the pinata. Fill a strong paper bag with wrapped sweets (preferably not a hard variety as these can break and be messy). The bag can be decorated or made into the shape of a giant Christmas cracker. Tie the bag firmly closed and suspend just above the prayers' head height. Each player takes it in turn to be blindfolded and the aim of the game is to break the bag by whacking it with a long stick. If the bag is hit and breaks, all scramble for the sweets.

These stories and legends abound in books. Why not choose one and tell it to the Pack, or at Company Camp Fire? Some short stories in magazines such as the Reader's Digest are excellent material for story telling. A good story, well told, is a joy, and the art can be developed by all Leaders. As with most things, practice is the key word. To really enjoy telling stories one must do it often. Having chosen your story, read it over several times — aloud. When you know the characters and order of events — tell it to yourself, again aloud.

Listen critically. It doesn't matter if you use the same words as in the book. In time you will find you use your own words, and mode of expression, and enjoy the experience.



Christmas usually turns our thoughts to singing carols, concerts and plays.

If you do not have an acting and singing tradition in your unit, why not introduce some acting games and activities into the programme now? This, too, is the time to start giving, and getting, the joy of singing. If you are not confident, or consider you have no voice, it is difficult to lead any group into singing together. Use your ingenuity, just as you would if you wished to make any other skill available to the girls. **Where could you look for help?** Do you know a friendly adult who has the right approach to your age group, and would be willing to share her musical talents with the girls? Why not invite a singing Pack or Company to visit you? So combining a social occasion with songs and singing games. Perhaps the Brownie Singing games and Campfire Songs records available at all the Guide Shops are all that are needed to spark off your singing. Do not be ambitious at first. Choose songs which appeal, action and humorous songs will encourage non-singers to relax and join in. Once a start is made the talents of individuals will emerge. Encourage Brownie Guides to bring their recorders, and if a piano is available many can play simple pieces, so enabling the girls to learn new tunes. Delightful Guide and Ranger singing can be accompanied by guitars.

Instrumental accompaniment does not have to be the conventional type. Great fun and ingenuity can be engendered from making your own. Sounds can be produced from tapping, banging, shaking or plucking any objects available in the meeting hall or kitchen. Time can be spent making a more permanent collection of "home made" instruments. The girls may like to try some of the following suggestions, and then invent more of their own.

CLOP BLOCKS. Cut scrap hardwood into blocks about 2 inches wide and four or five inches long. They may be used in two ways — for clapping together or as sand blocks. Glue or tack fine sandpaper on one surface of each block. Sand blocks are swished together.

XYLOPHONE. Glass bottles of varying sizes and shapes can be tuned by adding different amounts of water and struck with a spoon or large nail. The pitch is dictated by the amount of water — the more water, the lower the pitch. The bottles can be placed on a table or strung out on a rope.

TAPPING STICKS. Old broomsticks cut into 12 inch lengths to be used as tapping sticks.

WRIST BELLS. Fasten a few small bells to a wristband of elastic.

METAL RATTLES. Use a milo or similar can with a removable lid. Screw or nail the lid to a piece of dowelling about 4 inches long. Put small stones or beans inside, replace lid and seal. Paint a bright colour.

TAMBOURINES. To make a sturdy tambourine, glue two cardboard plates together, one inside the other. Punch holes through the plates at even intervals for attaching bells. Paint both sides with poster paint, add coloured ribbons for effect. Another version, loosely fasten metal bottle-tops in pairs on a dowelling stick with nails. The cupped sides of the tops should face each other for the best tinkling effect.

CYMBALS. Lids of old pots provide fantastic crashing sounds.

TRIANGLES. Bars of metal hanging on a string make good triangles or chimes if struck with a large nail.

DRUMS. Drums of all sizes can be made from round containers. One of the most popular is the Indian tom-tom. Remove both ends of a can and cut circular pieces of inner tubing two or three inches larger than the end of the tin. Punch holes around the edge of the rubber. Place rubber at the ends of the tin and lace together tightly with leather thongs or heavy cord.

When you have made your instruments have a "free for all" accompanying the chosen song or carol. Then let the girls choose which instruments suit which songs, or verses of songs best. They will soon become quite discerning. You will discover

the fun of using these "home made" instruments, as with action songs, will encourage the shy and non-singers and provide a satisfying outlet for them.



How have you decided to celebrate Christmas in your Unit? Perhaps a party, the planning, preparation and carrying out of this activity will take time. **What form** will the party take? **When** will it be held? Will we have **Guides?** If so, Who? Will we decorate the hall? **Decorations** can be bought, but so much more fun when made and hung by the Unit. Inexpensive books on paper decorations are available at most newsagents. An extremely attractive tree can be made by painting a bare branch white and adding coloured paper trims — there are sure to be some suggestions in the book you bought from the newsagents for the hall decorations. Why not start off with bells made from foil bottle tops pressed over the lemon squeezer and dainty icicles can be made by carefully cutting the foil tops with nail scissors in a continuous circle — as you would peel an orange with a knife. Will we have **food?** If there are to be guests, thought must be given to suitable food — the suggested Twisties, chips, Chocolate Royals and lemonade made by the 8-year-old Brownie Guide may not be suitable for the adult Testers the Pack has decided to invite to their party.

Invitations must be prepared and sent. Ideas on preparation of these can be found in many books, art techniques learnt by the girls at school can be brought into practical use.

Very attractive results can be achieved by combining 'Mon-kiki', as the Japanese call paper cutting, and spatter work. You will need thin paper such as typing or lunch wrap from which to cut your designs. A thicker white paper for the card itself, dressmaking pins, coloured ink or thin poster paint and an old toothbrush. Fold a piece of the thin paper in half and cut out half of the outline you desire, e.g. Christmas Pudding, Christmas Tree, Star or a Snowflake, etc. When you open out your 'cut out'

you will have a complete outline with both sides the same. You may like to pleat the thin paper before cutting so that when opened out a border design has been produced — everyone has probably at some time cut strips of children dancing and holding hands in this way. Cut the invitation from the thicker paper and fold in half, press fold firmly then open card and lay flat. Fix your cut out design in position on the card with pins. Pour some coloured ink or poster paint into a saucer and dip the toothbrush into it. Holding the bristles upwards scrape the brush towards you with a match so that a fine spray of colour is spattered over the surface. Take care to make it thick around the edges of the stencil. Allow plenty of time for the paint to dry on each card before removing the pins. Secret invitations are exciting. Write on thin paper with a nail dipped in lemon juice — allow to dry. Enclose a note suggesting your friend 'irons' her invitation. Hey Presto! She will get the message.

If you are looking for a **table decoration**, why not consider a traditional one from Wales? Get a bright red apple, polish it well, this represents the World. Support it on three sticks like a tripod, skewers cut in half serve the purpose well, these represent The Trinity. Insert a small candle in the centre of the top of the apple to represent the Light of the World. Add nuts and greenery around the base of the candle. These represent the everlasting Love of God and His provision for man.



When considering your **programme** you have a wide field from which to choose. Will it be a **concert** or a **play**? If these are the Unit choice, encouragement, but not force, should be given to all to participate. Concentrate on the reluctant girl, if she will not get on the stage, find another job for her to do. Allow the girls to discover for themselves the need for giving individuals special responsibilities.

In the **production** restrain yourself to only putting forward a suggestion when absolutely necessary. A very worthwhile effect can be achieved by combining **music, read-**

ings and dancing. Use a poem about Christmas, dramatise it and add music, carols and movement. A word of warning, if experimenting in this way put recorded music on to a cassette tape, so saving your valuable record and it is easier to stop and start a tape during rehearsals. Another avenue is to choose a story, work out the action — what happened to whom and what they did. Allow the girls to discuss what kind of people they are, young or old, how they would portray the character and how they would react if it were to happen to them. Then using a narrator or music, or a combination, allow the girls to tell the story in a dance.

Do your plans include **costuming**? Costumes for the traditional Christmas Story can be quickly and easily assembled — a magyar shirt affair from an old sheet is a most useful garment in a dress-up box. With tinsel wings and a halo you have an angel, with a cummerbund and tea towel headdress you have a shepherd, with a dressing gown hanging loosely over it you have a perfect Joseph suit and for Mary you need to add is a blue curtain for a head-dress. Costuming should be kept as simple as possible, curtains, sheets and towels with plenty of safety pins can be used with ingenuity. Let the girls decide what they will wear, given the idea of what is required they will do the rest.

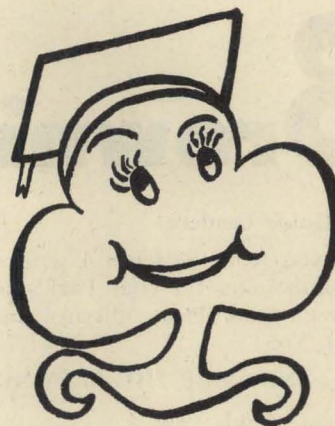
If you are running short of time an entertainment which can be produced at fairly short notice and with the minimum of materials and mess is **shadow puppets**. The art of the shadow puppet is extremely ancient and was first used in the stylized play form of the Chinese theatre. The puppet theatre consists of a screen erected between the audience and the light, the puppets are flat shapes that move like silhouettes behind the screen. These puppets can be used in a very impressive way enacting the Christmas scene, perhaps to the words of carols sung by the audience. Shepherds and kings can look so effective, and one can have any number of sheep, camels and angels which is a great advantage when everyone wants to be "in the act". Perhaps this is just the new way your unit is looking for, to interpret the drama of Christmas.

Materials required are simple — thin cardboard **Corn Flake boxes** are ideal, wire, “press through” paper clips, coloured cellophane, sellotape and sharp scissors. Cut the main shape of the puppet and attach the limbs with “press through” paper clips. Two moving sections are enough to manage. Generally the head and arms are made to move, but in a nativity play it may be better to make kings and shepherds bend so they can bow or sit down. The puppet is held from below the screen by wires attached to the main section in two places to make it secure — these can be twisted together to make a handle. A wire is attached to each moving section. The wire can pierce the card and be twisted secure or a simple method is to twist it round a paper clip and pierce the clip through the card. If desired patterns can then be cut out to decorate the figure, and coloured cellophane stuck on as a backing. Care must be taken that cut out areas are not too large and so weaken the puppet. A sheet, especially a nylon one, stretched taut is an excellent screen. An upturned table makes a suitable frame on which to stretch the sheet. A rug or curtain is pinned below the screen to hide the performers.

The manner in which your unit chooses to celebrate Christmas will be an expression of their feelings of corporate worship. Let us pray that their experience this Christmas will make this ‘a Christmas to remember’.



“I will honour Christmas in my heart and try to keep it all the year.” — Charles Dickens.



Sue says “School’s in for **ALL** adult Leaders. 23rd - 29th January, 1974, at Britannia Park.

Programme: Stage 1 — Stage 2 — Pioneering — Orienteering — Drama — Mime — Creative Crafts.

Indoor and outdoor accommodation — please state preference.

Cost: Approximately \$13.50.

Transport will be arranged Melbourne/Britannia Park if necessary.

Closing date: 19th November.

Applications, together with fee, to Training Department, 20 Russell Street, Melbourne, 3000.



Brownie Guide SECTION

Brownie Guide Leaders

Have you read the letter I wrote to the Brownie Guides? You haven't? Well, please ask your Commissioner for your Pack's copy. These were sent out in the September Newsletter — one for each Pack. Please discuss this with the Brownie Guides. **WE DO NEED YOUR HELP!**
Thank You!

“. . . AND KEEP THE BROWNIE GUIDE LAW.”

The Brownie Guide Law

“A Brownie Guide thinks of others before herself and does a good turn every day.”

Two sisters were discussing Guiding. The elder, who had just made her Promise as a Guide, was enlightening the younger about her forthcoming entrance into the Brownie Pack. “. . . and the Brownie Promise is the same as the Guide Promise except that a Brownie doesn't have to keep the Guide Law, she only has to keep the Brownie Guide one.”

Is This How the Adult Sees It?

When considering the 8 points of the programme, the adult is advised to keep in mind the original wording; the simplified version is for the girl. This is also necessary when thinking about the Law. The Brownie Guide Law is merely a simplified version of the Guide Law.

A report of a recent Guide function, where the girls involved had been carefully selected indicated that they were intelligent, enthusiastic and everything a first class young citizen should be except for one thing — their consideration for their visitors. What a sad reflection on the application of the third law in the Units.

“A Guide is Polite and Considerate”

HOW DOES THE THIRD LAW RATE IN YOUR PACK?

How do you and the Brownie Guides greet each other on arrival?

Do they respond quickly to signals for silence and other signals?

Do you have to fight for a chair when you need one, or does someone else get one for you?

Is a visitor stared at (rudely, inquisitively)? Or invited in pleasantly?

Does everyone say “excuse me, please” when joining an activity late, or leaves early?

Does the Pack tolerate bickering, bullying or accusations of cheating?

Do you ever discuss these subjects in Pow Wow?

Do you sometimes have Six or other activities such as a play or mime designed to focus attention on courteous behaviour?

When planning an event, do you discuss in Pow Wow all the small acts of courtesy which will help to make your visitor or host/hostess feel happy and comfortable?

Have you ever had a Pow Wow challenge to discover the kindest and most courteous act seen during the week?

Are the words “please”, “Thank you”, “excuse me”, “I beg your pardon”, and “May I help you?” heard frequently in the Pack?

Quite a list isn't it? I wonder how my Pack's going to stand up to this scrutiny! But I believe constant practice will establish a habit, and that the precepts set out in the Brownie Guide and Guide Law constitute the ideal at which we are aiming, and our own guide-lines too; pointers to become the kind of leaders we would want our Brownies to emulate.

Coralie Caple,
Brownie Adviser

NOTICES

APPOINTMENT OF STATE SECRETARY SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Applications are called in writing for the above appointment for the Girl Guides Association in South Australia.

Experience in office procedure and administering staff is essential.

Salary commensurate with qualifications, superannuation benefits.

Appointment to take effect from 2nd January, 1974.

Applications with qualifications and experience, marked confidential, to reach the—

**State Secretary,
Girl Guides Association
(S.A.), Inc.,
278 South Terrace,
ADELAIDE, S.A., 5000**

by 30th November, 1973.

YOUTH FORUM, 1974

The National Youth Council of Australia (N.Y.C.A.) is to hold a YOUTH FORUM at La Trobe University from 19th to 26th January, 1974. The overall theme of this Forum is "Down to Earth" and topics will include —

Education — For What?

What About Drugs Anyway?

The Consumption/Pollution Environment Equation.

Alternative Life Styles.

My Opinion — My Expression — So What? Interpersonal Communication.

The Media — Communication or Indoc-trination?

This programme will cater for young people in the 16 to 25 age group and applications are now invited. The cost of the Forum is \$100 but it is expected that local service clubs may be willing to offer some financial assistance. Anyone interested in attending this Forum should contact the State Secretary at H.Q. for further information.

* * * *

SHOREHAM

Cards and notelets are now available from Mrs. J. A. Hutchinson, 8 Marshall Avenue, Kew, 3101.

Supplied with envelopes at 80c for 10, plus postage (weight approx. 100 g. per packet).



If you can't lick 'em and they won't let you join 'em; then what?

You can fool some of the people all of the time, but if you're not careful, one of them will be you.



THIS IS THE LOCAL ASSOCIATION SECTION



Please send contributions to Mrs. D. O. Oldfield, 4 Embling Road, Malvern, 3144.

* * * *

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Bless my little Kitchen, Lord,
Love its every nook,
And bless me as I do my work,
Wash pots and pans and cook.

UNIVERSITY TOUR

Members and friends of the Chadstone Local Association spent a very pleasant morning on a conducted tour of Monash University. The morning commenced with tea or coffee and biscuits, when the student Guides gave a brief history of the University, followed by a most interesting and enlightening tour.

This was arranged very easily with a phone call from the L.A. Secretary to the University Administrative Office to make a booking for the tour. The University made a small charge for morning tea, and by charging each person attending a little more, a profit was made towards L.A. funds. To make it even easier, there was ample parking space for private cars, or if numbers had warranted it, a bus could have been hired for the outing.

* * * *

A CHRISTMAS THOUGHT

Christmas is looming up fast, and have any of us really thought just how busy and how many outings our Guide leaders have in the few weeks before Christmas. We find it hard to get our Christmas baking done, but how much harder must it be for the Guiders, who have to attend their own childrens' end of year activities as well as your childrens' Guiding activities.

Perhaps a kind thoughtful Mum could donate her kitchen to her daughter's patrol one Saturday afternoon, so that they could make their Guider a small Christmas cake. Each girl could donate one ingredient each and they could all take a hand in the mixing and cleaning up.

The Christmas Spirit could well be spread by your girl.

RECIPE CORNER

KY-SE-MIN

1 lb. minced steak, 1 pkt. beef noodle soup, 3 cups water, 1 large onion, small piece cabbage, a few green beans, 1 diced carrot, 3 diced sticks celery, 1dsp. curry powder, any other vegs. desired and diced pineapple if desired.

Brown onion and minced steak, add curry powder and cook another minute. Add water and other ingredients. Simmer gently for half to three-quarters of an hour. Serves 4 people.

☆ ☆ ☆

FUND-RAISING IDEAS

Some Local Association members have requested more information on fund-raising activities. The following is a list of ideas from which your L.A. can start planning next year's programme:

- Casserole or Salad Luncheon (depending on time of year)
- Lamington Drive
- Street Stalls to sell cakes, jams, fancy goods, etc.
- Cent Party
- Barbecue or Sausage Sizzle for the families
- Fete, or Garden Fair
- Progressive Dinner
- Jumble Sale
- Craft and Hobby Display with demonstrations of same
- International Night
- Crazy Whist Party
- Morning Coffee Party with demonstration or guest speaker
- Dutch Auction
- Mannequin Parade of ladies', men's and children's fashions
- Trash and Treasure Sale
- Beetle Party
- Fancy Dress Party for children
- Jewellery Party
- Plasticware or Kitchenware demonstration
- Pavlova and Punch Party
- Selling Guide Biscuits
- Kraft Foods demonstration, combined with luncheon
- Rag, newspaper, egg carton and bottle drives
- Film or Theatre Night
- Dinner or Supper Dance
- Make-up demonstration
- Hobbytex demonstration
- Poolside Party

Guide Section



Guide Leaders

Communication was our thought at "Talkorroboree", so let's keep it up!

Age Groupings

Thank you for the letters received on this and do pass any further comments on to your District Commissioners for passing on to Advisers.

Camp Wirreanda

March 9th-11th, 19174 — Metropolitan Regions — Britannia Park — Country to be advised by Region C.A. and Region Commissioners. Six Guides from each Division for a Patrol Camp — two to hold Camper Badge — others need not have camped before.

Camper and Commonwealth Knowledge Badges

Some concern is being felt at the shortage of time being allowed for the testing of these Badges, with the Tester being placed in the unfortunate situation of failing a Guide and this being the last Badge to complete the Queen's Guide Badge, and hard feelings all round when just a little thought would have avoided this situation. It is suggested that Guides be encouraged to think ahead so that there is plenty of time, should they fail, to be re-tested.

Australian Guide Event — 1974

Would two Guiders and six Guides who have done the Artist Interest Badge, like to help the Australian Co-ordinator, Miss R. Wollaston, in choosing a Badge from designs submitted for this event, on Saturday, 1st December, 1973. Please submit names to Miss R. Wollaston at "Katandra", Dunn Avenue, Ferny Creek, and she will notify you by the 16th November, 1973, if you can help. Further details on this event will be given later.

Guide Ties

Have you looked at the Guide Ties lately? How does your unit rate? It is hoped they are all wearing the new design tie, perhaps altered from the old one, and worn correctly. Did you check with Matilda?

Best wishes to all, DOT HALLIGAN, Guide Adviser

"IF —"

FOR DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

If you can keep your head when all about you

Bring thorny problems for your daily thought,

If you can trust yourself, though Scouters doubt you,

Or rate your wisdom higher than they ought—

If you can play and not be tired by playing,
And crawl through bracken on your hands and knees,

And love to camp, although your hair is greying,

And watch the woodsmoke curling through the trees—

If you can spin a yarn and not be boring,
Or make a speech and keep it to the point,

If you can keep yourself from once deploring
That Scouting nowadays seems out of joint—

If you can stop the "Good Old Days" projecting

Their rosy glow athwart the present scene,
And build as best you can, while recollecting
To boyhood's eyes the game is new and green—

If you can guide with tact and understanding
Far better men than you can hope to be,
If you can gain your end without demanding,
And suffer fools with cheerful courtesy—

If you can stand and make a firm decision
With quiet insistence till your point is won—
You may, with patience, leisure, time and vision,

Make quite a good Commissioner, my son!

—H.B.

(From "Bharat Scouts & Guides Bulletin",
Madras State, India)

"OUR GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS"

Guides of 1st Victorian Lone Guide Company travelled from their country homes to be billeted by Guides in Northcote for four days. The nine travelled a total of over 1000 miles to attend the Company's Golden Jubilee.

On Friday, two local Guiders took us on a Tour of Places of Interest in Melbourne. We met at 9.15 a.m. at Westgarth Station where we caught the train. Some of us had never been on a train before and we thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

The places we visited included the Shrine of Remembrance, Pioneer Women's Garden, Guide Shop, and the Music Bowl, and we even went to the top of the C.M.L. Building. We returned by tram at about 4 p.m. after a very exciting and long day.

We met on Saturday morning in the Northcote Guide Hall for a Meeting, the first time some of us had met our Guide Leader. In the afternoon we held a reunion, including some of the first Lones ever enrolled in the Company. It was a great event for many of these 1st Lones to meet fellow Guides who were in their company, as many of them live far away, several having come from Gippsland. Over 100 attended this special reunion.

Our birthday cake was cut by an ex-Lone Adviser. Afternoon tea was catered for by two very willing Local Associations, to whom we are most grateful. The highlight of the Celebration was the playing of a tape of an interview with the Chief Guide, Lady Baden-Powell, which was loaned to us from London. We also received a signed photograph of Lady Baden-Powell for our Log Book, and a letter from Miss Hogarth, the very first Captain of our Company.

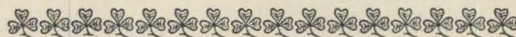
A campfire was held on Saturday night, led by an ex-Lone Cadet leader. We learnt new songs and sang old, and it was enjoyed by all present. Twelve dollars was contributed by those who attended the campfire to maintain Guide House for two days. Guides from Merri Division joined us for campfire and also for Guides' Own on Sunday.

Guest speaker for Guides' Own was another ex-Lone Adviser, and every member of the company took part in the service;

some verses were read by one of the company's original Guides.

Monday, nine very happy and Guide spirited Lone Guides departed from Northcote for a good trip home. We would like to express a big Thank You to all who made the celebrations possible.

Janine and Robyn Brown,
Snake Valley Wattle Patrol.



7.30 a.m. — a phone ringing madly! "Is that Miss Cockerell . . . would you mind if I came and had a talk with you? . . . When? Say 8 a.m.?" Pandemonium! ! The result was that when my Guides came back from their Tour of Melbourne, they were Headline (2nd page) News, refer excerpts from an article by John Hamilton, "On The Spot", in the Herald of that night.

Heading — "Alma's Girls Come To Town", a photo taken with 7 of the girls:— Sandra Wilson, Irrewillipe East; Genevieve Beale, Beech Forest; Robyn Brown, Snake Valley; Annette Beale, Beech Forest; Jennette James, Narioka; Joanne Dunstan, Tomahawk Creek; and Caroline Beale, Beech Forest; also two photos of the special Golden Jubilee Badge designed by the Guides.

"Alma Cockerell lives in Northcote and was surrounded by files, badges and copies of a hand-typed magazine called The Budget. Only nine girls get this magazine and they call their Guide Leader Yabboine, which means sister. She talks to them via her portable typewriter. The Company is celebrating its 50th Birthday, and Alma's girls — the whole nine of them — probably the smallest Guide Company in Victoria, have come to meet their leader for the first time and talk to her face to face.

I took Alma to Westgarth station where she farewelled her girls as they set forth for a day's sightseeing in Melbourne.

Lone Guides are girls unable to attend normal company meetings.

Alma joined the Guides Movement as a Lone Guide four years after the the Lone Guide Company was founded by an English-woman, Miss Joan Hogarth. She became leader of the 1st Lone Guides two years



1st Victorian Lone Guides and Leader

(Block by courtesy "Herald")

ago and now they are her life. "The Budget" newsletter is her pride and joy. She produces it every month with contributions and illustrations sent in by the girls. She then posts it off to the first name on her list, and each girl posts it on to the next one, till it comes back to Northcote to be filed with the rest of the Company's records.

The latest issue of the Budget has a picture of a golden cockerel on its cover.



You don't have to be big for strength
 You only have to be kind for the world
 to have length of peace and of
 people's mind.

Janise Bryce, 2nd Moorabbin Guides

Two painters painted a picture to illustrate his conception of rest. The first chose for his scene a still, lone lake among the far-off mountains. The second threw on his canvas a thundering waterfall, with a fragile birch tree bending over the foam; at the fork of the branch, almost wet with the cataract's spray, a robin sat on its nest. The first was only stagnation; the last was rest. For in rest there are always two elements — tranquillity and energy; silence and turbulence; creation and destruction; fearlessness and fearfulness.

Christ's life outwardly was one of the most troubled lives that was ever lived; tempest and tumult, tumult and tempest, the waves breaking over it all the time. But the great calm was always there. At any moment you might have gone to Him and found rest. And even when the bloodhounds were dogging Him in the streets of Jerusalem, He turned to His disciples and offered them, as a last legacy, "My peace".

—Henry Drummond, 1851-1897

CONGRATULATIONS to the recipients of the following:—

Guiders' Long Service:
(15 years)

Mrs. E. Mills (Harcourt).

Local Association Long Service:

Mrs. M. Gascoyne (Poowoong); Mrs. E. Womersley (Werribee).

Combined Long Service:

Mrs. M. Townsend (Argana Trefoil Guild); Mrs. N. E. Richards (Executive Committee).

Thanks Badge:

Mr. K. Taylor (Rushworth).

APPOINTMENTS AND WARRANTS

A warm welcome is extended to the following:—

Region Commissioner:

Mrs. A. P. Leigh, Central Metropolitan (1.2.1974).

District Commissioners:

Mrs. H. Cook, South Barwon; Mrs. H. J. Jones, Bulla.

District Commissioners:

Mrs. E. J. Creed, Ouyen; Mrs. P. Gavens, Torquay-Anglesea; Mrs. E. F. Billson, South Yarra-Toorak; Mrs. J. M. Parsons, Golden Square; Mrs. P. C. Spink, Overport; Mrs. J. Taylor-Smith, Moorabbin South.

Guide Guiders:

Mrs. W. J. Sage, 2nd Ringwood; Mrs. A. C. Crosbie, 1st Winchelsea; Mrs. M. J. Angew, 4th Hamilton; Miss J. M. Hildebrand, 1st Springfield; Mrs. H. Sterk, 1st Beaconsfield; Miss J. N. Collas, 1st Jordanville; Mrs. A. Achterberg, 2nd Sunbury.

Assistant Guide Guiders:

Miss M. Kennedy, 2nd Noble Park; Miss P. Sutherland, 1st Reservoir West; Mrs. E. van der Heide, 2nd Croydon West; Mrs. G. Orchard, 1st Winchelsea; Miss D. Allender, 2nd Caulfield; Mrs. D. Walsh, 3rd Caulfield; Mrs. R. W. Spiers, 4th Echuca (Extension); Mrs. G. Sandford, 4th Mt. Waverley; Mrs. T. C. Willing, 4th Wattle Park.

Brownie Guiders:

Mrs. E. Whinney, 2nd Ferntree Gully; Mrs. R. Pendrev, 2nd Croydon West; Mrs. M. J. Whitehill, 1st Fish Creek; Mrs. N. R. Robertson, 1st Beaumaris; Mrs. D. I. Cramer, 3rd Altona North; Miss M. L. Webb, 1st Warrandyte; Miss C. Kendrick, 1st Toorak; Mrs. J. Bartlett, 4th South Croydon; Mrs. G. Gatto, 1st Beaconsfield; Mrs. N. Scott, 1st Waaia; Mrs. J. J. Connor, 1st Strathmore.

Assistant Brownie Guiders

Mrs. J. Addinsall, 1st Macarthur; Mrs. R. N. Williams, 1st Yarragon; Mrs. A. Dossier, 1st Harrisfield; Mrs. M. Sherlock, 3rd Noble Park; Mrs. M. Cox, 2nd Noble Park; Mrs. J. J. Tuttle, 1st Yarrowonga; Mrs. T. B. Cleave, 1st Echuca; Mrs. C. Baulch, 1st Croydon South; Miss F. H. Cook, 5th Hawthorn; Mrs. B. M. Shorter, 2nd Brandon Park.

* * * *

Registrations:

3rd Brandon Park Pack; Noble Park ("Acacia") Trefoil Guild

RETIREMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

We acknowledge with gratitude the services given by the following whose Warrants have been returned:—

Region Commissioner:

Mrs. R. Hepburn, East Metropolitan.

Division Commissioners:

Mrs. H. J. Reark, Frankston-Kananook; Miss J. S. McDonald, Westport; Mrs. R. S. Gaudion, Gippsland South; Mrs. P. H. Johns, Camperdown.

District Commissioners:

Mrs. R. J. Ward, Macarthur; Mrs. F. W. Jarman, Red Hill; Mrs. J. A. Michael, Hawthorn.

Guide Guiders:

Miss J. B. Pobjoy, 3rd Dandenong; Mrs. S. T. Rawlings, 1st Balmoral; Mrs. R. Anderson, 2nd Ringwood; Mrs. M. J. Coleman, 2nd Maffra; Mrs. W. Connor, 2nd Golden Square.

Assistant Guide Guiders:

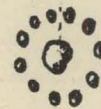
Mrs. W. J. Sage, 1st Ringwood; Mrs. P. Webster, 2nd Maffra; Mrs. J. Turner, 1st Kerang; Mrs. J. Parsons, 2nd Golden Square.

Brownie Guiders:

Mrs. W. N. Christopher, 1st Eaglehawk; Miss D. Hutchinson, 1st Mitcham; Mrs. H. G. Armstrong, 3rd Jordanville; Mrs. T. B. Cleave, 3rd Echuca.

Assistant Brownie Guiders:

Miss R. Foote, 2nd Jordanville; Miss P. Sutherland, 1st Reservoir West; Mrs. N. R. Robertson, 1st Beaumaris.



We have been saddened by the sudden death of Miss Valerie Dobbie.

She had devoted over 30 years to working within the Movement, commencing with leadership in the 1st East Malvern Company in 1941.

From 1951-1971 Val worked in various capacities in the city of Moorabbin. During her term as District Commissioner 1954-1960 she was instrumental in opening a number of new units and bringing before the Moorabbin Council the need for a meeting place for these girls, resulting in the grant of land for a Guide Hall in Dane Road.

Over the years hundreds of girls have been influenced by her enthusiasm and belief in the aims and principles of the Guide Movement.

In 1967 Valerie received a Silver Long Service Bar (25 years).

At the time of her death Valerie was a member of the Moorabbin South Local Association and Cooper Trefoil Guild.

BOOK REVIEW

I WILL DO MY BEST TO DO MY DUTY

On Christmas Day, 1905, sixteen-year-old Olave Soames wrote in her diary: "Oh dear. Another year nearly gone. **Wasted!**" Life as the daughter of wealthy, upper-middle-class parents was placid, pleasant, but to this vital, intelligent girl, unsatisfying.

The same person, at the age of 83, says in her autobiography: "So much of what I had dismissed as a wasted girlhood now, in a roundabout way, showed itself to have been a preparation for the life that lay ahead."

For Olave Soames became Lady Baden-Powell, wife of the great B.-P., founder of the Boy Scout Movement, and that 'wasted' girlhood, with its walking and riding and tennis, had built a superbly robust constitution that enabled her to face the punishing pace of public life she would experience as World Chief Guide. Even her restless father's habit of moving his household frequently from one home to another gave Olave the ability to adapt quickly to changes of environment, a valuable asset as she visited her Guide and Scout 'family' in over a hundred countries, from Algeria to Zanzibar.

The main facts of her life are well known: her marriage as an unknown girl of 23 to the famous 55-year-old General; her support of his work among the Boy Scout Movement; her quick rise as a leader in the new Girl Guide Movement; her election in 1918 as World Chief Guide.

Now, in her frank and lively autobiography, "Window On My Heart" we get a new glimpse of this extraordinary woman and her husband and of their work together.

When their engagement was announced there was much speculation as to whether the marriage would bring an end to Lord Baden-Powell's Scouting activities. One small Scout wrote: "I am dreadfully disappointed in you. I have often thought to myself, 'how glad I am that the Chief Scout is not married, because if he was he could never do all these ripping things for boys.' And now you are going to do it . . . I think it is awfully selfish of you." Far from hindering his work, she quickly became absorbed in it with him.

Lady Baden-Powell speaks simply of her relationship with her husband. "It is a measure of our love for each other and also

of his touching humility, that never at any time was I in awe of him. Despite the difference in our ages, despite his eminent position in public life, we were completely in accord with one another. We never had a thought apart. He was the pivot of my life. I adored him."

She frankly admits that she was wife first and mother second, and their three children were often left in the care of others while she travelled with her husband. Something of what she had missed came to her when Peter, their eldest child, died tragically at the age of forty-nine. "Poor Peter," she says. "I wish I had understood him better. I had been so completely devoted to and admiring of my brilliant husband that I did not make sufficient allowance for our son. . . ."

Lord Baden-Powell died in Africa in 1941. Olave's grief was overwhelming. "I had to force myself to start living again. I was fifty-one, and although I did not wish to live without my darling Robin beside me, I could not count on dying."

Slowly, painfully, she returned to a life of service — and carried on her husband's work for another thirty years. Now, housebound on doctor's orders in her home at Hampton Court Palace in London, she keeps in touch by letter with thousands of friends, young and old, all over the world. "I have so much to be thankful for — a lifetime of enjoyable and absorbing work, millions of 'my' children all over the world, but above all the precious and ever-fresh memory of nearly thirty years with my beloved Robin."

Any story of Lady Baden-Powell's life is, of course, also the story of the growth of the infant Guide Movement of 1914 into the world-wide organisation we know today. No one will ever be able to evaluate what her tireless enthusiasm, her patience and encouragement, her repeated overseas tours — she has attended every World Jamboree except one since 1920 — have meant to young people all over the world.

("Window on My Heart" — the autobiography of Olave, Lady Baden-Powell, G.B.E., as told to Mary Drewery, published by Hodder and Stoughton, and available at the Guide Shop, 20 Russell Street, Melbourne. Price \$8.10.)

M.W.W.

GUIDE SHOP

CHRISTMAS GIFT SUGGESTIONS

Brownie Guide Miniature Badge	25c.
Brownie Guide Charms	30c.
Brownie Guide Bracelet	\$1.25
Brownie Guide Pendant Promise Badge Charm	\$1.00 \$1.50
Brownie Guide Handkerchief	30c.
Brownie Guide Handkerchiefs (3 in box)	\$1.55
Brownie Guide Bookmark	10c.
Brownie Guide Notebook	15c.
Brownie Guide Cups	35c.
Brownie Guide Writing Paper and Envelopes in Folder	65c.
Brownie Guide Writing Pad	25c.
Brownie Guide Diary	40c.
Brownie Guide Annual	\$2.65
Brownie Guide Colouring Card	10c.
The Challenge Book of Brownie Stories (paperback)	70c.
The Brownie Cook Book	\$2.35
Good range of Brownie Story Books as in price list — various prices	
Brownie Autograph Book	\$1.00
Guide Miniature Badges	20c.
Guide Charms	30c.
Guide Pendant	\$1.50
Guide Handkerchief — Badge Camp Scene	40c. 35c.
Guide Bookmark	10c.
Guide Notebook	45c.
Guide Cups	35c.
Guide Autograph Book	\$1.00
Guide Diary (Letts)	95c.
Guide Annual	\$3.15
Guide Biro (blue or yellow)	20c.
Pocket Badge Cleaners	30c.
Campfire Records — No. 1 and No. 2	each \$2.00
Songs from the Australian Campfire Song Book	\$2.00

NOW AVAILABLE

Supplies of Silver Souvenirs with Guide Badge, Brownie Badge and Victorian Heath Badge — See Price List
Let's English Guide Diary with Pencil 95c.

NEW ITEMS

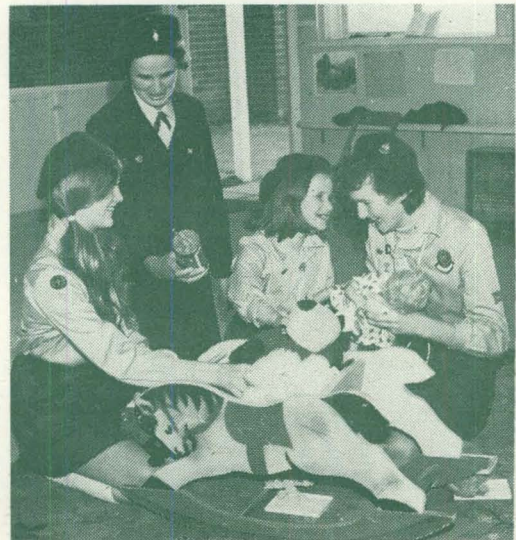
Brownie and Guide Place Ribbons suitable for swimming sports, outdoor activities, art shows, etc.
1st (Blue), 2nd (Red), 3rd (Green) 10c. each

Bush Birds of Australia (Jacaranda Pocket Guide) \$1.95

Christmas Card Magic (Lots of uses for your old Christmas Cards) \$3.95

B.B.C. Record "Get Together" \$4.00
Children's songs with a message sung by Guides and Rangers from Britain.

The Challenge Book of Brownie Stories 70c.
A new paperback containing 23 exciting stories written for and about Brownies



Registered at the G.P.O., Melb., for transmission by post as a periodical, category B. Subscription \$2.00 p.a.; 20c per copy.

MCKELLAR PRESS PTY. LTD., 33 GLENFERRIE ROAD, MALVERN. PHONE: 50 3174 (3 LINES)