



## Victorian Trefoil Guild Newsletter

June 2021

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Monday 21st June

What a time we have had.. Covid followed by the Mother of all Storms.. I hope you have all escaped the storm and aftermath with no or very little damage.

On the Island we were without power for 48 hours – I can't imagine what it has been like for those who are still without power as I write this newsletter.

The power outage has certainly made me realise a few things – like having petrol in the car (Dear Daughter take note), that the garage door doesn't open; that emergency lighting etc needs to have batteries or be fully charged.. and did you notice, just how quiet the world was without electricity humming away in the background.

Guiding skills came into play..

### **Trefoil Guild – not just a bunch of Little Old Ladies...**

#### **B.R.U.T - A Trefoil Tale – Cat Anderson**

The founding six members of B.R.U.T were members of BRU Olaves who, once they had turned thirty years of age, wanted to continue together as a peer group.

The members of B.R.U.T are all current Unit Leaders from multiple districts in Southern Region aged between 30 to 40years.

The Guild continues to meet socially on Friday nights. There is no limit to the activities that our members participate in. Like many Guilds, our members enjoy getting outdoors, Geocaching, learning new skills, weekends away sitting around campfires, cooking and doing service.

Members of the Guild helped transform a 1989 Ford Laser into a racecar that is entered into racing events organised by Scouts Victoria throughout the year. This car is co owned by BRU Olaves. Working on the car has helped Guild and Olave members learn about car maintenance and build their confidence in driving. The Guild continues to mentor the Olaves so they can continue the car's legacy.

B.R.U.T continues to undertake many service projects at Tynong North campsite. Over the years they have painted inspirational murals on the bathroom doors, installed a night reflector course and set up a brownie tile scavenger hunt on the property. The Guild has been fundraising to purchase new bedding and paint for the campsite.

Being a Trefoil Guild member is a rewarding addition to being part of Girl Guides Victoria. We encourage all women over eighteen to consider joining a Guild or perhaps starting their own. So what are you waiting for? Come join the fun today!





## Victorian State Gathering – 27-29<sup>th</sup> August – Phillip Island

### FAQ – Frequently Asked Questions:

**Will the Gathering be cancelled:** We are still planning that this event will go forward, but we are also prepared if we have to cancel or postpone due to COVID.

**Will I get my money back if the event is cancelled:** If we do have to cancel due to COVID, please be assured that all moneys will be refunded. I have been in touch with the Manager of the Venue and he has given me that assurance.

(Note: in the event that COVID does impact on our Gathering, we do have the choice to move the event to next year.)

**The Day rate – I am confused...** If you are not staying over night Saturday, at the venue, the day rate is \$100 – that includes lunch, dinner on Saturday and lunch on Sunday

**I only want to come for the meeting and lunch on Saturday. How much will I pay?** It costs \$75 for the meeting and lunch on Saturday.

**Do I have to bring my own bedding and towels:** No – we have arranged with the Manager that all bedding and towels will be provided. You may have to make up your bed – I will be talking to the local Guide Group to see if their Guides would like to earn some service

**Is there ample car parking:** Yes – either on site, or across the road at the public car parking area.

**What time can I arrive on Friday:** From 5pm onwards

**Can my Guild have a trading table:** Yes – let Barbara Handson know

**Can my Guild run a raffle:** No

**Which “dress” will I wear – the pinkie polo shirt or the white shirt with the Trefoil Guild Scarf –** wear the pinkie during the day, and the white shirt with TG Scarf for dinner on Saturday night.

**Can I organise my own activities on Saturday afternoon:** Yes

**Do I have to stay for lunch on Sunday:** No but let us know that you are not staying.

**This is a CYC venue – will I be sleeping in a top bunk:** No, only bottom bunks will be used.



**Congratulations to  
Cath Birkett of Goulburn Valley Trefoil Guild,  
and to husband Ken Birkett  
Di Paterson and Kay Rankin of Wine-a-Lot Trefoil  
Guild  
Susan Campbell, Girl Guides Victoria  
David Gibbs – once Honorary Treasurer GGV  
on receiving an OAM in the Australian Honours 14<sup>th</sup>  
June 2021. Very well deserved!!**

**To read more about these ladies (and gentlemen) see article further down in this newsletter...**

## From Sharyn Smith-Anderson – ATGA Elect

A shout out from Sharyn {ATGA (elect)}.....



### MASKS, MASKS AND MORE MASKS

Do you need to update your masks? Need a new one or two?

Friends of Sangam has masks for sale in a variety of colours and all proceeds from the sale of the masks goes towards fundraising for Sangam.

The masks have been beautifully hand sewn by Friends of Sangam members and cost \$10 with free postage.

They are available from Jill Jeffery. If you would like Some, please email Jill at: [janddjeffery@bigpond.com](mailto:janddjeffery@bigpond.com)

Payment goes to the Friends of Sangam bank account:

BSB: 633 000

Account Number: 161 483 623

Account Name: Girl Guides Victoria Friends of Sangam Australia



Friends of Sangam appreciates your support – thank you.

## **From Girl Guides Victoria**

We all know that Girl Guide Volunteers make incredible contributions to their communities! Volunteering by contributing skills and time is a big part of what we value at Girl Guides Victoria (GGV). How fantastic is it, then, that six of our dedicated Volunteers were recognised at the Queen's Birthday Honours?! The Medal of the Order of Australia and Order of Australia Medal are awarded annually for extraordinary service worthy of recognition.

From leading Units here in Victoria, to serving as Assistant Chief Commissioner, to donating her time to various World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) committees - Susan Campbell's contribution to Guiding is global! Susan is a staunch supporter of WAGGGS World Centres Sangam in India and Kusafiri in Africa. Recently, she was a facilitator at WAGGGS' flagship leadership seminar (the Juliette Low Seminar), and last year was elected President of the Olave Baden-Powell Society who provide financial support to WAGGGS.

Kay Rankin is passionate about mentorship. This forms an important part of her Guiding career as well as her work with other charitable community organisations such as the Cancer Council, the Royal Women's Hospital, and the St John of God Foundation. A Girl Guide since 1972, Kay was an enthusiastic Unit Leader and a member of the Executive Committee. Every year, Kay brings young women in Year Eleven together with mentors as part of 'Women of Note', and created the Kay Rankin Inspirational Young Women's Award.

Dianne Paterson's involvement in Girl Guide events is impressive! Di first joined Girl Guides in 1966, and was a keen member of Melbourne Gang Show for two decades. Throughout the 1990s, Di contributed to numerous GGV events including the State Dragon Boat Team and Shindig. On a larger scale, Di was involved in the Australian Centenary Event which celebrated 100 years of Guiding, and FanTastic. Di's dedication and compassion continues outside of Guiding. She is a teacher and a pastor, assisting those who are sick or frail both in and out of hospital.

A proud resident of Goulburn Valley, Cath Birkett has a sound understanding of the accessibility challenges of Girl Guiding in regional and remote areas. She used this experience as Victorian Lones Advisor from 1978-1983, and continued her involvement with bringing Girl Guiding to girls across Victoria as a member of the Lones Support Group until 1993. Cath's enthusiasm for community work and helping others is evident in her volunteer work with the Australian Red Cross. Notably, she was a founding member of the Goulburn Valley Branch of the Australian Bone Marrow Donors Registry.

Ken Birkett, along with his wife Cath, has been a GGV Volunteer for over 50 years! Ken is a firm believer in the benefits of community service and fundraising - this is evident in the various community groups he has been involved in. A member of the Mooroopna Rotary Club (including present from 1987-1988), Ken has also been a part of the Shepparton Theatre Arts Group, the Shepparton Restoration Car Club, and was a founding member of the Mooroopna Men's Shed.

As Honorary Treasurer of GGV, David Gibbs was affectionately adopted 'as a Girl Guide' by the Executive Committee due to his dedication to the organisation, attending monthly financial committee meetings and enthusiasm for supporting new innovations within GGV alongside promoting and empowering girls and women. David is committed to making financial literacy engaging and accessible, and used his in-depth knowledge of non-profit organisations to strengthen GGV's financial position.

State Commissioner, Janelle Howell | Wirrigirri, has spoken to Susan, Kay, Di, Cath, and Ken and offered the congratulations and BRAVO from the whole Guiding community across Victoria for being recognised with the Medal of the Order of Australia, and to David for receiving the Member of the Order of Australia. It is wonderful to see Girl Guide Volunteers celebrated. Who will it be next year!?

Please like, share and comment to amplify our amazing volunteers for all they have done to making Guiding possible in Victoria. We hope to find an opportunity to celebrate in person.

**Have you moved? Have you changed your email address? Have you changed your phone number? Please let GGV's Kerrie Morton know ([membership@guidesvic.org.au](mailto:membership@guidesvic.org.au)) – she keeps the database up to date. Or you can let me know and I will advise Kerrie.**

Well Done and Congratulations to Ann Miles (NSW/ACT/NT) for completing the five required sections for her Bronze Award. Ann's certificate and badge have been sent to Molly Tweedie for presentation at an appropriate occasion.

Congratulations to Chris Wythes (NSW/ACT/NT) for completing her 4<sup>th</sup> section of her Bronze level. Only one to go, Chris.

Thank you to everyone who has paid the annual SCC fee. Receipts will be kept in your files.

Keep up the great work everyone.  
Faye Croft  
ATG – SCC Co-ordinator



## **DARK HORSE VENTURE**

So far four Venturers have been eligible for their Gold Awards. Congratulations to Lorraine Buchanan (NSW/ACT/NT), Lynda Hurford (Vic), Lee Camburn (SA) and Di Bohmer (SA). To gain their Gold Awards they have completed four challenges with each challenge from a different one of the five categories. Each challenge needed to be completed over a minimum of one year and taking a minimum of one or two hours each week. This was quite an achievement on their behalf. The five categories to choose from are Active & Creative, Giving & Sharing, History & Heritage, Peoples and Nations and Tomorrow's World. Anything a venturer wishes to do will fit under at least one of these categories.

More information on Dark Horse Venture can be obtained from:-  
Co-ordinator, Margaret Priestley  
Email – [darkhorse@girlguides.org.au](mailto:darkhorse@girlguides.org.au)  
Phone (08) 8445 7660

## State Distribution



**AINT 05 (2021)**  
Global Campfire  
(31 July- 1 August 2021)



WAGGGS World Centres welcome everyone to a celebration of Guiding with their annual Global Campfire.

Get together with your friends – virtual or real, local or overseas – via the WAGGGS YouTube channel - to enjoy campfire songs and to share stories from around the world.

Here in Australia, it might still be cold enough to wear your camp blanket!

### Times:

**1 am 1 August (AEST)**

**12.30 am 1 August (South Australia)**

**11 pm 31 July (Western Australia)**

Hosted by Jen Barron, the Global Campfire will be a night of fine entertainment and memories.



22nd June, 2021

Dear Girl Guide members,

Today, I am sharing with you some news that will sadden and disappoint many. Unfortunately, the annual Girl Guide Biscuit campaign will be discontinued.

Girl Guide Biscuit sales have been reducing over many years and consequentially the funds generated to support Guiding have also reduced significantly. Despite various changes aimed at invigorating the program and retaining a Girl Guide Biscuit annual campaign, the decline in biscuit sales has continued.

Last year, given our reduced demand, we worked with a new supplier to develop a new range of biscuits. Our ability to sell biscuits was further impacted by the challenges of COVID-19 with no face-to-face selling and other limitations imposed on Guiding by the global pandemic. Whilst we were able to pivot to sell biscuits online, it has not generated the outcomes we had hoped.

The Girl Guides Australia Board considered a variety of options and reached this very difficult decision to farewell the annual Girl Guide Biscuit campaign from this year.

With Girl Guide biscuits being such a focus for many in Girl Guiding in Australia for more than sixty years, the Girl Guides Australia Board recognise that this decision will be heartfelt by members across Guiding and provide financial challenges for those Districts and Regions that rely on the profit generated from biscuit sales.

In making this decision the Board also noted the true costs of the campaign were not just the biscuits themselves. Significant staff resources both in GGA and in State offices and volunteer time are invested to deliver the annual Girl Guide Biscuit campaign. The return on investment is simply not sustainable.

I know this will be disappointing for many of you, who like myself have sold, bought and eaten countless numbers of Girl Guide biscuits over many years. However, there is a saying that where there is change there is opportunity.

And so as we say farewell to biscuits, we need to look to the future and consider new opportunities to raise funds to support girls and young women across Australia. I encourage you to focus on how we can champion fun, friendship and adventure in our girl-led programs and on how we can empower girls and young women to find their voice, discover their potential, explore possibilities and make a genuine difference in their world.

With every best wish

Rosemary Derwin Chief Commissioner