

Reprinted from "The Meccano Magazine."

A Magazine published specially for Meccano Boys.  
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# The Meccano Guild

## A Fellowship of Meccano Boys

More than a million boys in Great Britain derive their greatest indoor pleasure from Meccano. They form local Clubs amongst themselves for the discussion of Meccano topics, and for mutual help. Thousands of them write to us and ask us to put them in correspondence with other boys, and to help them to start Meccano Clubs where they can meet their Meccano chums. We feel that the time has come for the formation of one great fraternal organisation of which all Meccano boys should become members, and we have pleasure in announcing that we have completed our plans for bringing this about in such a way that even the most lonely boy shall be able to take his part and share the happiness.

*The objects of the Meccano Guild are :*

- (a) To make every boy's life brighter and happier.
- (b) To foster clean-mindedness, truthfulness, ambition, and initiative in boys.
- (c) To encourage boys in the pursuit of their studies and hobbies, and especially in the development of their knowledge of mechanical and engineering principles.

This is surely an ambitious programme, and we can assure our Meccano boys that we shall use every endeavour to establish an organisation of boys, for boys, and conducted as much as possible by boys, which will have a profound effect for good on the lives of all who take part in it.

The Headquarters of the Guild will be at the offices of the Meccano Works in Liverpool. At the head, guiding, controlling, and taking a personal interest in every member, will be the President, and the holder of this office will be Mr. Frank Hornby, inventor of Meccano, and Chairman and Managing Director of Meccano Limited. Associated with the Guild will be Meccano Clubs all over the country, run by Club Leaders and other officials; and finally the great army of club members—thousands upon thousands of clean, busy, happy boys, each with a definite purpose, each a member of a great happy family.



Existing Meccano Clubs should at once apply for affiliation with the Meccano Guild, giving the following particulars :—

- (1) Name of Club.
- (2) Name and address of Club Leader.
- (3) Number of Members on roll.
- (4) Address where club meetings are held.
- (5) The last report and balance-sheet.

### The Meccano Club Certificate

Where a club can show that it is a real live organisation a Certificate of Affiliation to the Guild will be granted, and the club will be allowed to avail itself of all the privileges of membership.

Every boy who is not yet a member of a Meccano Club should apply for individual membership of the Guild, on the enclosed form.

The applicant must also enclose 7d. to cover the cost of the enamelled badge of membership, which he must undertake to wear on all occasions.

It is the intention of the Guild to render every assistance in the formation of local Meccano Clubs, and to guide and help the Club Leaders and officials in the work of running them on successful lines. A set of suggested club rules, and a complete syllabus of a winter season's activities will be sent to the leader on application.

We have had several instances of existing boys' clubs wishing to start a Meccano section, devoting one evening a week to the hobby, and we have no objection to this, provided such clubs apply for affiliation with the Meccano Guild, and conform to its regulations so far as their Meccano evening is concerned. Meccano boys who are already members of clubs, and who are desirous of having one evening each week devoted to Meccano, should either communicate with us, giving us the name and address of the secretary, or ask the secretary himself to write to us.

We shall be glad to give any assistance to boys desirous of forming separate Meccano clubs. The first necessity is, of course, a club-room to meet in, and this should be properly warmed and lighted. Often the church, chapel, or school authorities are only too glad to provide a suitable room, and where it is desired, to assist in the appointment of a Club Leader to guide and control the work of the members. Let us here say emphatically that the factor which will count most in the success of the club will be the enthusiasm and earnestness of the boys themselves, for no school or church authority can resist an appeal where the objects are so desirable and beneficent as those of the Meccano Guild if the appeal is properly presented.

Write to headquarters if you have any difficulty; you will get all the help and encouragement you need.

## Badges of Membership



Our illustration shows the Meccano Guild membership badge full size. It is beautifully enamelled in colours, and is intended to be worn on the lapel of the coat. The wearing of it will signify that its owner is a Meccano boy who owns a Meccano outfit, is a member of the great brotherhood of boys, has undertaken to live a clean, truthful, and upright life, and regards every other boy wearing a similar badge as his friend, without introduction or ceremony. Each member must wear this badge on all occasions, so that he may be at once recognised by other members.

Special Badges, Diplomas, and Awards will be granted to members who display ability in connection with Guild and Club work, and your Club Leader will tell you how these may be gained.

Members of Meccano clubs will purchase their badges through their Club Leader.

## How to Join the Guild

If you are already a member of a boys' club or organisation, approach your secretary and explain the whole matter to him, first finding out how many other members would like to have a Meccano night. Report fully to the Guild Headquarters saying just what you have done and what help you need.

If yourself and a number of friends wish to form a separate Meccano club, first secure a room, preferably through your church, chapel, or school authorities, decide on a leader,—who should be a teacher, a parent of one of the boys, or some one interested in boys' work—and then report fully to Guild Headquarters.

If you have not sufficient boy friends to form a club and are not a member of an existing club, you should apply for individual membership in the way we have already described.

When your Leader has been appointed, the Guild will provide him with printed notes and suggestions for club rules, and the conduct of meetings, a suggested syllabus covering the first season's work, and particulars of special awards to be worked for by members.

The Guild will not control the finances or the conduct of the club. This must be done by the members themselves through their club leader and officials. The amount of the subscription must be fixed by the club, and must be sufficient to cover the club expenses. Proper accounts and records must be kept by the treasurer and secretary. Where any irregularity is shown the Guild will have power to cancel the club's certificate of affiliation at once. In all club matters the officers of the Guild will at all times be ready to help and guide both leaders and members in their work.

Address your letters to "The Secretary, Meccano Guild, Binns Road, Liverpool." Make them as short, clear, and business-like as possible. One of the objects of the Guild is to foster initiative. This means that you must use your own brains, act vigorously and intelligently, get going, and then tell us clearly just how we can help. If you can make a useful suggestion off your own bat, do so. Get it into your head that you are helping us to make the Guild a success and the other Meccano boys to have a good time. There are wagon loads of enthusiasm ready waiting in the brains and hearts of Meccano boys in this country, and if we pool it all and put it behind the Meccano Guild, we are in for the happiest and brightest of times.

The Meccano Magazine will be the official organ of the Meccano Guild.

*Since the appearance of this announcement in October, 1919, the development of the Guild has been remarkable. Already there are upwards of 50 affiliated Clubs, each with a proper Club-room, an adult Club Leader, and a strong membership; hundreds of Clubs have been formed, and they will be affiliated on fulfilling one or two simple requirements; thousands of boys have written to the Secretary asking to be allowed to form Meccano Clubs, and in each case every possible help has been given. The number of members now runs into many thousands, and every day hundreds of letters from members tell how proud they are of their badges, and of their connection with this splendid movement; how it has quickened their interest in the hobby, enabling them to get greater fun and pleasure from their model building, and inventing, and making them feel that they indeed belong to a great Brotherhood of Boys.*

*The President of the Guild wants to see his million boy friends members of the Guild. He wants to get to know them personally, and to help them to get to know each other, and he offers you and your chums a very hearty invitation to join. Don't hesitate; fill up your application form at once and post it to the*

**Secretary,**

**Meccano Guild Headquarters,**

**Old Swan, Liverpool.**