

# MATILDA



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# MATILDA — AND CHANGES IN ADDRESSES

On 1st March, 1974, the Australian Post Office brought in new regulations whereby "undeliverable registered publications" will only be returned to the sender if the cost of the return postage is guaranteed by the sender—this will be charged at the normal "other article" rate, i.e. 7 cents. Guide Headquarters has guaranteed to pay this on each copy of "Matilda" returned to us.



"Matilda" is a registered publication under Category B and postage is charged at a bulk rate when posted in our ordinary monthly mailing. This works out at present at approximately 3½ cents per copy. Copies sent out at other than an ordinary monthly mailing, i.e. to transferred addresses and new subscribers, are sent at the normal postal rates.

Throughout the year we get a number of copies returned to us marked "left address" or "not accepted," as the subscribers change their address or leaders of units and office-bearers of Local Associations change. The number of copies being returned seems to have increased since a re-direction charge has been introduced by the P.M.G.

"Matilda" is wrapped for bulk posting on the second Tuesday of each month. However, the preparation for this huge task continues throughout each month with the amendment of addresses, preparation of addressograph plates and the printing of the



wrappers themselves. It would, therefore, be appreciated if any changes in addresses be posted or telephoned to Headquarters as soon as possible after they occur.

Set out below is the minimum amount of postage to be paid by Headquarters if only one letter is required on a returned "Matilda."

"Matilda" (from May onwards including Victorian Newsletter) posted at ordinary Monthly Mailing	..... 3½ cents
Return Postage guaranteed by Headquarters if "Matilda" returned marked "changed address," etc.	..... 7 cents
Letter written seeking changed address or asking to whom this copy of "Matilda" should now be sent	..... 7 cents
Re-posting of copy of "Matilda" when new address or name and address known	..... 7 cents



Everyone is anxious to keep costs to a minimum and you can help Headquarters by always letting us **know as soon as possible**:

- (i) Changes in addresses.
- (ii) Names and addresses of persons who will cease or have ceased to be Leaders of units, office-bearers of Local Associations, etc., and if their copy of "Matilda" is to go to their replacement, the name and address of the person to whom it is to be sent.

## IMPORTANT

IN ADVISING CHANGES OF NAMES AND ADDRESSES WOULD YOU PLEASE ALWAYS GIVE NAME, INITIALS, FULL ADDRESS AND *POST CODE* AS IT APPEARS ON THE CURRENT ADDRESSOGRAPH PLATE USED FOR ADDRESSING THE "MATILDA" WRAPPER, AS WELL AS THE NAME, INITIALS, FULL ADDRESS AND *POST CODE* TO WHICH THE PLATE HAS TO BE CHANGED.

HELP US TO HELP YOU TO RECEIVE YOUR "MATILDA" ON TIME BY ADVISING HEADQUARTERS *PROMPTLY* OF ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR CHANGE OF PERSONNEL.

# 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

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## FAREWELL TO OUR STATE PRESIDENT . . .

On Friday, 15th March, it was my privilege to go, with some 1500 other Guides, to say thank you and farewell to our State President, Lady Delacombe, in the beautiful gardens at Government House. At 5 p.m. Lady Delacombe, accompanied by Mrs. Grimwade, Mrs. Turnbull and Mrs. Oldfield, made her way along a pathway of honour formed by the girls.

Miss Barr then invited all present to join her in some well known campfire songs.

Brownies from 3rd Springvale North pack told us the story of the "Drovers Dream" in song and action. They wore wonderful masks which they had helped a very special friend to make. 2nd Syndal North Guides then acted out a typical (perhaps ideal?) meeting, which covered all the 8 points of our programme. As they placed stars on a large State emblem, the Guides presented the message "Will ye no' come back again?" to Lady Delacombe.

Rangers from several units delighted us with four of their own special songs, which included most appropriately, "Go well, and go safely, the Lord be ever with you."

Mrs. Grimwade thanked Lady Delacombe for her continual interest in the activities and achievements of the Brownies, Guides

and Rangers, and wished her well in her 'retirement.' She gave Lady Delacombe, with love from all members of the Movement in Victoria, a beautiful painting of a Wimmera scene, the work of a ex-Brownie Guider.

Lady Delacombe thanked all who had helped to make the occasion so happy and enjoyable. She said the painting would have a very special place in her home; that she had enjoyed her association with Guiding in this State, and that she sincerely hoped she and Sir Rohan would soon come back to visit us.

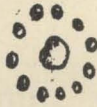
Miss Barr led us in some more favourite camp fire songs, before the gathering concluded with Taps.

As the sun sank behind the trees, Lady Delacombe made her way among the girls back to her home, and, shortly after, blue and brown dispersed into the lengthening shadows.

— J.R.

\* \* \* \*

(Matilda's cover picture shows Lady Delacombe with some of the guides present. The block is available by courtesy of the 'Age,' photo by Peter Mayoh).



## Called to Higher Service

It is with great sadness that we record the death on 14th March of Mrs. C. O. Fairbairn, C.B.E., one who has served Guiding most lovingly and loyally over many years and in many capacities.

'Gran' as she was affectionately known to so many of us, began her Guiding life in Britain as a girl. In 1922, as a young bride, she came to Skipton in Victoria. She was instrumental in starting Guiding in that District and from those early days until her death, she maintained an active interest in the Movement giving of herself untiringly in almost every possible Guiding job—Guider, Commissioner, Secretary, L.A. President, Executive Committee Member, Australian Vice-President. She had the distinction of being Australia's first Federal Secretary (1938-1947), first Federal Commissioner for Australia (1947-1952) and first Chief Commissioner for Australia (1952-1955). She was State Commissioner for Victoria (1938-1963).

Her interest in Guiding extended to other countries, too, and she was known and loved by many members of the Movement in the four corners of the world. Her most recent involvement was 'Sangam,' our World Centre in India, which held a special place in her heart. She visited Sangam at regular intervals and gave valued service as a member of the World Association Sub-Committee for this Centre.

When she finished her term of office as Chief Commissioner, the Australian Association established the Irene Fairbairn Award Fund as an expression of affection and appreciation, for the specific purpose of benefiting young members of the Guide Movement. Her Majesty the Queen saw fit to recognise her outstanding contribution to Guiding and to the community through the award of the C.B.E. and the Movement presented her with the Silver Fish, the highest award for outstanding service.

Gran will long be remembered by all of us who were privileged to know her for her zest for life, her warm and gracious personality, her capacity for love and her wonderful sense of humour.

At the request of her family, Taps was sung by some of her Guiding friends at her funeral service, an appropriate farewell for one who had served her Church, her family and her fellow men with such dedication and love.

. . . To those of us who knew and loved Rene Fairbairn, she will always remain an inspiration—for her warmth, her unending interest in the young members of our Movement for whom we are all here, her dream that guides all over the world should be able to come together in the true spirit of Guiding and get to know each other on a person-to-person level, thus to understand and love each other.

Let us all ask God to bless and watch over her family at this time; after all these months of sadness may they be able to think of her as she was—a truly wonderful person, giving always of herself, to all who needed her.

We will all miss Gran, but her memory will live on in the fund named for her, which will bring real joy to girls who benefit for many years to come.

(Opening prayer from the March Executive committee meeting)

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## THANKSGIVING SERVICE

A Thanksgiving Service for the life of Irene Fairbairn will be held at Christ Church, South Yarra on Tuesday, 23rd April, 1974 at 7.30 p.m.





**MRS. IRENE FAIRBAIRN (centre)**  
when she was State Commissioner for Victoria, with her Assistants, Mrs. R. G. Orr (left)  
and Mrs. S. McKay (right)



### **"THINKING DAY, 1974"**

On February 22nd all Guides and Brownies and L.A. members were invited to a District Thinking Day and about 200 attended. Monash Guiders were the hostesses, and made everybody very welcome. A Ranger explained that this day was the joint birthday of Lady and Lord Baden Powell, and that we would give our Thinking Day money to help other people in Guiding.

We were asked to find a friend we had never met before. The friend I found was a Brownie Guide. We went outside and made a chain of money with our Thinking Day 1c pieces. We followed the chain and it led

us to a reserve, where an Obstacle Course was set out for us. This was great fun, and when we had all had a go we made our way back to the hall.

The members of the L.A. had prepared refreshments for us. Some camp fire songs, and it was time to go home, after a very enjoyable evening, meeting new friends.

**KERRY WINTLE,**  
1st Clayton East Company.



# FROM OUR STATE COMMISSIONER...

Dear Members and Friends,

I know February is the shortest month in the year, but I really cannot see how this last month could have gone so very quickly. Maybe it is because I didn't really resume Guiding until the day after the children went back to school, and for the first week I found it very hard to concentrate. After a long Summer holiday when I really didn't have to think, it took a little while to settle down to work, but we are gradually getting back into our stride again—as I am sure you all are.

February is a busy month for meetings, as most committees have their first meeting for the year during this month. At our Boundaries Meeting we were confronted with quite a few changes in Commissioners. As is usual at this time of the year, the resignations outnumbered the new appointments—but I hope that at our next meeting we will see the reverse situation.

I had a fleeting trip to Tasmania with Fred to buy Cormo sheep, flying over one morning and catching the 7 a.m. flight back the next day. I spent a delightful day at Bothwell working in the sheep yards in the sun. It was something I hadn't done for ages and I greatly enjoyed it, not that Fred took much notice of my advice when choosing ewes.

We stayed the night at Wrest Point and had a look at the Casino. This is a great tourist attraction, but I am glad we haven't one in Victoria, as I wonder if everyone who goes there can really afford to lose.

I went to the first plenary session of 2004 entitled Me Versus You Versus Them. I was quite fascinated by the wide range of young people present, all in their yellow or blue T-shirts marked with the insignia of the Youth, Sport and Recreation Department, and I was most interested to hear their different views. The Guide Association was represented at most plenary sessions, and I think those of us who went felt we would have liked to attend all sessions. I heard two young people speak at a C.W.A. meeting and they appeared to get a great deal from the Conference. If Councils and organisations give their representatives frequent opportunities to talk of the Conference and the recommendations made by the young people then I think we will all benefit from 2004.

At our first Executive Meeting I was delighted to welcome Mrs. Thiele, our new Training Adviser. Much of the meeting was taken up with discussion of nominations for Australian appointments which fall vacant this year. I was pleased to be able to announce that Mrs. Barbara Kearney had been appointed part-time National Development Leader. Mrs. Kearney will work in inner suburban high-rise areas, paying particular attention to the large migrant population found there.

In the evening of Thinking Day I joined Yarra Valley Region at a very lovely Camp Fire in Edwardes Lake Park, Reservoir. It was wonderful to see such a crowd of leaders and girls come together to celebrate this very important day, and I was thrilled to have the opportunity of meeting some of them. These are the things I really enjoy most because this is when you see the true spirit of Guiding.

Girls from each of the divisions in the region dressed in Asian uniforms gave me their contributions to the Thinking Day Fund. In each case the contributions were in some form of imaginative container—the most spectacular being a wonderful grey elephant with brilliant pink ears. Anyone calling into the Members' Lounge at Headquarters will see him there in all his glory.

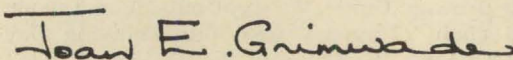
We held our first Finance Meeting and Advisers' Meeting for the year—it was good to see everyone after the holidays, and particularly to hear of the Australian Sections Conference held in Adelaide in January.

The month ended with a very gala evening when I attended the Conferring of Honorary Freedom of the City of Melbourne on The Governor, His Excellency Major General Sir Rohan Delacombe, in the Melbourne Town Hall. This was a very colourful occasion, although rather a sad one, as we will all greatly miss Sir Rohan and Lady Delacombe.

I hope that this year you are full of enthusiasm and have thought up lots of new and exciting ideas for Cents for Service. The money raised during this week each year greatly helps both you and Headquarters.

My very best wishes to you all for Easter.

Love from



## A LETTER FROM QUEENSLAND . . .

Thank you for your good wishes and letters of concern following the recent tragic floods in Queensland.

These have affected many members of the Girl Guides Association throughout the State, both financially and emotionally, and we are only now hearing of cases where Guiders and Commissioners have lost their homes and all personal belongings. It will take a little time to assess the total losses, and we have spoken to many members in the metropolitan area who are exhausted following their untiring efforts to help in the clean-up operation. One Division Commissioner said to-day that there are 31 members in her area alone who have lost everything, another with an incomplete list of 21.

Fortunately we were lucky at Girl Guide House. By Friday afternoon the water was level with the landing at the front door (five steps to the landing then five more to the front door). According to the news the weather was to improve at that time, so the three members still at Headquarters decided to leave (it took me three hours to travel three miles home at that stage). However, the weather worsened, and on Saturday morning the water was just below the floor of the building, but did not rise any further than this, so we have been very fortunate.

Water completely covered the home of one Executive member—our Music and Drama Adviser is left with the shell of her flat, but fortunately saved most of her clothes; our Link Up Camp liaison was evacuated, and two staff members disappeared from our ken from the Friday until the following Monday. Major stores in Queen Street were without power or lights for days; it was rather unreal.

"Coo-ee" (Queensland's "Matilda") was fortunately rescued by our printers—who, although they were in the worst flooded area of the city, managed to save all their stock by working through the night. Trefoil Guild members were to prepare for posting, and when we were not sure it would be saved, contacted the "contact." She had only minutes to leave her home as there was danger of an explosion, and as she was safe from the floods had not given thought

to what she would take. With minutes to spare she collected bedding, a change of clothing, her canary and Division books. When speaking to another member, she had included, with bare necessities, the Trefoil books!

☆ ☆ ☆

We have received the following report on the clean-up by members in Queensland . . .

Two Trainers kindly agreed to compile a report on their personal experiences and we thought it would be of interest to you.

"What a beginning for the new year for Queensland!

"Those of us who live in Brisbane, Ipswich and the Gold Coast area feel we have been though a bad dream but *know* that despite all the work done so far, there are still many months of service to be given to aid in the restoration of family possessions destroyed by floodwaters.

"Many stories have been received of what Guiding folk have already done towards assisting the flood relief. Naturally, no one is looking for praise or prize, but, in case some units are wondering in what way they might help, here is a list of just some activities already carried out and continuing:—

Shovelling silt

Collecting and sorting food and clothing donations

Milk, eggs and food hampers sent from near country districts

Making refreshments and distributing them to workers

Scrubbing walls and furniture

Housing families

Taking and sending 'phone messages

Organizing and transporting work parties

Washing clothing and drapes at home

Washing crockery

Polishing silver

Repairing broken toys and books

Potting plants to help restore gardens

Raising money through car washes, cake stalls and tuck shops.

"In addition, a great deal of assistance is required to restore and re-stock Guide huts and Guide possessions that were affected.

"While none of us were experienced in such circumstances, it was interesting to note the ease with which Guiding people could use their initiative, see a need and go to it, accept the real responsibility of caring for

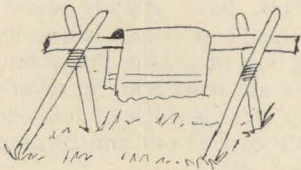
others' valued possessions, make the most of what was available, bring suitable equipment, show feeling through their efforts and provide some humour with their tasks.

"Although mud-splattered anything was the uniform of the day for most workers in the initial clean-ups, the number of 'old blue shirts' were gratefully conspicuous.

"And finally, a word for all those actually affected by the floods—although we have assisted in many ways, the feeling cannot possibly be the same as the actual experience—we honour your courage, your ability to cope with the situations as they are, and your ability to see others in greater need.

Two Shovellers."

Patricia Avery,  
State Secretary.



Dear Matilda,

District Commissioner, Guiders, Testers and friends attended a ceremony held by the 2nd Glenroy Guide Company to celebrate their first Queen's Guide.

Cheryl was presented with her badge by the Region Commissioner.

The hall was decorated with streamers, and the Guides carried placards and candles and formed a horseshoe. Lights were turned off and the Guides took Cheryl through the journey to her Queen's Guide by lighting a candle to represent the badges obtained.

As Cheryl renewed her Promise in front of the Trefoil, the girls sang "Whene'er we make a promise."

A campfire, followed by supper, during which Cheryl cut a cake, ended the night.

—Rosella Patrol, 2nd Glenroy Guide Co.

## A GUIDING BONUS

During a recent trip to Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia, I really learned the meaning of the great Sisterhood of Guiding.

I was travelling alone and carried an Introduction Card which Mrs. Dwyer, Victoria's International Adviser, arranged for me.

In Kuala Lumpur I was invited to visit Guide Headquarters. I had to learn to say the address, "Jalan Pantai Baharu", because the taxi driver probably wouldn't be able to read. When I arrived I met the Chief Commissioner, Mrs. P. Navaratnam, the International Adviser, Mrs. Lee and Miss Castello from the Philippines Girl Scouts H.Q.

They made me so welcome, and were quite concerned to find that I had spent my first day, a Sunday, alone. They plan to have a private phone number put in the phone book so that people like me can contact them on a Sunday.

We were taken on a tour of the city and given a photograph of our party taken at the National Monument to soldiers of World War II, and a large souvenir booklet from the Museum.

Mrs. Yap Kim Wah, State Commissioner in Penang rang my hotel to arrange a meeting, and Suw Saik (who did some training in Kerang when she was in Victoria) drove 60 miles to spend half an hour with me. She looks just the same, and I recognised her immediately; she brought her two sisters and a delightful young nephew to meet me.

Mrs. Yap took me to lunch, then left me with Harriet Sinnathamby, assistant director for the School for the Deaf. Harriet introduced me to some friends, including wives of Australian Air Force personnel at Butterworth Base — all Guiders — and then we had a most exciting trip in the cable car which takes people up Penang Hill — a very steep slope. As it was a holiday for the King's Birthday, we were packed in like sardines. My accent seemed to intrigue other passengers who were soon asking me about Australia. I chatted to an elegant Chinese lady, an Englishman — Secretary of State for Penang — and an Aussie airman. We found out later that Mrs. Yap had received a Birthday Honour at the Garden Party held at Government House that afternoon. Harriet and another Indian lass, Leila, took

(Continued on page 219)



# NORWEGIAN BROWNIES

December's "Matilda" mentioned Thinking Day, the special day for Guides and Scouts all over the world. I've been lucky enough to share one Thinking Day with my Meis (Norwegian Brownies) and I'd like to share some of the wonderful Guiding experiences I had.

In March '72 I arrived in Tonsberg, Norway, to find the District Commissioner on the island where I was to stay had already rung several times to find out if I'd arrived. Luckily for me, Anne Lise Grung, the District Commissioner, rang again, and to my immense relief she spoke perfect English. She overruled my objections and I found myself agreeing to come to the final meeting of all Guides, Brownies, Rangers and Leaders for the school year in June, and to the region camp the first week in July — summer holidays in Norway.

The camp was a wonderful experience although difficult at times because of the language. Each district had a continent as its badge and ours, of course, had Australia, complete with Australian flag and a yellow blow-up Skippy.

One of my favourite memories of the camp is an overnight hike on which I joined a group of the older girls. We set off mid-afternoon and eventually arrived at the right spot after getting lost, eating delicious wild strawberries and struggling in a bit of rugged terrain.

Campfire that night was memorable. We sat on the rocks which formed a rough horseshoe with the campfire in the centre and the lapping waters of the fjord behind. After songs, including "Kookaburra" for me, and a few spontaneous sketches, we stuck sausages on two-pronged sticks to cook them and ended "leirbalet" with devotions.

While the leader told of the next day's plans, another Guider and I rushed off into the shadowy light away from the fire to ask if we could have a bucket of water at the farmhouse. (In the south of Norway it's dimly light even at 1 and 2 a.m. in summer and in the north of course, it's never dark).

Although it was only about 9.30 the farmer's wife had gone to bed but her husband came and said "Yes, of course we could have

some water". We hardly knew what to say for his kindness when he came back with a bucketful — but the bucket held only a litre at the most and we were just over sixty!

Luckily he told us about a spring midway between our camp and the house. On the way back we became silent as we walked, listening to recorder music floating from a little cottage nestling in the woods at the end of the field.

We slept with varying degrees of success under the stars which was a wonderful experience. Next morning I woke to find one of the Leaders busily photographing sleepers and those just waking and was lucky enough to escape.

It was a hot trek next day and I went swimming when we eventually did get back. That was the only time I found Norwegian waters really warm!

In late August the new school and Guide year started and I began a meis (Brownie) group with the help of a Norwegian girl who'd been helping another Brownie girl for a couple of years. Magnhild was a marvellous help and nothing was too much to ask of her. We started with ten and although one dropped out and we had our difficulties (language mostly) we soon became a close group and enjoyed working through the challenges of the red ring book, the equivalent of the pathway there.

My next big experience was being enrolled as a Norwegian Guider at "kretsråd" (Region meeting). Instead of a warrant badge, Guiders receive a white lanyard to mark their position.

There, as in most places, Leaders are constantly needed so our District Commissioner had informed one of the local newspapers about an Australian joining the ranks and before I knew it there were blinding flashbulbs and a reporter was in the midst of an interview.

All the Guiders who'd been at the camp, others who'd been at a meis Leaders "inspirasjon weekend" and others whom I'd never met offered their congratulations and made me feel really part of them.

In February came something that every Guide dreams of — the chance to visit "Our Chalet". Eleven of us travelled by car, ferry, train, bus and Shanks's pony for a winter holiday learning Slalom skiing. The worst experience was the second night of the trip. We were on a German train, not very well heated, and found our couchettes (compartment of 6 bunks, three on each side) with relief that quickly faded. Each of us, as bedding for the night, had a pillow and one paper sheet! Needless to say we arrived at "Our Chalet" feeling rather tired but revived enough after lunch to go out skiing.

Switzerland's mountains were a different proposition to the gentle slopes of the island where I lived in Norway and slalom boots and skis were much heavier and less comfortable than cross-country skis, so the first two or three days were more of an endurance test than enjoyment for me. Being with a Norwegian group didn't help either as most had been skiing almost as long as they'd been walking.

Summer camp for '73 was a mountain one for our district. About 60 of us caught the train at Tonsberg, changed at Drammen, changed at Honefoss and finally arrived at A1 in Hallingdale. Here we took buses up the mountains and on to Hemseng. Only a fortnight or so before the place had been snowed in.

The Guides were divided into 4 patrols, named after mountains in the area.

The leaders were getting tea under way when someone rushed in to say there was smoke coming from one of the toilets. We hurried out in disbelief but by this time we could see flames too. As it took about 10 minutes to fill a plastic bucket from the tap there was little we could do but watch it burn. This cast a blight on the opening but the remainder of the camp was an unqualified success.

There were 4 activities organised by Guiders and Patrol Leaders — Morse code, knots (at which the girls made a small display board each), botany (rambling round to find mountain plants) and an "all day hike" over the mountains behind the camp with campfire cooking.

On the day I led the hike we saw a mountain fox: the first time many of the girls had seen one. My doubts on my ability to get a fire going with the damp vegetation were luckily groundless and we feasted on toasted cheese sandwiches, sausages and bacon in foil, apples filled with sultanas and chocolate in foil and bananas split with chocolate filling in foil and all baked in the coals.

In August I left Norway to spend a few weeks bike riding and working in England. In London I stayed at "Olave House" and "Baden Powell House", attending a couple of meetings of the International Guide and Scout Club there. It was fun, too, to be together with some Australians again.

One long weekend I rode out to Windsor Castle, on to the Youth Hostel at Henley-on-Thames, then on to Oxford, and on to a hostel near Beaconsfield for the last night. On the way I rode past a Guide camp and decided to call in and say hello. They welcomed me with a tour of the site and a cup of tea, although they were busily packing up to leave. The girls came from a high rise flat area of London so the Guiders had begun gardens here which the girls thought marvellous.

The cook at "Olave House" went down as a tester and she made chutney from tomatoes collected there to be sold at the Guides' stall.

Back in Norway to say goodbye I found my Meis in proud possession of a scrap book from 6th Kew Brownie Pack and busily planning a return one. My last weekend was spent at a training weekend in perfect autumn weather. Final farewell was a combined meeting of Guiders and Scouters where I was given a lovely little candleholder like the ones used at region meetings. Imagine having to give an impromptu speech in another language when nearly in tears.

Here's to International Guiding!

Sonja Nilsen.



# TRAINING PAGES

**AUTUMN** is a good time for out-of-doors; hike fires and meals, but much can be done indoors that the girls may **Be Prepared** beforehand.

The earlier a young person learns to respect fire, appreciate its value and understand safety rules governing its use, the less likely she will be to "play with fire."

A simple aid which introduces Brownie Guides to safety rules, the art of striking a match and develops confidence and control of flame, can be made as follows: Take a colourful round toffee tin—this becomes a birthday cake—with a nail carefully punch holes around the top of the lid, insert plastic candle holders firmly through the holes and fill with small birthday candles. All players must sit at a table to play. Aim is to light as many candles as possible with one match. It is not a competition between players, but a challenge to each individual to improve her own record. Safety rules must be observed—hair well back, an ash tray for spent matches, and all matches struck away from the striker. Players take their turn as the "cake" is passed around the table. At first the diffident girl may need adult help to even strike her match, this being blown out immediately it ignites. As confidence and control grows so will her ability to attempt the lighting of the candles.

The burns section of the Royal Children's Hospital has asked for our co-operation in educating young people of the dangers of fire and particularly in the field of clothing. By using bottles "dressed" in samples of various types of material the girls can quickly learn the burning potential of each one—if these samples can be left-over scraps from clothing they are wearing they become even more personally involved. As always safety rules must be carefully adhered to. Pin samples around the bottles, stand these in a tin baking dish or on a large metal tray. Have a fire bucket of water close by. Use a long match to ignite one material type at a time. Discuss its burning qualities and

any special precautions which would be needed when wearing clothing made of it.

Narration is a teaching method which lends itself very readily to this subject. Stories may be original or taken from news items in the daily press. Rôle play involving accidents with fire can build up an understanding and also the ability to cope with a situation we hope they will never have to face.

Play and think about precautions as in the game given. Guides too should learn indoors to handle matches (many cannot do so) though their candle lighting game can be simpler than the Brownie Birthday Cake idea. Fire setting can be practised indoors. It is not hard to find a few suitable twigs and leaves in a nearby park.

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**See Guide Handbook: Pages 96-97. The usual "pyramid" setting is explained with diagrams, and there are other helpful sketches.**

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Another setting, which I have heard called "The Cadet Fire" is very simple, and has been successfully used in snow.

For air, scoop a little trench, say 4 inches long, 1½ wide and at least 1 inch deep. Place across it one layer of VERY FINE sticks so: ||||| and across these another fine layer ≡≡≡ Hold the lit match at the edge of the trench under the lower layer of the criss-cross platform so formed. Have other sticks ready to add as the flame comes through.

It would be very interesting to try this with the very fine dead twigs (about darning needle size) that can be snapped off wattle trees.

Many a guide cupboard, or bottom of a patrol box will yield a green pamphlet: What Every Guide Should Know About Fire. The following FIRE PRECAUTIONS GAME is based on this, and should give useful teaching and discussion.





The alphabetical letters are for checking only, and need not be on the small cards the players use. Clues at the end of the training pages. A few pamphlets are available. If wanted, request with a stamped self-addressed envelope to: Unit 3, 26 Baringa Street, Mt. Waverley, 3149.

\* \* \* \*

Matilda has some fire sketches. Let us examine them together: Possibly you could find pictures in newspapers and magazines and lead your guides/rangers to a discussion on their size, setting, situation and safety.

Matilda thinks:

- A. Too near a log, too near a tree, billy just sitting on fire, could tilt and spill. Maybe "fire beginners" but at least happy out-of-doors.

Your thought.....  
 .....



- B. Better—but the logs making the star shape look overlarge for one small kabob, and, the hand too may be "cooked." No sign of groundsheet "sit-upon"—nor of clearing round the fire.

Your turn.....  
 .....

- C. Improving. Right position kneeling on a groundsheet—with pyramid fire on a platform—but it is to be hoped it is not a windy day, for the second hand is obviously not cupped round the one holding the match to shield the flame.

Your addition.....  
 .....

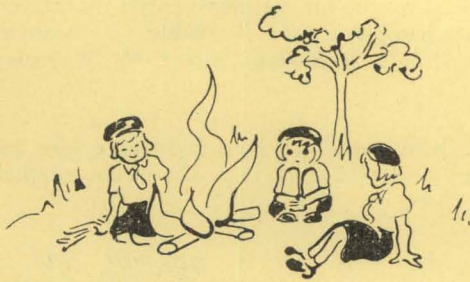


- D. Best of the four. Fire set upon a platform, billy well supported above the flames. Sue wonders "What's cooking?" If it's a stew she hopes it does not burn.

Your addition.....  
 .....

Matilda and Sue both hope that the spaces left for you will contain, besides comments on the sketches—dates when you did these things—

- (a) With your patrol leaders.  
 (b) When the patrols each had their own fire and meal.



Now the time comes for out-of-doors. Tea hike? Breakfast hike? Whole day's activity, with two hours at mid-day set aside for fire and cooking?



Encourage your guides to experiment with different natural materials as punk. (Paper is NOT used in guide fires.)

- |                       |                                       |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Dead gum leaves       | } All are effective if PROPERLY used. |
| Pine needles          |                                       |
| Dried grass           |                                       |
| Dead bracken          |                                       |
| Shredded stringy bark |                                       |

Stress that fires must have air, one that looks flat has little chance of burning.

The match STICK must be alight, not just the flaring head, before it is carefully pushed into the centre of the punk and left there to do its job. It is a bad practice, though often seen, to try to light the outside of a fire in three or four places.



An A-shape fire is another simple setting if properly understood. Since fires need air, the wide legs of the A should face the wind, and these, and the crossbar should be formed of dead wood, about 1½ inches across, which will finally burn. This means the crossbar is the thickness of the wood from the ground—and so air can get under it punk is spread in the triangle within the A and thin sticks more or less side by side, cover the punk and rest one end on the cross bar.

When the guide kneels on her ground-sheet to light her fire, she has her back to the wind, faces the A, and pushes the lit match under the crossbar to reach the punk. The breeze—or gentle fanning (low down) carries the flame to the punk further in, and the sticks soon catch.

**ANSWERS TO THE "TRY YOURSELF" QUESTIONS ON PAGE 208**

ALWAYS      A E G H J K L N P T W X Y Z

NEVER        B C D F I M Q S V

IF POSSIBLE   O (but some stones may crack)

R

U (but ESSENTIAL in a Summer camp)

# NOTICES

## STAMPS

For many new to Guiding folk this may be the first time they read of the Stamp section.

Any good used stamps are welcome. When sold, proceeds are used to purchase something needed. Most recently the funds helped pay for a new refrigerator, an electric kettle and an auto tray, all for the new "Thank-you" Chalet, Britannia Park. A donation was also sent for the building fund.



An outline of how everyone can assist in continuing the fund raising will remind donors from previous years, and show newcomers what to do in preparation of stamps.



It is a good thing to remember the four S's (Save, Sort, Soak, Send).

**Save** only good used stamps; bent, crumpled, heavily postmarked, or torn in any way, they cannot be sold, so discard at once.

**Sort** stamps into different kinds. For Australian, this means even those of the same values must be separated so they can be handled with ease. For overseas, if under about 20 stamps, these can be divided into Countries.

**Soak** stamps of each group to remove old paper backing, and all old gum (this most important); use cold water, fresh for each lot, please, as it gets sticky. Dry stamps face downwards, on white butchers-type paper, or similar. At this stage defects show up so more are sure to need discarding. When dry, place each lot of stamps into used window-faced (or other old) envelopes, making sure stamps lie flat. **Send** donations of stamps by packet or parcel post to me at: Flat 6, 86 Park Street, ST. KILDA, 3182, and place name and address of donor, inside the packet, so a reply can be sent. Please **DO NOT** leave stamps at Guide Headquarters Offices.

I hope to hear from all readers soon.

LORNA E. CUZENS,  
Hon. Organiser for Stamps.

Brownie Guiders from the Wimmera would like experience as Staff on a Pack Holiday, preferably handy to the Wimmera. Please contact R.C.A. for Wimmera, Mrs. L. Reid, Box 35, Dimboola, 3414.

Watch the T.V. programmes — Channel 2 — 21st April, 1974 — presentation of the Tasmanian Thinking Day — Founder's Day Church Service.

## NATURAL RESOURCES . . .

is the theme of the 18th State Conference of LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS. ,

This year it will be held on 18th June, 1974, at the Moorabbin Town Hall.

\* \* \* \*

## AUSTRALIAN GUIDE EVENT 1974

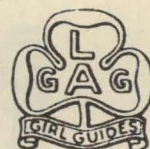
Invitations are now coming in from all States to participate in the Australian Link-up, the special Interstate Guide Events planned for 1974.

Details of these events have been circulated in the Victorian Newsletter. Please contact your Region Commissioner if a Guide from your Unit would like to participate, as selection in the first instance is in Regions. Staff also needed for these events.

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# THIS IS THE LOCAL ASSOCIATION SECTION



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

**THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH**—If you don't shine as you think you should, try cleaning the light before blaming the power station.

## COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE

The annual Commissioners' Conference will be held this year at Menzies College, Latrobe University, on 31st May, 1st and 2nd June. All Commissioners (District, Division and Region) are invited to attend this Conference. The fee is \$19.65.

As this Conference is, in part, a training week-end, the Committee organising the Conference would like to ask all Local Associations, if their finances permit, to either pay or subsidise their Commissioners' fee. We know how much it has been appreciated by Commissioners when L.A.'s have paid their fees in the past.

—1974 Committee.

## MOTHER AND DAUGHTER DINNER

Glen Iris District held a very successful Mother and Daughter Dinner towards the end of last year, with an attendance of over 150 people. It was decided to have a Smorgasbord Dinner to encourage members of the various groups to get to know each other. Among the guests was the Mayor of Camberwell, Mrs. Dorothy Laver.

During the evening, Mrs. Hutchinson gave a short talk about the Campsite project at Shoreham. Because of electricity restrictions, candles were used and this added considerably to the atmosphere and success of the evening.

## NEWSPAPER DRIVES

A request for old newspapers has come from Lombard the Paper People Pty. Ltd., who will buy quantities from half a ton upwards and arrange prompt pick-up services.

If you are having a paper drive, contact Mr. C. Lombard, 386 Johnston Street, Abbotsford, 3067, or telephone 419-1863.

## TWILIGHT FAREWELL

Violet Town Brownies, Guides and friends attended a Twilight Farewell for their "Tawny Owl" who retired after nine years with the Pack.

Some fifty people enjoyed a basket tea under the shady trees in the Reserve, after which a presentation was made to Mrs. Adams. Mrs. Adams' service was summarised with the following:

"T—for her thoughtfulness,  
A—always there,  
W—wonderfully patient,  
N—nine years' service,  
Y—youthful enthusiasm."

## TAKE TIME TO THINK

"All too many people do not really understand their job, because the pace of modern life does not give them time to get to grips with it," explains a British doctor.

He suggests for company executives, housewives—in fact anybody—a daily "think break." This would mean stopping all work for ten minutes, in which everyone would ponder his or her job, how to improve it and how to be happier in it. Using the time for a chat, a smoke or a cup of tea, he warns, would destroy its purpose. In a fast moving world, few things make better sense than pausing to reflect, not merely about one's job but about the meaning of life.

Stop. Think. Pray. Cry a little. Smile a little. Then go on.

—from "World Communique."

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## RECIPE CORNER

### INSTANT TEA CAKE

¼ cup butter, ⅓ cup sugar, 1 cup S.R. flour, 1 egg plus enough milk to make ¾ cup of liquid, ½ teaspoon vanilla.

Melt butter in 8-in. round cake tin. Using fork, stir in all other ingredients until well mixed. Cook in moderate oven for 25 minutes. While hot brush top with butter and sprinkle a mixture of 1 teaspoon cinnamon and 2 teaspoons brown sugar; OR ice with thin icing and sprinkle with nuts. Cool cake in tin, cut in slices and serve buttered; OR press thin slices of apple into mixture before cooking for an easy apple cake; OR fold jam into mixture and serve with custard as an Instant Hot Pudding. To wash up—wash ONE dirty fork!

## THE 11th NATIONAL JAMBOREE OF THE GIRL SCOUTS OF ISRAEL

### Marks the 25th Anniversary of the State

By Esther Lucas

If you drive south from Tel Aviv and turn east towards Jerusalem, you come to a beautiful horse-shoe shaped forest of eucalyptuses and pines with a wide clearing in the middle. In this forest, we, the Boy and Girl Scouts of Israel, and our guests from abroad set up our 11th National Jamboree, perhaps the most exciting jamboree ever.

The theme this year was the 25th anniversary of the State, and the six Associations (Arab School Scouts, Arab Scouts, Catholic Scouts, Druse Scouts, Hebrew Scouts and Orthodox Scouts) pitched their tents and arranged their camp sites to represent phases in the history of the land.

The winning "tribe" made their site into a diminutive Jerusalem, complete with domed tents and a Western Wall. Many facets of the past were portrayed, for instance the ships of the illegal immigrants before the State, the primitive towers and stockades of the early kibbutzim, or the bamboo model of Mary's well in Nazareth, built by the Catholic Scouts. It took literally hours to walk all round the jamboree and see the fantastic array of towers, gates, bridges, and gadgets constructed by 15,000 enthusiastic campers.

Activities were so varied that there was never a dull moment. There were competitions and races and games all through the five days of the Jamboree and singing round hundreds of campfires went on right into the night. Scouts and Guides could buy souvenir Tee-shirts and hats and scarves at the Scout Shop. Services included a mobile Post Office and a Public Relations Tent, as well as all the usual camp facilities.

If the official theme was the 25th Anniversary of the State, the unofficial one was co-existence. Some 350 Scouts and Guides from the U.S.A., Great Britain, France, Belgium, Mexico, Argentina, Denmark and Switzerland joined the jamboree, as well as one Girl Guide from Ghana, and the Chief Commissioner from Sierra Leone, who announced the presentation of a high award from his

country to the Chief Scout of Israel. Gifts were presented by the Boy Scouts of America and of Britain. The campsites of the visitors from abroad were always full of Israelis, Jews and Arabs alike, exchanging badges and experiences. We were really sorry that no one from the Asia-Pacific region was able to be with us on this great occasion.

The closing ceremony, attended by the President of the State, was an impressive pageant of light and sound depicting the life of Scouts and Guides against the background of the development of the State. Spotlights, phosphorescence, films, slides, shadow-shows, and even illuminated water jets were skilfully used to highlight the singing and dancing of the children who represented Scouting as a modern, vital part of the life of Israel to-day.

The 11th Jamboree will live in the memories of the participants for many years to come!

(From 3rd ASIA-PACIFIC Newsletter prepared by Sri Lanka)

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4th Moorleigh Pack celebrated Thinking Day at Brownie Revels, with a South Sea islands theme. Moorabbin East division arranged the revels with groups of activities including craft, quiet and outdoor games, songs, dancing, etc. Brownies dressed in paper skirts of different colours and leaders wore leis, with a hibiscus in their hair. In keeping with our theme we had afternoon tea of watermelon, pineapple, grapes and bananas. 170 Brownies said thank you to the leaders and to the Division Commissioner for all their efforts.

—Gloria J. Sayers, Brown Owl.

On our Guide Night all 2nd Maffra Guides turned up in strange outfits: Night dresses, dressing gowns, a few school dresses and even bathers were worn.

It all started from a "Come as you are" Night. The leaders rang you at odd hours, mostly at night and we had to come in the clothes we were wearing when we answered the phone. The penalty for wearing these clothes to Guides was a donation to the Queensland Guides Flood Relief—an amount of \$7.

—Alison Dwyer for 2nd Maffra Co.



### GOLD MEDAL IN PHILATELY

Stamp Collecting (Philately) is an absorbing hobby for many people. Mrs. Betty Matthews, a Commissioner of Mildura (Sunraysia Region), has been collecting stamps for the past 17 years. Pride of place is given to her Scouting and Guiding stamps.

Last year she entered them in the World Philatelic Exhibition in Poland and won a bronze medal, the only one awarded to an Australian at that exhibition. This year she entered them in an exhibition, "Themex," in Adelaide. There were three classes with sections for adults and children. Only 14 medals were awarded—one gold, five silver and eight bronze. Mrs. Matthews won the only gold medal, as well as a bronze medal.

—K. A. G.

(Block by courtesy of "Sunraysia Daily")

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### PLEASE NOTE

We have been advised that the nature charts mentioned in the March Matilda (page 180) are NOT available to organisations outside registered organisations within the Education Department of Victoria.



# From the **GUIDE** **SHOP**

## COMMISSIONER/GUIDER SUMMER FROCK MATERIAL

Another result of the world shortage of cotton!

The material for Commissioner/Guider Summer frocks available at the present time is only 42" wide (at \$3.00 per yard) instead of the usual 58" wide (at \$4.00 per yard).

Any member intending to make her own uniform and who wishes to purchase material from the Guide Shop, is asked to order the amount of material recommended in the official paper pattern as if it was 58" wide. We have written to the manufacturers of the paper pattern, asking if they would advise the amounts of 42" wide material needed for the various sizes. When this information is to hand the Shop staff will convert your requirements of 58" material to 42" wide material. Who knows — the next batch of material may be back to 58" wide!

One description of an American (or an Australian?) describes them as being people who borrow money they can't pay back to buy something they don't need to impress people they don't like.

In his constant striving for peace man has always stuck to his guns.



Trefoil Around the World is now available ..... \$1.20

### Activities for Patrol and Company Camping:

Wide Games and Night Games	....	25c
Country Treasures	....	\$2.55
Outdoor Ideas	....	30c
Maps, How to Read and Make Them	....	65c
Be Expert with Map and Compass (new edition)	....	\$2.35
Know the Game, Orienteering	....	90c
Planning an Orienteering Competition	....	95c
Clouds, Wind and the Weather	....	35c
Huts and Thatching	....	55c
Food and Water	....	55c
Firemaking	....	55c
Knots and Lashings	....	55c
Campcraft	....	55c
"Let's Go Camping"	....	90c
Camps and Holidays	..	\$1.20
Are You a Camper?	....	30c
The Quartermaster in Camp	....	45c
Off to Camp (The Patrols' Own Camp Book)	....	60c
Camp Prayers for Guides	....	30c

### Guiders and Badge Secretaries—please note:

Following a request from the Guide Committee, the Guide Service Flash has now been backed and overlocked. When ordering please forward 15c per badge plus 7c to cover cost of postage.

## **A VICTORIAN DELEGATE TO THE THIRD JAMBOREE Of the Girl Scouts Association of the National Republic of China—Taiwan**

After much excitement and preparation, three Australians—Jill Ribbons from South Australia, Jane Maxwell from New South Wales, and Coral Spratling from Victoria—left Sydney for a month's travel in Asia, including the Jamboree Camp in Taiwan.

After a four-day stop-over in Hong Kong where we enjoyed the wonderful hospitality of the Guide Association, we headed for Taiwan. We had a surprise reception at Taipei Airport. As we walked out of Customs, we were confronted by a large red and white banner reading "Welcome Australian Contingent." Three Girl Scout Leaders met us, one of whom was Su-lane Yang who was in Australia for Capricorn Servari. We were accommodated at the Taipei Teachers' Hostel, together with other contingents attending the camp, with the exception of the Philippine girls who flew straight to Kaohsiung.

An introductory tea invitation was issued to all contingents for that afternoon. We were all presented with gifts of various shapes and sizes, and again as we left, each was given a bamboo brooch and a Taiwanese friendship badge.

Everyone was up bright and early next morning to take the bus to Taipei Station. Then came a long six-hour train ride with quite a bit of badge "swapping" continued from the night before, signing books, singing, eating and sleeping. The half-hour ride from Kaohsiung Station to Cheng-Ching Lake was eventful. I say "eventful" because we all rode in the back of open Navy trucks. We loaded our luggage and then climbed on ourselves—no mean effort in a tight skirt! It was great fun! The appearance of the camp site as we drove in the large white gateway was colossal. The remark from one of the Americans as we drove up the road, passing various temples and pagodas was: "It's a resort, not a camp site!"

The camp site is around 35 acres set on the lake front with indoor and outdoor accommodation, a large dining hall, olympic-sized swimming pool, large outdoor assembly areas with stage and flag-raising areas and numerous combination kiosk and store buildings.

Three thousand Taiwanese Girl Scouts (ranging in age from 11 to 18) and just over fifty Internationals attended the six-day Camp. Countries represented—Philippines, Korea, Singapore, U.S.A. and Australia.

Leaders slept indoors and had their meals in the dining hall and the rest of us slept outdoors and were completely self-contained in small camps of eight. Supplies of rice, vegetables, fruit were brought each day, together with one ungutted and unscaled fish, one complete chicken and one complete duck. "Complete" is the operative word! Our utensils—two large cleavers, various cooking pots, and a pair of chopsticks and a bowl for each girl. This was new camping for Australians! The hillsides were terraced so that camps were on level ground, each having two stone tables, eight folding stools, one tent, and a barbecue stove covered with a canopy. The whole camp was divided into sections known as Districts, ours being the only International District Camp.

The Camp programme was relaxed, with a great many activities available, but it was left to the individual how much she did. A spectacular Opening Ceremony, a half-day hike around the lake, a visit to the Navy Base, swimming, and of course, badge "swapping," were among activities. Also cooking, nature talks, shell displays, tree planting, outdoor film, Chinese Opera, Puppet Shows, camp fires, an International Concert, wide game, and closing ceremony.

We left the camp site as we came—on the back of Navy trucks. The same six-hour train ride back, but by now we were all old friends. We parted at Taipei Station with more "See you again's" than "Goodbye's."

The International contingents were given hospitality in Taiwanese homes. Our stay with Su-lane was extremely interesting, and we seemed to fit in well. We joined the three Americans on a week-end conducted tour to Sun Moon Lake where we did all the things tourists usually do.

Now Jane had to return to Hong Kong and home, while Jill and I took the Cathay Pacific flight for Tokyo. Then followed two weeks in Tokyo, Kyoto, and Otsu, escorted and cared for by the Girl Scouts of Japan, whose hospitality and friendship will remain in our memories.

Jill, Jane, and I made many new friends, and experienced many customs and living conditions strange and new to us. To experience a trip such as this makes one realise the great significance of the World-wide Movement of Girl Scouts and Guides, and appreciate more fully other people and other cultures.

Coral Spratling.

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## CHARLTON GUIDES AND BROWNIES WORK TOGETHER

Charlton Guides and Brownies worked very hard to raise money for a bus trip around Swan Hill and Kerang. We held a lamington drive around Charlton area; and the L.A. ladies helped considerably. Guides and Brownies supplied coconut and chocolate icing.

One patrol raised money by organising a stall. One Friday mothers came and helped coat lamingtons, and Guides and Brownies came after school. When we had finished that night we had made 356 doz. lamingtons.

Next morning all the girls looked bright as they made ready to deliver lamingtons—it took all morning but we made a considerable amount of money and everyone was pleased.

The sun was shining, the wind brisk and cool. Finally, armed with song books, sandwiches and plenty of cold drink, we left Charlton at 9 o'clock.

We arrived at Swan Hill park in high spirits, and set off for Tyntynder Homestead, about nine miles out of Swan Hill.

Arriving at the Homestead everyone felt a twinge of hunger after the long trip. So we settled down in the beautiful gardens and dived into our lunches.

After a tour around the place, all the girls knew another chapter of Australian history, and after thanking the owners and buying some souvenirs, we set off to the next place we were to visit.

After going through three "bunches" of locusts we arrived at a farm which was no ordinary one. This was a pheasant farm which most of the girls hadn't even heard of.

I think what interested us most were the birds they had collected over the years before they became established. First we were shown the chickens in incubators.

There were hundreds of them kept warm by one small light which glows day and night. After so many weeks in the incubators they are put into a large pen with plenty of green grass.

After the birds have matured they are taken to the slaughter house where they are killed, plucked and packed into the freezer.

After a lot of questions were answered some went to have a look at some native birds.

Hopping back on the bus we continued our journey to the reptile park at Kerang, but unfortunately it was closed. The bus arrived at Charlton and tired, but very happy, Brownies and Guides managed to get home safely with a bit more knowledge and a day happily ended.

—Gail Reither and Marita O'Brien,  
2nd Charlton Guide Company.

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## PRAYER WITH RESPONSES

**Leader:** O Thou who has created all the nations of men to dwell upon the face of the earth, and has called them to dwell in peace together so that righteousness may rule and freedom abide.

**Response:** Make us loyal citizens of the land in which we live.

**Leader:** O Thou who has gathered the people together in cities and villages to live together in unity, supporting and encouraging one another, bearing one another's burdens, each doing his work and using his gifts for the well being of all.

**Response:** Make us good neighbours in this community.

**Leader:** O Thou who has surrounded us by family and friends that we may know the joy of giving and receiving love, and be saved from despair and from loneliness by the depth of human belonging.

**Response:** Let us love one another; for love is of God, and he who loves is born of God and knows God.



The many friends of Miss Jess McDonald will be saddened to hear of her death on 27th February.

Born at Marble Bar in North-Western Australia, she came with her parents to live in western Victoria, where, in 1922, she was responsible for the formation of 1st Wannon Mounted Guides . . . the first mounted Guide company in the world. Most school-girls, at that time, rode their ponies to school, the population in that area being widely scattered over a farming district. In 1936 she became Captain of 1st Victorian Post Guide Company—a company by correspondence for handicapped guides but, soon after moved to Frankston. In 1946 she re-opened 1st Mt. Eliza Orthopaedic, an Extension company meeting weekly at the Children's Orthopaedic Hospital, and later served a term as District Commissioner for Frankston. With the rapid expansion of the Frankston area, Jess was

appointed District Commissioner of Overport, where her enthusiasm, friendliness and wide guiding experience soon had the district firmly established . . . complete with a magnificent hall. Jess then served a term as Division Commissioner for Westernport, an area stretching from Hastings, on Westernport Bay, to Mornington, on Port Phillip, retiring because of failing health, in 1973.

In 1972, after fifty years of service to Guiding, Jess was awarded the Emu . . . one of Guiding's highest awards. The presentation was made in the Overport Hall before a capacity crowd of her friends.

Jess travelled extensively and had a wide range of interests. She ran a holiday home for children in Frankston in the 1950's and always had a vacant bed for a waif, picked up by the police from a broken home. Jess was kindness itself . . . she loved little children and was, for some time in charge of the Kindergarten at H.M.A.S. "Cerberus" . . . the Flinders Naval Depot at Crib Point.

—G.W.

### **RANGER SECTION TAPESTRY OPEN DAY**

Temperature 37°—the hottest day for the year! The day—Tapestry Open Day. (Would, we wondered, any of our prospective visitors brave the heat and come and visit us at our property—"Tapestry," at Strathewan???)

During the week-end, eighteen Ranger units took the opportunity of camping at the property with Miss Marj. Owen as G.I.C. in residence at the house. Orange, green and blue lightweight tents dotted the landscape as 80 Rangers and 15 Guiders prepared to enjoy themselves, despite the threat of a total fire ban week-end.

The extreme heat on Saturday caused us to abandon plans for an afternoon of service (collecting dead wood, pulling out bracken and clearing the creek), and most units either went for a hike along the shady creek or relaxed in the shade of the big wattle and gum trees.

A rousing campfire was held in the Open Shelter on Saturday night—recalling many old and traditional Guide and Ranger songs and learning quite a few new ones. (No one was quite sure what time we got to bed—the time was disputed because of the end of daylight saving!)

Sunday dawned—and after our Rangers'

Own Service at the Quiet Place down by the creek, we all prepared for the arrival of our visitors. Units were rostered during the day to act as parking attendants, and great was our delight as we saw more and more cars being ushered into the paddock opposite our property.

Devonshire teas were available and with the aid of beach umbrellas our visitors were able to enjoy their afternoon teas out of doors, despite the very hot sun.

The Tapestry Committee launched its "Marvellous Mighty Mammoth Mower Marathon" at Open Day—our appeal for funds with which to purchase a tractor mower for the property. This is a very necessary item considering we have 60 acres of bushland to be kept clear and safe for camping. The Committee would like to thank all those kind people who helped us launch the appeal with donations totalling \$20.50.

It was marvellous to see our State Commissioner, Mrs. Grimwade, and Mr. Grimwade there on Sunday, and we thank them for making their long journey to Tapestry and for their keen and sincere interest in the property. Thank you also, to all you wonderful visitors—from as far away as Numurkah and Geelong—who braved the heat and visited us.

## FROM ASIA-PACIFIC NEWSLETTER . . . . .

### TO GIVE THANKS IS GOOD

The clear, pure notes of a trumpet fanfare echoed through Sydney Town Hall then the swelling sound of the great organ heralded the measured march of flag and standard bearers, flowing down the two aisles as they made their way to the stage, crossing in front of the choir, then massing at the back of the hall, trefoils gleaming above the rich sea of colour that then formed the background for a special service of thanksgiving.

In a sense every thanksgiving is special—what gave the 1973 service of New South Wales Guides its significant emphasis was that the young people themselves did the organising; hence the schoolboy trumpeters, the stirring beat given to well-known hymns, the haunting notes of "Morning has Broken" sung as an anthem, and other songs sung and accompanied by a Guide/Ranger singer and guitar group.

Prayers of thanksgiving were not only offered by a Brownie, a Guide and a Ranger—they were written by them too; the

"Prayers for all People" were led by a Guide, and the Benediction said by all for one another was pronounced by a young Guide Leader. It was another young Guide Leader who undertook that most difficult of all speaking tasks — addressing an audience which included the newest Brownies and senior citizens who had been part of Guiding since its earliest days.

For this was a thanksgiving service when the young spoke, to both young and young-at-heart and did so with grace and sincerity. Seated in the body of the hall were the State President, the State Commissioner and other V.I.P.'s, but literally, those who took the stage were the young people themselves, visual proof that Guiding is to-day, as it has been for more than 60 years, an expression of contemporary life; a Movement that looks back in gratitude for our Founder's life and service, for the love and work of our World Chief Guide, for all the happiness and friendship of our Guide family and looks forward with faith—building on the past, in the present, for the future.



Guides give service at Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital during a strike

### A BONUS (continued from page 204)

me out to dinner in a very old Chinese restaurant. Leila called at my hotel next morning to say farewell, and we were able to do a little sightseeing and have lunch together.

In Singapore, I was again made welcome at Guide H.Q., and a Brownie Guider took me with her to a Brownie Training at the A.N.Z.U.K. military base.

I feel that all these contacts were a real bonus, which more than repaid me for anything I ever did for Guiding.

P. R. Hetherington.





**CONGRATULATIONS** to the recipients of the following:—

**GUIDERS' LONG SERVICE:**

15 years—Mrs. N. E. Launder.

**COMBINED LONG SERVICE:**

Mrs. A. J. Lacey, Wattle Park.

★ ★ ★

**THANKS BADGE:**

Miss K. M. Gregory (Forest Hill); Mr. R. Newell (Vermont L.A.); Mr. A. Jordan (Diamond Creek).

★ ★ ★

**APPOINTMENTS AND WARRANTS**

A warm welcome is extended to the following:—

**DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS:**

Mrs. W. F. Humphrey, Horsham; Mrs. D. B. Hamilton, Kilmore; Mrs. J. G. Hill, Hawkesdale; Mrs. L. J. Foster, Dandenong South; Mrs. R. G. Thorne, Croydon North/Wonga Park.

**GUIDE GUIDERS:**

Mrs. H. Williamson, 2nd Brandon Park; Miss E. R. Mewett, 1st Horsham; Mrs. M. Murdock, 1st Clayton West; Mrs. H. J. Lardner, 1st Keysborough.

**ASSISTANT GUIDE GUIDERS:**

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