

Press Release

MARCH 2017



## **BROWNIES IN LOUGHER HAVE FUN EXPLORING THEIR GUIDING HISTORY**

Girlguiding Cymru received over £41,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Young Roots project to help young people explore their heritage. The Young Roots project enabled local young volunteers from across Wales to discover the history behind Girlguiding in their local area.

1<sup>ST</sup> Loughor Brownies were one of the six Girlguiding Cymru Units who were selected to carry out the Young Roots project. The Units carried out interviews with past members as well as key community figures that had some involvement with their Unit. The girls looked

at old photographs, badges, uniform and memorabilia to discover and gain a greater understanding of what guiding used to be like years ago.

1<sup>st</sup> Loughor Brownies focussed their project on researching the history of 'Park Mill'- their guiding residential central on the Gower Peninsula. The Brownies discovered interesting facts about the centre through interviewing a teacher who had taught on the site when it was a primary school, before it became Girlguiding property in 1986.

As part of the project there was a Young Roots showcase conference held at Girlguiding Cymru's Headquarters, Broneirion on 11 March. The participants each had the opportunity to share their findings with the wider community.

Alex, 10 said: "I loved interviewing Phyliss and asking her lots of questions about what Park Mill was like a long long long time ago."

Anwen, 10 said: *"I really enjoyed looking though the documents and reading about all the funny stories that happened at Park mill over 80 years ago. My favourite story was about the evacuees staying at Park Mill during World War Two"*.

The project was a great success and provided the girls with the opportunity to learn new skills as well as learning about the history of the organisation.

Girls in guiding can get involved in everything from science experiments and performing arts, to adventure sports and community action projects. For more information about volunteering or how to become a member visit [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk).

**-ENDS-**

Pictures attached show: 1<sup>st</sup> Loughor Brownies and their Leader Rhian Rees at the Young Roots showcase conference.

Girlguiding is the leading charity for girls and young women in the UK, with 559,996 members. Thanks to the dedication and support of 100,000 amazing volunteers, we are active in every part of the UK, giving girls and young women a space where they can be themselves, have fun, build brilliant friendships, gain valuable life skills and make a positive difference to their lives and their communities. We build girls' confidence and raise their aspirations. We give them the chance to discover their full potential and encourage them to be a powerful force for good. We give them a space to have fun. We run Rainbows (5-7 years), Brownies (7-10 years), Guides (10-14 years) and The Senior Section (14-25 years). Registered Charity No. 306016. [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)