

# THE GUIDER

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## CONTENTS

	PAGE
The Path of the Founder, by Jack Stewart	25
Some Reflections for Thinking Day, by M. Stevenson	28
Watching Wild Life, by B. Metville Nicholas	29
Official Organs	30
Notes of the Month	31
Have You Tried This?	32
At Company Prayers	33
Fiona Flies Up—2—The Adventure Trail	34
From the Chief Commissioner's Diary	35



## CONTENTS

	PAGE
'Open Minds and Open Hearts', by Allison Duke	35
Games or No Games?	37
Camping by Conversation—2, by C. M. Smith	39
Where to Train	40
Suggestions for Entertainments	41
Headquarters Notices	42
The Guider's Post Bag	43
Census of Membership, 1948 and 1949	43

## The Path of the Founder

By Jack Stewart

**F**ORTY years in the life of an individual seems a long time, but forty years in the life of a World Movement is only a second in time, and yet today we find the paths of Scouting and Guiding very well defined by the tramp of many feet that have followed the path of the Founder these forty years.

The milestones of the years have a tale to tell. In 1909, 124,000 were journeying along the path of Scouting with all the enthusiasm of youth, and today, despite two devastating world wars, there is a very goodly company of Scouts and Guides jogging along that road, close on seven million strong, from over forty countries, following the trail blazed for them by a man who left his footprints in the sands of time.

'Oh the great days in the distance enchanted,  
Days of fresh air in the rain and the sun.  
How we rejoiced as we struggled and panted,  
Hardly believable—forty years on.'

The extraordinary thing was that this trail was suited for all ages, so that as you grew older you progressed in your training, mentally, physically and spiritually. It was as if you started very simply with an easy red, blue or white wool trail, and then you got to the more difficult one of green against the trees, and grey against the stones or tree trunks, until finally wool became unnecessary and you followed the footprints on the ground itself.

Like a good tracker, it is very essential that we pause for a breather now and again and look around at the landmarks that

border the path. They are exemplified by the footprints on the path. Some of them have become rather indistinct or blurred in the scuffle of the last ten years, and if we feel that they have become blurred then we should return, like the good tracker, to the last clear track, cast around, and strengthened, move forward with new vigour.

Our ideals are of the highest; they are bound up in our Promise and our Law. It is a way of life, and unless we realise it is a way of life we should not be in the game of Scouting or Guiding.

Scouting and Guiding are a vital spark to our Christian faith and bring it into action. Remember, B-P said: 'I am not trying to teach the boy or girl how to earn a living: I am rather teaching them how to live'. He sought the practice of our Christian faith in our everyday dealings and in every walk of life that we came against, and not merely the profession of its theology on one day in the week—Sunday.

In the Law B-P gave us a positive code of living. Today, if you look at each of the ten Laws and say to yourself in your own mind how do they apply to the present outlook in your own country and the outlook in the world in general, you will agree that they are ideal, though it is over forty years ago now that they were set.

Let us look at the first one, Honour. We all realise only too well that 'Honour bright' has ceased to exist, that honour has become rather grey in colour by the circumstances around us. There are so many controls, so many restrictions, that the temptation is to



The Founder, Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell, O.M., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.C.B., LL.D.



try to get round them instead of submit to them. You think yourself so very clever if you have succeeded in getting round a control or a restriction that your neighbour has had to abide by. Your shade of honour is changing. And we, as a movement which has always stood for 'Honour bright' as the very highest quality, must remember that we have to get that honour brighter again.

Then, courtesy. I heard a lady teacher in a conference at Edinburgh recently advocating that there should be a new by-law that children under fifteen should be compelled to stand up in a tram-car and offer their seats to people. I was in Norway last summer and I remember a man of over seventy, who stood up in a 'bus and embarrassed me immensely by trying to give me his seat. He said: 'We never could have a foreigner standing in a 'bus'. That was old-fashioned courtesy, which now many people laugh at; they take the attitude of the mother who says: 'Oh, my Win paid for her ticket; she can keep her seat'.

We must preserve our ideals, because the world needs ideals today. If we can bring together as many as possible with the same ideals as ours, and the same way of life, and our brotherhood and sisterhood include the many millions of old Scouts and Guides, we shall be giving the world today a better outlook and a better way of life that will be of service to mankind.

I think the patrol system is the next landmark. I don't know if we realise how much we owe to that suggestion of B-P of the little gang with their leaders, the fostering of the team spirit, loyalty and tradition, and the little Court of Honour getting together, the beginning of a true democracy, where they have a say in what each ought to be doing.

The movements have survived two world wars for no other reason than that we had the patrol system of Baden-Powell; because you could take away as many of our leaders as you cared and we still carried on Scouting and Guiding.

And that patrol system leads on to the family spirit of Scouting in the troop, in the county, in the country, the Brotherhood and Sisterhood, the family spirit of Scouting at every level.

Then the individual comes in. B-P said: 'Don't worry about the mass; specialise in the individual. Get to know his good points and encourage them; get to know his bad points and get rid of them'. Treat the boy and the girl as an individual; know their ambitions, their hopes, their fears; and if you have that individual outlook imbued in the boys and girls and in the leaders, you are fostering the freedom of the movement.

Then, in our scheme of training, we must not forget our two main aims—training in character, training in physical health. I sometimes say: 'Why do so many people pass along the path of the Founder? Is it because we have a scheme of training which never mentions character training, health or citizenship, but provides an outdoor, adventurous game that appeals to youth?' B-P himself called it a school of citizenship through woodcraft. The aim, he said, is not new, but its methods. Here was a practical outlet for youth's normal desires, without making them aware. And, as you know, our Founder was an example himself, as he excelled in all outdoor and adventurous work.

He gave to us a system of training with badges, to help the youth in his leisure hours to find his right place in industry so that he could be the round peg finding the round hole. He was pre-trained in what was to be his walk in life, so that when he went into it he could raise the efficiency of the nation by being already pre-selected for what he would like.

We have a progressive scheme of training, and please don't forget it at any level of your Scouting or Guiding, that we progress, and it has to work from the moment the new Scout or the new Guide joins the troop or company. Let the patrol function, and the troop and the company are the inspiration they come back to, to draw greater strength to go forward.

Then, service. Is the old good turn falling into disuse? There is an attitude today of 'What can we get out of this?' not 'What can we put into it?' We live in a so-called welfare state which encourages the idea of 'What can we give you?'

You don't need to worry now about your health; you are looked after if you grow old; if you lose your hair you can get a wig; everything is provided. You don't need to save for the welfare of your family, because the State have looked after that for you—incidentally, you pay a contribution to it. You don't need to worry about your later years because you will get your pension, and then, later on, they will bury you, too.

I wonder if, today, the producer is thinking more of his profit than his service? I am in industry and I know quite well the circumstances in trade today. I know the inclination to be shoddy in your craftsmanship and not give of your best. And every one of us knows a Guide or Scout somewhere who has been put into some job and maybe is not frightfully keen about the job; and do they develop the right outlook at the start, that there is a pride of giving skill of craftsmanship in their job and thereby indirectly giving service to the community? We need to give better skill.

Thrift: that is rather outworn, maybe, but we still have an incentive to save because if you save you save for one purpose—to spend it later on to give happiness to other people.

Service elsewhere: B-P always said, to Rangers and Rovers especially, 'Get out of the movement and give service to other walks of life, and wherever you go promote your ideas of Scouting and service in every circle that you happen to join that has nothing to do with Scouting and Guiding'. Sometimes we forget that and get wholly absorbed in Scouting and Guiding and shirk going on to other walks to lend a hand and spread the gospel.

Then we should make ourselves fit to give service. If a person looks fit, healthy and efficient, people will ask for service from that person and will expect service of a high quality. Therefore we must keep ourselves fit to give service. I have never forgotten the French Girl Guides in the Jamboree of 1947 who stayed about half a mile away, and every morning trudged into the camp singing, and took up their different jobs. They worked there all day long, and for the privilege of working fourteen hours a day they paid 2,000 francs. Then at the end of the day they trudged home, singing, back to the camp, where they took off their uniforms and washed and ironed them so that they would look smart and fresh the next day.

Then friendship and brotherhood; this important landmark has always been very prominent. It says 'A Scout and Guide is a friend to all', or just 'B-P—Be Pals'. Friendship to everyone, and then brotherhood and sisterhood within its ranks. We must cultivate the habit of making friends with the boy and girl of today. We have many ways of helping to make friends—your Pen Pals, your Link-up Schemes, all your various International Friendship Companies and all other ideas that help to foster this friendship element. Can we realise the bigness of the Brotherhood and Sisterhood, close on seven million of us?

The strength of the Fourth Scout Law has to be seen to be realised. An Icelandic District Commissioner came to Scotland a year ago, with a very sick wife who had to have an operation in Manchester. I met them at the docks in Glasgow, took them to my home for a couple of nights and then I put them on a train for Manchester. I said: 'Is anyone here going to Manchester?' Immediately someone said: 'I used to be a Guide. I will look after them'. They were met by the Scouts of Manchester who looked after them during their whole stay. And when this District Commissioner finally came back to Prestwick Aerodrome, where I was going to see him off, he said good-bye to me, the tears trickling down his cheeks as he said: 'Scouting is terrific'. And so it is. But does the girl or boy realise that, when you hold out your left hand for the first time, you are not just joining the Umpteenth Company or Troop of Guides or Scouts, but you are joining that same night the greatest Brotherhood and Sisterhood that mankind has ever known.

The urge to get together in brotherhood and sisterhood is a thing that always strikes me as extraordinary. As I came back again from Norway this year I realised it. Thirty New



Zealanders came to Norway; they worked their passage. It cost the New Zealanders £235 each to come to the Jamboree, and while they were there the people left in New Zealand were still working to raise the money to finance them. It cost the thirty-three Philippines £335 each. Think of the great effort behind it to get together. Then there were the twelve Finnish boys who came on their bikes right through Sweden to the Moot; they had one day at the Moot and then had to go back again. When we think of these things we begin to realise the tremendous bigness of our Sisterhood and Brotherhood—and may they long go on hand in hand.

One thing more I must say: it is the spirit of B-P. The Founder today is not personally known to this generation of Scouts and Guides, and yet his spirit must be preserved and go right down through the ages. I knew B-P. On eleven occasions I spoke with him and I remember distinctly each one of those conversations. I remember the firm grasp of his left hand. I remember the bright, steely look in his eye as he looked at you with interest and talked with you; and above all I remember his vibrant voice and personality coming out to you, and you went away with a renewed strength and said: 'My word, I must get on with the job'. That voice, for those of us who knew it, must keep vibrating down the path of Scouting for all time. I met Colonel Wilson last Saturday, who was telling me he had just come back from Germany, where many German Scouts were beginning to get going. He had had one great pleasure. He opened a Headquarters in the cellar of a much bombed building in Cologne and what intrigued him most of all was a mural on one wall of Robert Baden-Powell.

When I was at the Jamboree I was with B-P's grandson and others going round the camp in a car one day, and old Sten Thiel came up and stood at the side of the car and asked to be introduced to the grandson. He went round and shook hands and saluted, and then filled up the radiator of the car; and old Sten Thiel, with the tears running down his cheeks, said: 'I can see the spirit of the old man there'.

And I think it so appropriate that of all his many titles the one B-P liked best was the one on his gravestone—'Chief Scout of the World'.

'So when a great man dies,  
For years beyond our ken  
The Light he leaves behind him lies  
Upon the paths of men'.

So today, as we look at the path we follow, can we not see the genius of the man, for are not these landmarks that bound



the path, the landmarks mankind must follow to bring us nearer to the universal brotherhood of man? Did our Founder start a new path forty years ago, or did he but clear an old path that had been rather clogged with debris, so that he revealed, to the better understanding of the youth of the world, its purpose—a very old path that had its first beginning on a Christmas morning well nigh 2,000 years ago.

When I was at Blair Atholl last year for the Scottish International Patrol Jamboree, I used to finish my evenings by taking a quiet stroll round the whole camp before the boys fell asleep. I remember one night it was very beautiful. There was a clear blue sky, a gentle breeze was rustling the tall firs and there were the red embers of some big fires here and there. I looked at the quiet horizon of mountain peaks and I saw, across the river, one bright star just topping a peak, just like a light on the spire of some huge cathedral, very like our own sign with its three-fold promise of service to God, to country and to mankind, pointing the way. I feel that if we follow our own star it will show us the right way, as did a star to three wise men many years ago.

It is that star that everyone who walks in the way of the Founder must forever follow. And with these ideals living now in the hearts of those in our movement in so many different lands, we can but continue striving with unceasing zeal along the path, hoping that in God's good time they will fire the hearts of all men and women. Then indeed the path of the Founder will become the Broad Highway.

(Extracts from a talk at the County Commissioners' Conference at Imperial Headquarters. Mr. Jack Stewart will talk again about the Founder at the Guide Guiders' Conference in Edinburgh, on April 2nd, 1950.)





# Some Reflections for Thinking Day

**T**HINKING Day is the time for all Guides to 'look wide' and give some consideration to Guiding outside their own company. It is fairly simple to bring home to the Guides by means of pictures, maps, songs, games and dances, the idea that their own company does not represent Guiding as a whole, but is merely a tiny fragment of a huge world-wide organisation. As Guiders, however, this is not enough. We need to 'look wide' in a much broader sense, and although of course every member of the movement should appreciate the international aspect of our organisation, we would do well to consider our place in the scheme of things under three main headings:—

1. Our relations with other Guides.
2. Our relations with the general public.
3. Our relations with other organisations.

1. It is certainly wonderful to consider the way in which Guiding brings together girls of all nations, and no one can fail to be inspired after reading accounts of international gatherings and camps. No Guider would dream of ignoring an Indian or African Guide who suddenly appeared on the doorstep, but are we always as friendly with people of our nationality? There would sometimes seem to be a wider gulf between Guiders of another county than between those of another continent.

## 'I Can't Go—I Don't Know Anyone'

How many times has it been said by Guiders that they didn't want to attend a training day or course because they didn't know anyone else who was going? How often has a uniformed Guider passed another uniformed Guider, both keeping their eyes carefully away from the other, simply because of shyness?

Some companies take a very scornful view of another in the same District:—'Oh, that stuck-up lot—we never have anything to do with them'. Perhaps the 'looked down on' company invariably wins the District Cup, or maybe they are mostly High School girls, but friendly co-operation between the two companies will soon reveal that even 'stuck-up High School girls' are just as much fun to be with as the more usual run of Guides.

A friendly manner is often very difficult for some of us, particularly the more reserved, to acquire, but so are a good many other Guide attributes, and there is not much point in exerting ourselves to gain a campers' licence if we don't make any attempt to carry out that Law which says 'A Guide is a friend to all'—even the Guider in the next road!

2. Every member of the movement should be very conscious of the fact that the minute she appears in public in uniform she represents the movement as a whole in the public eye. This eye is a very critical one, seeing only the obvious, and taking nothing else into account. For instance, Miss X (who incidentally would make a splendid Guider) doesn't know that the gang of Guiders on the 'bus is returning from a very successful Training Camp and that many of them have gained their Campers' Licence. To her they are merely a rather untidy, shiny-faced, straggly-haired crowd in unbecoming garments, making rather too much noise and inclined to monopolise the conversation and the seats. We are badly in need of Guiders, but we stand little chance of interesting non-members to take up the work unless we ourselves look happy, smart, and above all, attractive.

The same applies to the Guides and Brownies. In our outdoor activities, particularly in towns, we are apt to forget that we are no longer in the privacy of our clubroom; consequently the Guides may concentrate on their tracking with an intensity of purpose admirable in its way, but highly annoying and at times embarrassing to other people, who fail to see anything admirable in groups of girls lurking around their front door or spreading across the pavement so that they themselves are forced to step off the kerb to get past. It would be an excellent thing if all companies got

into the habit of insisting that when out of doors the Guides (and Guiders, too) never walked more than two abreast.

We enjoy Guiding and want others to enjoy it, too, but we are not likely to succeed if we take up the attitude that nothing outside Guiding is worth our consideration. Quite obviously, few have time to take up many activities—and undoubtedly Guiding *can* take up a lot of time—but if we are going to be really worthwhile Elder Sisters, we must spare the time to enter into a normal life.

## Keeping our Interests Wide

If there should ever come a time when a choice has to be made between giving up either Guiding or other activities then I would say rather give up active Guiding and keep up the other interests, for in this way we would at least be living a normal life according to Guide principles, and taking our ideals out among others; whereas if we concentrate only on Guiding we are living a self-contained life, meeting only people who already have the same interests and the same outlook on life.

What every Guider should avoid like the plague is comparing adversely in appearance or behaviour with the average, reasonably well-behaved, attractive, well-dressed woman; it is no advertisement for Guiding if its chief exponents are the dowdy, the girls who 'have no use for men', who shun social occasions, often affecting to despise such harmless pleasures as dancing in order to hide their secret feeling of inferiority in looks or charm and the consequent fear of being a wallflower, and the undignified, Peter Pan type who, although grown-up or even middle-aged, has not acquired any poise—who has, in fact, not developed beyond the schoolgirl stage.

3. The ignorance of most Guiders of the existence of any other organisations but our own is appalling. One can forgive most people for not knowing much about any of them, but for a group of experienced Guiders to turn their heads, enquiringly after a company of the Girls' Life Brigade, asking 'Whatever are they?'—an incident which I witnessed recently—seems little short of shocking, in view of the fact that the Girls' Life Brigade are considerably older than the Girl Guides Association, and until our invention, was surely the most well-known uniformed girls' organisation. Even of the Scout Movement few, apart from Cub-Mistress-Guiders, seem to know much about its constitution—how it agrees and how it differs from our own. It seems to me we are 'looking narrow'—very narrow—if we spare no thought or interest for the many other girls' organisations, some of whose ideals are very similar to our own.

It would be an excellent idea this Thinking Day for every Guider to find out, either practically or theoretically, about some of them, comparing their aims and methods with our own and deciding why we consider our own movement most worthy of our allegiance.

M. STEVENSON

## A Prayer for Thinking Day

O God, the Father of all mankind, we offer to Thee this day the thoughts of Thy children everywhere.

From the far north to the distant south, from east to west throughout the earth, we dedicate ourselves afresh to the fellowship of Guiding.

May the memory of our Founder be ever alive to inspire us; may the ideals for which we stand be daily before our eyes; may the faith of youth, with all its hope for the future, arm us with power for good.

And in this faith, as sisters in one house, may we this day renew our Promise of loyalty, of service, and of obedience to the Law by which we live.

With one voice throughout the world, we ask this in the Name of Him Who is the Guide of us all, Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.



# Watching Wild Life

By B. Melville Nicholas

THE eight members of the Titmouse family living in the British Isles are mostly birds of the trees, feeding on insects in the foliage, but in winter, when their natural food supply is reduced to a minimum, they find their way into gardens in the hope that friendly hands will feed them. As I write five blue-tits are feasting greedily on a suspended coconut less than a yard from my study window, while on a string of pea-nuts, stretched beneath an apple tree, three great-tits are similarly employed.

The great-tit is, as the name suggests, the largest member of the family and, apart from its size, easily recognised by the conspicuous white cheeks surrounded by glossy black. A black stripe divides its yellow underparts and the back is greenish-yellow and tail and wings bluish-grey. It is inclined to bully smaller relatives, and whenever it alights on the coconut the blue-tits immediately give it a wide berth.

Blue-tits get their name from the cobalt-blue of their head, wings and tail, and are locally known as 'Tom Tit'. They are about the same size as the coal-tit, but the latter's jet black cap is a distinguishing feature, and its upperparts are olive-grey. Unfortunately this attire closely resembles that of the marsh-tit and the willow-tit, but an unmistakable aid to the identity of the coal-tit is the white patch on the back of its neck which is absent in the others.

It is when we try to distinguish between the marsh-tit and the willow-tit that real difficulty presents itself. Yet if you are lucky enough to see them together you will notice that the willow-tit's cap is dull black and not glossy like that of the marsh-tit. Indeed, the willow-tit's general appearance is often untidy and dishevelled, but when seen at close-range a whitish wing-bar is sometimes discernible, but not always clearly defined.

The willow-tit's eggs are laid on the floor of a tree cavity (usually made by the bird) protected only by the scantiest gathering of hair mixed with the wood chippings. The marsh-tit frequently renovates an existing hole and will often

of Scotland, particularly in the pine forests, the crested-tit occurs, being somewhat smaller than the blue-tit, with greyish-brown back, wings and tail, and greyish-white underparts. It wears a prominent head-crest, which is a sure clue to its identity, and



A large white nape spot on a black head distinguishes the coal-tit



Great tits brought up a family of six in this old oil can

has mottled feathering on the cheeks.

All the tits to which I have referred nest in holes in trees or walls, where they lay white eggs thinly speckled with rusty-red, but the great-tit and the blue-tit often use such strange sites as letter-boxes, old tins and kettles.

Because they feed almost exclusively on insects, tits render a useful service to food production and deserve an honoured place in the economy of nature. A certain pair of blue-tits which I watched brought food to their nestlings on an average of forty-eight times an hour for six consecutive days. Each time the food was caterpillars from an adjoining garden and this totalitarian destruction of these injurious pests was maintained for twelve hours a day, so that putting the figure at a conservative estimate those two blue-tits accounted for a daily total of five hundred caterpillars.

Both the blue-tit and the great-tit freely accept artificial nesting accommodation in the form of small wooden boxes fixed in sheltered positions where, by their ceaseless warfare on the insect hordes, they

amply reimburse their kind host for any outlay incurred.

The two remaining members of the Titmouse family are the bearded-tit, found mainly in Norfolk, and the long-tailed tit. Both these birds have long slender tails, but need not be confused, for in contrast to the long-tailed tit's black and white attire the bearded-tit is bright tawny-brown in colour, the male having a bluish-grey head with a black moustachial stripe on either side of his beak.

A bearded-tit's nest, built of dead stalks with a lining of softer materials, is usually placed low down on swampy ground. It is quite unlike that made by its long-tailed relative, for the beautifully made home of this bird is generally agreed to be the most outstanding piece of avian architecture to be found in the British Isles. Domed in shape (after the style of a wren's nest) it is closely woven of moss, wool, spiders' web, rabbits' fur and lichen, lined with feathers. The entrance is near the top of the oval structure and when at home the tail of the dainty little occupant is pressed against the back of the nest and points upwards.

The long-tailed tit, fairly widely distributed throughout Great Britain, shows a distinct fondness for wooded districts where thick cover affords many nesting sites. I once saw a nest placed in the forks of a blackthorn, and to make it resemble its surroundings the clever builders decorated it with the petals of the blackthorn flowers into which background they themselves merged perfectly.



Blue-tits get their name from the cobalt blue of their head, wings and tail

enlarge the entrance if necessary, afterwards building a neat little nest well hidden from prying eyes.

The willow-tit is only thinly distributed in Great Britain but is more numerous in some localities than others. So far as I know it is not found in Ireland, while the marsh-tit, although more numerous, is confined mainly to England and Wales. A much wider distribution is enjoyed by the blue-tit, great-tit and coal-tit, but even these become less numerous in northern areas.

In the north-east



## The Commissioners' Meeting Place

## Official Organs

IS yours the kind of mind that plays with words? If so, have you ever been struck with the connection between the various meanings of a particular collection and sequence of letters? This one, for instance—organ? The dictionary says an organ can be a 'musical instrument of pipes supplied with wind by bellows'; or it can be 'part of animal or vegetable body adapted for special vital function', or, again, it can be a 'medium of communication, mouthpiece of opinion, esp. newspaper or magazine representing a party, cause, pursuit, etc.'

It is in this last sense of the word that I have been asked to write about an organ, or rather three organs: THE GUIDER, THE GUIDE and THE RANGER, but my mind insists on playing with the notion that the first two definitions have some bearing on the third. Magazine columns are not unlike the pipes, needing to be filled with sense and sound; wind and bellows are not unfitting symbols for contributors. You can call the Guide Movement animal or vegetable, but certainly not mineral or abstract; the papers are part of that body adapted for a special function. Whether the organ transmits an acceptable melody, whether it performs a vital function, whether it is a real medium of communication and a mouthpiece of opinion depends ultimately on each blast of wind, on each nerve and tissue of the body, on the willingness of each member of the cause or pursuit to use it as a means to the desired end.

Having established that you are a part—and an essential part—of these organs, you will no doubt want to know a little more about them. First, then THE GUIDER: you are obviously acquainted with this paper, since you are reading these words. But are you clear in your mind as to its function? It is intended to serve the interests of the adult members of the Guide Movement by being the channel through which they can be kept aware of progress and policy. It should, therefore, be read by every Commissioner, Secretary, County and Camp Adviser, and every Guider. As a matter of fact, of the 36,042 adult members in England, Scotland, Wales and Ulster, some 22,500 subscribe to it. There are, therefore, 13,542 members not being kept in sufficiently close touch with Headquarters and with each other. Can you do something about this? Obviously if every adult member of the movement made it part of the routine of life to scan the pages of THE GUIDER carefully each month, Headquarters could effect much-needed economies in time, paper and postage. THE GUIDER is a legitimate charge on company funds, so the yearly subscription will not be an added burden on anyone's already overtaxed budget.

Next, THE GUIDER should be a medium for the exchange of opinion. Have you ever approved or disapproved strongly of anything in your county or district? If so, was it something you thought others ought to hear about? Did it simmer in your mind for a while, and then evaporate? Or did you write a brief letter or note to THE GUIDER? Do remember that its pages are open to you for helpful appraisal and constructive criticism.

The paper should, also, reflect the vitality of the movement; therefore it is desirable that you should use its columns to tell of any important event—rally, conference, camp, Local Association meeting, etc. If you did so you would give encouragement to your Guiders, Rangers, Guides and Brownies, for every normal young thing enjoys being in the public eye occasionally, not necessarily as an individual, but in the reflected glory of her group. You would also share the benefits of your experience with other perhaps less enterprising counties and districts. There are, however, one or two rules to be observed in this connection. First, any account of a happening includes some names, either of places or persons, probably unfamiliar to the Editor. The chronicler of such events only too often sits down in the first fine flush and glow of enthusiasm at the end of a tiring day or week,

and dashes off a handwritten description, or, alas, delays until the last moment before the paper goes to press. How different from the suffusing glow of achievement is the petrifaction when you see your cherished guest, Mrs. Tyler, frozen on the printed page as Miss Tyke: block letters would have avoided your embarrassment and the subsequent waste of time and money in pointing out the error to a well-meaning and not altogether blameworthy editor. She does not do it to annoy, or just because it teases. A typewriter does not remove the danger, unless the typing is carefully checked.

Again, some consideration should be given to the kind of description sent to the paper. Your object, obviously, is to interest other readers—not merely to reiterate the thanks you have no doubt already expressed to those people who have been kind enough to find time to attend the rally or to speak at the conference. As a rule these people are well known in your own district, but perhaps not throughout the country or world (THE GUIDER reaches all five continents); therefore the information that Mr. Blank gave an inspiring address will be of use in the local press, but of little interest elsewhere. On the other hand, you invited Mr. Blank because you knew that he *would* be inspiring: should that inspiration not be spread over as wide a circle as possible? Mr. Blank will no doubt give you a copy of his notes or speech if you ask him either in advance or at the end of the meeting; or you can arrange for a competent shorthand-typist or journalist to be present. In the latter case it is better to send a copy of the report to Mr. Blank asking him to approve it before you forward it to the Editor, remembering always that fresh news is more likely to find a place in the paper than stale news. If photographs have been taken, prints should be obtained as speedily as possible so that they may accompany the report.

It is worth while bearing in mind, also, that the fact that you have enjoyed a good tea or an excellent lunch or dinner is likely to cause little satisfaction to the reader: eating is a common pleasure frequently indulged in; it is in no wise news. Nor, really, is the weather!

Every paper has a dead line for receipt of material. In the case of THE GUIDER this is the tenth day of each month for the following month's issue. Anyone pressing for material to be included later faces the Editor with the alternatives of jeopardising the publishing date (i.e., annoying 22,499 other people), or increasing costs of production, or having to appear unco-operative and discourteous. 'Timeless' material, such as training articles should never be sent at the last moment, as they often require 'presenting' or illustrating, and cannot be dealt with hurriedly.

There is insufficient space to deal adequately with the other two organs—THE GUIDE and THE RANGER—this month. Much of what has already been said applies equally to them. If they are to carry their full weight and contribute to the health of the movement they should be made known more widely. Their functions are similar—to instruct and to entertain the younger members of the movement and to form a link between the packs, companies, crews and flights in this country, and also between this country and overseas. No Guider, Trainer, Adviser or Commissioner can be fully in touch with Guide and Ranger matters unless she can find time to glance through these two papers regularly. If she can also find time to write for them, or to suggest writers for them on subjects in which she is expert, she will be giving much needed and appreciated service. If she will encourage all those in her charge to subscribe to the appropriate paper she will be helping to make them, and through them the Association, financially stable. There is much more that can be said on both these points, but it must wait for another occasion.

MARGARET PLAYLE

P.S. The annual subscription for THE GUIDER is 7s.; for THE RANGER, 6s.; and for THE GUIDE, 13s. (post free from Headquarters).



# Notes of the Month

## World Conference Year

1950 gives us a good opportunity in Great Britain for bringing forward the international aspect of Guiding in company and pack meetings. Why not make a special Thinking Day resolution to do something practical to promote world friendship during the following twelve months, either as an individual or as a company or in patrols? You could invite two foreign Guides or Rangers to camp, or send parcels to D.P. camps through the G.I.S. teams, or learn a new language. Frequently that which is nearest home is forgotten, like making friends with Empire students or European Voluntary Workers in the neighbourhood. These folk are often lonely, and no more worthwhile way of extending world friendship can be found. Your County Empire Representative and County International Representative will be pleased to help you in planning and carrying out any of the many ways you choose to strengthen the bond of Guiding throughout the world.

## Chief Guide's Letter to Local Associations

The closing date for members of Local Associations, as the friends of the movement, to send their contributions to the fund for the World Conference has been extended to March 31st. Where it is not possible to send contributions by this date a letter to the Hon. Treasurer of the Fund, Miss Rochat, 172, Regent's Park Road, London, N.3, informing her of the anticipated amount, and the date when it will be ready, will suffice.

## A Thinking Day Broadcast

There will be a broadcast on Thinking Day, February 22nd, in the Home Service from 5 to 5.30 p.m. in the Children's Hour. The programme will consist of campfire singing, led by Miss Mary Chater, Commissioner for Music, and a short talk by Lady Stratheden, the Chief Commissioner. This programme will also be heard by listeners in Wales, Northern Ireland and in the North, West and Midland Regional programmes and in the General Overseas Service. (Scotland is unable to include this broadcast.) The Chief Guide is broadcasting to Central Africa at 6.50 p.m. on February 22nd, and it is hoped to have a record made in the vernacular native language to be broadcast to African Guides later in the week.

## Songs and Dances at Foxlease

As Eeyore said, 'some can, others can't', but we imagine that there are very few people who would not like to be able to go to Foxlease from July 25th to August 1st to sing, dance and take part in simple dramatic work. This opportunity for 'spontaneous creative activity' will be offered while the World Conference is actually in progress, in order that a few at least of the Guiders in this country who will not be attending the Conference may meet some of the large number of visitors from abroad who will be here during the course of the summer. Applications should be sent to the Guider-in-charge as soon as possible.

## I.H.Q. Library

Imperial Headquarters has received a generous gift of Nature books sent in by Miss Gladys Starkey, whose sister, Miss

Olive Starkey, a Guider for seventeen years in Torquay, asked in her will that they should be given to the Girl Guides Association for one of their libraries. We are most grateful for this fascinating collection of books for I.H.Q. library, which include *The Art of Bird Photography*, by Eric Hosking and C. Newberry, *British Wild Flowers in their Natural Haunts*, by A. R. Horwood (volumes 1-4), *The Romance of Nature*, edited by Francis Pitt (volumes 1-4) and *The New Natural History* by Professor J. Arthur Thompson (volumes 1-3).

## A Memorial to the Founder

Readers will be interested to hear that the Boy Scouts at Poole are building a District Headquarters as a memorial to Lord Baden-Powell. It is over forty-three years ago since the Founder 'collected twenty boys, some of them from public schools and some of them from London slums' and ran the first Boy Scout camp at Brownsea Island, off Poole Harbour. As the Chief Guide writes: 'It is so right and fitting that a really adequate Scout Centre should be created in the locality, where not only the present and the future generations of Dorset boys may be enabled to carry on their Scouting on the highest standard possible, but that such a place might also be founded as a place of pilgrimage and a rendezvous to which Scouts may come from all corners of the earth to gain encouragement'. Further details of this memorial scheme may be obtained from the Chairman of the Boy Scouts Local Association, Mr. H. W. W. Julyan, Arden, Torbay Road, Parkstone, Dorset.

## 'The Voice of Scouting'

Guiders will like to remind Rangers and Guides with fifteen minutes to spare on Saturday mornings of the programmes on Radio Luxembourg, at 10.15 a.m. on February 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th. 'The Voice of Scouting' is presenting a series on the life of the Founder entitled 'B-P', specially written by E. E. Reynolds. Several well-known Old Scout broadcasters have promised to take part.

## For Extension Guiders

There has been a request that, in addition to the hiking and camping sessions which will be included in the Extension Guiders' Training Week, there shall be a two-day camp at Foxlease, for the nights of Monday and Tuesday, May 15th and 16th, 1950. This will be arranged if sufficient applications are received. In order that plans may be made it will be a help if applications are made as soon as possible, but in any case by Monday, March 20th, to the Extension Secretary, The Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

## Pax Hill

The January course is full and applications are coming in fast for the August course, which will be the last under the present conditions, as the financial resources which we have been using come to an end in December, 1950.

An entirely new Homecraft scheme, but carrying on, we hope, all the Guide traditions, will begin in January, 1951. Please look out in March in *THE GUIDER*, *THE RANGER* and *THE GUIDE* for all details of this new scheme.



'And what do you do with the Guides, my dear?'  
'I'm an unwarranted Owl'





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## Have You Tried This?

Do you live at some distance from the place where your Guide Company meets? Many Guiders do, and consequently find it difficult to plan outdoor activities, Scouting games, local knowledge tests and so on.

1. Do you use the parents? You may live far away, but most of your Guides will live fairly close to the H.Q. Perhaps one of them is on the telephone and her mother would be willing occasionally to receive messages for the Second Class test.

2. Do you use the Local Association or the Trefoil Guild? Your District Commissioner may be able to put you in touch with someone living in the neighbourhood who would compile you a list of questions and answers on local knowledge.

3. Have you got an ordnance map or street plan of the neighbourhood? This can be a great help in planning mapping games, compass tests, in measuring out a mile for Scout's Pace practice, and in many other ways.

Here is one idea which can be planned out on a map.

**Sealed Orders:** Each P.L. is given five or six envelopes numbered in the order in which they are to be opened. The instructions given to each patrol are the same, but if they are numbered in such a way that each patrol begins the sequence at a different place they will not get in each other's way. Here are some examples of the sort of orders to put in the envelopes:

1. Go to the Town Hall, take the street leading north and follow it until you come to the tram lines. Turn East and open No. 2 outside the RLWIAYA TTSANIO.

2. Without asking anyone find out the price of a day excursion ticket to Blackpool. Leave the station by the South exit and go towards the sunset until you come to a building with red doors. Open No. 3.

3. (To be opened at the Fire Station.) If you had to run from H.Q. to the Fire Station to call the brigade which would be your quickest route—through the park or across the allotments? Try this out and open No. 4 at H.Q. Remember Law 5.

And so on. If you have been able to find a local helper for the game she might be stationed in the park to test the courtesy of the hurrying Guides by asking the time, or for some other help. Perhaps this game is quite unsuitable for your town or your company? What if it is—can't you invent one which will suit them?

## TENDERFOOT AND SECOND CLASS TESTS

ENQUIRIES are being received about changes in the Guide Tenderfoot and Second Class tests as set out on the Guide test card now on sale. These alterations have been passed by the Executive Committee and will appear in the new edition of P.O.R., which is now being prepared, but as the old stock of test cards is exhausted and the new card is already in the H.O. shops. Guiders will like to know the reasons behind the changes which have been made.

The changes in the Tenderfoot test are small, being chiefly a re-arrangement of the present syllabus designed to clear up uncertainties about the ground to be covered. In many companies recruits are already told about the meaning of the badges and World Flag and something of the story of Guiding, but the inclusion of a paragraph to this effect makes it clear that this should always happen before a recruit is enrolled.

A knowledge of the parts of the Highway Code affecting herself as a road user has now been included in Second Class. The Association was approached recently by the Royal Society for Prevention of Accidents with a view to instituting a Road Safety badge, but it was felt that the question of road accidents was too urgent a matter to be dealt with by means of an optional badge and that some road training should be included in the Second Class test where it would affect every Guide in the movement. This is the only alteration to the Second Class test.

GWEN M. CLAYTON [Commissioner for Guides, I.H.Q.]



## At Company Prayers

**L**AST month we began at the very beginning and discussed how to make the change over from laughter to prayers; and then we went on to discuss how to make prayer real prayer to God. This time we will go on from there and we shall find that the next clue was provided for us last time.

One of the suggested opening sentences was: 'Then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you . . . and Thomas answered . . . My Lord and my God'. That must always be our reaction when we really meet Jesus, 'My Lord and my God'—worship. Jesus Himself taught us the same thing, 'Our Father . . . Hallowed be Thy Name'.

Even a little child can worship, but mostly children are quite at their ease with God, very trusting and friendly, and so it is that saying 'Thank you' for things they have enjoyed is largely the form that their worship takes. They do not yet know that reverent awe out of which worship grows, but they do know all about the delight out of which it also grows. For I think that pure worship is a growth. The most unselfish worship is given to God for what He is in Himself, not even for what He has done for us. To begin with, worship will be mixed up with praise and thanksgiving, for they are the food on which it is fed.

In what words should praise, thanksgiving and worship be clothed? I believe there are only two suitable dresses, the simple home-spun of everyday life, or the royal majesty of the King's Court; either the most simple, direct English, familiar and natural to children, or the sonorous glory of the Bible or the Book of Common Prayer. Long, rather genteel prayers, which assume an unnatural vocabulary and have neither the prose of earth nor the poetry of Heaven, simply sound as though they were addressing a glorified Civil Servant.

And so Brownies will mostly decide what are the things for which they want to thank God, and their prayers will perhaps be something like this:

*Thank you, God, for the snowdrops in our garden, and for the lovely time we had at the Brownie party, and for making us strong and well, not like the little hospital child we had to our party. Thank you for Jesus. Amen.*

At a later age whoever is leading the prayers might perhaps use what is known as a bidding; in so doing she would say the things for which the company wished to thank God, making a tiny pause after each, and at the end after a slightly longer silence, everyone could join in the response, which they would have been told beforehand. Here is an example of a bidding and response.

*Shall we thank God for this camp—for all the fun and happiness we've had—for this beautiful site, the trees and flowers and birds—for the sea and the joy of swimming—for the lovely sunny days and for the nights we were able to sleep out under the stars. (Response) Thank you, Holy Father.*

And now, to finish with, here is an example of the worship of the Bible.

*Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem . . . there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him . . . And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts. . . .*

The following books among others are available in I.H.Q. Bookshop: *Girl Guide Services and Prayers*, 10d.; *The Guide Law, Short Readings and Prayers*, 9d.; *Camp Prayers for Guides*, 6d.; *Into the Way of Peace*, 2s. 6d.

## "That talk was by . . ."

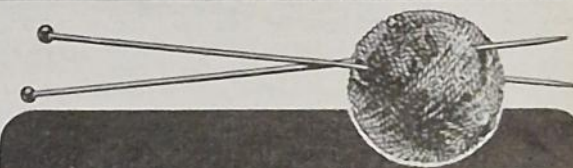
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## The Listener

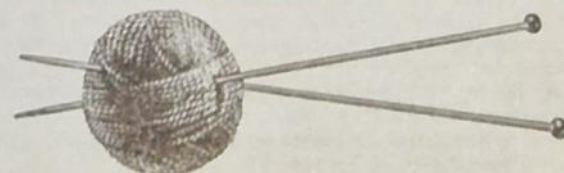
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# Fiona Flies Up—2

## The Adventure Trail

SATURDAY at last! Fiona was ready waiting at her garden gate and when she saw Betty coming started off to meet her. Betty waved, stopped and then jerked her clenched hand quickly up and down. Fiona ran to her as fast as she could.

'Good!' Betty greeted her. 'You know that sign anyhow'.

'I was not quite sure, but it looked sort of urgent, so I ran as quick as I could'.

'That's the best way, to learn the signs, use them and you'll remember. Now, we must hurry. Got everything Pat said? Strong shoes, I see, and a mack. If we've time I must show you how to roll it up neatly. Carried over your arm like that it might cramp your style in an emergency'.

'I borrowed this haversack from Peter, the Scouts aren't hiking today, I've a mug, some cocoa and buns, and my knotting rope. No Guide knife yet so I put in my pen-knife'.

'You'll do', laughed Betty. 'How's the Tenderfoot going? Remember all the tracking signs I showed you in the dark?'

'I think so. I practised them with Peter in the garden, and knots, too. Only whipping and another one to do for my test, as I did reef and sheetbend at Brownies'.

'That's fine, but we Robins learn all the knots, not just enough to pass. It's a help later for Second Class, and you might be a P.L. some day. Have you managed to learn the Laws yet?'

'All of them! I was rather muddled at first but I took my card to my bath last night, and this morning I knew them perfectly!'

Betty laughed. 'Not a bad way, so long as you don't break the 5th Law and keep the bath too long, or the 9th—and waste hot water! I learnt Morse in the bath and I've never forgotten it. Must soak into the pores! Come on, there's Pat at the bridge, and what sign is she making?'

'Run', cried Fiona, dashing ahead.

The other Robins joined them and Pat produced an envelope. 'Sealed orders', she said, as the patrol gathered round eagerly. 'We divide into two parties to hunt for treasure, further orders later on. The first party follows this map and lays a trail for the others. Second party makes a sketch map of the route, marking where they find the things on this secret list. I'll take the map and the list. Fiona, can you make the signs, and Jan, you'd better come too and write the messages. Betty brings the second party and draws the map, good practice for First Class. All clear? You follow us in ten minutes'.

As Pat pointed out the route from her map, Fiona laid the arrows, clear enough, but not too conspicuous, as Betty had taught her, with tough twigs which would not blow away. Pat reminded her to 'think with the eye of the follower', and to make the signs clear. 'I'll show you the next landmark, and your arrow must point directly towards it. The trail is easily lost in a wood. Here's the first object to be found—a larch cone. Jan, will you write a morse message, and hide it under that tree, while Fiona makes the sign?'

Fiona stepped out the distance and put four stones in her square of twigs, pointing the arrow towards the hidden note.

The map led them across a grassy clearing and Fiona remembered the signs with knotted grass.

'Make them very clear and fairly close together', advised Pat, 'knotted grass is hard to spot in a hurry. Down to the stream now, with its stony shore. That's right, Fiona, one stone on top of the other! We're leaving the path and crossing the stepping stones here, so we don't want the others to dash along the path'.

'What about a row of stones across it, that's the sign for "don't follow this road, isn't it?"'

'Yes, hurry and make it then follow us over the stream'.

Precariously balanced in mid-stream, Fiona stopped suddenly as a flash of blue caught her eye. 'Look, Pat,' she cried, 'the Kingfisher! Down there under the willows'.

'Sharp eyes! You saw it sooner than Jan and I. That's your bluebird for luck!'

Pat looked up from the map. 'We have come to the end of the map now and must look for a message near a fallen pine tree—there it is. Run, Fiona and find the sign'.

All crowded round as Jan spelled out the Morse: 'Follow trail to camping place. Danger. Gang warily'.

Fiona looked puzzled. 'That means stalking', whispered Pat. 'Look for the signs, but tread softly, and watch me'.

Stealthily she crept on, trying to walk silently on the balls of her feet, stopping or crouching down as Pat signalled to her. Across a clearing Pat made them crawl, flat on the ground.

'This is exciting', whispered Fiona. 'There's a message hidden here. What does it say?'

Pat read out: 'Safe home! When others come, light fire. Erect flagstaff and hoist this flag when water is boiling. Whistling warning sign first'.

'Good stalking, Robins'. Captain's cheery face emerged from the bracken. 'I followed your trail through the wood, then cut across here to listen for you—not a sound! Your signs were good, and the map-reading. Skylarks arrived first, but they lost a point on stalking'.

Pat grinned. 'That open place was tricky! Fiona laid all the signs and followed the trail, too—can she pass?'

Captain held out her hand. 'Got your test card there, Fiona? I'll sign for tracking signs. When did you manage to learn them?'

'In the dark, going home with Betty. My first test, and I never knew! Are all tests such fun as this?'

'Most of them. In this company we try to make them as real as possible. Here comes Betty, so I'll check the map and treasures found'.

While the others made a wood pile and fetched water, Pat asked Fiona to help with the flagstaff. They found a long straight stick, and some short ones which Pat pointed with her knife. 'These will do for pegs', she said. 'I'll show you how to guy it firmly and fix the flag ready for breaking'.

Clove-hitches fastened the guy-lines to the pole, double-overhand loops slipped over the pegs. 'Now the flag, Fiona. Look, a clove-hitch goes over this wooden toggle, and you can tie your old friend the sheetbend on this loop on the strop. Good! Now pull it up to the top, very gently, toggle first, and don't pull the strop, or the flag will open before we are ready'.

'Why, these are all Tenderfoot knots!' Fiona stepped back and admired their effort.

'Water boiling', shouted Betty.

'Right', called Pat. 'Patrol in horse-shoe. Here, Fiona, blow a warning signal on my whistle, and then jerk that strop halyard'.

Fiona gave the Brownie salute as the flag fluttered out, thinking: 'Not long now, till I hold up three fingers'.

M.M.W.

## Guiding in Pictures

Three old friends, *Guiding in the Commonwealth and Empire and Other Countries*, 1s., *Milestones in Guiding* (a sheet of pictures) 6d., and *Personalities in Guiding* (a sheet of eight pictures) 6d., have just been grouped differently. The first includes a number of excellent new photographs and now forms a valuable pictorial record of Guiding in twenty different countries. Publication at 6d. of *Milestones and Personalities* in one sheet each, suitable for cutting up as required for log books or charts, brings these pictures well within the reach of the average Guide purse.



## From the Chief Commissioner's Diary

## Imperial Headquarters Welcomes . . .

THE New Year opened with I.H.Q. preparing to welcome three hundred and sixty-six Guides, Rangers, Guiders and Commissioners from Wales on January 3rd. The story is this. In May last year the Chief Commissioner for Wales, Miss Kay, put forward an idea at the Welsh Guiders' Conference that representative Guides and Rangers should bring their contribution to the Finance Scheme to Headquarters themselves. The suggestion was adopted enthusiastically, and Guiders went back to tell their companies and crews, and Guides and Rangers set to work to earn the money for their fares by various means—baby minding, singing, making things to sell and so on.

Each county had an allocation according to their numbers, for example Glamorgan had a hundred and Anglesey five. One Cadet and one Ranger came from each company or crew, some of them obtaining the place on a record number of attendances at meetings.

So there they were—Guides and Rangers from every county in Wales, their shining eager faces lit up with excitement and wonder. So polished were their belts and badges, and so spick and span their uniforms, that one could scarcely believe that these children had been travelling all day. I can't think I have ever looked (and certainly have never felt!) so fresh and smart at the end of a long journey.

Mrs. Williams, the Hon. Secretary for Wales, presented the cheque to us which represented the full contribution to the Finance Scheme from Wales, and a representative from each county presented a token cheque. After this the Guiders sang to us, and six sang a penillion—a form of singing characteristically Welsh and traditionally accompanied by the harp, though on this occasion four Guiders humming took the place of the harp accompaniment while two Guiders sang.

That week the shop window at I.H.Q. was full of pots and pots of distemper with messages on them from different companies and individual Guiders. Later on the distemper will be used and I.H.Q. will look very clean and smart. It was a generous idea, most perfectly organised and carried out.

The Commissioners and Guiders concerned must, I think, have been glad to see Wales again, but they must have felt,

too, a most joyous sense of achievement in having courageously made this dream come true.

Two days later we had our Book Afternoon when about a hundred Guiders and Rangers came to spend the afternoon in the I.H.Q. library to hear most fascinating talks on books and the writing of books by Mrs. Streatfeild and Mr. Geoffrey Trease.

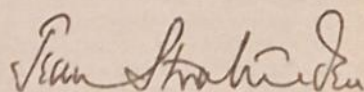
It was an exceptionally receptive audience and from their discerning questions and enquiring attitude it seemed that a large proportion were writing like mad themselves! It was lovely to see them all so completely at home in the library and really feeling it belonged to them.

That day was not without variety as from books I went to a finance meeting and then to a most excellent pantomime put on by Roland House Scout Settlement to which they had most kindly invited me. I was delighted to find there that the catering had been undertaken this year by Guiders and Rangers in N.E. London sub-county instead of professional caterers as in the past, thus helping to raise the total sum achieved. A really good bit of co-operation.

THE GUIDER went to press too soon for me to tell you anything about the interesting

and enjoyable County Commissioners' Conference at I.H.Q. I think we all felt we had gained a lot from the excellent talks and discussions and perhaps most of all from meeting each other and realising that on all wider issues we are of accord. One learnt so much, too, through hearing how other parts of the country are tackling their problems, so like, and unlike, our own.

I certainly felt I had learnt a great deal in a most delightful way and had quite a lot to think over and digest during the holiday. These days most people are apt to live from hand to mouth emotionally and intellectually, and if we are able to plan a few hours to ourselves it does give us an opportunity to catch up and set our course again.



[Chief Commissioner, Imperial Headquarters]

## 'Open Minds and Open Hearts'

IN the early months of the year, thanks to letters exchanged with friends at Christmas, we are usually in a position to report to those interested how So-and-So is getting along. This précis of another person's experiences through the year must contain some news items which are not topical, but they are news all the same and, because we are interested, are welcome. For the sake of many enquirers we are reporting, in this spirit, on the progress of German Guiding during 1949.

Three important steps forward have been taken. In March and April, Frl. Rosie Preiswerk of Basle, and Frl. Ruth

Karrer of Zurich, two experienced Swiss Guiders, were invited by the World Association to tour the three Western Zones to report on the situation as they saw it, and to advise on the best methods of helping the work. As a direct result of their visit a Tri-Zonal Conference was held at Gailberg in the American Zone and provisional Heads were elected for the three Buender.

The official position of Guiding in Germany is still not clear as recognition has to wait upon the West German Federal Parliament recently instituted at Bonn. On her return from Germany, Frl. Preiswerk was invited by the World Associa-



tion to act as Co-ordinator for the three Western Zones. In September the first International Training arranged by the World Association for German Guiders was held at Our Chalet. Fifteen Germans attended and fifteen Guiders from eight other countries. The trainers were Danish, Finnish, Swiss and British and the training, in German, was an extremely happy and fruitful one.

What of the Guides whose activities are the roots from which the Guide tree springs? They are camping and hiking and holding their company meetings as are all other Guides. And the conditions under which they work, and their attitude towards Guiding? They are best explained by one who has been there recently, Miss Alison Duke, who led the first official British Guide party to go camping in Germany in 1949:

"Open minds and open hearts" was the motto of the German Guide Camp at Altenhof on the Baltic Sea, which we joined this summer. The British party of twelve from many different counties of England included three Cadets, two Land Rangers, one Sea Ranger and six Guides. The two Guiders had camped on the same site last year and had already made friends with the members of the *Bund Deutscher Pfadfinderinnen* (the interdenominational Guide Association) from Lubeck. The German Guides in the joint camp were from about the same age group of fourteen to eighteen, and we divided ourselves into four mixed patrols (seven Guides in each) with exciting bird names like Golden Oriole.



Dinner time at Altenhof when the British campers displayed a proper spirit of adventure by eating edible fungi and tinned horse meat from America

'Our site was a little copse about fifty yards from the cliff, only just big enough for all the tents, large and small. We were also joined by a Dutch Guider with two Rangers so that we were an international party. The Guider-in-charge was Frau von Kirchbach of the B.D.P. There was also a separate camp of younger Lubeck Guides a little further inland, camping round a solid and invaluable barn.

'The general camp programme was not very different from that of a company at home. During the second week the patrols changed to patrol camping and managed their affairs independently after the fashion of Robinson Crusoe. This tested the adaptability and linguistic capabilities of the British—but it was a great success.

'During the first week the weather was appalling (there were incessant easterly gales and rain storms) and the whole site and surrounding area rapidly degenerated into a sea of black mud. The powers of endurance of all the campers were subjected to a very severe test, and it was cheering to see how well the Guides stood up to it—many of the Germans with ancient mackintoshes and dilapidated shoes, the British materially well equipped for rain, but so very newly arrived.

'The Lubeck Guide Companies consist largely of children from refugee families from areas like East Prussia, Silesia, and the Eastern Zone of Germany. Many of them live under housing conditions that would seem unthinkable to British Guides—a family of six or seven perhaps in one small room in a dilapidated ex-army hut. Most of the families are desperately poor so the camp fee had to be kept as low as



A view from Schleswig Cathedral which the campers visited in patrols

possible. The menu was largely dictated by financial necessity and the diet, adequate but monotonous, had to be kept extremely simple, although we were fortunately able to supplement it from funds at our disposal.

'A most successful expedition in patrols to Schleswig seemed to break the spell of bad weather. We hitch-hiked there, were shown over the beautiful old cathedral, and spent the night at a youth hostel which was also used as an old people's home and a health holiday home for children ("the thin ones to be made thick", as a German Guide said).

'During the second week there were tests for the German Guides and after a very thorough Tenderfoot Test seven Guides were enrolled at an impressive campfire ceremony. It is hard to imagine a more beautiful spot for a campfire circle under a splendid larch tree, right on the edge of a cliff overlooking a wide and lovely bay.

'All who took part found the Altenhof camp a joyful and exhilarating experience—largely perhaps because it was an ordinary summer Guide camp shared between the children of two nations. We had anticipated—quite unnecessarily, as it turned out—that there might be language difficulties, there might even be more serious misunderstandings, though we had taken pains to give our party some preparation beforehand. Here I should like to thank the C.I.R.s and others who helped to ensure that their chosen representatives should be good ambassadors of Guiding.

'Most of our party spoke very little German, but all had done their best to get a working vocabulary and all had learnt by heart a collection of the most popular German Guide songs. I am convinced that careful preparation on both sides contributed largely to the success of this adventure in Guiding, and that it was a wonderful experiment can be shown by a sentence translated from a German letter received after the camp. "I believe that a spirit of friendliness between the children of your country and ours is a thing we need most desperately at the present time".'



Bathing in the Baltic was another activity enjoyed by these British and German Guides



## For Ranger Guiders

## Games or No Games?

**A**SKED at a Guiders' Training whether they played games in their companies, over half the trainees answered 'yes' and the other equally emphatically said 'no'.

Does your unit play games? If so, are you sure that the Rangers really enjoy them or do they play to please you, thinking all the time games are a bit childish? On the other hand, is your unit one that does not play games? And is this the Rangers' real wish or might it be because they think you think games too childish? A company debate on 'Should Rangers play games' might produce interesting points for the Guider to consider!

If your unit plays games what sort of games does it play? 'Just for fun games' like 'Ping Pong Polo' (described later) has no teaching value whatsoever and yet is thoroughly enjoyed. Games for physical exercise like 'Quoit King', and very many others, are useful types of games for girls who work largely in offices—they need opportunities to stretch all their muscles. The classic team games like netball and hockey are, of course, unsurpassed in this respect, and have the added advantage of being useful to foster a healthy rivalry between Ranger units or Rovers or girls and boys of other organisations.

There are games designed to develop memory, observation, quick thinking, general knowledge, sense of smell, hearing and touch. A very wide group of games come under these headings, some useful for company meetings, others more useful for socials, but all good games and, generally speaking, most suitable for, and enjoyed by, Rangers. (If you want books to help you plan or adapt games the following are useful: *Games and Games' Training for Girls and Women* (Central Council of Recreative Physical Training, 2s. 6d.) and *Youth Club Games and Contests*, by S. G. Hedges (Methuen, 6s.). (Both books are available at H.Q.)

For memory training all types of Kim's games are popular, so is 'Pelman Patience'—and games like 'Waitresses'. Quick thinking and general knowledge can be developed by the quiz method and such games as 'Emergencies'. There are many good games, too, for observation practice (these are a particularly easy type to invent!). A quiz is great fun on such everyday things as the colour of the walls of the room the Rangers had dinner in, the new poster in the post office, the main object of display in a given shop window, and so on. 'Public Possessions' is a good activity for this as it opens the way to discussion on Local Government and Public Services.

What opportunities games provide! We have touched on many aspects, but nowhere near exhausted the possibilities. What is a 'game' and what is an 'activity'? In Rangering the two merge into one another. Do you play games or not? The Rangers will decide for you!

**The Zoo.** Each Ranger is given secretly the name of a bird or animal (in a large unit two or three Rangers could have the same name). On the word 'Go' every one at once makes the noise of their bird or animal. After a minute the noises are stopped, and each Ranger must write down the list of animals and birds which she thinks she has heard. Check up and score a point for each correct one.

**Ping Pong Polo.** At each end of a table mark a goal in chalk. Divide the unit into two teams with a captain for each. The two captains act as goalkeepers, one at each end of the table. The opposing sides each take a side of the table, kneeling on the floor, with their chins on a level with the table. (N.B.—Hands are not allowed on the table.) The ball is placed in the centre of the table. On the word 'go', each side endeavours to blow the ball into their opponents' goal. If the ball rolls off the table, it is re-started from the point where it rolled off. If no table is available a pitch can be marked out on the floor, with a boundary line each side

behind which the Rangers can kneel with their hands clasped behind their backs. It is a good thing to point out that it is of little use blowing until the ball is near you.

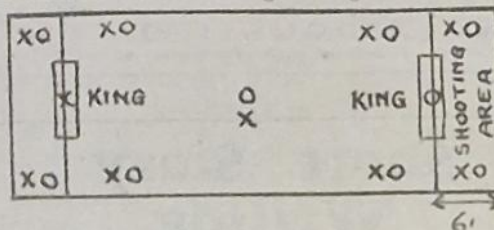
**Mixed Methods.** Teams of four to seven or eight players. Before the start of this game each team 'gets into a huddle' for one minute during which they decide on the method of progression for each 'runner'—a different mode must be employed by every member of the team, e.g., running, walking, hopping, etc. Primary concern is speed. At the end of one minute the teams get into files behind a given line. On the word 'go' the relay begins, one person only 'running' at a time. The winning team scores. The next round begins. No method of progression may be used twice by the same team, but they may copy any from other teams.

**Waitresses.** Groups sit round table (if possible) one from each group being waitress to the other group. Each member chooses her menu for a three-course meal. The waitress memorises orders from all the group and takes it to the Guider who writes names of dishes on slips of paper. Waitress goes back and places slips in front of the Rangers as they ordered them. Winner is the waitress with the fewest mistakes. (It is enough to have three or four 'customers' each.)

**Emergencies.** Rangers in groups numbered. Guider reads out emergency and calls number. Rangers of that number come up and say first thing they would do in that emergency. Example: 'You are going down the street to your home late—no one is about and you see smoke coming from windows of a house'. Answer: Warn inhabitants. Note: If Rangers give different ones let the company decide which one is right.

**Public Possessions.** The Rangers go out in twos for half an hour; make a sketch map of their route and mark on it wherever there is a possession of the Crown, County Council, or Local Council. (School, pillar boxes, telephone kiosk, police station, etc.) The winners are those who find most public possessions; points might also be given for the best map.

**Quoit King.** For this you need one quoit, and two sticks two to three feet long. There are two teams of four to twelve players and the 'pitch' is a rectangle, size according to number of players and the space available, marked out as in the diagram. Indoors the boundary lines may be the walls of the room, out of doors definite end and side boundaries must be marked. A shooting line is drawn across each end, six feet from the end boundary. A low bench or form is placed in the centre of the shooting line, or an area is marked with chalk. One player from each team stands on the form towards which her team is shooting, holding a stick in her hand.



The quoit is thrown vertically up between any two opposing players standing in the centre of pitch. Each team then passes between themselves aiming to throw the quoit over the stick held by their own King, thus scoring a point. An attempt to ring the stick may only be made by a player having at least one foot within the shooting area. After a point has been scored the game is re-started from the centre, and two other players take the place of the first Kings.

The rules should be kept simple and made as found necessary, e.g.: Catching with one hand only; running with the quoit not allowed, nor may it be held for more than three seconds; King must keep both feet on bench. V.M. and P.P.

Note: Games and activities will appear monthly in THE RANGER.



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## Camping by Conversation—2

**I**T'S quite interesting being an ordinary Guider-in-the-process-or-having-camping-qualifications-added-on-to-one!

'I'm delighted to hear it, how d.d. everything go?'  
'Oh, very well, really. It was rather fun. Even the C.A. was quite human and most helpful. The only person who was a little disgruntled was the caretaker at our meeting hall. He complained that the floor was covered with snippings of paper—we'd been making paper tents. You see, the company wouldn't stop re-planning the camp site in time to tidy up. But even he was quite interested when I showed him the final plan, and he said he'd look out some buckets and jugs and a dixie abandoned by the rest centre. The Guides keep asking what they sleep in or on, what they cook in and where they wash, etc. It begins to feel as if this was a much bigger job than I believed, and it rather worries me'.

'It is rather daunting—and that's why it's a good idea to deal with it very early in one's preparation. Shall we make a list of what we need? The first and largest item is tents. They are so important and so expensive. This year you may have to be content to borrow or hire, but even then you may be able to be a little selective. And, of course, if you're in the position to buy even one tent you want to lay out your money to the best advantage. There are two kinds that really concern us, bells and ridges—and I like ridges the best'.

'One of my recruits brought a tent catalogue. She said her father said we'd better buy some ex-army bells as you could sleep twenty people in a bell, one to each seam, so that we could easily sleep the camp in one tent. But it seemed rather optimistic'.

'Decidedly, and in a Guide camp it just isn't done. You can fit six in, if they aren't very plump, but five is more comfortable. In any case, what is left of army equipment isn't very satisfactory now, so don't be tempted into buying one of those "astonishing bargains" unless you have the chance of really examining the tent with the help of a knowledgeable person. If money *does* come your way the most sensible thing to do, when you have an idea of what you would like and how much you can spend, is to visit Headquarters'.

'Suppose we *do* decide to buy ridges, how many Guides can I put into one of them?'.

'This is where you need to study dimensions very carefully. Each Guide will need the space for a ground sheet measuring 6 feet by 3 feet. You must also allow a margin, uncovered by ground sheets, at the end and sides of your tent. A tent with a 6 foot dimension isn't really satisfactory as it brings the length of one, or the width of two, ground sheets against the canvas. Don't expect your Guides to stay in the middle of their ground sheet when asleep, and if they are too close to the canvas they may wake up touching it in a great many places—with very sodden results! Then there's the question of your own tent. Have you decided yet whether you want to share one with Q.M.?'.

'Oh yes, I think so—I'm sure we shall need to talk things over a great deal'.

'Have a ridge if you can, a 6 ft. 6 in. by 8 ft. should do splendidly. And do, if possible, have a ridge for a store tent, it's so much more airy. The same size will do, or even smaller, but it is a help if it's high enough for Q.M. to stand up in. Otherwise it is a very back-aching business'.

'Is that all?'.

'Well, I don't think that the First Aid tent need bother you. With the small camp you will run to begin with, that could be dispensed with. Maybe one of your Guiders' brothers could lend you a small hike tent in which you could give the "off-colour" child a little rest and quiet. Find out what your C.A. thinks and be guided by her, until you feel experienced enough to form your own opinion'.

'Don't I need a marquee?'.

'Not for a little camp. If you are too far from the solid shelter to use it except in an emergency, an extra bell or large ridge tent will hold quite a number. If you strike a wet spell you will need somewhere to feed and to meet for activities and campfires'.

'Anything else structural?'.

'Yes, screening for latrines and wash cubicles. It's expensive and often of poor quality. Do borrow if you can'.

'Wouldn't sacks do?'.

'Rather a long job, but possible if you can get good ones of the closely woven kind'.

'How many yards should I need?'.

'Let's have a paper and pencil—or did you get a copy of *Campcraft*?'.

'Yes, but my Lieutenants borrowed it'.

'Then borrow it back again. Bring your company in on this. Take some roller bandages (dyed brown if you want it to be realistic), some small straight sticks and some plasticine to stick them into. Try out *Campcraft's* suggestions and adopt the one you like—or invent your own! Do allow a good foot for overlap at the doors'.

'How many cubicles must I reckon for?'.

'One to ten is the minimum for lats—but I like one to six or seven, it eliminates queues! As for washing cubicles do give each patrol its own if you can. This helps your P.L.s to organise their patrols' washing arrangements and to keep an eye on wet towels, etc. Now what next?'.

'You did mention ground sheets'.

'So we did! If you are borrowing them do check very carefully the ones your Guides are going to sleep on. Hold them up to the light for pin-holes and test for damp resistance. You will need one of these for each camper, and I allow one extra per tent. Then you will need some for meal times. The Guides could make their own and these should be eighteen inches square. Re-proofed deck-chair canvas is quite good. Or you may like to make longer ones, but keeping to the eighteen inch width removes most of the temptation of putting one's plate on the ground sheet and getting them horribly messy. If you are buying any kind of ground sheet, canvas ones are more economical than rubber ones—they can be very easily re-proofed year after year'.

(Continued on page 45)



# Where to Train

## IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS FOXLEASE

- February  
3-7 Closed for Spring Cleaning
- March  
10-14 N.W. London Commissioners  
17-21 West Surrey  
24-31 Guide and Brownie (fully booked)
- April  
4-13 (Easter) Guide and Ranger  
18-25 Guide and Brownie  
28-5 May. Bristol W. Division
- May  
9-15 Extensions  
18-23 Empire Representatives  
26-5 June (Whitsun). Guide and Brownie with special sessions for Commissioners
- June  
9-13 Woodcraft  
16-20 Local Association, Holiday Period  
23-30 Empire Chief Commissioners
- July  
4-11 Commissioners and Guide Guiders (facilities for children under 5)  
17-21 Pre-World Conference gathering  
25-1 Aug. International song and dance week with Guide training sessions
- August  
4-11 Guide and Brownie (Bank Holiday)  
15-22 P.L.s\*  
25-1 Sept. Woodcraft and Holiday Week
- September  
5-12 Guide and Brownie  
15-22 Rangers (All Sections)  
26-3 Oct. Commissioners and Secretaries

## WADDOW

- February  
3-6 Guide (with special sessions on pre-warrant training)  
10-13 S.E. Lancs  
17-20 Guide and Brownie  
24-27 Brownie
- March  
3-6 Empire and International training  
10-13 General training (with special sessions for Commissioners)
- 17-20 Cadets  
24-27 Guide and Brownie  
31-3 April. Promise and Law
- April  
6-11 (Easter) Guide, Brownie and Ranger  
14-17 Woodcraft and First Class  
21-24 English Certificated Trainers  
28-1 May. N.E. Lancs
- May  
5-8 Guide and Brownie  
12-15 Cheshire  
19-22 Rangers (Special Sessions for Lands and Seas)  
26-5 June (Whitsun) Guide and Brownie
- June  
9-26 Cleaning  
30-3 July Brownie
- July  
7-14 General Week  
15-2 Aug. Holiday period for Guiders, Cadets and Rangers
- August  
4-11 General (August Bank Holiday)  
15-22 P.L.s  
25-31 Holiday period for Guiders, Cadets and Rangers

- September  
1-4 Guide and Brownie  
8-11 Campfire  
15-18 Brownie  
22-25 South Lancs  
29-2 Oct. Guide
- \* Not more than 2 P.L.s from the same company will be accepted, although additional names may be put on the waiting list.
- Applications for Foxlease and Waddow should be sent (with a deposit of 7s. 6d.) to the Secretary, at Foxlease, Lyndhurst, Hants, or to the Secretary at Waddow Hall, Clitheroe, Lancs.  
(For fees see January GUIDER)

## S.R. TRAINING SHIP, M.T.B. 630. DARTMOUTH

- April  
4-25 Fitting out  
29-6 May. Sea Rangers
- May  
9-16 Permit and Charge  
19-22 (Week-end) Permit and Charge  
25-5 June Pre-warrant
- June  
8-15 Permit and Charge  
17-24 Petty Officers and Bo'suns  
27-6 July. Sailing
- July  
8-15 Sea Rangers  
18-25 Pre-warrant  
28-31 (Week-end) Sea Rangers
- August  
2-9 Sea Rangers  
11-18 Permit and Sailing  
21-28 Sea Rangers (Regatta Week)  
30-6 Sept. Permit and Charge
- September  
8-15 Pre-Warrant  
16-23 Sea Rangers  
26-3 Oct. 'All-comers' Holiday Week
- Applications to The Secretary, Florence Court, Torquay, enclosing a deposit of 7s. 6d. and a stamped addressed envelope. Fee: £2 2s. per week.

## TRAININGS AT I.H.Q.

A Training for Lone Guiders will be held at Imperial Headquarters from April 21st-23rd, commencing at 7 o'clock on Friday evening, 10.30 a.m. on Saturday and 2.15 p.m. on Sunday. Fee: 6s.

An International Training will be held at Imperial Headquarters from March 17th to 19th, commencing at 7 o'clock on Friday evening, 10.30 a.m. on Saturday and 2.15 p.m. on Sunday. Fee: 6s.

Applications for above trainings to the Secretary, Imperial Training Department, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope and a deposit of 2s. 6d.

## ENGLAND

Land and Sea Ranger Training will be held at I.H.Q. on Saturday, February 11th and Sunday, February 12th from 2.30 p.m. until about 7.0 p.m. each day. (For further details see January GUIDER.)

What is Guiding? A conference on the ideals and methods of the movement, with sessions on the branches and sections and the history of Guiding, will be held at I.H.Q. on Saturday, March 25th from 11 a.m. till 7 p.m. This is planned for Commissioners and Guiders who have recently come into the movement or who have come back after a long interval. Please apply to the English Training Department giving particulars of your contact with, or

interest in the movement. A detailed programme will then be sent.

## SCOTLAND Netherurd

- February  
3-6 Perthshire
- March  
3-6 Guide  
10-13 Advanced (by invitation)  
17-20 Brownie  
24-27 Ranger Guiders  
31-3 April Guide
- April  
6-11 (Easter) Guide and Brownie (Party from Dundee)  
14-17 Pre-warrant  
21-24 Guide  
28-1 May Cadets
- May  
5-8 International  
12-15 Commissioners  
19-22 Students  
26-29 (Whitsun) Guide and Brownie
- June  
2-5 Local Association  
9-12 Campfire  
16-19 Available for county  
23-26 Available for county
- July  
28-8 Aug. Patrol Leaders' Camp and Patrol Leaders in house Rangers' and Cadets' Camps
- August  
11-18 Guiders' Training week  
22-29 Guiders' Holiday week
- September  
1-4 Rangers  
8-15 Empire Week  
22-25 Ranger Guiders  
29-2 Oct. Guide
- Applications, enclosing a deposit of 5s., to the Secretary, Netherurd, Blvth Bridge, West Linton, Peeblesshire. (For fees see January GUIDER.)

## WALES Broneirion

- February  
10-13 Pageant Audition  
18-21 Brownie Guiders
- March  
3-6 Advanced Guiders  
14-17 Commissioners (mid-week)  
24-27 Chairmen, Secretaries, Welsh County Training Committees
- April  
6-11 Guide and Brownie Guiders (Easter)  
18-25 Patrol Leaders (open)
- May  
3-4 Local Associations' Conference  
12-15 Cardiff and East Glamorgan  
26-30 Cadets (Whitsun)
- June  
9-13 Ranger Guiders  
16-19 Guide Guiders and Commissioners  
20-23 The Church in Wales
- Fees for Broneirion are the same as those for Foxlease. Applications, enclosing a deposit of 5s., to the Guider-in-Charge, Broneirion, Llandnam, Montgomeryshire.

## ULSTER Lorne

- February  
3-5 Co. Antrim  
10-12 Practical First Aid  
17-19 Patrol Leaders  
24-26 Guide pre-warrant, Belfast, and District



## March

- 3-5 Brownie pre-warrant  
10-12 International and Overseas  
17-19 Federation of Girls' Clubs  
24-26 County Armagh  
31-2 April Rangers

## April

- 7-10 (Easter) Guide Guiders  
14-16 Camping  
21-23 Pre-warrant—Counties  
28-30 Captain Ball Teams

Fees: 8s. per day (garage 1s. per night). Applications for trainings at Lorne to the Guider-in-Charge, Lorne, Craigavad, Co. Down, enclosing a deposit of 5s.

## CAMPING AND HOLIDAYS

**Foxlease and Waddow.** Before making application for a camp site at Foxlease or Waddow, please consult your C.A. and obtain her permission in writing for you to apply.

Application should be addressed to the Secretary and the envelope marked 'Camp'. Written permission, together with a Camp Fee of 5s. should also be enclosed.

**Foxlease Annex.** Applications for holidays at Foxlease Annex during 1950 should be made to the Secretary, Foxlease.

**Blackland Farm.** East Grinstead, Sussex. Applications for camp sites for 1950 should be made to the Warden.

Indoor camping facilities are available all the year round. 'Restrop' is furnished for parties of ten, and unfurnished caravans can be used for sleeping accommodation in conjunction with one or two of the sites and are suitable for small parties in the late autumn or early spring.

**Lorne** is beautifully situated on the shores of Belfast Lough, close to the station and golf links, and is a good centre for touring. Guiders and Rangers may book accommodation between the advertised trainings, fees 9s. per day. There are two equipped camp sites. Applications to the Guider-in-Charge, Lorne, Craigavad, Co. Down.

## Suggestions for Company Entertainments

*Entertain Yourself*,\* Edited by E. W. White. (National Council of Social Service, 5s.). This revised and enlarged edition is packed full of good ideas and really practical advice for those concerned, as we so often are, with a 'Variety Entertainment' undertaken with limited resources and stage space. Drama, Dance, Music, Mime, Play-making and improvisation, Costume and Stage settings are here considered, by various experts, as they serve this type of combined arts programme. Some of the ideas given would suit a group of Ranger companies or a District when each company is responsible for a part of the programme and some for the individual company show. There are notes on publicity, selling of seats, and the Law relating to Music and Drama and a useful bibliography. Definitely a book for a Commissioner's shelf, not that it is likely to stay there long! It will be seized by the first Guider calling for advice for her entertainment and probably never returned! E.P.

*Handbooks of European National Dances*\* (Czechoslovakia, The Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland). Max Parrish, 3s. 6d. each. The second group of these little books are as fascinating as the first. The traditions and customs of the various countries are well described, from the village wedding celebrations in Czechoslovakia which continue for seven days to the dances of ritual origin which occur in all countries. Those who teach singing games will be interested in the description of the Dance of the Seven Lumps to be found in Dances of The Netherlands. Surely from this comes the Seven Capers, so beloved of Brownies. In Sweden and Czechoslovakia sword dance figures similar to our own may be found, while maypole dances take place in Switzerland. The coloured plates of the dresses to be worn for each dance, and a detailed description of them, should prove invaluable for companies wanting to present national dances in their displays. The piano accompaniment for each dance, and instructions for doing it, are also included. K.C.C.

*England's Dances.* Folk Dancing to-day and yesterday, by Douglas Kennedy. (Bell, 7s. 6d.). The writer, the present Director of the English Folk Dance and Song Society, describes the early stages of the Folk Dance revival in England, largely a single-handed creation by the founder of the Folk Dance Society Cecil Sharp. He writes about the different types of ritual dances and traces some of the paths along which the social dance may have evolved. A chapter is devoted to the technique of Folk Dancing and the difficulties which the unskilled dancer encounters. All will find help—Morris, Sword and Country dances and last, but by no means least, those very important people the musicians, for as Douglas Kennedy very truly says 'playing for dancing is an art in itself'. K.C.C.

\* Available in Headquarters' Bookshop.

## Book Attractions in the Headquarters Bookshop

### COMPANY LIBRARY CLASSICS

- The Wolf that Never Sleeps by Marguerite de Beaumont ... 3s. 6d.  
The Big Test by Catherine Christian ... 3s. 6d.  
Here Come the Girl Guides by Kitty Barne ... 4s. 0d.  
Opening Doorways by Lady Baden Powell ... 2s. 0d.  
An account of the Chief's travels in Europe during 1945.  
Royal Guides by V. M. Synge ... 5s. 0d.  
The story of the 1st Buckingham Palace Company.

### STORIES FOR THE CAMP FIRE

- Twenty Tales by V. M. Armstrong ... 2s. 0d.  
Legends of the United Nations by Frances Frost ... 7s. 6d.

### FOR YOUR OWN READING

- Tales out of School by Geoffrey Trease ... 8s. 6d.  
A survey of children's fiction during the last 100 years.  
Mothering Sunday. A new novel by Noel Streatfeild ... 8s. 6d.

### BOOKS TO RECOMMEND TO GUIDES

By the two speakers at the recent Headquarters Book Afternoon.

#### GEOFFREY TREASE :

- The Young Traveller in India and Pakistan ... 7s. 6d.  
Two historical books :  
Trumpets in the West ... 6s. 0d.  
The Hills of Varna ... 8s. 6d.  
No Boats on Bannermere ... 8s. 6d.  
Fortune My Foe—the story of Sir Walter Raleigh ... 8s. 6d.

#### KITTY BARNE :

- Listening to the Orchestra ... 8s. 6d.  
Dusty's Windmill ... 8s. 6d.  
Musical Honours ... 7s. 6d.  
Bracken My Dog ... 8s. 6d.

BOOK TOKENS, value 3s. 6d., 5s., 7s. 6d., 10s. 6d., 12s. 6d., and 21s., can be bought and exchanged in the shop.

Also available : BOOK TALLIES, 7½d. each, with coloured pictures on the inside cover in the following sets. 12 pictures to each set:

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| 12 Days of Christmas | British Wild Animals |
| Horses               | The Royal Family     |
| Railway Engines      |                      |

THINKING DAY CARDS are now obtainable, price 2d., 4d. and 5d.

POSTAGE EXTRA

## THE GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION

Incorporated by Royal Charter

17-19 BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1



# Headquarters Notices

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council of the Girl Guides Association was held at 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1, on Wednesday, January 11th, 1950.

**Present:** The Lady Oaksey, O.B.E., J.P. (Chair), The Lady Stratheden and Campbell, Mrs. Miles Burdett, B.E.M., The Lady Burnham, J.P., Miss J. Clayton, J.P., Lady Cooper, Mrs. Douglas of Mains, Miss I. H. Kay, J.P., Dame Vera Loughton Mathews, D.B.E., Mrs. H. S. Mair, M.A., Miss M. L. Martin, Miss H. McSwiney, Miss D. Powell, J.P., Mrs. I. H. Powell Edwards, Mrs. C. Traherne.

**By Invitation:** The Countess of Clarendon, Miss Thompson (during items 12 and 14), Miss Ward (during item 6).

**Apologies:** Mrs. Davies-Cooke, The Lady Baden-Powell, G.B.E., The Hon. Lady Cochrane, Mrs. J. W. Haughton, O.B.E., The Lady Somerleyton, M.B.E., J.P.

**In Attendance:** Miss J. Frith, O.B.E., Miss M. White, M.B.E., Commander Brickdale (during items 4 and 5).

**Business Arising:** P.O.R.—Uniform chapter; Countries' representatives on the Executive Committee.

**Correspondence:** World Bureau Public Relations Sub-Committee; World Bureau—Our Ark Sub-Committee; World Bureau—World Committee nominations.

**Honorary Treasurer:** Monthly Report; Miss Joyce Mathews' Legacy; Grants; Parliamentary Agents; New Finance Scheme; Film Project; Grants Committee.

**Pax Hill Ad Hoc Committee:** Report.

**Guide International Service:** Report.

**Chief Commissioner:** Calendar of events for 1950.

**Chief Commissioner for Scotland:** Changes in Scottish constitution.

**Chief Commissioner for Ulster:** Ratification of the appointment of Mrs. McBride as Commissioner for Rangers from February 1st, 1950, in place of Miss V. White, resigned.

**Imperial Headquarters:** Secretaries' badges; Welsh Guides' visit to Headquarters.

**Religious Panel:** Report.

**Public Relations Committee:** Standing Conference Report.

**Publications Committee:** Correspondence course on camping.

**Imperial Training Committee:** Constitution; Greek International Trainers' Conference.

**Awards Committee:** Recommendations.

**Appointments and Resignations.**

**Any other business:** Homecraft Training Centre badge; Wreath for Founder's Memorial, Westminster Abbey, on Thinking Day.

## AWARDS

### Fortitude

**Badge of Fortitude.** Ranger Mary Cullwick, aged 22, 2nd Dorset Post Rangers.

Mary has suffered from tuberculosis for over five years and in spite of the fact that her condition is steadily deteriorating she is always cheerful and interested in other people's affairs. She is a Ranger in the highest sense of the word and has won the admiration of all those with whom she has been in contact.

**Brownie Maureen Powell,** aged 9, 5th Hampton Pack, Middlesex West.

Maureen has suffered from osteomyelitis since birth, and has had many operations and long periods in hospital when she is immobilised in plaster. If she continues to have operations at two yearly intervals till she is seventeen she may be more or less normal. In spite of her grave disabilities Maureen is a thoroughly happy child and has shown extraordinary pluck. In her Brownie Pack she makes the greatest efforts to take part in all the normal activities.

### Life Saving

**Gilt Cross.** Guide Patricia Duncan, aged 12, 9th Glasgow company.

Patricia was on holiday at Hunter's Quay, when she noticed something floating in the sea. She recognised it as a child, and rushed out on to the pier and plunged in. She swam about twenty yards, and brought the three-year-old child, still conscious but choking and shocked, to the pier steps. Patricia is a strong swimmer and her own life was not in danger, though the child might have drowned but for her prompt action.

### Good Service

**Medal of Merit.** Mrs. Archibong, Captain 3rd Itu Company, Nigeria; Miss R. M. Clarke, Division Secretary, N.E. Glasgow.

**Certificate of Merit.** Miss Noel Wise, District Commissioner, Sandwich, Kent.

## CALLED TO HIGHER SERVICE

Miss Elizabeth L. Gibson, on December 19th, 1949, after a very short illness. District Secretary, Norwood, North Sheffield.

Mrs. K. E. Venning, on December 6th, 1949. Formerly District Commissioner for Penzance for thirteen years. During the 1914-18 war she carried on the Scout Troop while her husband, Major Venning, was fighting in France. She was beloved by Guiders, Guides, Brownies and members of the Local Association and her courage and public spirit were an inspiration to all. She will be sadly missed.

## COMING EVENTS

**The Empire Circle** lunch hour meeting will be held in the Council Chamber at I.H.Q. on Thursday, February 23rd when the speaker will be Miss Westrop, Travelling Commissioner in Ceylon. Coffee will be on sale from 1 p.m. and sandwiches may be brought. All Guiders are invited.

**The Thinking Day Party** will be held in the Library and Restaurant at Imperial Headquarters on Thursday, February 23rd at 6.30 p.m. Invitations will be sent to all members.

**B.B.C. Broadcast** on Thursday, February 23rd from Foxlease in 'Woman's Hour' (Light Programme) between 2 and 3 p.m.

**North Surrey Guiders' Retreat** at the Southwark Diocesan Retreat House Warlingham, Surrey on March 11th-12th. (Please note changes of dates.) Conductor: The Rev. G. B. Pimms. The Retreat House is five minutes from Warlingham Green, the terminus for all main bus routes. Full particulars from Miss J. K. Taylor, 4 Meadow Road, Ashted, Surrey, enclosing 2s. 6d. deposit fee and stamped addressed envelope. Guiders from other counties will be welcomed.

**Warwickshire Camp Conference and Training** at Stratford-on-Avon, March 17th-19th. Fee 25s. inclusive. Guiders from other counties welcomed. Application forms and full details from Mrs. F. Wood, 52 Gorseyway, Coventry. Closing date for applications February 22nd.

**North Surrey Land Rangers** invite other Land Rangers to their Adventure Camp to be held at Heyswood, Cobham, Surrey during the Easter weekend, Thursday evening, April 6th to Monday evening, April 10th. Please apply as soon as possible to Miss M. Collins, 12 Marksbury Avenue, Richmond, Surrey, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.

**The Church of England Youth Council** has arranged a Retreat for Church of England Guiders, to be held at the Diocesan House, St. Albans, from Friday evening, April 14th, to Sunday afternoon, April 16th. Conductor, The Rev. K. G. Symcox. Fee 27s. 6d., including booking fee of 2s. 6d. (not returnable). This retreat is intended primarily for Guiders who have already attended one or more retreats; heavy booking is anticipated and applications, together with booking fees, should be sent without delay to Miss Thompson, Little Meadow, Burcot, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, who will forward particulars.

Owing to the demand for retreats, the C.E.Y.C. is kindly arranging another which will be primarily for beginners and will be held in the Diocesan House, St. Albans, from November 17th-19th, 1950. Particulars will be announced in THE GUIDER.

**North East Area Adventure Camp** will be held at Wassand, near Hornsea, East Yorkshire, from June 16th-23rd, 1950. Cadets and Rangers (all sections) will be welcome from all areas and counties. Fee 5s. a day or 30s. a week. Activities: boating, bathing, riding, birdwatching, trek-cart hiking, excursions to places of interest. Particulars and application form obtainable from the Secretary, Mrs. Proudlock, 5 Brompton Road, Middlesbrough, enclosing stamped addressed envelope.

## GENERAL NOTICES

**The Catholic Guide Pilgrimage.** As a special train has been allocated to the Catholic Guide Pilgrimage to Rome, which is taking place from April 12th to April 24th, 1950, it is now possible to include a few more pilgrims. The Pilgrimage, limited to Catholic members of the movement, will cost £25-£30, according to accommodation. Applications and enquiries should be sent as soon as possible to Miss D. Bee, c/o the International Department, Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

**Extension Section (England).** Hospital and Cripple Group. The results of the Competition for 1949 are given below. Companies and Packs had to keep a Nature Log for three months, not necessarily consecutive. The entries were excellent and showed interest in a great variety of aspects of nature and wood-craft. **Rangers:** 1st. 3rd Abergele, North Wales; 2nd. 6th Tooting, London, S.W. **Guides:** 1st. 5th Edgware, Middlesex East; 2nd. 3rd Abergele, North Wales; 3rd. Ward D7 Queen Mary's Hospital, Carshalton, Surrey East. **Brownies:** 1st. 2nd Sevenoaks, Kent; 2nd. Ward H.E. 4 Queen Mary's Hospital, Carshalton, Surrey East; 3rd. 1st Standish, Gloucestershire.

(For further General Notices see page 44)



# The Guider's Postbag

## The Finance Scheme

After a lapse of some years I have become a District Commissioner again and I am greatly impressed by the self-sacrifice and devotion of our post-war Guiders who are usually extremely busy women. I feel it is all the more unfortunate that when they are faced with all the difficulties of the expense and shortage of uniforms for their companies and packs they should be called upon to contribute quite an appreciable sum annually to Headquarters. Most of them are shouldering this additional financial burden cheerfully, but I wonder whether we are right just at this extremely difficult time to ask them to do more than contribute the bare minimum needed by Headquarters. Are the counties really so hard up, and their needs so great, that the companies and packs have to be asked to contribute an extra 9d. or 4d. per head respectively on the sum for Headquarters in order that their county shall have additional funds?

Such things as the provision of County Standards, which some counties who do not possess them, are contemplating, though worthy objects in normal times, are surely luxuries which should not be contemplated at the expense of company funds. Some counties, indeed, are asking for suggestions as to how the extra funds are to be expended. Does this look as if they were unable to do without them?

What a gesture it would be if the county authorities decided either to forward their share of this levy to Headquarters in order to start an Endowment Fund, long overdue, which would appear to be the only way of ensuring a regular income to Headquarters, however small, or kept it towards their county's contribution to Headquarters for next year, thus relieving the companies and packs of a small fraction of their commitments. The sum involved may not be large but it means a great deal to a struggling company or pack who have probably raised the money with very great difficulty.

M. C. BINNIE

*(Of the total collected from English counties  $\frac{1}{2}$  is sent to I.H.Q. for use by England and H.Q., and  $\frac{1}{2}$  retained for use in the county. Contributions were assessed as follows, per individual: Cadets, Rangers and Guides 1d. per week for 36 weeks each year; Brownies 4d. per week for 36 weeks each year; Trefoil Guild members 1s. per year.—EDITOR.)*

## Is Age Nominal?

The last few years have been difficult ones so far as recruiting Guiders is concerned—a difficulty not yet overcome. In the case of Brownies if a couple of girls of sixteen or seventeen, and in the case of Guides of eighteen, show themselves capable of leadership and have the ability to run a pack, or assist as Lieutenant to a Guide company, should this be allowed? To lower the warrant age would be wrong, but in special cases should not a Commissioner have the authority to give permission for a particularly capable girl to attend trainings—after all Commissioner is on the spot. Some seventeens and sixteens are infinitely more capable than girls two and three years their seniors. Does any other Guider feel the same?

G. HIGHCOCK (Captain 3rd Droydsden and Clayton Guide Company and Captain District Ranger Company)

## The Social Workers' Pension Fund

It has occurred to me that Guiders who are employed by Social Service Organisations may like to know of the advantages which the Social Workers' Pension Fund offers. I will gladly furnish further details to any enquirers.

EYRE CARTER (MAJOR)

(Secretary, Social Workers' Pension Fund,  
26 Bedford Square, W.C.1)

## Staff Vacancy at I.H.Q.

APPLICATIONS are invited for an interesting post in the Editorial Department and in I.H.Q. library. They should be sent in as soon as possible to the General Secretary, Girl Guides Association, 17-19, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1. A fully qualified librarian is not needed, but a good education, an interest in people, in children's and grown-ups' reading and a thorough knowledge of indexing are essential qualifications. The post would also involve help with editorial work on the periodicals. The hours are the usual office hours from Monday to Friday and 9.30 a.m.—1 p.m. on Saturdays (with a free half-day in mid-week) and the starting salary is £25 a week.

## Census of Membership 1948 and 1949

	ENGLAND		SCOTLAND		ULSTER		WALES		GRAND TOTALS	
	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949
Local Associations .. ..	1,153	1,116	428	353	43	43	136	144	1,760	1,656
Cadet Companies .. ..	156	144	11	14	2	2	13	13	182	173
Land Ranger Companies ..	825	727	154	131	42	32	43	41	1,064	931
Air Ranger Flights .. ..	60	54	6	6	1	1	1	—	68	61
Sea Ranger Crews .. ..	403	385	46	51	5	5	19	23	473	464
Guide Companies .. ..	8,279	8,247	1,479	1,506	246	231	403	412	10,407	10,396
Packs .. ..	6,870	6,897	1,386	1,450	192	182	297	307	8,745	8,836
Lone Companies .. ..	52	54	13	14	—	—	2	2	67	70
Extension Coys. and Packs	239	245	33	45	3	3	20	19	295	312
Commissioners .. ..	2,041	2,086	508	513	73	75	180	177	2,802	2,851
Secretaries .. ..	2,605	2,703	206	205	46	53	171	190	3,028	3,151
Guiders .. ..	21,880	22,607	5,515	5,565	830	834	963	1,034	29,188	30,040
Cadets .. ..	1,644	1,452	117	150	38	32	123	91	1,922	1,725
Land Rangers .. ..	7,787	6,481	1,516	1,228	485	410	419	401	10,207	8,520
Air Rangers .. ..	666	506	98	68	10	12	6	—	780	586
Sea Rangers .. ..	5,890	5,179	762	615	74	65	257	232	6,983	6,091
Guides .. ..	166,062	155,658	38,017	35,062	5,366	4,919	7,818	7,281	217,263	202,920
Brownies .. ..	126,929	120,501	32,433	31,448	4,084	3,790	5,315	5,055	168,761	160,794
Lones .. ..	479	455	153	144	—	—	6	10	638	609
Extensions .. ..	2,955	2,779	436	551	41	50	169	168	3,611	3,548
TOTALS .. ..	338,948	320,407	79,761	75,549	11,047	10,240	15,427	14,639	445,183	420,835
AGE GROUPS										
Under 15 .. ..	274,597	258,598	60,047*	55,126†	8,515	8,221	12,153	11,674		
15-20 .. ..	40,003	36,869	13,485*	11,140†	1,560	808	2,055	1,694		
Over 20 .. ..	24,348	24,940	6,229*	6,283†	972	1,211	1,219	1,271		
* under 14; 14-20; over 20. † under 14; 14-21; over 21										
TREFOIL GUILDS										
Guilds .. ..	225	274	12	18	—	—	5	5	242	297
Guild Members .. ..	4,807	5,834	320	519	—	—	125	150	5,252	6,503



