

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER – NOVEMBER 2011

Laughter yoga, reports, photos, singing and bush poetry were just some of the agenda items at the Queensland Trefoil Gathering held in Brisbane at the beginning of October. I enjoyed the opportunity to be part of the Gathering and learn more about the work of the Guilds. Thank you all Trefoil Guild members for the contribution you make Guiding it is very much appreciated.

In late September, Girl Guides Australia Board and Management Team members met together. At the meeting a wide range of topics were discussed all focused on the strategic plan and delivery of key projects. Velia Nicholls has been appointed Acting General Manager of Girl Guides Australia until the restructure of the national office is completed early next year.

Scout and Guide Gang Shows have been held in a number of states. The shows continue to develop the performance and life skills of young people. The shows also demonstrate what can be achieved when Guides and Scouts work in co-operation. To all the Leaders and supporters involved in the shows thank you for willingness to share your time and skills to make 'everything happen'.

Congratulations to Bronwyn Hughes of NSW who has been selected as one of 17 WAGGGS representatives to the UN conference on Climate Change - COP17. Bronwyn has been appointed as a mentor to new participants and will fly to Durban in late November to assist in the pre conference training followed by the conference.

A quick reminder about the Australian Guide Promise and Law review survey. I would encourage you to spend the few minutes required to complete the survey because we value your opinion and want to make sure we capture your thoughts. The link to the survey is <https://www.research.net/s/promiseandlaw> and it will close on 30 November 2011.

This is my last report for the year and that means I get to wish you all the best for what remains of 2011 and hope you have an enjoyable Christmas and summer break.

*What the heart gives away is never gone. It is kept in the hearts of others.* Robin St. John

**Helen Geard**  
**Chief Commissioner**

