

Press Release

MARCH 2017



GUIDES IN MACHYNLLETH 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.

1ST Machynlleth Guides were one of the six Girlguiding Cymru Units that 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 their Units used to be like years ago.

During the project 1ST Machynlleth Guides had the chance to try on the old Guide and Brownie uniforms. The girls had lots of fun trying them on and learnt how the uniforms have changed so much over the years. The Guides put the photographs together and made a 2017 calendar to fundraise for their Unit.

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.

Freya, a member from 1st Machynlleth Guides said: *“We really enjoyed taking part in the Young Roots project. It taught us how much of an impact Girlguiding has had on girls over the years. We also learned how lucky we are that we don’t have to wear those itchy skirts anymore.”*

Heulwen, Unit Leader who lead the project said: *“Taking part in the project has increased my knowledge of the history of Girlguiding Cymru. As well as having fun this had also enabled me to complete a NVQ in archiving and digitalising”*

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.

-ENDS-

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