January 2020

Flexible Guiding in Action:

Ideas & inspiration from around Scotland

These case studies can be used alongside Girlguiding Scotland's Flexible Guiding Conversation Starters resource, available from the Girlguiding Scotland website.

If you'd like to add your story to this case study pack, contact Louise@girlguiding-scot.org.uk



Holiday Rainbows - North Berwick (East Lothian)

What did they do?

- Holiday unit for girls of Rainbow age
- Aimed to reach those on waiting lists
- (area had 2 existing R units plus enough girls waiting to fill another 2 units)
- Funded by Gannochy Developing Guiding Fund

Where and when?

- Started July 2018, continued following October, Christmas, Easter, etc.
- Took place in Scout Hall with final day at the beach

Who ran the project?

• 5 leaders and 2 young leaders

How did it work?

- 5 x 2hr sessions over 1 week
- Parents attended last 15 minutes of Friday session for Promise ceremony
- Girls continued to work on interest badges outside of holidays

Who did they reach?

• 14 waiting list girls, 2 new girls and 1 member moving into area





Get into Guiding Taster Sessions - Edinburgh

What did they do?

- Get into guiding taster sessions for all sections
- Aimed at girls ready to move to next section or those not yet in guiding
- Funded by CashBack and Gannochy Developing Guiding Fund

Where and when?

- 5 different venues in north Edinburgh
- 5 x 2hr taster sessions over 1 week

Who ran the project?

• Core team plus rota of existing leaders/in training

How did it work?

- Option to register in advance or drop in
- Girls could attend 1 or all sessions
- Different programme each day drawn from Girlguiding programme
- Provided a meal at each session to combat holiday hunger

Who did they reach?

• 27 members and 10 non-members







Daytime School Units, Perth & Kinross

What did they do?

- Units meeting during school hours
- Specifically targeted at children in poverty (as identified by school)
- Funded by Gannochy Developing Guiding Fund and local grants

Where and when?

- Garry District, Perth & Kinross, started in 2018 ongoing
- Units meet weekly for 1 hour during the day

Who ran the project?

- Headteacher approached local guiding with the idea
- Existing volunteers have taken up the opportunity

How did it work?

- Rainbows opened initially followed by Brownies
- Units meets over 30 mins of lunch + 30 mins of first afternoon session
- Uniform provided for free (stays at school)
- Various sources of funding including county & Gannochy Developing Guiding Fund

Who did they reach?

 The units have grown over time - they now have 19 Rainbows & 18 Brownies.





Holiday Rainbows, Bonnyrigg, Midlothian

What did they do?

- Holiday unit for girls of Rainbow age
- Aimed to reach those on waiting lists
- Funded by Gannochy Developing Guiding Fund

Where and when?

- 5 x mornings over 1 week in August 2017
- Bonnyrigg & Lasswade Scout Hall

Who ran the project?

• Experienced leaders and students who had returned home for summer

How did it work?

- Waiting list parents sent invites for their girls
- Girls completed under the sea themed activities including Mermaid Mayhem
- Promise ceremony took place at end of the week

Who did they reach?

 16 waiting list girls attended, 13 became the first members of 1st Hopefield Rainbow Unit, 2 joined another Rainbow unit and 1 joined Brownies





Midsummer Madness Guiding Taster -Dingwall, Ross-shire

What did they do?

- Residential experience offered as part of Dingwall Academy's Activity Week
- Guiding taster aimed at girls age 13+
- Funded by Gannochy Developing Guiding Fund

Where and when?

• Killearnan campsite, Ross-shire, June 2018.

Who ran the project?

7 Leaders on a rota basis - only 2 were there for all sessions

How did it work?

- Opportunity promoted by school as part of their activity week programme
- Girls paid £30 for 2 nights subsidised by Gannochy Dev. Guiding Fund
- Girls slept in tents, took part in activities and chores
- Held a follow-up session to encourage girls into membership

- 4 existing members, 9 non-members, 1 potential volunteer
- Included girls who hadn't been able to get into Brownies & didn't realise it wasn't a prerequisite for joining Guides





Hospital Guiding, Ayrshire North

What did they do?

- 22nd Ayrshire Crosshouse Hospital Rainbow and Brownie and Guide unit
- Aim to provide guiding for young inpatients and their visitors
- Can be a first taste of guiding or a way of maintaining normality

Where and when?

- Paediatrics ward, University Hospital Crosshouse in Ayrshire
- Ongoing since 2010

Who ran the project?

• Current team of 2 leaders and 2 helpers

How does it work?

- Runs for 1 hour per week on a Tuesday evening
- Joint unit with Scouts

- The unit brings guiding and scouting to patients on the Paediatrics ward
- Some might only be there for 1 or 2 sessions and others longer



Prison Guiding

What did they do?

- Unit for children of prisoners
- Aims to encourage children to visit frequently keeping up relationships has been shown to reduce reoffending
- Gives vulnerable children their first taste of Girlguiding and Scouting

Who ran the project?

• Joint project involving volunteers from Girlguiding and Scouting

How does it work?

- Every week is different!
- Uniform is worn in the form of neckerchiefs that stay in the unit
- Kids earn coloured wristbands instead of badges for completing challenges

- Numbers fluctuate each week and ages vary too
- Parents and children really value the unit as does the prison



Holiday Guiding - Arbroath, Angus

What did they do?

- Two days of holiday guiding for members and nonmembers
- Funded by Gannochy Developing Guiding Fund

Where and when?

- Friockheim in Angus
- 2 days over summer 2019

Who ran the project?

• 4 existing adult volunteers and 1 young leader

How did it work?

- Unit met for 2 days during the summer holidays
- Girls worked on programme activities with focus on being outdoors
- Led to a Guide unit opening in Friockheim
- PRA involved in set up and has plans to create a pack to support others in the area to try this approach

- 22 girls attended on day 1 and 17 on day 2 (10 existing and 12 non-members)
- Publicity around holiday guiding led a former young leader to return as an adult volunteer
- Another parent has become a unit helper



