

The Friends of Patteson Lodge

would like to invite you to a

New Year's Party

on Sunday 26th January 2020 - 1pm - 4pm

at Patteson Lodge Activity Centre
14 Great Hautbois Road, Coltishall NR12 7JN

Menu - Cottage pie followed by a selection of homemade puddings.

Raffle, quiz and after lunch entertainment.

Cost £7.50 per person. (Please make cheques payable to Friends of Patteson Lodge).

RSVP by 10th January 2020 to:

Mrs Gill Bailey (Secretary),

11 Lea Road, Catfield NR29 5BH

stating your name, Tel No, email and any special dietary requirements.



Quiz Night

Friday 27th March 2020

St. Thomas' Church Hall, Earlham Road, Norwich

7.15pm arrive for a 7.30pm start

Teams of 6-8 people, £3 per person

For further details or to book your team please contact Claire Everson by email: pullsferrynorwich@gmail.com

Raising funds for Pull's Ferry

Did you know that as a guiding member you can nominate other members for various awards?

County Commissioner's Commendation - given to members who have made a significant contribution and commitment to local guiding. Nominations can be made by leaders or Commissioners.

Thanks Badge - given to either a member or non-member of Girlguiding as a sign of appreciation. Any member of Girlguiding may present a Thanks Badge after discussion with a leader or Commissioner.

Good Service Brooch - may be given to an adult who is a member of Girlguiding, for excellent service to guiding.

The Guiding Star - may be given to any member of Girlguiding (up to their 26th birthday) who has displayed exceptional courage or has shown great initiative or responsibility at an incident.

The Laurel Award - is given in recognition of outstanding service to guiding. It may be given to an active adult member of Girlguiding or one of the Branch Associations.

Other awards are available, check the website: girlguidingnorfolk.org.uk on the top bar 'Awards & Qualifications' / Thanks & Recognition awards or Anglia Awards

Then email: office@girlguidingnorfolk.org.uk or awards@girlguidingnorfolk.org.uk

So get your nominations in for those special people that have gone the extra mile for Girlguiding Norfolk.



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 April issue: 1st March 2020; email article and photos to: bluesheet@girlguidingnorfolk.org.uk
Check photo permission first. Please try and send high resolution pictures!

The Blue sheet



Norfolk's guiding news

January 2020



Inside this issue:

STEM ♦ WoW for Guides & Rangers

Poppyline ♦ Gressenhall Farm

Plastic Promises ♦ Northern Ireland

Trips & Residentials ♦ Remembrance Day

www.girlguidingnorfolk.org.uk



Welcome to our first Blue Sheet of 2020.

As always this edition is crammed full of wonderful photographs and stories. Don't our cover girls look happy? Such a lovely, natural photo. So please do read on to learn about the fabulous range of adventures and experiences our Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers and adult volunteers have had over the past few months. All made possible by being members of Girlguiding!



2020 sees the start of a new decade and we have lots to look forward to at every level of Guiding in Norfolk. Launching in January, we hope everyone will get involved with 'Sparkling Stars' our exciting county-wide talent competition. You will find full details and dates on our county website.

The winners of 'Sparkling Stars' will be invited to perform on the stage at our very exciting County event, Seaside Sparke 2020. You need to have Saturday 19 September in your diary and be starting to plan how you will spend your day in Great Yarmouth. Information when available will be shared via our monthly e-newsletter and on our county website. Look out for details coming soon about a Leaders Taster Day in Great Yarmouth on Saturday 18 April.

What is your New Year's resolution? Mine is to take the time to nominate those leaders and volunteers who go the extra mile for one of the many awards available at County, Region and national level. See the back page for details of how to do this. The County Awards Committee is waiting to hear from you!

Hot off the press - A new date for your diary is the weekend of 6-7 June. This is going to be an interactive and action packed weekend at Eaton Vale Scout and Guide Activity Centre as the county's way of saying thank you to all our amazing volunteers. No details yet, but please do save the date.

Happy New Year and thank you for all you do for Girlguiding Norfolk.

Christine Martin
County Commissioner



Thanks Yvonne!

Yvonne Kemp, outgoing Brooke and Loddon District Commissioner, was recently presented with a 'Thank you' gift from the new South East Division Commissioner, Helen Pye.

Members of the District leadership team on behalf of all units in the district, together with Yvonne's daughters and mother also attended the presentation and wanted to say a huge thank you to her for all her hard work whilst she was DC. Yvonne had been in her role for an extended period of time, beyond the usual 3 years.

We wish her well with all her future Girlguiding commitments.

Julia Ward,
Brooke and Loddon
District Commissioner Designate



Roydon Rangers Trip to Northern Ireland

Seven 1st Roydon Rangers and three leaders recently embarked on a brilliant Northern Ireland adventure.

We caught the travel bug after visiting Copenhagen last year and after successfully securing a grant which helped to fund the event and make it accessible for all (we didn't want anyone to miss out!) it was off to Stansted Airport. We were all so excited at this point, thinking about our upcoming adventures, including flying, as some of us had never been on an aeroplane before! After a short flight we arrived in Northern Ireland. Situated within the Lorne estate was Ranger Cottage, our home for a few days. It provided the perfect setting with so many onsite activities to choose from.

Once the girls had unpacked, helping the dorm to look like their messy bedrooms, we had dinner

and started the evening challenges, ending up on the nearby beach! We enjoyed the beautiful setting and watched the sun set over the horizon.

The next morning we headed to the local train station and boarded the train to Belfast to visit the famous Titanic museum which included a mini ride and cinema experience! You could spend ages wandering around the exhibitions but we had to call it a day and rush back to the estate as we spent our afternoon gorge walking! It was the perfect miserable British weather which saw the river flowing quite nicely and mud pies of the perfect consistency. After a warm shower, we finished the busy day off with a film and much needed down-time.

The next day, we visited the local folk and transport museums which provided a real insight into

Northern Ireland's history. The afternoon was spent treasure trailing around Holywood, a local seaside town, ending with an ice-cream on the seafront and a chip shop tea - well earned and much needed from all the walking.

Our final morning was spent visiting the Giant's Causeway, a National Trust site and unique geological feature resulting from an ancient volcanic eruption. We were fortunate that the rain held off for our brief visit so we were able to fully appreciate such a spectacle before travelling home.

We hope to have inspired the girls and it was a brilliant experience, one I'm sure they will always remember where friendships were cemented, new ones created and even promises made!

Emily Pilsbury-Gaunt, Katie Brame & Martha Phillips,
1st Roydon Rangers





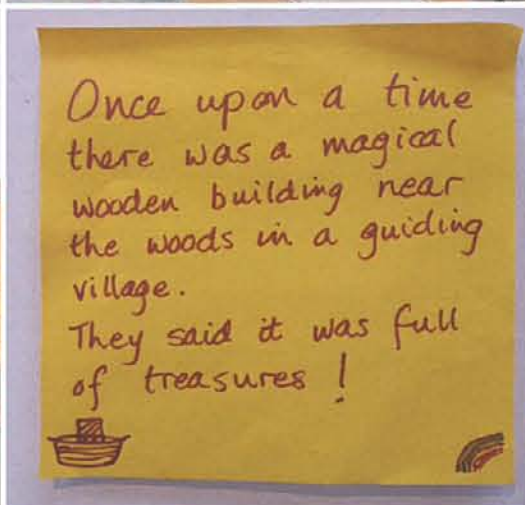
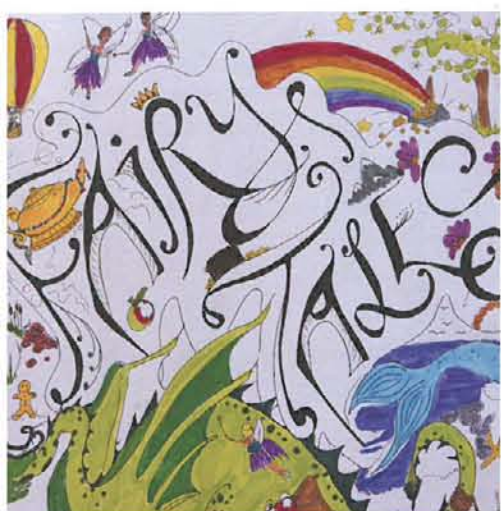
WoW - What a day!

In September Guides and Rangers from all over Norfolk arrived at the John Innes Centre, Norwich for their very own WoW (Wonder of Words) Festival. The girls were able to participate in different activities during the day and enjoyed listening to our two keynote speakers, Sheridan Winn and Isabelle King talk about what writing means to them, the books they have written and their writing journeys.

Other activities included story telling workshops, spoken word poetry sessions and meeting Lady Baden-Powell (aka Rachel Duffield). A big thank you to Poppy and Leanne from Book Bugs and Dragons Tales and Adam and Helena from the Millennium Library who led several sessions throughout the day.

Guides and Rangers were able to swap books at the 'Swap Table' which proved to be very popular and also had the opportunity to buy books from the extensive range on display by the Norfolk Children's Book Centre.

A good day was had by all! Who knew that a soup ladle could spark such creative ideas!!



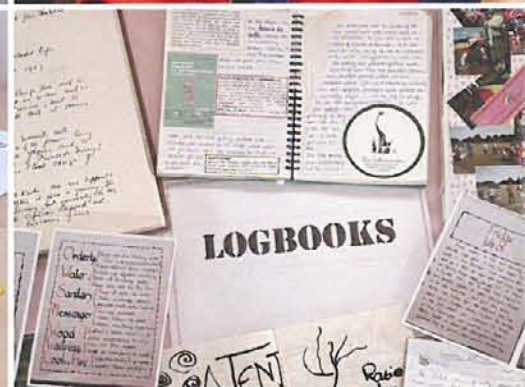
Some super comments from our fantastic speakers and contributors:

Isabelle King, the afternoon keynote speaker, said: *"I so very much enjoyed the WoW Festival. The girls were so imaginative, enthusiastic and willing to collaborate. It was a real pleasure."*

Adam McGee from The Forum Millennium Library said: *"From the first session to the last everyone was full of energy and having a great day!"*

Poppy Stevens from Bookbugs and Dragon Tales Bookshop in Norwich said: *"I had such a wonderful day with the girls and I think they got a lot out of the sessions. It was a joy to work with you and the girls, I hope to see you and some of the Guides again soon!"*

Sheridan Winn, the morning keynote speaker, said: *"I very much enjoyed giving the talk today, especially all the questions!"*



GGN Young Members Inspired at STEM Event

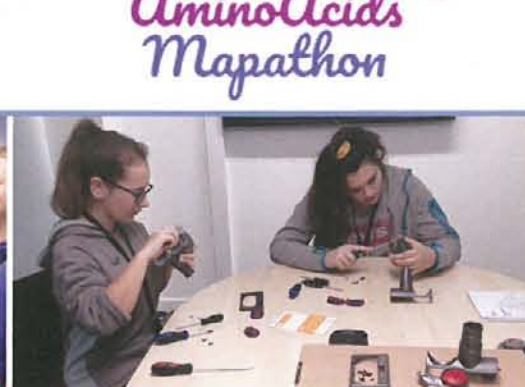
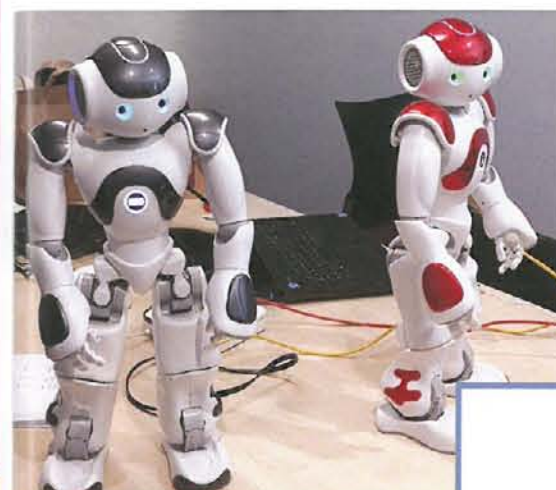
Many big name businesses and organisations from across the UK took part in a very special STEM event hosted by Aviva in Norwich, aimed at inspiring girls to consider careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Over 130 Guides and Rangers arrived at Aviva's Marble Hall during the October half term to test their skills in a range of disciplines including robotics, virtual reality, 3D printing and coding challenges, to name but a few.

Representatives from organisations such as BT, The Royal Navy, the Royal Airforce, Aviva Quantum Analytic, IBM, KPMG, UEA and the Environment Agency hosted over 20 engaging activities and interactive displays. Many senior figures from Aviva also led discussion groups during the day and were very generous with their time before the event to make sure everything ran smoothly on the day.

Vicky Ollenbuttel, District Commissioner for Thetford and a member of Girlguiding Norfolk's County STEM team was the brainchild behind the event. Vicky said: *"Girls still see these subjects as just for boys and I wanted to give them a confidence boost and show the range of jobs on offer. It is important for them to discover how much fun it is to study and work in STEM."*

Lara Webster, 16, said: *"When I went to my first school, the boys would always do sports and the girls would go off to acting classes. There are a lot of opportunities for women in science."*

Perhaps this event has inspired the next generation of scientists, surgeons and quantum physicists! It is certainly opening doors in Norfolk which the STEM team plan to follow up in 2020 so watch this space!



County Training Day 2019

Thank you to everyone that took part in our November training day and I hope you achieved or exceeded your aim, whether that be catching up with friends, ticking off some leadership qualification, getting that Safe Space training done, becoming inspired and enthused, or mastering accounts or GO!

We welcomed guiding trainers from Essex, Lincs South and even Leicester in addition to our fantastic Norfolk team and feedback was very positive for our external trainers too. Let's see lots of innovative recruitment from those who attended the social media sessions! Thanks to Chrissie and Sue who continue to share their 'day job' expertise in first aid and inclusivity within their guiding lives too. I hope there was something for everyone as sessions included programme training for both new and experienced leaders, time to reflect on 'Doing our Best', advice for making £100s from Gift Aid and space for Commissioners to 'air & share'.

The Marketplace rooms were buzzing at lunchtime and it was great to have so many residential venue providers this year, so do get booking next year's sleepover, camp or holiday at one (or more?) of them very soon.

Macmillan rep Nicki attended to personally thank all those who had contributed to our care box gifts - well done everyone - and it was also a pleasure to meet our friends from Trading Standards Scam Aware Campaign and the Royal British Legion.

Our ARC had an extensive display of treasures and County advisers were on hand to answer all kinds of queries and put faces to names.

Some successful swaps were made too as one leaders left overs are another's unit meeting sorted thanks to the Swap Shop room.

Thank you and well done as always to Shirley and her team for bringing the County Shop - don't forget that our 'Shop in a Box' is available for your local events too.

This was my fourth, and final, time of organising this biennial event and it's been a valuable learning experience (Eventbrite!), a juggle of expectation verses trainer availability, made possible with endless lists and a lot of coffee. I've had lots of great support - I'm not going to write a list - you all know who you are, so thank you! It's a very rewarding event to be part of and next time I look forward to running a couple of training sessions instead as I hand over the clipboard...

Catherine Leigh

Let's start with some facts and figures;

- 195 participants - a mixture of leaders, assistant leaders, young leaders, Commissioners and unit helpers
- 26 workshop sessions
- 18 Trainers - both our wonderful volunteer trainers and some inspiring external trainers
- 17 Marketplace stalls
- 6 hours of learning, sharing, socialising, networking and fun!



Future Girls Pledge Plastic Promises

Once again guiding units from around Norfolk have been getting behind Girlguiding UK Future Girl initiatives - this time acting on plastic.

13th Norwich Rainbows have been busy doing the Future Girl badge. We collected up all our plastic rubbish and talked about the plastic problem. The Rainbows decided they wanted to make a jellyfish, seal and turtle, they then set to work in groups to create creatures for our display. We also made fish from recycled CDs with plastic promises on the back and turned ourselves into recycling superheroes.

Hopefully the Rainbows have managed to raise awareness of the problem of plastics while having fun.

We have had so many lovely comments from hall users about the end result.



Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers from Gayton were the proud winners of the village's 2019 scarecrow competition. The girls turned waste plastic into eye-catching sculptures including fish, turtle, dolphin and octopus as well as a full-sized scarecrow.



1st Toftwood Brownies have been joining Girlguiding units across the country to think about plastic pollution. They will be sending a letter to local MP George Freeman to see how he will get their voices heard. The Brownies really got involved with Future Girl acts and enjoyed UMA 'Pass on Plastic', gaining lots of programme minutes. Brownies wrote their plastic promises on paper bottle templates and made 3 sea creatures out of the plastic bottles; a turtle, jelly fish and star fish.



Girlguiding Norfolk Offers More 1940s Opportunities with Gressenhall Camp and Poppyline at Sheringham

The first 1940s themed event for Girlguiding Norfolk was the annual August camp at Gressenhall Farm which saw nearly 40 Guides, Rangers and leaders join together for another week long living history camp.

It was lovely to be joined by several new faces, as well as some second and third time returners and everyone worked hard to make the camp another huge success. The Guides were working towards the 1940s pioneer badge and their first challenge arrived early in the week with a request from the kitchen for an extra table which the guides diligently produced using only string and a few planks of wood.

Other activities involved helping out on the farm with potato picking and sweeping out the yard, learning how to whittle wood and tie knots and giving tours of the site to our many visitors, whose comments were testament to the hard work, dedication and passion

that the Guides and Rangers displayed about the camp. A particular highlight for me, of what proved to be a very hot week, was a much needed water fight!

This was my final year in charge of the camp and I'd like to thank Frances Wildmun for putting together an excellent programme for the camp, as well as all the leaders who gave their time to help or visit, all the people who lend or house equipment for us, to all of the parents who put so much effort into organising the kit lists and transport and of course all the Guides and Rangers who put their heart and soul into carrying on these wonderful guiding traditions.

Finally, I'd like to thank Helen Green for all her continued hard work at the ARC and without whom this camp would never have existed in the first place.

Diana Howes, Camp leader

Ready for the off and excited for my Poppyline adventure! 1940s case packed along with gas mask box, you never know when Hitler will strike!

On arrival I learned to confidently dance the Lindey Hop before playing card games illustrated with aircraft which we needed to learn to identify.

After an early start the next morning we transformed into Rangers, proudly holding our flag on the walk to the station to board our train. The carriages/compartments looked straight out of 'Harry Potter' and the public looked fantastic dressed up - I was beginning to wonder if I had gone back in time to the 1940s!!

With a puff of smoke we arrived in war time Sheringham. It was packed with enthusiasts and the atmosphere was vibrant and electric. The shops were top to toe themed around wartime with no expense spared! We marched through crowds who looked on with smiles of respect.

We certainly attracted a lot of attention!

Our challenge during the day was to complete Ranger record cards from the time. We managed a short break for lunch and a paddle in the sea before... something unimaginable happened...

A man collapsed beside us... it was my dad... we put him into the recovery position hastily! He was ok, this was a SET UP by Helen to practise our first aid!

After all the excitement it was time to return to base on a period bus. The following day we returned to the station to listen to the 1940s bands and the Rangers took to the dance floor to dance the time away.

I truly loved every moment of my full packed adventure. It was 'super fun' and I made some strong friendships. The leaders deserve a truly earned 'Thank you'!

Alanna Wright, 1st Thorpe Marriott Guides

Save the Date

In 2020 Gressenhall camp will be taking place between Thursday 27th August to Tuesday 1st September and is open to Rangers and Guides aged 12+.

For more information please email Helen Green at archivist@girlguidingnorfolk.org.uk



GGN Remember

Units from all sections were out in force for Remembrance Sunday 2019. The sun was shining as flags were paraded at Church services all across Norfolk.

Our photos show members from 19th Reffley King's Lynn, Blofield, Dereham, Mulbarton, Spixworth, Sutton and Stalham.



Thanks & Recognition Service

Being woken at 4.30am on a cold rainy November morning is not normally a reason to jump out of bed, however today was going to be very different. After fuelling with a bacon roll, I jumped aboard the 6.30am Norwich to London train ready for a day of stewarding at the National Scouting & Guiding Thanks & Recognition service at Westminster Abbey, a very fitting place for such a special service.

Greeted by the very friendly Daisy from HQ I was briefed, along with Kate (a fellow Anglia leader), a group of Queen's Scouts and the Westminster Abbey stewards. Our job was to make sure everyone found somewhere to sit!

I was lucky enough to be asked to stand next to and retake my promise with Amanda Medler, our Chief Guide, at the very front of the abbey! We stood on the steps in front of the thousands of very special attendees and proudly retook our promise, inviting all guiding members in attendance to join us. A very proud and momentous occasion.

I was able to take part in this fabulous event because I am a Queen's Guide and I really recommend to anyone who gets the opportunity to go and steward. It is a beautiful service as well and lovely to speak to so many amazing Guiding leaders and Scouters as you show them to their seats.

Poppy George, 1st Freethorpe Guides & Acle District Ranger Leader



Thetford Guides Support Many Charitable Causes

When asked for their input to plan the Autumn term 1st Thetford Guides unanimously said they wanted to help other people and support less well off communities.

One of the chosen charities was the seasonal 'Samaritan's Purse'. Four shoe boxes were filled with goodies and now the Guides are eagerly waiting to hear where in the world their boxes were sent.

But what really got the Guides inspired was a post on our District Leader Facebook page by DC Victoria Ollenbuttel who promoted two less well-known charities - 'Smalls for All' and 'Give and Makeup'.

'Smalls for All' is a charity sending bras and underwear to women and girls in Africa who have no access to these items. The wearing of underwear is seen as a sign of wealth and those unable to afford these run the risk of being abused and raped.

'Give and Makeup' is a UK based charity needing lightly used makeup and toiletries for women who escape abuse and make it to refuges with next to nothing.

You can imagine the discussions we had and all agreed overwhelmingly to support the charities. With the help of families, friends and even work colleagues, we sent two boxes to 'Give and Makeup' and four boxes to 'Smalls for All'.

The Guides really got stuck in and as a result we awarded them the Guide fundraising badge.

Alison Flint, 1st Thetford Guides



A Sleepover First for Norwich Aviation Academy

I expected this sleepover to be a bit different and it was really fun!

Firstly, we were shown the tool room. I was surprised how many different materials are used to make an aeroplane and the fact they used so many tools. I found the system they used to make sure the tools were all returned before an aircraft was allowed to leave the hangar was very interesting.

We all boarded 'Elsie' the aeroplane and sat in the cockpit. There were a lot of

dials and buttons. We met a co-pilot who, the day before our sleepover, had flown Boris Johnson! He told us all about the aeroplane, how it works and how they do their inspections to make sure the aeroplane is ready to fly.

A retired pilot showed us the helicopter simulator and we all had a go. It was fun! We enjoyed the activities the Aviation

Academy set us and we had a lot of fun making a parachute from a bin bag and trying to hit a target. We also had to build the tallest tower out of pegs and lolly sticks.

The staff were very friendly and enthusiastic and all the Guides felt they learnt a lot from this sleepover.

Millie & Kacey, 1st Freethorpe Guides



All the Guides had a go at being cabin crew, giving amazing safety demonstrations.

Our very own Radio Star!

Helen Green, Girlguiding Norfolk County Archivist and champion of our Archive Resource Centre (ARC) was the guest of Paul Hayes on Radio Norfolk in October.

Helen chose her favourite music (including a piece written and sung by her 8 year old granddaughter) and had the opportunity to talk about growing up in Canada.

Helen talked about many of her experiences in guiding over the years, including working for Girlguiding headquarters and promoting guiding nationally. Of course the ARC was not left out! She told the listeners about how the ARC came into being, and described how we have such a significant and unique collection here in Norfolk.



Brownie STEM Sleepover

24 girls from 1st Toftwood Brownies took part in a STEM themed sleepover during October half term. This was the first night away for 9 of the Brownies.

Brownies were working towards the Amey 'Guiding Girls into Engineering' badge by taking part in a number of STEM themed crafts and activities. They started by making a hanging decoration from UV beads and discovered what happened to the beads when exposed to light and when placed in the dark. Brownies decorated their own tie-dye canvas bags using sharpies and rubbing alcohol and learnt how different patterns could be made. They then made wiggle-bots using batteries and motors and recycling some old CD's and pots.

A number of team challenges allowed groups to earn points, including rocket building and launching, and tower building using paper straws and masking tape.

Day 2 saw Brownies become scientists and test the pH of various different products using red cabbage indicator. They also made geodesic dome structures using jelly sweets and cocktail sticks and learnt how strong triangles can be in construction.

They were even able to fit in 3 programme UMA's within the theme - 'Fizzy flying', 'Blow us away' and 'A new route'.

Katie Theobald, 1st Toftwood Brownies



Girlguiding is working with Amey to challenge the misconception that STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and maths) are just for boys.



Frozen 2

The entire unit of 38th Norwich Brownies and leaders flocked to the cinema and took their seats to enjoy Frozen 2. We loved our sparkly badges too!

Sam Hubbard, 38th Norwich Brownies



Go for GOLD... it's a mystery!

Now whilst I can't tell you *too* much about the 'Go for GOLD' weekend, I can say they are chaotic, challenging and immensely fun!

After a morning at work, I headed off with what felt like everything including the kitchen sink in my rucksack! After countless train changes and a few strange looks, I arrived at Polegate station. An ex-GOLD member met us off the train and show us to the shuttle bus. Everyone got chatting on the journey to the campsite, all of us very much in the dark about what would happen next!

After arranging a tent share through the GOLD Facebook page, I hoped my new tent buddies had arrived! I shared with two Scottish girls and the lovely Marion, also a Norfolk Guide leader. Despite the rain, we got our tent up and were greeted by a hot dinner before an evening of challenges.

The weekend continued with team building activities and a GOLD

presentation to show what it is like to go on a GOLD experience.

For those of you who don't know, GOLD is a Girlguiding exclusive trip to another country where we work to develop specific aspects of Girlguiding. This weekend was run by very, very enthusiastic people who have been on GOLD trips before - their energy was endless!!

The whole weekend was a lot of fun, if a bit random at times! But I cannot recommend going on the weekend enough, I learnt so much and made some great friends.

Keeping my fingers crossed for a place on a trip next year!

Poppy George, 1st Freethorpe Guides & Acle District Ranger Leader



Next year there are 8 trips; Nigeria, Liberia, Senegal, Aruba, Mexico, The Maldives, Georgia/Albania and Oman.

You don't get to choose a destination, instead organisers carefully select teams from selection weekends such as this.

Guess Who... Guess Where...

Who is hiding in the photo and where has she taken the Blue Sheet?

Email your suggestions to bluesheet@girlguidingnorfolk.org.uk.

Answer in the April issue, plus all the people who identify who and where!

Thinking caps on everyone...



Socks for Norwich Homeless

1st Mulbarton Rangers filled socks with gifts and useful items for Norwich Homeless again this year.



Brownie Wreaths

38th Norwich Brownies kicked off the festive season by making some super Christmas wreaths packed with holly, ivy, pine cones and ribbon. Amazing!



A Superhero Sleepover!

During October, 17 excited girls from Attleborough and Harling Rainbows joined together for their annual sleepover - 20 hours of activities (and some sleep...) - Superhero themed.

On arrival, everyone made their own cape and name badge - Super Snowdrop, Spectacular Sarah and Sparkling Sunflower for the leaders! During the afternoon everyone enjoyed a Zumba session, alongside making pizza for tea. In the evening, the girls took part in a hunt for superhero cards outside in the playground. Following this, they swapped cards and talked about the different powers they would have as superheroes!

In the morning, everyone settled down to breakfast before we had a visit from a real-life superhero, nurse Karen.

She talked about her job, answered plenty of questions from the girls and brought some super fruit for them all to try.

For the final few hours, the Rainbows decorated a chocolate bar to give to their own superhero at home, tried to guess some items in an x-ray game and coloured keyrings. Each girl was presented with their Superhero challenge badge, a fun sleepover badge and 1 Night Away badge.

*Kathryn Donald,
2nd Attleborough Rainbows*



As with all things guiding, this super sleepover wouldn't have been possible without the adults who gave up their time to help. Thank you!

Rainbows 'Take Action'

4th Norwich Rainbows have enjoyed a term completing Skills Builder challenges from the Take Action theme.

We started by showcasing a variety of different charities and the Rainbows were keen to support the Poppy Appeal and Break. In return for a tube of Smarties (to eat obviously!), they filled the empty tube with coins and managed to raise an impressive £40 which was donated to the Poppy Appeal. The Rainbows also enjoyed setting up a charity shop with items brought from home which were later donated to Break.

Other activities included creating a 'cup of kindness'; a decorated pot for a super smiley pansy. We actually planted two pots - one for a friend and one to keep!

Finally, we made magic wands and enjoyed being Fairy Godmothers to provide slightly different endings to some truly awful fairy tales!!

Claire Everson, 4th Norwich Rainbows



Brownies Enjoy Christmas Craft Sleepover

27th Norwich Brownies enjoyed a brilliant Christmas craft weekend at Stoke Ash in Suffolk.

They were busy as soon as they arrived; decorating Santa plates and thumb print baubles before stories and a snack - hot chocolate with melting snowmen.

Brown Owl was itching to get us up early next morning to continue the fun and after a breakfast bacon buttie the making began... bauble wreaths, melting snowmen, cards, candles, sock snowmen, pinecone penguins and reindeer, painted

tree decorations, felt Christmas puddings, 3D calendars... The list was endless! Christmas dinner was served (the table beautifully decorated) and we welcomed Sandra, a Suffolk leader, who joined us for the day and stayed for an evening Christmas campfire.

Everyone slept so well on Saturday night that nobody noticed Father Christmas had paid us a visit! What excitement to find our stockings full of gifts. Even the leaders had a present too.

We cleared up our beds and cases

then headed outside on a bauble hunt with each one having a challenge to complete. Brown Owl did not let us back in the building with muddy shoes - I wonder why! - so lunch was a picnic outside followed by parachute games and a treasure hunt. All too soon it was 2:30 and our parents collected us.

We went home with lots of happy memories, a huge bag of craft and a stocking of gifts, we were sure to sleep well that night.

*Pam Lacey,
27th Norwich Brownies*



The Builders have left the site!

Just a bit of snagging to complete on the new look Keswick Campsite hut, but doesn't it look good!

The next stage is to equip the hut. For this we have a wish list, available on the county Facebook page. We will be taking delivery of a wooden hut in the next couple of weeks, to be placed at the top of the campsite and to house all the camping equipment. It will also have some storage/preparation areas for people who are camping.

The October open morning went very well with lots of new and old faces coming to view the new building and what the campsite has to offer.

Look out for the official opening of the new Keswick hut in Spring 2020.

Karen Goldsworthy



Booking are now being taken for 2020, contact County Office.

Our next project is an online booking system. If anyone can help us, or knows someone who can, please get in touch. sprowstonguides@btinternet.com