"everyone belongs"

Harmony Day
Program Ideas
Board Member Nominations
Upcoming Events
Foreword
from the State Team...
Connecting girls, inspiring futures is the theme for International Women’s Day (IWD) 2012. There are many great ways to connect girls in Guiding, whether it is at a local level, across your Region or at a State event. March is a lovely time to be out and about with other Guide Units or with community members at a Clean Up Australia site, an IWD event, Earth Hour or one of the Girl Guides NSW & ACT events. There are events for Guides of all ages with WAGGGS Party Time, Regatta, Trainings and the Region Leaders weekend. Senior Guides and OPs will connect with their peers at the Wild West Regatta. Many friendships will be reignited and new ones made. For Leaders events such as Regatta, Trainings and WAGGGS Party Time provide avenues for us to have a chat and inspire each other.

Luisa, Joanne and I very much look forward to meeting up with you again particularly at WAGGGS Party Time. With all the rain the Australian Botanic Garden at Mount Annan is looking fabulous. I look forward to seeing how much the trees we planted in 2010 and 2011 have grown. The trees will form a koala corridor in the future. This year there will be some of the old favourites and lots of new activities with amazing prizes to be won on the day.

I would like to thank the Leaders who took the time to compliment the Communications team on the February edition of The Waratah. The program pages were particularly well received. This month the program ideas follow the theme of Harmony Day and Belongs which indeed they do in Guiding. To celebrate Harmony Day, you can join together with your Guiding friends and tune into the Girl Guides Australia Promise and Law review webinar.

I attended the Girl Guides Australia Board meeting in Melbourne in February where we were updated on the Learning and Development Needs analysis project. The next stage of this exciting project is the Leader Survey. To ensure Guiding provides quality Learning and Development Programs into the future, your views are important, please take the time to fill out the Leader survey on GGA website.

In February Linda, Joanne, Luisa and I were delighted to visit Central West Region to meet with the Leaders and share their successes and listen to their goals for 2012 and beyond. I was also inspired at the OP conference as I listened to the great ways the OPs are contributing to Guiding and the community and to meet our future Leaders.

The redevelopment of Glengarry is progressing slowly due to the conditions of the Development Application (DA) imposed by Ku-ring-gai Council. The project started with the upgrade of the kitchen to a modern facility meeting the needs of Guiding in the future. The kitchen renovations (DA) triggered the need for extensive environmental and fire protection work to Glengarry House and the property. This work will be carried out during second half of 2012.

Belinda Allen

WAGGGS Party Time

Prime Minister’s Olympic and Paralympic Challenges

In the lead up to the London Olympic and Paralympic Games, the Australian Government will be conducting the Prime Minister’s Olympic and Paralympic Challenges to encourage Australian primary school aged children to participate in sport.

This is an Australian Government initiative, working in partnership with the Olympic Committees. The challenges will run from 28 May 2012 until the close of the Olympics on 12 August and 9 September.

They aim to increase the awareness of benefits of sport, while promoting values such as inclusion, fair play and sportsmanship.

Children aged between five and 12 will be able to participate individually or as part of a group. Each child and group will accumulate points which go towards Gold, Silver and Bronze awards based on level of participation. Prizes of sporting equipment and visits from athletes will be awarded.


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“everyone belongs” notes from our archives
Musters (now Jamborees) - from as early as 1968 with the 2nd Muster at Lismore there has usually been an overseas contingent, often from Papua New Guinea (when they didn’t wear shoes!) and New Zealand.

During World War II, a group of girls from Croker Island (off the coast of Darwin) made their way down through the centre of Australia and up to the Illawara area where they were befriended by some Girl Guides and even became their own Guide company!

TUI 12 – Jamboree Facts

• 2700 people at the TUI 12 NZ Jamboree
• 58 of these were Australian Girl Guides
• 18 of these were from NSW & ACT

dates for the diary

The Board of Girl Guides NSW & ACT invites Members and friends to attend the Girl Guides NSW & ACT Annual General Meeting at Glengarry House 2pm Saturday May 28 2012. RSVP to Marisa: stateteam@girlguides-nswact.org.au, 02 8396 5200

Girl Guides NSW & ACT invites Adult Members to attend The State Forum at Glengarry House Saturday May 28 2012. Registration opens at 9:30 am

E-News
Are you receiving the weekly E-News from Guide House?
Email communications@girlguides-nswact.org.au to ensure we have your current email address.

websites
www.girlguides-nswact.org.au
web: www.girlguides-nswact.org.au
email: guides@girlguides-nswact.org.au
web: www.girlguides-nswact.org.au
email: communications@girlguides-nswact.org.au.

Deadlines
If you would like to be published in the April 2012 edition of the Waratah please send your contribution to us no later than 9 March.

Thank you for the photos and articles that are sent through each month.

Girl Guides NSW & ACT reserves the right to edit or refuse articles or advertisements from any source.

WA12 02 © Girl Guides NSW & ACT February 2012

WAGGGS Party Time, Trainings and other events for Girl Guides NSW & ACT. March is a lovely time to be out and about with many great ways to connect girls in Guiding, whether it is at a local level, across your Region or at a State event. March is a lovely time to be out and about with other Guide Units or with community members at a Clean Up Australia site, an IWD event, Earth Hour or one of the Girl Guides NSW & ACT events. There are events for Guides of all ages with WAGGGS Party Time, Regatta, Trainings and the Region Leaders weekend.

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Staff Changes
Andrew Teh, our Business Operations Manager, left the Association at the beginning of February and we are about to appoint a successor. I wish Andrew every success. Thanks to everyone for being patient with the Accounts staff.

Mary Nunan has joined as a Membership Development Officer to finish off our Sydney-based team. We are about to recruit the Region-based MOOs.

National Developments
On 3 and 4 February I attended the meeting of the Australian Managers Team (the State SEOs and the National Managers) which met together with the Directors of the Board of Girl Guides Australia.

Girl Guides NSW & ACT has offered to fund a Business Development Manager to develop new sources of income for the National Organisation as well as NSW and ACT. I regard this as vital for Guiding because the movement needs a properly resourced national office, and Quota (the amount each member contributes in fees to the national organisation as part of membership payments) is now $20 for Girls and Adults.

It was a great opportunity to exchange practical tips on a wide range of topics – IT, grants, property, risk and insurance, retail - and find out the latest on events such as FantASTic.

At the beginning of February the Girl Guides Australia Board and Management Team met in Melbourne to discuss a range of topics and plan the year ahead. It was a good opportunity for the leadership team to work together on important issues for Guiding across Australia.

One item on the agenda was the learning and development review that is currently being undertaken. Girl Guides Australia has engaged Kim Parish to review our approach to meeting learning and development objectives for Leaders. I would strongly encourage you to have your say about the Australian Adult Leadership Program (AALP).

The key survey is now available at: https://www.research.net/s/learningdevelopment-leaders

The survey will take between 10 to 25 minutes to complete and your responses are anonymous. Your survey needs to be completed by 11 March 2012. This is your chance to influence the outcome of the review and make sure what we do in Guiding continues to meet the needs of current and future Leaders! If Guiding has happy, supported and informed Leaders we can continue to deliver amazing opportunities for girls.

In mid-March, the Asia Pacific Regional Committee meeting is being held in Perth Western Australia. Guiding will welcome Asia Pacific Region and WAGGGS representatives and a full week of meetings and events.

...from Guide House

Chief Commissioner says

are scheduled. A special thank you to Brenda Hamlett, Commission, Commissioner Asia Pacific Region Australia and her team for all the work they are doing to ensure the success of the week.

On 21 March, Harmony Day will be celebrated across Australia and the message is ‘Everyone Belongs’. The focus this year is on sport and the role it plays in bringing everyone together. We know that Guiding across the world also links people together and we should continue to focus on this within our own communities. More information can be obtained by looking up www.harmony.gov.au.

On the evening of Harmony Day you are invited to join a webinar to celebrate the Day and hear about the results of the Promise and Law Review. Read more about the webinar in this newsletter and I hope lots of people are able to join in.

Hope sees the impossible, feels the intangible and achieves the impossible.

Charles Caleb Colton

Board Member Nominations

Why should you Nominate and Vote in Board Elections

The Board of your Association is an important decision-making body which provides direction for the organisation and oversees the management of Girl Guides NSW & ACT. The Board includes nine Members who are appointed by and from the Adult Members of the Association together with up to three co-opted Members who are invited to join the Board to provide specific skills. The elected Board Members should be drawn from a cross section of the adult membership and by definition are required to act in the best interests of all members of the Association.

Elected Members of the Board will have varying years and types of experience in Guiding. This is valuable, however, we also look for the Board Members to contribute an extensive list of skills. Newly elected Board Members will receive a full induction program detailing the responsibilities and obligations of all Board Members, and the strategic direction and activities of the Board. They will have the support of an existing Board Members as their buddy. Board members are expected to review Board papers and attend Board Meetings at Guide House from 5.45pm on the first Thursday of each month from February to December.

There will also be the opportunity to participate in specific Committees of the Board (usually by teleconference) and attendance at any additional meetings during the year may be required, including one weekend meeting usually in January. Board Members may claim some travel and accommodation expenses associated with attending the meeting. Details of the Constitution of the Girl Guides Association can be obtained on the Girl Guides NSW & ACT website for full details of the obligations of Board members and conditions applying to the election of the Board.

In accordance with the Constitution, three Members are to be elected to the Board in May 2012.

The constitutional requirement contained in clause 7.2 (2) that one Member of the Board be under 30 is met by the continuing membership of the Board, however nominations from all age groups is strongly encouraged.

Who should be nominated?

The nominee must be a current Adult Member of Girl Guides NSW & ACT and must have been a Member for at least three years. The nominee needs to have a passion for Guiding and be keen to contribute to decision-making in the best interests of the organisation. You can nominate a colleague OR if you are keen to serve, ask a colleague to nominate you!

How to make a nomination

The nomination must be made by a current Adult Member of Girl Guides NSW & ACT:

Consider the skills your potential nominee has to contribute to the Board.

Discuss the proposed nomination and what it entails with the potential nominee and obtain their consent to stand.

Nomination forms are included with this edition of the Waratah and are available via the Members section of the Girl Guides NSW & ACT website, or from the State Team PA at Guide House.

If you are nominated

Complete the Declaration, Positions Held as an Adult Leader and Statement sections of the form. The Statement must contain no more than 200 words and it is important that this section outlines the business, work and life skills you will bring to the Board and also what you hope to achieve by your election to the Board. Attach or send an electronic photo.

Lodging the Nomination:

Forward the form in an envelope marked Confidential to: State Executive Officer
Girl Guides NSW & ACT
Locked Bag 950
STRAWBERRY HILLS NSW 2012

Applications close March 23 2012. If you have any questions about the process, please contact the State Commissioner at sc@girlguides-nswact.org.au or contact Guide House on 1300 Girl Guides.

Election process

It is a sign of a healthy organisation if an election is required to fill the vacant Board positions. Ballot papers will be distributed by post to all Members on or before the 06 April 2012. The accompanying information will show each nominee’s photo, name, date of birth (if under 30), the name of the nominator, the nominee’s list of previous positions held in Guiding as an adult and the Statement of skills and vision for Guiding as presented by the nominee. All votes must be received by post by 25th May 2012. All Adult Members as at 25th May 2012 will be entitled to one vote.

Results of the election

The result of the election will be declared at the Annual General Meeting on Saturday May 26 2012. The newly elected Board will take office at the end of the Annual General Meeting.

Linda Latham
State Executive Officer
seo@girlguides-nswact.org.au

Helen Geard
Chief Commissioner
helen.geard@bigpond.com

Edition 02 | March 2012
Erin Hambly, Girl Guides NSW & ACT’s Events Manager, is attending four Jamborees in 12 months around the world and Australia. New Zealand marked the first stop, and we thought you’d like to read Erin’s postcards from Tui 12 Jamboree in Rotorua...

I’m having a great time soaking up the wonderful performances, visiting villages, and learning Maori heritage – we’ve been watching cultural Nights are just as packed with campfires, rehearsing plays and making costumes, rifle shooting, flying... I can’t believe that tomorrow we’ll be dismantling best things about being a Guide. Now I’ve discovered the Ranger Section was whisked away on three... yesterday we set up our new Guiding Town on the amazing international event! I’m looking forward to contributing to the whole camp’s ‘act of service’ to the town of Rotorua. We’re working together to clean... I can’t wait for my next Jamboree!

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Rich Rabbit, Poor Rabbit

Extreme poverty is defined by the United Nations (UN) as living on less than one dollar per day. Allow the girls to explore what poverty means by setting up a ‘shopping centre’ – create three shop tables – for example, a greengrocer, a cake shop, and a toy shop. Display pictures of the goods you would be able to purchase from each shop, and label them with prices (between one and three beads per item). Divide the girls into two groups. One group is the rich rabbits; the other the poor rabbits. Give each member of the rich rabbits 20 beads each, and each member of the poor rabbits one bead. Ask all the rabbits to hop around and go shopping. Then get the two groups to swap roles and play again. Discuss the experience afterwards – what did it feel like to be a rich rabbit and a poor rabbit?

(Adapted from Together We Can, Girlguiding UK.)

Harmony Day Clickety Clack - cut out (or photocopy & cut out) the below. For more instructions see: www.harmony.gov.au/_docs/clickity-clack.pdf

1. How many different languages are spoken in Australian homes?
2. How many home languages are spoken in your home?
3. Which top ten countries have Australian migrants come from?
4. How many migrants have made Australia their home since 1950?
5. How many religions are Australians identify with?
6. How many different cultures are there in Australia?
7. How many countries are there in Australia?
8. How many people live in Australia?
9. How many people speak English as their first language?
10. How much money is the average Australian household earn?

**Answer:**
6. More than 100 religions
7. More than 130 countries
8. More than 20 million
9. More than six and a half million
10. More than $50,000
Harmony and Diversity discussion
What is harmony? What is diversity? What are some examples of harmony in nature/in the world? What are some of the ways that people can be different from each other? What things make us the same?

Borrowed words
Compile a list of words commonly used in English that have been borrowed from other languages.

Where does your name come from?
Research the cultural origins of your first and last names. Do they have a meaning or story? Are there variations of your name in other languages.

Dinner last night
Do a survey of what everyone had for dinner last night. Investigate the origins of all the dishes.

Relax
Try some methods of relaxation that are practised in Australia (eg Tai Chi, yoga, meditation). What is their origin?

My groups
List all the groups to which you belong eg team, family, friendship group, hobby.

Places of worship
Find out how many different places of worship there are in your community. Who worships there?

Special Guest
Invite parents or friends from another country to come and talk about life in their country of origin and how they have assimilated to Australian culture. Ask them to bring special costumes or artefacts that may have a special religious or cultural meaning.

Help Children See Each Of Us Is Unique!
Use an inkpad to have each Guide make a thumbprint in the centre of a piece of construction paper. Then, use a magnifying glass to examine everyone’s thumbprints. How are they alike? How are they different?

Next, have everyone use coloured pencils or textas to add to and draw around the thumbprints to create unique thumbprint animals.

Discuss: Even though we’re all people, (or part of the same family) our fingerprints are different. And, each of us probably thought of and drew a different thumbprint imaginary animal. In some ways, people are all alike – and yet in others, we’re all unique. We look different, think differently, and act differently.

(Adapted from http://www.kidactivities.net/)

Guiding Uniforms around the world
Cut out a simple silhouette of a girl from cardboard (one per patrol or per girl, for either a group or individual activity). Assign each Guide or Patrol a country and ask them to research the Guide uniform in that country and then dress their doll accordingly. They could draw the uniform on and colour it in, or you could provide fabric scraps to make the uniform.

Some suggested countries are: Ghana, Ivory Coast, Russia, Canada, India, France, South Africa, Philippines, Japan, Thailand, Vietnam, Hong Kong, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, United Kingdom, Iceland, Turkey, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and New Zealand.

Greetings
In many Western cultures, we take the handshake for granted as a greeting – or perhaps a simple ‘hello’ or a kiss on the cheek for someone you know well. In Guadeloupe we all know about our left-handed handshake. Here are some other greeting gestures that your Guides can practise!

In Asian cultures (particularly China, Korea, Taiwan, Japan and Hong Kong) it is customary to bow – lowering the head and torso – in greeting.

In India, it is customary to bring the palms together in front of the chest (fingers pointing upwards) and bow the head slightly in a gesture referred to as Anjali Mudra. The word ‘Namaste’ may be spoken with this greeting, or the gesture used alone. The same gesture is used in Nepal, with younger people initiating the gesture with their elders.

In Thailand, the same gesture is performed, but is known as the wai (pronounced why) and in Cambodia it is called sampae.

In Bangladesh, a relaxed salute with the right hand is a common greeting.

In Northern Mozambique, people clap hands three times before saying hello.

In western culture, we often refer to an ‘ Eskimo kiss’ as the act of rubbing noses. This is loosely based on a traditional Inuit greeting called a kunik, in which you press your nose and upper lip against another person’s skin (such as their cheek).

Similar is the Maori ‘hongi’, which consists of two people pressing their nose and forehead together in greeting.

In Turkey, Malaysia, Indonesia and Brunei, hand-kissing is a common way to greet older people of both genders. After kissing the hand, the greeter will draw the hand to his own forehead.

In Zambia, it is customary to greet someone by squeezing each other’s thumbs.

In Philippino culture, the Mano or Mano po is a gesture performed as a sign of respect to elders. Similar to hand-kissing, the person giving the greeting bows towards the offered hand of the elder and presses his or head forehead on the elder’s hand.

When everyone has practised the gestures, ask the girls to walk around the room. Every now and then, shout out a country. Everyone must then greet each other with that country’s traditional method of greeting.

Year of the Dragon
2012 marks the Year of the Dragon according to the Chinese calendar. The dragon is the highest-ranking animal in the Chinese animal hierarchy, and is often associated with the Emperor. Chinese dragons are believed to be an entirely different species to European dragons – the fierce, winged creatures often associated with fire.

2012 is the year of the Water Dragon, with the Water element granting as a greeting.

In many countries, the same gesture is referred to as the ‘Water’ gesture, performed as a sign of respect. Some countries, such as China, may be spoken with this greeting, while others may be performed as a sign of respect.

With the right hand is a common greeting.

From the felt, cut out a row of spikes to go down the dragon’s back, triangles to make ears, and tiny circles or ovals for the nostrils. From the felt, cut out a row of spikes to go down the dragon’s back, triangles to make ears, and tiny circles or ovals for the nostrils.

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Program Activities for Older Girls

NSW and the ACT are home to many festivals and events celebrating Australia’s multi-cultural society. Organise an outing for your girls to attend one of the following events, or have them research multi-cultural events in your area. Please share any they find with other Leaders on the GGA NSW & ACT Facebook page.

The Afro Latino Festival
In collaboration with the NSW Spanish and Latin American Association for Social Assistance, Casula Powerhouse will embrace the spirit, colours, rhythms and stories of its local communities to promote and strengthen their cultural identities with a FREE festival. Expect cultural performances from Latin America and Africa, live music, food stalls, arts and craft expo, a fashion parade, music and dance workshops, a soccer competition and lots of fun.
When: 3 March, 2012
Where: Casula Powerhouse

Holi Mahotsav 2012
Holi is an ancient festival of India, art creating the triumph of good over bad. The festival includes dancing and music, cultural workshops, meditation, yoga demonstrations, delicious Indian food and much more!
When: 23 – 15 March 2012
Where: Darling Harbour, (Tumbalong Park and Chinese Garden), Sydney

Gurinai Festival
Founded in 2001, the Gurinai Festival aims to raise awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in the Northern Sydney region. The festival involves 11 councils and numerous reconciliation and community groups. Events include workshops, art exhibitions, performances, films and talks.
When: 26 May to 15 July 2012
Where: Various venues

Arab Film Festival
The Arab Film Festival Australia aims to share screen stories and present the voices of the Arab world and diaspora in order to engage, entertain and challenge diverse Australian and international audiences through Arab film culture, and to provide a space for Arab Australian filmmakers to screen their work.
When: 28-29 July
Where: Parramatta

OneWorld Multicultural Festival
In celebration of Harmony Day, the OneWorld Multicultural Festival features multicultural dance and music performances, international cuisine and community information stalls.
When: Sunday 18 March 2012
Where: Hornsby Mall, Florence St, Hornsby

Holi Fair 2012
The Holi Fair has become a must-attend event, and the Bairro Português - Petersham Food & Wine Fair.

Where: Audley and Fisher Streets, Petersham

When: 11 March, 2012 10am - 6pm
Where: Audley and Fisher Streets, Petersham

www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au/ (see terms)

Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting is open to all girls and young women, whatever their religion, ethnic group or background. A Girl Guide or Girl Scout accepts the Promise and Law based on spiritual values, personal development and commitment to helping others.

Here in Australia, Harmony Day is the ideal time to celebrate the cultural and spiritual diversity that makes our Australian culture such a rich tapestry.

Harmony Day is an annual celebration of Australia’s cultural diversity. The event is about bringing people together to promote community participation and celebrate Australian values such as respect, fairness and acceptance.

The Communications Team at Guide House would love to help gain media coverage of any activities or events your Unit is holding to celebrate Harmony Day. Please complete the form on the Public Relations page of our website (under ‘Adults’ then ‘Public Relations’) at least a week before your event, or phone Britt on 02 8396 5200.

Harmony Day

Look out for the New Handbooks

In the lead up to the launch of the new Girl Guide Handbooks, we are revisiting the resources that complement the handbook and our Program.

Look Wider Still

This publication contains the extension of the competency based Achieve a Challenge Trefiol 3 badges and the Commonwealth Award badge syllabus. These badges are designed to challenge girls 14+ to improve their knowledge and skills in various areas. The Commonwealth Award is open to Guides (14+) and Olave Program members (up to 25) in Commonwealth countries. This Award strengthens the bonds between girls living in the Commonwealth by allowing them to learn about one another’s history and culture and further their knowledge of their own country.

Before commencing any work on these Awards, the Guide should consult her peers and Unit Leader(s). Check with the State Program Adviser if the badge requires the appointment of a specific assessor as this must be done prior to starting any challenges.

-girl guides Australia Promise and Law Review Working Party invites you to join and celebrate Everyone Belongs at a Harmony Day party.

Wednesday 21 March 8pm NSW & ACT, VIC, TAS 7.30pm SA 7pm QLD 6.30 pm NT 5pm WA via Webinar with your friends – at your chosen location.

This is your chance to hear the results of the Review and where to next.

Dress: a splash of orange

RSVP to Kirsty Prasad, National Office Administrator: email admin@girlguides.org.au by 14 March 2012.

Participants, when they RSVP, are asked to include:
- number of participants
- name and email of lead person
- postcode
- contact number

-girl guides Australia can now register their Harmony Day event or promotions on the Harmony Day website (www.harmony.gov.au) to be eligible to receive free promotional products.

Some of these badges can be achieved through cross-crediting with skills based programs provided by nationally accredited organisations. This includes: Royal Life Saving Society of Australia, Surf Lifesaving Association and the Australian Red Cross.

Assessment: These badges are Peer Assessed but in most cases a State Approved Assessor is required to “sign off” on the badge. This person may be a Qualified Leader or may be from an outside organisation. There may be additional State paperwork to complete before the badge is approved.

Later on: If Awardees go on to become Leaders, many of the competencies demonstrated can gain them Recognition of Prior Learning in the Australian Adult Leadership Program (AALP).

The cross-crediting for the Leadership Trefiol 3 is set out in the Leader’s Journal: Getting Started. To find out more about cross-crediting youth badges to AALP Modules consult our State Training or Outdoors Advisers.

Remember: Whatever challenge is chosen by the Guide, it is important that she strives to do her personal best.

Please note: in the February edition of The Waratah, we stated that ‘Achieve a Challenge’ badges are assessed by individual Guides and their peers. In fact, they are competency based and need to be assessed by the appropriately qualified adult.
Learning & Development News

Many, many thanks to you all for sending congratulations & greetings on my OAA Award. I am overwhelmed by the fact that my work, primarily in training, is considered worthy for an award. Thank you to those who contributed to completing the paperwork for my nomination and to Jeanette. Once you is persistent throughout the Award process so that Guiding personnel are rewarded and Guiding is placed in the spotlight. Thanks also to the many past & present Members who have influenced my Guiding.

However, back to the training required by all Leaders in order to keep the Association reliable and safe – have you checked upcoming dates? Are you booked into the right training for you? Have you sought advice on what you should be doing? I must also ask – have you completed the National Survey on Learning and Development Needs? This opportunity for you to have a say will then lead to the future decisions for us all. Please check your database to confirm your last appraisal and date of completion of a further Development Module has been entered. If not, let the Training department know.

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Guiding Assistants are a valuable asset to any Unit. Please nurture yours!

Training events increase knowledge, skills, and confidence – I look forward to seeing you at one soon.

Sue Cart
NOW & ACT Learning and Development Adviser
suecart@olaveact.org.au

International News

I am looking forward to hearing from Members about how they celebrated World Thinking Day 2012. “We can save our planet!” Please send details or a short story to me!

The State International and World Guiding Committee are looking forward to Members attending WAGGGS Party Time at Mt Annan calling into visit the International and World Guiding staff. Come along and do some international activities, find out about our World Centres, and learn how you can attend an international event (for a taste, read about Erin’s experience to New Zealand on pg 4).

Kerrey Williams,
NOW & ACT State International and World Guiding Consultant
kerrey.williams@bigpond.com

Outdoor News

This year’s World Thinking Day theme “We can save our planet” is a great goal to have. All the little things we can do will grow into bigger things – true for both good and bad things. The ideas from the WAGGGS Thinking Day Pack were especially suited to exploring the environment and initiating questions on how “we can save our planet”. If you are clear of global warming or climate change an internet search will provide you with a basic understanding or enough information to be part of the debate. What ever your understanding or lean, we can make girls aware that together we can save our planet – starting with small steps.

If World Thinking Day has inspired your unit to take action for the environment, don’t forget coming up on 6 March is Clean Up Australia Day, followed closely by Earth Hour on 26 March and Earth Day on 22 April. And on 31 March WAGGGS Party Time activities are once again focusing on the environment amidst traditional Guiding activities.

Lastly, to save anything we must know of its value. So arrange to take your unit to a rainforest, a wetlands or the beach; make it a day excursion or a camp. By seeing your unit first hand can make all the difference to the enthusiasm for saving it.

Carol Meiklejohn
State Outdoors, Environment and Earth Education Consultant
carolmeik@ozemail.com.au

Trefoil News

Welcome back to all our Guiding friends, I hope you all enjoyed your Christmas celebrations.

Trefoil Guilds are busy organising and planning their programs for 2012. Most of the AGM’s will be taking place during February and March. Thinking Day events will be attended by many Trefoil Guild members. On behalf of all Trefoil Guild members of NSW/ACT, we offer our congratulations to Sue Carr on receiving the OAA medal (Order of Australia) for Service to Youth through the Girl Guide movement. An International event is open to Trefoil Guild members at Pax Lodge from 7th – 12th October 2012. Information can be found on the Pax Lodge web site: paxlodge.org

Denise Brewer who is my assistant has been helping with The Wotracah report and also attending AGM’s on my behalf. Enjoy your Guiding year.

Rosalind Farley
State Trefoil Guild Advisor
rozfarley@internode.on.net

Program News

Our Acting State Program Adviser, Luisa Simeonidis, has been granted a month’s reprieve from writing her column – as she had a baby boy on 7th February. Congratulations Luisa, and best wishes to both you and baby William John.

Luisa Simeonidis
Acting State Program Adviser
program@girlguides-nswact.org.au

Membership News

The introduction of the Guide Leader Challenge (GLC) gave Girl Guides NSW & ACT an opportunity to recognise the talents and commitment of our qualified Leaders. On completion of the GLC each Leader has received a complimentary GLC badge to be worn on their uniform. This unique opportunity to attain a GLC badge has been extended to 31st March 2012.

My congratulations go to the 150 Leaders who have gained their GLC. Included are the November and December list of recipients... Bravo!

Guide Leader Challenge – Nov & Dec 2011 Recipients:


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Sue Cart
NOW & ACT Learning and Development Adviser
suecart@olaveact.org.au
Properties
Do you have Overnight Stays at your Hall? Unsure if the paperwork is up to date?

If you offer overnight stays at your Hall, we recommend you check with Melissa at Guide House to confirm the paperwork is still current. It may be the case that this paperwork hasn’t been completed for some time and the approval is now out of date.

To ensure the safety of those using the facility, it is necessary that these halls are reinspected every five years to ensure ongoing safety measures are met. Alternatively, if you know your Hall is not approved for overnight stays and would like to enquire as to whether this is a possibility, contact your District Leader/ROAC. A help sheet and internal inspection form can be found at http://www.girlguides-nswact.org.au/ or outdoors forms. The form needs to be signed by your ROAC before being sent into Guide House for approval.

Any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Melissa at Guide House: 02 8396 5200 or regionproperty@girlguides-nswact.org.au

Region Properties – Contractors Working at your Guide Hall/Guide Facility

Many of us rely on contractors to keep our halls looking great and working well for our Guide Units and other users. Most of our contractors are quality tradesmen we can trust, but we have all heard those horror stories of dodgy tradesman who leave a trail of financial and safety misery. The Association doesn’t want that to happen to you, so if you are undertaking any regular or one-off maintenance or capital works, it is important you obtain the necessary certification from your contractor before they enter your Hall to conduct any works (regardless of whether it may be internal or external works).

What: You need to obtain a copy of (or sight a copy of) their Certificate of Currency of Public Liability Insurance and Workers Compensation Insurance, Certificate of Registration of Business, and relevant License i.e. an electrical or carpentry license.

When: You should ask for this as soon as you confirm your booking for works. You may request they provide a copy for your records or bring it with them on the day for sighting.

Why: This paperwork is necessary to ensure they are sufficiently qualified and insured so as to protect the Association from any claims of negligence and to check from an accounting perspective that they registered for GST.

What to look for: You should check that the name on the Certificate is the same as the company/individual contracted to do the works, check the expiry data for validity and also the sum insured (for public liability it should not be less than $10 million).

Training Dates

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<tr>
<th>Training</th>
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<th>Event Date</th>
<th>Closing Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Archery for Supervisors</td>
<td>Camp Chapman</td>
<td>March 11-April 1</td>
<td>March 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Archery for Beginners</td>
<td>Camp Chapman</td>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>March 9</td>
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<td>Leadership Progression</td>
<td>Blacktown</td>
<td>April 28</td>
<td>April 6</td>
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<td>Leadership Introduction</td>
<td>Warners Bay</td>
<td>April 28-29</td>
<td>April 6</td>
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<td>Leadership Introduction</td>
<td>Waggga Waggga</td>
<td>April 28-29</td>
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<td>Knots and more</td>
<td>Cumberland Plains</td>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>April 6</td>
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Event Dates

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<td>YATZ 2012 Program</td>
<td>Taronga Zoo</td>
<td>March 4</td>
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<td>Clean Up Australia Day</td>
<td>All Localities</td>
<td>March 7</td>
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<td>International Women’s Day Breakfast</td>
<td>Darling Harbour</td>
<td>March 16-18 February 24</td>
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<td>Rogatta</td>
<td>North Warring</td>
<td>March 16-18 February 24</td>
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<td>Regional Leaders Weekend</td>
<td>Camp Chapman</td>
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<td>Harmony Day</td>
<td>All Localities</td>
<td>March 21</td>
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<td>WAGGGS Party Time</td>
<td>Mount Annan</td>
<td>March 31</td>
<td>March 2</td>
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<td>Dragonskin</td>
<td>Newnes State Forest</td>
<td>April 7-10 TBA</td>
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<td>JACT 2012</td>
<td>Canberra</td>
<td>April 15-21</td>
<td>closed</td>
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<td>Chain of Campfires</td>
<td>All Localities</td>
<td>until September</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANAC Day</td>
<td>All Localities</td>
<td>April 25</td>
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Congratulations to...

A number of Girl Guides NSW & ACT volunteers were publicly recognised and celebrated as local heroes on Australia Day. We are very proud of their contributions both to the Association and their communities.

Sue Carr OAM, Narara Citizen of the Year, was recognised for her outstanding services to youth through Girl Guides.

Frances Wallace OAM was Quirindi Citizen of the Year, acknowledging her role as tireless Quirindi District Leader and Co-ordinator of Quirindi Meals on Wheels since 1982; and Chris Rogers achieved Muswellbrook Citizen of the Year and serves as Muswellbrook District Leader. We would also like to pay tribute to former Girl Guides stalwarts Dooreen Widdison, former Albury Trefoil Guild President, Joan Hausfeld of Tamworth and Vera Hatton of Huskisson who also received Australia Day Honours.

Congratulations to the following Leaders for completing their Leader of Youth qualification: Milly Bond, Kate Smellie, Abbey Tosounidis.

WAGGGS Party Time

FREE Transport to WAGGGS Party Time

All Girl Guides travelling to and from WAGGGS Party Time 2012 Mount Annan can travel FREE on both CityRail Networks and CountryLink Train! We hope this helps make it possible for all Members five years to 105 years to celebrate this final Centenary event with us.

Shuttle Buses will be running between Campbelltown Train Station and Mount Annan on Saturday morning, Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning to help all participants take advantage of the free travel. A copy of the letter needed to obtain free CountryLink tickets has been sent to all Regions Teams, Development Coordinators and District leaders outside of Sydney.

A huge thank you to former Girl Guide Gladys Berejiklian MP, Minister for Transport, for providing free travel.

Major Prizes rolling in!

Kathmandu has generously offered an awesome major prize pack which includes a 3-man hike tent with vestibule, and top of the range LED rechargeable lantern which converts to a hanging lantern. Costco has also generously donated 20 Coleman sleeping bags, perfect for the whole Unit! For a chance to win one of these major prizes for your Unit, look in your Activity Books on the day!

Activity Supervisors Wanted

We are looking for some Activity Supervisors for Mount Annan; they can be Unit Helpers, Guiding Assistants, Leaders of Adult, OP’s or Trefoil Members! Activity Supervisors attend FREE OF CHARGE in 2012, and have an hour break for lunch as well as tea/coffee throughout the day.

Contact Erin on events@girlguides-nswact.org.au or (02) 8396 5200 for more information.

Sawtell Guides take part in Sunday Wall Art

Sunday Wall Art competition gives eight to 11 year olds the opportunity to show off their creativity on the walls of Coffs Harbour’s Jetty Markets.

1st Sawtell Angels Girl Guides took part last term and were awarded second place. Congratulations on an amazing mural that will help promote guides to Coffs harbour locals and tourists!
for more information on these and other upcoming events go to:
www.girlguides-nswact.org.au/new_events
contact Erin Hambly:
e: events@girlguides-nswact.org.au
p: 02 8396 5200
or scan the QR code with your smart phone
free code scanning apps available to download from your device’s app store