

Media Release: International Women's Day

Girl Guides NSW & ACT



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 8 March 2018

Girl Guides a perfect match with International Women's Day Australia theme - 'leave no woman behind'

International Women's Day– 8 March 2018

The Girl Guides (GG) movement is a perfect match with this year's International Women's Day (IWD) Australia theme '[leave no woman behind](#)' said State Commissioner, Girl Guides NSW & ACT, Sarah Neill today.

"Although this year's IWD theme is focused on humanitarian and disaster situations, it resonates throughout the Guiding movement, because we train girls to deal with many situations, including emergencies, though careful planning, education and physical activity," she said.

"The Guiding movement ultimately helps create strong female leaders by providing opportunities to learn new skills and take part in activities that build confidence, self-esteem, team work and community spirit. By learning skills like communication, collaboration, creativity and commitment, they influence their environment," said Neill.

Neill is testimony to International Women's Day and the Girl Guides movement, having been involved in Guiding and helping young women for many years, all whilst being a busy mother and running her own business.

Her commitment to helping young women is also personal, she has Guide daughters who are further testimony that women do not need to be left behind, in any situation.

"My daughters are living proof of the success of Guiding and training women to be leaders. Kelly (34), my eldest daughter, completed her Queen's Guide and now, she's an economist and a PhD candidate, researching the natural gas market. Julie (32) began her Guiding life as a Gumnut, and became a Senior Guide Leader, in conjunction with a proud career in nursing," she said.

"Like me, they remember their Guiding experiences, past and present, with great fondness—camping in volatile weather, working towards a prestigious badge, or connecting with Guides from far-flung places, building a bank of indispensable skills that have transferred to their adulthood.

"Those early morning starts, hours of painstaking planning, and unforgettable moments embracing the Guiding movement here and beyond, have gifted them with coping mechanisms in the most challenging of environments. Ultimately, Guiding imbues girls with self-confidence and belief in their abilities as girls, as women and invaluable citizens of the community and the greater world," said Neill.

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Neill and other members of Girl Guides NSW & ACT will attend the International Women's Day breakfast in Sydney tomorrow, to be held at the new International Convention Centre, Darling Harbour.

To find out more about Guiding, where Guides meet near you and express interest in joining go to girlguides-nswact.org.au or phone 1300 447 548.

ENDS

For media inquiries and interviews with Sarah Neill please contact Jamie Shephard on 0488 085 578 or Sharon Kelly on 0414 780 077

Girl Guides NSW & ACT empowers girls and young women to grow into confident, self-respecting, responsible community members.