

MATILDA

GEORGE THOMOPOULOS



AUGUST, 1974

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ARE THEY CRAZY?

"You're crazy!" "For two years!" "But, you could earn so much more here!" "Why?" . . . These are some of the reactions met by Australian Volunteers Abroad when they tell their friends of their pending departure overseas. During the rush of their last minute preparations many Volunteers probably ask themselves, "Is it crazy?" But each January approximately ninety Australians leave to take up assignments in developing countries of Asia, Africa and the Pacific.

Many who hear of the Australian Volunteers Abroad are convinced that those who go on such a venture must be crazy — "Just consider what they are giving up." Indeed, they are giving up many things. They move out of the security of a known situation into the unknown. They leave the warmth and support of friends and family and become reliant on letters to maintain these links. The situations into which they move can be lonely in the extreme, because of the difficulty in communicating in any real depth due to the language and cultural differences. As well as this, a few Volunteers discover that their living conditions are not at all like those they have been used to.

A nurse currently working as an A.V.A. in the New Guinea Islands writes: "The health centre is isolated. We have no boat, no wireless and no way of getting a doctor. I am coping well without the luxuries of life such as toilets, running water and electricity. I am learning to light fires under all conditions as this is my only way of cooking."

As is inherent in the term "Volunteer", incomes received are not at the same level as they would have been in Australia. Then why go? And why do some friends express such sentiments as "Half your luck"?

Reasons for which Volunteers work overseas are multitudinous, and no two people share the same combination of reasons: a desire to utilise their skills in a developing

country; a desire to experience living and working in another culture; a desire to form friendships with the people of that country and to learn of their culture — there are many other reasons, some of which even the Volunteer could not articulate.

"Sacrifices" made are balanced to the extent that some or all of the individual Volunteers' motivations are satisfied. This varies from Volunteer to Volunteer, each person working under the programme has an entirely individual experience.

Communication and warmth of feeling are not dependent on language. A teacher in Tanzania sums of her experience at a local wedding by saying "All in all, it really was an experience to remember, and the friendliness of the people with whom we could not communicate was incredible".

Surrounded by things foreign; exposed to new experiences daily, many Volunteers find their terms overseas are a time of reassessment; a time when many long-held views are challenged, thought through and aims and views of life modified.

Australian Volunteers Abroad have a variety of skills — teachers, agriculturalists, nurses, therapists, doctors, librarians, tradesmen, and skills in short supply in the developing country to which they are sent. Fares and a basic insurance cover are provided by the Overseas Service Bureau, and it is the responsibility of the overseas employer to provide the job, payment and accommodation for the Volunteer.

The Volunteer's experience is rarely an "easy" one: at the same time it is rarely one without its rewards. A returned Volunteer sums up: "Those months of my life were the most wonderful, exciting and loneliest months of my whole life. It has been an experience I would never swap for anything." For further information contact: Overseas Service Bureau, 23 Clarendon Street, East Melbourne, 3002. Phone: 419 1788.

MATILDA

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Australian Trefoil Gathering

Yet another epoch-making event took place recently in Canberra—Australia's first national gathering of Trefoil Guilds.

Five States were represented when Mrs. Joyce Price, deputising for the Chief Commissioner, opened proceedings with Miss Ellestan Dusting, Australian Trefoil Adviser, in the chair. Mrs. Price, herself a Guild member, spoke with enthusiasm of the need to gather in every potential Trefoil member who, having left the active ranks, would otherwise be lost to the Movement. She also suggested that we stress the educational role of Guiding when we had the opportunity to publicise the Movement, as the general public is apt to see it as a purely recreational activity.

Group discussions would surely have pleased B.P., who told us to "look wide", for we looked beyond the present and into the future of our Guilds; beyond the Guilds to the Movement as a whole, and our place as an integral part of it; beyond the Movement to the community in general, and so beyond Australia to the international scene, with the two World Movements, and the International Fellowship of Former Scouts and Guides within that larger community.

Following these deliberations, we relaxed appropriately by seeing a film taken in Austria last July, during the 10th General

Assembly of IFOFSAG and the subsequent bus tour.

As quiz participants we tested our knowledge of Guiding, and found it a good opportunity to update ourselves! Turning to the past, we found that the earliest-enrolled member among us was Olive Colley, of Traralgon, who became a Guide in a Prahran company in 1918.

Canberra's scenic attractions were not neglected, as the A.C.T. Guild members proved to be very thoughtful tour guides during our free time; we also discovered the beauties of Canberra's Innabaanya campsite when we held our Guild's Own there on Sunday.

As is usual with such gatherings, the last session came all too soon—so much still remained to be said and done; however, Victoria's offer to host the next national gathering (probably 1977 because of other gatherings) having been enthusiastically accepted, we can hope to continue in Melbourne what was begun in Canberra—a valuable exchange of ideas, a growing awareness of a national, rather than a local, identity, and a deepening sense of international fellowship.

A.B.

Attractive red Trefoil stickers, for use on cars, notebooks, etc., are available, at 15 cents each, from Mrs. E. Lister, 440 South Road, Moorabbin, 3189.

LINK UP, N.S.W.

Last minute rush packing, and Guides from all over Victoria, with blue, green and purple labelled rucksacks and bedding rolls, filled the luggage entrance at Spencer Street station. Tentative smiles, checking by the leaders, and finally 66 blue uniformed figures set off for the N.S.W. Link Up.

Breakfast on the Spirit was provided because of a good turn by two groups of the Guides, who happily assisted the depleted cafeteria staff by clearing away dishes, washing up and cooking toast. We wondered if newspaper headlines would read, "Spirit of Progress saved by Spirit of Guiding"!

We all stumbled off the train to be immediately greeted by a cheery Guide leader, Jananee by name, who whisked the Blue Mountain contingent of 20 off along the platform, down here, along there, and finally into another train. During the journey to Springwood, most girls slumbered.

Two days later we all arrived independently at the lovely campsite, land belonging to St. Columbus' College. Each Victorian was allotted to a different Patrol. Our initiation to N.S.W. camping was the erection of bell tents; quite easy once we could count in fours, and find the hole for the upright. Later we learnt to tie up the sod cloth, reverse it, let it down, at hourly intervals, and then to brail, and finally how to stagger, crawl, or whatever, in and out of the igloo-like opening!

Notable events during the camp were a lovely walk to the Grotto (flannel flowers sighted on the way); a campfire for the 115 camp members; beautiful sunrises, sunsets and views of Sydney lights; and a bus tour to Katoomba and Lithgow sights. Lunch that day was excellently prepared by the L.A. and guiders of Lithgow District. One afternoon we spent enjoying Mad Hatter Sports, including cheer squads, comic hats (extra point to race winners if the hat stayed on) — all events to interest competitors and onlookers.

One night some Guide leaders had to rescue wet sleeping bags and occupants from rivers flowing through the tents, but next morning perfect weather greeted us again.

Victorians taught the N.S.W.-ites how to bang cutlery in "Chimes", they taught us how to get a bell tent down in a big hurry

before breakfast when darkening skies threatened on the last day.

One highlight of the camp was the arrival of Mrs. Rae Read, the N.S.W. State Commissioner. She joined in the camp activities, even cutting up fruit salad with a blunt kitchen knife, and washing dishes.

At the end of camp, scarves were autographed, addresses exchanged, and fond farewells made to new friends. Off to billets.

On our last day in Sydney, escorted by Jananee again, we spent 10c in the slot on lockers, 5c in the slot on train tickets, from this to that train, from this to that station, eventually lunched in the Botanical Gardens, and went on a tour of the Opera House; then back to the never ending stations, trains, lockers, and finally a night with friendly Strathfield parents. Up early the next day, and we vied with the early workers for space in the train to Central.

We met up again with 20 of our original group, back from Narrandera, and we all boarded the train for home. At Cootamundra and Wagga, the final group, from Tumut, climbed on board, and great were the comparisons re various "trials and tribulations". Chatter kept up until our arrival at Spencer Street, where parents were waiting to greet their "Link Up" daughters. "Kobi".





ENJOYING THE OUTDOOR — BUSHCRAFT CAMPS

Two guides from Bellarine Division attended camps in New South Wales recently. Sally Brown went to Springwood, where the guides camped at a college ground, slept in bell tents, cooking in patrols.

During the camp the guides had bushcraft instruction, and before entering camp the girls were billeted into homes of the Springwood Guide Company, and were taken on a tour of the district.

After the camp closed the girls were again billeted and visited the Sydney Opera House before catching the train home.

Julie Taylor attended a camp at Tumut and before entering camp was billeted at Castle Hill, in Parramatta. She visited Warragamba Dam and Prospect Reservoir, Government House and the Experimental Farm in Parramatta.

During the camp the guides were taken to Tumut Pine Board Factory and to the early pioneer cemetery. 150 girls enjoyed a campfire in the stand at the Showgrounds, where they were camped owing to the wet weather conditions.

Visits were made to Blowering Dam, Yarrangbilly caves and a thermal pool. The guides hiked two miles to an Orienteering and Trail course, and completed the course in groups of ten.

After the official breaking of the camp they travelled to Cootamundra, seeing a herbal farm and the town.

As they travelled back to Victoria more guides joined the train at Wagga Wagga to return to Melbourne.

Sally Brown.
Julie Taylor.

INTERSTATE VISITS . . . LINK UP

Exploring the Arts

Fifty-one guides left for South Australia to participate in this challenge.

The party was billeted with families for their stay of seven days.

The girls had a choice of five activities, and each participated in three of these—art in the bush, pioneer furniture, out-door cooking, bush survival, and "from here to there" with maps.

Art in the bush consisted of poker work, making instruments like drums and flutes; sculpting in natural clay; making boomerangs and floral decorations with wildflowers and acorns.

Eighty girls participated in bush survival. They saw a survival kit which contained thirty articles.

Guides skinned a rabbit, ate witchetty grubs and cooked wild spinach. The rabbit pieces were wrapped in gum leaves and packed in clay, then put on the side of the fire to cook. The girls said it tasted delicious.

Making pioneer furniture was done in small groups. Six leaders moved from group to group and taught different lashings and knots.

The guides were given a small pennant from each group as a "take home token totem".

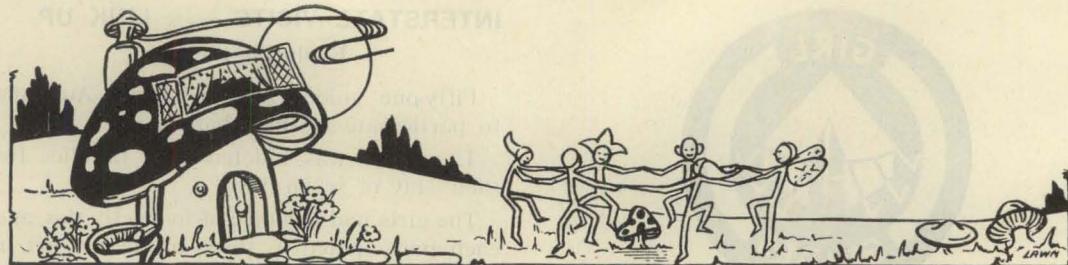
Guides made miniature camp furniture, tables and wash-up stands, and were able to compare their work with full-scale models which were on display.

The guides learnt new camp songs and thoroughly enjoyed the activities, meeting other guides and the Australian Chief Commissioner, Miss Lambie, and the South Australian State Commissioner.

During outdoor cooking at Olave Hills, we cooked on a biscuit tin oven and made pancakes, eggs in oranges and potato cakes.

We had tea at Guide Headquarters and an "Australian" campfire, with representatives from every State. Later I was taken up to Windy Point to see the lights of Adelaide.

Vicki Nicholson,
2nd Ocean Grove.
Ann Mortimer,
1st Portarlington.



BROWNIE REVELS

Seventy Brownie Guides from Bellarine Division joined together for this bi-annual event. The theme was Matthew Flinders, and as the Brownie Guides gathered in a circle the Division Commissioner told the story of his voyages.

Special guests were the Region Commissioner and District Commissioners from Newcomb, Queenscliff-Point Lonsdale and Barwon Heads-Ocean Grove.

The Brownies each dropped a coin into a sail for their collection for Brownie Cottage, and then were sent to a "Port" to participate in a different activity.

They played action songs and an Aboriginal action story; they made leaf tracings and paper animals of Australia.

After each Brownie had visited each port, the Region Commissioner told them of her meeting with visiting Gilbert Island Guiders and of the Sunbeam Brownies.

"Well Done" was sung by all for the Convenor. At the close, Brownie Bells were sung and afternoon tea served.

PIONEERS

The theme of Boronia District Brownie Revels was "Pioneers". Groups included soldiers, miners, farmers, cooks and tree-fellers. Each Brownie paid 5c (for Brownie Cottage) and received her "Gold Licence" (a copy of a real licence with dates, etc., changed). She was then able to "mine" for her gold nugget and her group emblem—rifle, pick, spade, spoon or axe.

Comments from 5th Boronia Pack about this happy event include — Brownie Revels was very good. — We were in groups and played nice games.— I liked the treasure hunt, and at the end we sang a lot of songs in a big ring with many Brownies and Guiders.— The food was the best, did you know?

LEND A HAND

Toni McLennan learned at Brownies: You should help someone in trouble. She did just that when the floods came to East Coburg recently.

Nine-years-old Toni and her cousin Karen Ball, 11, helped the neighbours when the Merri Creek flooded their homes.

When water got too deep for Toni to walk through, she made sandwiches for hungry workers.

When the water receded, Toni and Karen shovelled slime and debris from the neighbours' carpets.

Toni is a member of 1st Coburg Brownie Pack.

(Report from Coburg Courier.)

PACK HOLIDAY

Every day on our Pack Holiday at Minda Killara, Riddells Creek, we went hiking, and saw many interesting things. We found koalas, a wallaby, mushrooms and toadstools. Some of us had mushrooms for breakfast. We also saw an outdoor Guides and Scouts' Chapel, and a dirty swimming pool, the result of recent flooding of the creek. We crossed the creek by a wooden bridge, and the gorge by a swinging bridge.

We had a sausage sizzle for our breakfast hike and a B.B.Q. lunch. Brownies Own on Sunday morning was made up by the Sixers. Every night we made handcrafts, kites, brooches and nature arrangements. One morning Brownies made a Cubby House of bark. On our last night we had a fancy dress party, and a small concert, with some Brownies performing a play, and two funny skits by our Assistant Q.M. and pack Guides. We thank Q.M. for beautiful meals.

Michelle Hewitt, Susan Birch,
Joanne Chambers and Cheryl Hayes,
1st Moorabbin South Brownies.



FOREST HILL AND CHILDREN

At a recent meeting of Guiders from Nunawading-Mt. Pleasant and Nunawading-Tunstall divisions, we were privileged to have Miss Kathleen Gregory, M.B.E., as our speaker. Miss Gregory, honoured for her services to children and the community, has been in charge of the Forest Hill Kindergarten Holiday Home since it began 46 years ago.

Originally, Forest Hill (from which the surrounding area now takes its name) catered for small children, from inner suburban kindergartens, who needed a holiday in the country!

Miss Gregory traced the history of the holiday home, with many amusing and thought provoking anecdotes, through 1960, when it became an emergency care centre for children whose homes have been temporarily disrupted, to the present.

She mentioned the wonderful help received over the years from Brownies, Guides, Rangers and Guiders. Many have helped at bath and tea times and during weekends.

Child nurse tester in both divisions for many years, Miss Gregory was presented with a Thanks Badge by Vermont's District Commissioner, in recognition of her invaluable and considerable service to guiding in this area.

Although she has now retired and lives "just across the road", we are sure Miss

Gregory finds many excuses to visit the children, who have been so much her life, as she has been such an important part of theirs.

J.R.

IRENE FAIRBAIRN AWARD FUND

I hope you have been thinking about having an "I.F." meeting in your unit during August, and that you are planning to centre this programme on Japan.

Helping to increase awareness of this fund — helping it grow — will make more money available for MORE girls to travel and meet sister guides in other parts of the world.

From time to time, each State is asked to submit suggestions for using this money, so everyone must know about the opportunities offering.

When returning the slip below with your contribution, please mark the envelope "Irene Fairbairn Fund", and mail to Mrs. G. Farrow, c/o Guide Headquarters, 20 Russell Street, Melbourne, 3000.

Name of member/unit.....

.....

Cheque or postal note to value of \$.....

Method of raising contribution.....

.....

.....

.....

IN LOVING MEMORY OF IRENE FAIRBAIRN

Far away from city and farm clatter chatter,
the push and pull of day in day out living.
A few smooth bitumen hours . . .

Left off the highway—a whole world away—the pleasant path to Banongil welcomed us in.

Drifts of grass, uncut and starry with daffodils.

A green September world of sheep and cows and trees

— and daffodils!

Down there

The brown creek sleeps between the gums and the gentle peace of Banongil entered our hearts. M.B.



HAPPY CHILDREN AND MUMS AT DANDEMONG !!!

When Leisure Time Activities began at Guide Headquarters, some of our District Brownies, Guides, their mums and brothers attended. They thoroughly enjoyed themselves, but travelling to and from the city took up so much time. One day, while chatting together, they sowed the seed that blossomed into the same type of activity at Dandenong.

With the "go ahead" from Headquarters, and a wonderfully co-operative Local Association, three days of activities were held during the following school holidays. Fifty children attended each day.

Since that humble beginning four more three-day sessions have been conducted during the May and August holidays, and a great deal of equipment has been purchased. The number attending each vacation has steadily increased, until the recent holidays, when it is thought that the capacity has been reached — 120 children each day, plus approximately 30 helpers.

During these sessions the brownies, the guides and some of their friends have had the opportunity of learning many handcraft skills. Some have been difficult and time consuming, others simple and quick, some glamorous and a luxury, others basic and sensible, all with a wide range of prices to suit all size purses.

Here was a chance to use equipment otherwise beyond their reach, here was the joy of creating something out of nothing.

Here was the chance of mixing with girls from other units, and of making the Guiding circle wider. Here was, of course, an opportunity to be fully occupied for three whole days of the holidays.

The staff consisted of uniformed members of the region, mothers of girls attending, older guides who have attended previous sessions and returned to help, and other interested folk who had special skills to share. Not many guiding activities give the opportunity to mums and leaders to work side by side, and the mums usually went home knowing more about what goes on at unit meetings. Listening in on conversations, one could hear leaders encouraging others to do Pack Holiday Training, the District Commissioner explaining the role of a leader to a potential Ranger leader, the patrol leaders exchanging ideas with one another, and the little brownie telling her next door friend about her pets. All this while showing someone how to make a paper flower or tie a macrame knot!!

The days were busy, ever so short and filled with many cuppa breaks, warm friendships and a lovely feeling of joy that we had made it possible for many of our girls to have fun and learn so much during their holidays.

Margaret Mitchell.



* * * *

A mother is a person who asks for little, excepting, maybe, a roof over her head and the right to lift it occasionally.

GIRL GUIDES OF AUSTRALIA DISCOVERIES 5

A "CRYSTAL PALACE GUIDE", now Mrs. Davies, is living in Adelaide.

* * * *

A "GUIDE BEFORE GUIDES" is living in Melbourne. 1909, with her "Girl Scout" unit, she picketed the house of Baden-Powell in London to urge him to attend to their claim to be recognised. After all, suffragettes were picketing the home of the Prime Minister and the Houses of Parliament, Westminster, to claim the right to vote.

* * * *

ROYAL CAKE SHARERS: News from Western Australia. Apparently Mrs. Fairbairn was able to send pieces of the tier the Princess gave us to several States—as one would have thought she would if possible.

Mrs. Wilson, then Editor of W.A.'s magazine, "ate a few crumbs herself and used the rest as prizes for competitions running through the 'Courier'."

Any State magazines, from January, 1948 on, might give extra news.

* * * *

PEACE SCOUTING FOR GIRLS: Another copy has been brought forward in Tasmania (written by Lieutenant-Colonel Cosgrove, 1909, published Christchurch, New Zealand, June, 1910).

These books are valuable in themselves and for themselves. We hope others will appear.

* * * *

PROBLEM: Those who own copies would perhaps not be likely now to read current State magazines; SO, detective work is up to Guides of today. TREFOIL GUILD especially please note.



PRINCESS MARY HOUSE
FOXLEASE, NEW FOREST, ENGLAND, 1922

This is realising, rather than discovering. Women of Australia, in hundreds, possibly thousands, though many would know little or nothing about Girl Guides, helped us to accept the gift of Foxlease.

In January, 1922, Mrs. Archbold, of U.S.A., offered to the Girl Guides her property, Foxlease, in the New Forest, England—sixty acres with a mansion and some smaller buildings—which she had already allowed them to use, in her absence, for conferences and camps.

Marvellous! But "Problem", said the Executive. "Could they finance furnishing and upkeep?"

Princess Mary, daughter of King George V and Queen Mary, and President of the Girl Guides Association, was to be married in February.

The Marys of the British Empire subscribed for a special wedding gift for her, and Marys of Australia were wholeheartedly in with it.

The Princess did not wish to keep the whole sum for herself, but to use it for a special purpose, and just at the critical time, the Gift committee consulted the Girl Guides about endowing a training centre!

So the mansion on Foxlease became Princess Mary House, with £6,000 for expenses! Also £4,000 from proceeds of an exhibition of her wedding presents (total, \$20,000). The Royal President often afterwards visited Foxlease, so near the great port of Southampton, as it became a recognised centre for Guiding round the world. Guides of the States at once sent gifts distinctive of Australia, and later a bedroom was endowed as Australia Room.

Ever since, though the World Association was soon established, and now we have four World Centres, Foxlease, the first permanent centre of British Guiding, has welcomed visitors from every Guiding country.

If you know anyone named Mary who is old enough, ask her about 1921-22.

G. Swinburne,
Archivist, G.G.A.A.

TRAINING CALENDAR

Commissioners and Unit Leaders with the necessary experience are welcome to apply for **ANY** training.

Applications should be sent in by the **date requested** and be **accompanied by the training fee and a stamped self-addressed envelope.**

Training fees are \$1.50 unless otherwise stated.

Stage 1 Training — for Leaders new to the Movement:

East Bentleigh, 14th-15th September and 19th-20th October, 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.— Moorleigh Guide Hall. Applications to Mrs. A. Watsford, 6 Millis Avenue, East Bentleigh, 3165, by **29th August**.

Stage 3 Training — for Warranted Leaders:

Dandenong, 28th-29th September and 19th-20th October (note change in dates), 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.— Guide Hall, Ann Street. Applications to Mrs. M. Smith, 6 Jeffrey Street, Dandenong, 3175, by **13th September**.

Headquarters, Thursday 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th October, 10.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. Applications to Training Department by **19th September**.

Mildura, 14th-15th September and 26th-27th October. **Please note that this training has been cancelled.**

Pyramid Hill, 14th-15th September and 26th-27th October, 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. (subject to change). Applications to Mrs. R. Wilkins, 14 Scott Street, White Hills, 3550, by **30th August**.

Wodonga, 28th-29th September and 2nd-3rd November, 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Applications to Mrs. D. Hamilton, "Hamilton Park", South Wangaratta, 3677, by **13th September**.

Campcraft Training:

Cheltenham, Friday, 13th-20th September, 11th October, 7.30 p.m. till 9.30 p.m. Saturday, 21st-28th September, 10.00 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. and 5th-6th October. Further information from Mrs. A. Watsford, 6 Millis Avenue, East Bentleigh, 3165. Closing date, **30th August**.

East Metro, Monday, 16th-30th September, 7.30 p.m. till 10.00 p.m.— Koonong Heights Guide Hall. 21st September and 5th October, 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.— Koparra Guide Hall, North Balwyn, plus weekend 26th-27th October, Donvale. Cost to be advised. Applications to Mrs. F. Ludbrook, 5 Curnola Avenue, Doncaster, 3108, by **2nd September**.

Cavendish, 14th-15th September, 5th-6th October, and 19th-20th October, 10.00 a.m. Saturday till 4.00 Sunday. Bring own bedding. Cost to be advised for weekends. Applications to Mrs. D. Maconachie, 372 North Boundary Road, Hamilton, 3300, by **30th August**.

AUGUST
1974

Refresher Campcraft Training, Janet Whitlam Memorial Park. For people who hold permits and licences and have held them for a long time. Priority will be given to those people who have held their qualifications for the longest time. Weekend, 28th-29th September, Saturday, 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.; Sunday, 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Note: Please advise if overnight accommodation is required. Fee to be advised. Applications to Training Department, 20 Russell Street, Melbourne, 3000, by **27th August**.

Ranger Lightweight Camping:

Headquarters, Saturday, 5th October, 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m., plus weekend 26th-27th October (Leaders only), and 23rd-24th November (Leaders and girls). Location of weekends to be advised. Fee, \$1.50 plus cost of weekends (to be advised). Applications and \$1.50 to Training Department, 20 Russell Street, Melbourne, 3000, by **19th September**.

Special Subjects for Brownie Guiders:

Programming for the Pack, including games and activities to help Brownies meet the challenge of the 8 Point Programme. Weekend, 5th-6th October, 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.— Headquarters. Note: Applications should include requests based on the current interests and needs of your Brownies. Applications, requests and 75c fee to Training Department by **20th September**.

Special Subjects:

Colour Ceremonial:

Cheltenham, Tuesday, 17th September, 7.30 p.m. till 9.30 p.m. Applications and 40 cents fee to Mrs. A. Watsford, 6 Millis Avenue, East Bentleigh, 3165, by **3rd September**.

Q.M. Training:

Yandiah, 14th-15th September and 26th-27th October. Further information from Mrs. R. Hocking, 812, 14th Street, Mildura, 3500.

Patrol Leaders' Training and Conference:

Yarragon, Saturday, 21st September, 10.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.— Public Hall, Campbell Street. Applications and 40 cents fee together with names and units of those attending, to Mrs. S. McDonald, 27 Tovell Street, Newborough, by **23rd August**.

Summer Training Week will be held at Britannia Park from 15th-21st January, 1975.

Suggestions for training to be included during this week should be sent to the Training Department by **23rd August**.



MATILDA

TRAINING PAGES

"Summer is coming and the campers give a shout:
Let's be up and doing, let's get out and about!"

Sue.

Refer also to Training pages, "Matilda", September, 1973.

THRIFTY DO-IT-YOURSELF IDEAS

Sleeping Bags:

How about knitting one? Any old wools can be used, preferably of the same ply. If a worn or out-moded jumper is unpicked, the unravelled wool is best tied loosely in skeins (in several places to avoid tangling), washed in warm water and dried, to get out the kinks.

Use large needles, try out to see how many stitches are needed to make a width of, say, 2 feet, or wider if you are wide — and you are all set to go.

I have had years and years of service from two such woolly bags. One was knitted all plain, with large stitches — and the air spaces help with warmth. The strip had to be 12 feet long, and was then folded in half and stitched up the sides. The other was done on 4 large needles round and round in stocking stitch — so that only the bottom needed sewing across.

Sue Says:

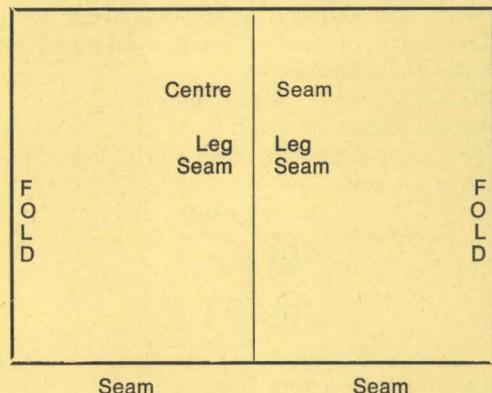
Have you considered keeping yourself warmer in camp by making your knitted

woolly bag like an enormous pair of baby's crawlers?

It's easy! Just knit your bag in two pieces — approximately 6' x 2', or as appropriate for you — instead of one. Then fold each piece to make centre seams as illustrated.

Wonderful! You don't have to get out of your woolly bag when you get up at night for an indisposed child or for an early morning start. Just pull your boots on over it, and hey presto — your camp dressing-gown!

Drawstring or elastic optional



Correction to Fire Precautions Game, page 208, April "Matilda"

Nos. 2(a) to (e) were not lettered in a way that fitted correctly with the answers on page 210.

Have a sack soaking in the fire bucket was (a) (and therefore in column headed "always"). Leave fires unattended was (b) (column "never"). Lighted lantern inside tent was (c) ("never"). Potholders of synthetic materials (d) ("never"). Position of woodpile was (e) under "always".

Didn't YOU notice there was something wrong with the answers?

If not, didn't you read page 208? Shame on you!

If so, did you just insert the (a) and change the other letters?

OR did you think of others and write to Matilda to ask for the above correction to be printed?

Do It Yourself is the best advice if you are assembling a pocket first aid kit, for patrol hikes, or ranger overnight camping.

Such a kit should fit on your belt or into a pocket. It must GO WHERE YOU GO—not stay back in camp, or at your hike spot, in the bottom of a haversack.

A home-made envelope of plastic is good, or a strip of plastic with the two ends folded into the middle like a pocket book. Machine (with a large stitch) slots into which you fit three or four bandaids and your small screw of five or six aspirin, etc. (Do not take the whole packet—leave that at home for refills when necessary.)

Have clean lint or bandage in a sterile covering. Generally it is recommended that glass containers are avoided, on the other hand most first aiders recommend mer-curochrome or acriflavene for dirty cuts, etc.—rather than doubtful "cure-all" type ointments. Such liquid can be safely carried in a small well-corked bottle if it fits into its own slot and so cannot "rattle round".

What else will you need? Discuss it with your patrol or ranger group—tweezers or needle for splinters?

Small scissors? Safety pins?

Small packet of salt?

Few cotton wool balls in sterile covering?

Over to you.



Home-made Sleeping Bag:

A most effective home-made sleeping bag, also in use for many years, was filled with old nylon stockings. You will find your friends and relations very willing to give you worn stockings and panty hose (which must be cut into two pieces). The choice of outside covering depends on whether you are a Ranger wanting something lightweight, in which case you would perhaps choose a nylon material, and how much you can afford to spend. Some of the lightweight brushed nylon materials appear on bargain tables from time to time. A dark colour is the most suitable. Thrifty people have used the best part of worn nightgowns, brushed nylon or flannelette, for the inside material. You might even have at home discarded curtains

which can be used. Cotton materials are not the best—cotton does tend to "collect" any damp in the atmosphere.

For easier handling in the machine, it is better to make two six-feet long padded lengths which you finally join to make your sleeping bag. Width is generally two feet wide for a girl, an adult may feel happier in one a few inches wider. The padding is done thus: Machine the outer and inner material together with rows 5 inches apart, down about 10 inches at a time. Fold each old stocking into a 5 inch square, fit it flat into a 5 inch space, and keep a row of them in place by stitching across.

It is a good thing if the machine catches in a piece of stocking occasionally to keep it in place. Continue stitching alternately down and across to form a quilted effect of 5 inch squares. Use 4 inch squares if you want your sleeping bag more tightly packed. Insert a zip front opening if you wish.

The bag is light, very warm, washable, and far less expensive than one you would purchase.



HIKE TENT

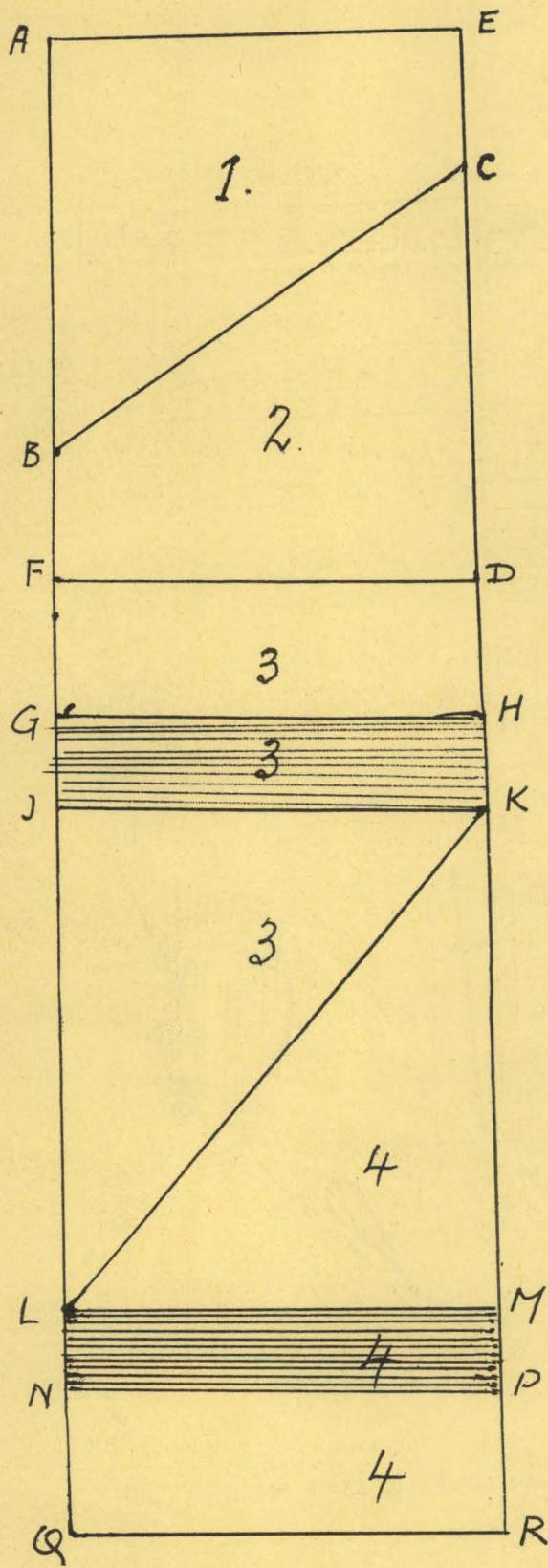
It is quite possible to make your own hike tent. The diagram and instructions on page 37 may seem complicated, but first trace the diagram on to paper, cut out pieces 1, 2, 3, and 4, and assemble with sticky-tape. The model will make things clear.

If a patrol or ranger unit decide to make a tent, write to the Training Department at Headquarters. There is a folder available with further directions and a photo of the tent erected, showing the one upright and how the tent is guyed out. Perhaps you could also see the tent itself.

The original was made of 80 inches wide Mexican twill, and required 8 yards. There was no waste, and the tent is 6 feet square, with 2 foot "skirt", and the door opening, to the highest point, is 6 feet. (You could decide that a 4 foot door would be high enough.)

There is a strong double hem added at one door edge, to insert an upright, while the other door edge has an added sewn-on flap, with the necessary ties.

The tent has given good service for many years, in all weathers. No fly is needed, the slope of the roof parts is enough protection provided nothing touches the roof.



CUT-OUT PLAN FOR A HIKE TENT

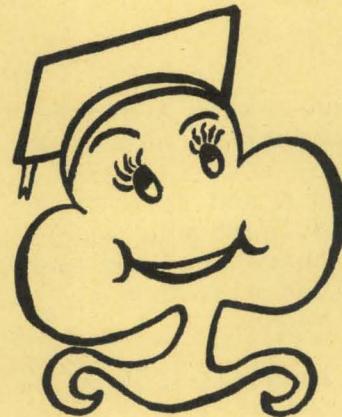
The diagram is drawn to scale: $\frac{3}{8}$ inch = 1 foot.

Refer to the lettered diagram.

Parts 1 and 2 are identical. One must be turned over, so that B of 1 and C of 2 meet at the top of the door. This makes AE (which = FD = QR) the length of side of the tent, and EC (which = BF = DH = PR) the height of the "skirt".

Parts 3 and 4 are identical, so one must be turned over. The shaded portions form an outside pleat, for the eyelets to which the guy lines are attached. In your paper model, gum GH to JK and LM to NP,

The "roof" of the tent has 3 seams. The longest central one joins LK of 3 to KL of 4. (Best to tape or rope this, to avoid stretching.) The highest point joins B and C at the top of the door. Then LJ in 3 and KM in 4 are seamed respectively to BC of 1 and BC of 2. (Lengths LJ = BC = KM.)



HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN PACK FRAME

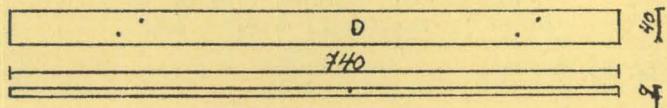
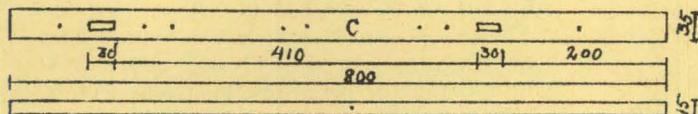
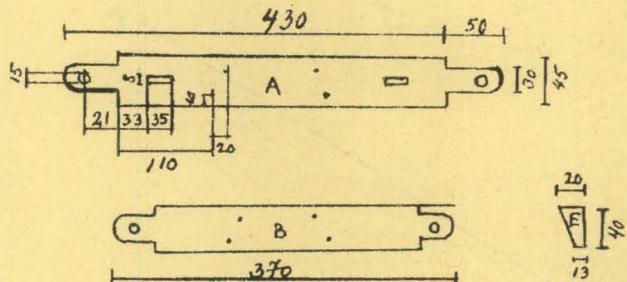
Since rucksacks, particularly good ones, are expensive—why not make your own packing frame and sew your own packing sacks? It is not difficult and the result will be so good that your equipment can be used on more advanced hikes.

To make the sacks, you can use any good quality cloth of canvas type. Nylon cloth has the advantage that it is very light. If different colours are used, it helps to identify the bag you need quickly.

Use any kind of hard wood

Cut the pieces according to the following dimensions :

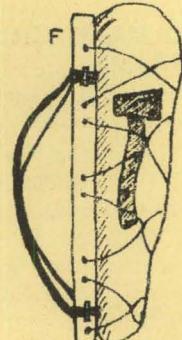
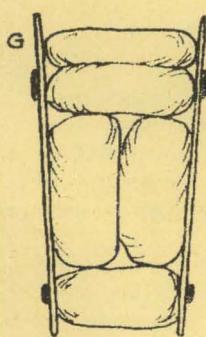
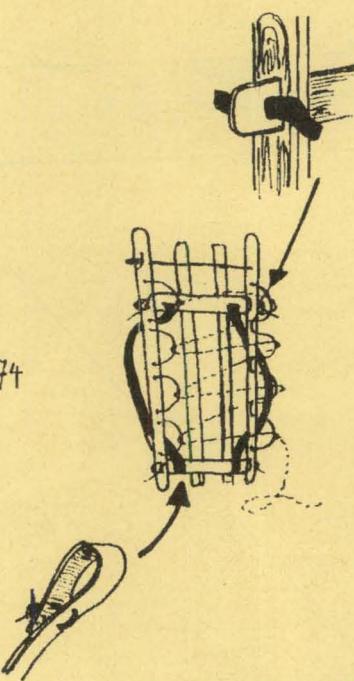
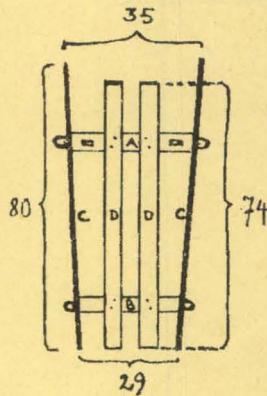
1 piece 430 x 45 x 9 mm
1 " 370 x 45 x 9 mm
2 pieces 800 x 35 x 15 mm
2 " 740 x 40 x 10 mm



To fasten D's to A and B use a leather thong.

To fasten A and B to C's it is advisable to use wedges made of thick leather (see E) but you can also use a leather thong.

The two long slits in A are for the two straps.



CREDIT
SWEDISH GUIDE AND SCOUT ASS.

NOTICES

DISPOSAL OF BADGES AND UNIFORMS

It has come to our notice that one sometimes finds Guide Badges for sale in Opportunity Shops, a practice viewed unfavourably for obvious reasons, but one largely beyond our control.

All members can help prevent this unfortunate happening and so protect Guiding's interests, by returning all their badges to their Commissioner or Guider if they are not their own property or they do not wish to keep them when they leave the Movement. The unwanted uniform will always be thankfully received by someone else, so it is preferable for it to go to the nearest Uniform Pool instead of into a "charity bag".



CONSERVATION CO-ORDINATOR

One of our Guiders who really "loves the out-of-doors" and does all she can to pass the message of love and care on to others is Mrs. Anne Fraser, of Terang. Mrs. Fraser has recently agreed to be our Conservation Co-ordinator, and we know she will be able to help us all to better understanding and greater achievement of this practical form of community service. Should you want to tell her what your unit has been up to lately, or should you feel in need of a fresh idea conservation-wise, Mrs. Fraser is the person to contact. Her address is 18 Hampden Street, Terang, 3264.

CAMPING DEPARTMENT

Guiders please make a correction to your Campsite list as follows: NORTH TYNONG — Mrs. S. Williamson, 6 Haines Street, Cheltenham, 3192. Phone: 93 2467.

OUR CABANA ADULT ADVENTURE SESSION

Music and the Folk Arts

Explore Mexico's musical delights and learn typical folk arts in this one or two week adult adventure. No need to be a specialist, just be interested. All registered Girl Guide and Girl Scout adults welcome.

Experts in choral music and folk arts will guide the session and an informal atmosphere prevails. You will plan your own programme and can go at your own pace.

There will be time to climb a pyramid, tour colonial mansions and shop in open air markets. Watch the native artisans at work.
DATES: 6th - 14th March, 1975, or 6th - 19th March, 1975.

COST: \$10.80 (U.S.) daily for room and board in modern quarters, plus \$20.00 - \$30.00 (U.S.) for programme expenses.

BALLARAT DEPOT

As from 1st August, 1974, the hours when the **Ballarat Equipment Depot** will be open for business will be as follows:—

Tuesday — 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Wednesday — 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Thursday — 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday — 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday — 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

* * * *

MT. MACEDON GARDENS IN THREE-DIMENSIONAL SPRING COLOUR — with lunch provided — 31st October.

Watch "Matilda" for further details.

* * * *

TOWN AND COUNTRY TREFOIL GUILD CARD PARTY FOR LONES — 11.30 a.m., 25th September. \$2.50, including lunch.

Details from Miss M. Shaw (83 4682, evenings or before 8 a.m.)

THE SPANNING SEMINAR '74

COME! HELP BUILD A BRIDGE! TO SPAN—BETWEEN THE LEADERS AND THE GIRLS.
BETWEEN EACH SECTION OF THE MOVEMENT.
BETWEEN THE MOVEMENT AND THE COMMUNITY.
BETWEEN GUIDES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

WHO? All Victorian Guiders.
WHERE? Day Sessions at Melbourne University (Wilson Hall and Union House).
WHEN? Evening Sessions at Headquarters.
TIME? Saturday, 12th October, 1974.
BLUEPRINT 9.00 a.m. ARRIVE ON THE JOB (on time, of course!)
LAY THE FOUNDATIONS. Mrs. Grimwade will open our Seminar.
TAKE TIME TO THINK OF THE JOB IN HAND. Mrs. Marie Coleman, Director of Social Security Commission, will speak on "Community Needs".
RENEWING STRENGTH.
FIND OUT WHAT THE OTHER "HAND" IS DOING, WHAT WE CAN DO TO HELP.
12.30 p.m. TIME TO TALK WITH OTHER "BUILDERS".
THE BUILDING CONTINUES.
REVITALISER.
THE SPAN TO OVERSEAS.

DESIGN FOR TONIGHT

7.30 p.m. OUR NEIGHBOURS. Ideas Mart.
9.30 p.m. BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD.

GETTING THERE

Car parking is available beneath Wilson Hall, where most of the proceedings of the day sessions will be taking place. The University can be reached by:

- (a) Tram along Swanston Street — East Coburg No. 1 or Moreland No. 15; tram stop No. 10 at Monash Road which runs straight into University grounds.
- (b) Tram along Royal Parade; tram stop No. 16 at Grattan Street.
- (c) Cars may enter either from Grattan Street or Swanston Street.

REFRESHMENTS

- (a) Morning tea at 40 cents per head will comprise tea or coffee and biscuits.
- (b) Afternoon tea at 40 cents per head will comprise tea or coffee and biscuits.
- (c) Lunch at \$1.55 per head will comprise soup and sandwiches, cake and fruit, and tea or coffee.

All refreshments will be served in the

Union Buffet. Tea and coffee will be available from 5.00 p.m. at Headquarters.

Guiders wishing to bring their own refreshments may do so, and eat lunch in the gardens of the University.

SESSIONS

Guiders are invited to join **either**:

- (a) Out of Doors — including conservation, the environment, pollution, lightweight camping, Brownie ventures, creativity in the out of doors, indoor vs. outdoors, the Promise in the out of doors.

OR . . .

- (b) Thinking for Yourself — including where to look for help and how to adapt ideas to suit each section, the Promise in action, assessing the challenges; and Communications — including relationships and the patrol system.

All we need now are the workers to help build the bridges. So fill in the application form which was included with last month's "Matilda", and post without delay to: Mrs. Margaret Barbour, 47 Loeman Street, Strathmore, 3041. (Applications close 14/9/74.)

GANG SHOW

The Gang Show cast of 127, all members of the Scout or Guide Movements, have been meeting weekly since the beginning of June, and, in early July, spent a weekend working on the Show.

Monday night is the usual night for rehearsal and, by 7.15, Ormond Hall in Prahran is rapidly filling with Scouts, Guides and Leaders in uniform. By 7.30 the patrols are assembling for the opening parade. Gang Show cast are divided into eleven patrols, each named after a Shakespearian character.

The twenty-one girls in the Show form Katrina Patrol.

The night usually begins with a singing session, where the cast learn the words and finer points of the big musical numbers. Then the cast split up, with perhaps eighty or so rehearsing movement for a big musical in the main hall, while, elsewhere, smaller groups work hard at a sketch or "tabs" number.

In the meantime, many other Gang Show departments are also on the job. At Ormond Hall, the office department churns out the reams of paper warfare that seem to accompany any big function. Public Relations

are usually busy putting the paper warfare into envelopes — promotional material to be mailed out.

The Properties department can be found in a corner somewhere constructing hand props for the Show, while the Stage hands are busy setting and re-setting basic scenery. There are musicians, of course, and a personnel team to keep the cast in the right place at the right time. And, if anyone has a spare moment, they can visit the drink stall manned by Gang Show's Parents and Supporters' Committee.

A few miles away at the Gang's costume store in St. Kilda, others are at work manufacturing the hundreds of garments required. Over at Richmond, the Scenery Construction crew are putting together the many pieces of scenery used in the Show.

Several hundred people take part in this weekly ritual — over thirteen weeks, and of course that's always in addition to their normal Guiding activities.

How about rewarding their work by coming to the Show at the Palais, St. Kilda, on Friday, September 6, Saturday, September 7 (matinee and evening), Wednesday 11, Thursday 12, Friday 13, or Saturday 14 (matinee and evening).

Mail bookings may be sent to the Melbourne Sports Depot, 121 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne, 3000. You can purchase individual tickets over the counter at M.S.D., and blocks of ten from M.S.D., the Guide Office and all Scout Shops. (See booking slip included with June, 1974 "Matilda".)

Mrs. Margaret Boyle was a Guide at Elsternwick; later she transferred to 1st Heidelberg Company. Later still, she joined S.R.S. "Invincible".

In 1941 Mrs. Boyle became Assistant Leader with 2nd Heidelberg Guides, who were based at the Austin Hospital. Most of the Guides were suffering from polio, and a few were in respirators. Mrs. Boyle was Captain of the 2nd Heidelberg Company until she retired to have a family. During this retirement Mrs. Boyle was associated with the Trefoil Guild.

The first Guides were enrolled in the 1st Rosanna Company in 1957, when Lady Baden Powell visited Victoria, and six months later Mrs. Boyle became Captain of this unit.

Mrs. Boyle will continue her association with Macleod-Rosanna District as Camping Adviser for Warringal and Eltham Areas.

N. J. Clarkson, Secretary,
Macleod-Rosanna Local Association.

From the International Commissioner, Pakistan, to Australia's International Commissioner . . .

"Dear Miss Manning,

"I am really overwhelmed by the interest your Association has taken in donating money for the flood affected people.

Villages that had been wiped out are now being reconstructed. The Guides are helping to build up one of these (I shall send you the details later). Your money shall be profitably utilised in one of these schemes."

LESLEY DWYER,
International Adviser.
Victoria sent \$157.21; Australia sent \$417.86.

LOCAL



ASSOCIATION SECTION

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

You have not done enough, you have never done enough, so long as it is still possible that you have something of value to contribute. Dag Hammarskjold.

Britannia Park Visit

Do you go to Britannia Park very often? Most of us have delivered daughters to camp at our beautiful property at Yarra Junction, and have wandered around busy campsites teeming with girls of every size, shape and age. But have you ever been there in the peace and quiet of a mid-week spring day? If you haven't, think about organising a meeting there.

The Kerrimuir Local Association holds its October meeting every year at Britannia Park, and as well as making our small contribution to help maintain the property, we have probably our most profitable meeting in the important area of "getting to know you".

The first thing to do is to contact Mrs. Margaret Tucker, Convenor of the Britannia Park Sub-committee, to arrange a day, and to check if any special jobs need doing. Through the years we have weeded, cleaned windows, and painted part of Brownie Cottage. Can you imagine four women wielding paint brushes in one small toilet? On one memorable occasion we scrubbed the floor of the B.P. Hut, and learned all over again the fun of playing with water. For some reason, scrubbing the kitchen floor alone never brings forth the same sense of the ridiculous as twelve ample sterns swaying in unison as their owners mopped with a will and a sway.

Most important, we have time to chat to a new member, or those who find it difficult to attend regularly, but who wouldn't miss our October meeting. We also make it a special day by having our L.A. enrolments — promises made in such a beautiful setting seem even more binding.

The day starts with our arrival at about 10.30 a.m., when we check with the Warden to see what work he has for us to do. We then work until lunch-time, about 1.00 p.m.,

and have our lunch while we hold our meeting in Guide House, where there are facilities for making a "cuppa". After the meeting we head for home to be there in time for our school children. Always October is the most popular meeting of the year. Why not try it?

Snowball Drive

Have you ever tried organising a Snowball Drive as a different way of raising money for your Hall Fund or towards General Funds? It can be arranged along the lines of a Lamington Drive, by taking orders beforehand and ordering just the number you need — without all the fuss and mess of actually making them, and either having too many or not enough.

The snowballs are packed in boxes of six dozen, and can be ordered from Waverley Confectionery Co., 12 Murdock Street, Clayton, 3168, or P.O. Box 86, Clayton, 3168.

For further details of price, etc., phone 544 3298.

CONSOLATION FOR THE SECRETARY

If the secretary writes a letter — it's too long;
If she sends a postcard — it's too short.
If she attends a meeting — she's butting in;
If she stays away — she's a shirker.
If she offers a suggestion — she's a know-all;
If she says nothing — she's useless.
If the attendances at meetings is slack —
she should have called the members up;
If she calls them up — she's a pest.
If she asks a member for her subscription —
she's insulting;
If she doesn't — she's lazy.
If a meeting is a big success — the committee
gets the praise;
If it's a failure — the secretary is to blame.
If she asks for advice — she's incompetent;
If she doesn't — she's swollen headed.
Whether she likes it, or whether she doesn't,
If the others won't do it, the secretary must.

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

BUILDING POOL SCHEME

INCREASE IN INTEREST RATES

You cannot be unaware from press reports of the high interest rates that are being paid today. Accordingly, once again, careful consideration has been given to the rates of interest payable on monies deposited with and loaned from the Association's Building Pool Fund, and it has been decided to increase the rate from 6½% to 8½% per annum as from 1st July, 1974.

The money deposited in the Fund is in turn lent to District Local Associations for building purposes, at the same rate as we are paying depositors. Depositors are paid interest twice yearly, on 31st March and 30th September, and in September next will be paid interest at the rate of 6½% as from 1st April, 1974, to 30th June, 1974, and at 8½% from 1st July, 1974, to 30th September, 1974. This being so, the increased rate of 8½% to borrowers must also take effect from 1st July, 1974.

All depositors and those who have loans from the Building Pool Fund have already been advised of this decision.

Local Associations granted loans usually have money on deposit in the Fund, which they withdraw at the same time. So that the Building Pool Fund may continue to have sufficient money to continue to help Districts by making loans, new depositors are needed all the time.

Money on deposit in the Fund need not necessarily be money raised for building purposes, but can be any surplus funds not immediately required by a Local Association or other group.

RECIPE CORNER

GOLDEN OATS SLICE

6 ozs. butter or margarine, 6 ozs. light brown sugar, 1 dessertsp. golden syrup, 8 ozs. rolled oats, few drops almond essence or pinch ground ginger.

Melt butter, sugar and golden syrup together in saucepan. Add oats and essence or ginger. Press into flat slice tin and bake in 400 deg. F. oven for 15 to 20 minutes. Mark out into squares when cooled a little, but do not remove from tin until cold. Ideal for lunch boxes.

If you know of any Local Associations or groups in your area who are holding surplus funds would you please pass on the following information which we hope will be of interest to them.

- (a) Money deposited in the Building Pool Fund would be safe, being guaranteed by the Association.
- (b) The amount deposited will earn interest at the rate of 8½% per annum, payable half yearly to 31st March and 30th September.
- (c) Their deposit can be added to from time to time by an amount of \$20 or multiple of \$20.
- (d) Their deposit will be returned to them when they require it, provided that not less than one month's notice was given to allow Headquarters time to arrange finances accordingly.

If any group decides to make a deposit, all they need to do is to send a cheque for the amount to Headquarters stating that they wish it to be deposited in the Association's Building Pool Fund, and give the name of the Local Association or group making the deposit.

Remember this Scheme was implemented so that one District could help another—you never know when your District may need help.

* * * *

1st NORTCOTE (THE EPIPHANY) GUIDE COMPANY celebrates its 50 birthday in August.

L.A. members welcome you to their celebrations at the Annual Meeting in the Guide Hall, at 8 p.m. on 25th September.

All former members of Northcote area welcome—come and celebrate with us.



A LETTER FROM CANADA

I enclose my order for a subscription to your excellent magazine; I hope overseas subscribers are acceptable.

I received two copies from Dorothy McDonald in Kew, and found them very useful for Brownie games and testing World Trefoil badge Guides, especially re the winners of the Walter Donald Ross Trophy.

We like the Non-Talkathon from 1st Glenhuntly.

My pack (87th B Toronto) is quite international. We have girls from New Guinea, Sydney, U.S.A., England, and New Zealand.

Keep up the good work.

Dorothy Sloan.

DEAR MATILDA

1st Mossfiel Brownies had their first Pack Holiday at Britannia Park. It was very wet so we invited some guides inside for supper.

We did plays for them, and they taught us songs and skits.

On the night before we left we had a pyjama party. We hung streamers and balloons and played games in the dark. Everyone enjoyed themselves thoroughly and we are already thinking about another holiday.

Kerryn Godfrey,
Pack Guide.

A PACK HOLIDAY

Dear Matilda.—I have just returned from a Pack Holiday with 1st Broadford pack. I attended as an observer. The holiday was held on the Rowallan Estate at Riddell—a lovely setting deep in woods, and with koalas and bellbirds about.

The theme was Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. I was Sleepy—a very appropriate name! The dads had gone ahead with bedding and kits, and had a huge fire ready for us—very welcome. The Brownies took a long time to settle because what had been plans for months was now taking place . . . their first pack holiday.

A nature walk brought us many interesting items—including, too, a swinging bridge which we had to cross next day to the Chapel. The District Commissioner brought us a visitor . . . the tester! We had a beautiful lunch and then some handcraft. After tea the Brownies put on a concert. Up early, then to our very special spot for our Brownies' Own. It was very cold when we got back, but soup soon warmed us up.

Soon it was time to pack up and as parents arrived the Brownies took them on a tour of the site and gave them afternoon tea.

I cannot wait now to take my own Brownies on their pack holiday—and I thank Broadford for making me so very welcome. I only hope I can put all I learnt into practice.

Vera Saunders,
Brown Owl, 2nd Wangaratta.





WORLD BUREAU DIRECTOR'S VISITS

Miss Lyn Joyst has been on a seven-week Asian tour. On her return she gave us some brief descriptions of her programme. Space allows only for a few "highlights".

Afghanistan. There were many discussions with Government officials, which they described as "fruitful". The van provided by Girl Guides of Australia certainly meets a great need. I met Girl Guides in the schools and Rangers at the University. The girls do good community work, visiting families in the low-income group where they teach simple home economics, working at the clinics with handicapped people, etc. We also spent a lot of time discussing future programmes and methods of providing technical assistance to help Afghanistan Girl Guides to prepare for membership in the World Association.

Pakistan. I was able to meet thousands of girls and leaders in Peshawar, Rawalpindi, Lahore and Karachi and surrounding villages. I saw the work being done to assist victims from the recent floods, and was able to visit the new site where Guides are helping to rebuild a village. In Lahore, the Guides run classes for children who do not go to school, and teach the women in the local prison to read and write. We also met enthusiastic groups of handicapped Guides, and visited village homes where Guides visit to teach individual girls to read and write, part of the scheme "Each one teach one".

COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE, 1974.

Cheers! Cheers! The 1974 Commissioners' Conference was in May, and as I am otherwise involved in August each year, I was able to attend. My very first weekend Commissioners' Conference! I hope 1975 Conference will be in May/June too.

I was not disappointed.

I was "dared" to have a fruitful weekend — and I certainly did. In fact, come to think of it, I was "dared" to do a number of things that weekend — "Dared to Ask" by Mrs. Jean Oldfield, "Dared to Reach Out" (both in Guiding and to migrants) by Mrs. Barbara Kearney, "Dared to Sing" and "Dared to be Still" by Miss Peg Barr (what beautiful pictures and thoughts were in this segment), but mainly, through the whole Conference, I was "Dared to Lead".

I accepted all these challenges, and know that weekend has certainly helped me.

Latrobe University was an ideal venue. We read of the "stirrers" in the Universities. Why doesn't the media ever report the helpful young men who not only showed us our allotted rooms, but also carried our bags?

Training sessions were so helpful I felt I could have spent the whole weekend on these alone. Those "daring" guest speakers — both males; the Guides Own, the whole programme involved "me".

I got to know faces better, made new friends, and, most importantly, I learned lots!

Thank you, Mrs. Kirkpatrick, and your Committee for providing this fabulous weekend. From that first thought — two pieces of fruit with a card "daring me to have a fruitful weekend", right through to the close, I was grateful — it was a superb weekend.

Lorrie Chapman,
District Commissioner, Lower Plenty.



From the GUIDE SHOP

NEW BOOKS

| | |
|---|--------|
| Children's Book of the Year is now available for Unit Libraries: "The Nargun and The Stars" | \$3.75 |
| A Book for Patrol Leaders published by Girl Guide Association, New Zealand, and approved for use in Australia | 45c |
| Two puzzle sheets for Brownies, also suitable for colouring:: | 6c |
| Find the Dangers in the Cottage | 6c |
| Spot the Good Turns | 6c |

CRAFT SERIES

| | |
|---|---|
| Make it of Cardboard. | all 50 cents each |
| Make it with Chenille Stems (Pipe Cleaners). | Make it with Eggshells and Egg Cartons. |
| Make it with Plywood. | Make it with Cotton Yard Goods. |
| Make it with Yarn. | Make it with Coffee Cans. |
| Make it with Socks and Stockings. | Make it with Milk and Cream Cartons. |
| Styrofoam. | Party Favours and Decorations (from grocery store products and packages). |
| Easy to make Bazaar Specialties. | Paper Projects. |
| Seasonal Party Table Decorations. | Craft Stick Fun for Everyone. |
| | Aluminium Foil Projects. |
| | Scrap Craft Projects. |

NOW AVAILABLE:

| | |
|---|--------|
| The Second Edition of the Australian Newsletter (Keeping Track) | 8c |
| World Newsletter — Feb./Mar./April | 5c |
| Girl Guide Knot Book | \$1.00 |

ALTERATIONS TO PRICE LIST

Please alter the appropriate pages in your copy.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| Belt Pouch | to \$1.50 | Navy Guider Handbag | to \$9.40 |
| Brownie Belt | to \$1.15 | Unit Helper's Badge | to \$1.30 |
| Brownie Journey Badges | to 20c | Patrol Roll and Subs. Book | to 12c |
| " Venture Badges | to 15c | Brownie Note Books | to 15c |
| " Interest Badges | to 15c | Brownie Writing Pad | to 30c |
| " Emblems | to 15c | Envelopes with Trefoil, per pkt. 20 | to 30c |
| " Service Stars | to 10c | Sonata Superior Polyester Sleeping | |
| " Sixer and Second Stripes | to 15c | Bags | to \$20.90 |
| " Beret Badge | to 15c | Ground Sheets 7' x 3' | to \$4.15 |
| Guide Beret Badge | to 35c | Hike Ground Sheets | to 45c |
| " Patrol Leader Beret Badge | to 15c | Silva Compass No. 3 | to \$6.60 |
| " Queen's Guide Badge | to 30c | Silva Compass No. 5 | to \$4.15 |
| " Interest Badges | to 15c | Victorian Souvenirs with Guide | |
| " Collective Emblems | to 30c | Badge and Pink Heath | |
| " Service Flash | to 20c | Sugar Spoon | to \$1.25 |
| " Patrol Leader and Second | | Sugar Basin | to \$4.35 |
| Stripes | to 20c | Bottle Opener | to \$1.20 |
| " Pack Guide Stripes | to 15c | Candlesticks | to \$4.25 |
| " Ex Pack Guide Stripes | to 15c | Key Ring (Australian Fauna) | to \$1.35 |
| " Patrol Emblems | to 40c | Paper Knives | to \$1.55 |
| Guider Skirt Material | to \$5.80 | Tea Strainer on Stand | to \$2.00 |
| | per yd. | Guide and Brownie Plastic Mugs | to 40c |

Victorian Newsletter

AUGUST, 1974

Dear Everyone,

As I write this letter I am in the U.S.A. having a wonderful trip — holiday is hardly the right word, as we are moving fast and in the two or three days in each place we are working hard at being tourists and trying to get to know the people and the area. We have been to Honolulu, lovely and warm and relaxing, San Francisco — where I saw little more than my bedroom due to the flu! We were in Sacramento on 4th July and watched a great procession in Old Sacramento, an area they are rebuilding as in early days. That night we saw the Musical, "1776", in their Civic Centre — a magnificent building only opened the week before. This play about American Independence seemed very appropriate.

From there we went to Vancouver, which is lovely, with snow on the mountains around — across the Rockies to Banff — again, superb snow-clad mountains all around, or so we thought until we saw the breathtaking scenery on a trip to the Columbia Icefields. After this day, Banff seemed rather tame. We then moved on to the prairies of Winnipeg — hot and flat — and next stop is Los Angeles. As you can tell, I could almost write a book about my experiences — and I have taken already over 200 slides.

The one thing that has thrilled me above all else has been the wonderful friendship extended to me by the Girl Scouts of U.S.A. and the Girl Guides of Canada. Everywhere, as soon as I arrived, there was either a letter or phone call saying "welcome" and "what can you fit into your schedule?" In San Francisco — unfortunately — I missed seeing an established camp because of the flu, but had a couple of chats over the phone.

In Vancouver I was very spoilt. Madga Nyberg, a member of the International Committee, gave up 1½ days to take me to camps. The first one, Camp Olave, where we visited a Provincial Camp and had dinner with them all. This is a beautiful spot right on the ocean and the girls had come from all over British Columbia. Naturally the girls were much the same as ours, but camping conditions are different. They were all in small cabins holding five, and their cooking area had stainless steel sinks and a magnificent electric stove as well as their camp oven — all under shelter. The theme of the camp was "Happiness Is" — brought back memories of Brownie Guiders' Conference in Victoria last year.

At Camp Tsoona there was the Music Camp — girls again from all over the Province. Here I had lunch with them all, and they put on a short musical session for me. One Guider is English who commutes to British Columbia every summer to help at camps. The theme of this was "It's a Small World", and, as I looked at everyone singing in the Long House, a delightful log building, I thought back to you all in Australia, and said "How true" — as far as Guiding is concerned and the friendship between us all. It is a very small world.

Love to you all.

JOAN E. GRIMWADE,
State Commissioner.

MATILDA • August, 1974

OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO GUIDERS

"THE SPANNING SEMINAR '74"

Guiders.—Have you sent in your application forms for the "Spanning Seminar '74" yet? It is to be on Saturday, 12th October, at Melbourne University, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and at Headquarters from 7.30 p.m.-9.30 p.m. Application forms were included with July "Matilda". No extra meals will be available on the day, so make sure applications are in by 14th September.

GUIDE SECTION

Interest Badges are a part of the Guide programme for the individual Guide to challenge herself and further her knowledge. Guides may attend courses which will help them with an Interest Badge, but testing must be done individually and NOT en masse.

It has been noted that First Aid, Emergency Helper, Accident Prevention and Home Nurse Badges are being tested en masse. As the knowledge gained for these Badges should be individual so that a Guide may be able to cope with a situation should it occur, it is necessary that girls should be tested individually. This ensures that the standard is the best of which each Guide is capable.

The person who teaches for an Interest Badge may not test unless an exception is asked for because of circumstances.

YOUNG LEADERS' GROUP

Following the highly successful July meeting with Scout Leaders who had expressed interest in joining the Group, the Young Leaders' Group extend another invitation to all **Young Leaders** to join them. The next meeting is 12th September, at 569 Elgar Road, Box Hill North, starting at 8 p.m.

They also ask you to note the date, 5th October, when they will be having a B.B.Q. and a Get to Know Each Other night (for all those new members expected at the next meeting, as well as the new Scout Leaders who attended the July meeting). More details in September "Matilda". For further information ring Judy Pretty (89 9637) or Fiona Constable (89 8476).

Commissioners: Please advise Headquarters of any changes of your Unit Leaders at your earliest convenience.

ITEMS OF INTEREST TO ALL

EXTENSIONS

The series of lectures on **The Handicapped Child**, which have been arranged through Mr. Brian Dixon, and are to be given by members of the **Special Teachers' Association**, will be held on the following dates: Tuesday, 10th September — at Headquarters, 7.40 p.m.; Tuesday, 17th September — at Headquarters, 7.40 p.m.; Tuesday, 1st October — at "Travencore" Special School, Flemington Street, Flemington, 7.30 p.m. Enquiries to Extension Adviser, Mrs. R. H. Renard (857 9447).

AN S.O.S. FROM THE CAMPING DEPARTMENT

Help is needed to tidy equipment and mend lanterns at Britannia Park. Anyone interested please contact Camping Adviser, Mrs. Squire (762 1846).

LEISURE TIME ACTIVITIES VACATION PROGRAMME

Western Suburbs (Footscray) — 26th - 30th August.

Central Activities (Guide Headquarters) — 2nd - 6th September.
Application forms are now available from Guide Headquarters.

The programmes for both areas will be:

Monday and Tuesday: General Arts and Crafts.

Wednesday: Footscray Group.—The girls will visit places of historic and rural interest, including a farm.

Central.—The girls will go to Bacchus Marsh to the Lion Safari.

Thursday and Friday: Specialised activities under the guidance of outside experts. These activities will allow the participants to develop new skills or gain further experience in subjects of interest to them. The subjects to be covered are cake decorating (Guides only), macrame, enamelling and pottery, and there will also be a theatre workshop.

Cost: Full week — \$11.

Daily bookings — \$2.50, except for the trip to the Lion Safari which is \$2.

Lion Safari: As this outing was such a success it is being repeated this year, and is open to Unit and family groups. Special forms are available from Guide Headquarters. Cost: Children, \$2.00; Adults, \$2.75. The train will leave Spencer Street Station at 9.15 a.m. and return to Flinders Street Station at 3.15 p.m. Special buses will meet the train at Bacchus Marsh and go direct to the Lion Safari.

ARE THESE DATES IN YOUR DIARY?

16th October — Luncheon for Division Commissioners and Mayoresses at Headquarters.

21st October — Annual Meeting, Girl Guides Association, Victoria.

22nd October — Open Day for All Commissioners.

TRAINING CALENDAR SUPPLEMENT

(To be read in conjunction with Training Calendar in "Matilda").

Stage 1 — North Metropolitan Region

Wednesdays — 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th October, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Location — Guide Hall, Cromwell Street, Glenroy. Applications and \$1.50 fee to Training Department, Guide Headquarters, by 19th September.

Stage 1 — Central Metropolitan Region

Weekends — 14th/15th September and 19th/20th October, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Location — Headquarters. Applications and \$1.50 fee to Mrs. A. N. Fox, 9 Gardenia Street, Blackburn, by 30th August.

Stage 1 — Maroondah Region

Weekends — 14th/15th September and 28th/29th September, from 9.30 a.m.-3.30 p.m. Location — Guide Hall, Bedford Road, Ringwood. Applications and \$1.50 fee to Mrs. C. Howarth, 7 Lauriston Court, Ringwood, 3134, by 30th August.

Stage 2

Weekends — 28th/29th September and 26th/27th October, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Location — Headquarters. Applications and \$1.50 fee to Training Department, Guide Headquarters, by 13th September.

Stage 2 — Goulburn Region

Weekends — 28th/29th September and 26th/27th October, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Location — Tatura. Applications and \$1.50 fee to Mrs. M. Murphy, Box 874, Shepparton, 3630, by 13th September.

Stage 2 — South Eastern Region

Wednesdays — 16th and 23rd October, from 7.30 p.m. - 9.45 p.m. Location — Chadstone. Residential Weekend at Mayfield Centre, Malvern — 2nd/3rd November. (Times and cost to be advised.) Applications and \$1.50 to Miss M. Hunt, 8 Alcala Court, 7 Alcala Avenue, Chadstone, by 2nd October.

Stage 3 — North Central Region

Please notify R.T.A. if you would like lunch provided. (Fee to be advised.)

Stage 3 — Barree Region

Please note that this training will be held at Chiltern, **not** Wodonga as advertised in the Training Calendar.

Campcraft — Barwon Region

Friday, 20th September, from 7.30 p.m. - 9 p.m., at Guide Hall, Myers Street, Geelong; plus weekends 28th/29th September, 19th/20th October and 16th/17th November, from 10 a.m. Saturday to 4 p.m. Sunday, at "Tallawalla", Moggs Creek. Cost of weekends to be advised. The First Aid Section to be covered by three or four night sessions during the above period. Applications and \$1.50 fee to Mrs. A. Bell, 1 Layton Crescent, Newtown, 3220, by 6th September.

Campcraft — South Metropolitan Region

Fee for this course will be \$1.50, plus approximately \$4 for meals, etc. Further information in Training Calendar.

Camp First Aid — South Metropolitan Region

Wednesdays — 23rd and 30th October, 6th November, from 7.30 p.m. - 9 p.m. Location — Moorleigh Guide Hall, East Bentleigh. Applications and \$1.00 fee to Mrs. A. Watsford, 6 Millis Avenue, East Bentleigh, 3165, by 9th October.

Pack Holiday — Barwon Region

Weekend — 2nd/3rd November. Further information available from Mrs. A. Bell, 1 Layton Crescent, Newtown, 3220.

Publicity and Public Relations

The above training will be held at Ararat on Tuesday, 1st October, and is open to all Commissioners and Publicity Secretaries. Further information and application forms can be obtained from the Publicity Department, Guide Headquarters. Applications close on Wednesday, 18th September.

Training Day for L.A. Office Bearers

A Training Day for L.A. Office Bearers will be held at Guide Headquarters on 2nd October, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Applications and \$1 (per L.A.) to reach the Training Department, Guide Headquarters, by 19th September.

Campfire Club.

12th September, 10th October, 14th November, at Guide Headquarters, from 8 p.m. - 9.30 p.m.

CONGRATULATIONS to the recipients of the following:

Guiders' Long Service (25 years):
Mrs. J. Rendell, Yallourn.

Guiders' Long Service (15 years):
Mrs. H. Duxson, Stawell.
Mrs. C. M. Harvey, Hadfield.
Mrs. I. Schmidt, Bunyip.
Mrs. M. Pritchard, Brighton.
Mrs. B. Goldenberg, St. Kilda.
Mrs. T. Green, St. Kilda.

Combined Long Service:
Mrs. D. McGraw, Cohuna.
Mrs. I. Shepard, Murchison.
Mrs. E. M. Berry, Bunyip.
Mrs. J. T. Oddie, Skipton.
Mrs. G. C. Notman, Skipton.
Mrs. L. Jacka, Warrnambool.

Local Association Long Service:
Mrs. E. Hansen, Altona.
Mrs. C. W. Taylor, Skipton.

Thanks Badge:
Mr. H. A. Webster, Armadale.
Mr. B. Salau, Werribee.

APPOINTMENTS AND WARRANTS

A warm welcome is extended to the following:—

REGION COMMISSIONER:
Mrs. T. H. Indian, Yarra Valley.

DIVISION COMMISSIONER:
Mrs. E. Pascoe, Dandenong; Mrs. N. T. Pullen, Brighton.

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS:
Mrs. D. A. Cardie, Flinders; Mrs. D. A. Farmer, Melton; Mrs. R. S. Robinson, Ararat; Mrs. H. J. Christie, Rochester; Mrs. R. E. Gray, Kerrimuir; Mrs. P. E. Churton, Tawonga; Mrs. R. R. Chambers, Ballan; Mrs. A. S. Mullaney, Doncaster Central; Mrs. P. B. Costiff, Skipton; Mrs. I. J. McKerihan, Dandenong North.

RANGER GUIDERS:

Mrs. F. Baring, 2nd Frankston Rangers.

ASSISTANT RANGER GUIDERS:
Mrs. N. Nettleship, 2nd Frankston Rangers.

GUIDE GUIDERS:

Miss H. Eager, 1st Parkmore; Mrs. D. Hunter, 2nd Korumburra; Miss S. Marshall, 1st Broadmeadows; Mrs. D. T. Thompson, 2nd Rochester; Mrs. G. Cattanach, 4th Glenroy; Mrs. Y. Drake, 2nd Glenroy; Miss R. Myers, 1st Glenroy; Miss J. Egan, 2nd Wangaratta; Mrs. W. A. Spicer, 4th Ballarat; Mrs. C. Bahnerth, 2nd Puckapunyal.

ASSISTANT GUIDE GUIDERS

Miss S. McCall, 3rd Strathmore; Mrs. S. B. Bromham, 1st Ferny Creek; Mrs. R. O. McKindlay, 2nd Beaumaris; Mrs. R. Simpson, 2nd Newborough; Mrs. E. Farmer, 1st Newborough.

BROWNIE GUIDERS:

Mrs. M. Wilson, 3rd Croydon West; Mrs. A. Fyffe, 2nd Parkmore; Mrs. R. N. Williams, 1st Yarragon; Miss H. M. Butcher, 1st Nth. Sunshine; Mrs. D. A. Avent, 2nd Keilor; Mrs. H. J. Moffatt, 4th Cheltenham; Miss C. A. Dalton, 3rd Cheltenham; Mrs. R. A. Burt, 1st

Werribee; Mrs. B. E. Shores, 1st Wattle Park; Mrs. J. Crockett, 2nd Coolaroo; Mrs. J. R. Knox, 2nd Ferny Creek; Mrs. A. A. Hogg, 2nd Syndal Nth.; Miss M. Hardie, 1st Moe; Mrs. J. Brown, 1st Heidelberg; Mrs. G. W. Rawson, 1st Gembrook; Mrs. K. Nero, 1st Wangaratta; Mrs. J. Wilkes, 1st Newport; Miss R. Jones, 1st Gardiner.

ASSISTANT BROWNIE GUIDERS

Mrs. A. Nagel, 2nd Parkmore; Mrs. B. J. Thompson, 1st Werribee; Miss P. F. Hammond, 1st Timboon; Mrs. C. B. Burchett, 2nd Rye; Miss C. F. Thomson, 1st Moe; Mrs. J. M. Winfield, 1st Murchison; Miss A. Freedland, 3rd East Malvern.

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REGISTRATIONS

Plenty Ranger Unit; 4th Caulfield Pack; 2nd Leongatha Pack; 1st Lockington Pack; 3rd Croydon West Pack; 2nd Cheltenham Coy.; 1st Baxter Coy.; 2nd Leongatha Coy.; Baxter L.A., Waverley Div., Trefoil Guild.

RETIREMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

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

REGION COMMISSIONER

Mrs. R. H. Millen, Yarra Valley.

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Mrs. G. S. Fowles, Dandenong North; Mrs. A. E. Stacey, Sea Lake; Mrs. W. A. Drummond, Broadmeadows; Mrs. B. Griffith, Fawkner; Mrs. E. F. Billson, South Yarra-Toorak; Mrs. W. G. Fenton, Rushworth; Mrs. A. D. Johnston, Melton; Mrs. W. F. Humphreys, Horsham; Mrs. R. J. Broadbent, Doncaster Central; Mrs. I. G. Russell, Westmeadows; Mrs. A. C. Don, Woodend; Mrs. R. H. Watson, Ballan; Mrs. R. J. Ferguson, Sale; Mrs. L. W. Morell, Skipton; Mrs. R. M. Blennerhassett, Cardross.

GUIDE GUIDERS

Mrs. N. Steffenson, 5th Syndal Nth.; Mrs. R. C. Bond, 2nd Korumburra; Mrs. C. E. Morrison, 4th Wattle Park; Mrs. J. Calliss, 2nd Puckapunyal; Miss L. K. Christian, 1st Jeparit; Mrs. H. Perry, 2nd St. Albans; Mrs. A. H. Rose, 1st Leongatha; Mrs. N. J. Geary, 1st Puckapunyal; Miss J. R. Pearse, 1st Macarthur; Mrs. R. D. Hartskeerl, 2nd Overport; Mrs. W. M. Cull, 1st Portarlington.

ASSISTANT GUIDE GUIDERS

Miss W. J. Vinecombe, 1st Clunes; Miss M. M. Kennedy, 2nd Noble Park; Miss H. J. Hall, 1st Yallourn North; Miss D. E. Harris, 2nd St. Albans; Miss A. D. Squires, 1st Lake Boga; Miss M. Wyeth, 1st Traralgon; Mrs. D. N. Trewella, 1st Mildura; Miss G. A. Lane, 1st Moorleigh; Mrs. D. Hunter, 2nd Korumburra; Miss S. Marshall, 1st Broadmeadows; Miss R. Myers, 1st Glenroy; Mrs. W. A. Spicer, 4th Ballarat; Mrs. P. M. Burzacott, 2nd Karingal.

BROWNIE GUIDERS

Mrs. R. H. Diggins, 1st Parkmore; Mrs. P. Honeybone, 2nd Trentham Cliffs; Mrs. H. Elliot, 4 Syndal North; Mrs. P. A. Thomas, 3rd Noble Park; Mrs. G. A. Williams, 2nd Dimboola; Mrs. P. Haire, 1st Jeparit; Mrs. W. J. Anderson, 1st Lake Boga; Mrs. J. F. Hauenstein, 1st Leopold-Wallington; Mrs. C. E. Walton, 2nd Cohuna; Mrs. R. F. Anderson, 2nd Moorleigh.

ASSISTANT BROWNIE GUIDERS

Mrs. E. P. Rindt, 5th Syndal North; Mrs. P. S. Danby, 2nd Glen Iris; Mrs. C. Tisell, 1st Olympic Village; Miss E. R. Dyer, 1st Yallourn North; Mrs. J. Revell, 1st Murchison; Mrs. E. A. Wood, 2nd Dimboola; Mrs. B. Rayner, 1st Orbost; Mrs. W. Bazik, 2nd North Sunshine; Miss S. Cornell, 1st Mildura; Miss J. Aarons, 1st Surrey Hills; Mrs. J. O'Brien, 1st Brighton; Mrs. J. A. Young, 2nd Moorleigh; Miss H. M. Butcher, 1st North Sunshine; Mrs. A. A. Hogg, 2nd Syndal North; Mrs. D. A. Avent, 2nd Keilor; Mrs. K. R. Hunter, 3rd Sale.

* * * *

DEAR MATILDA

I have been a Guide for five years and a Brownie for three, and now that I have turned sixteen I must leave 2nd Mornington Company. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone connected with Guiding in Australia for giving me those enjoyable years of friendship and fun. Guiding has provided me with a lamp to light my future and make clear my past. It has given me knowledge in many fields, courage, service to others, and, through camping, an appreciation of this great country.

I would especially like to thank my Captain for her help, particularly while I was doing my Queen's Guide badge. My leader, Kulumara, also deserves thanks unlimited, as do the five devoted, great members of my patrol. It is impossible to thank all who have brought the true ideals of Guiding closer to me, so I will just say, THANKS EVERYONE!

Claire Speedie,
P.L., 2nd Mornington Co.



HISTORY OF THE VICTORIAN GUIDE STATE BADGE

The first reference to a State Badge for the Girl Guides' Association of Victoria can be found in "Matilda," March, 1926, where it is stated that the Executive Committee, of that time, had resolved that the State Badge should be a single sprig of wattle in enamel.

In "Matilda," December, 1926, the following reference appeared under the heading "State Badge": "Several of the Australian States have already chosen their designs, and it was decided that the Badge for Victoria should be a sprig of wattle. The Executive has decided, however, to ask for further designs, which should be approximately the size of a Tenderfoot Badge and be representative of the State. Designs should be sent to the State Secretary by March 1st, 1927."

It was announced in "Matilda," December, 1927, that the Executive Committee at their August meeting had accepted and ratified that the design as submitted for the State Badge (Southern Cross on blue lozenge surmounted by a crown) be adopted.

The design for the State Badge was suggested by Miss M. Moore, one of our early Guiders and Commissioners. At her request Miss D. Holtz drew the actual design.

The first State Badges were on sale in the Guide shop in August, 1928, and, believe it or not, the costs were Guiders 1/6, Guides 6d.