



National Team Report – June 2016

Did you know that this year, Australians are expected to consume millions of Girl Guide Biscuits raising over a million dollars for Guiding in Australia to empower girls and young women?

We congratulate our Guides on their innovative and imaginative ways of biscuit selling this year! It has been great to see how well the new Girl Guide Biscuit flavours and options have been embraced by Guiding and the wider community. We are very proud of how Guides conduct themselves when selling Girl Guide Biscuits to the public – they are enthusiastic, and communicate in a considerate, respectful and polite manner.

So much of Guiding involves communicating with a wide variety of people. In any given week we are likely to have conversations with girls, parents, Guiding staff, fellow leaders and volunteer managers. Contact is made by phone, by email, via social media, by text, by letter as well as face to face. In our modern world, communication across distances is quick and easy and allows us to keep in touch with others by the tap of a thumb.

Our responsibility as leaders in Guiding is to ensure that we communicate in a way that aligns with our Promise and Law and Code of Conduct – that is, in a way that is respectful, considerate and thoughtful. By doing this, we are ensuring that we have an organisation where respectful relationships are the norm and where everyone feels safe and valued. At the same time we are creating an environment where positive and effective communications flourish, team rapport is developed and membership grows. And, as always, we act as role models to assist our Guides to develop their own methods of communication that will best serve them in life.

Within Guiding we have no tolerance for anything less than respectful conversations.

Guiding provides opportunities for communications across so many different levels. Recently, Robinette and Kit travelled to Canberra to strengthen their relationships with Federal Government ministers and offices, including the Office of Women. We are proud that the voice of Guiding is valued in communications at federal level in relation to issues affecting girls and young women, as well as the position of volunteering in Australia.

The 2016 GGA AGM provided a great opportunity to communicate and celebrate the many achievements of Girl Guides Australia last year. We hope that this month you all have chances to communicate and share stories of Guiding achievements and adventures!

Robinette, Susan and Miranda