

Baden-Powell-Day, Thinking Day and Founders Day 2024

Dear sisters and brothers under the symbols of Fleur de Lys and Trefoil!

The 22nd of February has for us Scouts and Guides a very special importance and there is no question how old we are. It is the birthday of our « Founders Couple » Lord and Lady Robert Baden-Powell. A couple so different in age, cause there had been an elderly General on the one side and a young and enthusiastic British lady on the other, but as we are still able to say: It had been a very good and successful mixture and their ideas and visions of a worldwide youth movement will find all over the world till today many followers.



We, the Guild Scouts and Guild Guides, as a part of « the Family » are thankfully and proud to belong to this movement. May it be as from our youth or from later on. But as we can read in the bible : Better late, than never ! Everyone of us has had many beautiful and fulfilling hours in that community, lived good fellowship and found friends all over the world. For myself I can say: Being connected with Guild Scouting and Guiding had made my life more wide.

An example: Hans, my husband, and I, we had been some years ago on a round trip in « Down Under ». In nearly each town, where we had an overnight stopp, there lived guild friends, we had had lerned at World Conferences and other gatherings. As soon as we had reached our booked hotel, we had been welcomed and „kidnapped“ for an common evening. The other members of our tour-group couldn't believe that: „Where, the hell, do you don't have friends?“

Our Scout an Guide Fellowship and all the movement is – no differnce if we are young or adult - a treasure we have to protect, to watch over. But that treasure is not one to be hided, to be digged depp into the ground, to be watched anxiously. No, it is a treasure, we are watching for to multiply this spirit and to forward it to the next generations, our childen and gand children.

If we do that, we have got to know, what Robert and Olave Baden-Powell had left for us:

The way to an everlasting peace on our planet has to follow the route of worldwide friendship and mutual trusting only. This is the way, we as scouts and guides use to live.

And as more we are and as more we will become, the better we will be able to turn over this vision.

We are well prepared and we want to do our best!

In that sense: A beautiful BiPi-Day, Founders Day and Thinking Day 2024!

Yours codially and „Be Prepared“,

MARGARETA

Guildmistress and Leader Austian Central Guild

Vienna, 22nd of February 2024