

Guides' report 2010-2011

I have a very enthusiastic group of 24 Guides. We all enjoyed attending Peak 2010, the international camp held last summer in the grounds of Chatsworth House, and taking part in many different activities. 2010 was the Guides' centenary year. Celebrations started in September 2009 with an event in the Assembly Rooms, and we attended the Centenary parade and Cathedral service in 2010. The leaders attended a huge, but wet, picnic at Himley Hall in Dudley, and the year finished with the grand Finale at Elvaston Castle in October, when the Guides renewed their promise.

This year we have done far too many things, both new and old, for me to be able to mention them all.

We enjoyed a fine weekend camping at Pax Hoh in July, and spent the Saturday at Waterworld. We have just taken part in a Water Weekend at Trent Lock in September, with two days of canoeing and other water activities with a group of Explorers from Coventry.

We went climbing at Alter Rock and to the cinema. We have (as usual) cycled, walked, gone on a 'night hike with chips', sold sweets at the Chellaston Players' show in January, and taken part in the Remembrance Day parade and service and the carol service.

At home, we celebrated Halloween, Christmas, Valentine's Day and Pancake Day in our usual fashion, and helped with a Brownie meeting to get to know the Guides of the future. The Guides were able to gain their First Aid as well as craft, party planner, cook and chocolate badges and several Go For Its!. We investigated special diets, made things using junk, did aerobics and danced. We held a talent/fashion show, and supported the Rangers at their Fashion show in July.

Recently we have been visiting Bluebell Park, the newly opened care home in Chellaston, and we planted flowers for the residents in their garden. The Guides should gain their Community Action badge, and are also taking part in the Barchester in Bloom competition, as well as meeting some of the residents.

Jo Gregory was very fortunate in being chosen to attend the International Camp held this summer in Sweden, where she had a fantastic time and met Guides and Scouts from all over the world. Many thanks to all those who helped to raise funds for her.

I would like to say a big thank you to all my helpers: Doug, the indefatigable putter-up of tents, Jo Hems, who also runs the Allenton Rangers and is very active on a district level; Jane Barron, master chef, and Rosemary, who supports us at camp. Amy Kozlowski has stayed with us as a Young Leader and her help has been invaluable.

Alison Henshaw