



# The Blue *sheet*

Norfolk's guiding news

December 2022



[www.girlguidingnorfolk.org.uk](http://www.girlguidingnorfolk.org.uk)

## *Inside this issue:*

Remembering Our Patron

Gressenhall ♦ Bishop's Garden

Super Rainbows ♦ Camps and Holidays

Sandringham Flower Show ♦ Legoland



## What a lot has been happening over the county...

over the past few months! Many, many happy occasions when we have all revelled in being able to meet face to face again. Lots of these events are featured in this bumper edition so please read on. We must not forget the sadder time in September when we mourned the death of our beloved Girlguiding patron, Queen Elizabeth II. May she rest in peace.

Queen Elizabeth has featured in many of our activities this summer with the ARC's Royal Display touring the county and even going on display in CHQ in London. Well done to Helen Green, our county archivist and her hard-working team. Read how Helen paid her respects to Her Majesty on page 7.

Our links with royalty were also in evidence at the Sandringham Flower Show when Prince Charles (now King) unveiled the Sandringham Guides plaque (page 4). Only 2 years later than originally planned.

Lucy Mann had a great time playing her clarinet in the National Scout and Guide Symphony Orchestra (page 10). If you know anyone who loves music, plays an instrument and who might like to apply for the orchestra, a grant to help towards the costs is available from county.

Several units worked towards the Norfolk Platinum Jubilee Challenge Award (page 12) and were then presented with a lovely badge and certificate from a deputy lieutenant. The Challenge was run from the office of the Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk.

Talking of challenges, we have a new county challenge coming in 2023 to mark the coronation of King Charles. Look out for more details in the New Year.

I can tell you there will be a STEM theme and an Arts theme, so hopefully something for everyone!

To end, as I am fast running out of space, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families and friends a very merry Christmas and send you my very best wishes for 2023.

*Christine Martin*  
County Commissioner



*We'd love to hear  
your guiding stories.*

Please send any text and photos for the spring issue to:  
[bluesheet@girlguidingnorfolk.org.uk](mailto:bluesheet@girlguidingnorfolk.org.uk)

Deadline for next issue: 30th March 2023



# A Busy Year of Sleepovers and Camps

2nd Toftwood Brownies, 1st Shipdham Guides and Shipdham Rangers have had a busy year of sleepovers, holidays and camps.

**January** - High Altitude sleepover where we jumped to disco music until 10pm then having filled up on pizza and chips for tea and hot chocolate and biscuits for supper settled down well wrapped up on the trampolines for a few hours before waking up to more music and jumping before breakfast!

**March** - sleepover at Gt Hautbois House enjoying climbing, grass sledges, canoeing, abseiling, orienteering and a visit to the ARC to gain the time traveller badge.

**June** - 7am start to head to Legoland Windsor for a sleepover. We spent the day on the rides before a pizza tea, Lego time and settling down in the Reef for a nights sleep. After breakfast they had a Lego workshop to make a robot before enjoying a second

day of rides. The girls had a fantastic time and some said it was the best sleepover ever.

**July** - Guides and Rangers headed to Lincolnshire for the Poachers Scout and Guide Jamboree. The girls were kept busy from 9.30am until 10pm every day with activities including craft, skating, car driving, go karting, extreme jump, inflatables, zorbing on water and land, stilt walking. There were so many activities available we struggled to fit everything in. One of the Rangers had a really early start at 5am to go on a hot air balloon ride over Lincolnshire for a couple of hours something she says she will always remember from her guiding days. There were lunchtime displays, evening discos, cinema, fairground rides and a closing ceremony with fireworks. A very tired group of girls went home but parents said it didn't stop them talking non stop about their adventure.

**August** - a Ranger joined the 1940s camp at Gressenhall and the Poppy Line sleepover at the ARC. She was nervous joining the camp and didn't know if she wanted to stay but having made friends then didn't want to leave. Just shows what guiding can do for some girls as she can't wait for the next one and still messages the girls she met there.

**October** - Kingswood residential included climbing, archery, low ropes, leap of faith, frisbee golf, crate stacking, aeroball, nightline and quidditch before relaxing with a film and disco.

So a busy year with lots of badges earned and the chance for some to get all four badges in the County 4seasons sleepover challenge. We have an August Guide camp and a trip to EuroDisney planned for 2023 to complete the circle for some.

*Jo Constable*





## Sandringham Flower Show 2022

It was lovely to be invited to be on the Royal Route for the Sandringham Flower Show this year. Originally arranged for 2020, this was delayed due to the pandemic and the Show did not take place for two years. 2020 was an important year because it marked the Centenary of Sandringham Guides, formed in 1920 at the Queen Mary's request. So being unable to celebrate exactly 100 years later, we had to delay it!

We had a huge marquee to fill. Plans, which had begun three years previously, were amended and tweaked right up until the last minute. Thanks must go to our fantastic North West Norfolk Division team for all their work on this and to our wonderful ARC.

While we wanted to celebrate the history of the Sandringham unit, we also needed to showcase guiding as it is now and we wanted to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee year too.

We had one very special task to fit in. A beautiful wooden commemorative plaque celebrating 100 years of Sandringham Guides had been created by Scout member David Andrews, husband of Daphne, a long-time member of guiding, and father-in-law of Carla, leader of Sandringham Guides. We really wanted this to be unveiled by the (then) Prince of Wales and Duchess of Cornwall, but the show organisers were unable to confirm this was possible. So we took it along, set it up and crossed our fingers.

As you may know from a previous Blue Sheet, we managed to secure some old photographs and documents related to Sandringham Guides which appeared for sale online and we displayed these along with the tale of how we'd acquired them. The ARC also holds various items related to the unit and we were proud to display these too.

Current guiding was represented by girls in modern uniform, some interactive programme resources and large photographs of the current Sandringham Guides in action.

We are very grateful to our County Archivist, Helen Green, for bringing the Platinum Jubilee display. The Royal party were very interested in this and asked several questions, particularly about the uniform the Queen would have worn. Some of the current Sandringham Guides dressed up in 1950's uniform, to mark the year of the Queen's accession and looked really impressive, chatting to the Royal couple about their guiding experiences.

So - the big question! Was the plaque officially unveiled? The answer is YES!

As the (then) Prince of Wales approached the plaque on its stand, he was asked very politely if he would mind pulling the cord to reveal the plaque, which he kindly did straight away, seeming to be happy to do so. This was the icing on the cake for us and we have since had a small plate made noting the unveiling. The plan is for it to be displayed on Sandringham Estate once the new meeting place for Sandringham Guides has been confirmed.

That evening we were thrilled to be featured on Look East; some of the girls were interviewed and they did a brilliant job. We also made it into 'Hello!' magazine (8th August), great publicity.

All in all a very successful and enjoyable day.

*Linda Watkinson,  
Assistant County Commissioner*





# The Living History Camp at Gressenhall was back!

After a gap of three years, bell tents and a vintage marquee were pitched once again at Gressenhall Museum this summer. The camp, which has a growing reputation for bringing the history of the 1940s to life, was attended by 14 Guides and Rangers from Norfolk and beyond and focussed on the experiences of the late Queen who was both a Guide and a Sea Ranger.



Guides and Rangers in their modern 2022 uniforms arriving for the start of camp



One of Gressenhall's famous Suffolk Punch horses helped cart kit bags and bedding rolls to the site



Pitching bell tents in the rain - typically, about the only time there was wet weather in that drought-ridden summer



Learning to skin rabbits - the Sea Rangers tackle the job with a smile!



Learning how to create ringlets during our 1940s hairdressing session



Country dancing with Rodney Purdy provided an opportunity to swap uniforms for tea dresses



On parade in Sunday best uniforms during a special celebration in the Gressenhall Chapel hosted by our President, Carol Bundock



The Sea Rangers put on their overalls to learn the basics of motor mechanics - our Captain Helen Green got in on the act, of course!



Our QM Aileen Beck loved cooking in the farmhouse kitchen when the excessively dry weather prevented the use of open fires



Vintage car enthusiasts visited camp to teach the Guides and Rangers how to look after an engine and change a wheel



The 1940s grub always goes down a treat - especially cakes and puddings baked in the farmhouse oven



A new generation of leaders were learning the ropes this year -Eleanor and the two Emilys are still smiling outside the air raid shelter!



## IOW Ranger Joins 1940s Camp

I'm Tessa, a Ranger on the Isle of Wight. This is my experience of being a part of Norfolk's 1940s Living History camp.

When I heard there was an opportunity for my unit to come to Norfolk and join this camp, I immediately said 'yes'! It was going to be an experience I had never had before and I wanted to learn new skills to take back to the island and deliver to other girls. I was really excited but also nervous. I had never been to Norfolk and this was the furthest I had ever been with guiding, but I was happy that I had other Isle of Wight Rangers with me so that we could all support each other. We also had our leader with us who was a Girl Guide in Norfolk.

I really enjoyed the 1940s living camp because it was a chance to try new things, learn many new

skills and meet new leaders but the best thing was meeting new friends. I made loads of friends including Alanna, Olivia, Izzy, Erin and so many more people. It's really nice because I can catch up with them on Snapchat and Instagram and we can talk about how our guiding life is going.

I made many amazing memories during my time in Norfolk, including being given the chance to speak on Radio Norfolk about coming from the Isle of Wight, but my most amazing memory that I will keep for ever is being awarded my Tenderfoot at the end of camp, that I worked on throughout the 1940s week.

All together, I really loved my time in Norfolk and would love to come back soon.

*Tessa Bryson*



## QG Presentation

Being presented my Queen's Guide Award at Gressenhall was incredibly special to me. It felt fitting that the place I had attended for my Baden Powell Award nearly 15 years before would be the place I officially finish my Queen's Guide Award.

Gressenhall held an important role in my award, it allowed me to meet like-minded motivated young women, build my skills from being a participant to a leader and provide a supportive platform to complete different elements of my award.

Through Gressenhall I learned needlecraft skills (used in my Personal Development Section), how to chop wood and teach others to do the same (used in Service in Guiding Section 2), and it gave me the skills I then used to help organise an international virtual camp (used in Service in Guiding Section 4).

Most of all I appreciated the opportunity to come back and speak to the next generation of Guides about what the Queen's Guide Award is, and what can be achieved through it. Hopefully, in years to come, Gressenhall will continue to see many more Queen's Guides sleep under its canvas tents.

*Bex Smedley*



## SRS Echo Links

It felt very special having our older participants take on Sea Ranger roles, linking not only to HM the Queen but also to the Norwich Sea Ranger Unit, SRS Echo.

One of the ARC's extra-special treasures is an SRS Echo log book - so we were thrilled when two former unit members visited camp to share their memories.

*Chris Bond*



# Paying Our Respects to The Queen

The train to London was booked for Sunday 18th September so I could watch The Funeral with my 95-year old Mother but something was drawing me to 'The Queue'...

I caught the 3.30 train to London and contemplated going to Green Park to see and smell the masses of flowers, but at the same time I was still wondering how 'The Queue' was. The news said not to



join it because there was a chance not everyone would get in to Westminster Hall but it was really the wristband I was hoping for!

Arriving at the start of the queue, there was a notice saying 14 hours from here. It was a straight-forward, fairly lonely walk, with encouragement to walk faster as it was about to close. We received wristbands at 7pm near Tower Bridge, just as the sun was setting, for the last time on Her Majesty. It was so exciting to receive the wristband... but I was still not sure that I was actually going to do this - my steps for the day were already at 11,400!

A sympathetic volunteer said 'are you going to be OK', and offered me a blanket, a gorgeous one in red, white, and blue plaid. Perhaps I felt now I had to do it!

Many stories to tell of what happened over the next 10.5 hours, but in summary it was one of the most amazing things I have ever done and now I have even more friends for life!

At 4.30am I entered Westminster hall wearing my uniform, turned to pay my last respects, saluted

Her Majesty and thanked her on behalf of guiding.

I will never forget the experience; thank you to those encouraging and supporting me by phone!! I had to giggle that my daughters were so worried all night long! Old lady in London, in the dark, by herself, they said.... payback time I replied! But actually it was an amazingly peaceful experience. I will always be proud to have achieved it, 32K steps by the time I actually reached Mum's, ready to watch The Funeral.

It also seemed the perfect ending to what had been a summer of 'royalness' from Beacon Lighting on the 2nd June, enjoying the Platinum Pageant in front of the Palace, taking the ARC's royal exhibition out and about for hundreds of all ages to enjoy, meeting Prince Charles at Sandringham, to joining the pilgrimage just hours before the funeral. All because I am a member of Girlguiding. Forever grateful and a highlight of a lifetime, for sure.

*Helen Green, County Archivist*



## Paula - Royal Impersonator

Oh dear, last spring I became one of those who "said 'yes' to Helen"!

Having heard me read in Dereham Church, Helen remarked that I sounded like The Queen and asked if I be willing to come to the Patteson Lodge Jubilee celebrations as Her Majesty? Of course I agreed and duly turned up on the day, with posh hat, handbag and toy Corgi. The reactions of children and adults were interesting! Everyone over the age of seven or so, entered into the spirit of the occasion and curtsied to me, called me Ma'am and wanted a photo with me. The younger children, however, didn't quite know what to make of me - was I really The Queen or not? It was all great fun!

Helen obviously thought it went well and invited 'Her Majesty' to visit the 1940s camp at Gressenhall, accompanied by a Corgi and my 'Equerry' (aka Ted). We were made most welcome, given afternoon tea, and shown around the camp. My Equerry was particularly impressed by the authenticity of uniforms and activities and enjoyed talking to the girls.

Of course, my career as a Royal impersonator was shortly to be drawn to an end by the sad death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, but it was fun while it lasted!

*Paula Hewitt*





## Royal Display Boards

The ARC's royal display boards have been clocking up the miles. Not only have they been viewed by HM King Charles and Camilla, Queen Consort at the Sandringham Flower Show, they have also been enjoyed at Gressenhall, Sheringham, Heritage Open Days at the ARC, Foxlease Heritage Week and by numerous guiding units.

The royal albums have also been sent far and wide and the ARC were especially delighted to receive correspondence from Windsor Castle in July which indicated The Queen had enjoyed reading her copy!



## Super Rainbows

Super Rainbows was a Girlguiding Anglia event with over 5000 Rainbows taking part. Packs were sent to units which included a range of activities from bootcamp exercise, to making our own code keyring, planting cress to learning about Rainbows in other countries and making our favourite food from playdough.

31st Norwich Rainbows held a special Super Rainbows day which finished with a workshop from Mad Science Norfolk! All the Rainbows went home with lots of goodies including their Super Rainbow badge! We've been so busy and had so much fun at our special Super Rainbow Event!

*Cheryl Glinwell, 31st Norwich Rainbows*



## Legoland Sleepover

In October Brownies and leaders from Spixworth Brownies joined with two other Brownie units from Old Catton to spend two days at Legoland Windsor.

We travelled by coach arriving Saturday lunchtime, before spending the afternoon in the park, where the Brownies spent most of the time trying to get the leaders on the rides with them!! In the evening we had a special viewing of the Halloween themed 4D movie before having pizza and sleeping in the park in the Education Centre.

After breakfast on Sunday morning, we attended a Robotics workshop where we used Lego and a special computer programme to make a robot that moved and made noises. After a morning in the park, with more rides, we made the trip back to Old Catton.

The Brownies and leaders had a fantastic weekend, I think the highlight was swapping Legoland pop badges with members of the Legoland staff and each other.

A massive thank you goes to Kelly Davy at 1st Old Catton Brownies for arranging the trip.

*Vicky Wardrope, 2nd Spixworth Brownies*





## Dersingham Camp

This summer, 1st Dersingham Guides were finally able to enjoy a summer camp together at Eaton Vale Activity Centre. Since September 2021, the Guides have been on sleepovers, but this was the first multi-night residential since 2019. The Guides enjoyed a mixture of traditional camping skills combined with glamping, crafts, adventurous activities and campfire.

The Guides camped in the Tented Village - a mix of giant tents and cabins with bunk beds inside - but these still needed to be kept tidy with Inspection (anytime of the day!) for Patrol Points.

The first activity was to build a washing up stand from eight poles, bamboo canes, string and teamwork. Despite a stand collapsing everyone stayed dry! Throughout camp, patrols had different duties to perform; helping to prepare the meals, checking the water carriers or providing a colour party for the flag.

Camp always has a theme which links to patrol names, activities and badges. This year was 'Under the Sea' and everyone gained the Crab Challenge badge. Did you know there is a Mosaic crab? We made mosaic coasters, had strawberry pavlova to honour the Strawberry Hermit Crab and, as crabs communicate by drumming, the Guides were challenged to create music with Boom whackers.

Eaton Vale provides the opportunity to take part in a wide variety of adventurous activities. The Guides enjoyed archery, climbing, crate stacking and canoeing. On the second evening, they built giant buggies using poles and barrels - they look and work a bit like the Flintstones car - although steering was a bit of problem. On the final morning, after the rain had stopped, the Guides raced around on the pedal go-karts and completed the new obstacle course.

We held a campfire with plenty of singing and toasting of marshmallows before games including many rounds of bingo which became very competitive! There was also a thrill at bedtime when one of the Guides spotted the ground moving. We all crowded around and eventually a mole appeared!

It was fantastic to enjoy Guide camp again. We are already looking to the next one!

*Lynne Wheeler, 1st Dersingham Guides*



## Tree Planting

The 3rd Oulton Rainbows, Brownies and Guides planted a tree at Oulton Park care centre as part of the Queen's green canopy and in memory of her. A plaque was put in front of tree.

Also the Brownies and Guides went to the local fire station, a good night had by all.

*Pat Whittaker*





# The National Scout and Guide Symphony Orchestra



During the summer I was lucky to have the opportunity to play clarinet in the National Scout and Guide Symphony Orchestra (NSGSO) residential alongside the Concert Band (NSGCB) in Birmingham. I was super excited to attend especially after a three year wait due to Covid and how much I had enjoyed previous Concert Band courses in 2018 and 2019.

The best thing about this week is that you get to share the love of music with other Guides and Scouts from around the UK and as a result you make so many memories and friends for life.

The week is super busy but fun, with typically eight hours of rehearsals a day split between full rehearsals, sectionals with

specialist tutors and evening activities. There is one main afternoon of activities which includes climbing, kayaking, archery, team building or escape rooms. The week finishes with two concerts at prestigious venues. This year was extra special as we performed our first ever joint concert at Coventry Cathedral as part of the City of Culture and at Birmingham Conservatoire.

NSGSO and NSGCB is open to any Guides or Scouts aged between 12-25. If you play an instrument I really recommend you apply! The Orchestra requires a minimum of grade 5 and Concert Band requires grade 4, however the more band/orchestral experience you have is a definite

plus. If you're unsure which group to apply for, the orchestra plays classical music - this year we played Scheherazade by Rimsky Korsakov and Tintagel by Bax and has two concerts at the end of the week. Concert band plays more popular, pop, jazz or march music and performs as guests at the Orchestra's concert, has its own individual daytime concert and traditionally plays at a local steam railway station. Having been in both ensembles I can say they are just as fun!

To find out more about the opportunities and to apply visit <https://nsgso-nsgcb.com/>

*Lucy Mann*



## Christmas Craft Day

24 girls from 1st Toftwood Brownies recently took part in a Christmas themed activity day. With Christmas music playing, the Brownies completed a number of festive craft activities. These included a snowman countdown til Christmas, glittery light up jar, paper decorations and toilet roll gonk.

At lunch time everyone sat down and pulled crackers; it was great for the Brownies to come together for this festive occasion.

At the end of the event each Brownie got to take away a special Christmas themed badge to sew onto their camp blankets.

*Katie Theobald,  
1st Toftwood Brownies*





## Queen's Oak at Patteson Lodge

The Friends of Patteson Lodge held their annual afternoon tea party in November. A fantastic selection of sandwiches alongside the delicious scones and cakes were enjoyed by around 50 people.

Following several loud claps of thunder, torrential rain and seeing a wonderful rainbow, we all went outside to plant two commemorative trees.

The Friends purchased a lovely red acer to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Patteson Lodge. This was planted beside the driveway.

Girlguiding Norfolk planted a wonderful evergreen oak to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and also in memory of our much loved patron.

We are looking forward to seeing these grow and flourish!

Many thanks to Soane Signs for printing the plaques free of charge!

*Sharron Hunt,  
Patteson Lodge Estate Manager*



## Helping the Food Bank

25 members of 1st Toftwood Brownies excitedly headed to Morrisons in Dereham for their weekly meeting. With the help of Morrisons Community Champion Leanne Jarman, they had the opportunity to make their own pizzas. The Brownies also contacted the local food bank to find out which items were most needed to help local people. Then, armed with shopping lists and calculators, they took to the aisles with their shopping trolleys. They managed to buy 85 items in total, including a number of Christmas puddings, coming in just under budget.

A big thank you to Morrisons and Leanne for providing the Brownies with this opportunity.

*Katie Theobald,  
1st Toftwood Brownies*





# Norfolk Jubilee Challenge Awards

*The purpose of the challenge was to work towards a Queen's Platinum Jubilee Challenge Badge. Receiving this badge (and a certificate) indicated the individual contribution of a person towards recognising Queen Elizabeth during her Platinum Jubilee year for all that she did for us.*



Over several summer months, 20th Norwich Brownies worked towards the Norfolk Jubilee Challenge badge. There were four sections to the challenge with the group deciding what level of challenge they would take on, thus ensuring that this was really for anyone and everyone.

## 1) Being active in Norfolk - the physical challenge.

Some of the activities were visiting Fairhaven Gardens, exploring Keswick campsite, fossil hunting, the GoGo Dinosaur Trail, Whitlingham walk, Wroxham and a river trip on The Broads.

## 2) Protecting our environment - the sustainability challenge.

The Brownies cleaned the six planters which stand outside the Church of the Good Shepherd before planting them with red, white and blue flowering plants. To ensure a lovely display all through the summer they were watered regularly and will now be replaced with winter bulbs and pansies.

## 3) Learning legacy - the learning challenge

For this challenge the girls learnt about the royal guiding history. Did you know that HM The late Queen was a member of guiding, not only as our Patron, but during her childhood at Buckingham Palace and Sandringham. The Sandringham log book and memorabilia, along with a display, are housed at the Girlguiding Norfolk Archive Centre. The girls all gained their Royal Time Traveller Badge.

## 4) Celebrating the Jubilee

Girlguiding Thorpe celebrated the Platinum Jubilee at Keswick Campsite. Rainbows, Brownies and Guides participated in activities with royal connections and enjoyed a picnic and campfire. Three members of Thorpe were represented at the Royal Norfolk Show's Royal Salute; a leader was helping a group of Scouts and Guides and a Brownie



and Guide were carrying flags in the pageant.

The Challenge Badge - An enamel lapel badge incorporating the Platinum Jubilee emblem was awarded with a commemorative certificate.

All the participants received their badge and certificate from Mr Patrick Peal MBE, DL of Norfolk when he visited the Brownie meeting in October.

Mr Peal told the girls about his role of Deputy Lieutenant in Norfolk and showed his badge of honour which he was wearing as the representative of HM King Charles.

We are very proud of the Brownies gaining this special award. All Brownies and leaders gained self-reliance, self-confidence, and a sense of achievement while celebrating the Queen's extraordinary life-long achievements.

*Christine Cutting, 20th Norwich Brownies*

## The Discovery Award

This is an award for the 50+ and is open to all, regardless of status, state of health and level of ability. So if you would like to accept an exciting and rewarding challenge, this Award is for YOU!

What is the challenge? To discover: new strengths and hidden talents, new interests, or new life in old ones, new and interesting people, the satisfaction of helping others, the joy of unexpected achievement.

There are four levels:

Bronze, Silver, Gold and Gold+ - all levels are divided into four sections: Service in the community, Hobby or interest, Recreational Pursuit and Journey of Discovery which does not have to be a physical journey. You can travel anywhere, in your mind at home in the comfort of your armchair, through books, pictures, or the internet.

If you wish to know more about this award please contact Christine Cutting on [cutting248@btinternet.com](mailto:cutting248@btinternet.com) or by phoning on 01603 432274.

She also runs a local group who usually meet termly either face to face or on Zoom.



## Saxlingham Nethergate News

Members of 43rd Saxlingham Nethergate Rainbows and Brownies were proud to receive their Norfolk Platinum Jubilee Challenge certificates, well done everyone!

We also awarded a silver section award to one of our Rainbows and created our poppy display for Remembrance Day.

*Helen Pye, 43rd Saxlingham Nethergate Rainbows*



## Happy Birthday!

We at 1st Tilney St Lawrence Rainbows and Brownies have had a very special birthday and we wanted to share it with you.

Our Brownie group turned 40 in July and our Rainbow group 30 in September. To celebrate we had a party for all of our current members. The Wisbech Lions club kindly donated so that we could treat the members and they had a great time. The Brownies helped to plan and organise the event using one of the activities from the guiding programme. We enjoyed games and a disco as well as pizza and cake.

*Katy Watts, 1st Tilney St Lawrence Rainbows and Brownies*



## Super Rainbows

4th Norwich Rainbows had a 'super' time completing the activities in their 'Super Rainbows' boxes, put together by Girlguiding Anglia.

The Rainbows played bingo, made super snacks from playdoh, grew cress and especially enjoyed creating their special code bracelets. And, of course, the badge!





## Outdoor Brownies

38th Norwich Brownies have been taking part in the Camp stage 2 skills builder badge this term. We have enjoyed learning about camping, what to pack and how to put up a tent.

We completed the badge with a fun evening at Eaton Vale doing backwards cooking which the Brownies loved!

*Sam Hubbard,  
38th Norwich Brownies*



## Sewing Skills for Sprowston

We wanted the Guides to learn to use sewing machines and knew that we'd never be able to afford to buy them. John, a local Councillor, made me aware that he has a grant for charities and community groups and so we outlined some different things we could really benefit from. Our ideas were for craft items, items for father's day and sewing machines and a cricut machine. We thought that some craft items would be agreed and never believed he would buy the sewing machines, but a few weeks later we were amazed to read that John wanted to support us in the purchase of the sewing machines and cricut machine.

The Guides have been using their new sewing machines to create bunting ready to celebrate the King's Coronation.

It was great showing them how the machines worked and letting them use their new found skills, which we'll be able to do over many more years.

*Emma Gooch, 1st Sprowston Guides*



## New Camp Skills

Members of 9th Norwich Guides and Rangers had a great camp at Keswick! We completed two skills builder badges and learned lots of new camp skills, for many of us it was our first outdoor camp in a tent and we're looking forward to our next!

*Cheryl Glinwell, 9th Norwich Guides*



## Christmas Badges

This year's Christmas badge is selling fast, orders yours from the County online shop before they sell out.

Check out the shop page on the Girlguiding Norfolk website for these and other available badges.





## Bishop's Open Garden, Norwich Cathedral

Late in 2021, the Catton District Commissioner heard that the Bishop of Norwich had awarded their District the opportunity to host one of his charity open garden event days in July 2022 - what an honour!

She rallied the troops, accepted the challenge and a task force team was assembled to organise the event.

In July, after much planning and deliberation, the event went ahead in full swing despite the heat and was enjoyed by all.

The children hunted round the garden to find Olivia and Hoot (and other friends) on the teddy bear trail and raced back to get their prize. The guests meandered the shaded paths, followed their nose to the curry tree and traversed the jungle walk. They stopped at the selfie station to mark the day then dived into the Royal display with activities provided by the ARC team (under the welcome shade of a big tree!).

Refreshments were served by a willing team of volunteers with

home bakes and scones all well received. A raffle, tombola, fayre games and stalls dotted the edge of the lawn and visitors could relax and listen to Taverham Brass Band playing jaunty tunes throughout the afternoon. A future Rainbow enjoyed the games and also hunting for Hoot!

A beautiful day, a fantastic event, and over £1100 was raised for future adventures of Girlguiding Catton District. Thank you to all the volunteers who made this event possible.



## Climbing at Hautbois

4th Wymondham Guides had a great evening on the climbing walls at Hautbois, followed by delicious hot dogs and hot chocolate before the bonfire.

We all enjoyed this event!

*Sue Edes,  
4th Wymondham  
Guides*





## Poppyline

Poppyline was my first experience of 1940s guiding. It was lots of fun to dress up and we got loads of compliments about our uniform from members of the public (even if it was quite difficult to keep our hats on in the wind). We took part in a wide game and finding messages in cotton reels.

What a great way to see Sheringham and learn more about Girlguiding's involvement in the war.

*Sophie Ridge-Ahmed*

Poppyline, a weekend to never forget. There's no camp like it- taking the steam train down to Sheringham, dressed traditionally in blue dresses and red hair ribbons.

Unforgettable memories and unbreakable friendships made - the camp is the epitome of guiding! Learning all about the life of a 40s girl and the Guides's war efforts, whilst having the time of our lives and earning badges!

This camp is for the most committed Guides - to learn about guiding history and, most importantly, to have fun!

*Alanna*



### Leslie Swindells' Horticulture, Arboriculture and Floristry Bursaries

Due to a generous legacy from Mrs Leslie Swindells, Girlguiding Norfolk has created a number of small bursaries available on application by any GGN member between the ages of 16-30. Applicants need to demonstrate a clear relevance to vocational study of horticulture, arboriculture or floristry.

Mrs Swindells was a former guiding leader, commissioner and county vice president. She followed a career in gardening and horticulture and had a lifelong interest in the natural world.

Application form is available from the GGN website.