



Hertfordshire County

share



Rainbows, Brownies and Guides from across Hertfordshire had a great time in the outdoors at our County Activity Day which took place at Tolmers last September.

THE RADLETT DISTRICT COMMUNITY WINTER TREE PROJECT

Bravo to Radlett district on the most amazing piece of community outreach – in the form of Project Winter Tree.

Leader Nic Day, along with treasurer Stephen Williams and unit helper, Scott MacLachlan, organised for wooden pallets to be cut into simple Christmas tree shapes, and distributed amongst guiding units and a variety of community groups, with the following message:

"Girlguiding Radlett district are keen to bring our community together this winter with a display of decorated trees throughout Radlett and the neighbouring village of Shenley. In order to do this, local groups have been invited to decorate and display a 'recycled wooden pallet' tree in any way they choose."

Groups creatively rose to the challenge, designing unique trees and even including messages.

3rd Radlett Brownies, for example, decorated their tree with decorations made from plastic milk cartons, washed and then cut into festive shapes and decorated with a festive theme.



I like the tree at the Radlett Station because we put lots of effort into it.



It was fantastic that other community groups joined in the fun including: Radlett Museum, Playhouse Nursery, Cricket Club, Radlett Men's Club, Tennis Club, Shenley Park Trust, Orchard Tearooms, WI, Christchurch Radlett and St Martins Church Shenley.

The Project Winter Tree Radlett encouraged such a wonderful feeling of community spirit and sharing – what better way to promote Girlguiding?

"I like the tree at the war memorial because it represents important people and it is very pretty."



"They were amazing. They spread(ed!) out very important messages."



THE RADLETT DISTRICT COMMUNITY WINTER TREE PROJECT

"It is fabulous to see the trees popping up all over the community. Many thanks to the volunteers who gave their time reshaping unused pallets to make the bases of the trees, and I know lots of people, young and not so young, had fun decorating them."

Alison Argyle
District Commissioner
Radlett district

"I liked the whole project because it was fun to go looking for all the trees and I like how they all promote something different."

Author: Nic Day Leader and District Commissioner for Elstree and Borehamwood district

Photographs by Alison Argyle
District Commissioner
Radlett district



"While I was making the snowmen I thought about climate change."

"I liked making the snowmen. Everyone in our unit got to do it."



"I loved the tree that recycled bottle lids!"





1st Broxbourne Brownies celebrate their 100th birthday!

The oldest pack in Broxbourne district, 1st Broxbourne Brownies were so excited to celebrate their 100th Birthday.

Over 60 current Brownies and their families, past leaders and helpers, guiding commissioners, and other invited guests enjoyed a fun horse racing evening. Everyone took part as jockeys and race winners were presented with a rosette.

A hand made celebratory cake was cut by current leaders whilst 'Happy Birthday' was sung.

A fun evening was had by all, and they are now looking forward to the next 100 years!

Karen Holliday Leader



GEOCACHING WITH

8TH RICKMANSWORTH BROWNIES

8th Rickmansworth Brownies asked to learn about Geocaching, so we arranged a fantastic evening finding tiny caches and hidden treasure along the routes they normally walk to school and Brownie meetings but had never known were there!

Girls, leaders and parents went home enthusiastic, and will definitely be doing this activity again. Many thanks to Kerry from the county Walking Team who planned the evening, explained about Geocaching and led the activity.

Did you know a member of the county Walking Team will come out to you and lead Geocaching for your unit?

To book, contact Kerry or Julia by emailing walking@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk
Hazel Carmichael Leader

BROWNIES



HERTS PRIDE

Leaders from Stevenage and St Albans divisions represented Girlguiding at August's Herts Pride event at Watford's Cassiobury Park.

We had a stand in the well-being tent which was the entrance to the main arena, meaning that everyone had to pass us on their way in. Attendees were keen to stop and

chat – many mentioned how pleased they were to see Girlguiding there – some former members, others interested in finding out more about opportunities for their own children, and Guides and Rangers from across the county stopped by. In addition to recruitment materials, we were given a variety of small goodies to give away from Anglia region and people were keen to wear our Guide with Pride stickers!

It was such a great experience for the volunteer team and the smiles never left our faces in spite of it being a long, hot day! The whole event was a blast of rainbow colours and positivity.

In addition to spreading the word about Girlguiding, we were able to network with other stallholders and talk to organisations and services who are happy to come and talk to Girlguiding groups including Herts Young Homeless and Herts Police. Away from the well-being tent, there were trade stands, a dog show and the main stage which hosted



a variety of music, drag and comedy acts throughout the day and into the evening.

The over-riding feeling of the day was of positivity and we hope to go again in 2023.

If anyone has any questions or would like advice on supporting LGBTQ+ members in Girlguiding, please drop Xarrius an email via inclusions@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk and they will be happy to help.

Tina Cornish County Inclusions Adviser



At our end of term Christmas party, we handed out 14 Be Well Theme awards and 12 Bronze awards to our Brownies. We also bestowed the name Forest Owl on our DofE Award Helper.

They have all worked hard over the last two terms earning Be Well and Have Adventures themes. Our activities have included a Space Day and Camp Day during the Summer term, and a Snowbound Adventure and Cheerleading class during our Autumn term.

The girls have also taken part in our first Armistice Parade since Covid 19, demonstrated their first aid, and even learned how to be good pirates (making compasses, learning basic navigation and tying knots).

This has been my first time as a Brownie leader and myself (Tawny), Snowy and Forest Owls are so very proud of all they have accomplished.

Sarah Howitt Leader

Celebrating 1st Standon and Puckeridge Brownies



INTERNATIONAL DAY



All aboard for a fabulous International Day in St Albans

114 Brownies, Guides and Rangers embarked on a tour of the 5 WAGGGS (World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts) regions along with a visit to the 5 World Centres. On arrival, each girl was given a passport to collect tokens from each area/Centre visited.

Europe Region has two World Centres, Pax Lodge in London and Our Chalet in Switzerland. Girls hopped on board a Route Master bus to complete a quiz and had fun having photos taken in a Guardsman cut-out.

Our Chalet is located in the mountains at Adelboden, Switzerland. To gain their token the girls learnt about the origins of chocolate and made their own chocolate lolly, which was a very popular activity!

Western Hemisphere Region's World Centre is Our Cabaña in Mexico. Here the girls enjoyed more craft and games as well as some food-based activities.

Africa Region has a roaming World Centre known as Kusafiri, where everyone had a go at some African Drumming.

Sangam is Asia Pacific Region's World Centre, based in Pune, India. The girls tried some Bollywood dancing and some craft from the region.

The last region is Arab, and although there is no World Centre here, the girls enjoyed doing activities and craft from this area.

Well done to all involved for such a wonderful day!

Lorraine England County International Adviser



Fancy an INTERNATIONAL adventure?

International activities are a big part of the fun, friendship, challenge and adventure that Girlguiding has to offer.

Whether it's taking part in a day visit to an international camp or halfway round the globe at a World Centre, there are so many ways to get involved with International Girlguiding.

This year alone, we are part of a trip to the Azores, whilst other members are joining an international camp in South Korea. This is just a taste of what is on offer! If you fancy joining a trip in 2024, join us at our INTOPS selection days on 1st and 2nd April – application forms and further details are on the [county website](#).
Lorraine England County International Advisor





Ingenuity for Remembrance Day

Inspired by this year's Remembrance Day badge, 1st Baldock Brownies were challenged to make something out of a cotton reel.

Their creations included a model train, hand sewn Christmas decoration, toadstool pin cushion, doll binoculars and a cotton reel Promise badge!

Rosie Alsop Leader

Remembrance Parade

2nd Boxmoor Rainbows paraded at Hemel Hempstead Remembrance Parade. We had a good turn out to remember those who have put their country first.

Julie Gibson Leader



Rainbow Charlie at the Commonwealth Games

Charlie and her mum attended the Commonwealth Games on Friday 29 July, going to watch the Men's Team Gymnastics at Arena Birmingham.

From the journey from the train station to the venue, they stopped off to watch James Bay performing on the stage in Victoria Square for Radio 2 with Zoe Ball, and then spotted Mike Bushell presenting in the street for BBC Sport.

A highlight of the day was not only seeing all the gymnasts competing but also bumping into Ellie Simmonds OBE in the street. Ellie was on her way to the studio but made time to stop and have a photo with her fans. Ellie had a short conversation with Charlie about her wearing her Rainbows hoodie and how Ellie also enjoyed being part of the guiding family. Charlie moved up to Brownies in September but was very proud to be part of 3rd Croxley Rainbows and wore her hoodie with pride.

Dawn Goldspring Leader

Gingerbread House Winner



8th Rickmansworth Brownies created a gingerbread house and gingerbread characters depicting the story of Hansel and Gretel, as their entry into the annual church 'decorate a window' competition. This year's theme was pantomimes.



Large and small gingerbread people were perfect for the characters: Hansel and Gretel, the woodcutter, his wife and the evil witch. I have collected a large number of biscuit cutters over the years, so we also had a forest of trees, the

birds who ate the breadcrumbs, and a variety of woodland animals. These included rabbits, hedgehogs, foxes and squirrels – sadly we couldn't depict the badger six too!

The Brownies had such fun bringing everything to life with my edible paints – decorating the trees with Christmas lights and creating multi-coloured animals.

Our Sixers and Seconds added sweets, mini biscuits, multi-coloured sprinkles and silver balls to the gingerbread house – I took on the task of construction!



The finished gingerbread house was firmly stuck to a cake board before safely transferring it to the church windowsill. The whole display was placed on sheets of polystyrene into which we stuck cocktail sticks to support all the characters, woodland animals and trees.

The girls were so excited to see this all come together – and even more delighted when we won the prize for the best window display!

Hazel Carmichael Leader



NEW COMMUNITY DEFIBRILLATOR

A new community defibrillator has been donated by Radlett district Girlguiding, with the funds being generated through First Aid courses run by Verity MacLachlan, county First Aid Adviser.

Verity explained. "Defibrillators are simple and safe devices which, when used with basic CPR, can save the life of an adult or a child who collapses and stops breathing. Call 999 (ask for the code if the box is locked) take the defibrillator out and open it or press the start button to operate. Voice prompts and the ambulance service will tell you what to do until the ambulance arrives."

No course is necessary to use one, but Verity offers short awareness sessions and only requests a donation to help buy more defibrillators.

Hazel Carmichael County Communications and PR Adviser



GIRLGUIDING AWARDS

GOLD AWARD WINNERS

Woolmer Green Brownies

Congratulation to Abbie from Woolmer Green Brownies for completing her Gold award.

We would also like to congratulate Harriet who also received her Gold award.

Jacki Dix Leader



Congratulations to everyone who has recently been presented with their Gold award. Here are the names of the girls that we know about.

Don't forget to let us know if anyone in your Unit achieves a Gold award – we want to honour everyone who does.

Rainbows

Darcy 3rd St Albans Rainbows
Megan 3rd St Albans Rainbows
Sophie 3rd St Albans Rainbows

Brownies

Charlotte 2nd Radlett Brownies
Reya 4th Welwyn Garden City Brownies

Guides

Beth 11th Hitchin Guides
Hannah 1st Standon and Puckeridge Guides

Little Princess Trust

Riddhi donates her hair to charity

A huge Well Done to Riddhi – a 1st & 6th Rickmansworth Brownie who has donated 16 inches of her beautiful hair to the Little Princess Trust.



My Mum inspired me to donate my hair. At first, I was shocked and thought why does somebody need my hair? With a little research I learnt that donating hair is not enough – they need money too.

I selected the Little Princess Trust charity, to make a difference, and because I want to see ‘someone smile’. The Little Princess Trust provides real hair wigs, free of charge, to children and young people who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment and other conditions. Since 2006, they provided more than 12,000 wigs. It costs the charity from £550 to make each wig.”

As well as giving her hair, Riddhi raised an impressive £460 on her JustGiving page.

Hazel Carmichael Leader

Riddhi explains: “I feel proud to be a Brownie, and part of Girlguiding where I have learned to ‘do my best’ and try new skills, have fun and adventures, and also to Take Action.

One of my Theme activities is ‘Help others and Make a difference’. Charities make things better for people, places and animals.



Share at 50

Yes, you read that correctly. *Share* is 50 issues old and we are very proud of our county newsletter that is packed full of all the exciting events and activities that you run for members of Girlguiding Hertfordshire. Our first issue was published in January 2006 – how the world has changed since then!

We thought it would be fun to look back at some of the covers from our earlier days. Back then, *Share* was printed and a copy posted out to members, including the Trefoil Guild. Now we are an electronic publication with one of the key drivers to become more environmentally friendly.

Whilst things are different, what is clear is that we all work hard together to provide a balanced programme full of fun, adventure and great experiences to develop our members, and help them be the best they can be in all elements of their lives.



The Faces Behind Share

You may not realise it but a lot of people bring *Share* together.

Ruth Wing – editor



"My daughter has now left Girlguiding after enjoying Rainbows, Brownies and Guides at 2nd Hertford. I'm so pleased that she enjoyed Girlguiding as much as I did when I was younger."

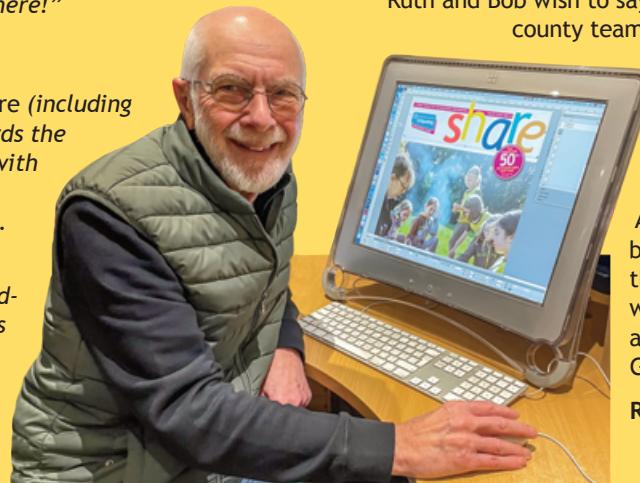
I'm fascinated how much things have changed for the girls. Back in the day, I took my patrol away to gain my Camping Permit – no phones, no leaders – just me and 5 girls for 2 nights in the middle of nowhere!"

Bob Clift – designer

"I designed the first issue of Share (including coming up with the name) towards the end of 2005; a modest 8 pages, with Lynn Archer as its first editor.

It was published in January 2006.

The Girlguiding Hertfordshire Centenary in 2010 had a big build-up so Issue 16, January 2011, was a very special edition with hundreds of great pictures from all over the county.



Issue 24, in 2013, saw a big change inside when Girlguiding Hertfordshire had a major style and branding facelift and the design of the magazine had to conform to an underlying style, which is still in place today.

Issue 43 in 2020 was the next big milestone when Share ceased to be printed by CZ Design & Print and went online in pdf format.

But right from the first issue, because the magazine had such a large pictorial content, I believed that it was most important to get the best out of all of the pictures that were sent in – and this was often quite a challenge!

Working on Share during its first 50 issues has truly been a joy and I wish it all the best for the future in its new format"

Ruth and Bob wish to say a huge thank you to Rachel in the county team for her support with negotiating the Girlguiding branding guidelines and photo permissions. And to Hazel, county PR lead, for sharing lots of super stories and for being a fantastic sounding board.

And to all of you for sending us your brilliant stories and pictures – you and the girls are the real heroes of Share and what makes it so special and respected across the county and the wider Girlguiding community.

Ruth Wing

DATES for your Diary

See e-newsletter or website events and training pages on the website for details.

- 2023**
- 11 March 1st Response Course, Radlett
 - 11 March Great Patrol Hunt 2022/23 – Round 2, St Albans
 - 17-19 March Mountain Experience Weekend / Navigation Training Weekend, Peak District
 - 26 March County Youth Challenge Day, Welwyn Garden City
 - 31 March-2 April Silver DofE Practice Weekend, Chilterns
 - 1-2 April Bronze DofE Training Weekend, Chilterns
 - 1-2 April International Opportunities Selection Days (INTOPS), Cottered, nr Buntingford
 - 21-23 April Silver DofE Practice Weekend, Chilterns
 - 22-23 April Bronze DofE Assessed Expedition, Chilterns
 - 28 April-1 May Introduction to the Hills, Peak District
 - 19-21 May Relaxed Social Walking Weekend, Black Mountains, Wales
 - 20 May 1st Response Course, Hemel Hempstead
 - 26-29 May Silver DofE Assessed Expedition, Peak District
 - 31 May-4 June Anglia Heads West Mountain Walking Weekend, Snowdonia
 - 30 June-2 July Great Patrol Hunt 2022/23 – Round 3, (venue TBC)
 - 9 July LEAP Training, Redbourn – **SAVE THE DATE**
 - 22-24 September Challenge Weekend – venue TBC – **SAVE THE DATE**

Please visit the county website's events page www.girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk/events/ for more details on each event and the training page www.girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk/training/ for more details on each training course.

Submissions for Share Magazine

Please send your submissions for *Share* to share@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk

We will feature them in the next available issue.

When emailing submissions, please provide the article wording, the author's full name and role together with photographs and relevant photo permissions.

Social Media

Please follow Girlguiding Hertfordshire on social media to ensure you are up to date on news and opportunities.

-  Facebook: [Girlguiding Hertfordshire | Facebook](#)
-  Twitter: [GirlguidingHerts \(@gguidingherts\) / Twitter](#)
-  Instagram: [GirlguidingHertfordshire \(@gguidingherts\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)

Photographs

For photos submitted where individuals featured are identifiable, please complete, sign and return a photo permission form which can be requested by emailing share@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk or visiting [Share With Us | Girlguiding-Hertfordshire County \(girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk\)](#)

Please note photos may be cropped/edited/deleted where permissions are not provided.

Your photos may be used for Girlguiding Hertfordshire publicity.

SHOUT OUT!

A special "shout out!" to:

HAZEL CARMICHAEL for her outstanding work as Lead Adviser for the PR team

NICOLA DAY for the wonderful Golf Challenge that she has produced

BOB CLIFT for designing 50 fantastic issues of *Share*

All the members who submitted entries for the Christmas Card competition

THE INTERNATIONAL TEAM for a wonderful day of fun

OUR VOLUNTEERS who gave their time to support the Metropolitan Police for the Queen's funeral

TRACY FOSTER, our Region Chief for her unfaltering support to Girlguiding Hertfordshire and to wish her luck in her new role as Chief Guide!

Girlguiding Hertfordshire also want to give a special Thank You to **AMANDA MEDLER** for her time as Chief Guide. Amanda lives right on the border of Hertfordshire, is a Facebook follower and has commented a few times on how great Hertfordshire's Facebook page is!

HOW TO SUBMIT PHOTOS FOR SHARE MAGAZINE

We love receiving your photos to include in *Share Magazine* and it wouldn't be the magazine it is without them.

To ensure we have the best quality photos to include in *Share*, here are some helpful steps:

- When submitting photos, please email them to share@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk in their 'original size' ideally between 1-3MB if possible. If smaller than 1MB (e.g. 100kb) the quality of the photo will be compromised when transferring to *Share Magazine* and may not be able to be used.
- If sending multiple photos, we would suggest emailing them separately to avoid them being condensed/made smaller.
- Most mobile phones try and make photos smaller when sending by email so they get sent quicker. If prompted (see illustration opposite from iPhone), please tick the box that highlights 'Actual Size'. Again, if sending multiple photos, it may be automatically condensed without giving an option to send in its actual size so best to send photos individually.
- If you are a parent sending photos to leaders, please send these by email rather than WhatsApp. WhatsApp greatly reduces the size of the photo, usually making it around 40-70kb in size which is very small.
- If you have any queries in relation to submitting photos, please email share@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk

