

# Girlguiding North Yorkshire South Annual Review 2019



WE DISCOVER, WE GROW

**Girlguiding**

# Welcome



Five years seem to be coming round very quickly these days (or

is it because I'm getting older?) Judith completed her term of

office in October and handed over to not one, but two new County Commissioners, Alison and Lesley. One of their first tasks was to request a meeting with myself and the Vice Presidents for a discussion on ways in which we could help and/or advise as "To Create the Future, We Must Understand the Past". It was a two-way discussion as I realised how very different the job is in today's Guiding world and how much more pressure is on Commissioners and Leaders at all levels to continue giving girls the experience we have all enjoyed in Guiding. I salute you all.

The highlight for me in 2019 was joining Rainbows and their leaders on "Santa's Express" - the incredible organisation of this operation was masterly in the extreme and the look of anticipation on the girls' faces as they came up the slope to the station was one of wonderment and joy. Well done to all involved.

I know many plans were made for 2020 and there were many disappointments when they had to be cancelled but in the words of Captain Sir Tom Moore "tomorrow will be a better day".

Keep smiling and... Stay Well and Safe

**Chris Bulmer**  
County President



Picking up the reigns from Judith has been both an absolute honour and a steep learning curve so it's only right that we start with thank you. Firstly to Judith, for the amazing job she did, single handed, over the last five years - we genuinely have no idea how she managed it, particular writing over 500 handwritten notes of thanks to adult volunteers! The second thank you is to our amazing volunteers, and to members of North Yorkshire Scouts, who have shown tremendous patience and have given unfailing support whilst we got to grips with our new role. We really appreciate it - and may still need a little more!

In 2019 the main activity in our unit meetings has been to support our members in working through the programme elements of Skill Builders, Unit Meeting Activities and choosing Interest Badges to complete at home. The result has been the award of Theme, Bronze, Silver and Gold awards aplenty! This hasn't stopped an amazing array of camps, holidays and other fun opportunities, the evidence of which can be seen in the photos throughout this report. In addition as a county we have provided access to larger scale opportunities such as STEMsation, a day of exploration of STEM subjects at York university, a Construction Skills Day, Junior Warrior, and the national Big Gig not forgetting our Plastic Promise challenge to reduce the use of single use plastic.

We have helped to facilitate international experiences for our older girls in Bermuda, Canada, the World Scout Jamboree in USA and The Maldives and enjoyed hearing about their adventures on their return

For our volunteers our priority has been to facilitate the completion of the mandatory training requirements; A Safe Space and First Response with the aim of providing a safe environment of all our members all of the time. We appreciate this additional time our volunteers give to ensure they are up to date with these qualifications - a further example of their dedication and commitment to the girls in their care.

We want to end as we started, with a huge thank you to our President and Vice Presidents, leaders, members, Trefoil Guilds and supporters for making us so very welcome and for all you do to make Girlguiding North Yorkshire South the success it undoubtedly is.

**Lesley Strathie (left) and Alison Cunningham (right)**  
County Commissioners

Lesley and Alison



Una gets her Award

# Adopting the New Programme

In September 2019, Girlguiding underwent a major change when the new programme came into place. Leaders across North Yorkshire South have embraced the new variety of skills builders, UMAs and theme awards with a passion and dedication that makes us extremely proud. As a big change, it was inevitable that it would take a little time to get used to and it's a testament to your commitment to Girlguiding that you have all truly committed to this and made it a huge success. A big thank you to you all!



1st Brayton Guides Plastic Promise

*“Guides seem to be enjoying the uniqueness of the outdoor activities and skill builders, giving them something only Guiding offers and far away from the school curriculum. Rangers like trying to tie the programme requirements into relevant day to day life skills and the Brownies have loved the ‘express myself challenges’ such as baking, performing and art skills. Rainbows just love the idea of badges!”*

**Manor Division**



1st Hambleton Rainbows Plastic Challenge

*“Our Rainbows are particularly enjoying the Family Tree badge, while the Brownies have found any activity to do with food great to do; especially the edible architecture UMA. For Guides the enjoyment of doing backwoods cooking was a great way to introduce older skills to a new generation.”*

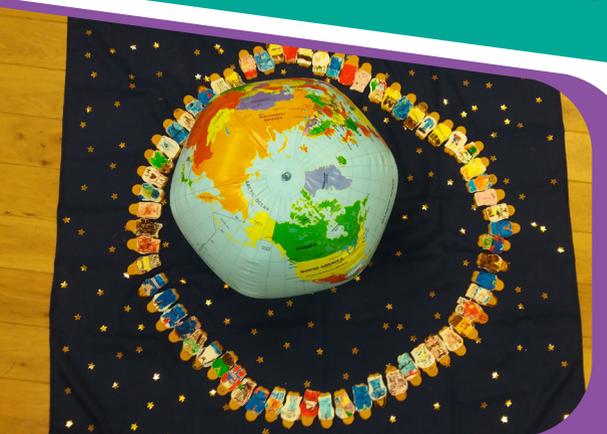
**Castle Division**



35th York Guides Ready Teddy Go UMA



Priory Fish Art



Knavesmire District Bake

*“Rainbows are loving gaining badges and learning new skills as they progress while our Brownies and Guides are enjoying holidays and camps. Rangers are keen on planning international visits. The new programme has given us the opportunity to plan exciting, age appropriate activities within the friendship and fellowship of Guiding that is shaped to 2020 society.”*

**Priory Division**



52nd York Brownies Plastic Challenge



Castle Edible Architecture

*“Food is always popular with all ages as well as activities where the girls can create and achieve something tangible.”*

**Abbey Division**

*“All units are working towards the new program.”*

**Tower Division**

Branches Adviser Rebecca Cook and Brownie Imogen joined Jon Cowap on BBC Radio York to share insights into the new Brownie activities.



Castle Outdoor Cooking

# Division Profiles:

## Tower Division

### How would you summarise the last year in 20 words or less?

2019 was a year where we concentrated on unit activities and the new programme rather than large gatherings.

### What are you most proud of over the last year?

We had a couple of welcome events for new volunteers in which we successfully placed several new volunteers with units.

### What has been your Division's biggest accomplishment?

We had five units work towards their Going Away license two of which were Rainbow Units. One Division wide activity was the swimming sports held at York Sport. Several units went away on a Rainbow sleepover, Brownie Holiday or Guide camp.

### What has made your leaders and girls laugh this year?

Everyone enjoyed the swimming sports.

### What challenges have your Division overcome this year?

We are continuing to try the new Division structure.

Tower Division York Remembrance



Haxby Guides Fundraising

## Manor Division

### How would you summarise the last year in 20 words or less?

A mixed year. We said a sudden, sad farewell to Lisa Rhodes, a Guider in Haxby Moor, together with fun filled guiding.

### What are you most proud of over the last year?

Guiders working together with the girls to adapt their busy unit activities to embrace the new programme. We also had a double celebration of 40 years. Sally Jackson from Foss district received her 40 years long service award in April while in October 75th York Haxby Methodist Brownie unit celebrated its 40th birthday. The unit was set up by Marlynn Holroyd who is still a leader there.

### What has been your Division's biggest accomplishment?

A number of Gold awards for Rainbows in Tansy district and two Baden Powell awards for girls in Flaxton Guides. Georgia Heyes joined Foss Rangers, while at York University, to complete the last parts of her Queens Guide.

### What has made your leaders and girls laugh this year?

A weekend to Blackpool by Foss Rangers caused lots of laughter as they braved the big rides, whilst the 'Big Gig' gave many girls the opportunity for fun. Flaxton Guides also enjoyed Llama Trekking.

### What challenges have your Division overcome this year?

Foss Rangers lost a large number of girls to university at the end of 2018 but has worked really hard to rebuild and to try to offer a programme to enthuse all. We have won battles to keep some units open and set up another Guide unit in Haxby. Many thanks to Emma Chester for temporarily picking up the reigns of Tansy District commissioner and to Rebecca Cook for assisting with the day to day running.



1st Tadcaster  
Brownies  
Coffee  
Morning

## Castle Division

### How would you summarise the last year in 20 words or less?

An energetic year as we as Guiders became conversant with the new programme.

### What are you most proud of over the last year?

In the Division we had 5 ladies start their leadership qualification and 3 completed it. At times when it can be difficult to attract leaders it has been fantastic to be part of these ladies' journey into Girlguiding and I hope they have as many happy years in Girlguiding as many of us have had. For our girls the movement into the new Programme and being able to hand out the first Gold Badges was especially rewarding for the girls and their leaders.

### What has been your Division's biggest accomplishment?

We were able to re-open a Ranger Unit in Towton which enables us to have Ranger Units at both sides of our large Division. It is so good to be able to offer our Guides the option of moving into Rangers.

### What has made your leaders and girls laugh this year?

The Division had a fantastic day out at Lightwater Valley and it was lovely to watch the girls and leaders laugh as they rode on rides and pushed their boundaries to try new ones.

### What challenges have your Division overcome this year?

We are looking forward to developing our knowledge of the new programme and supporting our girls as they undertake new challenges and experiences within Girlguiding.

## Priory Division

### How would you summarise the last year in 20 words or less?

Exciting, innovative, enjoyable, adaptive with many shared adventures and fantastic future plans.

### What are you most proud of over the last year?

Individually seeing the girls in all sections develop personally, socially and emotionally. Also seeing Rachel Alderman taking part in a GOLD trip to the Maldives.

### What has been your Division's biggest accomplishment?

Fun and friendship, enjoying exciting opportunities not usually available, and singing action and silly songs at a camp fire.

### What has made your leaders and girls laugh this year?

Making Girlguiding accessible to children and young people with additional needs - they have benefited greatly from what we have been able to offer.

### What challenges have your Division overcome this year?

2020 is proving challenging for units across the Division as they tackle in different ways the difficulties brought about by the coronavirus. We look forward to the resumption of Girlguiding without the restrictions currently in place and enjoying all the programme and amazing larger scale events this can offer us in the next 12 months.



Priory Santa Express 4



Forbidden Corner Trip

## Abbey Division

### How would you summarise the last year in 20 words or less?

2019 was another great year creating many Guiding memories and wow moments.

### What are you most proud of over the last year?

I am proud of how all my units have thoroughly got to grips with the new programme and enjoyed learning new skills and doing things in different ways. I am also proud of the continued way my Division works together in all manner of ways from committee meetings, to the wonderful Trefoil ladies who run the Division Depot to the individual volunteers who work together as unit teams. We really are one big amazing family.

### What has been your Division's biggest accomplishment?

Getting to grips with the new programme and watching people rise to the challenge of delivering the new programme. The girls have reacted well and several gold awards have been achieved. We've also had a lot of fun - trips to Magic & Mayhem, Wellies & Wristbands, The Big Gig, Forbidden Corner, Santa Special as well as many local camps/unit holidays and days out at unit level. We have also gained some lovely new volunteers.

### What has made your leaders and girls laugh this year?

My leaders and girls laugh continuously during most Guiding activities as they always enjoy the fun and friendship. One particular moment that does stand out is the shrieks of enjoyment when the girls were sprayed with water from one of the displays at Forbidden Corner, it was a joy to hear!

### What challenges have your Division overcome this year?

There has been a change of leadership within the Division and the District teams are yet to be confirmed yet we are still all working together and getting the task of Guiding done.

## New 18-30 Group

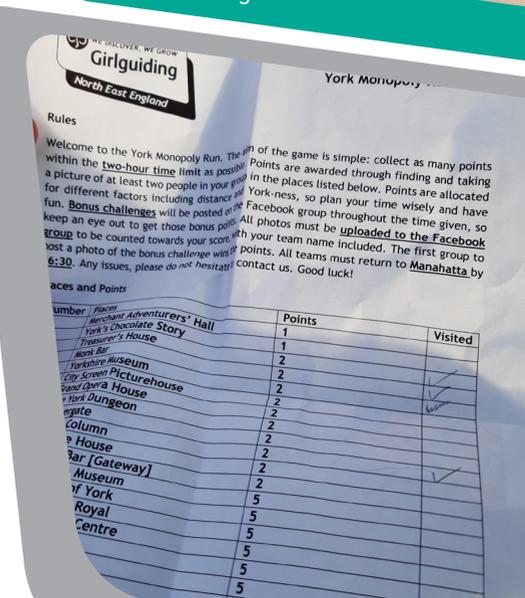
June 2019 saw the official launch of Girlguiding's new 18-30 volunteer offer. This came following two years research and consultation with more than 2,500 18-30 year old's nationally and has been designed offer young women a range of opportunities.

Each county now has a dedicated 18-30 co-ordinator who will take the lead on organizing local events which will supplement a range of national activities. These will vary from area to area as co-ordinators respond to local preferences, but it is expected to include the chance to gain new skills with training and qualifications, adventures at home and abroad, and social opportunities to network with other young women in guiding.

To kick off the initiative across the North East England region, the group held a Challenge and Chill event including mosaic making and a Monopoly run around York. Emily Verrier has now been appointed at the 18-30 Co-ordinator for North Yorkshire South and is currently developing a calendar of events. Look out for more information soon!



Mosaic Making



Monopoly Event



1830 Monopoly Event

# Events:

2019 saw members of North Yorkshire South visiting, hosting and exploring a wide range of events and other activities. Here's just a quick taste of some of the things our members got up to...



29th York Brownies camped indoors on their 'Brownie Fest' holiday, completing the stage 2 Camp skills builder.



50th York Brownies enjoyed a camping weekend at Waddow Hall.



Several North Yorkshire South Guide units made the trip down to Sheffield for the Big Gig.



Amazon opened its doors to our Guides to tour its distribution plant in Doncaster.



50th York Guides tried their hand at sailing.



70 Tadcaster Rainbows, Brownies and Guides enjoyed a camp skills day.



Knavesmire District came together for a sleepover at William's Den.



Members of the County team chatted to visitors at the Great Yorkshire Show about the new programme.

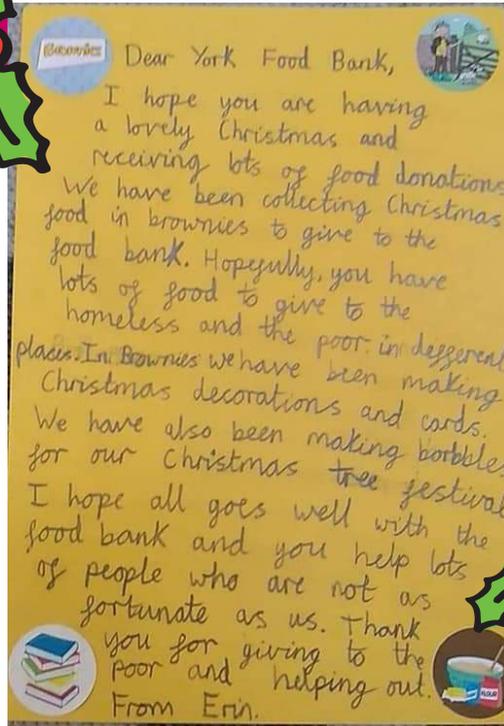
# Festive Cheer



Rainbows and leaders from across the County had a great time at the annual North Yorkshire Moors Railway Santa Special.



3rd Copmanthorpe Brownies participated in a Winter pack holiday.



6th York (Clifton Methodist) Brownies collected festive donations for the York Food Bank.



1st Hambleton Rainbows watched their local village pantomime with two rainbows joining the cast on stage to make their promise during the show.



1st and 4th Tadcaster Brownies enjoyed a meet and greet with the cast of their local pantomime after the show.



50th York Guides donned their ice skates for some fun at the Winter Wonderland.



75th York Brownies visited the Rosevale Care Home in Wigginton where they sang Christmas songs to residents, followed by the chance to ask them lots of questions afterwards.

## White Rose House

White Rose House continues to thrive. 2019 saw plenty of bookings from both Girlguiding and local community groups. Many groups who visit from outside our County continue to rebook and praise the facilities we can offer.

The committee continue to strive to keep the house in good repair and decoration, and are very grateful for the financial support we get from the 'Friends of White Rose House' to enable us to do this. Friends of White Rose House are always looking for support from the County with their membership and fundraising events.

# 2019: A Year in Numbers and Trainings



Number of Rainbows = **562**

Number of Brownies = **1120**

Number of Guides = **523**

Number of Rangers = **48**

Number of Rainbows units = **44**

Number of Brownies units = **65**

Number of Guide units = **30**

Number of Ranger units = **7**

Number of volunteers = **639**

**Training Note:** Please check that everyone in your unit leadership team has completed the right Safe Space training, including occasional helpers and young leaders.

# Awards

## 50 Year Award

Janet L Strodder

## 40 Year Award

Margaret Hedderick

Alison Cunningham

Julie Moore

Tina Patrick

## 30 Year Award

Lisa Brookman

Anne Tong

Sarah L Stone

Ann Mook

Jane E Palmer

Helen Thompson

Linda Moore

## 20 Year Award

Maddy Mossman

Pamela Ann Weller

Joanne M Feather

Andrea Freeman

Rachel Bruce

Marie Parkin

## 10 Year Award

Hazel Davis

Caroline Haynes

Kate Broderick

Charli Goodfellow

Carrie Ransome

Belinda May Murphy

Gemma Black

Sheila Welsh

Keesha Scott

John Leadbetter

Hayley Firth

Dawn Wilkinson

## 5 Year Award

Hayley Norton

Emily Fisher

Alice Weatherley

Kate Bruce

Emily Grimes

Lucy Booth

Emma Thompson

Melanie Grimshaw

Hattie Leigh

Danielle Timlin

Bex Williams

Katie Buttriss

Elle Boocock

Katie Croft

Adele Williams

Alison Mortimer

Holly Lyons

Sharron Little

Laura Simmonds

Jayne Band

Debra Summers

Dee Daye

Kat Carvey

Becky Cheeseman

Tessa Barton

Julie Maddison

Katherine Combe





North Yorkshire South would like to thank all the contributors to this review and those who continue to support us.

Charity No. 516246

County Contact: Jeni Dealtry  
countysecretaryNYS@gmail.com  
girlguidingnys.org.uk

Follow Us:  @girlguidingnys

 Girlguidingnys

Designed by Wish Agency Ltd

Editor: Clare Cockcroft