

Brownies Become Gardeners at Holkham Hall

What better way to spend a soggy June afternoon than at Holkham Hall for a Brownie badge day. That's exactly what 2nd Dersingham Brownies did when they visited the walled garden and completed all the challenges for the 'Grow your own' interest badge, part of the 'Be Well' theme. The activities were led by Education Coordinator, Sophie Broomfield, who ensured that the weather did not prevent the girls from enjoying their day.

They began with a scavenger hunt where they had to find 4 different items: something smelly, shiny, dead and something they had never seen before. They then split into groups and rotated around the different activities. They had the opportunity to weed in the vineyard (this proved a great favourite), planted vegetable seeds

(courgette and butternut squash) to be planted out in the garden in due course and explored the greenhouses (*see front cover photo*).

Following a picnic lunch activities included garden designing, collecting rose petals to make a flower bookmark and filling potion bottles with herbs to make their own magic potion. They then created their own bio-degradable pot out of newspaper and planted a climbing bean to take home.

Before going home, they visited the Farm to Fork exhibition to see how the estate grows food on a larger scale, spent their money in the gift shop and had an ice-cream. The wet weather did not stop everyone enjoying the day and earning their badge.

Lynne Wheeler, 2nd Dersingham Brownies



Quiz Night

Friday 8th November 2019

at The Alec Bussey Centre, Rowington Road,
Norwich NR1 3RR
7.00 for a 7.15 start
Teams of 6 - 8 people
£3 per person

To book a quiz team email
janetmilbank@gmail.com

Proceeds to Keswick Campsite



*Looking for a new venue for a
guiding residential or training day?*

A converted former school The Stoke Ash Centre
in the heart of rural Suffolk provides an ideal
location for most guiding venue requirements.

To find out more about using the Centre go to
www.girlguidingsuffolk.org.uk/stokeash

For any enquiries or if you are interested in joining Girlguiding Norfolk please contact our County Office:
Girlguiding Norfolk County Office, Eaton Vale Activity Centre, Church Lane, Eaton, Norwich NR4 6NN
Tel: 01603 502590 ♦ Email: office@girlguidingnorfolk.org.uk ♦ www.girlguidingnorfolk.org.uk

Don't forget to share your guiding news with the rest of Norfolk!
Deadline for January issue: 1st December 2019; email article and photos to: bluesheet@girlguidingnorfolk.org.uk
Check photo permission first. Please try and send high resolution pictures!

The

Blue sheet



WE DISCOVER, WE GROW

Girlguiding

Norfolk County

Norfolk's guiding news

October 2019



Inside this issue:

Awards ♦ Our Chalet

Proms at the ARC ♦ Haarlem Jamborette

Royal Norfolk Show ♦ Trip to the Capital

Trips & Residentials ♦ Cromer Carnival

www.girlguidingnorfolk.org.uk



Just look at all those happy, smiling...

Brownies on the front cover! What a great time they had being gardeners for the day at Holkham Hall (see article on back page) and how much they must have learned while having fun in the rain.

This edition of the Blue Sheet is, once again, crammed full of lovely photos and reports of so many exciting adventures that have been taking place over the summer. From being part of the Cromer Carnival, to singing in the choir stalls and getting to go down the Helter Skelter in Norwich Cathedral, to meeting the Countess of Wessex at the Royal Norfolk Show - so much has been happening so do take five minutes to read all about them. And if you have any stories that you would like to share, then do send to Claire, our Blue Sheet editor.

We consistently offer our young members such a wide range of fabulous opportunities and it is even more amazing when you realise that these are all offered by our wonderful volunteers. So thank you to everyone who volunteers for Girlguiding Norfolk in whatever capacity. As a volunteer you know the fun and friendship that is to be had from getting involved so why not share your enthusiasm and passion with your friends and colleagues and who knows, we might encourage some of them to join in the fun! Then we could offer more opportunities to more of the young people who are currently on our waiting list. Perhaps let them have your Blue Sheet once you have read it - or put it in a prominent place for others to pick up and read.

SAVE THE DATE - I would like to ask you to save a special date in your guiding diary.

On Saturday 19 September 2020 it will be our **Seaside Sparkle 2020** event in Great Yarmouth. This will be for all sections and we hope to see lots of you there. More details will be made available soon but in the meantime put the date in your diary!

Christine Martin
County Commissioner



County Good Service

When Girlguiding Norfolk's residential building, Patteson Lodge in Coltishall, first opened in 1982 Kate Woodsend, Margot Pickering and Elaine McCraghrey went very regularly to clear, tidy and plant the grounds.

Sadly, Kate died several years ago. Like the others she was one of our treasures; the Doctor's wife in Brancaster, Division Commissioner and Young Leader Adviser.

Margot and Elaine still spend time in the grounds of the Lodge pruning, planting and tidying-up. Elaine has recently scattered Forget-Me-Not seeds near the ARC. She travels from Cambridge, picking up Margot on the way, having stayed the night!

These amazing ladies compliment the Millefleur gardening group who now do super seasonal work.

Pat Pinnington (pictured centre) awarded Margot (right) and Elaine (left) with a well deserved County Good Service Award.

Sheena Florance



Norfolk's First Brownie Gold Award?

In June Chelsea Bale from 2nd Thorpe Guides received her Brownie Gold Award which she had completed with 2nd Thorpe Brownies in December.

Chelsea started in guiding in 2013 joining 25th Norwich Rainbows, moving on to 2nd Thorpe Brownies at age 7 and is currently a member of 2nd Thorpe Guides.

Chelsea was the first Brownie in her unit, Thorpe District and Norwich Division to receive the new award, which was presented by Girlguiding Norwich Division Commissioner Doreen Brookes who also gave Chelsea a personal card of congratulations! As the new guiding programme was introduced part way through Chelsea's time in Brownies her award was achieved by fast track as she had already earned the necessary badges for completion.

Brownie Leader Carol Dale said, "Chelsea was always a very enthusiastic member of 2nd Thorpe Brownies, loving every activity that was on offer from simply working on a badge or taking part in various activities on pack holiday including making smores over a campfire to go-karting and crate stacking. I have continued to watch her progress with interest and have helped where I can. I wish Chelsea every success whilst working for her Guide Gold Award. The Brownies and leaders are very proud of her."

Presentation of the award was celebrated at a Brownie meeting which saw 5 new Brownies make their Promise - they were also inspired by Chelsea's award! A special Gold Award cake was made by

Catherine Clarke from Old Catton District.

Chelsea gave Carol Dale and Caroline Skipper a beautiful basket of blue and yellow flowers as a thank you.

As her mum, I am very proud of Chelsea and all that she has endured this year; it is wonderful that she has a celebration in Guiding.

Jill Bale (Chelsea's Mum)



Good Service Award

August saw the presentation of a County Good Service Award to Eve Eates. Eve has been a member of guiding as a Brownie and Guide and for over 40 years as an adult. In that time, she has run a Brownie unit and been Division Pack Holiday Adviser.

When reaching 'retirement age' Eve took on many other roles: District Secretary and administrator, Division Treasurer, DBS verifier, mentor, as well as assisting many units when leaders have needed her. She has also continued to attend Brownie residential events regularly as caterer as well as helping at many District and Division and some County PR events. Eve is also a tireless 'recruiter' of new people, both young members and adults.

Eve also sat on the County Awards committee ensuring other deserving volunteers were recognised - now it's her turn!

Thank you Eve, you are a most valuable member of North West Division and Girlguiding Norfolk.



Trip to London's ICANDO

In August, Brownies, Guides and leaders from Hethersett had an early start ahead of 'an exciting trip', which was requested from the Cecil the Snake UMA we completed earlier in the year. The trip was to London to see the sights and complete the ICANDO Challenge but unfortunately the rain had already started and was set in for the day.

The first part of our adventure, after visiting the toilet, was a flight on the London Eye, which included a Promise Ceremony for Lulu half way round, with everyone else renewing their Promise. Despite the rain, we still got to see lots of London landmarks from the Eye.

We then set off to start the ICANDO challenge, visiting the ICANDO centre half way around for lunch and a break from the rain. We also enjoyed a very welcome cuppa, bought a few badges in the shop, and visited their toilets... Several times...

We set off to complete the challenge, visiting another toilet on the way, and made it back to the coach right on time, after another toilet stop back at the Eye.

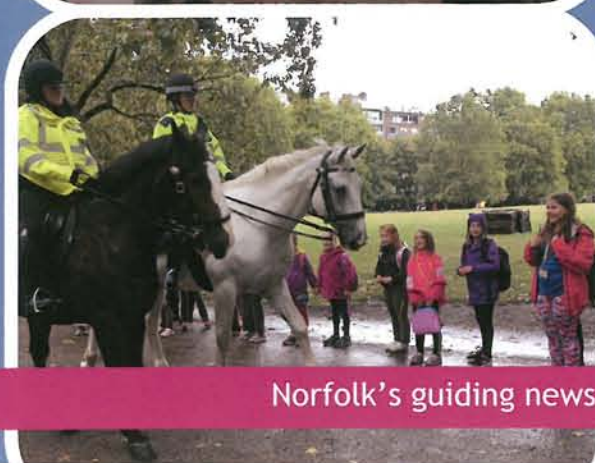
On board we had a snack, and filled in our ICANDO challenge books all together as a team effort. (And yes, there was another toilet stop on the way home!)

Yes we got a 'bit' wet, yes we walked a few miles, yes we saw many of the capital's toilets but we also saw Buckingham Palace, Girlguiding HQ, the Canada Memorial fountain, mounted police officers (both female), The Ritz, Fortnum and Mason, Piccadilly Circus, Eros, Nelsons Column at Trafalgar Square, King Charles I on a horse, 10 Downing Street, the Cenotaph, Horseguards Parade, the Houses of Parliament with a friendly waving police officer, Elizabeth Tower, Westminster Abbey, a statue of Emmeline Pankhurst, the Home Office and some real life pelicans on an island in St James's Park with a squirrel or two as well! We certainly earned the ICANDO Challenge badge!

The day ended with a lovely quote from a Brownie, "The rain didn't matter cos it was so much fun!!" That makes it all worthwhile.

Thank you to the leaders who gave their time up to make this happen, we may have dried out in several weeks, ready for the new term!

Sharon Watts, 1st Hethersett Brownies



Anglia Trip to Our Chalet

In August Girlguiding Anglia's trip to Our Chalet in Switzerland started with a morning flight from Heathrow with the end destination of Adelboden. The flight was smooth and planes and trains were on time (all except a small hiccup of a left passport - but I'll leave that story for someone else!).

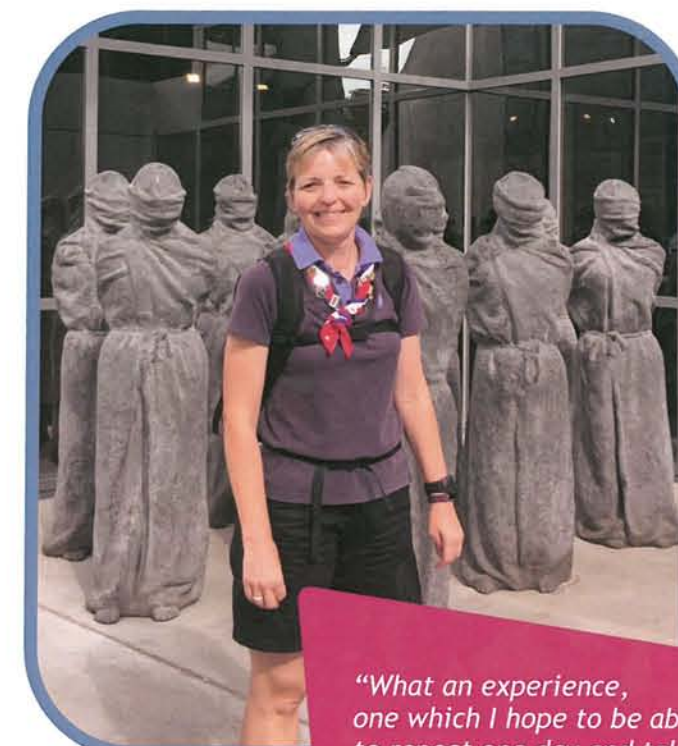
Arrival at Our Chalet did not disappoint - the sun was shining and 'WOW', those views were simply amazing. Such a green, tidy, unspoilt land - a far cry from home in Norwich.

The group soon settled into the Summer Challenge 6 programme completing various activities including hikes, trips to waterfalls, visits to cheesemakers huts, chocolate making and tasting, orienteering activities, rides on Gondolas, a visit to the famous woodcarvers, an overnight hike into the Alps and on our return the next morning we were above the clouds, sleeping in a cow shed, shopping, a boat trip, visits to a castle and campfire singing. Phew!

The guests to Our Chalet during our visit came from far and wide; Canada, USA, day visitors from Ireland and Manchester and of course us lot from Anglia. We became good friends with a Trex group from Canada. These girls had formed a unit especially for the trip and raised their trip money purely through the sale of their famous cookies. Unbelievable that they raised \$5000 dollars each to be able to visit.

One of the many highlights for me was hiking up the Elshorn Alp, 2341 metres above sea level. It was only a 5 mile hike up but was harder than running a marathon (I have run one) - coming back down to the Gondola station some 3 miles down was crippling on your feet and I now sport 2 black toenails!

At the end of the organised programme we moved to Geneva for 3 days where we explored the city, went to the United Nations building, the broken chair and fountains, a botanical garden, visited



"What an experience, one which I hope to be able to repeat one day and take my own children".

CERN (the European Organization for Nuclear Research), and the Red Cross Museum, ate cheese fondue and rode on the Ferris Wheel where the views of the city were amazing. The Jet d'eau water fountain was spectacular.

Visiting Our Chalet is not for the faint hearted, you need to be aware that the programme can be demanding and very physical, however so worth it - a trip I shall remember for a very long time.

Maureen Hamis, 25th Norwich Brownies, Mile Cross District



The weather was changeable, we were high up in the Alps after all, thunder rumbled and brought a storm then an hour later it would be bright sunshine.



GGN Receives a Royal Visit at The Royal Norfolk Show

It's always a privilege to represent Girlguiding Norfolk on the Scout and Guide Stand at the Royal Norfolk Show. But this year it was a little bit more special.

We were aware in advance that HRH the Countess of Wessex, President of Girlguiding, was going to be the Show President this year, but we didn't know - although we secretly hoped - that she was going to pay our stand a visit.

There was great excitement when we found out that she was, and Norfolk Scouts very graciously allowed Girlguiding Norfolk to take centre stage for her visit. Two young people we selected to meet her and escort her around.

Her Royal Highness was very interested in all that was on offer to visitors and was presented two paracord bracelets to take home for her children.

Following the royal visit, we found that we had won the Bonds Challenge Cup again. This topped off a most enjoyable and exciting Royal Norfolk Show for 2019.

Thanks must go to all of the Guide and Scout volunteers who gave up their time to supervise activities and enthuse the public about Scouting and Guiding and of course all of the Trefoil Guild members for serving up many, many cups of tea and coffee.

Linda Watkinson,
Assistant County Commissioner



What did our young members think about their Royal Norfolk Show experience...

"I enjoyed being given the chance to help at the Royal Norfolk Show. I arrived on Tuesday morning to help set up and returned on Wednesday evening to camp overnight and be on site all day on Thursday. In addition to helping set up, I talked to members of the public and helped with some of the activities."

I'm looking forward to being able to help again at the Show next year. It was a wonderful experience."
Zoe

"I really enjoyed being able to help at the Royal Norfolk Show. It was a good opportunity to showcase Girlguiding at its best. We gave countless people a taste of what we do through activities like paracord knotting and Eaton Vale's climbing wall and our stall was buzzing the entire time. Overall, I would say that helping at the Royal Norfolk Show is a great opportunity - I'd recommend it to anyone next year."

"At the Royal Norfolk Show I enjoyed the freedom of exploring the show ground in my free time. I hope to convince my friends at Rangers to join me next time as I believe they'd love the camping and chance to talk/help a multitude of people. If they're lucky, it may be warmer next time!"
Rosa



Congrats to Chris on her Commendation

I have worked and volunteered at the Royal Norfolk Show for the last 4 years. Every year I say this is my last one but the pull of mixing with such a vast array of other volunteers from both Scouting and Guiding is just too much. The fun and laughs we have mixed in with the work is amazing and I've made some great friends. Access to the show is a bonus but I have to say I don't get to see much of it. It's great seeing the 1000's of people who visit our stall and walk away knowing how great our organisations are.

It was also amazing being recognised by our Scout colleagues by receiving a Scout County Commissioners' Commendation.

#feelingproud #feelingappreciated

Chris Bramham

Rainbows have fun at Hautbois

Loddon Rainbows spent an awesome day at Hautbois Activity Centre in June challenging themselves and having lots of fun together.

They enjoyed grass sledging, archery, the obstacle course, making glitter pictures, pond dipping, the nightline and last, but not least, spending pocket money in the shop.

The day was well organised and the staff were brilliant with the girls. The weather was kind to us and the day was funded by Gift Aid money - which made all the effort of claiming worth it! I would thoroughly recommend taking your girls - they will love it...

Sandra Clelland,
Loddon Rainbows



Loddon Rainbows adventurous day out was funded by HMRCs Gift Aid scheme.

Have you funded a trip for your unit using your Gift Aid claim - tell us all about it!



Picnic & Proms at Patteson Lodge

Oh... It was one of those nail-biting events - one those behind the scenes won't forget easily! Were people going to book?! So many of us leave things to the last minute these days! In the last two weeks numbers quadrupled! Not easy when planning the shopping!

What was the weather going to do?! The forecast wasn't good... heavy rain storms predicted which hit Norwich at 7.30pm - concert time!! Hmm, inside or out - more raindrops but everyone stayed put. The band were sheltered under the balcony of Patteson Lodge and the speakers waterproofed with black sacks! The food was in excellent hands and looking scrumptious, and the amazing Taverham Brass Band led by Ian Colman were very flexible! All sorted.

A wide range of ages joined in with the music, including Guides camping on the field and everyone loved it! We were delighted to welcome Norfolk Scouts County Commissioner and his party. The band - what a great sound they produce - played a range of music for all tastes. The opportunity to participate in Last Night of the Proms celebrations was enthusiastically enjoyed with much flag waving!

Huge thanks to Debbie and her team, Ian and his band, and local businesses who supported the raffle - Piece of Cake, Recruiting Sergeant, The Co-op, The Rising Sun and Red Lion - as well as all of you who came along and supported another ARC fundraising activity.

What amazing feedback we had:

"The food was outstanding. The cost of the ticket didn't even cover the value of the food we had."

"So much better than we ever imagined it could be!"

"Whole evening went above and beyond expectations."

"Brilliant organisation, awesome catering, slick service and a brilliant band."

And from work experience Becca, *"I learnt how to do some cooking and that it doesn't matter if things get swapped around and measurements aren't perfect!"* What a range of skills her work experience placement gave her. Read more on the next page.

A truly AMAZING evening!

Helen Green,
County Archivist

Save the Date

Next year's event is 11 July 2020.

Please put in your diary NOW and perhaps give tickets as a Christmas present - make memories!



The ARC Welcomes Work Experience Students

"My son is having difficulty finding somewhere for work experience."

"He could come to the ARC.... We could offer office experience, museum experience, teaching experience, gardening, cooking, events management and more."

"Really?"

"Yes of course. Many of these areas include useful life skills, transferable to any situation."

The ARC passed the inspection by a Health and Safety officer for education and we welcomed our first work experience students.

It has been of huge benefit to the students who have learnt how to use a museums database, the importance of record keeping, how to write an email and use a memory stick (yes!), make a pot of tea, write a formal letter asking for raffle prizes, describe items using a big range of adjectives, write an index for a logbook, design a cleaning store cupboard... The list is endless.

One ARC volunteer said, *"It's so good to support and offer our skills to the community."*

Helen Green, County Archivist



Keswick Campsite's New Hut



After a few years of fundraising, the Keswick committee were finally able to start the process of finding a builder to start working on building a new hut for the Keswick campsite.

The project was put out to tender and in June, after much discussion, GW Gooch were contracted to complete the works.

Building started at the end of July and has been progressing well. Hopefully we will have a completed building by mid October. The new building will have a fully fitted kitchen, a wetroom with toilet and shower plus a large hall.

Come along and see!

An open day is planned for Saturday 26th October, watch out for details on Facebook and in county emails.

Quiz Night!

See the back page for details on our fundraising quiz in November.

See you there!



1st Dersingham Rainbows Enjoy a Day on the Farm

1st Dersingham Rainbows enjoyed a recent day out visiting the rare breeds centre at Church Farm, Stow Bardolph. The weather was changeable but the small showers did nothing to dampen the Rainbows enjoyment of their day on the farm.

We had a wonderful time meeting all the animals. There was Honey the donkey and her 4 week old foal, Clover, plus lots of rabbits, goats and chickens, as well as pigs (of all sizes) and lots of piglets! The girls were able to enter the petting zoo to meet the different animals, carefully stroking them. They giggled watching the young goats jumping onto their house roof and trying to balance, before sliding off and then jumping back on. The pigs and piglets were very

popular with the girls spending a long time stroking all the piglets that came to say hello.

We had a tractor ride through the estate feeding carrots to the pigs and seeing the different breeds of sheep. Other activities included playing in both the indoor and outdoor play areas, eating our picnics, visiting the gift shop and having an ice cream!

The day ended with the famous pig racing. The pigs were very excited at first but on the return race they found eating the grass was more preferable to racing on it, meaning the man with the food bucket had to do an awful lot of running!

The coach on the way back home was full of 19 very tired, but happy Rainbows.

Lynne Wheeler, 1st Dersingham Rainbows



Help Fundraise for an International Opportunity

Wensum Division Commissioner Carin Pratt is leading a trip to Mexico in 2021 and is busy fundraising to help with the cost of the trip for the 20 strong contingent. Girls from Wensum Division will be joined by Rangers from Attleborough and Guides from Dereham and Wroxham, so it is almost a Norfolk trip!! The idea of the trip is to help inspire girls to stay in guiding and not leave at 13 when school gets tough.

Fundraising badges, available in October and £1.50 each, can be bought along with the challenge and Carin is hoping leaders will get involved and buy for their whole unit. She is also offering to visit units and run sessions for £2 per person (all resources provided).

Find out more by contacting Carin via County Office or Girlguiding Norfolk Facebook page.

*Badge design
to be revealed
in the January
issue of the
Bluesheet!*

Old Catton Guides Travel to Holland's Haarlem Jamborette

A group of 13 1st Old Catton Guides, 3 young leaders and 4 leaders travelled to Haarlam in Holland for a 10 day Jamborette.

They enjoyed a fantastic camp of adventure and activities, including watersports, hikes, pioneering, go kart making and racing, technology, arts and crafts, international campfire and a few days out too.

Lots of friends were made from across the world, and even more badges swapped!

We're looking forward to seeing each others camp blankets soon to reminisce and to plan the next adventure!

*Susan Morgan,
Old Catton Guides*



- ♦ 3500 participants
- ♦ 37 countries represented
- ♦ Activity zones include Aqua, Trail, Sports, Hikes, Arts & Crafts, Jambo Tours



Wind, Pirates and a Helter Skelter..? Must be Guide Camp!

This summer saw 18 girls and leaders from 1st Dersingham Guides enjoy a four day Pirate themed camp at Eaton Vale Activity Centre.

With high winds in the weather forecast we planned to peg the tents well down and ask the site staff to keep an eye on them. However, the wind had other plans for us. As we were putting up the tents, several strong gusts of wind SNAPPED the poles on two of the sleeping tents about 30 minutes before the girls were due to arrive. A quick dash to the office and Eaton Vale very kindly offered to move us into the tented village - permanent tents/ cabins with bunk beds inside! The Guides then helped to move all the equipment to our new home. Despite a rather stressful start, it turned into a successful camp.

Camp provided many different activities and experiences. The girls began by building wash

stands and sewing a pirate badge onto their patrol necker. The girls also helped prepare meals, had inspection, ate lots of cake, earned badges and enjoyed games and crafts - including making a Turk's head woggle.

We made full use of the activities on offer at Eaton Vale and enjoyed climbing, go-karts, archery, crate stacking and raft building. The raft building and crate stacking are brilliant to watch as the girls have to work together and trust each other. They also pull incredible facial expressions and make very funny noises. For some, falling off the raft, jumping into the river at the end and knocking over the pile of the crates they should be standing on are the highlight.

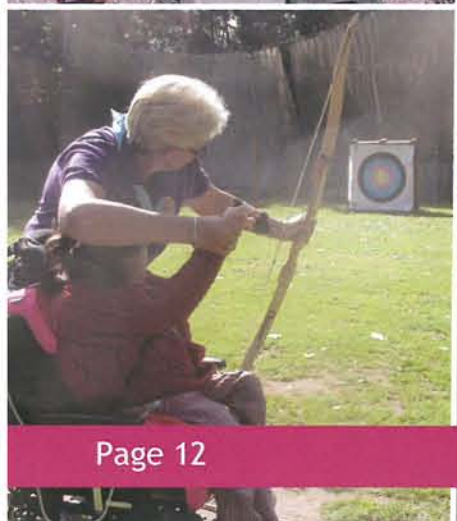
Our day trip was to Norwich Cathedral where we were given a tour by the Education department and made glass mosaic coasters. We met the resident cat and sang Guide songs in the choir stalls - an adapted version of 'I found a peanut'. The girls explored the 'Seeing it differently' exhibition including the trust trail and a ride down the famous Helter Skelter.

While waiting for our turn, the Guides eagerly watched the wedding taking place at the same time - an unexpected bonus. Afterwards we headed to the river and Pull's Ferry, a medieval watergate and Girlguiding Norwich HQ, to complete their walking trail. The leaders enjoyed the tea and cake very much indeed!

On our final evening we played 'Shipwrecked' - a game full of challenges the Guides had to complete without being caught. We played at dusk and there were a lot of instructions being shouted as the leaders kept blocking the girls routes back to their 'home'. The evening ended with campfire; lots of songs, performances and re-enactments of raft building as one Guide fell in the water before she even got on the raft! Not forgetting, marshmallows!

It was a very enjoyable camp for everyone with a great atmosphere and all the Guides and leaders came away having created some very special memories. I wonder what will happen next year...

Elizabeth Wheeler
1st Dersingham Guides



Sorting 'BEXIT' at Wellies and Wristbands

This year was the second time I volunteered at Wellies and Wristbands at Foxlease in Hampshire, a 3 night festival for Guides and Rangers.

This time, I was Team Leader for catering which meant I was responsible for ensuring the 2500 participants and additional 300 volunteers, instructors, staff and artists got through the catering marquee within 2 hours for each of the 8 meals. I had a team of 8, a very small number to cover the jobs which included handing out plates, restocking cutlery, rationing ketchup, handing out desserts (ice cream, jelly, rice pudding) and most importantly monitoring the rubbish bins. The 'BEXIT' as we called it (bins and exit) was one of the most important jobs as Girlguiding is committed to as little waste as possible so sorting different items that could be recycled was an extremely important role.

Volunteering at large scale events is not for the faint hearted but it does give leaders the opportunity to experience something different with people from other sections. Many of the volunteers were Brownie or Rainbow leaders or those working towards their Queen's Guide award. We worked hard (3 meals a day plus helping load and unload coaches on the first

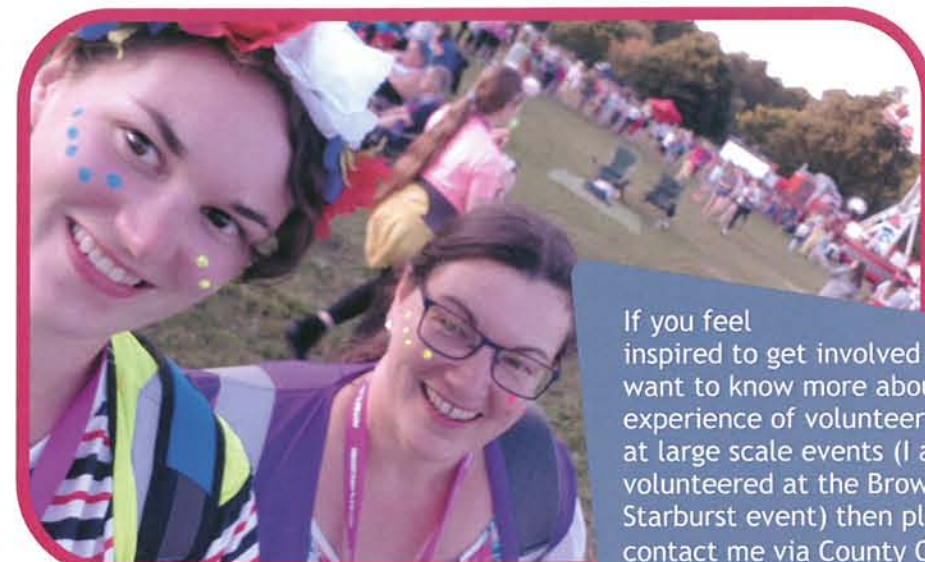
and last day) but we also managed to relax in the hot tubs, learn African drumming, visit the planetarium, watch the laser show, join in with the Disney sign along, eat cake, dance and scream at the bands (and yes a Guide surprised by this did comment to one of the leaders "aren't you a fully grown adult?"!) and make some new friends in the bar at the end of the day. As a Team Leader I was also given the honour of firing a confetti cannon during the last song of the event!

If you want to try something different in guiding then I would recommend getting involved. It was lovely to make a sad Guide

smile by finding the one combination of food that she could eat or relocating her with her friends (a 500 seat marquee is quite a formidable place for a 10 year old).

There are lots of events all over the country that need help. Some can provide indoor accommodation (such as Wellies and Wristbands) so that you don't even need to camp. I went with my daughter, also a leader and within the first hour we had formed a camp site gang with lots of leaders who knew no one so do not be put off by going on your own.

Linda Marquis,
Broadland Division Commissioner



If you feel inspired to get involved or want to know more about my experience of volunteering at large scale events (I also volunteered at the Brownie Starburst event) then please contact me via County Office.

Brownie Trip to Africa Alive

Unit fundraising enabled a joint adventure for 50 girls from 4th and 38th Norwich Brownies with a summer visit to Africa Alive.

The sun shone and the girls enjoyed seeing giraffes, gazelles, meerkats and lions before taking over all the carriages on the Africa Alive train! We also watched an amazing bird show, handled goats in the petting zoo and played on both the soft play and outside play area.

What a great, full on day! There was silence on the return coach trip as most of the Brownies fell asleep, although they soon woke up at the end of the journey to receive their special commemorative badge!

Sam Hubbard, 38th Norwich Brownies



Friends of
Patteson Lodge

Invite you to Afternoon Tea



Friday 25th October 2019 ∞ 2pm - 4pm

At Patteson Lodge Activity Centre,
Coltishall NR12 7JN

Come and have a catch up with friends in
beautiful Patteson Lodge grounds

Cost £4.50 per person

RSVP by 10th October to Gill Bailey,
11 The Lea, Catfield, NR29 5BH.
Please make cheques payable to
'The Friends of Patteson Lodge'

Hethersett District Fun Day

Over 200 Girlguiding members in Hethersett District attended a barbeque, dance and camp fire afternoon at Hethersett village hall for all units in the district. Fun was had by all as we shared a great afternoon together.

Angela Butcher, Hethersett Brownies



'Girls Can' at Cromer Carnival 2019

This year was the 50th Cromer Carnival and Girlguiding Felbrigg District decided that they wanted to be part of this year's parade. Thirty Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers, leaders and parent helpers took part in the parade which was the largest one for years. Cromer Carnival is known to be the second largest carnival in the country, compared to Notting Hill.

We were keen to promote the new guiding programme and show off all the sections in their uniforms. We had a banner made to state 'Felbrigg District Girls Can' and had the latest programme bunting and recruitment banners. We also used placards with the latest new programme phases on as well as large trefoil placards for all sections. We experienced a very positive reaction from the crowds, who cheered loudly at us along the way and this made the girls feel really encouraged throughout the parade.

Our young members and parents were kept busy along the route by handing out beach balls, stickers, wristbands and postcards, all with guiding messages on, to girls in the crowds. We were so proud of our younger members as when they started the parade the sight of the crowds was quite daunting, but soon they gained the confidence to reach out to girls in the crowds with the goodies that we had.

For a special memento we had a limited edition 50 years of Cromer Carnival badge made which everyone involved received.

Sarah Petch & Tina Allen
Joint Felbrigg District
Commissioners



New Ranger Unit for Acle!

Knowing there were lots of 14 year old girls and no local Ranger unit for them to go to, I knew I had to open one. In January 2019, with the support of our District Commissioner, I ran my first Rangers taster session in Acle. I didn't really know whether to expect anyone but when 12 girls turned up I was thrilled! With a leadership team in place, we ran another taster session to check the girls commitment and in March 2019 officially opened the unit.

To celebrate being open for 6 months (and that has flown by) the Rangers wanted to go bowling and have chips on the beach to celebrate making their Ranger Promise - so that is exactly what we did.

Nine girls and 2 leaders made their Promise in July on Great Yarmouth beach. The Rangers proudly wore their new neckers in colours they had chosen.

We have been working on the new programme and getting out in the local community, making the most of the light nights. We already have a chill out sleepover and Christmas camp planned for this term as well as a fundraising bag pack (where more Rangers and another leader will make their Promise) and a trip to the Apple store.

I'm lucky to have found a new Guiding volunteer to run the unit with, along with

another great enthusiastic leader from our District.

For anyone who is thinking of opening a unit but worrying about it, I'd say just go for it! I never thought it would be possible and whilst it has been hard work enrolling the first ever Acle District Rangers was such a proud moment for me and made all the time and effort worthwhile!

Special thanks to Pat Pinnington who has stayed in close contact with me throughout and helped me with all manner of things I couldn't work out on GO - she has the patience of a saint!!

We're really excited to have a Ranger unit in Acle District!

Poppy George, Acle District Rangers



Phoebe's Sponsored Walk for EACH

A huge 'Well Done' to Phoebe from 31st Norwich Rainbows who took on the challenge of a 3 mile sponsored walk to raise money for EACH (East Anglia's Children's Hospices) while completing her Rainbow Helper interest badge.

Phoebe has almost completed all 12 Rainbow interest badges and has the last couple planned along with her Gold award before heading to Brownies this term.

Cheryl Glinwell,
31st Norwich Rainbows

