The Guide Promise and The Guide Law Program Feature, Other Guiding News, and more...
Are you receiving the weekly G-news from Guide House? Log in to your member profile to ensure we have your current email address.

The Waratah is published by Girl Guides NSW & ACT and welcomes contributions from its Members.

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We love hearing what our Members are up to, so please send your news to communications@girlguides-nswact.org.au.

Deadlines

If you would like to be published in the May 2016 edition of The Waratah, please send your contribution to us no later than 7 April.

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G-news
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UPCOMING COURSE DATES
Course Location Event Date Closing Date
Guiding Orientation Webinar Online 5pm 10 Apr
Managing Operational Risk Webinar Online 8.30pm 19 Apr
Guiding Orientation Webinar Online 8.30pm 27 Apr
Guiding Orientation Webinar Online 9pm 4 May
Managing Operational Risk Webinar Online 9pm 13 May
Guiding Orientation Webinar Online 4pm 22 May
HUB - Get A Handle On Guiding WAGGA WAGGA 21–22 May 22 Apr
Fun Leadership for Youth (FLY) Camp Chapman 3–5 Jun 6 May
Guiding Orientation Webinar Online 8pm 14 Jun
Managing Operational Risk Webinar Online 8.30pm 23 Jun
Camp Leader - Indoor Camp Austral 25–26 Jun 27 May
Camp Leader - Outdoor Camp Austral 25–26 Jun 27 May
Guiding Orientation Webinar Online 3pm 26 Jun

UPCOMING EVENT DATES
Event Location Event Date Closing Date
Science in the Garden The Australian Botanic Garden Mount Annan Wee Jasper 9 Apr Closed
Annual Caving Weekend 20–22 May 6 May
My calendar recently offered the following advice:

A friend is someone who understands your past, believes in your future and accepts you today.

As Members of Girl Guides NSW & ACT I believe this philosophy can be applied to us.

**We have many friends who understand our past.**

As Girl Guides there are many Members who have a wonderful knowledge of our past. Often our Trefoil Guild Members have knowledge which we should value. If you need a source for your girls who have a historic challenge, I suggest you look to your local Trefoil Guild—the Members will have great stories which are worth hearing. I have been privileged recently to witness the enthusiastic response from Members as they listened to Chesne Jones, our State Archivist, sharing stories about people and events.

**We have friends who believe in our future.**

It is so important that as Girl Guides we don’t get lost in the past, but can move on to the challenges of the 21st Century. Please take time to visit the NSW & ACT Strategic Plan, which is on our website as well as available in hard copy, to see what our goals are as we lead up to 2020. Revisit the February edition of *The Waratah* and read about the Australian Guide Program Review which has now metamorphosed into the next exciting stage of Building Our Future. Plan to attend one of the HUB trainings which are being delivered widely. These trainings are a great way to find an area of Guiding you are especially interested in and wish to investigate further, they also assist in updating your Guiding knowledge. There are many other initiatives being developed which will take Guiding into the 21st Century.

**We have friends who accept us today.**

Again, as Girl Guides, it is important that we support each other as we move through the challenges which face us on a day-to-day basis. As a Unit Leader I am sure you find it important that parents understand that you are a volunteer, and that you are not necessarily perfect. Your Guides will also need to accept that sometimes things do not necessarily work out seamlessly, such as planning an outdoor Promise ceremony and it rains. As a District Manager it is important that your Unit Leaders accept that you have a responsibility to have reports completed on time, and this may require you to ask for assistance, but despite this you are there as a colleague and friend.

Guiding has so much to offer. I do recommend that you read G-news and *The Waratah* to keep abreast of the opportunities for your girls and yourself. However, above all, ensure that you have fun—whether in your daily Guiding activities, or with Committee Members, or just mixing with your Guiding friends. Friendship is one of the greatest benefits of being part of a volunteer organisation.

As we go to print, it is exciting to think we shall be welcoming our joint patrons, His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret’d) and Mrs Linda Hurley, to their first Guiding event, Science in the Garden.

Elizabeth Starr  
Acting State Commissioner

Renée Bianchi  
Acting Deputy State Commissioner
At the time of printing, Peta was pedalling on a long bike ride in South East Asia for a great cause. Her two-wheeled adventure from Saigon, Vietnam to Siem Reap, Cambodia is for UN Women’s Ride for Rights, a fundraising campaign to support women’s economic empowerment projects in the Asia Pacific Region. You go, CEO!

With Peta away, the editorial team have taken the opportunity to update you on the Australia Guide Program Review from the National Program Manager, Helen Reid, with her article Building Our Future: Implementing the Recommendations from the AGP Review

2016 marks the beginning of a new project to implement the recommendations from the AGP Review. Building Our Future. Over the past 2 years we’ve listened to girls, Leaders and parents, explored the latest research on girls and young women, and engaged with other WAGGGS member organisations around the world.

Why the name Building Our Future? We know that there is great Guiding happening around the country, but changes are needed. We’ve respected traditions, history and values, and now it’s time to Build on those great foundations so that Australian Guiding can evolve and create great Guiding for the Future.

A 3 year project, why is Building Our Future so long? Guiding has invested deeply in the AGP Review and we want to honour that by getting any changes and developments right. We want to make sure everyone understands what changes are happening and why. Importantly, we want to ensure that we can support Leaders and girls with the right resources and tools before any changes are implemented.

The recommendations: The review resulted in six recommendations, but we are not tackling all of them at once. We are starting with the recommendations that our girls and Leaders said were the most important to them.

Project 1: Our research revealed that parents and Leaders don’t always have a clear understanding of what our program offers to girls, so we are developing clear narratives to explain what the Australian Guide Program is, and what it can offer to girls and young women. These narratives will be developed in a range of languages targeting a range of communities, emphasising aspects of our program important to each. We are working with internal committees and external agencies in a pro bono capacity to ensure professional and appropriate results. These will be tested mid-year with final resources due at the end of 2016.

Project 2: The Girl Recognition System is one of our greatest assets but also an area of confusion and debate for parents and Leaders. Parents told us they aren’t always sure how to support girls to achieve challenges, while others said their daughters earn badges without understanding why. Leaders told us that some of the badges work well, but there is a need for shared standards, progression, and more resources to support their Guides. This project aims to develop a framework for the recognition system, and the tools and resources to help girls, parents and Leaders use the recognition system more successfully, with a focus on the Queen’s Guide, Baden-Powell and Junior Baden-Powell awards. This is an 18 month project and further consultation will occur across the country.

Project 3: We want to be able to provide our Program to more girls. Accessibility is an issue for girls for whom a weekly face-to-face delivery just doesn’t work.

If there is a need to offer our program differently, what can we do? We will examine the flexible models currently used in some States, and see what it takes to make greater flexibility possible. This project does not mean that program delivery will change for everyone, but that new models can be used where they are the best option. The project will include looking at membership models around the country, developing best practice and working with State organisations to make it happen. This is a long term proposition and builds on flexible models already in place.

Project 4: Our research revealed that Leaders and parents had mixed feelings about our current Program Foundations (Elements and Fundamentals). For some they underpin their term programs, but others aren’t exactly sure how they are meant to be implemented. The current language of the Fundamentals and Elements doesn’t always clearly explain what our Program is delivering. We will develop a range of possible and alternative foundations that can be used to underpin our program for the future. Again, we will consult with our community to ensure parents understand what our Program offers, and Leaders and girls have a strong foundation on which to develop their individual programs. This is an 18 month project with ongoing communication and resource development to support its implementation.

Project 5: Developing more flexible leadership roles and Project 6: Development of innovative programs and partnerships to offer Guiding to more girls will begin later in 2016 and early 2017. More information on these projects will be published later this year.

So how can I find out more, contribute to the review and stay up to date with what’s happening?

There will be regular updates in State newsletters, other State communication channels and social media. There is also a Building Our Future page on the GCA website. Comments can be sent to program@girlguides.org.au

We value all constructive feedback and look forward to sharing the exciting developments as they happen.

Helen Reid
National Program Manager and Project Lead
AGP Implementation Team
program@girlguides.org.au
Harmony Day 2016 was celebrated on 21 March across Australia with the theme *our diversity is our strength*. This theme is so apt in our Movement of 10 million members in 146 countries, but also so important within our Units and Districts. Can we improve the Guiding we offer in each area so that it better reflects the diversity of each local community? One way of growing membership is to reach out and attract girls and young women from all backgrounds. Let’s make diversity our strength.

Robinette and Kit were the guests of Their Excellencies, The Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC and Lady Cosgrove, who hosted the Governor-General’s Long Lunch in recognition of Harmony Day at Government House, Yarralumla. Hundreds of people from many nationalities shared lunch on one extraordinarily long dining table on the ceremonial lawns of Government House, as part of this historic event to promote the principles of respect, inclusiveness, harmony and eliminating racial discrimination.

The 12th Asia Pacific Regional Conference with the theme *Hamro Danphe - Connect, Growth, Impact*, will be held in Kathmandu, Nepal in late August. This regional governance event is held once every three years and is expected to be attended by 150 delegates from around the Asia Pacific Region. We are delighted to announce the Girl Guides Australia delegation of Robinette Emonson, Kate Moore, Dani Smith, Holly Bracken and Emily Milton Smith (with Kate Rumney as emergency substitute).

We would also like to congratulate Bronwyn Cole who has been appointed as the National International Manager. Bronwyn chairs the National International Committee and, as part of a new structure, will work closely with the Travel Coordinator, Wendy Davis and the Assistant Chief Commissioner – International, Susan Campbell. We recognise the significant contribution made by the outgoing National International Manager, Joan Bunker, and thank her sincerely for her commitment and outstanding service throughout her term.

Our National Volunteer Manager Committees (Program, Olave Program, Learning & Development, Outdoors and International) play an important role in supporting Girl Guides Australia to achieve its mission and deliver outcomes aligned to the Strategic Plan. These committees recently came together in Sydney to plan, review and implement projects to ensure Girl Guiding across Australia goes from strength to strength.

The GGA National Office is in the process of undergoing a restructure to make better use of its resources, increase productivity and provide more targeted support for Guiding in Australia. The design of a new GGA website is underway, as well as additional support for marketing and communications.

We are also very excited for the launch of the new Girl Guides Biscuits this year. Our Girl Guides Biscuits website is up and running, and you can find information about the biscuits, meet Ollie and Aggy (our newest Girl Guides) and view the winners of our promotional poster and video competitions. We loved seeing the sale of Girl Scout Cookies at the Oscars in March, and look forward to hearing about the creative ways that Girl Guides are selling biscuits in Australia in 2016.

Robinette Emonson  
Chief Commissioner

Susan Campbell & Miranda Cummings  
Assistant Chief Commissioners

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**Insurance Requirements for the Hire of Guide Facilities to Third Parties**

As part of hiring Guiding facilities to third parties, not only is it necessary to enter into an agreement with this party (see hire agreements at www.girlguides-nswact.org.au/GG/properties/resources/hire_agreements/), it is also a necessity for the third party hirer to provide you with a copy of their Certificate of Currency of Public Liability Insurance.

The Certificate must note the following to protect our interests and that of the landowner:
- be in the sum of at least $10 million dollars;
- illustrate an expiry date (that must be current at the time of the proposed hire);
- insured party name be identical to hirer name; and
- activity or purpose.

We have been able to negotiate the removal of the interested party notations on the Certificate previously required by the insurer. However, please be aware, if your Guide Facility is held under a lease (i.e. you lease the Hall and/or land from Council), this requirement may be specifically detailed in your lease and therefore will override this policy. Please make sure you are familiar with your lease terms in this regard.

Melissa Hanna  
Property and Assets Manager

melissa.hanna@girlguides-nswact.org.au
Get ready for Guiding good times ahead. Biscuits are coming—with deliveries to Units, Districts, Support Groups and Trefoil Guilds etc. who placed pre-orders scheduled to be completed by the end of this month. Biscuit season will again be upon us before we know it!

Our Girl Guide Biscuits are available annually from May onwards while stocks last. With tantalising traditionals, tempting triple chocs, goluptious gluten frees and bonza bush buddies, the new Australian–made range is sure to fly off the shelves in a fundraising flight of fancy.

Deliveries: The plan is to have all biscuit deliveries complete by the end of this month. A representative will be in touch with your designated biscuit delivery recipient to confirm final details. Tailoring the process to individual blanket needs makes it easier for everyone, but also means the estimated time for deliveries is by the end of April.

Badges: When our biscuit boss Belle has received the biscuit badges, she will divvy them up based on what you told us at order stage. These will be sent to the person nominated as coordinating biscuit sales on your completed order form, unless you specified other. If you didn’t fill this part of the form out, please contact Annabelle at annabelle.chee@girlguides-nswact.org.au.

PR materials: Once posters arrive, they too will be packaged up and dealt with in the manner mentioned above. In next level PR biscuit support, Girl Guides Australia have developed a nifty new website for all things Girl Guide Biscuit. What’s more, if you email details of any planned fundraising or sales events to louise@girlguides.org.au your event will be listed on the Shop Now page! Make sure you include:
- the location (e.g. address of shopping centre/Guide Hall);
- the date;
- the event timeframe; and
- Unit/District/Trefoil Guild etc. name.

This info will guarantee your event is promoted through GGA social media campaigns. Head over to www.girlguidebiscuits.com.au and brush-up on all things biscuit.

Forgot to order and feeling forlorn? Guide House has a very limited back-up biscuit supply, (bush buddies not included). Ask Annabelle what’s available and if we have what you want, we’ll put it aside for you to arrange collection—couriers are costly, we recommend picking up in person.

Hi, we are the Girls Advisory Panel for 2016! We are a group of thirteen girls and four mentors from across NSW and ACT who represent the various Regions from which we come.

As a panel, we provide input and feedback to the State Program Committee, and develop our own ideas and programs in regards to the future of Guiding. This panel was created as an advocacy initiative, and is a representative council where we can communicate on behalf of our peers, whilst developing our leadership and advocacy skills.

Our first collective meeting as a panel was in late January. Over two jam-packed days, we learnt about the Guiding structures, the roles of various people and how to draft recommendations, among many other things we’ve established Committees to support our goals this year which include wider youth consultation and youth engagement, and we’ve developed a bunch of ideas that have been put forward to the State Program Committee for further investigation. We also reviewed the recommendations put forward by GAP 2015 and the State Youth Forums to ensure we can continue to advocate on behalf of our peers. We will definitely be looking into developing many of these ideas as we progress through this exciting year.

If you have any ideas you want GAP to explore or advocate, drop us a line!

You can contact GAP via advocacy@girlguides-nswact.org.au or connect with your Region Program Advisor directly.
The impact of Guiding is not only on the individual girl, but can also bring about a bigger positive change in our communities and wider society. This month, we are taking the time to think about how we integrate the Promise & Law into everything we do—not just our program—our way of life too!

We hope reading about the Girl Guide Girl Scout Method last month encouraged you to think about how the program is being implemented in your Unit. Remember, not all program activities will use all the elements of the Girl Guide Girl Scout educational method. That’s fine! What matters is that a balance of the method is used, and the variety of activities you offer create opportunities to develop a wide range of skills and knowledge that your Guides find relevant, fun and interesting.

The philosophy of The Guide Promise is laid out practically in The Guide Law. In these Program pages we have illustrated the tenets of The Guide Promise and The Guide Law through infographics.

Katie Conroy
State Program Manager
programmanager@girlguides-nswact.org.au

Turn the page to see how we deconstruct the Guide Promise and ask the questions, that in practical application, will make your program pop!
Whether or not a Guide is doing her best is only something she can judge.

Leaders need to ensure an atmosphere of trust that is caring enough for girls to genuinely reflect if they have done their best.

I PROMISE THAT I WILL...

DO MY BEST...

To be true to myself and develop my beliefs.

To serve my community and Australia.

Leaders need to ensure an atmosphere of trust that is caring enough for girls to genuinely reflect if they have done their best.

Does the environment you help create enable the girls to develop an understanding of self and identity?

How do your Guides define what they think is important? What does this mean for their choices?

Do you provide opportunities for Guides to discover and think about what they believe? How can you help them explore this further?

Are your Guides aware of different beliefs and values around them?

Leaders need to ensure an atmosphere of trust that is caring enough for girls to genuinely reflect if they have done their best.

I PROMISE THAT I WILL...

DO MY BEST...

To be true to myself and develop my beliefs.

To serve my community and Australia.

Each Guide is different and committed to every activity she does through The Guide Promise.
How do we help Guides to discover the different communities around them?

Then how are they empowered to engage with these communities?

Each Guide is different but committed to everything she does through The Guide Promise.

By taking action, Guides learn active citizenship through experience and can use these skills to make a difference on issues that matter to them.

Do you provide opportunities for Guides to discover and think about what they believe? How can you help them explore this further?

Are your Guides aware of different beliefs and values around them?

As an adult Member/role model/mentor, do you use The Guide Law as a code of living?

How do we implement The Guide Law into our day-to-day lives?

How do we help Guides to discover the different communities around them?

To live by The Guide Law:

- respect myself and others
- be considerate, honest and trustworthy
- make choices for a better world
- use my time and abilities wisely
- be friendly to others
- be thoughtful and optimistic
- live with courage and strength
- use the Guide Law as a code of living
Inclusion: what is it and why does it relate to the Promise & Law?

Everything we do in Guiding relates to the Promise & Law—that’s why we do what we do! Inclusion can relate to the inclusion of many different groups of people in our society. In Guiding, Inclusion Support refers to any Members who have any additional support needs, above what is commonly required. Often this could be some sort of health condition, learning difficulty, behavioural support need, disability, mental health condition or a variety of other situations.

How is this related to the Promise & Law and why are we trying so hard to work on inclusion? In the Guide Law there is much talk about inclusion: I will strive to respect others, be considerate, be friendly and be thoughtful. The Guide Law could be interpreted to ensure that we are inclusive of everyone—including those who have additional support needs.

We show respect to people when we accept them and value them, we are considerate when we remember to think about how other people feel. We are friendly when we make people feel welcome and part of our Patrol, Unit and wider community.

Combine this with The Guide Promise—where we pledge to develop our beliefs—perhaps this is a good opportunity to think about our beliefs in including all girls and women in Guiding even when additional support might be needed.

Emma Introna
State Inclusion Support Consultant
inclusionsupport@girlguides-nswact.org.au

Using these simple questions and the underlying philosophies as a springboard, Promise and Law-informed programming is adaptable to every Guiding Age Group. Use your Leader Handbooks in conjunction with Guide Age-specific Handbooks to deliver activities that expound the tenets illustrated on these pages. As a girl progresses through the age groups, her understanding and awareness of The Guide Promise and The Guide Law deepens. Couple this with the underlying Girl Guide and Girl Scout Educational Method, and throw in a good sprinkle of do-your-best, and watch your Guides flourish.
Around 1994, when I was a Unit Leader with 1A Randwick Guides, I was approached by one of the coordinators if the Anzac Day Commemorative Service that is held after the march. Randwick Guides have always marched on Anzac Day, and have assisted various troops in the past. For quite a few years now we help The Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps. This year was not different.

On this particular Anzac Day in 1994, just after we finished marching in our section, we sat down for a breather while waiting for the rest of the Unit to arrive. Dudley (not sure of his last name) came to me and said “there are the Girl Guides, I found you, quick we need to get things ready”. To which I quickly asked “how can we help?” Dudley told me that he had requested help from Guides to hand out the commemorative service program. I said we would be happy to assist.

We gave out the program to all who stayed for the service, helped everyone to their seats, got tea, coffee and biscuits from the Red Cross and then stayed to watch the proceedings.

After the service was over I again spoke with Dudley. I gave him my GG business card and said if he needed our service again next year we would be happy to help. As they say... the rest is history—we’ve been assisting with this Service for many years and it is very rewarding.

Since then, I have been the coordinator for this part of the 1A Randwick Service for the NSW RSL while the Leaders organise the girls to march. Afterwards they assist me with handing out the program. The girls love performing these acts of service.

Margaret Wood
Eastern Beaches District Manager, Southern Sydney Rivers Region
wombygga@telstra.com
Our first Hub has been a huge success. A large group of enthusiastic Guide Leaders, keen to try something new, embraced the weekend with gusto! I would like to share part of an email from one of the trainees:

“I thought it was important to take the time to thank both your team and yourself on your extraordinary efforts this weekend. The Hub was a great success and you should all feel very proud that many of us (if not all) left the training today feeling invigorated with not just an increased knowledge of Guiding but with a re-ignited passion.

The Hub was fast paced, interesting, covered a variety of topics with a fresh twist and left the door open for us to expand on our interests/needs and the possibility of more training options with the knowledge of how to organise them.

I found the Hub to be more relaxed than any other training I have attended. We had downtime opportunities to just chat and network. I hope you all enjoyed WTD 2016 in your Region, District or Unit, or by wearing your Guide uniform to school or work. Thank you to those who have sent their donations for the WTD fund to Guide House—it's never too late, your donation matters. The WTD fund helps WAGGGS offer empowerment and self-development through Girl Guides and Girl Scouts to girls and women in countries worldwide.

This year you may have seen our first pop-up international stall at Regatta—showcasing international opportunities at an event for young women, rather than holding an event and asking people to attend amidst their busy lives. Attending Science in the Garden? You'll see us there too!

Consider an international challenge. Read G-news and The Waratah for advertised opportunities. Do you need more information to get started? Please feel free to email me.

Find the world through Guiding this month.

Amanda Cooper
State International & World Guiding Consultant
international@girlguides-nswact.org.au

Many readers will be taking part in Anzac Day marches this month. I thought it would be a good opportunity to share some items recently found in a program book belonging to the 1st Sydney (Legacy Club) Guide Company. Formed in November 1937 and registered in 1938, this Company met at the Legacy Club Rooms, 188 George Street, Sydney, on Thursdays from 6 to 7pm. Company Captain was Miss Margaret Adams of Turramurra.

The first meeting, with four girls was held in the Board Room of Legacy Club on 8 November, 1937. They had a talk on the history of Guiding and Scouting, International aspects, Patrol System and Outdoor work such as hikes and camping. The girls were given their Tenderfoot cards and were taught knots and a rhyme on the Laws. They talked about good health and the history and legends of the Union Jack. The girls played a general game of Belts and Lanyards and a stalking game where one was blindfolded and tried to catch another.

The meeting ended with the Guide prayer, Taps and the National Anthem.

In December 1937, they held their first hike and five girls were enrolled at Glengarry. Turramurra Guides were in camp and welcomed the recruits who had come by train from the city.

Everyone enjoyed a swim on the hot day in Peggy’s Pool before returning by train to Wynyard.

By February 1938, numbers were depleted due to Infantile Paralysis (Polio) with no girl under the age of 14 to attend for four weeks. The program on April 18, 1938, says arranged to meet at Wynyard at 9a.m. on Anzac Day to stand with Scouts and other Legacy children near the Cenotaph.

Thank you to all who sent congratulations on my recent award.

Chesne Jones
State Archivist
archives@girlguides-nswact.org.au

What a timely start to my new role, coinciding with World Thinking Day and International Women’s Day. I hope to build on my past experience as the ACT and SE NSW Region International & World Guiding Consultant; as a Member of the State International Committee; and my experience as a Canadian Girl Guide (Member and Leader) whilst living overseas in 2014. On the top of my list is to follow in my daughters’ footsteps by attending an overseas event and serving as a World Centre volunteer.

My hope for every Girl Guide is to experience World Guiding in a way that inspires them to reach out, be the change and make a difference to support the WAGGGS vision of helping girls and young women to develop their full potential as responsible citizens of the world.

I look forward to all the adventures, challenges and opportunities that are possible through international and World Guiding.

I hope you all enjoyed WTD 2016 in your Region, District or Unit, or by wearing your Guide uniform to school or work. Thank you to the...
In the past few weeks I have been busy connecting. I’ve travelled nearly 3000 km and have met many Members from many Trefoil Guilds. I’ve enjoyed wonderful hospitality, made new friends and met many old friends as I travelled around NSW sharing enthusiasm for Trefoil Guilds and all that we are to a wide range of people. So many years of service, support, fun and fellowship for both Guiding and the wider community. It has been fun and worthwhile and I look forward to more travelling around the state in April.

I have also made good connections with our 2016 Australian Trefoil Good Turn partner, Days for Girls. Information about how to get involved has gone out to all Trefoil Guilds. A member of their Avoca Chapter will be our Guest Speaker at our Annual Friendship Day Picnic on 16 April at Niagara Park, on the Central Coast. There will be someone there with their sewing machine demonstrating the ‘how to’ of the kit.

Did you know we are 70 years old in 2016? Come along to the Picnic and help us celebrate! Please do let us know if you plan to come—a flyer for the Picnic went out in late February with an attached form to be returned.

BRAVO to all who have received Long Service Awards recently! There are a number of different awards that recognise Guiding and Community achievements—detailed information has been sent to all Trefoil Guilds.

At the end of February, Rhonda and I joined with Region Managers at Glengarry, sharing with them where Trefoil Guilds exist around the State, what we do, and how we can connect with our active Guiding friends. Region Managers will begin to receive our Trefoil Newsletters from now on.

Sally Thornton
State Trefoil Manager
nsw.act.trefoil@gmail.com

I’m excited to be the Outdoors and Earth Education Consultant for NSW & ACT and would like to thank Carol Meiklejohn for her tireless work and passion for the Outdoors. I realise I have big shoes to fill.

As a Leader in the ACT for Guides and Senior Guides, I appreciate all the opportunities the outdoors provide. These opportunities are available to Adult Members as well as Youth Members, and are a bit like Dr Who’s Tardis—once you go through the door there is an enormous amount of stuff there that you’d never have thought of before.

My challenge to everyone is to try a new outdoor activity this year. It could be something you have thought about but never found the time to organise; maybe it is an activity you never thought you could do. Speak with your Region Outdoor Activity Consultant and other Leaders about what you would like to try.

Look at what is available in your Region, and if you think the Outdoors team can help, send us an email (address below).

So...jump on your bike; stand on that paddle board; unfold that map; hand out those pesky ADM 27s and let’s get going.

Myth buster of the month: It doesn’t really matter getting my Adventure Activity Permission forms (OUT.02) in on time, they are really just a formality. These forms are really important. They protect all Leaders in case something goes wrong at the activity. If we follow the processes provided, work within our published policies and regulations, and an incident does occur, we are likely to be covered by Guiding’s insurance policies. If we don’t follow these processes, we could be personally liable for an incident. I know we’re all busy, but we’re Guides—let’s do it right.

Virginia Brown
State Outdoors, Environment & Earth Education Consultant
outdoor@girlguides-nswact.org.au

BRAVO OUTDOORS TREFOIL

BRAVO to this edition’s newly qualified Leaders/Managers and Adult Members that have marked long service milestones.

Newly qualified

Outdoor Leaders—Janice Oliver
District Manager—Jennifer Bearman
Unit Leaders—Jennifer Burke, Monica Halliday, Jill Hauff, Nadia Mina, Heidi Bennett, Aimee Watkins, Sharon Mortlock.

Long service milestones:

5 years—Bronwyn Johnson, Suzanne Anderson, Natasha Toms, Bronwyn Hughes, Anna Cook.

10 years—Rhonda O’Malley, Susanna Matters, Larissa Saywell, Leonie Bishop, Linda Robson, Tracie Bridgman, Ronnie Joyce.

15 years—Rosalyn Towers, Carole Tabor, Stephanie Hancock, Rachael Jones, Elaine Bell, Louise Ney, Pauline Brown, Caroline Ellis, Julie-Ann Humphries, Jane Anderson.

20 years—Janice Hennell, Sarah Neill, Julie McQuarters, Elizabeth Keeley.

25 years—Ann Ellacott, Kerry Ahlburg, Judy Hammond, Wendy Jones.

30 years—Betty Watkins, Janice Matheson.

45 years—Susan Costello, Pam Moore.

Boronio Awards
Belinda Heeb

Emu Awards
Chesne Jones
How to use your Guiding Knowledge and Experience...

Girl Guides NSW & ACT are calling for nominations for both the Awards Committee and the Policy and Procedure Review Committee.

Reporting to the Board of Directors, these committees are integral to support the delivery of Guiding in NSW & ACT. Those with Guiding knowledge and experience who would like to contribute to building and supporting Girl Guides NSW & ACT are encouraged to nominate for these positions.

The purpose of the Awards Committee is to ensure that the service and bravery of Members and the service of non-members is suitably recognised. To realise their purpose, the Awards Committee promotes to Members opportunities for recognition through various award schemes; initiates and assists with award nominations; receives and considers award nominations; recommends award recipients to the Board of Directors; and recommends policy regarding Guide Service Awards to the Board of Directors.

The purpose of the Policy and Procedure Review Committee (PPRC) is to ensure that Girl Guides NSW & ACT has appropriate documentation to satisfy its volunteer management responsibilities. PPRC duties include: ensuring all committee and voluntary positions have appropriate terms of reference; ensuring that policies and procedures can be implemented and are consistent with legislation, the Constitution of Girl Guides NSW & ACT and Guide Lines; researching, drafting, reviewing and amending terms of reference and policies and procedures; recommending changes to and advising on terms of reference, policies and procedures to the Board of Directors, liaising with other committees and office bearers when and where appropriate; and advising the Board on policy and procedural matters referred from Girl Guides Australia.

Nomination forms are available in the members area of our website or from annabelle.chee@girlguides-nswact.org.au.

If you require additional information please contact the Acting State Commissioner, Elizabeth Starr on sc@girlguides-nswact.org.au.

Margaret Mary McMurray OAM

Margaret had a long association with Guiding in the southern parts of New South Wales. From 1960 to 1963 she was Brown Owl of 1st Finley Brownies. In late 1963, Margaret opened 2nd Finley Guide Company and was Captain until 1992. During this time Margaret gained her Camp Licence and many Guide camps were held on the family property. Boating on Finley Lake was another activity enjoyed by Guides and Margaret had a boat named in her honour, Mrs Mac. In 2005 the former Murray Division was renamed McMurray Division in recognition of Margaret’s outstanding service to Guiding. The new McMurray Division flag and badge design included a campfire, lake, canoe and a Murray pine.

Margaret held various other roles in Guiding, including Division Commissioner, Guide Training Team Member, Campcraft Trainer and Junior Leader Consultant. Margaret became an inaugural Member of Finley Trefoil Guild in 1997. She was awarded the Wattle in 1984.

In June 2012 Margaret was awarded the OAM for service to the community through the Country Women’s Association and to youth through the Guiding movement.


Shirley was a leading force in establishing Guides in Coonabarabran in 1959. She led by example and lived by the Promise & Law. Fundraising led to the Guide Hall being built with local support in 1968.

Her interests included air activities, with over 100 Guides and Scouts given flights all organised by Shirley, and Pony Club and Riding for disabled persons.

Her Guide roles included being District, Division and Region Commissioner. She was awarded the Order of Australia medal for services to Guiding in 2007. In later years Shirley helped establish the Warrumbungle Trefoil Guild. Many have followed Shirley’s example and joined Guides. They will remember her as a strong, inspiring, fiercely independent lady with a great sense of humour.
Ellen Farrer of Cherrybrook Junior Guides hosted a World Thinking Day Party, and in the process of doing so completed her Bronze Endeavour. BRAVO Ellen!

Interim Unit Leader Cathy Yu—a.k.a Fairy Penguin—and the Guiding team at Cherrybrook were so proud of Ellen’s dedication, creativity and hard work that they had cake. Well...who wouldn’t?

This photograph, left, is of Ellen with the yummy cake she baked and iced for World Thinking Day. Ellen’s Leader Catherine apologised that she could not email the cake for tasting, but she did guarantee that it tasted as good as it looked.

Catherine also reported that Ellen is full of ideas, and Cherrybrook JG are confident that she will achieve her Junior Baden-Powell award soon.

In other celebrations...Cherrybrook Junior Guides marked Chinese New Year 2016 with a spot of CNY brush painting. Check out their creations below! I expect to see some of these faces entering in the next GirlMade Project in 2017—Ed.
Get in quick! Limited spaces

Who
Senior Guide, Senior Guide Leaders (caving and non-caving) and Olaves

Cost
$45 per person

Location
Wee Jasper, NSW

Registrations Close
Friday, 6 May 2016

Explore underground ecosystems and discover a labyrinth of breathtaking scenery during the Annual Caving Weekend 20–22 May 2016.

Run by the Rover Speleological Society; a group of experienced & qualified Cavers who are all current or former Guides & Scouts.

The Caving adventure is open to both beginners and experienced cavers.

Run by the ROVER SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (RSS)