



BRIDGETOWN DISTRICT SCOUT COMMITTEE

SCOUT LEADERS' ROUNDTABLE

TRAINING SHEET

EQUIPMENT SAFETY¹

Each Scout Troop will have different types of lamps and stoves and each will have its own correct method of use. The one thing that all stoves and lamps have in common is that to create heat or light they need to burn fuel and, as with anything that burns, this makes them potentially dangerous. As a Leader you should know what types your Troop has and how to use them properly.

MAINTENANCE

You have probably used some of your stoves and lamps before on activities but you should be able to maintain them as well. Once again, this will be different for each piece of equipment, but you should probably be able to:

- » Change and 'burn off' a mantle;
- » Change a gas cylinder or bottle;
- » Prick a gas jet; and
- » Check pressure seals and valves.

SAFETY

Stoves and lamps use different fuels such as petrol, methylated spirits, paraffin, gas or solid fuel tablets and you will need to know how to look after each one properly and its particular dangers.

Here are some general safety rules to remember:

- » Always follow the manufacturer's instructions carefully. If there are no instructions, ask for help or don't use the stove - never guess.
- » Never try to refill a hot lamp or stove. It may suddenly light or even explode.
- » Never refuel a stove or change a gas cylinder in an enclosed space - take it outside.
- » Never throw a gas or fuel container on a fire - even if you think it is empty it still might explode.
- » Always keep fuels in clearly marked, sealed containers well away from sources of heat and light.
- » Never play with fuels.

REFERENCES

1. **The Explorer Award.** Peter Rogers and Derek Capper. The Scout Association, Baden Powell House, Queen's Gate, London, Great Britain.