

1st Enfield Guides and Rangers Report for APCM 2019

1st Enfield Guides meet in the Parish Centre every Friday evening 7.30-9.15 pm during school term time. As a unit, we aim to provide somewhere for girls aged 10-14 to have fun, learn new skills and make a difference to their lives and their communities. With lots of input from the girls we organise a full programme of Friday evening activities and trips beyond Enfield. We also attend the monthly Parade Service on the 2nd Sunday of the month.

1st Enfield Rangers has older girls aged 15+ meeting in the Parish Centre on the second and fourth Sundays of the month 6-8pm. The Rangers take it turn to organise the meetings and activities themselves.

In autumn 2018, Girlguiding UK launched a new programme of activities covering Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers, which we have been trialling over the past few months. The programme enables the girls to complete skills builders and interest badge across six key themes: Know myself, express myself, be well, have adventures, take action and skills for my future. Some of the activities the guides have completed as part of the new programme include making local Tottenham cakes, a team game to learn how to budget their finances, and sewing cloth badges displaying their personal messages for social change.

Other highlights of the past 12 months include a trip to the Lea Valley White Water Centre to complete the Olympic Legacy rafting course, cooking pizza in home-made cardboard ovens, taking part in self-defence classes, a sleepover at the secret nuclear bunker at Kelvedon Hatch, a visit from local MP Joan Ryan, celebrating International Women's Day on 8th March, and taking part in a Taskforce day at the Girlguiding site at Northern Heights where the girls helped to woodchip a path and dig over new allotment beds.

A significant number of our older guides will be moving up to rangers in the summer. That means that to ensure that the guide unit remains vibrant (and economically viable) we need to attract more girls to join. We are keen to promote the unit and our activities in local primary schools, especially St Andrews. Suggestions for how to make contact with local schools are welcome. And, if anyone knows of any girls aged 10-14 who may be interested in joining, please pass on our details.

We are also keen to attract adult volunteers who may be interested in helping us to plan and run activities. Getting involved in guiding is a fun, rewarding experience and can be as much or as little commitment as people want. Finally, we are always happy to hear from anyone with specialist skills or experiences to share who might be willing to come and run a Friday evening session for us.

Contact: 1stenfieldguides@live.com or 1stenfieldrangers@live.com

Sarah Butt and Carole van der Watt (Unit leaders)

Ivy Chapman and Hannah Wilkes-Green (Unit helpers)