



Girlguiding BGIFC

Autumn/Winter 2006 ~ Newsletter British Guides in Foreign Countries

Dear Guider

Welcome back. The new term will be well and truly underway by the time you read this. I hope the term goes well and that you will enjoy your guiding. Remember to always be on the look out for new people to help you and keep telling everyone how great guiding is.

I can hardly believe that this is the last time I shall be writing to you in the Newsletter. The last 5 years have just flown by - perhaps it has something to do with the fact that I have had such a lovely job.

If you were lucky enough to come to the Event at Waddow you will know what a great week it was. The house was filled with Guiders and SS members who laughed their way through the week as well as re-charging their batteries with ideas for new games and activities to take back to the Units. We also had a day out in York and many tried their hand at grass sledging. We were entertained in the evenings with quizzes, flower arranging, a sing song, a talk on tracing your family history and a visit from Liz Burnley the Chief Guide. A full blown "entertainment" by the Home Team and other guiders brought the house down.

We said goodbye and thank you to all those involved in any way and a special thank you to Phyllis for her wonderful organisation once again.

I have been very lucky to have a superb Home Team who have not only supported me but also supported you in so many ways and of course Jeannette in the office is a great asset to us all. Phyllis and I have worked well together and we have seen BGIFC move on and flourish over the past 5 years. I knew very little about BGIFC when I took over as Commissioner but as you all know I am now its keenest champion and I believe it is vital to have British Guiding in countries where it is not possible for British folk to join the local Association of the country they are living in.



I hand over to Ruth Sara in January. You will like her very much and she will be a great advocate for BGIFC. She is really looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible in the months and years to come. I know you will make her feel very welcome and BGIFC will be in very safe hands.

Thank you for the tremendous fun and friendship. I wouldn't have missed it for the world.

Vivienne Scouse

Commissioner - Girlguiding BGIFC

Message Board

A warm welcome to NEW AND RE-OPENED UNITS:

- 1st Seria Rainbows (Brunei West)
- 1st Vienna Brownies (Austria)
- 1st Seoul Guides (South Korea)
- 1st Kuwait Senior Section (Kuwait)
- 1st Abu Dhabi Senior Section (U.A.E.)

Cyprus County: 1st Paphos Guides

A BIG WELCOME to Ruth Sara who will be taking over as Commissioner for BGIFC from 1 January 2007.

Ruth has until recently been Chief Commissioner for South West England. She is also a Guide Guider in Bath where she lives. She was previously County Commissioner, Guiding Development Adviser and also County OAA so she has much to offer. At the moment Ruth teaches full time but she retires in July 2007 so will then have lots of time to give to BGIFC.

Email Ruth at: ruth@rsara71.freemove.co.uk

A Big Thank You and goodbye to:

Phyllis Thompson: Assistant Commissioner and Guiding Development Adviser
Sue Sotheran: Outdoor Activities Adviser.
Lesley Irvin: Rainbow Adviser.

And welcome to:

Alison Johnson who takes over from Sue Sotheran as Outdoor Activities Adviser.

Congratulations and Well Done To All Who Have Been Awarded A Girlguiding BGIFC Brooch:

Mary Fellowes:

ex DC in Bahrain

Sandra Middlehurst:

ex Guider in Fuengirola, Spain

Amanda Weldon:

DC in Kuwait

Karen Pointon:

A guide guider and ex DC in Cyprus.

Jane Henderson:

DC in Jumeirah & Jebel Ali / UAE

Centenary Celebrations:

Plans are now taking shape for the Girlguiding UK Centenary Celebrations. Watch out in Guiding Magazine for news and updates at:

<http://www.girlguiding100years.org.uk>

There are lots of exciting initiatives and ideas. The lead member of staff at CHQ is Mrs. Jennie Lamb.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award 50th Anniversary Celebration Badge

This special cloth badge has been designed to commemorate the Duke of Edinburgh's Award 50th Anniversary in 2006 and will be available from Trading this month.



Price 70p

Code 7410

Size 600mm x 750 mm

Available from mid-September

Keep a look-out on the Senior Section website for more details of how to order and other opportunities for the Award's 50th Anniversary!



Foxlease 2007

We are looking forward to seeing you at our
Girls and Adults event at Foxlease
Saturday 14th July to Friday 20th July

Important News:

Orders for Trading Services goods for those with BFPO addresses.

We have recently discovered that if you have a BFPO address you can order goods direct from the British Guides Shop in Germany. You will not be charged any postage for this service says Kerry Holthuisen, the Shop Manageress. It may well help some of you as postage is a big issue for us in BGIFC.

The details you require to order from Kerry are:

Mrs Kerry Holthuisen Email: guideshopgermany@gmx.de

The Guide Shop Tel: 0049 2161 472 3398 (+answerphone)

10 Beresford Road JHQ BFPO 40

Opening hours: Tue + Fri from 0900-1200 hrs and every 1st and 3rd Saturday in month: 1000-1300 hrs

STARTING A NEW UNIT

There is a booklet available from Girlguiding UK which gives guidelines and advice on possible opportunities that MAY be available to apply for a grant through the Project 50K initiative. If you are interested you must first obtain a copy of the booklet and then apply direct to Girlguiding UK.

All the information can be found on the Girlguiding UK Website and there has also been information in Guiding Magazine.

Please do NOT apply to the BGIFC Office for details and information on this booklet and grant as it is dealt with direct by Girlguiding UK.

Girlguiding BGIFC Review 2004 - 2006

To receive a copy of our latest Review contact the BGIFC Office.

E: BGIFC@girlguiding.org.uk

Or download a copy on
www.BGIFC.org.uk

ADULT MEMBERSHIP

From 1 January 2007 the definition of adult membership will be changing according to the *Hotline* in September's *Guiding magazine*. Every adult who is registered by the beginning of December will receive a *Personal Details Form* in January.

It would be really helpful if you had a look at it, amend and complete your details and return it together with your census papers to the BGIFC Office! Thank you.

Getting to Know You

As I have read with interest the BGIFC newsletters over the past few years little did I expect that I would be contributing to them and have the exciting prospect of working with you all.

I am first and foremost a Guide Guider running a unit in Bath where I live and ensuring that each year the girls have a residential experience both indoors and outdoors.

I have held a number of different Guiding roles including that of County Programme and Training Adviser, County Commissioner and most recently Chief Commissioner for Girlguiding South West England.



In that role I had the chance to travel the length and breadth of the South West including the Channel Islands meeting so many lovely people working with the girls of all ages.

Each role one undertakes brings its own challenges and excitement and the prospect of my new role as Commissioner for BGIFC is no exception.

I am very much looking forward to working with you all and meeting you over the next few years.

Ruth Sara



Hello Everyone, My name is Alison Johnson and I would like to introduce myself to you as the Outdoor Activities Adviser.

I have been guiding since the age of 7years. I achieved very little as a Brownie but made up for it as a Guide. I gained my Queens Guide and went on to achieve Gold Duke of Edinburghs Award. The Guide section is where I have concentrated my energy since 1977. I lead a Guide unit in Ryhope, an old mining village near Sunderland in Tyne and Wear.

I love camping and the outdoors and if I can work in the camp kitchen I am in my element. I recently gained my Archery leaders certificate and hope to put it to good use in the future.

Over the years I have had roles as District Commissioner, Camp Adviser, Chair of Programme and Training. The latter led me on to undertake my Trainers licence, an area of guiding which I enjoy immensely.

I am fortunate to have a supportive family, my husband is a scouter and is tolerant of camping equipment taking over the house, Andrew is studying Physiotherapy at University and Fiona is an active young Guider studying to become a music teacher.

The outdoors has a great appeal to all of us in some way. I hope to be able to share some of the opportunities Guiding offers us through camps, holidays and outdoor challenges.

I look forward to meeting with you at next year's event.

Alison Johnson

Advisers News

Guiding Development

I trust you have all had a good summer and are ready for the new term. It seems a long time ago since we held our event at Waddow! Many thanks for all the letters and emails saying how much you enjoyed the training and the time together, also my thanks to all who were there and presented me with a beautiful bush (which is still growing strongly) and for the generous gift token.

My successor has not been named yet so I am continuing to organise trainings for the next few months.

Germany is holding their County weekend in October and Margaret Sinclair and Anne Jeavons are looking forward to being with them over the weekend. Commissioner trainings have also been arranged and will be taking place in Benelux & France, Cyprus and Germany between now and the end of the year. The Middle East are holding a training 1/2/3rd March 2007. Mary Dunn is kindly looking after the bookings and administration for this event. Also during March Benelux & France are holding their 20 years celebration with a get together and training in London.

The event at Foxlease will take place from Saturday 14th July to Friday 20th July 2007. As the team who will be organizing this event are still being appointed I can only advise you at present that the event will be holidays and camps for Brownies, Guides, Senior Section and a training in the house for the adults. As soon as further information is available you will be informed. I am sure you will have an exciting event so keep the date in your diary and look out for further information.

Phyllis Thompson

Finance

Looking ahead, don't forget that if you and your girls are planning to come to Foxlease next summer, there are grants available but you must apply in advance of the event.

Before that, however, **CENSUS 2007**. Forms will be sent out in November.

Please make sure that your updated District's / Unit's / Guider's details are being sent to the BGIFC Office **by the middle of October 2006**.

The BGIFC census amount will be due on 22nd February and is £16.10.

Please start collecting the money early enough. A good way is to ask the parents for a weekly / monthly or termly subscription which will include the census amount.

The *Hotline* in February's *Guiding magazine* will provide more details about the Census.

Gill Crapper

PR Adviser and Website Editor

Thanks to a generous donation from The Friends of BGIFC Committee a collection of six framed photographs showing our members in action has been put on display in the BGIFC room at Foxlease.

Do take a look at www.BGIFC.org.uk, thanks to your contributions during the past few months many new photographs and items have been added.

A new full colour BGIFC Leaflet is now available free from the BGIFC office.

Pam Keay



Leadership Qualification Co-ordinator

I hope that everyone had a lovely summer break and that you are returning refreshed for the new term. Within BGIFC we currently have over 60 pre-warranted Guiders working towards the Leadership Qualification (LQ). We have had great success over the past few months with Guiders completing the LQ, and I hope that those of you currently working on the scheme will feel inspired by these achievements. Mentors are doing a great job, and, in particular, both Guiders and mentors are communicating well with each other. I know that this can be particularly difficult if you live a long distance from each other, but communication remains the key to successful completion of the LQ. Don't miss the article in the September Guiding Magazine which considers some of the techniques used by one busy Mentor.

Just to remind you who to contact should you have any problems regarding the LQ:

Laura Pollock (pollock@singnet.com.sg) covers South East Asia, including Japan and China.

Mary Taylor (mp_taylor@hotmail.com) is responsible for the Mediterranean.

Mary Dunn (alistair@emirates.net.ae) deals with The Middle East (except Saudi Arabia).

Sally Inshaw (t.inshaw@tiscali.co.uk) is responsible for 'the rest of the world', including Saudi Arabia.

Can I also take this opportunity to remind both Mentors and Mentees that the Leadership Qualification is designed to be completed as you run your Unit. Guiders working on the scheme are not required to produce a project, a folder of naturally occurring evidence is quite sufficient. If you have a long-distance Mentor and you have access to a computer, then you could e-mail any paperwork. You should be aiming to complete the LQ in about a year.

Have fun with your Units and enjoy working through the Leadership Qualification Book!

Sally Inshaw

International

It was lovely to meet so many of you at Waddow in July.

I know that by now many of you will have bought the publication which was launched on Thinking Day called 'right now'. This is a unit resource and provides lots of activities for your units to participate in based around the theme of Human Rights. It links to the World Association of Girl Guides theme of 'our rights our responsibilities'. If your unit has now completed some of the activities, you might like to look at the International part of the Girlguiding UK Website. Here you will find a notice board where you can post a message for others to read describing one of the activities you have completed and how you did this. A six or patrol could write a message for the board and perhaps illustrate it.

You might also like to look at other sections of the International site. If you do you will find a section called 'Global Education'. Here you will be able to download other activities which you could use in your unit programmes to help the girls gain more awareness about the life styles and issues which face some young people in different countries around the world.

The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts web site is starting to display information about World Thinking Day in 2007. Activities to use at meetings and events on or near Thinking Day are beginning to be logged. <http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/home>

Do contact me if you need help with any aspect of International Guiding.

Dorothy Naylor

Rainbow Guides

Have you and your Rainbows visited the Rainbow pages on the Girlguiding UK website? You can listen to Lachmi and the missing clown, play Olivia's fruit and veg game, make a pompom creation or send an ecard. If the Rainbows send in their artwork it might appear on the rainbow fridge.



The Rainbow Jigsaw has now been going for two years and I hope you have all got the new resources including access to at least one Rainbow Roundabout. If you are new to Rainbow guiding or don't know what I'm talking about, please email and I'll send you information.

I'd also love you to get in touch with activities and ideas that have gone well, your suggestions for future Roundabouts and other resources you would find useful.

This is my last newsletter item as I finish as Rainbow Adviser at the end of the year. I've really enjoyed my time on the "home" team.

Happy Rainbow Guiding!
Lesley Irvin

Brownie Guides

It was good to see some of you at Waddow, and I enjoyed the weekend I was there.

The Brownie evaluation has been completed and it is in the process of being addressed. The main message is that the girls enjoy the resources and most importantly enjoy being a Brownie. As soon as I can I will let you know the findings and details of changes, if any.

I hope you all have a copy of the Right Now resource. It is excellent and so much you can do from it, will compliment the other Brownie resources.

As always please email me if I can be of any help.
Bridget Sutters



Guides

Hello everyone.

A new term begins. The Space Go-for-it, which was in August's magazine, has in it a variety of interesting and fun activities. Please remember that those Go-for-its published in the magazines are available for downloading from the website if your original copies like some of mine are suffering from overuse.



There is to be badge and certificate for girls who take part in a Baden-Powell Adventure.

More information about the date when they will be available will be given at a later date.

It was lovely meeting so many of you at Waddow. If you have any queries regarding the Guide Section please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Margaret Sinclair

Senior Section

Another new term for us and plenty of opportunities for the Senior Section to charge ahead. I was sorry that we did not have enough Young Leaders coming to Waddow to book them the Ranger Cottage. However what a great time those who came did have. As well as sectional trainings and a trip to York they experienced grass sledging, fishing and the new climbing and low ropes facilities. With their own sitting room, music, sweets etc. they could creep away and do their own thing. Something created in there was a wonderful version of Pussy Cat Dolls "Dontcha" to thank me for my time as your Senior Section Adviser and I have never been left so speechless as after seeing that performance. It was a great honour from some fantastic young women and I thank them most sincerely.

I hope that some of you are planning and doing local Senior Section 90th Anniversary celebrations. Unfortunately the national celebration, a Conference in Liverpool, has been cancelled.



You will be beginning to see the results of the E'05 evaluation filtering through. News about the way your resources will be packaged in the future and the development of a new hooded top. Keep watching for future developments.

The 4 - peer education - scheme has introduced some new topics so please keep your eye on their training dates if you would like to attend an In4mer training.

Information about the next Innovate at York will be out this month and booking forms in October. If you have girls interested tell them to register that interest with CatrionaM@girlguiding.org.uk

Our Senior Section Lone, Helen is now in Mexico City and having completed her Senior Section Camp Permit in July is now busy planning her exploration while she is in Mexico.

Remember to keep checking on the Sen. Sec. web pages for all the up to date information. Also the e-update YESS is another good source of information. www.girlguiding.org.uk/info/login/register.asp Register and you will receive it automatically to your email address about 4 times per year.

Pat Mayle

A Huge Thank You

There are going to be many changes in the Home Team as from January 2007, as gradually, one by one, many will be finishing their terms of office.

Please be patient with the new folk as they take over - it will be a steep learning curve for them.

As to the present Home Team - what can I say - except a huge Thank You for the tremendous job they have done. I couldn't have asked for a nicer group of people to work with.

And last, but by no means least, an enormous Thank You to Phyllis who has done a really amazing job for BGIFC particularly on the training side. It has been a privilege and pleasure to work with her - we have had a lot of fun.

May I also say thank you for the really nice bracelet I was given at Waddow. It will be a constant reminder of the many happy times spent with you all.

From Vivienne:

Friends of Girlguiding BGIFC

It was wonderful for members of Friends to be able to visit Waddow for the Open Day at the BGIFC Event. Those of us who managed it were rewarded with a beautiful sunny day and, as always, a warm welcome and plenty of chat and laughter.



We also talked about ways in which we can help guiders and girls in BGIFC and received several helpful suggestions. It was lovely to see so many friends, old and new, and to catch up with all the news of guiding overseas.

Thank you for a lovely day.
Christine Richards
Chair of Friends of Girlguiding BGIFC

Photographs from Waddow Event 2006



Senior Section with the Chief Guide



Grass sledging was great fun



BGIFC Brooch presentation



Day out in York

WHO'S WHO AT Girlguiding BGIFC

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Please send your contributions to the editor

pamkeay@hotmail.com or The Girlguiding BGIFC Office

The editor reserves the right to alter any text submitted.

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a registered charity.