

MATILDA

GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION, VICTORIA

APRIL
1976

VOLUME 53

NUMBER 9



April Action

We have reached that time of the year again.

What are the girls in your unit doing for April Action?

In this issue . . .

	Page
Alpine Adventure	197
Asia/Pacific News	208
Australian Handbooks	193
Commissioners' Conference	199
Conservation	200
Irene Fairbairn Fund	198
Leisure Time Activities	204
Local Association Section	206
Mini-Olympics	210
News from Units	196, 208, 209, 211, 213
Notices	200, 205, 216
Personnel Changes, etc.	215
Reporting from Russell Street	192
State Commissioner's Letter	191
Subscription Form	213
Thinking Day Celebrations	195
Training Calendar	214
Training Pages	210-204
Trefoil Guilds	212
Victorian Post Box	205

MATILDA

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From our State Commissioner

Dear Everyone,

At long last the Camping Department has had me spend a night under canvas! A group of us spent a very enjoyable time with the Camp Van at Bunyip looking at some land of which we have been offered the use. A total fire ban restricted us a little but after that weekend I felt I had done many new things, learnt much and was really on the way to earning my "Get Moving" badge.

Thinking Day was a very happy one for me this year. I spent the weekend at Heyfield and joined Gippsland Division for their Thinking Day celebrations. On Saturday night we had a most enjoyable and relaxed dinner with District Commissioners and Local Association Presidents. After a rather late night it was a little difficult to get to Glenmaggie Weir in time to join Heyfield Guides for breakfast. I thought it was well worth the effort though, as we sat by the weir enjoying our Mexican breakfast of Chile Con Carne and jellied fruits. The breakfast menus of the Districts were extremely varied ranging from Scottish porridge to "short stacks".

After a very impressive Guides Own, the Brownies joined the Guides for a delightful Thinking Day Ceremony with wonderful donations being made to the Thinking Day Fund on this special Thinking Day.

After the ceremony I was able to meet many of the Brownies and then join the Heyfield Brownies whilst we all had a picnic lunch in the park overlooking the water.

Jean Oldfield opened the new Syndal Guide Hall on Thinking Day. This is a new concept in Guide Halls being built in conjunction with the Education Department — it will be used by both the school and the Guides. I feel this is an exciting development and one we may see more of in the future.

This year we had a record number of Commissioners at our Commissioners' Conference held at Monash University, almost half the total number of Commissioners in the State. The theme of the Conference was "Take a Bearing" and during the weekend we travelled around the eight points of our Guide Program. Dame Edith Bolte, a past Guider, Commissioner, opened the Conference and was able to renew old friendships and meet many new friends.

A pleasant feature at the Guides Own was the address given by the Honourable Michael Baden Powell.

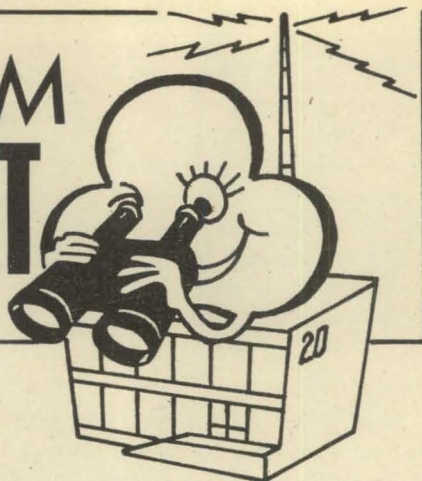
Saturday was a beautiful day but on Sunday when we moved out to Enjoy the Out of Doors it poured with rain. I felt so sorry for the girls who had set up their light-weight camps, built bridges and were cooking in the rain — especially as most of them had been under the same sort of conditions on the day of Princess Margaret's visit.

One aspect of the Conference worried me a little — the number of questions in the Question Box which could have more easily been answered by contacting the Advisers, Peg Barr or myself. I do hope that you all feel that you can bring your troubles to us, no matter how large or how small. This is one of the reasons we are there and by having Commissioners call to see us we get to know you all.

1st March was a truly exciting day for Guiding in Australia. This was the day we launched the new Australian Guide Handbook and the Brownie Guide Book. The Brownie Guide Book was written by Jean Haley and illustrated by Mrs. and Miss Pascoe — all Victorians. The Guide Handbook was written by Linley Bartlett of N.S.W. The Ranger Guide Handbook has been on sale a short while. So we now have three books written for our Australian girls and Australian conditions. I am sure they will be a great thrill to all members both young and old.

(Continued on page 196)

REPORTING FROM RUSSELL STREET



OPEN DAY FOR ALL COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, 20th July, is our Open Day for Commissioners this year and no doubt this date is already written in all Commissioners' diaries. The Division Commissioners' Meeting will also be held on that day, too, and stimulating programmes for all are assured. If there are any topics you would like to have included in the day's activities or you have any suggestions at all, please submit them to the State Secretary by the end of May.

GET MOVING —

THE STATE COMMISSIONER'S CHALLENGE

Have your girls taken up the State Commissioner's Challenge yet? If so, you will be interested to know that the Get Moving Badges are now available in the Guide Shop — price 10 cents. This badge was designed by Felicity Turnbull, and we congratulate her on it. Thanks are due to the other members who sent in ideas as to what form the badge should take.

Where to wear this badge? Brownies — above cuff on left sleeve; Guides — right breast below World Badge.

AUSTRALIAN SCOUT JAMBOREE

The Scout Association has invited the Guide Association to help staff the hospital at the 11th Australian Jamboree, which is to be held at Rossmoyne Park, Dandenong, from 30th December, 1976, to 7th January, 1977, and applications from Rangers and Guiders are now being invited. If you would like to help at this exciting happening, please send your name and address to our Camping Adviser, Mrs. K. Lamond, c/o Headquarters, enclosing a stamped, addressed envelope so that an application form and further details can be sent to you.

GUIDE SECTION — QUEEN'S GUIDE

Many Queen's Guide applications have been complicated by the fact that certain badges were biennial when earned on the 1971-73 syllabi, whilst in the 1974 syllabi most of these are "over 13" badges. As from 1st

April, the following procedure has been adopted as regards those badges now listed for "over 13", i.e., First Aid, Child Nurse, Firefighter, Home Nurse and Lifesaver:—

If the Guide earned these badges or their 1971-73 equivalent after she was 13 years old, they will be accepted without need for a re-test. If any of these badges were earned at an earlier age, the Guide must complete the current syllabus after her 13th birthday.

Other previously biennial service badges will have the accreditation as listed on pages 55 and 56 of the current Handbook, Part 2, and there is no need for re-test.

BROWNIE GUIDE SECTION

A Brownie Guide Cloth Pack Holiday Badge is now available for sale in the Guide Shop for Brownie Guides to wear on Pack Holiday uniform at a cost of 5 cents each. It is to be worn on the left breast on the yellow tee-shirt of their camp uniform.

WORLD BUREAU BADGE

Would all Guiders please note that the World Bureau Badge is no longer to be worn on the Brownie Guide or Guide uniform. This badge is still available in the Guide Shop and may be purchased to sew on camp hats, blankets etc. The **Irene Fairbairn Badge** may be worn on the uniform in place of the World Bureau Badge.

CAMPING DEPARTMENT

Camp Lists — Guiders, please alter your lists as follows to keep them up-to-date.

Lingbogol — Change of Booking Secretary until September — Miss M. Binns, 2 Junction Street, Ballarat, 3350. Phone Ballarat 31 3483.

Mittagong — Change of Booking Secretary — Mr. L. G. Dunsmuir, Lot 30, Rigel Road, Lara, 3215. Phone Geelong 82 1619.

Island Bay Ranch — Phillip Island — suitable for indoor camps — Apply to Mrs. B. Jeffery, Churchill Road, Newhaven, Phone (059) 56 7288.

Australian Handbooks

At last, the Brownie Guide and Guide Sections have their own Australian Handbooks.

The Australian Ranger Guide Handbook Parts 1 and 2 were introduced in August, 1975, and on Monday, 1st March, 1976, the Australian Brownie Guide Book, My Brownie Guide-Mini-Book and the Australian Guide Handbook Part 1 were released for sale.

Guiders are reminded that a member does not have a complete Handbook unless she has the two parts — the main handbook and the book which contains the syllabi for Interest Badges etc. Until now the Guide Shop has not sold a Guide Handbook Part 1 without a Part 2 nor a Brownie Guide Handbook without a copy of the Brownie Guide Interest Badges booklet. However, it is expected many Brownie Guides and Guides will want to buy one of the new Handbooks but they already have their Interest Badges books, so from now on the two parts of the Brownie Guide and Guide Handbooks will be sold separately.

In future when a Guider is ordering for a new Brownie Guide or Guide it will be important that she asks for the two parts of the Handbook required. If a Brownie Guider orders Brownie Handbook Parts 1 and 2 (even though they are not named in this way) the Guide Shop will know what to send.

There is now only one Brownie Guide Mini-Book and it is essential that Recruits have both the complete Handbook and the Mini-Book when they join.

The prices of the new Handbooks and their related Interest Badges books are as follows —

For Brownie Guides

Australian Brownie Guide Book ...	\$1.60
Australian Brownie Guide Interest Badges	0.15
My Brownie Guide Mini-Book	0.10
Clear Plastic Cover for main Handbook	0.20

For Guides

Australian Guide Handbook Part 1	\$1.60
Australian Guide Handbook Part 2	0.20
Clear Plastic Cover for Part 1	0.20



Mrs. Jean Haley, author of the new Australian Brownie Guide Book, shares it with her own Brownies in Blackburn South.

From Brownie Guide Adviser — Mrs. J. Cooper

It is recommended that all Brownie Guiders purchase copies of the new books without delay. The Brownie Guide Handbook sold until the end of 1975 is to be phased out of use by December, 1977.

Some points to note in the Australian Brownie Guide Book

Note the sections called **Question Corner**. They frequently indicate that the Pack or individual Brownie has a choice of activity. Each Pack thinks up its own opening welcome, getting into Pow-Wow Ceremony, quiet sign, etc.

Guiders and Pack Guide have names chosen by the Pack.

The Guide assisting in the Pack is a **Pack Guide**.

Brownies are encouraged to make their own bookmark or various shaped booklets in which to write or draw the various eight points they may decide to do.

p. 17 Pack chooses own Pack Emblem.

p. 37 Brownies around the world are introduced in various ways and not only on Thinking Day.

p. 51 Brownies make up ceremonies for presenting badges, etc.

p. 52 Note explanation of Ventures, also note the difference between Pack Good Turn and a Venture.

p. 55 Note number of Ventures is kept within a reasonable limit.

p. 62 Note explanation of a Challenge.

p. 72 Brownies Help at Home, extra suggestions — make bed; tidy room.

p. 74 Note suggestions on how a Brownie goes about doing an Interest Badge.

Although reference is made to certain Badges at appropriate places in the book, a Brownie may choose to do any Interest Badge at any time.

p. 78 Brownies make up their own "Going on to Guides" ceremony. Note: Going on to Guides, not Going up to Guides.

p. 102 Note name for anthem — Royal Anthem.

p. 115 Note new sections — Safety at the Beach; Safety in the Bush.

p. 119 Note new sections to Out-of-Doors Challenge.

From Guide Adviser — Miss Y. James

At last, our own handbook.

The new "Australian Guide Handbook" was written by an Australian for Australian Guides. The author asked Guides what they wanted in their book, and finding they asked for more ideas and ways to do things, wrote this book that way. It is a reference book, to be used throughout the three or four years in which a girl is a member of a Guide Company.

Parents and Guiders need to know that the Handbook we have been using is not obsolete. Keep on using these books also, for our 8 point Program has not changed. Of course new Guides will buy the Australian Guide Handbook and it would be good if each Patrol could get a copy. However, the older Guides do not need to buy a new book.

CHIEF GUIDE'S CHRISTMAS CARD

Thank you to those who sent contributions for the Chief Guide's Christmas Card.

We in Victoria, contributed \$70.68 towards the total of \$673.35.

Your signatures were sent on a Christmas Card provided by one of the Brownie Packs, to Lady Baden-Powell.

In her reply to me written on Christmas Eve she said, "I am overwhelmed by the kindness shown by Guides everywhere and your message comes as a reminder of my many visits and the sweet welcomes accorded me at all my "ports of call". Life for me is very different in this Nursing Home, but I am very lucky to be in this nice place and friends in the neighbourhood come to take me out for little picnics and the countryside of woodlands is very lovely.

My dear grandson, Robert, and Patience are angelic in calling in so often and I am going there for Christmas Day."

A letter from Patience (the Lady Baden-Powell) to Miss Lambie on receipt of the cheque says how much the Chief Guide's family appreciate "the love you always extend to our imminent relation and your continued financial support. She is proud of her Australian family and is so heartened by the good news of the strength and quality of Guiding which reaches her by reports, letters and magazines. Please pass on her thanks and love to your members."

G. BUCKLAND,



MATILDA



Thinking Day Celebrations

What did your unit do to celebrate the 50th Birthday of Thinking Day?

AT TERANG

The flag of Brazil, colourful saris worn by Guides and miniature dolls in national costume were part of the display illustrating International Guiding when Brownies, Guides and Rangers from Camperdown, Cobden, Noorat, Simpson, Terang and Timboon Districts joined with Scouts, visiting Guides from Warringal Division, families and friends at a Thinking Day service in St. Thomas' Church, Terang.

During the service, where a representative of each district took a special part, Miss Margaret Callister and Miss Rae McPhee spoke of their recent experiences in India on a service camp with eight Victorian Rangers. The girls spent ten days near Sangam teaching families to set up gardens and so alleviate some of the problems of providing food.

AT PARKMORE

In early morning sunshine, Guides and Brownies of Parkmore District took part in celebrating Thinking Day. After a short ceremony when each Brownie displayed a doll representing a country belonging to our World Association, four Brownies took the big step on to Guides.

Bearing in mind the "Get Moving" challenge, each girl "hurdled" her own special challenges as she moved from her Pack towards the girls in her new unit.

Then — into the hall. Each Guide patrol played hostess to a Brownie six for breakfast.

Dozens of pancakes with lemon were consumed while Brownies discovered a little about their older sisters in the movement.

E. M. WALLBRIDGE.

AT SHOREHAM

Wattle Park District, their families and friends gathered at the Visitors' picnic area at "Iluka", our Shoreham campsite, for a Family Picnic.

A beautiful summer day, the sea breeze drifting through gaps in the hills made our Thinking Day picnic under the pine trees something to remember.

After touring the property we gathered for our Thinking Day ceremony.

Later the girls and their families concluded the day at the nearby beach.

We are fortunate indeed, to have such a delightfully situated camp site.

MARY LACEY.

AT KOORANGA CAMP SITE

Clayton, Oakleigh and Monash Districts joined together at Kooranga Camp site for a Family Picnic Day. Each unit took part by displaying various activities such as knot and rope work, outdoor camping, Brownie handicrafts, Brownie Ring, tenting, tracking, campfire singing. Rangers took part as First Aiders and also showed how to improvise with First Aid in the bush.

CATH JAMES.

AT SYNDAL

Thinking Day, 1976, a very special day in Syndal, was chosen for the opening of our new Guide Hall in the grounds of Syndal South Primary School. Our commemoration of Thinking Day took place under trees in the school ground, where many parents were present also. Brownies and Guides from all units in the District took part in the service.

Then, together with our many visitors, we moved to the front of our new hall where the two company Colour Parties stood near the porch, and two Brownies held a blue ribbon across the doorway. After speeches by School Committee President, Headmaster, a representative of the Department of Youth, Sport and Recreation, and District Inspector, our Assistant State Commissioner, Mrs. Oldfield, spoke to us, then with decorated scissors, cut the blue ribbon, and the door

was unlocked by the District Inspector. Colour Parties marched into the Hall, followed by all the Brownies, Guides, parents and guests.

Inside the Hall the District Commissioner, Mrs. Perkin, unveiled a plaque telling that the hall had been built by Education Department of Victoria, School Committee of Syndal South Primary School, and Syndal District Girl Guides. Mrs. Perkin told us that the first suggestion to build the hall had been made three years ago and that this was the first such scheme attempted by the Girl Guides Association of Victoria in association with another organization.

Afternoon tea was then served by Local Association members and the School Mothers' Club.

The hall, about 48 feet x 24 feet, includes two store-rooms, one each for school and Guides, dressing rooms, and a servery. Inside walls are beautiful wood panelling with high windows whilst the outside is made of pebbled cement wall tiles to match other school buildings. The building is used as an all-purpose room by the school from 9 a.m. to 3.30 p.m., and may not be used for a regular classroom except in extreme circumstances, and is used by Brownies and Guides and Local Association outside school hours. Department of Youth, Sport and Recreation made a handsome grant to Syndal District Guides towards cost of the hall and equipment. We were thus able to purchase 100 chairs and attractive curtains. Soon the outside wall will carry a large World Guide Badge to show that this is the home of Guiding in Syndal District.

MAREEN L. PERKIN.



Dear Matilda,

Birchip Brownie pack had a stall to raise money for the Thinking Day fund.

We cooked toffees, chocolate balls, coconut ice. And we had cakes, produce, dolls clothes, jam, chutney and comics.

1st Birchip Brownie Pack.

STATE COMMISSIONER'S LETTER

(Continued from page 191)

Our first meeting of State Council was held also on 1st March and much time was spent on the amendments to our Constitution, submitted by our Constitution Subcommittee. As so often happens time ran out and the meeting was adjourned until three weeks later. Mrs. Hopwood and some of the Rangers showed films of their Alpine Adventure when they hiked 100 miles through the Victorian Alps.

The Essendon Rangers, who visited Sangam over the Christmas holidays, held an Indian evening to thank parents, friends and Guiders who had helped them. They looked beautiful in their saris and during the evening we saw just how much they had gained from their three week trip — the wonderful friendships they had made, their better knowledge and understanding of the Indian culture and way of life, the service given to the community near Sangam and particularly an increased feeling of belonging to the World-wide Guide family. I only wish that more of our girls could have similar experiences to those enjoyed by these two groups. Who ever said that Guiding has lost its sense of Adventure!

I hope that you are making the most of the last of the nice weather and taking most of your meetings into the outdoors. Halls are fine in the winter but let us really show that we are an outdoor movement and do more things out of doors.

With best wishes to you all for a very happy Easter.

Love from,

Joan E. Grimwade



ALPINE ADVENTURE (Part 1)

Why do people climb mountains?

Are they looking for adventure, a challenge, a change from their city-bound lives to the freedom of open spaces, or curiosity — wanting to see for themselves places about which they have heard and read?

Whatever the reason — sixteen Rangers and Leaders set off on a 100 mile, 11 day hike across the "roof of Victoria". We followed the Alpine Walking Track which stretches 250 miles from Mt. Erica in Gippsland to Tom Groggin on the N.S.W. border. We selected a 100 mile section starting at Bindaree on the Howqua River, climbed Mt. Howitt, negotiated the Crosscut Saw to Speculation, on to Mt. Despair, the Razor, the Viking, across the Barry Mountains to Mt. Selwyn and Mt. St. Bernard to Hotham. We climbed Mt. Feathertop from Hotham, then crossed the Bogong High Plains to climb Mt. Bogong, and descend the Eskdale Spur to meet our bus ten miles from Tawonga. We called this trip the "Alpine Adventure".

Leaving Guide Headquarters on Sunday, we met our first problem at Yea. The bus broke down and we had to continue in the Yea school bus to start the hike at Bindaree. Because of this hold-up and the long, long climb up Howitt Spur to Mt. Howitt we were forced to stop at 8.45 p.m. and set up camp just before dark. During the night a storm blew up. Wind howled and roared and rain poured down. Our frail little one- and two-man tents were inflated with wind one moment and sucked out the next. Small wire pegs could not withstand the fury of the storm and many were ripped from the ground, leaving occupants holding their tents down waiting for the next onslaught.

Monday dawned eventually, enveloped in mist and rain. We had difficulty finding our track to the Crosscut Saw, (it resembles the teeth of a saw). We crossed it in mist, seeing only 100 yards around us, and not seeing on either side unfathomable drops called Terrible Hollow, Devil's Staircase and Horrible Gap. We were following Alpine Track markers, but these were often few and far between, and when most needed — they are not to be found. Thank goodness for maps and compass! We climbed Mt. Speculation, then camped near a creek. The wet tents we had carried all day were not very inviting,

but there was nowhere else to sleep. At this camp we met four boys we were to meet again and again as we were all bound for Hotham.

After breakfast on Tuesday the rain stopped. We shouldered our packs and headed for Catherine Saddle and Mt. Despair. From here we had superb views of the rugged rocky outcrop called the Razor. By this time the weather was very hot, and was to continue so for six days. We exchanged japa jackets and overpants for hats and sun-cream. Alpine Markers petered out as we climbed the rocky side of the Razor, and were not found till late that evening. That night Rangers' Own was held round the campfire. It had been much too late on Sunday and much too wet on Monday.

As we headed for the Viking next morning, it reared above us like a huge monster. We climbed its rocky slopes, and crawled through crevices. At last on the summit we had a breathtaking view of the Razor to the North and the Wonnangatta Valley to the south. The descent was slow and hazardous. It was very hot again and we were looking forward to water in the next saddle, according to our track notes. After searching in the next saddle, and the next, and the next, we found **no** water. We were forced to camp that night with only the water left in our water bottles. (We were carrying half a gallon each as we knew that water was scarce.) Water was strictly rationed. Imagine our dilemma — powdered soup, powdered milk, dehydrated meat and vegetables, dried fruit and rice, not to mention tea to drink — all needed water! So we switched the menu — to cheese and biscuits or bacon and egg. To cap it all it was New Year's Eve. It will go on record as the driest New Year's Eve ever. Even teeth cleaning was out of the question, until one of the Leaders produced an English toothpaste that needed no water. We sang Auld Lang Syne at 8 p.m. and went to bed very thirsty.

We greeted the New Year at 4 a.m. and left just after 5 a.m. to walk a few miles before sun rise. At 7.30 a.m. we met hikers camped on the track. Water was available 15 minutes walk from here. Packs were dumped and we set off down a steep rough

bulldozer track. It was delicious. We drank our fill, washed selves and shirts, and climbed the steep hill to a belated breakfast.

Luck was with us that New Year's Day and at about 1 p.m. we found water running from a spring on the roadside. Above the road the ground rose sharply, and on the other side was a steep drop, so we sat in the middle of the track and cooked last nights three-course dinner. By mid afternoon we arrived at South Selwyn where there used to be a hut — long since gone in a bushfire. On to Mt. Selwyn, known to bushwalkers as **the** most beautiful mountain. It has a splendid 360 degree view. We could trace our journey right from Mt. Howitt, recognize the Buffalo Plateau, and look forward to Bogong and Hotham. Camp that night was near a dugout, with water seven minutes down the hill into the gully. It was well worth the effort and the long walk back.

On Friday we rose at 4.30 a.m. as we had a long journey ahead if we were to reach Hotham that night. By this time some of the party had problems with their feet and progress was slow. Another hot day — we certainly appreciated the shade of trees and an unexpected water source. Beautiful gum-trees and grassy hills — pleasant walking except for heat and flies — but one thing you cannot control is weather! Eventually our track met the Alpine Highway five miles from Hotham. There is little pleasure in road walking so our four disabled members gratefully accepted a lift to the Snowbird Motel where we were to stay for two nights. The others walked on but were picked up by a friend of one of the Guiders, so arrived in "style" at the motel. Luckily this friend kindly provided transport home for the 4 who had to leave us at this point — one sick and three with bad feet. It was lovely to have a shower, a bed, and a meal cooked by someone else. We rang our Melbourne Base from Hotham. She was glad to hear we had survived the first six days, as this was the harder and less-well-known part of our trip.

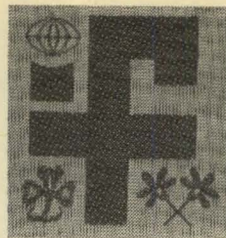
(To be continued)

COMING SOON

Rangers' Roaring 20s Debutante Ball.

9th July, 1976 at Malvern Town Hall.

Fancy Dress optional.



IRENE FAIRBAIRN FUND

The I.F. Badge

Guides and Brownies may wear the Irene Fairbairn Award cloth badge on their uniforms, and these are available from the Guide Shop, at 10 cents each.

This is a special bde, commemorating a very special person — Irene Fairbairn, our first Australian Chief Commissioner, and promoting the Fund which bears her name.

The badge bears the letter "I.F." for Irene Fairbairn, and depicts some of her great loves —

A world, full of Guides and Brownies belonging to a world-wide movement. Half of the proceeds from the sale of these badges will go to the I.F. Fund, which pays for selected younger members of the movement to travel interstate and overseas to meet and have fun with sister Guides at all sorts of gatherings of Guide members.

Daffodils. Mrs. Fairbairn's home in the Western District of Victoria was "Banongil" and each spring her magnificent garden was filled with daffodils by the thousand, many being her own "strains". She loved daffodils and was famous for them, and each year would open her garden to the public for some special cause.

The Guides trefoil. In guiding, not only was Irene Fairbairn loved in Australia but in India where she helped with the foundation of Sangam, our newest world home. She travelled to India to help with this project and firmly believed in the international aspect of guiding, and the participation in it by the younger members of our movement.

We hope to see an I.F. Badge on every Guide and Brownie uniform this year. There will be more news about the Irene Fairbairn Fund, so WATCH for it! We want you to know about Irene Fairbairn and her love for Guiding, and about the fund which was set up in her honour.

SHIRLEY FARROW.
Chairman I.F.F. Committee.

COMMISSIONER'S CONFERENCE

Take a Bearing was the theme of the 1976 Commissioners' Conference held at Monash University.

The more than 230 participants came from all parts of Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania, King Island and Sri Lanka.

Dame Edith Bolte opened the Conference on Friday night and, during the weekend we were challenged to take our bearings on the eight points of the Guide program. Wing Commander Hardiman spoke on Giving Service, Mr. Roland Becker talked about Keeping Fit, Mrs. Carmel Benjamin took us Exploring the Arts through a most interesting report on a recent trip to China as a member of a cultural delegation and Headquarters Training Team helped us with sessions on Thinking for Yourself, Keeping the Guide Law and Enjoying the Out of Doors. Mrs. Barbara Kearney spoke on Being Friendly and was assisted by seven Brownies from Fitzroy. The girls, from Malta, Greece, Italy, Turkey and Scotland, entertained us with dancing from each country represented. Becoming a Homemaker was taken by Mrs. Rosemary Hepburn.



(Photograph by G. Thomopoulos)

Campfire, always a time of relaxation and frivolity, lived up to expectations. The Committee performed elimination finals for the National Festival of Song and a Headquarters cast enacted a skit on Keeping Fit. Savitri Perera from Sri Lanka taught us a new song and a bush band, formed by players plucked from the audience displayed much talent.

The Guide Choir led the singing at Guides Own and the Honourable Michael Baden-Powell was guest speaker.

"Monash Mumbblings", the Conference newspaper provided information and conversation topics at meal times.

Mrs. Grimwade concluded the Conference with a report on W.A.G.G.S. and underlined the need for us all, as members of the Movement, to Take a Bearing, and make sure we are all moving in the same direction.

A.M.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Guide Choir members, Hilda Pullen and Val Treloar who, after singing at Commissioners' Conference Guides' Own, were involved in a car accident and spent several hours in hospital.

J.N.



CALLED TO HIGHER SERVICE

Those of us so privileged to know her were deeply saddened to learn of the sudden death, in January, of Mrs. T. A. Alston, one of Guiding's warmest friends.

Mrs. Alston was actively associated with the Movement for many years giving almost continuous service in a variety of capacities. She was District and Division Commissioner in Essendon area between 1948 and 1962. Her lovely home "Oaklands" was the setting for many a happy Guiding event or a "home-away-from-home" for a Guide traveller, and she will long be remembered for her warm personality, her quiet wisdom and kindly understanding.

Mrs. Alston was a valued member of our State Council up to the time of her death and Council Members join the many active Guide people, past and present, who knew her, in extending to her family our deepest sympathy.

HOSPITAL for BIRDS

You may remember I told you how close you can get to birds by learning to answer their calls, and you may be interested to hear about other bird friends of ours too.

We so often have bird "patients" brought to us that Bill has had to erect a large "hospital" cage where our visitors recover.

Often these birds have been hit by cars, mauled by cats or dogs, shot by small boys, or perhaps fallen prey to poisons used by farmers or gardeners.

Sometimes they may be fledglings fallen from a nest in high winds, but always we take them in and the battle between life and death begins right in our own living room.

Warmth is most important for sick or injured birds. They must be kept indoors for a while and it is during this stage that we first get to know them.

After the initial shock is overcome they reach the stage of feeding themselves. This is a fascinating spectacle.

Hawks and owls, meat eaters, use their strong, needle sharp talons and curved beaks for ripping and tearing their food (usually small rodents, mammals or birds).

Barney our barn owl friend, became fond of sparrows and mice fed to him in a darkened room.

Seizing his prey in his beak, he would hold it with one foot, crush the skull with his beak and swallow the morsel in one gulp. Sparrows he plucked systematically till they were quite featherless — (the room looked like a pillow fight battle field)!

Hours later Barney would give a little "hic" and regurgitate a small rounded pellet of feather, fur and bones — those parts his body would not use.

Boris, the boobook, had similar habits, but he and Jack Kookaburra did not mind fresh steak if live-food was scarce.

By the time Jack's wing was healed, neighbours were being treated to raucous cacklings at dawn and dusk. After his release it was a relief to sleep past 5.00 a.m.!

Bob Hawk, the prettiest of our hawk type visitors was of the white phase of grey goshawk.

He had been shot and since the girls were away, their room was converted into an

instant indoor aviary by draping sheets over everything in sight!

Within a few days, Bob would perch on the wardrobe, his pure white body contrasted with brilliant yellow legs. He would utter a shrill whistle when it was time for his evening meal.

He would land on top of the opened door and reach down to delicately take meat from my hand. It was hard to imagine him as a swift killer.

An unusual guest was the little golden bronze cuckoo who knocked himself out by flying into a window and falling into a nearby rubber boot.

His diet was hairy caterpillars so a search party went out for likely food.

A bit groggy at first, and extremely timid, he eventually perched on a cushion and began to show interest in the colourful vine caterpillars we found for him.

Suddenly he seized one and with a swift thrashing motion of his head, he squashed the grub and swallowed the morsel ravenously.

Three or four caterpillars were an adequate meal for the pretty, brilliant bronze and green fellow and he was fit to be released after a couple of days rest.

ANNE L. FRASER



FOR SALE

Two Commissioners' jackets, skirts (Size 32B and 34B). Excellent condition. Dry cleaned \$20 each.

One District Commissioner's hat 21" \$2.00. Apply Mrs. J. Evans, 232 2375.

GUIDE PENS

Order now from Mrs. G. Richardson, "Boorana", Woorndoo R.S.D., Mortlake, 3272. Sell for 25 cents each.



KNOTTY PROBLEMS

Purchase and Care of Ropes

"The right rope for your purpose"

TYPE	USE	LENGTH	CARE
String (white)	Parcels Camp gadgets	Use from ball	Keep outer plastic cover on ball
Fine cord	Practice and teaching lashings. Grommets Lashing ends of heavy ropes.	1m.	Dip ends in paint and/or whip with thread. Fold in four, tie with double overhand. Store in labelled container.
Round cord	Halyards for flags Bedding rolls	Suitably long with no joins 2m.	Whip ends Don't lose in camp Fold, double overhand
Window sash cord	Skipping ropes Practice knots	"nose to toes" 70cm-1m.	Whip ends, store on hangers Dye different colours
Clothes line	Practice screening Flag poles Clothes line	7m. lengths are easily handled.	Whip ends securely Store coiled and hanging

KNOT SENSE

When teaching . . .

In groups . . . stand with back to guides and hold arms above head.

Individually . . . stand behind guide with your arms over her shoulders. Give clear, slow directions, one step at a time.

Repeat as often as necessary.

"Practice makes perfect"

Dye practice ropes and cords different colours. Fasten ends of all ropes by either back splicing or lashing.

Nylon ropes and cord ends will weld together if held carefully over flame; especially useful for sheathed cord.

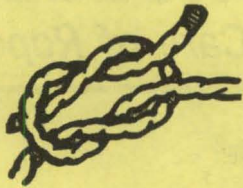
Plastic paint will make fine cord ends firm. Use marlin spike on pocket knife to loosen tight knots.

Do not cut existing ropes — think of a use for them e.g. games, rope bridges, if you need shorter lengths, consider the purchase of new ones.

Make sure ropes are dry before storing. For convenient storage, bend a wire coat-hanger into a "U" and suspend in cupboard. This makes it easy to select correct rope without having to search through a sack.

BUSHMAN CHALLENGE

REEF KNOT



Use for joining two ropes of equal thickness where pressure is maintained when knot is in use e.g. bandage, parcel.

To teach . . . Left over right and under. Right over left and under.

To undo a tightened reef knot, hold both ends and push together working ropes loose.

Activities . . .

1. Work in pairs, give each guide a rope end. With one hand behind back, join the ropes with a reef knot.
2. Tie a reef knot with the feet.
3. Two guides tie the knot by walking round each other while holding one end of a rope.
4. Tie a reef knot behind your back.
5. Relay. Each team has a skipping rope which is tied into a circle with a reef knot. The leader of the team climbs through it, passes the circle to the guide behind who does the same. Repeat till all have had a turn. Does this knot stand up to the uneven pressure to which it is subjected?

SHEET BEND



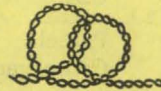
Use for joining ropes of different thicknesses or wet ropes.

To teach . . . Make a loop, "rabbit hole" in one end of thicker rope, using another rope of different thickness and, if possible, colour; tell the story "the rabbit comes out of his burrow, runs behind the tree, and goes under his own trail, and is caught." Pull the long end of the thinner rope to catch the rabbit.

Activities . . .

1. Give groups equal number of assorted ropes, see which group can join them all up correctly first.
2. Have two ropes to join for skipping "snake jump"; does the knot stay firm?

CLOVE HITCH



Use

This knot is used to anchor the uprights of roped constructions.

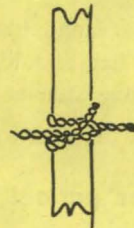
To teach . . . Make one loop left over right, make beside it a second loop left over right, without twisting it, lay second loop on top of first, right over left. Place over pole.

Make sure the guides understand how the rope lies when knot is complete.

When using several clove hitches in a rope e.g. screening, rope ladders, make sure rope travels in one direction without bending back over itself. This knot can be easily loosened by pushing ends into the knot. As this hitch is self-tightening, **NEVER** use to tie up living creatures.

Activities . . .

1. Tie knot over a pole with fixed ends.
2. Two guides hold ends of long rope, two or three hold poles 6-8 feet apart between, one guide ties clove hitch at top of each pole, making sure rope follows through. Give each guide a turn by changing places.



ROUND TURN AND TWO HALF HITCHES



Use to attach guy lines to pegs.

To teach . . . Always stand or kneel with your back to the centre of the construction e.g. tent, flag pole, with the guide beside you facing the same way. Remember, "down on the left, round once, up on the right." On the standing rope i.e. the rope bearing the strain, tie two half hitches.

This knot can be easily adjusted in difficult weather conditions. Teach the guide how to move the knot without undoing it.

SQUARE LASHING

Use to hold cross pieces of wood together when making gadgets.

To teach . . . Begin with a clove hitch on the upright below cross piece. In wrapping, rope goes outside previous turn, around cross piece and inside previous turn around upright. "Wrap thrice. Frap twice". Wrapping holds the cross pieces together. Frapping tightens the ropes to give stability. Finish with clove hitch or reef knot.

MORE IDEAS

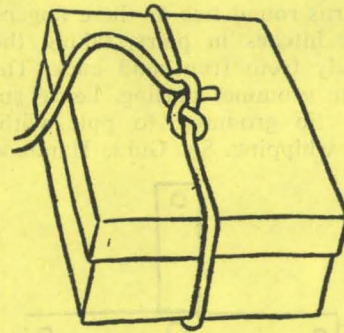
Rope Ladders

Use clove hitches, alternating lie of rope above and below and each end of cross bars.

Clothes Lines

Attach to trees or poles with clove hitches or round turn and two half hitches. Untwist ply of rope and insert piece of material — no need for clothes pegs; use heavier rope for wet coats and trousers.

Parcels



Tie up parcels and bedding rolls using figure-of-eight knot, securely. Play tossing relays with them to see how well they stay together.

"IN SERVICE TRAINING"

The idea of this scheme is for experienced Guiders to help new leaders when they first join the Movement. We would like to be able to send these leaders to work with an experienced Guider for a period of approximately 4-6 weeks. The leaders should be involved in the planning of as many Unit activities as possible, particularly Pow-Wow, P.L. Council or Ranger Unit Council, and generally be given the opportunity of discussing the Guiding Program with the Guider.

Experienced Guiders will be nominated by their Regions and will then be approached by the Training Department. If the Leader is willing, a request will be made by the Region Training Adviser to the District Commissioner concerned and if it is convenient to the Guider, the D.C. will be told who the new leader is, and we would then like the Unit Leader to get in touch with the new leader and invite her to come to the unit.

By doing this we hope to make new leaders feel welcome and provide them with Guiding background before they attend training.

If you are approached to give assistance with "In Service" Training we hope you will find it both profitable and enjoyable.

PHYL THIELE,
State Training Adviser.

FLAG POLES

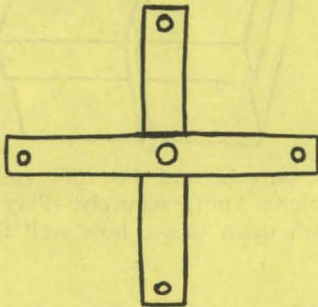
To make a practice set of equipment for the Company, make halving joints on centre of two 3 feet x 2½ inches x 1 inch pieces of wood. Put together as a cross.

Drill a centre hole to fit one inch dowling, 6 feet long. Make bevelled holes at each end of cross pieces. Make four pegs one foot long to fit in these holes.

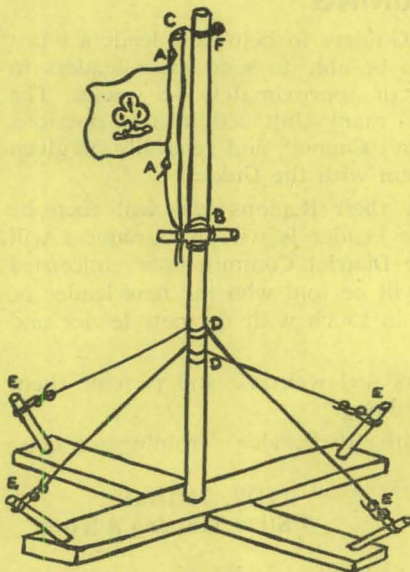
At top of central pole make a groove for grommet to fit without slipping.

Grommet

Using fine cord, leaving a 4 inch tail, make three turns round two or three fingers, making half hitches in pairs, taking the cord alternately from front and back. This prevents the grommet curling. Leave sufficient cord to tie grommet to pole with West Country whipping.



- A. Sheet Bend.
- B. Square Lashing.
- C. Grommet.
- D. Clove Hitch.
- E. Round Turn and two Half Hitches.
- F. West Country Whipping.



LEISURE TIME ACTIVITIES

For Brownie Guides and Guides

At Headquarters

On Tuesday, 18th May, and Wednesday, 19th May.

Charge: \$2.50 per day (9.30 a.m.-3.00 p.m.) Activities include basketry, clay modelling enamelling, puppetry etc.

Closing Date — 7th May **NO LATE APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED.**

Collect application forms from reception desk at Headquarters, or by post from Mrs. M. Pritchard, 16 Comer Street, East Brighton, 3187. Please enclose stamped, self addressed envelope.

Adult help is **URGENTLY** required for these activities. Duties range from tea making to teaching a skill.

Please contact Marguerite Pritchard (92 3708) if you wish to share some of your "leisure time" with the girls.

LOCAL



ASSOCIATION SECTION

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

A diplomat is someone who thinks twice before saying nothing.

QUESTION TIME

Local Association Conference

Q: What are the aims and duties of the Local Association?

A: The Local Association supports the District Commissioner in her work with her District and helps keep a good liaison with parents. The booklet, "How, When and Why of Local Associations" clearly sets out the aims and duties of Local Associations.

Q: What is the role of the District Commissioner?

A: The District Commissioner administers Guiding in her District according to the rules of the Girl Guides Association and is responsible for everything connected with Guiding in that District.

Q: How can Local Association members promote Guiding in their own District?

A: This can best be done by good publicity, either by talking about Guiding by members as they move in their different circles or by putting up displays of posters and photographs which are available from the Public Relations Department.

Q: Our problem is finding a District Commissioner. Do other Districts have this problem?

A: It is not the role of the Local Association to find a District Commissioner, but Local Association members may recommend names of suitable people to the District Commissioner.

Q: In country Districts where help is often limited, the ruling for a restricted term for Local Association office bearers and Commissioners causes hardship. Could this be more flexible? If unable to do this, could you suggest a solution?

A: The rules for the terms of Local Association office bearers are set down in the Local Association Constitution. In some Local Associations, office bearers move from one office to another and keep changing this

way. If there are difficulties, and you cannot comply with the Constitution, ask your Commissioner to seek help from Headquarters. Regarding Commissioners in this respect, the Division Commissioner is the one to follow this up. Five years is the usual term for a Commissioner, but exceptions are made in particular cases.

Q: Maryvale Local Association cannot attend the Conference but would like you to discuss holding Conferences in country areas so we can attend.

A: It is not really practical to hold State Conferences in a country area as distances would be so great for some people. Regions are encouraged to hold Conferences for their uniformed and Local Association members when a team from Headquarters can be invited. Another suggestion is for two or three Regions in one area of the State to have a large combined Conference and invite a bigger team from Headquarters.

Q: Why are Guides only allowed to collect for three main charities which excludes them from collecting for perhaps much needier charities in their own Districts? Could this choice be left to the District Commissioner?

A: Guides are not only allowed to collect for three main charities — they can work for any charity they choose. The girls are the ones who should decide which charity this will be, with the help of the District Commissioner.

Q: Regarding Guide Insurance Policy with Mercantile Mutual Insurance. Is there some way in which the policy could be adjusted to allow for a more realistic cover, considering rising costs due to inflation?

A: At our request, Mercantile Mutual Insurance is investigating to see if cover can be increased. However, for the present small premium of 10 cents for children and 15 cents for adults, it is unrealistic to expect them to increase the benefits. The benefits, if you wish, can be doubled or trebled by doubling or trebling the premiums, if your Local Association can afford to do this.



VICTORIAN POST BOX

Over the past few weeks we have received several "urgent" requests for pen friends from Guides who are doing the Guide Knowledge Badge as part of their Queen's Guide Badge. Some of these Guides have left it very late indeed for links to be made. While we will do our best to help them, it may not be possible to link them in time. So please, Leaders, and also Guides who are hoping to gain this coveted distinction, please ensure that requests for pen friends are sent in with ample time for the necessary links to be made, bearing in mind too the possibility that the link overseas may, through some unforeseen circumstances not receive the first letter.

We also have information from Mrs. K. Williamson, the Australian Post Box Secretary, that she has been swamped with overseas requests for Australian pen friends.

Would you like to have an overseas pen friend and learn about **her** country from **her** letters.

There is no limit to the number of requests each member can make, but please remember that **each** request should include your name, address, **date of birth and a stamped self-addressed envelope** and be sent to Mrs. A. Blackburn, Post Box Secretary, Lowland Farm, Box 19, P.O., Macedon, 3440.

BADGERS CLUB

The Badgers Club, a group of Scouts and Guides interested in collecting both metal and cloth badges is compiling a badge history of both movements. Any person interested or with badges of interest should contact the Secretary, P.O. Box 38, Fairfield, Victoria, 3078.

W.A.G.G.S./U.N.E.S.C.O. GIFT COUPONS

Are you looking for an overseas service project?

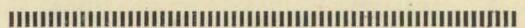
Does your unit want to look wider and help a worthwhile Guiding program in another country?

Do you know that the Mexican Girl Guides Association has been running imaginative literacy programs for a long time?

Two years ago they set up the ATEPEC Literacy centre at a guide campsite, catering for 100 underprivileged children from the surrounding rural community. The children, aged 5 to 14 years, attend daily and are taught reading and writing. The Guides pay teachers and act as supervisors as well as providing all school equipment and materials needed. They also give the children, mostly undernourished, one free meal a day.

Our help is needed to maintain this scheme and to develop it further. U.N.E.S.C.O. Gift Coupons cost \$5.00 each and buying these is a good way for us to help.

Please direct enquiries about this scheme to Overseas Service Co-ordinator, Mrs. Shirley Farrow, 3 Merrion Grove, Kew, 3101.



1977 GIRL GUIDE CALENDARS

BROWNIES, GUIDES, RANGERS, LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS, TREFOIL GUILDS!

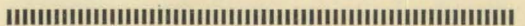
Are you interested in this money raising project?

1977 price, depending on quantity ordered, is expected to be in the vicinity of 75 cents per calendar, to be retailed at \$1.00, providing a 25 cent profit for your group.

The more calendars ordered, the lower the price will be. Also unless 15,000 are ordered, printing costs will prohibit the undertaking of this project.

Orders must be in multiples of ten and reach Guide Headquarters by 31st May.

Please act now in your group and send orders to Calendars Sub-Committee, 20 Russell Street, Melbourne, giving your name, address and telephone number but **no money at this stage.**



Q: Has the Girl Guides Association thought about or discussed the policy of not allowing a levy for a particular item of expense? In many cases where two parents are working, they are unable to help with fund-raising but are willing to contribute in cash. In our case, we asked for \$1 donation per year per family to pay for cleaning the hall and were told we could not make the levy.

A: It is against our policy to have levies, but we are agreeable to have a voluntary contribution system, as long as Local Association members decide that this is what they all want. The decision must be reviewed each year to make sure all members still want this system of fund-raising. It must be a voluntary contribution and not a demanded payment. If a letter is sent out, it must be very carefully worded, and left to the family to decide if they will contribute and how much they will give. On the suggestion of Headquarters formulating a draft letter for Local Associations to use, members present indicated this would be a help to them.

Q: Would it be possible to have an ideas book for Local Associations for fund-raising?

A: There does not seem to be a need for an ideas book, as new ideas are often published in the Local Association Section in "Matilda". If you have any new or different ideas which would be of interest to others, please send them in.

Q: More about Annual Meetings and how they can help with Public Relations.

A: Public Relations is a very important part of your work because you are the people who have to talk about Guiding. Many Local Association Trainings are being held throughout the State and at these, you are told how to stimulate interest in your District Annual Meeting and how you can help generally with Public Relations in your Districts.

Q: Is it possible for Local Associations to borrow display material from Headquarters for Annual Meetings and other District functions?

A: The Public Relations Committee can be invited to put up a display in a shopping complex or at a big function, but there are photographs which can be borrowed from Headquarters with display boards which fit into a small car boot. These must be collected and returned promptly.

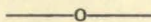
Q: Which avenues are NOT open to the Local Association from which to raise funds?

A: We do not allow fund-raising through raffles in the Guide Movement. Compulsory payments or levies are not permitted, as already mentioned. Up until this year, door-to-door collections for outside charities were not allowed, but as an experiment, our girls have been allowed this year to do this for State-wide appeals or local appeals in country areas, provided they never go collecting fewer in number than in pairs. This experiment will be assessed soon to decide its future.

Q: Can the Local Association give their money (or part of it) to outside interests, or are they to raise money solely to provide their Guides/Guiders with necessities?

A: Generally speaking, money raised for Guiding must be used for Guiding purposes. If people outside the Movement have contributed, then hear that the money has gone to some other cause, they would naturally be very upset. For a special appeal, such as the Darwin Cyclone, there is no reason why a donation cannot be given by the Local Association at the time, and a special fund-raising activity held at a later date to replace this donation.

Further questions, which time did not permit being answered at the Conference, also ones which came in after the Conference will be answered and published in full in this section in later issues.



RECIPE CORNER

Chop Suey

1 lb. rissole steak; ½ cabbage; 2 table-
spoons rice; 2 teaspoons curry powder; 1
packet chicken noodle soup; 2 onions; 2 cups
water.

Fry meat in a little butter until cooked. Shred cabbage, place in large saucepan with rice, curry, chicken noodle soup, sliced onions and water. Simmer until rice is cooked, add cooked meat to mixture and mix well together. Serve piping hot.

Please send articles for this Section to Mrs. D. O. Oldfield, 4 Embling Road, Malvern, 3144.

ASIA/PACIFIC NEWS

Malaysia has been given the responsibility of compiling the 7th edition of the Asia/Pacific Newsletter.

This issue contains reports of Australia's Festival of Song, our Patrol Leaders gathering —Jumbunna, our National Development projects, particularly in inner suburban areas where children come from many different countries, and Queensland Guides, who won the Walter Donald Ross Trophy for their work after severe floods in Brisbane.

It also carries news of how International Women's Year has increased in the women of Malaysia an awareness of the important role women play in the world today, and the inter-relationships between the economics, political, social and cultural status of women and equal rights and opportunities for improvement in all aspects of life for themselves and for the nation.

Selangor Girl Guides Association, in conjunction with the National Council of Women's Organisations organised a series of exhibitions, pageants and service projects, culminating in a program called "Women on the March". About 5,800 women from all walks of life marched in groups at the final Rally to show the progress of Malaysian women through the years.

150 units in all, took part. Each contingent, comprising of 30 women with one leader in full dress uniforms, representing all branches of the Girl Guide Movement and other uniformed voluntary organisations, the Police Force, Army and Navy and Voluntary Auxiliary Forces. The Vanguard, the mothers and Home-makers were followed by women in Industries, Agriculture, Government Departments, Cultural Groups, Quasi-Government Departments and Agencies, Technical and Clerical services, mechanised Units, Women's Associations' Sports Clubs, Student bodies, Professional Services etc.

"Women of the Future", on aspirations to greater heights of achievement formed the rear guard, marching to the music provided by the Royal Malaysian Police band.



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Dear Miss Barr,

I am commanded by The Queen to ask you to convey her warm thanks to the Girl Guides of Victoria for their kind message of loyalty, sent on the occasion of the presentation of The Queen's Guide Awards.

Her Majesty received this message with much pleasure.

Yours sincerely,

D. HESELTINE.

GUIDE CONCERT PARTY

Largest, most successful and most recent project for 1st Springvale Guide Company was the "Variety Show" we performed for elderly citizens of Springvale.

This was our second such show and was enjoyed by actors and audience alike. Acts were all made up by the guides and leaders.

After the girls presented flowers to Mrs. Williams, who helped tremendously with props and costumes, and to our three leaders, we all enjoyed afternoon tea together.

JO-ANNE BELL

HOSPITAL CEREMONY

Third Ormond Guide Company held a memorable meeting in the Conference Room of the Queen Victoria Hospital, by kind permission of Miss Playfair. Our leader, Mrs. M. Smith, recovering from recent operations, was able to wear her uniform to attend the presentation of the Queen's Guide badge to her daughter, Marie. (Our first Queen's Guide).

Elaine and Philomena, who made their Promise at the same meeting are not likely to forget that ceremony, and we finished the occasion with a party with our parents and friends.

FIONA CLARK,
3rd Ormond Company.



Last year all the girls in 2nd Dimboola Guide Company decided to learn to Crochet. So instead of wasting wool and time practising, they decided to make a patchwork rug for the old folk at Dimboola District Hospital.

Each guide made a square of a skein of wool. It took 49 squares (the more proficient crocheters made two).

LESLEY REID.

(Block by courtesy of "Dimboola Banner")

GET MOVING CHALLENGE

GET MOVING

Seen stalking near Churchill Park in very un-Guide like gear, 2 District Commissioners, 2 Guide leaders, 2 Brownie leaders, District Secretary, 2 Local Association mums and a mother of a Guide leader meeting Mrs. Grimwade's challenge of developing the three essentials for a healthy body — activity, nutrition and rest.

Activity — slow shuffle; nutrition — picking blackberries; rest — recovering from sore fingers whilst quenching parched throats and swapping ideas.

I think none of them will qualify for the Mini-Olympics!

The "Life, be in it" theme got a boost from the first ever Nepean Division Swimming Carnival, and so did the Thinking Day fund. The Carnival was held at Rosebud. As the pool was out of doors we were glad the evening was fine and dry.

The carnival was an experiment, and we have learned much to help with planning the "next time" that the girls are already talking about. Parents and friends were generous with their help and the evening was a great success.

Trophies were presented to 1st Dromana Brownies and 1st Rosebud Guides, and \$30 was put into the Thinking Day Fund.



MINI OLYMPIC GAMES



GUIDERS: CUT THIS OUT AND PUT IT ON YOUR NOTICE BOARD.

By now, you will have heard more about the Mini Olympic Games through your Region Commissioners, who have comprehensive notes on the whole program.

As it was impossible to circularise all units, we plan, each month in Matilda, to give you part of the detailed program so that **your** girls will be prepared for Region selection.

This selection will obviously be done in a variety of ways, and should be a great deal of fun.

For this month, while weather is still good and many units are holding Swimming Sports, here is the swimming program.

SWIMMING

Brownies

1. 20 Metres Freestyle, 4 in team.
2. 20 Metres Breaststroke Relay, 4 in team.
3. 20 Metres Medley Relay, 3 in team.
4. Olympic Challenge Team, 50 Metres Freestyle, 4 in team.

Guides

1. 100 Metres Freestyle Relay, 4 in team.
2. 50 Metres Breaststroke Relay, 4 in team.
3. 50 Metres Medley, 3 in team.
4. Life Saving, 2 in team.
5. Olympic Challenge Team, 100 Metres Freestyle, 4 in team.

Rangers

1. 100 Metres Freestyle. 1 girl only.
2. 50 Metres Breaststroke. 1 girl only.
3. 50 Metres Medley. 3 in team.
4. Olympic Challenge Team, 100 Metres Freestyle. 2 in team.
5. Field Event — First Aid, 2 in team.

Rangers: Field Event — 1: First Aid

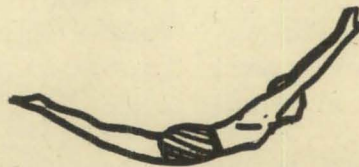
- One Ranger to be able to swim at least 100 metres and to be able to perform life-saving carry.

- Both Rangers to have good knowledge of the following First Aid measures: artificial resuscitation, treatment of burns, treatment for shock and transport of injured.

- Rangers will be given a mock-up sequence just prior to commencement of event. Marks will be given for speed, correctness of treatment and ingenuity.

- Equipment: Standard sized blanket provided by each team.

If you have any queries, please contact your own Region representative.



GUIDES IN PILOT SCHEME

Fifteen Victorian Guides in Pilot Scheme from Box Hill, Plenty and Terang enjoyed an exciting and unusual weekend camp at Britannia Park.

On the Saturday night the GIPS were among approximately ninety girls who partnered five hundred Venturer scouts at an open air barbecue and square dance at nearby Wesburn Park.

The boys were participating in the Venturer "Melbourne Gathering", and during their camp at Wesburn undertook such vocational and recreational activities as panel beating, use of power tools, chainsaws, and creative crafts.

An unexpected invitation to participate in "Mission Impossible" on Sunday afternoon was eagerly accepted by the GIPS who joined Rangers and girl Venturers to pit their strength against the boys.

The adventure course followed the theme of a battle, and such unexpected hazards as "leprechauns in trees", "crawling through sewers" and hidden "landmines" took their toll of the adventurous girls.

Climbing trees, lashed spars, submerging beneath logs in the creek, resurfacing to climb a rope up a sheer mud bank and liberal attacks of mud and flour bombs added to the hazards.

Spider style crawling across a single strand rope bridge was rewarded with plentiful flying mud and water. The girls emerged unrecognisable from their mud bath, but were cheered on by appreciative Venturers who followed their progress throughout the course.

Scouters expressed surprise at the girls' ability to size up and conquer hazards in faster . . . and at times more unorthodox . . . ways than the boys!

It took considerable shower time to remove evidence of the day's activities but the GIPS voted it the perfect conclusion to their year as members of the Pilot Scheme.

Some of the girls will now join Venturer units, others will go on to Rangers and some are undecided about their future.

Meanwhile, on behalf of all six GIPS units, a "thank you" to all who have advised and assisted us during the past exciting and challenging year. We all enjoyed taking part in the very worthwhile and now historical scheme.

ANNE L. FRASER.
Camperdown Division GIPS.

DISCOVERY WEEKEND

Terang railway station was the scene of some exciting renewals of acquaintance and apprehensive first-time meetings on Friday night when 34 Warringal Division guides arrived for a weekend in Terang.

The girls were accompanied by four leaders and while some had met at the Festival of Song last year, many were meeting for the first time.

Shyness was soon forgotten as visitors were made welcome and whisked away to homes or farms in the district to begin a weekend of activity.

On Saturday, a bus trip to Sherbrook River taught the visitors much about country life and the coastal geography, history and wildlife as they sought to fill their quiz sheets with information on shipwrecks, bird life and nature-craft generally.

After a picnic lunch, the young trippers were shown over the campsite and met Mortlake Ranger Unit, in camp for the weekend. Great interest was shown in the Guide and Brownie house and it is expected the Melbourne girls will be quite anxious to arrange a future holiday at the site.

A visit to Loch Ard Gorge followed a brief outline of its fascinating history and most of the guides were brave enough to venture into Eva Carmichael's cave, and for a few minutes to relive the drama and excitement of that girl's life.

The bus then travelled past these sites familiar to so many, but new and exciting to first-time visitors — Loch Ard Cemetery, Muttonbird Island, The Blowhole, Broken Head and Thunder Cave.

The journey home took in more of the coast including London Bridge, Peterborough and the Bay of Islands, and the rollicking singing busload arrived back in Terang in time to be taken by host families to see the milking on farms, to the drive-in, the swimming pool, the speedway and other areas of interest.

On Sunday there were many tearful farewells as the guests boarded the train for home.

From the Terang Express.

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ARGANA TREFOIL NEWS

Argana Trefoil Guild would like to thank everyone who helped to successfully promote the Trefoil Teatowel last year.

Of the 990 printed, 795 have already been sold. They have been sent as far away as America, Canada, England, Indonesia, Borneo and, of course, all over Australia, and New Zealand.

In England, our London Guide shop displayed it for a month thanks to the Frinton Guild of Essex.

Next issue is planned with a different design.

Our next project will be sets of table place mats and we hope to promote a 1977 wall hanging calendar towards the end of this year.

Many friends have been made through this teatowel and greetings have come from South Australia Trefoil and Frinton Guild, England to all Trefoils in Victoria.

Profits from the teatowels and from the Argana Trim Club, which incidentally is going "great guns", have paid for the next project, an eight pint urn and four slice toaster for Brownie Cottage and a four slice toaster for Guide House.

Argana Trefoil and Trim Club members enjoyed a day out at Britannia Park when the urn and toasters were installed in time for summer camps. The weather was perfect, many amusing and not so amusing incidents of past camping experiences were exchanged.

M.L.T.

TOWN AND COUNTRY TREFOIL GUILD

Our membership list shows 26 metropolitan and 15 country members, so we are aptly named. Our four meetings each year are held at Headquarters, often on the same day that State Council meets, to suit those who are members of both. At our March meeting, we decided to call our newsletter, which includes minutes, the Town and Country Trefoil Mininews. We also decided not to have life membership of the Guild.

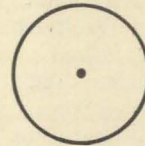
Our work is varied; we collect washed stockings and panty hose to send to a Leper Colony in New Guinea; one of our members

is co-ordinator for sorting and distribution of adult uniforms sent to Mrs. Kearney for the National Development Project. Several members offered themselves as speakers to be called on by the Recruitment Officer.

Members have almost completed a beautiful patchwork quilt, to be disposed of through a competition based on the number of stitches used. Money thus obtained will be donated to the Shoreham Fund.

Mrs. Elizabeth Cook, leader of 4th South Yarra Company, told us about the challenging and exciting program planned for the Hong Kong International Camp in April. She has been chosen as leader of the Australian Contingent to the camp which celebrates 50 years of Guiding in Hong Kong.

E.T.



Mrs. Elva Wilkie (Slade) was enrolled as a Guide in Ballarat in 1934.

She was assistant Guide leader in Alphington and later spent 12 months with 1st Rosanna Company before becoming leader of 1st Olympic Village Company in 1962.

After a rest from active guiding while her family was young, she became leader of 1st Heidelberg Company for three years.

During her years of non-active guiding, Mrs. Wilkie maintained her interest through the Local Association, as a tester and through Warringal Trefoil Guild of which she was a member at the time of her death early this year. Mrs. Wilkie will be sadly missed by her many guiding friends.

M.M.

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SUBSCRIPTION FORM — "MATILDA"

Note: Copies of "Matilda" will be automatically issued free to:— Each Commissioner (but not Assistants), Each Guider in charge of a unit (but not Assistants), and certain other personnel.

PLEASE NOTIFY CHANGES OF PERSONNEL AND ADDRESS PROMPTLY.

GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION

20 RUSSELL STREET, MELBOURNE, 3000

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BROWNIE REVELS

Our pack joined 5th Brighton, 4th Brighton and 1st Brighton Brownies for Brownie Revels in Landcox Park, East Brighton.

It was a lovely day and we enjoyed meeting many new friends in our varied activities.

On arrival we were given badges from other countries which divided us into groups for the activities to follow. We enjoyed semaphore, compass work, bark rubbings, nature creations and games. We also studied the Brownie Guide uniforms of our various "countries".

We concluded a very happy day with Brownie Bells. We took home many items we had made.

JANE PERRIER,
1st Brighton Beach Brownie Pack.

TRAINING CALENDAR

COMMISSIONERS AND UNIT LEADERS

with the necessary experience are welcome to apply for ANY Training. Applications should be sent **prior to the closing date** and be accompanied by the training fee and a stamped self addressed envelope. Training Fees are \$3.00 unless otherwise stated. **Early application for all trainings is recommended.**

Stage 1 Training

Ararat — 29th-30th May and 19th June — times 10.00 a.m. to 8.30 p.m. Saturday and 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Sunday. Applications to Mrs. A. Hucker, "Wallabadah", Lake Bolac, 3351 by **7th May**.

Headquarters — Thursday 27th May, 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th June, 1st, 8th, 15th July — time 7.30 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. Applications to Training Department, Guide Headquarters by **6th May**.

Horsham — Weekends 10th-11th July and 31st July-1st August — time 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Applications to Miss D. Pearse, "Edgbaston", Donald, 3840, by **21st June**.

Keilor — Weekends 3rd-4th July and 7th-8th August — time 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Applications to Training Department, Guide Headquarters by **14th June**.

Mildura — Weekends 31st July-1st August and 18th-19th September — 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Applications to Mrs. A. Smith, 10 Barry Avenue, Mildura, 3500 by **9th July**.

Pakenham — Weekends 26th-27th June and 17th-18th July — time 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Applications to Mrs. H. Lardner, 51 Bundeena Avenue, Noble Park, 3174 by **5th June**.

Stage 2 Training for Warranted Guiders

Note: Stage 2 training is aimed at helping you directly with your leadership role. Please assess your needs and list them on the application form.

Ararat — 29th-30th May and 19th June — time 10.00 a.m. to 8.30 p.m. Saturday and 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Sunday. Applications to Mrs. A. Hucker, "Wallabadah", Lake Bolac, 3351 by **7th May**.

Cardross/Merbein — Weekends 26th-27th June and 17th-18th July — time 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Applications to Mrs. R. Hocking, 812-14th Street, Mildura, 3500 by **4th June**.

Pyramid Hill — Weekends 3rd-4th July and 7th-8th August — time 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Applications to Mrs. R. Wilkins, P.O. Box 492, Bendigo, 3550 by **14th June**.

Pack Holiday Training

Riddells Creek — 9th-10th and 11th July — time 6.00 p.m. Friday to 3.00 p.m. Sunday. Applications, stamped addressed envelope and \$9.00 fee to Mrs. A. Watsford, P.O. Box 50, East Bentleigh, 3165 by **18th June**.

Patrol Leader Training

Mooroolbark — Saturday, 1st May — time 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Note: Leaders and Patrol Leaders to attend. Applications and \$1.00 fee to Mrs. H. Graham, 21 Warwick Road, Montrose, 3765 by **16th April**.

Local Association Training

Rushworth — Tuesday, 8th June — time 9.45 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. Applications plus \$1.50 per Local Association to Mrs J. Murphy, 73 Balaclava Road, Shepparton, 3630 by **18th May**.

Residential Training Week

Date — 21st-29th August. Subjects to include Stages 1 and 2, Pioneering and Orienteering, Learning Games (with aids) Singing Games etc. Cost to be advised. Further information available from the Training Department, Guide Headquarters.

Special Subjects for Brownie Guiders

Headquarters — Thursday 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th June, 1st July — time 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. Note: Application may be made for complete series or for individual days — please mark clearly on your form which days you wish to attend. \$1.50 for 5 days or 40 cents per day. Group limited to 20. **Content of Training may be found in the March issue of Matilda.** Application fee and stamped addressed envelope to be sent to Training Department, Guide Headquarters by **3rd May**.

Special Subjects for Ranger Guiders

Headquarters 7th-8th August — time 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Applications (including requests) fee and stamped addressed envelope to be sent to Training Department, Guide Headquarters by **19th July**.

Guide Knowledge

To help Guiders instructing their Guides in the Guide Knowledge Badge — Tuesday 27th April and 4th May — time 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. — Applications, \$1.00 and stamped addressed envelope to be sent to Training Department, Guide Headquarters by **15th April**.

Bushcraft Tour

Another opportunity is being given to members of the Movement to take part in our Third Bushcraft Tour. Previous tours have visited much of Victoria and we would like you to suggest places of interest and time of year for the 1976 tour. Please send suggestions to Training Department, Guide Headquarters by **30th April**.

CONGRATULATIONS to the recipients of the following:

Guiders' Long Service

(20 years) Mrs. B. De Marchi, Balwyn.
(10 years) Mrs. T. Hardie, Balwyn; Mrs. M. Minogue, Rye; Mrs. H. Wedd, Doncaster.

* * *

Thanks Badge

Mr. R. Campbell, Mulgrave; Mrs. J. Bassett, Yarraville; Mrs. R. Day, Yarraville; Mr. L. M. Willis, Euroa; Mr. G. J. Spittle, Allendale; Mrs. G. J. Spittle, Allendale.

APPOINTMENTS AND WARRANTS

A warm welcome is extended to the following:

REGION COMMISSIONER

Mrs. A. K. Beattie, Acheron.

DIVISION COMMISSIONERS

Mrs. H. L. Ebbs, Clifford; Mrs. R. T. Lawrence, Northern Suburbs; Mrs. G. Warner, Bulla; Mrs. A. E. Bertram, Goulburn Valley.

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Mrs. V. L. Oakes, Chadstone; Mrs. D. L. Linke, Williamstown; Mrs. J. D. Moody, Rye; Mrs. I. R. Oatley, Blackburn; Mrs. C. Van Dam, Benalla; Mrs. B. G. Sedgwick, Anglesea; Mrs. P. Goldenberg, East Brighton; Mrs. I. E. Panton, Kerang; Mrs. H. P. Packer, Mt. Evelyn; Mrs. I. A. MacDonald, Waaia; Mrs. W. McLaren, Simpson; Mrs. R. L. Williams, Ringwood; Mrs. G. B. Colman, Girgarre; Mrs. E. W. Dettmann, Woomelang; Mrs. J. Nolan, Geelong City.

Assistant Ranger Guider

Mrs. J. J. Beales, Ivanhoe Rangers ("S.R.S. Invincible").

Guide Guiders

Mrs. W. Moon, 1st Bruthen; Mrs. T. Wintels, 1st Niddrie; Mrs. R. J. McQueen, 1st Carisbrook; Miss G. Kenny, 1st South Oakleigh; Mrs. J. A. Wright, 1st Keysborough; Mrs. I. J. Jamieson, 2nd Keysborough; Mrs. K. Walter, 1st Solway; Miss J. M. Rogers, 2nd Melton; Mrs. J. Knight, 1st Mitcham; Mrs. R. Collier, 1st St. Leonards; Mrs. J. Wagner, 1st Neerim.

Assistant Guide Guiders

Mrs. P. Priest, 1st Solway; Mrs. H. A. Mason, 2nd Melton; Miss K. Spicer, 4th Ballarat.

Brownie Guiders

E. K. Hardman, 2nd Deer Park; Miss E. Gross, 1st Malvern (Extension); Mrs. L. C. White, 3rd Seymour; Miss C. Jenkins, 2nd Glen Iris; Mrs. T. Fielder, 1st Numurkah; Mrs. M. Baxter, 2nd Neerim; Mrs. W. M. Stephens, 1st Orrvale; Mrs. V. R. Ross, 1st Glenroy; Mrs. M. Goodwin, 1st Croydon; Mrs. W. F. Priest, 2nd Dareton; Mrs. W. J. Dean, Waverley Extension.

Assistant Brownie Guiders

Mrs. R. Noble, 1st Essendon; Miss B. F. Hunt, 2nd Eaglehawk; Mrs. W. D. Davis, 2nd Frankston; Mrs. J. Flehr, 1st Rutherglen; Mrs. K. Buckingham, 1st Rutherglen; Mrs. W. S. Anderson, Waverley Extension.

REGISTRATIONS

Waverley Division Extension Pack; 2nd Montrose Pack; 1st Bendigo South Pack.

RESIGNATIONS AND RETIREMENTS

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

Division Commissioners

Mrs. N. T. Pullen, Brighton; Miss B. Aird, Clifford; Mrs. G. Coulson, Goulburn Valley; Mrs. A. R. Boyes, Latrobe; Mrs. H. W. Brooks, Woorinen South.

District Commissioners

Mrs. B. H. Goss, Mt. Beauty; Mrs. K. P. Bennett, Simpson; Mrs. W. M. Benson, East Brighton; Mrs. D. G. W. Woodcock, Spotswood; Mrs. H. A. Wilson, Moe; Mrs. K. N. Savage, Koroit; Mrs. R. A. Davidson, Blackburn; Mrs. L. S. Selby, Mt. Evelyn; Mrs. J. Reid, Springvale North; Mrs. I. W. Spowart, St. Arnaud; Mrs. K. H. Mills, Koo-wee-rup; Mrs. P. Danby, North Balwyn; Mrs. B. Plumridge, Geelong City; Mrs. H. L. Ebbs, Croydon.

Ranger Guider

Mrs. G. A. Woolley, Nepean Division Rangers.

Guide Guiders

Mrs. W. Page, 1st Ouyen; Mrs. K. Simpson, 2nd Newborough; Mrs. D. E. Goddard, 1st Eaglehawk; Mrs. A. S. Haire, 1st Jeparit; Miss L. M. Flavin, 3rd Hampton; Mrs. J. T. Doolan, 1st Bright; Mrs. B. Lowe, 3rd Overport; Mrs. L. Bahn, 1st Hightett; Mrs. J. Whiting, 3rd Vermont; Mrs. Y. B. Pascalls, 1st South Oakleigh; Miss A. Wade, 3rd Springvale North; Mrs. P. Devery, 2nd Beechworth; Mrs. P. Priest, 1st Solway.

ASSISTANT GUIDE GUIDERS

Mrs. B. L. Simmons, 1st Essendon; Mrs. G. T. Leitch, 1st Sorrento; Miss J. M. Rogers, 1st Melton; Mrs. P. Bowman, 2nd Ararat; Mrs. G. T. Dellar, 1st Simpson; Miss K. Moseley, 2nd Parkmore; Miss D. M. Bethell, 3rd East Doncaster; Miss J. M. Fookes, 1st Deepdene; Mrs. R. A. Vickery, 3rd Boronia; Mrs. J. A. Wright, 1st Keysborough; Mrs. H. A. Mason, 1st Cobram.

BROWNIE GUIDERS

Mrs. G. E. Mahoney, 2nd Deer Park; Mrs. R. Griffiths, 1st Bundoora; Mrs. H. J. Creighton, 1st Monash; Mrs. P. M. Ford, 1st Casterton; Mrs. G. Wadley, 3rd East Doncaster; Mrs. D. A. Cook, 2nd Noble Park; Mrs. L. Waller, 1st Highett; Miss N. Hutton, 1st Malvern (Extension); Mrs. J. W. Parkin, 3rd Doncaster; Mrs. B. Lowe, 3rd Sale; Mrs. R. T. Hood, 3rd Reservoir West; Miss E. Head, 2nd Ivanhoe; Mrs. R. Postlethwaite, 1st St. Arnaud; Mrs. R. Graham, 1st Moyhu; Mrs. R. Del Basco, 3rd North Cheltenham.

ASSISTANT BROWNIE GUIDERS

Miss H. Caldwell, 1st Solway; Miss J. Stringer, 2nd Ivanhoe; Mrs. L. Baker, 1st Simpson; Mrs. K. Bishop, 4th Overport; Mrs. J. Crutchfield, 2nd Doncaster; Miss E. Gross, 1st Malvern (Extension); Miss C. Jenkins, 2nd Glen Iris.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL

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Please DO NOT direct these to the editor, either at Headquarters or at home.

They should be sent to the Secretary, Girl Guides Association, 20 Russell Street, Melbourne, 3000.

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EASTER FAIR

To be held by Montrose Local Association in Community Hall, Mount Dandenong Road, Montrose, at 10.00 a.m. on 10th April, 1976.

GUIDE SHOP

ALTERATIONS TO PRICES

Brownie Guide Uniform	\$10.65
Brownie Guide Tie (gold)	\$1.35
Brownie Guide Cardigan (brown)	\$10.50
Brownie Guide Uniform material —	
per yard	\$1.40
Brownie Guide Uniform material —	
per metre	\$1.54
Guide Skirt	\$9.00
Guide Blouse	\$8.35
Guide Pullover (Guide blue)	\$13.55
Guide Camp Blouse	\$6.10
Guide Skirt Material — per yard	\$1.40
Guide Skirt material — per metre	\$1.54
Ranger Guide Frock and Jacket	\$39.00
Ranger Guide material (junior navy) —	
per yard	\$4.80
Ranger Guide material (junior navy) —	
per metre	\$5.25
Commissioner Suit (Straight Skirt)	\$45.90
Guider Suit (Gored Skirt)	\$44.70
Commissioner/Guider Jacket	\$29.40
Guider Skirt (Gored)	\$15.30
Commissioner/Guider Blouse	\$7.90
Commissioner/Guider Summer Frock—	
Size: 32, 34, 36, 38	\$24.00
Size, 40, 42	\$25.15
Cardigan (Guide blue)	\$14.60
Commissioner/Guider Suit material —	
per yard	\$6.18
Commissioner/Guider Suit material —	
per metre	\$6.75
Commissioner/Guider Summer Frock	
material — per yard	\$4.44
Commissioner/Guider Summer Frock	
material — per metre	\$4.85

YOUNG LEADERS' SOCIAL GROUP

We enjoyed Moomba attraction, "Hello Broadway" and look forward to meeting new members this year.

For program details, please phone Jean Parkin at 729 7714.

ADVERTISING IN MATILDA

Due to rising costs, we regret that charges for advertising in Matilda have to be increased.

In future advertisements of up to 10 words will cost \$1.00, between 10 and 20 words will cost \$2.00, between 20 and 30 words will cost \$3.00, etc.

Please send payment (cheque/postal note payable to Girl Guides Association, NOT CASH), with advertisement to the Editor, 31 Hampshire Road, Forest Hill, 3131.