Irish girls are powering up this International Day of the Girl

- Irish Girl Guides' members are designing superheroes with superpowers -

Members of Irish Girl Guides are joining the 10 million Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in 150 countries in celebrating International Day of the Girl (11 October) by designing their own superheroes with superpowers.

These powers focus on the abilities, characteristics, powers and strengths of superheroes rather than their looks.

To mark International Day of the Girl, a member of the Irish Girl Guides (IGG) Executive Committee, Jenna Goodwin, is also heading up the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) for the day at their London office. She will be interviewing WAGGGS Chief Sarah Nancollas in a Facebook Live video and will be brainstorming with various teams how to include young women more in decision-making.

WAGGGS chose the power and potential of girls as their focus for this year's International Day of the Girl. "We know girls are already powerful, but sometimes they need a helping hand to reach their fullest potential," says Irish Girl Guides Chief Commissioner Helen Concannon. "That's where Girl Guiding comes in!

"Our mission is to help girls and women reach their fullest potential and we do that by encouraging them to take part in a range of activities, challenges and projects to build up their confidence and help them to develop resilience, independence, problem-solving, teamwork and other essential life-skills.

"We want all girls to be their own superheroes and use their powers to change the world for the better!"

Irish Girl Guides welcomes new members from age 5+ and new volunteer leaders from age 18+. Find out more at <u>www.irishqirlquides.ie</u> or tel: 01 6683898.

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Photo caption:

Jenna Goodwin, a member of Irish Girl Guides' Executive Committee and a leader with Lucan Guides, in the Chief Executive's seat at the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts' head office in London to mark International Day of the Girl.

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Irish Girl Guides has approximately 12,000 members. Guiding started in Ireland in 1911 and operates throughout the 26 counties with 1,800 volunteer leaders providing an informal educational programme of fun and challenging activities that foster confidence and leadership skills in girls and young women, enabling them to develop to their full potential and to become responsible citizens. Girls from age 5+ can choose to earn a wide range of badges, including Community Action, Cultural Diversity, Disability Awareness, Drug Awareness, Online Surfer, Science Investigator, Engineering and Global Traveller.