



# Annual Review 2013



## COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

DIANE EVANS

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We all promise to do our best, and providing we do, and expect all our members to do the same, Guiding in the County will continue to go from strength to strength. Thank you to all Leaders, for all you do to give the girls and young women in the County such a great time in their Guiding life.

We are fortunate to have such talented, inspirational and extraordinary women continuing to 'lead the way' in the County.

Last year we announced that we had been awarded a National Lottery Heritage grant for the 'All Our Stories - Over a century of women leading the way' project. I feel very privileged to have been involved in this and I am delighted that you are now able to see the results of a fascinating year. I hope you find them interesting too.

VALERIE CADD  
County President

**"Working together with pride to provide quality opportunities and experiences"**

2013 has been a busy year with fun and action-packed opportunities for all sections.

Firstly, congratulations to the 38 Leaders in Training who successfully achieved their respective Sectional Leadership Qualification detailed overleaf. We look forward to seeing you at County events with your girls and supporting your development within Girlguiding Durham South. Additionally, we have introduced a support session for Mentors (Making the Most of Mentoring) to assist and support new leaders, 28 mentors accessed this in 2013. Thanks go to Mary Ashburner and Valerie Cadd.



January	Imogen Clay Charlotte Edwards Denize Neasham Jade Sygrove	Durham Dunelm Durham Dunelm (Sacriston) Darlington Stephenson (Woodlands) Darlington Locomotion (Salters)	Senior Section 1 Brownies 1-4 Guides 1 Brownies 1, Guides 1, 2-4
February	Trudy Box Lucy Gray Kris Simpson	Bishop Auckland East Durham Chester Le Street (Market Central)	Brownies 1-4 Brownies 1-3 Guides 1-3
March	Caroline Moss Kayleigh Nichols Jennifer Wilson	Darlington Stephenson (Woodlands) Durham Dunelm (Sacriston) Durham Dunelm (Sacriston)	Rainbows 1-4 Rainbows 1-3 Rainbows 1-4
April	Lucy Carroll Susan Mills Anna Preston Nicola Robinson Roxanne Reed	Chester Le Street (Riverside) Newton Aycliffe Durham Dunelm (Sacriston) Newton Aycliffe Newton Aycliffe	Brownies 1&4 Brownies 1-3 Guides 1-3 Brownies 1 Brownies 1-4
July	Jasmine Heaney Ann Marie Sweeney Sarah Jayne Small	Darlington Stephenson (Woodlands) Weardale Darlington Stephenson (Woodlands)	Guides 1-3 Brownies 1-3 Guides 1
August	Freya Moody	Darlington Stephenson (Woodlands)	Brownies 1-3
September	Samantha Brook Eve Madderson Leanne Stubbs	Darlington Locomotion (North Lodge) Darlington Locomotion (North Lodge) East Durham	Guides 1 & 4 Guides 1 Guides 1-3
October	Julia Armstrong Naomi Aird Claire Ainslie Elaine Faulkener Alison Geldard Alison Hope Hart Hannah Ross Beth Robinson	Sedgefield Darlington Locomotion (North Lodge) Darlington Locomotion (Starmer) Darlington Locomotion (Starmer) East Durham Darlington Stephenson (Blackwell) Darlington Stephenson (Woodlands) Darlington Locomotion (Tees)	Rainbows 1-4 Brownies 1-3 M4 Guides 1 Rainbows 1 & 4 Brownies 1-3 Brownies 1-3 Brownies 1-4
November	Sarah Burrell Emilie Cousins Sally Dodsworth Lisa Gray Gemma Grayson Rebecca Gibson Trudy Holman Seonaid Weir	Bishop Auckland Bishop Auckland Durham (Pelaw) Barnard Castle Newton Aycliffe Darlington Stephenson (Blackwell) Newton Aycliffe Barnard Castle	Guides 1-4 Rainbows 1-4 Brownies 1 Rainbows 1-3 Rainbows 1, 2 & 4 Guides 1-3 Rainbows 1-4 Brownies 1-3



Our team of First Aid Trainers (Lindsey Hardy, Lynn Hobson, Jackie O'Sullivan and Erica Storey) have been out and about in the County ensuring quality First Response Courses are available on a regular basis and have trained 101 Leaders this year.

Section Development Sessions have been popular via the County Training Day, New on the Journey Trainings for New Leaders and Commissioners, Safe Space, Going Away/Travelling Abroad, Food Safety and themed evening trainings (105 attendees). Thanks go to the NEE Training Team, inclusive of our own Di Farrar and Kate Welch.



The Outdoor Team (Joanne Buckingham, Fiona Grant, Beth Robinson and Julie Ross) have excelled in offering a wide range of opportunities and our East Shotton Campsite has been humming with the sound of girls enjoying the out of doors.

- We started the year with an Outdoor Cooking Competition won by 2<sup>nd</sup> Shildon Guides (62 participants)
- This was followed by a "Hands On" Camp Training for Leaders (8)
- Brownie Taster Camp (69)
- We ended the season with a Toffee Apple Quiz Walk (64).

Feedback from all these events was very positive and in the words of one Brownie 'Every minute of each day was mint'.

We must ensure we use the East Shotton Campsite more to ensure its sustainability.

Eleanor Curry (Durham) and Katie Sisk (Darlington) participated in the Classic Outward Bound Course, gratefully funded by the Sir John Priestman Trust, in July and from their reports it is very evident that the experience was incredible. They both found it challenging, it pushed them to their absolute limits, exhausting, however completely exhilarating and a fantastic opportunity.

Going Away has featured in the majority of Division Reports with units using the new Barnard Castle Guide Headquarters, Netherurd and Camphouse for Brownie residentials and overnight sleepovers. Guides have camped at Moorhouse (Confido), the NEE Giggles International Camp and East Shotton this year.

Leaders have also gained the following Going Away Qualifications:

Rainbow Sleepover	Chris Allen Cassy Nicols Kayleigh Nicols Jennifer Wilson	Darlington (Stephenson) Durham Durham Durham	
Brownie Holiday	Jill Chatt Carol Foster Jenny Groves Hannah Ross Leanne Walker Ruth Ward Maureen Watret	Sedgefield Darlington (Stephenson) Darlington (Stephenson) Darlington (Stephenson) Darlington (Stephenson) Darlington (Locomotion) Sedgefield	Modules 1-7, 6-Brownies
Guide Camp	Katharine Grabham June Simpson	Durham Chester-Le-Street	Module 6 - Guides Modules 1-8, 6-Guides
Guide Residential	Claire Bisset	Bishop Auckland	Modules 1-7, 6-Guides
Senior Section Permits	Susan Ford Cara Woods	Kepier Senior Section, Durham Dunelm Senior Section, Durham	
International	Heather Young	Darlington (Stephenson)	Additional Module

The 4 Peer Education Team under the co-ordination of Claire Nelson has been out and about in the County and have delivered 11 sessions on Bullying, Media, Communication, Self Esteem and English as an Additional Language to units across the County.

Additionally, CHAT (County Help and Action Team) have:

- delivered 18 sessions across the County on topics such as Traditions of Guiding, Shoe on the Other Foot, Back in Time, Promise and Teamwork
- they have braved the cold and judged the Outdoor Cooking Competition.
- Provided extra pairs of hands at Division Activity Days in the two Darlington Divisions and at the County Activity Days for Rainbows, Brownies and Guides.
- Developed for units the 'Got a Minute and Got a Few Minutes More' booklet along with the Brownie Centenary Challenge for use in 2014.

Activities Days have included Animal Antics in Darlington in April with 81 Rainbows who met with lots of creepy crawlies, furry animals and enjoyed the 'hands on' session, along with games, crafts and singing. Whilst on the same day 61 Guides were challenged to Bush Tucker Trials, with activities such as making shelters, climbing wall, dealing with a first aid situation, making fire, crossing a snake infested ravine, eating bugs and much more.

172 Brownies transformed a rainy May Day in Durham and were challenged to undertake **99 Things before Brownies were 100 years old**. They all succeeded, with lots of fun on the way.

23 Senior Sections members attended a Drop-In Section in April and 12 a Look Wider event in November with musical theatre including dance for the Creative and Healthy octants and sessions on Independent Living and Permits.

Winter Fest for leaders (140) again exceeded expectation and was run over 4 evenings. Leader's feedback included 'It was wicked', 'fabulous selection of ideas', 'It was fab' and next year the event will be run over a weekend and Monday evening, by request. The social element of this event proved popular, so a big, big thank you to Anne Jeavons and Sue Walker for all the preparation and hard work.



International Opportunities have included:

- 6 Guides (Samantha Adamson and Niamh Rosevinge (1<sup>st</sup> Newton Hall), Zoe Barnett (2<sup>nd</sup> Newton Aycliffe), Chloe Brown (1<sup>st</sup> Spennymoor), Victoria Simpson (Crook) and Bethannie Smith (5<sup>th</sup> Darlington) attended the ICE Weekend and were selected and went on to ICE at Giggles International Camp at Stainforth, Settle in North Yorkshire in July. They then hosted the Australian delegation for a further week at Holme House, Esk Valley. Brilliant experience and in the words of Victoria 'A lot of friends were made across the world. It made me feel very, very, very pleased and proud to have been part of such an amazing adventure'.
- 17 Guides/Senior Section and 3 leaders attended the Jambe, International Guide and Scout Camp in De Kluis, Sint-Joris-Weert, Belgium for 2 weeks which had a theme of 'A world of imagination'. They experienced mass games, world village, visit to Leuven, water activities at Zilvermere, traditional camp crafts and cooking, dance and tai-chi, mountain biking, high ropes etc. A very wet experience, which was full of Guiding spirit.
- Jessica Dobson, Lucy Gray and Fern Turner have been selected to go on the NEE Trip to India in 2014, and are actively fundraising.
- Katharine Grabham was selected to attend one of the 5<sup>th</sup> World Centre projects at the Shanzu Transitional Centre in Mombassa, Kenya, where she worked with girls with disabilities. The key areas of work were economic empowerment, marketing training and business training. The project is also aimed to support WAGGGS by raising the profile of the world centres and building community partners.

Delighted to report that the 15<sup>th</sup> Darlington Guide Unit and the 8<sup>th</sup> Newton Aycliffe Rainbows have re-opened, the two Durham Divisions (Dunelm and Kepier) have restructured and are now one, East Durham Districts of Peterlee and Seaham West have been removed so they operate as one Division. Unfortunately the following units have closed, 10<sup>th</sup> Darlington Rainbows, 1<sup>st</sup> Bearpark Rainbows and Brownies.



**THANK YOU to the following who have completed terms of office within the County:**

<i>Booking Secretary</i>	<b>Norma Snowdon</b>	Camphouse
<i>Adviser</i>	<b>Karen Pear Adele Pearson</b>	Brownie Residential Peer Education Co-ordinator
<i>Division Commissioner</i>	<b>Annette Geragusian Sara Layfield-Carroll Jackie O'Sullivan</b>	Durham Dunelm Newton Aycliffe Chester-Le-Street
<i>District Commissioner</i>	<b>Emily Dott Helen Scarr Maureen Spencer-Brown Gillian Wesson Noreen Wright</b>	Seaham West, East Durham Brandon, Durham Dunelm Salters, Darlington Locomotion Sacriston, Durham Dunelm Rainton Grange, Durham Kepier

**WELCOME to the following who have accepted terms of office:**

<i>Advisers/Co-ordinators</i>	<b>Claire Bell Claire Bissett Fiona Grant Sara Layfield-Carroll</b>	Peer Education Co-ordinator Young Leader Adviser Outdoor Team Co-ordinator Events Co-ordinator
<i>Division Commissioners</i>	<b>Becci Barnett Paula Jones Helen Scarr</b>	Newton Aycliffe Chester-Le Street Durham Division
<i>First Response Trainers</i>	<b>Lindsey Hardy Erica Storey</b>	Darlington (Stephenson) Durham

**Long Service Awards**

**50 years**

Denise Midwood 2<sup>nd</sup> Darlington Guide Unit

**40 Years**

Christine Port President - Darlington Stephenson Division  
Mary Robinson Durham Division  
Judith Stirk Vice-President - Durham South  
Carol Surtees 1<sup>st</sup> Langley Park Guide Unit

**30 years**

Joyce Barber 10<sup>th</sup> Darlington Brownie Unit  
Jean Foulds 1<sup>st</sup> Belmont Guide Unit  
Judy Freeman 1<sup>st</sup> Staindrop Rainbow Unit  
Lynne Garfoot 2<sup>nd</sup> Bishop Auckland Guide Unit  
Kathryn E. Gillie Starmer District, Darlington Locomotive Division

**20 Years**

Pauline Dawson 5<sup>th</sup> Sacriston Brownie Unit  
Margaret Hardy 5<sup>th</sup> Darlington Brownies and Guide Units  
Kathryn A. Harnby 1<sup>st</sup> Bishop Auckland Rainbow Unit  
Joy Howson 1<sup>st</sup> Bishop Auckland Rainbow Unit  
Pamela Lee 1<sup>st</sup> Seaham Brownie Unit  
Norma Snowdon 4<sup>th</sup> Shildon Brownie Unit  
Julie E. Towler 1<sup>st</sup> Sedgfield Guide Unit

Additionally, 16 Leaders attained 10 year service and 18 Leaders 5 year service awards.

**Congratulations go to:**

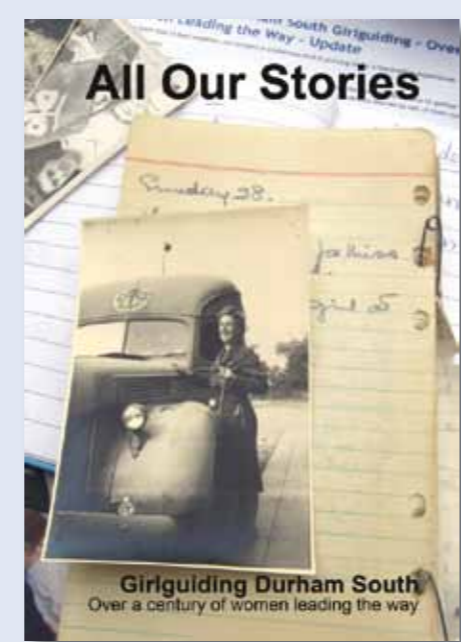
Michelle Smedley on attaining the Queen's Guide Award and to Abi Barnett and Rachel Griffin on completion of the Chief Guide Challenge.



**Baden Powell Challenge Awards have been attained by:**

<b>Molly Adamson</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Chester-Le-Street	Chester-Le Street
<b>Eleanor Andrews</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Darlington (Mowden)	Darlington Stephenson
<b>Naomi Armstrong</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Birtley	Chester-Le-Street
<b>Katie Blackett</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Belmont	Durham
<b>Gina Bowlby</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> Darlington (St. Matthew & St. Luke's)	Darlington Stephenson
<b>Victoria Brown</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Birtley	Chester-Le-Street
<b>Holly Butterfield</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Darlington (Holy Trinity)	Darlington Stephenson
<b>Emma Colledge</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Belmont	Durham
<b>Esther Cook</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Belmont	Durham
<b>Robyn Grievson</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Dawdon	Seaham
<b>Rachel Gunnell</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Middleton St. George	Darlington Locomotion
<b>Bethany Hunter</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Chester-Le-Street	Chester-Le-Street
<b>Emily Johnson</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> Darlington (Elm Ridge)	Darlington Stephenson
<b>Rachel Johnson</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Belmont	Durham
<b>Emily Knights</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Darlington (Mowden)	Darlington Stephenson
<b>Chloe Marshall</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Chester-Le-Street	Chester-Le-Street
<b>Shelly-Marie Millington</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Chester-Le-Street	Chester-Le-Street
<b>Francesca Moody</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Newton Aycliffe	Newton Aycliffe
<b>Rebecca Orange</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Chester-Le-Street	Chester-Le-Street
<b>Rebecca Parkinson</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> Darlington (St.Columbas)	Darlington Stephenson
<b>Madeleine Pritchard</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Belmont	Durham
<b>Simone Reddington</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Peterlee (St.Cuthbert's)	Peterlee
<b>Rebecca Reid</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Birtley	Chester-Le-Street
<b>Elizabeth Roberts</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Chester-Le-Street	Chester-Le-Street
<b>Grace Robinson</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Darlington (Mowden)	Darlington Stephenson
<b>Emma Ross</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Belmont	Durham
<b>Ellie Rycroft</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> Darlington (Elm Ridge)	Darlington Stephenson
<b>Louise Small</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Chester-Le-Street	Chester-Le-Street
<b>Chloe Snowball</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Darlington (Holy Trinity)	Darlington Stephenson
<b>Lauren Thorpe</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Chester-Le-Street	Chester-Le-Street
<b>Heather Turnbull</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> Darlington (Elm Ridge)	Darlington Stephenson
<b>Courtney Walton</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> Darlington (St. Matthew & St. Luke's)	Darlington Stephenson
<b>Eleanor Witney</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Langley Park	Durham

2013 has brought us a new Promise, an abundance of opportunities for the girls and leaders, lots of individual achievements and above all, lots of fun. Many thanks to all the families, friends and colleagues who support Guiding in Durham South, along with financial support from Durham County Council for the last time this year, Sir James Knott Trust who support the training of leaders, County Durham Community Foundation and their support of our Peer Education resource and finally to "All Our Stories" - Heritage Lottery Funding. Our project, Over a century of women leading the way, came about because of the centenary of Guiding in 2010 and our realisation that we did not want to lose the many stories of our extraordinary women who have shaped our County in the last 100 years. 2013 has been a journey into the past and we hope to go on to utilise our book and DVD as part of a County Heritage Badge for girls to dip into in the future, so they experience our fundamental values and principles as they have grown with Girlguiding to what it is today - the biggest organisation for girls and young women in the world. I am sure you will agree, it is an honour and pleasure to be part of it and to continue to develop our County to support girls in the future.



### DURHAM SOUTH TREFOIL GUILD REPORT

Bad weather affected two of our county events this year. The first our Thinking Day Celebration held in Scarth Hall, Staindrop on Saturday, 23 February. The weather was so bad that for part of the morning we thought we were going to have to cancel the event. However, as the time went on the day improved. The theme was Mexico with speakers Rebecca Pinder, who visited Our Cabana on an international Guiding trip and Katherine Grabham who had worked there during the Autumn of 2012. Their talks were very informative and they complimented each other very well coming from such different points of view. The Durham Guild were excellent hosts - providing us with a hot lunch plus delicious desserts and helped us all to pile on the calories with cake and tea before we left.

The second, our Annual Meeting, at St. Herbert's Darlington on 18 May, almost had to be cancelled owing to flash floods caused by heavy rainfall during the morning of the 18<sup>th</sup> and the previous day. The speaker Miss Dot Thomson helped us all (because of our advanced years!!) to understand why hearing some sounds seemed to be becoming more difficult. She probably convinced most of us that we were ready for hearing aids! We all enjoyed a superb afternoon tea following the meeting provided for us by Darlington Afternoon Guild, who proved also to be gracious and welcoming hosts.

Slightly better weather heralded our friendship day at Ferryhill, where our newest Guild Sedgfield looked after us all very well and are to be commended in finding us such a very warm and comfortable venue - the Masonic Hall and in addition, a very interesting speaker, retired photographer, Mr. Philip Nixon. Philip gave us a presentation on the life of St. Cuthbert using his own photographs and accompanying dialogue. Using the wonders of modern technology the slide show was accompanied by very appropriate background music. Suffice to say that everyone who was there found it a very moving and thought provoking experience.

This year's census numbers show that we have 131 members. Durham D.O.G's have become a lone Guild which accounts for some of the drop in numbers. However, we are continuing to try to recruit new members because on the whole our numbers are declining slowly. Elsie Bainbridge, a member of Darlington Afternoon Guild, celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday at the Trefoil Meeting in April. The Trefoil Guild in Durham South will continue to flourish if we all live to that great age!

Although the Trefoil is a non-uniformed organisation some of us miss having something specific to wear at Trefoil functions: To this end we have introduced a range of Trefoil wear resplendent bearing the County name.

Guild members continue to support me as County Chair, each other in their own Guilds, members of other Guilds and Girlguiding Units around them: whilst at the same time having fun, learning new skills and enjoying 'Me' time. They particularly enjoyed completing the NEE 7 T's Challenge as a way of celebrating the Trefoil Guild's 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday and are looking forward to receiving their certificates. I thank them all for their hard work and wish them just as much joy in 2014.

CHRISTINE JACKSON, M.B.E.



**Units operate throughout County Durham in:**

Barnard Castle and Staindrop

Bishop Auckland and Shildon

Chester-le-Street and Birtley

Darlington including Hurworth and Middleton St George

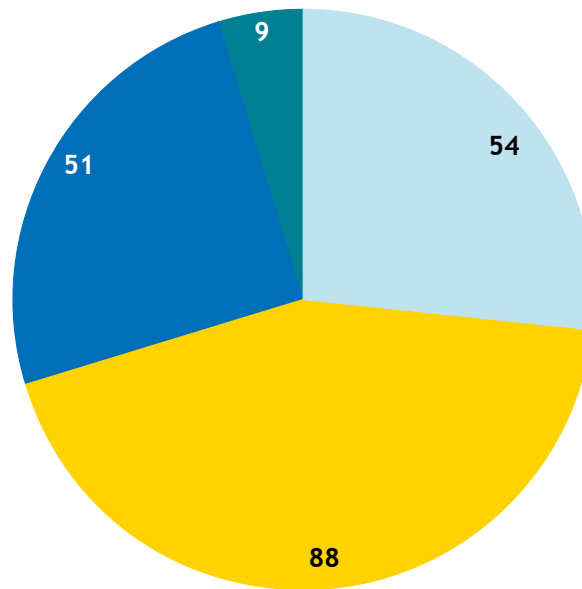
Durham including Belmont, Bowburn, Brandon, Rainton, Sacriston Sherburn and Tunstall

Newton Aycliffe

Seaham and East Durham including Peterlee

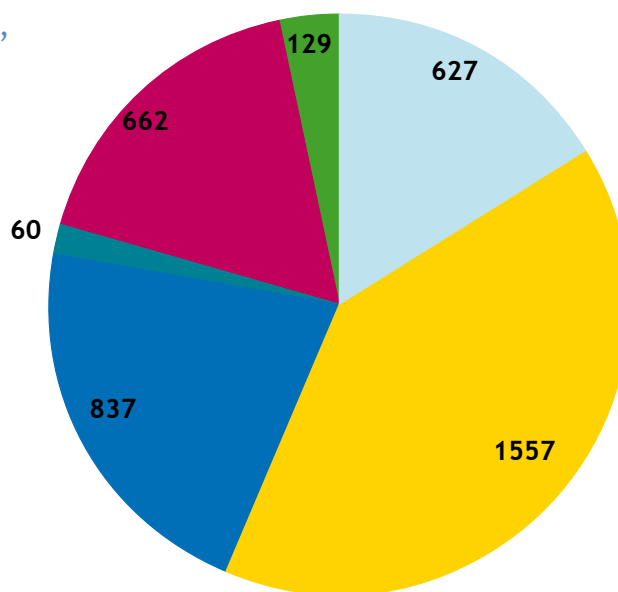
Sedgefield

Weardale



Number of Units 2013

- Rainbows
- Brownies
- Guides
- Senior Section



Durham South Girlguiding

- Rainbows (5-7 years)
- Brownies (7-10 years)
- Guides (10-14 years)
- Senior Section/Young Leaders (14-25 years)
- Leaders (18+)
- Other volunteers (18+)

Girlguiding is the leading charity for girls and young women in the UK.

Thanks to the dedication and support of 662 amazing volunteers, we are active in a large area of Durham South, giving girls and young women a space where they can be themselves, have fun, build brilliant friendships, gain valuable life skills and make a positive difference to their lives and their communities. We build girls' confidence and raise their aspirations. We give them the chance to discover their full potential and encourage them to be a powerful force for good.

To ensure that we can offer exciting opportunities to as many girls as possible, we need to engage even more volunteers. We have more than 400 girls on our lists ready and waiting to start their Guiding adventure, and you could make that happen - just one new volunteer could mean 5 more Rainbows, 8 more Brownies or 12 more Guides will experience all the fantastic benefits Guiding brings. Volunteering with Girlguiding is flexible and can be fitted around any schedule. From leading a unit or delivering first aid training to supporting local fundraising or co-ordinating County PR, you could choose from a range of roles that suit your skills and interests.

Visit [www.girlguiding.org.uk/volunteer](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/volunteer) to find out more about volunteering or to register your interest.

'Girlguiding' Durham South is an operating name of The Guide Association which is incorporated/governed by Royal Charter, and a registered charity (number 520718)

**A Safe Space**

It is the policy of Girlguiding to make every effort to safeguard its members from physical, sexual and emotional harm while participating in guiding activities. We take all reasonable steps to ensure that, through relevant procedures and training, children, young people and adults taking part in guiding activities do so in a safe environment.