



Annual Review  
**2011**

*Celebrating Our Centenary*



# Bequests

## Did you think of leaving a legacy to the Irish Girl Guides?

About 300,000 women have been members of the Irish Girl Guides since 1910. If even a very few of these had bequeathed a little to us, perhaps as a 'thank you' for the benefits they received in their time in Guiding, what a difference it would make to the service we can provide for our Guides now.

Your bequest, whatever its size, will help us give our members of the future opportunities to develop as better citizens of the world through our Guiding Programme.



The Irish Girl Guides gratefully acknowledges  
National Lottery Funding for the year 2011

# Irish Girl Guides



The mission of the Irish Girl Guides is to enable girls and young women to develop to their fullest potential as responsible citizens of the world.

## Aims and Objectives

The Irish Girl Guides provides an environment where girls and young women from all backgrounds can grow in self-confidence and develop a variety of skills in an unpressurised atmosphere. Through a variety of activities girls and young women are encouraged to:

- develop leadership skills
- develop a knowledge and understanding of spiritual values in their daily lives
- be involved in decision making
- learn practical indoor and outdoor skills
- participate in the international aspects of Guiding
- behave responsibly in upholding the laws of the country
- be aware of and care for the needs of others
- appreciate and use environmental sources responsibly



**The Irish Girl Guides are part of a worldwide movement of 10 million girls and young women.**

**Ladybird Guides** are aged from 5-7 years. They follow a programme full of fun which helps them to:

- become more independent
- learn to care and share
- discover the world around them
- learn about the family of Guiding to which they belong
- take part in activities, including songs and games

**Brownie Guides** are aged from 6½-11 years. They follow a programme of interest, fun and variety which:

- encourages self-development and thoughtfulness towards others
- introduces the girls to the international family of Guiding
- teaches respect for cultures and religions different from their own
- develops team work and sharing

**Guides** are aged from 10½-15 years. They follow a programme of challenges which equips them to:

- have fun through adventure
- offer voluntary service to Guiding and the community
- enjoy the out-of-doors
- learn practical skills
- participate in the international aspect of Guiding
- develop their own spirituality and respect other cultures and religions

**Ranger Guides** are aged from 14½-21 years. The programme for the girls' self development is based on:

- fun and adventure
- service to the community
- outdoor activities
- international opportunities
- spirituality
- craftwork
- Flexibility with the programme is of prime importance and the girls set their own pace and syllabus within the Unit.

**Young Leaders** are aged from 15-18 years. Leadership skills are developed through working with Ladybird, Brownie and Guide Units, thus helping the girls to grow in self-confidence to become the leaders of tomorrow.

**Adult Leaders** are over 18 years of age. They have an interest and enthusiasm in working with young people and are prepared to give some time on a regular basis. Trainings are provided on:

- leadership skills/confidence building
- programme ideas
- environmental issues
- international opportunities
- psychology of the child
- values of Guiding

Leadership is voluntary, rewarding, challenging, fun and a way of making new friends

**Trefoil Guild** are former members of the Irish Girl Guides who have given up active Guiding but want to enjoy the fun and fellowship of the Guide Movement. Each Guild has its own programme of activities and members retain their links with international and local Guiding.

# Who's Who in the Irish Girl Guides

National President	Dilys Lindsay/Maureen Dillon
Chief Commissioner	Emer O'Sullivan
Assistant Chief Commissioners	Finola Dunne and Pat O'Brien
National Programme & Training Commissioner	Sheila Linden
Assistant Programme & Training Commissioner	Mary Clooney
National Treasurer	Evelyn Hayes
Chairman of Finance	Margaret Dunne
International Commissioner	Theresa McCarthy
Assistant International Commissioner	Helena Cahill
Chairman of Public Relations	Catherine Noone
Chairman Trust Corporation	Nuala Cooke
Chairman Membership	Aisling O'Halloran
Grant Secretary	Hazel Convery
Equality Diversity and Inclusion	Ruth Hughes
Chief Executive Officer	Linda Peters

## Regional Commissioners

North West Region	Geraldine Kiely
North East Region	Olwyn Williamson
West and Central Midlands Region	Therese Joyce
Mid West Region	Anne Lillis
Eastern Region	Amanda O'Sullivan
South West Region	Rosemary O'Driscoll
South East Region	Celestine Fennessy

## Chairmen National Committees

Ladybird Guides	Sharon Flynn
Brownie Guides	Martina Fox
Guides	Pat O'Brien
Senior Branch	Mary Theresa Hally/Jenny Gannon
Constitution	Claire Colfer
Adult Training and Outdoors	Sylvia Richardson
National Memorial Cottage	Joan Gregg

## Representatives

National Women's Council of Ireland	Kay Gallagher
National Youth Council of Ireland	vacant
Irish Trefoil Guild National Council	Elaine O'Connell/Hannah Keating



# Greetings to Everyone

2011 was a very busy year for members of the Irish Girl Guides. It was the year we celebrated our Centenary. Started in 1911, in 2011 we are still a thriving, relevant organisation with a membership of more than 11,000. Our Centenary celebrations started with an event in the RDS attended by members from all over the country. At that event a Guiding Light was presented to each Regional Commissioner for her to spread the light around her Region.

On 7<sup>th</sup> May Semple Stadium in Thurles was taken over by IGG members for what was our largest Centenary event. Ladybirds, Brownies, Guides, Senior Branch and Leaders all participated in events around the stadium. In July over 1,500 members participated in our Regional Centenary Camps. Maureen Dillon and I, together with a very patient driver, Piotr, travelled over one thousand miles around the country between Friday night and Sunday night to visit the camps. It was a brilliant, if tiring, experience.

Later in July, Theresa McCarthy, International Commissioner and I, had the privilege of representing IGG at the WAGGGS World Conference in Edinburgh which was attended by almost 400 members from 122 countries around the world.

The Chief Commissioner's Award was held in Sligo/Leitrim in August, and in September we had our Next Steps Weekend



when members of all of our National Committees had the opportunity, for the first time, of coming together to work for the weekend. On the weekend of 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> November all across the country we held Centenary Closing events when at 19.11hrs our members renewed their Promise.

What better way to hold our final national event of the Centenary than to have our annual outing to the Pantomime in the Gaiety Theatre.

Our Centenary celebrations instilled in all of us a great pride in who and what we are as members of the Irish Girl Guides. While it was a very busy and tiring year, I think our enthusiasm for Guiding has increased as we move forward into the second century of Guiding in Ireland.

*Eileen O'Sullivan*

Chief Commissioner

## Membership 2010/11

Region	Ladybirds		Brownies		Guides		Young Leaders/ Rangers		Adult Leaders		Trefoil Guild Members		Overall Totals	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
Eastern	534	537	1335	1414	681	732	92	96	427	441	119	114	3188	3334
Mid West	282	319	685	644	240	238	43	53	192	203	13	16	1455	1473
North East	240	321	520	590	242	296	41	34	157	183	0	0	1200	1424
North West	119	124	260	258	112	107	14	15	80	85	10	10	595	599
South East	129	129	322	286	138	132	30	28	96	96	0	0	715	671
South West	429	443	944	1033	474	540	70	84	277	284	28	29	2222	2413
W C M	166	189	531	532	211	319	24	25	155	167	16	10	1103	1242
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1899</b>	<b>2062</b>	<b>4597</b>	<b>4757</b>	<b>2098</b>	<b>2364</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>1384</b>	<b>1459</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>10478</b>	<b>11156</b>

# Overview 2011

## CELEBRATE

Members of all ages had plenty of opportunities to **celebrate the centenary of IGG** over the course of the year. Over 700 members travelled to the RDS in Dublin to participate in the launch of the centenary in January. The following month saw **centenary Thinking Day events** taking place at regional and local level throughout the country. On 10<sup>th</sup> April members celebrated WAGGGS Day, the 100<sup>th</sup> day of the year, when the theme was "grow". A bed of 100 Girlguiding UK **centenary roses** was planted in the Rose Gardens in St. Anne's Park, Dublin and a centenary rose was also planted in the Powerscourt Estate, Co. Wicklow.

Various **large-scale centenary events** were organised by different Regions at which Ladybirds, Brownies and Guides enjoyed taking part in a wide range of activities and meeting their local counterparts. **Guide centenary camps** were held in six of the seven IGG Regions over the same weekend in the summer and IGG's Chief Commissioner and President travelled 1,323 km in 3 days to visit each of them.

IGG chose two charities to raise funds for during our centenary year – **Barnardos and the Global Girls Fund**. Fundraising events were held throughout the year, leading to a total of €17,000 being raised. This will be of great benefit to both charities, each of which is dedicated to supporting children and young people, both in Ireland and abroad.

The **closing ceremony** of the centenary took place locally throughout the country when members were asked to renew their Promise at 19:11 on 19<sup>th</sup> November (19/11) to commemorate the date that the Irish Girl Guides was formed.

In addition to the centenary celebrations, IGG had many other occasions to celebrate during the year:-

- **Gold Awards** were presented to a record number of girls in 2011. A special presentation ceremony was held in the Dome at Semple Stadium for the 84 girls who achieved the highest award in Guiding
- A new **long-service award badge for over 30 years service** was designed and a special ceremony held at Semple Stadium when Leaders who had volunteered for this length of time were presented with their awards
- Denise McDonnell, an IGG Leader from Navan, Co. Meath, received a **Traveller Pride Award** for her community work, particularly for her involvement with IGG.
- In October Gay Byrne, Chairman of the Road Safety Authority, presented IGG with the **Leading Light Road Safety Authority Award** in the community education sector for our Road Safety resource packs and badges



## CONGREGATE

In May over 6,000 members gathered in Semple Stadium, Thurles, Co. Tipperary for **the major centenary event, Bailleú**. The Centenary Committee worked hard for many months to ensure that plans were in place to entertain participants of all ages and their hard work paid off. Highlights included the parade around the stadium with banners displayed by representatives of all Units present; speeches from Frances Fitzgerald, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs and from Mary McPhail, Chief Executive of WAGGGS; a huge variety of fun activities which took place at various venues around the stadium and entertained young and old alike; and the presentation of over 30-year service awards. The finale was the performance by an Abba tribute band which was thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

On the first weekend of September 2011, members of all of IGG's national committees came together for the first time to attend an event called **"Next Steps"**. Its aim was to develop committee members' skills and enable them to fully participate at national level. Each national committee had its own meeting first which facilitated some joint work and collaboration.

A session entitled the Big Wheel enabled each committee to give an overview of its work and state what it hoped to achieve in the year ahead. This gave members of other committees an opportunity to see the big picture of IGG and how it operates nationally. A strategic planning workshop gave participants the opportunity to think about the future direction of IGG.

## EVALUATE

The process of **reviewing the programme for all age groups** in IGG commenced during the year. Terms of reference for a committee responsible for this large piece of work were drawn up and an ad-hoc committee was formed. During the year it's focus was to evaluate current Branch programmes, examine similar organisations' programmes, survey IGG members and analyse the results.

Another evaluation process that started during the year was the **evaluation of the effectiveness of the new uniform for Guides, Senior Branch and adult Leaders**. An ad-hoc committee was set up to survey members of all ages and obtain their opinions. This work is on-going and the findings and recommendations will be brought to the Executive Committee in due course.

## EDUCATE

Work on **Further Education and Training Awards Council (FETAC) courses** continued during the year. Congratulations to three IGG Leaders from Mid West Region who were presented with their FETAC level 6 Tutor's Award and to twelve other Leaders from the same Region who achieved the FETAC level 5 award on the Guiding Module.

IGG's Trainers also had the opportunity to keep up to date with changes in the Guiding programme and contribute to ideas for future plans at the **IGG Trainers' Conference** held in October.

## COLLABORATE

In September IGG announced that it had formed a **partnership with Plan Ireland**, which is part of Plan International, one of the largest development agencies in the world. Plan's vision of a world in which all children realise their potential in societies which respect people's rights and dignities ties in very well with IGG's mission statement.

Personnel from Plan Ireland delivered sessions at each of the Regional Conferences when they explained how IGG Leaders and girls can help to promote children's rights and gender equality.

During the year Plan Ireland also compiled activities for inclusion in IGG's **Global Action Theme (GAT) resource** based on the Millennium Development Goals.

In October 2011, IGG's Executive Committee voted in favour of joining the alliance of organisations that support the **Turn Off the Red Light campaign**. This campaign aims to end prostitution and sex trafficking in Ireland by calling on the Irish Government to introduce legislation to end the exploitation of women, men and children in the sex industry. By supporting this campaign, IGG also supports WAGGGS' policy of stopping violence against women.

## COMMUNICATE

Every effort was made to get **media coverage** of events during our special centenary year. As a result, a total of 1070 pieces were published in local, regional and national newspapers. IGG's **Twitter and Facebook** sites were used to best advantage to advertise various opportunities and share news with as many IGG members as possible during the year.

IGG was the focus of a **radio documentary entitled "100 Years of Guiding"** in April 2011. It was produced by Róisín Fitzgerald, an IGG member who is an independent radio producer, thanks to funding from the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland. The programme was composed of past and present members' stories about their Guiding experiences and examined the role that Guiding played in women's lives and the opportunities it gave them.

As a result of all of this awareness-raising, members of the public could be in no doubt that IGG had celebrated its centenary in style during 2011 and was ready to face its next century with energy and pride.





# Branch Reports

## Ladybird Guide Branch

IGG's Centenary Year was without doubt the busiest year ever for Ladybird Guides throughout the country. We began the year on 8<sup>th</sup> January with the launch of our Centenary in the RDS joining in with over 700 members to start 2011 with a bang. Later in January, hundreds of Ladybirds attended a free screening of the magical Disney film "**Tangled**", with many cinemas using their entire stock of booster seats for the occasion.

**Branch Day** was held in Morans Red Cow Hotel, Dublin on 5<sup>th</sup> February. The morning sessions were filled with discussions on our upcoming Programme Review and an afternoon training session on crafts. 29 Leaders representing 17 Units attended.

**World Thinking Day** celebrations were held at Regional level and Ladybirds came out in strength to enjoy the games, crafts and songs - for many it was a first "Day Out" with their Leaders. Ladybirds also helped the Dublin Rose plant a bed of Centenary Roses in St. Anne's Rose Garden, Dublin.

On 7<sup>th</sup> May over 600 Ladybirds attended **Bailiú** in Thurles – and a brilliant time was had by all.

Working with the **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion** committee, the new Ladybird prayer, which is suitable for all faiths was sent to Units in September. Iron-on images were also sent to Units to assist them in decorating their Ladybird Gardens.

Two new badges were introduced – "**Music**" and "**Safety in the Home**" with trainings on both badges being held at Regional Conferences.

In October, 57 Ladybird Units entered the **Centenary colouring competition** and the entries were all of a very high standard.

Regional Gang Shows or District events including renewing our Promise marked the end of a fantastic year.

Thank you to all the Leaders for making 2011 a special year for your Ladybirds – it was hard work, many Saturdays and Sundays away from your family. You cared and you shared your time and expertise, and this was all in addition to your weekly meetings. Be proud of what you achieved. Well done. Thank you.



## Brownie Guide Branch

What a year 2011 has been for Brownies and Leaders nationwide. With so many **Centenary events** to choose from and our programme to complete it was a wonder so many managed to accomplish so much. The year started with the official opening in the RDS in January and closed with Regional events for Promise renewal; in between there was Bailiú, Days Out, planting ceremonies and pack holidays.

Also in 2011, Brownie Branch had asked all of the Leaders to help it in its aim to make the Brownie Prayer and Brownie Bells more inclusive. Leaders nationwide received letters/emails in late 2010 asking their opinion on the various suggestions for **updating the Brownie Prayer and Brownie Bells**. Very quickly a new Brownie Bells was chosen, with the majority of respondents choosing one option. The prayer took more work but thanks to the input and help of the Branch's many Leaders, by late January a new, more inclusive Brownie prayer had been chosen. A letter detailing the prayer and a leaflet to update 'The Brownie Guide' book was sent to all Leaders in September.

In February our **Branch Day** was held in the Red Cow Hotel. It was well attended by Brownie Leaders who, apart from enjoying Trainings and Crafts, also took part in a Programme Review session. Many Leaders later commented on this session and how great it was to be asked for feedback/ideas on the new programme.

A new **Global Traveller Badge** syllabus was designed and later added along with the new versions of the Brownie Prayer and Brownie Bells to the 'The Brownie Guide' book.

Brownie Branch ran a **scrapbook competition** this year. The title of the scrapbook was "What Guiding has done for your Unit/Community". The scrapbooks received showed the work that Brownies can do in their local community with many Units raising money for charity by hosting sales, coffee mornings, or carol singing. Many Units also help their community by doing litter collections or planting in their local area.

This was such a busy year that we must remember to thank all of the Leaders who worked so hard in so many areas to make it a success. Thank You!



## Guide Branch

This year Guide branch was very busy. 45 Guide Leaders attended a very interesting Branch Day in the Red Cow Hotel as well as attending other trainings at Regional Conferences and continuing to take part in days out, camps, trips abroad and their usual weekly meetings.

As this was the centenary year it was especially nice to be a part of the centenary celebrations that ran throughout the year. At Bailiú, 82 Guides received their **Gold Award** Pins & Certificates which were presented by our new President, Maureen Dillon. The Gold Award recipients led the centenary parade around the pitch of Semple Stadium carrying 100 Gold Balloons.

Guides nationwide also took part in **Regional Camps** held on the same weekend in July to prepare for CAMP 101.

5 **Siorghlas** certificates were sent to Regional Commissioners to be presented at Regional events. Both the Gold Award and Siorghlas certificates were redesigned and made more colourful and we're happy to see so many girls achieving these awards.

We planned and discussed a lot of interesting programme developments. "**Guides Go 100**" badge was issued with Guides having to carry out different challenges to gain this badge. Patrol Leaders handbook got a revamp and we're very proud of it. Some interest badges were redesigned and made more colourful and attractive. The GAT syllabus was discussed. Plans for the next 5 years and the Programme Review were discussed at length.

This year saw new reps and a treasurer come on the committee so that now the committee consists of the chair, assistant chair, one committee member, six Regional reps and a treasurer. All members of the committee attended the Next Steps Weekend in September and look forward to working to achieve the best for our Guide Branch members in the next few years.



## Senior Branch

Senior Branch had a busy year with Senior Branchers involved in many **Centenary Celebrations** around the country. The year got off to a great start with the opening of the centenary in the RDS and Eastern Region Senior Branchers headed to Kenya with Friends of Londiani as part of a special **Centenary Service Project**.

**Bailiú** brought so many together from all over the country with Senior Branchers helping Leaders to bring the girls from their own Units and Districts to enjoy the day. They even managed to fit in some fun for themselves.

The **Lightweight Weekend** brought a great group to the Galtees and everyone enjoyed plenty of hiking and camping and managed to escape with very little rain. In the summer we held a **Chief Commissioner's Award** and what an award it was. Teams were dropped off and walked through the countryside of Sligo, Leitrim and Roscommon. Everyone involved had a ball. They met amazing members of the public, completed projects to learn about the local area and covered over 60 km.

November saw us close the Centenary in style with a very special **Senior Branch Weekend**. Over 60 members gathered from all over the country to enjoy a great weekend in Dublin and dance the night away on Saturday night with their very own birthday bash for the centenary. They also presented outgoing Senior Branch Chairman Mary Theresa Hally with a memento of her time with Senior Branch. Jenny Gannon was appointed Chairman of Senior Branch and we wish her all the best for 2012.



# Around the Regions

## ●●● Eastern Region

Yet again this has been a very busy year for **Eastern Region**. This would not have been possible without the dedication of Leaders in Eastern Region and a huge WELL DONE is deserved by all those Leaders both at local and Regional level. The Regional team has seen some departures and additions throughout the year and it is due to the continued dedication of this team that great events and trainings could take place.

Along with regular weekly meetings, day trips, overnight events, and international trips; there were also a large number of Regional and national events this year that were attended by girls and Leaders from Eastern Region. New Units were opened which is always great news and the Leaders and girls are very welcome.

Regional events included:

- Captainball competition
- World Thinking Day Event in National Basketball Arena with over 1000 girls in attendance
- Eastern Region Senior Branch Service Project to Kenya with Friends of Londiani, where they undertook peer education courses, painting, mapping water tanks plus learning about Kenyan culture.
- Regional Camp which involved nearly 300 Guides for 3 nights, plus Ladybirds and Brownies arriving for the Big Big Takeover event on the Saturday and the Army running activities for Guides on the Sunday which was a massive hit.
- Commissioner Training
- 13+ weekend
- Rescue Emergency Care Course
- Regional Conference attended by 140 Leaders.

National Events attended by ER members included:

- Screening of film Tangled
- RDS Opening Ceremony event
- Bailiú which was attended by approx 1100 Eastern Region girls. A large number of Leaders were the proud recipients of the 30 year service pin.
- Gold Award Presentation
- Chief Commissioners' Award - 5 teams attended from Eastern Region.

**Beech Cottage and campsite** which is located near Edenderry Co Offaly was renovated and extended to improve conditions in the cottage. The turning of the sod on these works took place in April 2011. Leaders in the Region got together to paint the cottage in preparation for the first Units that will stay in the cottage in 2012.

This has been a massive learning curve for the team involved and thanks must be extended to the Region, the Trust Corporation of IGG; members of Executive committee; along with the design and build team. To renovate and extend this property that is 100 years old while IGG celebrated its 100 years was most fitting indeed.

Finally in December we said **goodbye** to one of our Regional Development Officers Gillian Finan and wished her well for the future. She was a great asset to Eastern Region and will be greatly missed by all the girls and leaders that she supported and worked with in her role.



## ●●● Mid-West Region

Mid West Region had an amazing year celebrating IGG's Centenary. Along with sending representatives to all the National Centenary Events many more were held at Unit, District, Area and Regional Level.

Our biggest Regional event took place on 20<sup>th</sup> February in Limerick. We were delighted to welcome the IGG President, Chief Commissioner, Mayor of Limerick and many past members of IGG along with representatives from all our Branches to a special **Centenary Opening Ceremony**. It was attended by almost 800 people and centred on a Thanksgiving / Thinking Day programme, linking the past to the present.

Following the formal ceremony current Leaders had the opportunity to meet and mingle with the many guests over much welcomed refreshments served by parents from the local Units.

Our Regional Centenary camp took place in July in Murroe, Co Limerick. The programme focused on back to basics with many traditional style activities along with the opportunity to complete many of the centenary challenges. We were delighted to welcome guests from Girl Guiding Cymru, Wales who camped with us and gave the camp an International flavour.





A visit from IGG's National President and the Assistant Chief Commissioner was much welcomed and appreciated. They spent an afternoon meeting and chatting with the many Guides and Leaders.

On 19th November members gathered in Thurles to formally close the centenary year. A **Gang Show** was held with 16 acts presented by Ladybirds, Brownies, Guides and Senior Branch Units; interspersed throughout the acts were meaningful reflections and songs. The Grand finale saw representatives from all Units present come on the stage with their Unit banners. All those present had glow sticks with a luminous star attached (magic wand) which they used to make a wish while singing "when you wish upon a star."

Many thanks to everyone who helped to make our Centenary a year full of treasured memories.

## ●●● North East Region

What a year! The centenary celebrations were a big part of the Guiding year for North East members. Units travelled to the RDS in January to start the Centenary and in February we joined together for a **Regional Thinking Day** in Drogheda. A great day of fun, friendship, renewing of Promises and Guiding in the past was organised by the committee and the local Drogheda Leaders.

In May, many Units travelled to Thurles and we won't forget the mass of colour, girls, Leaders and excitement! We were delighted to have Guides from our Region receiving their Gold Award certificates and badges and three of our Leaders obtaining their thirty year service pins.

The **Regional Camp** in Lough Crew was a busy few days with lots of activities ranging from "how we used to do it" activities to showing the visiting Brownies and Ladybirds all the fun of camping nowadays. All the Areas celebrated the closing of the Centenary by getting together with concerts, fun activities and ceremonies.

In November, **Dundalk Guiding** celebrated forty years of IGG in the Area. Our membership has increased again in North East and we have new Units opening around the Region which is great to see and thanks must go to our RDO and all the Leaders who help in the promotion of IGG.

Our **Regional Conference** was held in November and we were delighted to welcome the Chief Commissioner, Emer O'Sullivan, to the event. It was a busy day with lots of discussion, training and opportunities to renew and make friendships. Throughout the year we held various trainings and many Leaders availed of these. Congratulations to all the Leaders who obtained their camping qualifications. We look forward to seeing them at Camp 101.

Finally we would like to congratulate our North East member Maureen Dillon on her election as the new Irish Girl Guides' President during the year and wish her all the best for her term of office.



## ●●● North West

In January, nearly 200 Brownies and Guides from Units in Mayo and Sligo attended a free preview of the Disney film '**Tangled**'. Girls and Leaders alike were impressed with the 3D effects and it was a lovely way to start our year.

Mayo Units came together for their **World Thinking Day** celebrations hosted by the Ardagh Units at Ardagh Community Centre.

All the Units that made the long trip to Thurles to attend the Bailiú centenary celebrations had great fun at the event.

A big welcome to the Leaders and girls in Ballycroy who established a new Unit there early in 2011.

The highlight of the year was on the 11<sup>th</sup> June when we held our **Regional Fun Day** at Skreen Community Centre to celebrate the Centenary. Along with most of our Leaders we had 119 Ladybirds, 248 Brownies and 87 Guides attending. Well done to the organising team who did a great job making the day a brilliant success and hopefully a day that the girls will remember for years to come.

This was followed in July by the **Regional Camp** which again was very well attended with 102 girls and Leaders from Units throughout the Region having lots of fun at Lough Garten. The girls had the opportunity to try out many activities including canoeing and archery. During camp the following leaders were successful in completing their camping qualifications: - Dianne Bournes – MO, Deirdre Carr – QM, Elizabeth Costello – Holmes – MO, Elizabeth Ferguson – QM, Siobhan MacHale – CO, Ann Wallace – MO, and Kathy Walsh – CO. Well done to all the Leaders.

Tireragh Units visited Disney on Ice and the Tireragh Guides came fourth in the national quiz.

The **Regional Conference** took place over the weekend of the 15/16<sup>th</sup> October. During the conference we were lucky to recruit a number of new Regional Reps and Commissioners.





## ●●● South East

Our Centenary started well with Units from the Region attending the **Opening Ceremony in the RDS** and many weary travellers returned home tired from the day's activities but all enthused for the coming year. Our 2010 Regional Conference was held in Enniscorthy Co. Wexford in January 2011 with 60 + members attending. Thanks to all the trainers who gave the Branch trainings, also to the Regional trainers Margaret Patterson, Christene McAssey-Croke, Marjorie Godinhoe and Adele Mealey for all their help and expertise.

Carlow held an **Area Thinking Day Celebration** which all Units attended and a great day was had by all with wonderful PR in the local papers.

Units from all around the Region attended **Bailiú** in Thurles and gathered memories to be treasured for years to come.

St Killian's Guides represented the Region at the "**Timpeall an Domhain**" competition in Bandon and had a wonderful time. The girls enjoyed the competition aspect but also liked meeting girls from all around the country and learning about International Guiding.

**St Killian's Guides & Sleaty Guides** spent a wonderful 3 days in the Outdoor Adventure centre in Kilfinane. The girls are eagerly planning a return visit in 2013!

Ladybirds, Brownies and Guides from **Graiguecullen** came together for a special celebration of 100 years of the Irish Girl Guides and were presented with a special candle to mark the occasion. A tree was planted and refreshments and a photo display were held afterwards.

The Ladybirds in Graiguecullen also had another special day when they visited their Leader Christene McAssey on the occasion of her wedding to Michael Croke. Best wishes to both from all in the Region.

Castle Guides in Kilkenny attended the Fia challenge, County Camp and also attended the Regional **Centenary Camp** in Melleray along with Guides from Carlow and Clonmel. Our Centenary Camp was honored with a visit from Irish Girl Guides' President Maureen Dillon and Chief Commissioner Emer O'Sullivan.

The Region had 3 new Units start up this year, Marmar Brownies in Kilkenny along with Sea Shell Ladybird and Guide Units in Co Wexford.

Our Centenary Regional Conference and overnight event was held in The Horse & Jockey Hotel in Thurles in November, 50+ attended. Camp101 & Plan Ireland gave presentations, Code of Ethics training was also supplied along with the Ladybird, Brownie & Guide Branch trainings.

The year closed with Units going ice skating, attending Pantos and parties and doing all the usual fun things that make up day to day Guiding. Well Done to all the Leaders, Trainers, Senior Branch, Rangers, Guides, Brownies and Ladybirds on the celebration of our Centenary and here's looking forward to the next 100 years.



## ●●● South West Region

South West Region had another busy year in 2011. The Region is delighted to announce the opening of the following new Units: Dungarvan Ladybirds, Middleton Brownies, Villierstown Brownies, Kilbehenny Guides, Ballyheigue Ladybirds, Brownies and Guides and the re-opening of Ballyphehane Brownies.

In April a Guide **fun day "Go Guiding"** was held in Kilcully, Co Cork where 200 Guides took part in such activities as medi-aid, semaphore, team challenges and backwoods cooking. The sun shone as Guides took part in the activities and made many new friends.

All roads led to Thurles in May for "**Bailiú**" where many Units from the Region had a fabulous day enjoying the highlight of the centenary celebrations. Hard working and proud **Gold Award Guides** from the South West were presented with their certificates in Thurles.

An **adult training camp** took place in Macroom where many Leaders and Senior Branch members took part in training activities to improve their outdoor skills to enable them to work towards their qualifications to bring Brownies and Guides away on overnight events. The Region is delighted to welcome Rosaleen Henry as a new Outdoor Advisor for the Region.

In July the **Regional Camp "South West Go Wild"** was held in Kilcully, Cork. Three hundred Guides and Brownies enjoyed the camp activities and campfires. It was amazing to see a campsite of 300 people line dancing together while dressed up in western themed outfits.

The Green Glens arena in Millstreet was the venue for the **Regional Centenary Fun Day** in October. "SW Madness" was an opportunity for 1100 Ladybirds, Brownies, Guides, Senior Branch and Leaders to bungee trampoline, scale a climbing wall, go on a bouncy slide, do science experiments and experience an astronomy show in a large dome tent. After the Ladybirds and Brownies went home 240 Guides and Senior Branch members prepared for a **"Giant Sleepover"** and the Leaders braced themselves for the stay-awake! After evening activities the girls and Leaders enjoyed a disco and then the Green Glens arena hosted its first ever cinema experience.

The **Regional Conference** was held in the Blarney Golf Resort in Cork in November. The conference was a great success and it was great to see 110 leaders attending and 70 Leaders stayed on Saturday evening to enjoy some final centenary celebrations. There was a great buzz in the hotel over the weekend and Leaders learnt many new activities, games and crafts to share with their units.

In December our members had a great time at the Beauty and the Beast panto in Cork and the Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs panto in Waterford. The South West Region is looking forward to the next 100 years of fun, friendship and adventure!

## ●●● West & Central Midlands Region

Firstly a huge thank you to all the wonderful Leaders who helped make this year so special – it was just fantastic. January began with many of us attending the opening ceremony of the Centenary year at **the RDS** and the first big event for the Region was when 200 girls came to see the premier of Disney's **"Tangled"** in the Galway Omniplex cinema.

**World Thinking Day** saw us descend on Athlone IT. It was the first time in the Region that every single member from the tiniest Ladybird to the "most mature" Trefoil Guilder was invited to come together in one place for a massive celebration for Thinking Day. About 800 people came and it was a big challenge to organise activities suitable for such a diverse group. We had a great team who organised the day and thanks to them the girls had lots of entertainment including games, crafts, making s'mores, a giant singsong and lots more. Our then President Dilys Lindsay must have set a new record by enrolling over 160 new members – I'm sure she had to pack her hand in ice after so many hand shakes!

Like the other Regions, we were well represented at **Bailiú** in May and that day will live long in our memories.

We then prepared for the **Regional Camp** which was held this year in Portlick, Co Westmeath. It was the biggest camp we have had for years and we focused on traditional camping skills like backwoods cooking, orienteering, pioneering and even putting up Icelandic tents as well as new stuff like archery, zip wiring and

crate stacking. We were delighted that Brownies and Ladybirds joined us on the Saturday and joined in our "High Street" activities to raise money for our Centenary charities. Some stayed for our campfire from which we saved some ash to bring to Camp101 next summer.

The girls may not have been aware that many of our Leaders gave up yet another weekend to update their skills at our **Regional Conference** in October. This year it was hosted by Rath Carrow Area and was held in the Cuise Centre, Co. Roscommon. It was very well attended as usual, especially by new Leaders.

The final big event where the Region came together was at the very popular **Gang Show** in the Black Box Theatre, Galway in November. The programme consisted of 9 acts which showed a very high level of talent and more importantly confidence among the girls from all of the Branches. With the closing ceremony it was a fantastic way to wind up our Centenary year.

All this does not reflect all the various achievements of individual Leaders and Units. Remember the Ladies Mini Marathon; Banagher's roadside floral planting; Grace Grouden's People of the Year Award; the People's History of Galway; the Leaders' trip to Pax Lodge; hundreds of sand castles built as part of the Centenary Challenges; Banagher Guide's success in the International Quiz and so much more that it's hard to sum up. All in all WCM had a wonderful time in 2011 and we're looking forward to 2012.





# Centenary Reports

**Our Centenary year – 2011 was a year to highlight Guiding in Ireland and to celebrate the past 100 years of the development of IGG throughout the country, along with our past achievements, our members and our hopes for the future.**

The celebrations began on a snowy Saturday in January with an opening event full of music, singing and dancing. Each Region received their centenary light from the Chief Commissioner and President to shine brightly during the year. The two charities that IGG supported in 2011 – Barnardos and the Global Girls Fund were represented by Fergus Finlay CEO of Barnardos and Kavita Oberoi of the Global Girls Fund and the work that they undertake was highlighted in their speeches. Throughout the year events were organised on a national, Regional and a local basis and in this way almost every member of IGG was involved in some way from the youngest Ladybird to the oldest member of Trefoil Guild. Each member received a special centenary woggle to wear on their neckerchief to highlight the year.

A bed of 100 Centenary roses was planted in the Rose garden of St. Anne's Park, Dublin on 22<sup>nd</sup> February also marking World Thinking Day and in December a Centenary rose bush was planted in the grounds of Powerscourt House, Co. Wicklow marking the link between IGG and the Powerscourt family, which was very strong in the early years of IGG's development. Many Units planted flowers and trees around the country commemorating the centenary, which will be a lasting memento of the centenary and IGG.

Members of IGG featured strongly in parades to mark St. Patrick's Day throughout the country using the centenary theme to highlight our achievements over the past 100 years. On WAGGGS Day, 10<sup>th</sup> April, Units focused on the theme "GROW" and as an organisation IGG has continued to grow during 2011.

Saturday May 7<sup>th</sup> was the big day of the year with over 6,200 of our members gathered together in Thurles for a National Fun Day to celebrate our Centenary. This fun-filled day had something for everyone. The day began with the members' parade which was a spectacular colourful affair with all Units represented by their Unit Banner. A lot of hard work had been put into making these banners and it was wonderful to see them parading around the pitch in Semple Stadium led by the De La Salle Scout Pipe Band. The day was officially opened by Minister for Children & Youth Affairs, Frances Fitzgerald TD. Other speeches on the day were made by our Chief Commissioner, Emer O'Sullivan and by our VIP guest Mary McPhail, Chief Executive of WAGGGS. Presentations on the day were made to the Gold Award Guides and also our long service Leaders received their 30 year service pins. Overall formalities on the day were kept to a minimum as fun and friendship were the order of the day. Everyone gathered together for our Guinness Book of Records attempt and whilst we might not have managed to break the record for the longest knotted rope chain, we still had a lot of fun trying (and indeed tying!!). Amongst the group activities available on the day were workshops on circus skills, drumming, science, and dance.



We also had many, many games on site including every kind of inflatable, an old fashioned helter skelter and carousel, zorbing, milking cows, animal farms and crafts, crafts, and more crafts! The grand finale on the day was a concert by Abbaesque and once again this united all generations of Guiding. They had us singing and dancing and definitely sent us all home on a high. It was a big day for the Irish Girl Guides and one that will definitely stay in our memories for many years to come.

The year continued with 6 Regional camps taking place over the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in July and all being visited by the Chief Commissioner and President on a whistle stop tour of the country. The 7<sup>th</sup> camp took place a week later. The camps enabled many Brownies to spend a night under canvas and Ladybirds to visit – maybe for the first time. Throughout the year Units have taken part in the Centenary Challenge and have also been fundraising for the two Centenary charities. This has been done in a variety of ways from filling the shape of 100 with coins, to participating in mini-marathons, cake sales and sleep-overs.

The closing ceremony for the Centenary was held on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November (19/11). This date was chosen as it represented the year Guiding started in Ireland – 1911. All members of IGG were asked to renew their Promise at the time of 19:11 – again using the symbolism of the year Guiding began. Celebrations then lasted as long as everyone wanted from an hour to 20:11 or through the night and into 20<sup>th</sup> November (20/11) to remember all IGG has achieved over the past 100 years. Celebrations varied in size from the Unit gathering, to groups of former Leaders to Regional Gang Shows – all with one purpose – to celebrate the centenary and the end of a great year.

Throughout the year, IGG hit the newspaper headlines more than 1,000 times with particular emphasis on centenary activities. Units were very visible in their local communities highlighting what IGG does and the benefits to the girls. IGG has come a long way since the first Guide company was opened in Harold's Cross in 1911. The Centenary year has celebrated our achievements and we had much to celebrate. As one century closes, another opens up with lots of new challenges for today's members as they look to the future and a strong second century of Guiding in Ireland.



## Public Relations (PR)

2011, our Centenary Year was an amazing year for IGG resulting in some wonderful PR coverage on television, on national and local radio and in newspapers. Throughout the year there were over 1000 press clippings mentioning the Irish Girl Guides. Well done to all the Leaders and the PR Committee for making this happen!

To kick start the year, on 8<sup>th</sup> January our centenary launch was featured on RTE news. CAMP 101 also made the newspaper headlines with its launch in Lough Key Forest Park on 22<sup>nd</sup> of January. January also marked IGG's entry into the social media arena as we set up our own IGG Facebook and Twitter accounts.

In February, the Eastern Region Thinking Day event was featured in the Irish Independent. That same week a photo of the centenary rose planting ceremony was in the Irish Times and the Irish Examiner. Ciara Mc Partland, Rachel Manning, Rebecca Murphy from Ballyroan Guides appeared on 'Elev8' Children's TV programme on RTE 2 later in the month. They spoke about IGG and our centenary celebrations. In the same week Stillorgan Blue Brownies and Guides from Blackrock featured on the Friday dance off on 'Elev8'.

For International Women's Day in March, IGG wrote and featured in many 'Letters to the Editor' columns in national and county papers speaking about IGG's support of International Women's Day. We wanted to share the news of our centenary and to express our gratitude for the work and efforts of inspirational women who have enabled girls and young women to reach their full potential for the last 100 years.

We also sent an E-Card celebrating International Women's Day to all our Leaders, President Mary MacAleese, sixty-two females who focus on youth and community organisations, eighteen female newspaper and magazine editors, and twenty-five newly elected female T.D.s.

In March, many newspapers ran photos of IGG members wearing their uniforms for the St. Patrick's Day parades all around the country.

On the 100<sup>th</sup> day of the 100<sup>th</sup> year of Guiding in Ireland, a "100 Years of Guiding" piece produced by Roisin Fitzgerald was broadcast on Newstalk on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> April.



On the 13<sup>th</sup> of April a Brownie from Stillorgan Gold Brownies was on Elev8 talking about her painting which got beamed to the moon.

In the lead up to the biggest event of the centenary celebration, Bailiú, there was a great photo in the Sunday Business Post and a feature piece in the Irish Examiner. This also included a piece written by Vera O'Riordan and Jane Golden, two Gold Award Guides from Macroom, Co. Cork, about why they love Guides. Elaine O'Connell, a Trefoil Guild member from Cork, shared her fond memories of Guiding over the years.

On the day of Bailiú the thousands travelling by bus took to the airwaves with calls and texts into radio stations and we made the hourly news bulletins of many stations.

Papers around the country then covered Bailiú in the week following the event. Special mention was also given to the Gold Award Guides and the Leaders who received their 30 year service pins on the day.

The summer saw Girlguiding UK run a feature piece on IGG in their Guiding magazine. Mayo and Cork papers ran stories on Emer O'Sullivan and Theresa McCarthy as they represented IGG at the WAGGS World Conference in Scotland. Tralee District was invited to participate in the 2011 'Rose of Tralee' Parade, which was featured on the RTE News.

At the end of August, the Chief Commissioner's Award made numerous newspapers, including a feature piece in the Leitrim Observer, and one of the Chief Commissioner's Award organisers, Jemma Lee, spoke on Shannonside Radio about the event. In early September, all the participants' local newspapers ran pieces on the event.

In the autumn, Ballyroan Brownies recorded a piece for RTE 2 where they erected a tent. It was shown on the early afternoon programmes for the autumn schedule. On World Food Day in October Lucan Senior Branch members led the Gorta "Stand Up Against Hunger" pledge at Gorta's annual World Food Day conference in Dublin. The IGG members' participation was covered in Dublin newspapers.

On Universal Children's Day on November 20<sup>th</sup>, IGG teamed up with Plan Ireland to focus attention on girls' rights. Partnering with Plan's 'Because I am a Girl' global campaign, IGG aimed to raise awareness of girls' rights in the developing world, fight gender inequality, and break the cycle of poverty for millions of girls worldwide. This event was mentioned throughout the day on Today FM.

As the year came to a close we had a photo shoot with the stars of the Gaiety Christmas pantomime. Twelve hundred IGG members filled the Gaiety Theatre, as is traditional, for the first performance of the Gaiety Panto.

In December, IGG produced a Christmas card to send to all the radio stations, newspapers and television stations that gave us coverage during our centenary year. The PR material that was launched in 2010 was such a success that we printed more copies of many posters at the end of 2011 and we ended the year with a feature piece in the Irish Daily Star on 22<sup>nd</sup> December about the Irish Girl Guides that showcased the experience of two of our members, Áine Divilly and Senator Jillian van Turnhout.

Throughout the year we had interviews on various radio station talk shows such as Radio Kerry, Clare FM, Radio na Life, Limerick Live, 95Fm, Tipp FM, K FM, LMFM, Tipp Mid West FM, Beat FM, and Dublin South FM.

Our P.R. has gone from strength to strength throughout the year and we look forward to 2012 as we continue to enhance the public profile of IGG.



# International Report

The theme for 2011 Thinking Day was *Millennium Development Goal #3: Gender Equality and Empowering Women*. The World Thinking Day fund totalled €8,736 for 2011 which is a fantastic amount, considering that Units were also raising funds for IGG's two Centenary Charities. This money will go towards developing Guiding in Bolivia, Cyprus, Yemen, Democratic Republic of Congo and Nepal. Imagine all the thousands of girls and young women in those countries that IGG members have helped to GROW their Guiding.

The World Conference took place close to home in Edinburgh, Scotland in July 2011. Chief Commissioner, Emer O'Sullivan and International Commissioner, Theresa McCarthy travelled over with two delegates from the Catholic Guides of Ireland and represented CIGA (Council of Irish Guiding Associations) at this event with enthusiasm and great energy. They took part in the voting in of a new World Board Chairman as well as discussions on the future direction of WAGGGS and they had the chance to take part in workshops on topics such as the Value of Volunteering, Diversity/Inclusion, Strategic Partnerships and E-Learning.

During the year around 250 IGG members travelled abroad to camps and events in places like Czech Republic, Our Chalet, Pax Lodge, Kenya, Wales and Germany. A further 14 people went away individually to camps or seminars.



The International Committee organised a "Timpeall an Domhain" competition which took place in Bandon, Co. Cork in April. Guide Units from all over the country did their best to impress the judges with their projects and crafts from selected countries and their short plays. They enjoyed a campfire and a Centenary "Grow" Guides Own and they all made lots of new friends.

Congratulations to St. Rynagh's Guides in Banagher, Co. Offaly who were winners of the International Table Quiz for Guides which was held in November, when they answered questions on Peru, the Congo, Japan, Belgium and WAGGGS.

The International Committee also continued to run International Permit Trainings to better equip Leaders to take girls abroad. New rules with regards to Travel Insurance for trips were also introduced and travel insurance cover will now be provided centrally by IGG to cover all girls travelling abroad and lighten the load for Leaders organising trips abroad.



## IGG Participants at International Camps & Events 2011

Unit and Numbers Attended	Trip	Dates
<b>Celbridge and Maynooth Guide Units</b> 7 Leaders, 28 Guides	Lligwy Guide Centre, Wales	April 16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Eastern Region</b> 4 Leaders, 3 Rangers	Friends of Londiani service trip, Kenya	April 20 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Convoy Brownie Pack</b> 4 Leaders, 17 Brownies	Dunluce Guide House, Antrim	May 20 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>Tivoli and Ballybrack Guides</b> 5 Leaders, 4 Young Leaders, 13 Guides,	Burg Reineck Castle, Germany	July 1 <sup>st</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Crosshaven Rangers, Realt na Mara Guides</b> 3 Leaders, 4 Rangers, 4 Guides	Pax Lodge, London	July 8 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Raphoe Guide Unit</b> 6 Leaders, 16 Guides	Explore Outdoor Adventure Centre	July 11 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Kilternan and Mitchelstown Guides</b> 5 Leaders, 1 Young Leader, 18 Guides	JEKA trip to Czech Republic	July 11 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Barnagore, St. Barbara's, Blarney, Kinsale and Douglas Guide Units</b> 8 Leaders, 3 Young Leaders, 27 Guides	Our Chalet, Switzerland	July 14 <sup>th</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>Howth, River Valley and Ballyroan Guide Units</b> 12 Leaders, 3 Rangers, 36 Guides	JEKA trip to Switzerland	August 8 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup>
<b>West and Central Midlands Region Leaders</b> 11 Leaders	Pax Lodge, London	Sept 16 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup>

15

## Individuals at International Camps & Events 2011

Name	Seminar/Event/Camp	Venue	Date
Helen Summerville	New Zealand Tour	New Zealand	Feb 18 <sup>th</sup> – Mar 7 <sup>th</sup>
Caitriona Kelly Jenna Goodwin	USA Overseas Adult Conference	Germany	March 10 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup>
Jemma Lee	Young Women's World Forum	Sangam, India	March 17 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup>
Ruth Hughes Niamh Lillis	Overtures	Helsinki	May 13 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup>
Aisling O'Halloran	Roverway Heads of Contingent Meeting	Helsinki	May 26 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup>
Amanda O'Sullivan Catherine Noone	Pick 'n' Mix	Slovakia	June 2 <sup>nd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup>
Ruth Heeney	Soar 2011	Canada	July 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup>
Áine Divilly	World Development Leadership Programme	Burundi, Africa	Sept 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 11 <sup>th</sup>
Sinéad Crilly Niamh Lillis	Overtures	Berlin	Oct 14 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup>
Anne Hyland	Grundtvig Ramba Zamba intercultural workshop	Vienna	Nov 13 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup>



# Committee Report

## Adult Training and Outdoors Committee (ATOC)

ATOC has been very busy during the year. The Indoor Licence Assessment requirements were updated and the Outdoor Cook Logbook has been revamped.

Thanks to Margaret Corr ATOC has formulated and completed a new Mentoring and Basic Trainer Bar booklet. ATOC hopes this will help all new Trainee Trainers - having mentors to help them get through their Trainer Bar assessment. ATOC will be making sure all Trainee Trainers have a mentor and will be supporting this initiative where it's needed. We have also revised the Trainee Trainer Bar syllabus to include more practical work.

During the year we awarded another OA to SW Region. We also held numerous camps and training opportunities throughout the year to ensure Leaders had the requisite skills and standards to take their Guides to camp in 2012.

In addition, ATOC was delighted to help with the cost of Watersports training for some of our members so that they can give our girls fun on the water at CAMP 101.

We held our annual Trainer's Conference in October. We had about 25 attendees with sessions on the Global Action Theme – Millennium Development Goals, our new Outdoor Warrant Training and the Mentoring Booklet.

## The Council of Irish Guiding Associations (C.I.G.A.)

The C.I.G.A. Committee consists of 5 members of the Irish Girl Guides and 5 members of the Catholic Guides of Ireland. There are 2 observers from C.G.I. in Northern Ireland and 2 from Girlguiding Ulster. Meetings are held three or four times annually.

One of its main functions is arranging the CIGA representation at international events including the World Conference which was held in Edinburgh in 2011. The two Chief Commissioners and their respective International Commissioners went together to this event.

In 2011 the new C.I.G.A. leaflets were printed and a new C.I.G.A. neckerchief was designed.

## Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee

The Equality, Diversity and Inclusion committee was busy in 2011. Denise O'Donnell spoke at General Council of her experience of receiving the Traveller Pride Award. Delegates were sent to represent IGG at the Overtures Diversity Network meetings in Helsinki in May and in Berlin in October.



E.D.I. also had a representative at an intercultural learning workshop hosted by Grenzenlos (which means no barriers.) The training took place in Vienna, Austria in November and was very useful for those working with people with disabilities.

Nearer home, a Crosscare seminar about young carers was very enlightening and E.D.I. has been participating in the Equality Network with NYCI and other youth and equality organisations as well as being represented at the National Women's Council of Ireland.

Weekly meetings are going well in Crumlin Children's Hospital including having our first ever enrolment of a girl who completed all her pre-enrolment challenges while in Crumlin Hospital.

E.D.I. continued to publish Trefoil News articles including an access survey for Leaders and girls to carry out in and near their meeting place or other facilities, a plea to join the WAGGGS Stop the Violence campaign, reminders of activities from our Outreach Pack, hints on including girls with disabilities and news on Social Inclusion Week.

## Programme Review

The Programme Review Steering Group started its work early in 2011. The IGG Programme Review is aiming to completely renew the programme for all Branches of IGG and will take over three years to complete. The review will take place on a phased basis and will involve all members. The aim of the review is to have a programme that fulfils the mission of the Irish Girl Guides: *"to enable girls and young women to develop to their fullest potential as responsible citizens of the world"*.

Prior to the commencement of the Programme Review IGG conducted a series of consultation sessions with Leaders to establish the need for a renewal of the programme. These results were considered by the Management Team who decided to establish a Programme Review Steering Group. The 8 members of the Steering Group are drawn from the membership of IGG and one external expert. The 7 IGG members on the team represent different Branches; length of membership; and come from different parts of the countries.

It is envisaged that the new programme will be launched in the second half of 2014 and the group is working to develop a programme for all members of IGG that is empowering; motivating; flexible; open to all; easy to use and of course exciting! It is also hoped that by devising a fantastic programme it will make it easier for our Leaders and help every girl to reach their fullest potential. Together we can do it!

# Special Events in 2011

## CAMP 101 Launch

To celebrate the start of our journey through the next one hundred years of IGG, CAMP 101 will take place in Lough Key Forest Park, Boyle, Co. Roscommon from 4<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

The planning and preparations began in 2010 and the site was finally selected in WCM Region. The name of the camp represents the start of a new century which will build on the successful past 100 years. It incorporates both traditional and innovative activities and brings Guiding in Irish communities into the future. In 2011, CAMP 101 was launched and the aim of the camp is to provide an opportunity for girls to explore their potential to influence the world around them.

The Launch was held in February in Lough Key Forest Park with members of the local Boyle Community, Guides from the local Units, representatives of the local Scouts, members of Coillte and the then Mayor of Roscommon, Luke Flanagan joining the Camp Management Team for the launch.

The theme of the camp is "Together we can change our world" and the programme is based on this with activities ranging from water-sports, adventure, puzzles, crafts, sports and much more. Worldwide, Girl Guiding is focussed on the Global Action Theme which encourages girls and young women to change the world around them. Through the week long activities, campers will learn about positive changes they can make in their community and beyond.



Throughout 2011, CAMP 101 has given an opportunity to all members of IGG to be involved in some way through the Challenge Badge and opportunity to make Bunting for CAMP 101. All Guide & Senior Branch Units were invited to camp, 101 Ladybirds are coming for a day and there are Brownies camping overnight and visiting for a day. Members of Senior Branch, Leaders and Trefoil Guild have volunteered on staff teams and will be joined by WAGGGS members from 14 different countries.

The beautiful Lough Key site will give the girls a safe space and time to explore how they can become involved in their community. They will be involved in practical service projects in Lough Key and the local communities. Girls will be given the opportunity to look at issues that affect their lives and the lives of other girls through the involvement of other organisations and Guides/Girl Scouts from around the world. CAMP 101 will be an excellent opportunity for IGG to showcase Guiding to Ireland and indeed the world.







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**IRISH GIRL GUIDES**  
**Bantreoraithe na hÉireann**  
**National Office**  
**27 Pembroke Park**  
**Dublin 4**

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