

MAY ELVEY BRADLEY

Lillian Kay

The death occurred recently of Mrs May Elvey Bradley, a few weeks before her ninetieth birthday. Mrs Bradley had contributed a number of articles to our *Newsletter*, and left many written memories of her early life, from which we hope to publish extracts in future editions.

May Wilde was born on 2 May, 1905 and was brought up in her parents' confectionery and tobacco shop in Townwall Street.

Two of the dominant interests in May's life were the Girl Guide movement and Camping. Through their mutual interest in Scouts and Guides she met and married Frank Prescott, of the well-known Dover Shipping Agents, in 1935, and together they explored England in their caravan. During the war she lived in a cottage in the woods at Betteshanger; she ran the Eastry

Brownie Pack, worked on farms, served in Vye's, drove their van around the district, and was appointed Commissioner for Dover Rural Guides. Later she was awarded the honour of the Guide's coveted Thanks Badge. She joined the Ashley and Studdal W.I., of which she was Treasurer, Secretary and eventually President.

May's husband Frank died suddenly in 1957. She continued her many interests, and became Secretary of the Dover and District Music Club and became Secretary for the Trinity College of Music in Dover; she also organised the town's 'Meal on Wheels' service. In 1969 she married Eric Bradley, a retired dentist from Canterbury, with whom she and Frank had spent many camping holidays. They toured the Continent many times in their caravan. After a few years living in Kingston, near Canterbury they returned to The Gateway in Dover. Eric died in 1992 and May in March 1995, when Dover lost a well-known and public-spirited citizen.

Membership News

Many thanks to all members who paid their subscriptions promptly. Our numbers hover around 400 which seems to be a sticking-point as new recruits have balanced the retired. We produce an informative leaflet about the Society, its aims and the advantages of belonging. This is freely available to all, alternatively, the *Newsletter* can serve as a good means of introduction to potential members.

We have recently welcomed Mr K. Smith, Mr & Mrs T. Glyn Thomas, Lt. Cdr. J. & Mrs Waterman, Mrs A. Kirk, Mrs M. Cox, Mr & Mrs F. Martin, Mrs B. Johnson, Dr & Mrs R. J. Davis, Mr D. Man-Cheung, Captain and Mrs R. Levy, Mr S. Bannister, Mr & Mrs M. Jukes and Mrs J. Pain.

You may have noticed the new form of our application form on the last page of the *Newsletter*, which invites members to help the Society in various ways. If you can help in any of the areas mentioned please contact me or the Editor.

As the Society has now decided not to release our mailing list to any other society or enterprise, it will not be necessary to ask members to indicate their wishes on this matter and the last paragraph on the application form, dealing solely with Data Protection is therefore redundant and will henceforward be omitted.

SHEILA R. COPE,
Membership Secretary