



Girlguiding BGIFC

Spring 2005 ~ Newsletter British Guides in Foreign Countries

Dear Guider

Phyllis and I have just returned from a very enjoyable trip to Spain where we managed to visit all the units and meet all the Guiders. It was the first time Spain had received a visit for some years.

The recent Tsunami disaster has devastated everyone and all and left us all feeling very sad and helpless. We do have some Units in the area (in Jakarta and Kuala Lumpur) but fortunately we have heard that they are safe and well. I do hope that you, your family and friends have not been badly affected by all that has happened.

You may like to know that the Guide Friendship Fund will be supporting local Guide Associations directly, and if you would like to contribute specifically for this purpose please make your donation, payable to The Guide Friendship Fund and send it to the Chief Guide's Office, marked (Indian Ocean Earthquake) Girlguiding UK, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W OPT.

Do remember to have a look on the new BGIFC web site. Pam is frequently changing the photographs - so remember to keep sending them in but **DO MAKE SURE** you have permission from the parents.

I hope to see many of you at **AIR05**, the BGIFC Event at Foxlease from **16 to 23 July**. Do try and come. It's such a great week.

By the time you receive this Newsletter, Thinking Day will have gone. However, I hope you all had happy celebrations and parties. Four girls from British Guides in Germany are coming to the Thinking Day Service in London, three to carry the Union Flag and one to do a reading. Well done to Claire Gordon, Jane Gosney, Victoria Holthuisen and Emma Lackey.

Girlguiding in BGIFC seems to be going really well and it is always good to hear your news and what you are doing. We have very keen, enthusiastic and dedicated leaders in BGIFC. Long may it continue and a big **THANK YOU** for all you do.

See you at Foxlease!

Vivienne Scouse

Commissioner - Girlguiding BGIFC

Message Board

We welcome New Units

- 2nd ESBA Senior Section, Cyprus
- 1st Rheindahlen Senior Section, Germany
- 1st Camposol Brownies, Spain
- 1st Camposol Guides, Spain
- 1st Maisons-Laffitte Rainbows, France

Re-opening:

- 1st BSB Rainbows, Bahrain
- 1st Jakarta Rainbows, Indonesia
- 1st Jakarta Guides, Indonesia



Cloth and Metal Galleon Badges can be worn by girls and adult members of Girlguiding BGIFC.

ONLY available from the BGIFC Office.

Metal: £1.45

Cloth: 12p

Congratulations

To our 2 units in Camposol, Spain on being the very first to send in their Census forms and money, well done!

Census 2005

The BGIFC Office sent out a letter with the necessary forms in the post at the beginning of December last year to the Commissioners and Guiders in charge. If you haven't received your forms yet please contact Jeannette immediately at: bgifc@girlguiding.org.uk and let her know what is missing. Please refer to the Hotline in February Guiding magazine for more information.

Don't hesitate to ask us anything you are not sure about - we will find the right answer!

Do you need help or advice –

then contact your **Leadership Co-ordinator** in the area:

For the Middle East
(except Saudi Arabia)
For South East Asia

For the Mediterranean

For Japan

For the Rest of the World

Barbara Halstead
E: brownowl@emirates.net.ae
Laura Pollock
E: pollock@singnet.com.sg
Heather Crossman
E: allan@crsman.demon.co.uk
Mary Taylor
mp_taylor@hotmail.com
Sally Inshaw
E: t.inshaw@tiscali.co.uk

Well done to Singapore District who raised \$605 for 'Walks for the World'

Brilliant! Girlguiding 2005 calendars were produced by Kuwait District and Cyprus

BGIFC AiR 05

Thank you to everyone who got their applications in by the beginning of the year.

All who have applied will have received an acknowledgement and further forms for completion. If you have not had a reply please contact Dorothy Naylor on email naylordor@aol.com as quickly as possible.

The numbers for the Guide and Senior Section camps are fantastic and so far we have filled one Brownie House, so Brownie Guiders there is still time to apply.

We have a fantastic programme organised and look forward to seeing everyone on the 16th July at Foxlease.

Phyllis Thompson



Invitation

To everyone involved with BGIFC, past or present
by Popular Demand - **A Reunion Party!**
on Saturday 9th April 2005 at CHQ, London, for
The Friends of BGIFC Meeting and then
supper at a restaurant* at 6pm.

You don't have to be a member of Friends to come.
***See old friends & familiar faces... Catch up on news...
It will be great fun!***

*Probably at the Thistle Hotel, Victoria Station, a few
minutes walk from CHQ. The meal will cost in the region of
£15-£20.

If you are interested please contact:
Christine Richards (cah.richards@btinternet.com)
Sylvia Price (sylvia.price2@btopenworld.com)
or Pauline Wainwright (paulinewainwright@hotmail.com)
or write to Christine Richards, c/o The BGIFC Office, 17-19
Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT by 20th March

Getting to Know You



I became Guide Adviser in September 2004 and thoroughly enjoy the role, a role which reflects what has been my main interest in Guiding, the Guide Section, since returning to the Movement as a Guide Guider some 35+ years ago. I am Guide Guider of a unit in Chester-le-Street, a town in County Durham in North East England. I enjoy my contact with the Lone Guides and am pleased that some of the Unit is coming to Air05.

Guiding has provided me with many opportunities at local, County, Regional and Association level. It has also thrown down many challenges, gliding and abseiling to mention but two.

I chose teaching as a career and was a teacher of Mathematics and Head of Sixth Form in a large, girls' comprehensive school, enjoying equally the academic and pastoral work.

I enjoy reading and am known to take a 'plastic crate' full of books, on holiday; the car goes too. My favourite destination via the North Sea, is Northern Europe and in particular Denmark and Sweden. Over the years the accommodation has changed from a lightweight tent, which made it to the Arctic Circle, a frame tent, a variety of summer cottages and now even the occasional hotel!

Margaret Sinclair
Guide Adviser

Joining Brownies at 10 I was something of a late starter, however, here I still am many years later and hundreds of experiences better off.

I went through Guides completing Queen's Guide just before the 16th birthday deadline. Having no Rangers and being unimpressed with County Cadets I became a Guide Lieutenant. Thanks to a very intuitive District Commissioner I was persuaded to open a Ranger Unit at 21 and have never left the Senior Section. I ran a Unit in Stockport for 10 years and then in West Manchester until 2002. A difficult age group some say but I have gained so much as a Ranger Guider not least of which all the adventurous activities that I would never have attempted without Rangers. People who heard the anguished yells as I abseiled off an overhang into emptiness in the Alps will confirm that. I have been Ranger/Senior Section Adviser for my County, North West England and now BGIFC and love promoting the age group wherever I can.

We have a small haulage business. My husband's passions are playing in a band, horse racing and our caravan in North Wales. I was a Ward Sister at the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital and am now involved in the Nurses League and organising an annual reunion. I also go to Spanish classes. We have one daughter, Claire, who works for the National Trust and to my delight has decided to be a Ranger Guider.

Pat Mayle
Senior Section Adviser



Advisers News

Guiding Development

Vivienne and I visited Spain and Mallorca in January. It was wonderful to meet all the Guiders at the trainings and to visit their units. I really do thank everyone who was involved in the organisation and for enabling us to have a very worthwhile visit.

The Middle East had over 70 Guiders turn out for their training weekend in February. This number enabled us to offer trainings in all sections, the training rooms were a challenge for everyone but there was a lovely atmosphere and we have all gone away saying - looking forward to the next training. Thank you to all the trainers for their sessions and to the Guiders for attending and taking a full part in the training.

The Guiders in Japan are looking forward to their trainings in February and all the girls will come together for the first time to a day of celebrations, as there will be over 60 it will be a fun day.

Germany, Benelux and France are holding training weekends in March and Cyprus in May. All have very interesting programmes and I am sure if you were in a nearby BGIFC Country they would be pleased to welcome you providing they can offer you accommodation.

Our [AIR 05](#) event, which is taking place from the 16th July at Foxlease, is for girls and adults. Many applications have been received and I am looking forward to meeting everyone in July.

[Phyllis Thompson](#)

Leadership Qualification Co-ordinator

The new updated Leadership Qualification pack has recently been produced and this is now being sent out to new recruits in BGIFC. The main changes to the scheme were highlighted in October's Guiding Magazine and are as follows:

- The text and order of the workbook have been amended, and, in some instances, performance criteria have been combined.
- Emphasis is placed on the fact that the workbook should be used as such, with spaces to record discussions.
- The workbook should form the main part of the evidence. Advice is also given as to who can sign off evidence.
- The style of numbering has been changed and the word 'element' replaced by 'part'.
- Module 4 has been expanded to reflect the added responsibility of being the Unit Leader.
- The qualification has been updated so that reference can be made to the guiding handbook series.
- Helpful hints have been provided to try to improve communication between the various people involved in the qualification.
- The mentor guidelines have also recently been revised and BGIFC are currently adjusting these to reflect the unique requirements of our mentors.

I am looking forward to working with you all and hope to see you at [Air 05](#).

[Sally Inshaw](#)

International

Hello everybody - I have no particular news for you this time. I am here however to support the International aspects of your Guiding and I hope that you will contact me if you have any questions or queries. I will look forward to meeting those of you who are coming to [Air 05](#) in July I know it will be a fantastic event.

Dorothy Naylor



Outdoor Activities

The start of the year is the time those of us in Europe look forward to the summer months. If you wish to take your Unit camping - now is the time to make preparations, especially if you do not have the right qualifications. If you are keen to take your Unit away have a talk with your Commissioner and get in touch with me.

The Scheme to gain residential qualifications is ideal for our Units as it is so adaptable. It is suitable for all Sections - Rainbows to Senior Section, and for all events, inside or camping, one night or twenty!

It is good to see more Rainbow Units looking at the Overnight Licence. As with all Sections a night away does give the opportunity for the girls to do more time-consuming activities. It is also one of the best ways of getting to know each individual girl.

Please remember to send A/A forms to your Commissioner and me in good time. If you don't know what they are, then ask - they are essential if you take girls away.

The outdoors is more than just holidays and camps. Do take advantage of the activities and ideas in Guiding magazine. Use interest badges and Go For Its! to get the girls out or thinking of the outdoors. If you want any further help, do get in touch with me.

Congratulations to all those who have gained Qualifications:

Darry Castelino, Oman Brownies, Brownie Overnight Licence
Margaret Milne, Riyadh Brownies, Brownie Overnight Licence

Aisha Fortier, Guide Camp Permit
Catherine Gibson, Guide Camp Permit

Sue Sotheran

PR Adviser and Website Editor

This year the Take our Daughters to Work Week is taking place over a whole week. You can arrange your visits, activities and events any time from 7th to 12th March.



To receive your brand new participation pack contact:

+44 (0)20 7592 1803 or email daughters@girlguiding.org.uk.

For up-to-date information log on to www.girlguiding.org.uk/daughters.

PROJECT 50K

Girlguiding UK's vision is to have sufficient adult volunteers to enable every girl and young woman to have the opportunity to join guiding.

Project 50k isn't just about recruiting more volunteers - it is also about recognising the ones we already have! Girlguiding UK would like to acknowledge the fantastic contribution that all our volunteers have made to the lives of girls and young women across the world.

Here are ten fun ways to say THANK YOU

1. Have a silly awards ceremony (silly prizes, not reasons for nomination)
2. Go out to celebrate!
3. Send an e-card. Take a look at these free options:
http://www.123greetings.com/general/thank_you/
<http://www.kingcards.com/htdocs/thanku/1thanku.html>
4. Say thanks by logging onto the Girlguiding UK website Thank Board.
<http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/xq/asp/sID.424/qx/new/members/guestbook.asp>
5. Give one of the Positive and Effective Leadership motivational cards. Available from the Trading Service, product code 6370, price £1 for a pack of nine. Call 0161 941 2237 or [click here to buy online](#).
6. Pass around a 'heroes' or 'stars' at a meeting, with each person passing to another saying thank you for something
7. Give each team member a spring bulb. If you want to buy online try <http://www.thebulbshop.co.uk/system/index.html> - prices start at just 85p for a pack of ten daffodil bulbs
8. Give well done or thank you stickers
9. Take out an advert in the local paper in the birthdays & congratulations section
10. Organise a pampering session. There are all kinds of freebie pampering products available online if you don't mind registering for them. Check out <http://www.freebiesiteuk.co.uk/health.htm>, www.free-stuff.co.uk or www.studentfreestuff.com (you don't have to be a student to register).

I shall be at **Air 05** in July at Foxlease and look forward to receiving your photographs and news for the BGIFC web site and newsletter.

Pam Keay

Rainbow Guides

I hope all units have been able to access the new resources for the Rainbow Jigsaw now. If you haven't already done so, you should be aiming to introduce the programme by September this year. Please let me know if you are having any problems. Many thanks to everyone who has contacted me with their comments about the Rainbow Jigsaw. You all seem to be having lots of fun. I would love to hear from other units as well.

Unfortunately, Guiding Essentials are still out of stock of most of the new uniform but are hoping to have supplies by mid February.

Lesley Irvin

Brownie Guides



Hope the Brownie programme continues to go well.

Thank you very much to all who sent reports and photos re Brownie 90th Celebrations. It is not too late if you still wish to send me something.

Just to let you know that a second Guiders Adventure resource will be out soon. I have seen the draft and it is good. Lots of ideas for meetings and Adventure ideas for you to use. I am not

sure of the date it will be available but I will let you know.

I am looking forward to seeing you and your girls at [Air05](#). I am working on lots of exciting things for the girls to do on Brownie Holiday.

As always please contact me if I can be of any help.

Bridget Sutters

Senior Section



Here we are in 2005 and it is a very special year for all Senior Section.

This is the year of the evaluation of the Senior Section programme 'e05'. There is an online monthly questionnaire, just register on the Senior Section web page and have your say about all things Senior Section. Complete all 12 and that will count for Queens Guide Service in Guiding Element 4.

Information has begun to appear in Guiding so look for the logo and keep up to date with things. Count Down to Zero is a Senior Section Activity and Evaluation Event, June 24th to 26th 2005 at Blackwell Court, near Droitwich. 900 expressions of interest have come in for 300 places.

Also register for the new Senior Section e-update that is due out about now. www.girlguiding.org.uk/info/login/register.asp

Bookings are also coming in for our sub-camp, 'Kites' at [Air05](#) in July. This is going to be an **amazing** week for those on Kites so please send in your application before we are full. Come and be 'High as a Kite' all week - it will be great.

I am pleased to welcome the opening of the Cyprus Ranger Unit. They are off to a flying start and have a very full and exciting programme.

We have issued some guidelines about having a Young Leader working in your unit and the programmes that she can follow. I hope this will be of use to everyone. Please contact me if you have any queries.

Pat Mayle

Guides

COMING IN 2005

Go-for-it

- March: A Go-for-it based on the five senses.
- June/July in the magazine, a Science Go-for-it



Following the evaluation of the Guide Section programme the following resources and additions are to be available in the Autumn.

Badge File

This is to be A4 and loose leaf. It will be available for individuals, patrols or Units. Some badges have been rewritten to be more girl friendly. These include Independent Living and Community Action, which will change its name to Take Action. A new badge called Active Response is to be introduced to cover the skills that one expects a guide to have.

The Guide Challenge badge syllabus will be unchanged but the clauses are to be rearranged to strengthen the fact that working for this badge is over a period of a year and involves being an active member of a patrol.

G-File

This will be published in A5 size and not as at present in A6 format. The contents will be slightly different following consultations with both Guiders and Guides.

Patrol Resource

A file of ideas, information, instructions etc. is to be produced to help patrols with their programmes when they are not involved with Go-for-its. A name for this has not been finalised but it will be an A4 file.

Baden-Powell Challenge Badge

There is to be more choice given within the zone areas together with more use of interest badges within the clauses.



Baden-Powell Adventure

The word challenge is removed to emphasise that the activity is a celebration of a guide's achievement in completing her Baden-Powell challenge badge.

I look forward to seeing you at [Air 05](#) when I will be able to update you further.

[Margaret Sinclair](#)

Friends of Guiding Groups in Girlguiding BGIFC

NEW 'FRIENDS OF GUIDING' LEAFLET

For Commissioners who are thinking of setting up a Friends of Guiding group there is a new publication that has been produced by The Guide Association explaining how to do this.

It is very clear and straightforward to understand and can be obtained from Girlguiding UK Headquarters or from me brenda.leece@ntlworld.com



NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

Ile de France District have recently set up a Friends of Guiding Group and are doing exciting things.

Elizabeth Bean writes from Maisons Laffitte :

We have now successfully registered ourselves as 'legal' with the French authorities.

As we are receiving money, we have to register as an Association and were unable to open a bank account until that registration was completed.

This is good news as over the past month or so we have been accumulating funds, a result of a couple of events that we have been involved in. The first was a cake stall at a craft fair just a few weeks before Christmas. The parents of Guides and Brownies were asked to contribute home-made cakes and biscuits which they did in sufficient quantity for us to have a very successful day.

We then launched a Christmas Quiz. We were able to raise a good sum by asking people to make a donation of 5 euros (roughly £3). Many people spent happy, but at times frustrating hours trying to solve the clues. The answers were eagerly awaited!

Our next event is a concert of classical music played on a saw! This is to take place on 5th. February and since it is almost the beginning of Lent, after the concert we are going to serve freshly-made crêpes (pancakes)

The next event being spoken of is a Treasure Hunt.

The interim committee which we formed to get things moving is a small one and we are always on the look out for more people to join us in order to share the workload.

Now that we are 'legal' we shall be able to go ahead with designing our letter-head, using the 'Friends of Guiding' logo of course.

Lady Holmes, the wife of the British Ambassador to France, has kindly agreed to be our Patron and we are pleased that we can include her name on the notepaper.

Another important task the Committee must now undertake is the design and implementation of a membership procedure. We are keeping busy!

Thank you, Elizabeth, for your interesting account of the life of a 'Friends of Guiding' group.

If any other groups have news of their happenings please let me know and I can put an account in the Newsletter. It is always helpful to read about what other groups are doing and hopefully ideas are exchanged.

brenda.leece@ntlworld.com

Brenda Leece

Co-ordinator, Friends of Guiding Groups Girlguiding BGIFC

Friends of Girlguiding BGIFC

It is always nice when you have some money to allocate to good causes and at our last Committee Meeting we were able to do just that, using your subscription money and that from AGM raffles and the quiz. So money was ear-marked as follows -

- Payment for the web site £750
- Grants for 2 guiders from Sweden to attend a First Aid Course £70
- Bursaries for Guiders wishing to attend the annual get-together £500
- BGIFC Stationery re-print - costs not yet known.



This still leaves some money in the kitty which can be allocated as and when a need arises.

Vivienne Scouse, the BGIFC Commissioner, emphasised how grateful they are for the support given by The Friends.

Just before Christmas Peggy Feltham, who is a Friend of BGIFC, contacted me to say she had done a sponsored walk/run and that a cheque for £400 was on its way - well done Peggy. At our next committee meeting before the AGM we will consider how to spend this additional sum. If you have any suggestions as to how we spend any of the money, we will be pleased to hear from you.

Details of the Annual General Meeting on Saturday 9 April are included in this Newsletter and we do hope we shall see many of you there. The time has come for some of the committee members to retire after sterling service -Brenda Leece and Jenny Pezet have reached the 5 year point (in fact they have done more than this) and Kate Dean, your Secretary, and I have reached the 3 year point and we will not be seeking a 2 year extension. This leaves Don Fisher (Treasurer), Angela French (PR) and Maureen Jackson (Committee Member) to continue the good work. So we need 4 volunteers to take The Friends forward for the next 3 years. We have 2 Committee meetings a year and if you would like details of what is involved, Kate or I will be happy to speak to you or receive an e-mail.

I am just about to retire from Guiding after nearly 30 years. Much has happened in that time and a great deal has changed - as it should. The 7 year old in the 70s is nothing like the 7 year old Brownies who have just joined my Pack. So it is with everything. We have to move forward, but we do not want to lose what is good nor those who may not like change. If we believe in the principle of something, then we support it and gradually absorb the differences.

I hope that 2005 is a good year for you all in every aspect of your life.

Delysia Barker

Chair of Friends of Girlguiding BGIFC

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.