



Girlguiding BGIFC



Summer 2006 ~ Newsletter British Guides in Foreign Countries

Dear Guider

Summer is on the way, at last. It has been a long hard winter here in the UK and I have envied those of you living in warmer climates.

By the time you read this the new Chief Guide, Mrs. Liz Burnley, will be in post. I expect you have seen her photograph in Guiding Magazine. We wish her well in this challenging new role.

I do hope you all read Guiding Magazine? It has a new look now and of course it does contain all the latest news from Girlguiding UK. The Activate pages are excellent and will provide you with loads of programme ideas for your unit.



Are you coming to Waddow in July? I do hope so. I am looking forward to seeing you. It promises to be a great week. 1st Response is on offer, plus section trainings and ideas for Guiders and all members of the Senior Section. Also included is a day out in York which everyone is looking forward to. Do try and come and enjoy the fun and friendship. It is such a good opportunity to recharge your batteries in beautiful surroundings.

If you have heard a rumour that I am available to hire as a QM - it's NOT true! Admittedly I did QM for the Cyprus Camp in April, but it was definitely a 'one-off'. Another rumour you may have heard is that Phyllis and I are now continuing until the end of the year, rather than finishing in July as originally planned. Well, this rumour is true and we shall look forward to working with you until December 2006.

Everyone seems to be talking about and planning holidays at the moment. I hope wherever your travels take you, there will be time to relax and enjoy being with family and friends. It has been another good year for BGIFC thanks to you. Without your commitment, where would we be?

Best wishes

Vivienne Scouse

Commissioner - Girlguiding BGIFC

Message Board

NEW OR RE-OPENED UNITS

2nd Arabian Ranches Brownies (Dubai, U.A.E.)
1st Budaija Rainbows (Bahrain)
1st Karachi Rainbows, Brownies, Guides (Pakistan)

Cyprus County: 1st Dhekelia Rainbows

Germany County: 1st Limburgerhof Brownies
1st Munster Guides

Visitors to the BGIFC Office:

There are to be major refurbishments at CHQ during May and June. Jeannette will have to move temporarily from the 3rd to the 5th floor together with everyone else and won't be able to move all the files from the BGIFC Office. Please be patient if you don't receive a reply immediately during this time. Back on the 3rd floor BGIFC will be in a different office. If you are in London and want to call in you are most welcome but please ring before you come in case Jeannette is not available (Tel: 020 7592 1814).

New Promise Badge.

To ensure you receive the full size promise badges when ordering from Girlguiding UK Trading please use the following codes:-

Rainbow	code 1560
Brownie	code 1561
Guide	code 1562
Ranger	code 1563
Young Leader	code 1564
Guider	code 1565
Trefoil Guild	code 1566

Cost £1.35 each



All Girlguiding BGIFC members wear a Galleon Badge.

Metal Badges are £1.45 each.

Cloth badges are available free of charge to all BGIFC registered units.

Apply to the BGIFC Office.



BGIFC Sweatshirts

Embroidered with the BGIFC Logo. Small, medium, large and extra large. Remember to state size when ordering.
special offer NOW: £5.00 each



Fridge Magnet/Pin on Badge

A great craft for your unit to make. Pre cut leather galleon pieces with magnet, pin and full instruction. All you need to provide is the glue

special offer NOW: 30p each

Do not send money with order. You will receive an invoice for the goods plus postage.

Available from the BGIFC Office.

The Girlguiding BGIFC Office will be closed throughout the BGIFC event at Waddow from 22nd July.
Re opening on Monday 31st July

Message Board

Census 2007 will be £16.10 per member. You should start thinking now how you are going to collect this. You either need to budget and set your weekly / monthly / termly subs at a realistic amount which will cover the Census or the parents should pay it as a one-off payment in January/February each year. You should not be struggling for this money if you plan ahead. Girlguiding offers wonderful opportunities to these girls.

We shall be saying goodbye to Sue Sotheran, our OAA, in July at Waddow. She has done a really great job and will, I know, be missed by everyone. **THANK YOU** Sue for all you have done and many congratulations on your new appointment as County Commissioner for Girlguiding Cleveland.

Guiding BGIFC Annual Event 2006

Open to all Adult members and Young Leaders

Waddow Hall



on the banks of the River Ribble in Lancashire

22nd to 27th July 2006

We are looking forward to seeing you

LQ COORDINATOR FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

I am pleased to tell you that Mrs Mary Taylor has now taken over from Mrs Heather Crossman as LQ Coordinator for the Mediterranean.

Mary has been LQ Coordinator for Japan for some time but she and her husband have now returned to the UK.

I would like to say a big thank you to Heather. She has been Coordinator for the Western Mediterranean for some years and then latterly took over the Eastern Mediterranean too. We wish her well for the future.

Mary's email address is : mp_taylor@hotmail.com

Vivienne

Advisers News

Guiding Development

The Waddow Training is taking shape and I look forward to welcoming everyone to Lancashire the home of the North's Guide Training Centre. Should you have any queries regarding transport or any other matters please contact Jeannette then she and I will put our heads together and find the answer for you. If you have not already applied, please contact the BGIFC office immediately and hopefully we will be able to offer you a place for the full time or for however long suits your purpose.

In the last newsletter I said that trainings were about to happen in Germany, Benelux and France and at the Cyprus County camp. I am happy to say that all the trainings have taken place and that excellent reports have been received both from the Counties and the trainers.

My thanks to all who hosted the trainers and ensured that all the administration and apprehension before hand was so worthwhile.

I have just returned from a visit to Stavanger where all the Rainbow Guiders are now qualified and the Brownie Guider has successfully transferred from the Guide section in the UK. My thanks to Anne who hosted me and to all the Guiders and unit helper (soon to become a Guider!) who gave so freely of their time whilst I was in Stavanger.

I am looking forward to meeting many of you at Waddow.

Phyllis Thompson

International Adviser

I do hope you all had a memorable time with your units on Thinking Day. I felt very privileged to attend the Thinking Day Service in Westminster Abbey London. It was lovely to watch three young people from Cyprus carry and escort the Chief Guide's Standard.

In the Spring newsletter I reminded you to plan activities in your unit to encourage the girls to think about the different lifestyles of their peers all over the world not just on Thinking Day but at other times during the year. In the Activate pages of the May edition of Guiding, Page 12 provides a selection of activities linked to World Refugee Day (20th June). The heading to this page is 'Seeking refuge - Exploring issues for World refugee day'.

The activities provide a range of very good ways of helping girls to understand in a small way what is like to be a child refugee. The activities are more suitable for Brownies, Guides and the Senior Section but Rainbow Guiders may be able to adapt them to make them appropriate to the Rainbow age group. The page also provides links to some useful websites where you will find further information about refugees and other activities. Although these activities are linked to World Refugee Day they would also be relevant to use any time in your programme

I look forward to meeting those of you who are coming to Waddow in July.

Best wishes

Dorothy Naylor

Finance



A huge thank you to everyone who got their census papers and money in on time.

Your efforts were very much appreciated. At the time of writing, there are still one or two outstanding, mainly due to local political problems. However, I think our membership will be much the same as last year.

Did you all see the excellent article in May Guiding Hotline about Girlguiding UK Grants and Bursaries? If not, I kept a copy if anyone should need it. Don't forget that there are two bursaries specifically for BGIFC. Application forms are available from the BGIFC office. Best wishes for a great summer.

Gill Crapper

Outdoor Activities

I hope you manage to get your Unit outside for at least part of your programme in this final part of the Guiding year. Not all our members have a chance to take part in a residential event but all our girls attend Unit meetings, so this is the opportunity to introduce them to the out-of doors. There plenty of free activities out there from sand sculptures to scavenger hunts - make use of it!



It is encouraging to see the wide variety of themes that Brownies and their Guiders enjoy at their residential events. It is one of the many advantages of a time away together that you can really develop a theme with games, challenges and craft. Residential events also help to build up the camaraderie in Guiders' teams and we have many District teams that work together to support Unit residential events.

Several Guiders have gained qualifications. I am indebted to fellow Guiders and Commissioners who offer help, advice and visit events for me.

Congratulations to those who have recently gained qualifications:

Natasha Bramwell, Herford Rainbows, Rainbow Overnight Licence
Liane Cullerton, Munster Guides, Guide Camp Licence
Patsy Stagman, Dubai Brownies, Brownie Overnight Licence
Katy Watson, Brussels Brownies, Brownie Holiday Licence
Julianna Deutscher, The Hague Guides, Guide Camp Permit

This is my last contribution to the newsletter. I have enjoyed being your Outdoor Activity Adviser and value the friendships I have made. I have been encouraged by the Guiders who overcome obstacles to give the girls in their Units the full Guiding experience of camps and holidays.

I wish your new OAA well and know you will support her as she gets to know the 'job'. Do continue to enjoy the out of doors!

Sue Sotheran

Leadership Qualification Co-ordinator

Congratulations to well over thirty Guiders from all over the world who have completed the Leadership Qualification (LQ) during the past few months. It is very rewarding to see that so many of you are obtaining success. Congratulations also to your mentors who have been so diligent in helping with the LQ scheme.

The Leadership Qualification Co-ordinators deal with different areas of the world:

Laura Pollock pollock@singnet.com.sg covers South East Asia which now includes Japan and China.

Mary Taylor mp_taylor@hotmail.com has recently moved back to England. Therefore we no longer have a dedicated LQ Co-ordinator in Japan. Mary has kindly agreed to take over from Heather Crossman as Leadership Co-ordinator for the Mediterranean. Therefore, any queries from 'the Med' should be directed to her.

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'.

I must thank Heather Crossman for looking after the Mediterranean for the past five years. Her support has been invaluable and much appreciated. I am sure that you will all join me in wishing her every success for the future.

Good communication remains the key to the Leadership Qualification. Can I once again, please, urge mentors and mentees to stay in regular contact with each other, either by e-mail or telephone if a personal visit is not possible. We are having great success with Guiders completing the scheme so please try to maintain this two-way contact. Thank you!

Have a great summer!

Sally Inshaw

PR Adviser and Website Editor



In 2010 we shall be holding the biggest celebrations in our history as Girlguiding UK marks its 100th anniversary. Six diverse programmes of activities entitled - Adventures, Arts, Camp, Heritage, Music and Your Say will fill the year full of exciting activities for you to take part in.

The launch of our Centenary is September 2009 and the celebrations will last until December 2010.

Take a look at <http://www.girlguiding100years.org.uk> in the coming months for the latest details about each programme, starting with the Music programme in June.

We are currently working on a nice glossy version of the BGIFC Review. Thank you to all who have sent photographs. It will be ready in July so do look out for it. Try and use it as a means of PR to let everyone know that Girlguiding is very much alive and well.

Have a great summer - do not forget your camera.

Pam Keay

Rainbow Guides

New Rainbow Roundabout

Work has begun on the next Rainbow Roundabout (the fourth) which has the theme of active and healthy. If you have any activities that you have done with your Rainbows that went particularly well and fit with this theme, please can you send me the details as soon as possible and I will forward them to the working group.

Updated Rainbow Website



The girls' pages of the Rainbow Website have been updated. Go to www.girlguiding.co.uk and click on Just for Rainbows on the right hand side of the home page.

There are regularly updated interactive games, activities, and an ongoing story. The girls are invited to send in their art work for display on the "Rainbow Fridge". Girls will receive a fridge magnet if their work is included.

I hope all is going well with the Rainbow Jigsaw - please get in touch if there is anything you need help with.

Have a lovely summer and I hope to see you at Waddow.

Lesley Irvine

Brownie Guides

Just to let you all know that the Brownie evaluation is still being carried out, with units here in the UK being visited. It already seems clear that Adventure On is not being used. Please encourage your 9+ Brownies to use this resource. Don't forget you and your girls decide how your meetings are to be structured. It is up to you how you start and finish your meetings, maybe change it every so many weeks. Remember the toadstool doesn't have to be visible every week! Please email me with any thoughts or queries.

Looking forward to seeing some of you at Waddow

Bridget Sutters

Guides

It hardly seems almost eleven months since we were all geared up for Air05 and here we are into the third term of another Guiding year. A term when we should check that during the year the guides in our units have or will have completed two Go-for-its, taken part in some form of community action, and completed two activities outside the meeting place so that at the appropriate time each one will gain their respective Challenge badge. It is also the time when the unit team needs to review the programme to see that the balance is right and that each of the five zones has been covered; if not can the missing one be covered before the end of term or is this the starting point for September?

The Go-for-it Camp Out is now available and should be a valuable resource to patrols preparing for camp and the Go-for-it Space is to be in September's magazine.

I hope to meet up with many of you this summer at Waddow and to those not attending best wishes for the rest of the term, enjoy the summer break and return refreshed in September for another year of fun and friendship.

Margaret Sinclair

Senior Section

I am pleased to welcome a new Senior Section Unit in Abu Dhabi and wish Adele and Wendy the best of luck as they open up the new group.

Well done to the three Senior Section members from Cyprus who carried the standard at the Thinking Day Service in London in February.

It was disappointing that we did not have enough Young Leaders booking in for Waddow to justify confirming the Ranger Cottage. However those who are coming and will now be in the main house will have a great time. As well as sectional training sessions they will have their own special programme of activities, which are being planned now. Some may be expected but some I can assure you will not.

I hope that all our areas are planning local Senior Section 90th Anniversary celebrations. As our girls do not have the main BGIFC event this year we felt that local celebrations would be best and hopefully something special at the BGIFC event in 2007. The national celebration is a Conference for Young Women at the Adelphi Hotel in Liverpool in November. We hope some girls may apply for that. Also Midlands Region has opened up a celebration at Ironbridge in September and that sounds a great weekend indeed.

Paris Senior Section Unit is storming ahead with the 4 project and seem to be enjoying it very much.

Maddy Giles from The Hague has attended an INTOPS event and I hope that it will lead to exciting things in the future for her. The Hague also continue with Duke of Edinburgh Award.

The one Senior Section Lone, Helen in Bangkok, is continuing to work on her Queen's Guide Award and I hope to see her at Waddow. I am also hoping that Eleanor from Madrid will be moving up to Senior Section from the Lone Guide Unit.

Please remember the Senior Section e-update YESS is a good source of up to date 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

Thinking Day Westminster Abbey London

We were delighted to have three Senior Section members from Cyprus to carry the Chief Guide's Standard in Westminster Abbey for Thinking Day 2006.

It was a great honour and they all thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Congratulations to: Emma Thain, Zoë Stavrinaki, Kirsty Barrett on representing BGIFC so well, shown here with the Chief Guide Jenny Leach.

It was certainly a day to remember for us all.



Campfire to Canape's

Sibella Laing, wife of the new British Ambassador for Kuwait, is the new Ambassador for BGIFC and Patron of Friends of Guiding (FOG).

Mrs Laing offered to host a 'Campfire to Canape's' evening in the British Embassy Residence to raise funds for the district. Entertainment was provided by the Kuwait singers and the Guiding team made all the food. A delicious chocolate fountain was provided by one of the local hotels. Tickets sold at £15.00 per head and with a raffle and money tree the fantastic sum of £2,600 was raised.

Amanda Weldon, District Commissioner for Kuwait said "Those who attended (many with no connection with guiding) were all thrilled and so positive they are all asking when the next event will be held."

Friends of Girlguiding BGIFC



It was all smiles when more than 30 people came to CHQ on Saturday 6th May for the annual Friends Gathering. Friends and guests arrived for coffee and cakes at 11am and then we all assembled in the Council Chamber at CHQ for the Annual Meeting.

The youngest person was 12-week old Bethan, and in the adult age range there were BGIFC and ex-BGIFC people who had lived and guided in countries far and wide, plus friends and relations. We were delighted to see some of our Life Members including Irene Hotchin.



Vivienne gave us a most interesting talk about her experiences as Commissioner, which was amusing, fascinating and, at times, very moving. We presented her with an engraved glass candle-holder, with the lit candle flame representing the Guiding light, to show our appreciation for all she has done.



We then walked the short distance along Buckingham Palace Road to Chez Gérard restaurant where we were served a delicious lunch by Jean-Michele and his team. Altogether an excellent day, and there was still time for some people to go to a show or make a quick visit to the shops before returning home.

Next year's meeting has been set for Saturday 21st April 2007 - why not come along?

Friends have been invited to the **Open Day** at the BGIFC Training Event at Waddow on Monday 24th July. Please apply to Pauline.

How much do YOU know about all the places in the world where there are BGIFC Units? Our new Quiz has 50 questions ranging from easy to ????? Have a go - and help us raise more money for Friends to help BGIFC girls and leaders.

Copies of the quiz, £2 each, available from Pauline Wainwright paulinewainwright@hotmail.com.

Prizes of £10. £5 and £3

Christine Richards
Chair of Friends of Girlguiding BGIFC

WHO'S WHO AT Girlguiding BGIFC

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Vivienne Scouse

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Please send your contributions to the editor

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The editor reserves the right to alter any text submitted.

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