

## 1<sup>st</sup> Chellaston Guides

### Report 2021

We continue to flourish with over 36 Guides and a waiting list and a strong team of leaders including our wonderful Young Leader Hannah. This year we have continued to meet every week as usual, on Zoom until April and then outside on Pit Close and Whistlewood Common, finally returning to the Guide Hut in September. Sadly, we have not been able to camp at all this year.

The big news this year has been the birth of Archie on 21<sup>st</sup> March to Jo and Steve, and Percy on June 28<sup>th</sup> to Alex and Paul. Congratulations to both of you, and for doing your bit to keeping the Scouts going. We welcomed Jo back to Guides after the summer, and Alex after Christmas.

Zoom activities in the spring included celebrating a virtual Chinese New Year and Thinking Day, and lots of crafts and cooking. Outdoor activities in the summer included camp fire cooking, making and racing paper aeroplanes, taking nature photographs and many wide games. In the autumn we enrolled a bumper crop of 14 new Guides, took part in Parliament week, and made mocktails and wonderfully imaginative caterpillar cakes. We held our usual Halloween and Christmas parties organised by the Guides. We took part again in the Rotary Club's Shoebox Appeal and 16 boxes were collected for Romania.

We took part as usual in the Remembrance Day service and parade, with Ella carrying the flag, supported by Lucy, Bronwen and Ru, who presented a wreath on behalf of all the groups. The Uniformed Organisations' Carol Service was cancelled at the last minute.

Badges gained this year included many Skills Builders, mixology, personal brand, up-cycling, the 2021 Christmas Challenge and 50 years of Girlguiding Midlands.

Thank you to all the parents who have continued to support us loyally during these difficult times, by attending meetings when we have been short of leaders, and by always being there for the girls. We are proud of the Guides for their resilience and their achievements, and how they have adapted to the difficult circumstances and constant changes this year. Leading a Guide group is always rewarding, and has been particularly so this year.

We are always on the lookout for fresh ideas and experiences for the Guides. If there is anything you can suggest or offer, please let us know. If you know of anyone who would like to take part in the opportunities offered in Guiding, either as a Guide or a Leader, please encourage them.

Jo, Alex, Hannah & Alison