



Girlguiding

Hampshire West

girls in the lead

County Report 2012

Amazing Experiences



Welcome

Welcome to Girlguiding Hampshire West's report of 2012. This is an opportunity for us to reflect on and celebrate the many exciting things that the girls in our County have experienced over the last 12 months. During the course of the year our national team achieved its best ever performance at the Olympic Games and our monarch, the Queen, celebrated her Diamond Jubilee. So it has been a great year for Britain - and it was a great year for Guiding, too. The Olympic themed On Your Marks resource pack encouraged us to be faster, higher and stronger and led to lots of sporting events taking place around the County. The Olympic theme was used at our international camp, FLAME, which united girls from around the world at Foxlease. We also saw The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Hampshire Scouts and Guides Community Challenge encourage the two organisations to join hands and become active citizens together in our communities.

I have only recently taken over as County Commissioner and I am thoroughly enjoying the challenges of my new role and, in particular, meeting members from all over the County. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my predecessor, Janet Parker, not only for all the help and support she has given me personally, but also for all she did for our County. She was an outstanding County Commissioner who ensured the County was constantly evolving and moving forward. Thank you, Janet.

We are pleased to see that new volunteers continue to join our organisation, enabling more girls to take part in exciting and challenging opportunities. Some Divisions have reviewed their structures in order to deliver Guiding in a more flexible way, making it easier for Leaders to manage their time and develop their skills around their busy schedules.

From craft days to campfires; Thinking Day celebrations to picnics; Rainbow sleepovers to Senior Section international trips as far as India and Cambodia; Girlguiding Hampshire West has offered our girls so many amazing experiences this year, of which we would like to share just a few.



Rainbows

Monkeying around

This year the youngest members in our County, the Rainbow section, had a great time celebrating their 25th birthday. It was time to get out those party frocks and enjoy magic tricks, games, jelly and ice cream, singing Happy Birthday, cutting birthday cakes and even taking a trip to Monkey World - all creating the perfect recipe for fun and friendship.

Brownies

Doing it themselves

The 5th Hedge End Brownies visited B&Q and took part in a Kids Do It class which showed them how to help the birds in the cold weather. They each made a bird feeder whilst learning new skills in DIY, from sanding to lots of hammering. The girls loved the evening and as one Brownie said, "I can help daddy now - this is not only a man's job!"



Mastering pizza

The 1st Lockerley Brownies had a topping time making pizzas with the experts, Domino's, in Romsey. They ordered pizzas on computers, moulded the dough, added the toppings and were shown around the impressive walk-in freezer. Each Brownie received a certificate and free pizza. They also raised £71.20 for Children In Need with their pyjama party.

Guides

Reaching new limits

The 1st Kings Worthy Guides found their fins when they tried a new challenge - scuba diving. They pushed themselves to the limit and had to control their fear of heading to the bottom of the pool. Their Leader said, "It was lovely to see the older girls helping the younger ones and the beaming smiles as a girl came to the surface of the water. All the girls want to do it again!"

Camping at Foxlease

Over 80 Guides and Leaders from Chandlers Ford Division slept (well - a few got some sleep!) out in bivvy bags at Foxlease. Heavy rain held off as the girls took part in activities at bases scattered around the woods before supper. The sight of torches in orange bivvy bags glowing at midnight as girls chatted to each (and still chatting as dawn broke) was fantastic. Some of the girls looked tired at breakfast having had a brilliant night they won't forget, particularly those who were trying it for the first time - they can't wait for the next one!

Senior Section

Racing around London

Senior Section members and Young Leaders from Chandlers Ford headed off to London to complete the Monopoly challenge day. The day was such a success that the girls want to do it again - in a different city - next year!

Welcoming new girls

Southampton Central Division has opened a new Senior Section Unit showing that numbers are increasing and girls want to stay in Guiding.

Trying new sports

Hythe Rangers tried a new sporting activity each month, which included karate, fencing, yoga, boxing and badminton to name just a few.

Taking tea with the Queen

Young Leaders and Rangers from Hurst Castle went to Buckingham Palace, along with the County Commissioner, to attend a Queen's Garden Party as invited service personnel. This was a wonderful opportunity for the under 26-year-olds that went. They still talk about it now and people cannot believe they have been to Buckingham Palace and met the Queen.



Shared experiences

Uniting at FLAME

Hampshire West hosted its 5th international camp for Guides and Senior Section. It was themed around the values of the Olympic and Paralympic Games: respect, excellence, friendship, courage, determination, inspiration and equality.

The girls joined in with many adventurous activities, including whizzing along a zip wire and learning survival skills. They also had the chance to try more unusual challenges, such as making and editing a film and recording a professional quality music CD. A real highlight was when everyone got together to watch the Olympics opening ceremony on a big screen. It was a very special and moving moment when all the girls cheered as the Women's Suffragettes entered the stadium. It was a truly uniting experience, proving that you don't need to go abroad to have an international experience. Simply meeting other Guides from around the world broadens our knowledge of the world we live in.



Taking centre stage

Winchester Division's big project of 2012 was their stage production of Annie with the help of the Chesil Theatre Company in Winchester. A cast of 105 members from Rainbows to Leaders, rehearsed every Sunday. The production was supported by numerous other Leaders, the Trefoil Guild, parents and not forgetting the Rangers who turned up to make the tea, coffee etc. The show was amazing and the standard was outstanding, especially as everyone was welcome to take part. There were four evening shows and one matinee, and each performed to a full house, selling over £16,000 worth of tickets in total.

Celebrating the Jubilee

The girls took part in many events around the County to celebrate the Queen's 60 years of dedication to her people and country, including church services, street parties, tree planting, litter picking and entertaining the elderly. Romsey East also created a wonderful Jubilee patchwork quilt, with each square individually made by different members.



Jubilee Beacon

Girlguiding members and their families were invited to Foxlease where Hampshire West hosted one of the official Beacons to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Over 300 people came together in the bunting-adorned campfire circle. Many were dressed in Jubilee themed outfits which added to the party atmosphere. There was a jam jar lantern competition, hotdogs to eat, fabulous campfire singing led by Amy Wyatt and at the centre of it all the huge campfire Beacon. Janet Parker put the torch to the Beacon, igniting the sparklers first then the fire itself, which sent flames soaring over 20 feet into the night air while the revellers gave an uplifting rendition of the National Anthem.

Rainbows and Brownies in Milford, together with Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, planted saplings, donated by the Woodland Trust, to commemorate the Jubilee. Rebecca Webb, Brownie Leader, said "It was lovely to see young people from both movements working side by side on something so worthwhile".

Making a difference

A total of 16 members from Downs Rangers and three Leaders went to India for 19 days. It was an incredible experience for everyone involved, as Sue Brimelow, Leader, explains, "For the first 10 days we

stayed at Sangam, one of the four World Guiding Centres. We spent five of the days with local community partners, teaching and doing crafts with impoverished children and vulnerable adults. This experience was extremely rewarding and we felt we were making a real difference. At Sangam we had daily workshops teaching us more about the international impact of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, and how Girlguiding, through advocacy and community leadership, can make a difference and especially how it can help young women from all over the world change their lives for the better.

"After Sangam, we travelled by overnight train from Mumbai to Jaipur and toured the Golden Triangle. The highlights of this part of the trip included an elephant ride up to the Amber Palace, seeing the Taj Mahal at dawn and experiencing the vibrant Indian culture.

"Our trip to India was phenomenal. It has transformed our understanding of many international issues and instilled in us a passion to change the world."



Going for gold

Many Divisions organised fun activities that tested the girls on their co-ordination, speed and agility, and many members were directly involved in the actual Games themselves as Games Makers and Torchbearers.

Southampton Central Division had 75 girls from all sections participate in various sporting activities, from long jump, high jump, javelin and discus to football and races. The day started with a flag parade and warm-up session and finished with a tug of war and a sing-song. After taking part in the 100 metre race and hurdles, Hannah from 11th Shirley Brownies was heard to say “This is great fun - but I’m exhausted!”

Teams of Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Senior Section members from New Forest North Division had great fun competing against each other on giant inflatables, ‘It’s A Knockout’ style.

Brownie Leader Sue Groves was nominated to be an Olympic Torchbearer because of her passion for Girlguiding. She said, “Being involved in Girlguiding has given me so many opportunities and adventures over the years. I think this one comes close to the top of the list”.

Sailing the Solent

Family, friends, the Region Chief Commissioner, Commissioners and Leaders from all over the County and beyond gathered for a boat trip and afternoon tea around the Solent to say a fond au revoir to Janet Parker, acknowledging the hard work and commitment she gave to Guiding as our County Commissioner.

Planning a big Brownie birthday

Looking ahead, exciting plans are now well underway to celebrate the Brownie Centenary in 2014. We conducted a survey and asked the Brownies how they would like to celebrate. One challenging idea was that some Brownies wanted to play sleeping lions with REAL lions! We asked their views, listened carefully, and are now busy turning their ideas into a reality (but we can’t promise real lions!).



Awards

Our unpaid volunteers are very special people, and presenting them with an award is a small gesture to show our appreciation for the time, commitment and service they give to Guiding.

County Good Service

Shelagh Blackwell
Jane Bronk
Jayne Buckley
Anne Falconer
Judith Houghton
Jackie Paulson
Julia Pentland
Anna Stoker

40 year Long Service

Rosemary Brooks
Sheila Caine
Karolyn Culverwell
Janet Dixon
Maggie Fulker
Hazel Nicholson
Janet Reed
Linda Scorey

County Thanks Badge

Anne Hilton

Hampshire Rose

Liz Baron
Jean Batchelor
Mary Beale
Doreen Carter
Pam Hall
Ruth Jackson
Wendy Leavey
Kay Moran
Sue Sadler
Debbie Sara
Sheila Scott
Jan Towle
Eve Wort

30 year Long Service

Rose Beswick
Lyn Carter
Anne Clothier
Elaine Ford
Karen Gardiner
Barbara Marsden
Angela Morcumb
Sue Pollock
Jayne Treadwell
Sharon Underhill
Evelyn Wort

Queen's Guide

Charlotte Bell
Faye Hudson
Lizi Moorcraft
Allison Warren

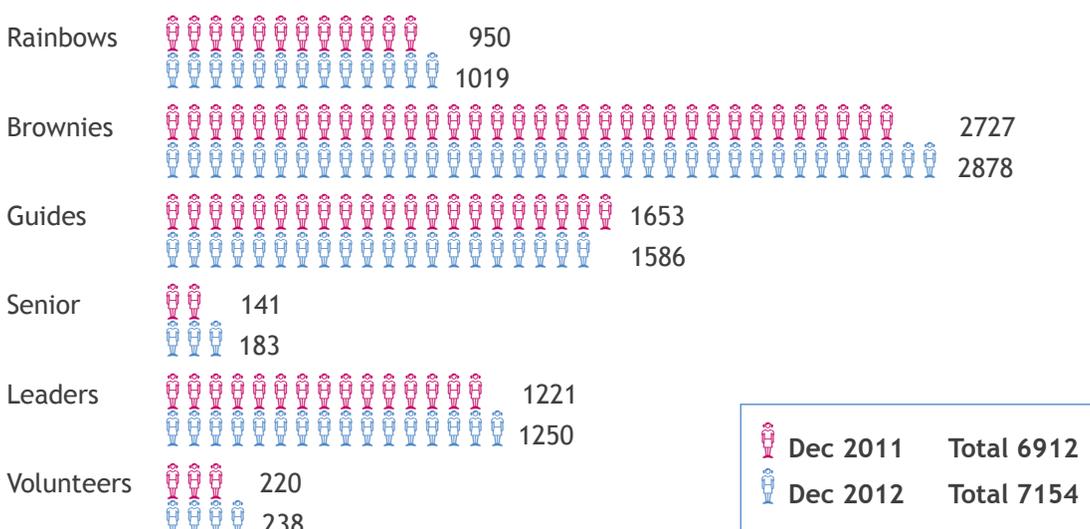
50 year Long Service

Valerie Morris

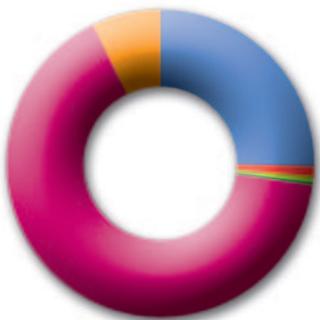
Baden Powell Challenge Award

We supported 63 Guides in achieving the highest award in the Guide section.

Membership figures

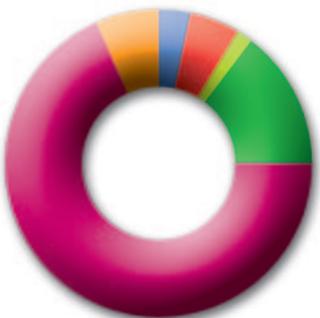


Income 2011/12



Membership Subscriptions	£38,571.00	(25.19%)
Equipment Income	£1,866.23	(1.21%)
Donations & Grants	£751.46	(0.49%)
Investment Income	£366.96	(0.24%)
County Events	£100,412.67	(65.58%)
Separate Account Income	£11,155.57	(7.29%)
Total	£153,123.89	

Expenditure 2011/12



Membership Subscriptions	£3,178.00	(3.41%)
Donations & Grants	£4,730.54	(5.07%)
Depreciation	£1,560.99	(1.67%)
County Support Costs	£13,757.06	(14.76%)
County Events	£63,762.97	(68.42%)
Separate Account Expenditure	£6,220.42	(6.67%)
Total	£93,209.98	

Leading the way

Amazingly, our Leaders and recognised volunteers gave up over 60,000 hours of their time to support Guiding throughout the year - and that doesn't even include all the residential events, planning, admin and reporting they do!

We provide training opportunities to enable Leaders to improve their skills working with young people, and over the last year we helped 55 adults gain their Leadership Qualification.

As you can see from this report, Hampshire West is certainly a County we can be proud of for its achievements but, more especially, we can certainly be proud of our volunteers too. The wonderful

opportunities that are provided for the girls to experience is only possible because of the enthusiasm and dedication of our adult leaders, the Trefoil Guild members and our supporters. They work hard, not only in their Units, but also in their Districts, Divisions and not least, the County, for which I am very grateful and would like to say a very big THANK YOU.

My hope is that Guiding will continue to grow and flourish in 2013 with lots of exciting opportunities happening across the County, together with lots of fun and laughter along the way.

Anne
County Commissioner

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