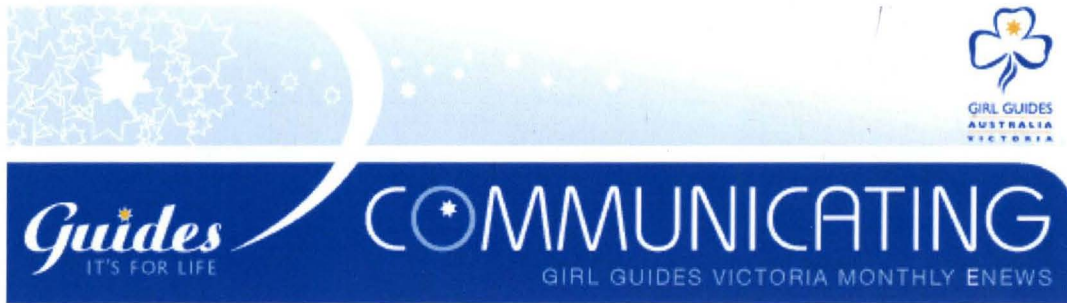
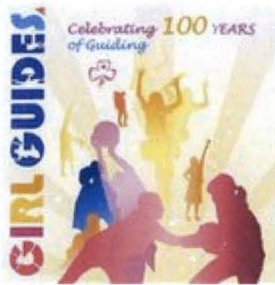


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Welcome to June Communicating Emag

June 2010 Issue 31



All Centenary information **available here** (or via the Centenary logo on the website homepage)

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COMMISSIONERS' TEAM



May has flown by and with that winter is upon us and we are half way through our very special Centenary year. Perhaps we could now reflect upon what we have done so far this year.

Have you been to some of the Centenary events? Have you started working on your Centenary Challenge Badge? Are you aiming to achieve the gold challenge?

We have just had the most wonderful day at 100 Downunder at the Showgrounds where over 2,000 members participated. The weather was beautiful and all of the girls and Leaders we saw were enjoying a day of activities, fun and friendship. It was especially good fun dancing with all the girls at the end of the day to the Police Band, Code One. Congratulations and thanks to the organising committee, Debbie McLaren, Berry McDade, Lena Topp, Kathy Cook, Margaret Taylor and Jane Pennington for running such



CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

May commenced with the first meeting of State Council for 2010 in the afternoon and preceded by an excellent discussion session. Four groups focused on different aspects of the role and composition of State Council and produced some constructive ideas for consideration by Executive Committee.

To respond to the changes decided by Girl Guides Australia, GGV will need to change our system of governance and will no longer have a Chairman. We do not yet have all the necessary information, therefore Executive Committee proposed and State Council agreed, that our next State Commissioner will be appointed for a term of up to twelve months whilst these changes are bedded down.

The appointment will be announced at State Council meeting on 4 September and commence in February 2011. Following this appointment, GGV will then return to the normal process and length of term.

a fantastic event. We also thank all of the volunteers who were part of the day, either by running activities or bringing girls along. We also thank our very special guests who were with us at the Opening Ceremony, Lord Robert Baden-Powell and Agnes Baden-Powell. Thank you to Glenda Vuillermin and Annette Swaffield for presenting that part of the day.

The next Centenary Event is coming up this month. On 19 June, Guides all over Australia will join together for a Chain of Campfires at the same time. Each Region is holding an event that you can be part of, so make sure you do take up this opportunity and start practicing your campfire songs at Guide meetings.

Information about Sleepless in Shepparton on 28 August (State Sleepover) and Flying the Flag on 10 October (promise renewal) will be available on the website soon, so keep a look out for these as numbers are limited.

In May, the State Team attended a number of events and we enjoyed meeting girls and Leaders around the Regions.

Noella attended the National Board meeting held in Sydney from 11 May to 16 May. The Girl Guides Australia AGM was held during this time and the guest speaker was Abyilene McGuire from Girl Guides Tasmania. Abyilene spoke about her experience at COP15 (Climate Change Summit in Copenhagen) where she represented Girl Guides Australia and the Koala Foundation.

A number of awards were presented at the Girl Guides Australia AGM and Girl Guides Victoria congratulates all the recipients including Jo-Ann Lees for the WAGGGS pin, Miriam Holmes, Natasha Hendrick, Linda Wilkinson, Karen Chatto, Sue Van Eyk, Belinda Allen, Helen Geard and Liz Butson on receiving the Asia Pacific Region Award, Natasha Hendrick on receiving the Emu Award, Karen Chatto on receiving a Bar to the Emu Award, and finally Lynne Price, Miriam Holmes and Linda Wilkinson on receiving the Red Kangaroo Award. These awards are wonderful recognition for the service given to Girl Guides Australia and the States over many years by these women.

At the Board Meeting, the election of the new Chief Commissioner for Girl Guides Australia took place. Our current Chief Commissioner, Lynne Price completes her term on 31 December 2010. The board has elected Helen Geard as the new Chief Commissioner commencing on 1 September 2010. Helen is currently the State Commissioner of Girl Guides Tasmania. Girl Guides Victoria congratulates Helen on her appointment.

Noella and Alison attended a Forum held by the National Council of Women Victoria on 6 May. Noella

The election of three members of Executive Committee will occur at the Annual General Meeting on 29 May. The guest speakers at the AGM will be Alice Csabi and Petina Blackwell, both of whom have recently represented Girl Guides Australia at important international conferences. The meeting will be followed by the Centenary Dinner - a good excuse for a party!

This month I have enjoyed special events where I have met lots of girls. I visited Goulburn Region's girls sleepover, where Margaret McNeill received an Emu Award; the Melbourne Mentor Breakfast was an opportunity to meet many young women and 100 Downunder was great fun. I met lots of Leaders at the registration desk and then helped Guides to make compasses in the Heritage Zone. The committee did a fabulous job and smiling faces were everywhere.

The Chain of Campfires is almost here and I have been getting into practice at campfire trainings. Do think of Guides all over Australia singing together around their campfires and enjoy the experience.

Elizabeth Adnams OAM
Chairman, Girl Guides Victoria



PROGRAM INFORMATION

Capital Capers

As part of the Centenary Challenge there will be an event run in Victoria for Guides 14 and under, who achieve the Gold Challenge part of the badge in 2011. We are looking for a Leader in Charge for this event. If you are interested in taking on this challenge please contact Helen Reid as soon as possible on 9899 6364 (AH) or program@guidesvic.org.au

Unit fundraising for UNICEF

Is your Unit doing something special to raise money for the Centenary Fundraising Challenge? Our contact with UNICEF is looking for a Unit that is doing this together as a Unit. If your Unit is, can you please contact Helen Reid on 9899 6364 (AH) or program@guidesvic.org.au

was the Facilitator for a robust group of highly qualified experts: Dr Ellie Robinson, Australian Institute of Family Studies, Dr June Kane AM, Independent expert in Human Rights, Jackie van Vugt, Allanah and Madeliene Foundation, and Michelle Blanchard, Senior Research Officer at the Inspire Foundation. The information and concerns raised were relevant to the girls and young women of today and the high risks that accompany growing up in today's society.

Girl Guides Victoria entered a team in the Mother's Day Classic for the first time this year. We had over 100 participate in our team which was a fantastic effort. Alecia enjoyed doing the 8km walk and seeing many of our members in the new uniform along the way. Well done to all who participated and especially to Melanie Smith who co-ordinated the team. This was a great opportunity for us to be seen out at a large event that attracted more than 40,000 participants. If you missed out this year, why not join the Girl Guides team next year?

Recently, we were fortunate to have some of our members on television to promote the Girl Guide Biscuits. On 12 May at 10am on Channel Ten's 'The Circle', Gemma Pavone, Alice Csabi, Claire Denadic and Alecia Rathbone represented Girl Guides on the show and promoted Guide Biscuits. This was great exposure for us and the young women who participated did a great job to promote Guiding.

Alecia was honoured to present Margaret McNeill with the Emu Award in Shepparton in May. It was wonderful to be part of this special celebration and also to pay tribute to Margaret's time as Region Leader for Goulburn Region. The Region Team put on a great night that involved both girls and Leaders. Margaret has been a dedicated volunteer of Girl Guides Victoria for over 30 years and has held many positions, including that of Region Leader. We congratulate Margaret on this tribute to all she has done for Girl Guides Victoria.

Alecia and Noella attended the Women of Note Melbourne Mentor Breakfast on Friday 21 May. It was wonderful to see so many mentors at the breakfast sharing their experience with year 11 students. What an experience to be in a room with hundreds of girls and women taking about their career aspirations. The buzz around the room was exciting. Thank you to the Women of Note and the breakfast committee for running another great event.

We have a number of new Region Leaders to welcome and some to farewell as they complete their terms. We farewell the following Region Leaders as they complete their terms and thank them sincerely for their service over this time: Sandy McElroy (Acheron), Margaret McNeill (Goulburn), Andrea Hardwicke



YOUTH EXECUTIVE

Youth Exec would like to invite all Guides aged 13-17 and their Leaders to **THE EPIC WEEKEND** **Friday 25 June - Sunday 27 June 2010.**

We've got a whole weekend planned to kick off the start of your school holidays!

There's a night of service on Friday, on Saturday there's a Junior Leader (JL) day for all those who are JLs and a day in the city for those who aren't. In the evening, the Olave girls have some Mad Mystery Mayhem planned for us. And if that's not enough, those attending the whole weekend can sleepover at Canterbury Guide Hall with us!

Can't make it to all of it? That's fine - just apply for what you can make it to.

Day activities \$15, sleepovers \$10, and evening activities are free!

(You will need a valid met card for some activities and may need to BYO dinner or \$ for dinner)

Friday Night Service:

Last year at Reality Check we talked a lot about how to make the world a better place - so this year we wanted to give you a chance to take action!

Junior Leader Day:

This is a day for any Guide 14 years and over working with a younger Unit as a JL and Leaders who have JLs in their Unit. The day will give Guides a chance to meet other JLs, share experiences and concerns.

Saturday in the City:

Even if you're not a JL you can still have fun on the Saturday of The Epic Weekend. The Olave girls (Guides 18-30) are going to take you on a city-wide adventure!

Mad Mystery Mayhem:

A team adventure full of madness, mystery and a little mayhem through the city with the Olave girls.

Reality Check:

This year's Reality Check theme is: **Girls worldwide say empowering girls will change our world.** The day will be filled with a guest speaker who will talk about time management

(Hume), Pam Schafer (Mornington Peninsula) and Janine O'Kane (Sunraysia). We welcome the following Region Leaders as they commence their terms: Marjory Earl (Goulburn), Pamela Bethell (North Central) and Amanda McNabb (Sunraysia). We thank these new Region Leaders for taking up this very rewarding challenge.

We welcome Penny Ferris to the role of Outdoor Activities Manager for Girl Guides Victoria. We are sure that Penny will do a brilliant job in this position and look forward to working together.

Alecia was thrilled to be part of Alysia Clark's Queen's Guide Award Presentation in Poowong. It was a wonderful celebration of all Alysia has done to achieve this special award. The Federal Member for McMillan, Russell Broadbent, was also present and spoke about the brave girls who 'took on' Lord Baden-Powell at Crystal Palace 100 years ago. Well done Alysia.

Finally, we would like to remind all Region Teams that we have our State Management Conference, 'Expand your Horizons' coming up on 16 to 18 July. This weekend is for Region Leaders, Assistant Region Leaders, Region International, Outdoor Activities, Program and Training Co-ordinators. We hope to see you there.

Have a wonderful month and we will see some of you at the Chain of Campfires.

Yours in Guiding,
Noella Kershaw, Alecia Rathbone, Alison Bennett
State Commissioners, Girl Guides Victoria

CHIEF COMMISSIONER



It has been exciting for me to present the repositioning activity in most States over the past few weeks. The activity provides an overview of the changes that will be occurring following the review of the structure of Girl Guides Australia to create best practice

models for governance and management and ways of work. Participants have been most receptive to the changes and pleased to have the opportunity to have input into what is being introduced.

Very soon the activity will be rolled out in your own State, by your State Commissioner and State Board members. The Working Party that developed the changes that were accepted by the GGA Board believe it is important that every adult member wishing to be informed about the changes and to contribute in any way, should be given the opportunity to do so. Keep an eye on your State Newsletter and website to

and keeping your life balanced, discussion workshops on future State events, travelling overseas with Guiding, what happens when you turn 18, the Promise and Law and lots more!

Sleepovers:

Breakfast and activities such as card and board games, movies and Singstar will be provided. Feel free to bring any games or activities you might like to keep you occupied.



FUN N FREEZE

FUN N FREEZE
Victorian Olive Weekend

13-15 August 2010
for 18-29 year olds

(Click on logo for more details)



WOMEN OF NOTE

You could have heard a pin drop at the 15th Melbourne Mentor Breakfast on Friday, 21 May when Louise Cannon, Station Officer at the South Melbourne Fire Station, told more than 200 women and year 11 girls the story of her career.

She was 'kicked out of school,' she said, but she got a job as a travel consultant and hated it for all of the four years she did it. Then she decided to train as a primary school teacher, which was fine until she actually got into a school and discovered she didn't like it at all either.

What she wanted was a job that would allow her to work in the open and 'have lots of time off'. A friend was working for the Melbourne Fire Brigade and his job seemed to be just what she wanted, but the Fire Brigade didn't take women to be fire fighters at that stage.

When the Victorian Government decreed that women would be allowed to be fire fighters, Louise was at the head of a very short queue of women - three of them in total! But she survived the recruitment stage and went on to take her place in a team where her male colleagues eventually grew to respect her. Along the way, she met several people who became her mentors, people who saw her

determine when there will be a presentation in your area.

Governance of an organisation is all about how decisions are made for the future of the organisation and how the members of the organisation are informed of these decisions and then how these decisions are implemented. It is imperative that Girl Guides Australia is open and transparent with all decisions that are made and that members have the opportunity to have input in to these decisions. Until now the Board of GGA has been both a governance and management Board and as the members of the Board have been only the State Commissioners and the Chief Commissioner, the Board has only been required to report to itself - not the members of GGA. This is about to change.

A Board needs to be visionary, strategic, open and accountable. Again, I encourage you to find out more about the changes that are happening to Guiding in Australia - it is your right and responsibility to be involved.

Are you and your Guides working on the International Service Challenge 'Girls Unite to Read and Write'? The partnership formed with UNICEF Australia and the funding from the Office for Women have assisted GGA to provide a remarkable resource which will help Guides to understand more about UNICEF and also to learn about the importance of equal access to education. This challenge supports our understanding of MDG 2 "Girls Worldwide say... Education opens doors for girls and boys". GGA has set a target of raising a minimum of \$2 per member to support the education of girls in Papua New Guinea. We want to donate a minimum of \$60000 to UNICEF Australia for this project. I believe we can do better than that - wouldn't it be terrific if we could raise even more than \$2 a member?

Continue to have fun as you share the Guiding Spirit in the Year of the Girl Guide.

Lynne Price
Chief Commissioner
Girl Guides Australia

COMING EVENTS

potential and nudged her into positions that drew out her leadership qualities and her special skills.

Louise gave a funny and engaging address and her message was very clear - women can be fire fighters and the Melbourne Fire Brigade is a work place well worth considering. There are approximately 1700 fire fighters in Melbourne but only 60 of them are women so any girl or young woman who thinks she might have the yen to be a fire fighter has a good chance of being recruited if she can pass the hard physical tests.

Apart from the excellent speaker, the morning was exciting for the girls and women taking part, as could be judged by the noise level in the room whenever the MC allowed conversation.

Girls took the opportunity to move around the room to speak to women from tables other than the one on which they were officially seated. Business cards were exchanged with email addresses and telephone numbers so that girls might stay in touch to ask advice of the women they met worth experience in careers of interest to the girls.

Once again the Mentor Breakfast Committee is to be congratulated on a very special event.



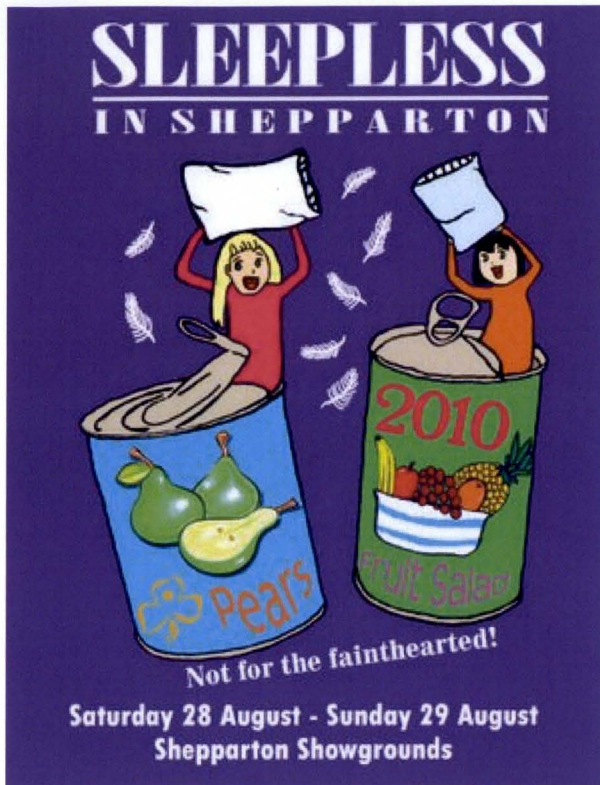
HISTORY OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

The AP Regional Committee has commissioned Jan MacIntyre to produce a book on the History of the Asia Pacific Region. Jan is a previous AP Region Development Executive and in the past three years has greatly supported Girl Guides Australia as Chair of the Working Party investigating changes to governance and management structures. Jan is also an Honorary Australia Associate (HAA).

The book Jan is compiling will outline the achievements and history of the past 40 years of the Asia Pacific Region highlighting how the Region has significantly contributed to the development of girls and young women in that time.

Jan wishes to hear from members and past members who have been involved in the Region during that time either through attendance at an event, as a member of the AP Committee, part of the AP Training Pool or on a Planning Committee.

She is requiring photos, minutes of



This event will include a movie marathon, talent show, Step Star, games and activities to keep you entertained throughout the night. A hot supper will be provided along with breakfast. Guides will need to bring a packed dinner for the trip there.

Cost: \$30 for Guides \$15 for Leaders

Transport: Catch a special train direct from Southern Cross Station leaving 4.45pm Saturday afternoon, arriving back at 10.50am Sunday morning. Cost is \$30 per person. Or you can arrive at the Showground direct at 7pm and leave on Sunday at 9am. There are a limited number of seats on the train so book early.

All Guides should be accompanied by a Leader to ensure correct ratios.

Numbers will be limited due the space at the showground and no late applications will be accepted so get in early and don't miss out.

[Please click here to view all current events](#)

THE GUIDE SHOP

meetings, diaries of events, personal recollections such as stories and anecdotes about members' times connected to the Region and asks that people share how this contributed to their own personal growth.

If you are able to help Jan with any of this information, or can suggest people she could interview, she would appreciate hearing from you.

Please contact Jan by email on macintyr@squirrel.com.au

WORLD PEACE DAY



The non-profit organisation Peace One Day (POD) is inviting Guides to raise awareness of World Peace Day on 21 September 2010. [\(More info...\)](#)



CANOE CAPERS

[Newsletter of Girl Guides Victoria Leader's Canoe Group](#)

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