



NATIONAL TEAM REPORT JUNE 2015

Did you know that this year, Australians are expected to consume more than 13 million Girl Guide Biscuits raising over \$1.7 million for Guiding in Australia? We were excited to have our first taste of Guide biscuits for the year and heard of some great stories of innovative ways of selling biscuits and promoting Guiding in the wider community. We hope the 2015 Biscuit Campaign has been and will continue to be a successful fundraiser for your unit.

As we're sure you're all aware, applications for the Great Bunya Gathering are now closed, and we hear of planning underway around Australia by Guides and leaders for fundraising and pre-jamboree challenges and camps. Only about 117 days to go!

We were saddened to hear of the tragic events in Nepal. Guides and Scouts around the world, including in Australia, have rallied to provide support to those affected. On the WAGGGS webpage you will find more pictures and stories about the work being done by Guides and Scouts to help in the relief effort as well as information to make a donation to Nepal Scouts.

The Girl Guides Australia AGM was held on Saturday 2 May, to celebrate the achievements of the organisation in 2014 and to acknowledge those members of Guiding who have received national Guiding and civic awards. We are very pleased to report that Girl Guides Australia is in a sound financial position, which will enable us to continue to provide support to members of Guiding around Australia.

At its May meeting, the GGA Board endorsed a Privacy Policy for GGA as well as an Environmental Position Statement that was developed by the National Outdoors Committee. You'll find both of these documents on the GGA website, along with the supporting documentation on the National Strategic Plan 2020. Check out the Strategic Plan hub: <http://www.girlguides.org.au/About-Us/national-strategic-plan-2020.html>

Another very exciting initiative that will soon come to fruition is the implementation of a pilot program of training and coaching for young women in Guiding to support the Board and its committees in the position of Assistant Company Secretary and Committee Secretaries. We are very pleased to have been offered financial assistance for this initiative and support from both the Governance Institute and members of the Women on Boards network.

Participants will be offered training and coaching to provide them with the knowledge and tools to perform the role and to assist with the further development of the organisation's governance practices. Unfortunately, at a global level, women only hold approximately 12% of board positions. Apart from offering a fantastic opportunity for young women, this program will also help to address

the recognised need for women with governance and company secretariat skills both in Guiding as well as in many Australian boardrooms.

Robinette, Miranda and Susan