



WE DISCOVER, WE GROW

**Girlguiding**

*Ayrshire North County*



# ANNUAL REPORT 2018

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# COUNTY PRESIDENT MESSAGE

**Once again, I have had the privilege of visiting many units during this year and seen what wonderful work is being done, on behalf of the girls in this county.**

Not only at weekly meetings but exciting outings, visits to great places and of course, pack holidays and camping - or in some cases, glamping!! Thank you so much to all guiders and helpers, who make these occasions special for all our girls. Without you, they would not have the opportunity to experience so many of these activities.

We have been blessed with wonderful weather this year, so that many camps were wonderful and dry, with no tents to dry out afterwards. If you had bad weather, it was unfortunate. At least it gives girls an opportunity to learn about wet camping!!

We re all now facing many challenges in the coming months, with a new programme being presented to us, which has been worked out with much input from girls within the movement. So many girls want us to be in the 21st century, not the past. The ones who will find this hardest are us, the guiders. However, I feel sure that we will all face this new challenge with patience, optimism and make it as much fun for the girls as the old programme. Maybe, someone can explain it all to me!

We have had girls enjoying experiences beyond the County, and you will hear about their experiences elsewhere. There are great opportunities for girls to travel to other parts of the UK and also abroad, please look out for these, so that older girls may take part as appropriate.

Also, we face challenges which many of us will find difficult - being inclusive with all girls, whoever they are. There is always someone to talk to about any issues you may have.,

Finally, thank you for what you have done, and what you will continue to do. We have many challenges facing us, but we will meet them and deal with them, so that Girlguiding in Ayrshire North will still be great fun and safe for all our girls.

**Kim Main**  
*County President*



# #GIRLSCAN

## COUNTY COMMISSIONER MESSAGE

**Thank goodness for diaries, mobile phones and social media! Without these I would struggle to reflect on our last year in Girlguiding Ayrshire North because it has been yet another full on, fun packed year! I continue to be inspired by all of our members - young and older - when I visit units and attend events and residential around county.**

I've had the honour of watching girls of 3rd Ardrossan Rainbows make their first promise for the first time. The sheer delight in their faces just says it all as they start their Girlguiding journey.

I was challenged to the max when Cheryl Bruce, Megan O'Hare and I took 14 Brownies from around county to South West Region's Gateway to Guides residential at Netherurd. The girls enjoyed meeting others from other parts of our region, learning new skills and experienced the novelty of sleeping in tents indoors! The leaders came home happy but exhausted! I did get a telling off for teaching Brownies inappropriate campfire songs. My defence - they were Guides at the time they were taught the songs! Such fun to see girls as they develop and grow.

Some Guides and Rangers were very fortunate in their application to attend Camp CEO during the summer. This Scottish lead event introduced the girls to the world of business and industry; preparing them to be leaders of the future. A thank you must go to Joyce White who was one of the main organisers of this residential event. Without Girlguiding and volunteers there wouldn't be these wonderful experiences for girls.

We've had another successful year for INTOPS - international opportunities. We had two adults lead Scottish INTOPS groups abroad - Lorraine Dougan, group leader to India, and Louise Crichton, assistant group leader to Lesotho. Charlotte Winning participated in an adult trip to Cambodia where the group worked on various local projects. Three young members were part of Scottish INTOPS groups who attended Dash to Denmark - Ellie Black, Eilidh Browning and Leah Stanley. These three girls zoomed about Europe over a week or so visiting various countries via multiple modes of transport before descending upon Copenhagen to take part in Girlguiding Scotland's wide game around the city. Eve Hamilton was a part of Lorraine's India group and showed maturity when lead educational sessions to young women on personal hygiene. Chloe Winning attended Roverway in The Netherlands over the summer and learned a lot from her European experience. I am sure these individuals all shared their Ayrshire North love during their travels far and near.

A special mention goes out to Fenwick Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. They did some fundraising to be able to purchase an automated external defibrillator (AED) to be accessible in the village. Many of you will know that this is a large area of interest to me because of my job. This is truly community action at work. Well done Fenwick units!

New experience for a lot of us this year - Kip in a Tall Ship! Many Brownies, Guides, Rangers, Young Leaders and Leaders had a great time learning about the days of tall ships and life on the open sea. Not sure much sleeping happened! Thank you to Ashley McGaw for organising and to those who brought girls.

## COUNTY COMMISSIONER MESSAGE

Summer Mayhem ran for a second year. Many units attended Kilwinning Academy for a day of fun activities and making new friends. Well done to Betty Wilson and the organising team for another county day out.

Ruth Winning continues to work tirelessly to offer expedition opportunities to our DofE candidates. Thanks Ruth and your DofE buddies for your continued dedication. We have had great success at all three levels over the last year or so.

Growing Guiding is something all members should participate in and no one does this more so than Lesley Hamilton. She supports local, public events where possible and encourages others to do likewise. Thank you to Lesley and everyone who has gone out there and spread the word about Girlguiding. Our membership numbers dipped slightly over the last couple of years. I am pleased to say that they are on the up again and long may that continue. Thank you to volunteers who have joined units, helped reopen units or ventured with completely new units in this last year.

Just over a year from the foundations going down and our county time capsule being buried, the keys to the new building at Blair Activity Centre were handed over from the contractor at the summer. It is a wonderful county asset and I look forward to seeing the building and wider centre getting used by all over the years.

A wee mention for the Trefoil's year of birthday celebrations as the organisation turns 75. Plenty of events ran throughout the year. I enjoyed attending Kelburn's special Thinking Day service and the county day at Blair was a pleasant finale. Thank you to all of Trefoil for your continued friendship and support for Girlguiding.

Shiona and I feel so privileged to be in our county roles. We couldn't do it without support though. To those who have just finished in a unit, division or county role, your contribution is noted and won't be forgotten. To those newer in roles welcome and enjoy! The more you put in, the more you get out of it! There is always someone at the end of a text, email, phone to help you out.

Best wishes for the coming year as we embrace the new programme. With anything new we face there will always be some challenges. We love challenge. That's why we are in Girlguiding!

Helen Shedden  
County Commissioner



# SPONSORED SILENCE



## FUNDRAISER EVENT



**At the start of March 2018, 1st Bourtreehill Rainbows decided to fundraise for Charity.**

We decided to fundraise by doing the little Mr and Mrs Men Marathon Challenge for Children with Cancer UK.

Children with Cancer UK is the leading national children's charity dedicated to the fight against childhood cancer. They fund life-saving research into the causes, prevention and treatment of childhood cancer and work to protect young lives through essential welfare and campaigning programmes.

Any Cancer charity is very close to my heart due to my Mum having cancer twice and when discussing this charity with the Rainbows they were really excited to take part as a lot of them love reading little Mr and Mrs Men books but also the thought of helping to save the lives of children with cancer.

The activity the girls needed to choose had to be based on the number 26, the amount of miles in a marathon. After some thought they decided to do a 26 minute Sponsored Silence. I thought this was a great idea! 26 minutes of quietness! Woohoo!!

On the day of the sponsored silence the girls were so excited to bring their sponsored sheets to Rainbows and show how many people had sponsored them. It was so lovely to see Rainbows faces gleaming with joy!

I am so happy to share that the girls raised £314.85 for Children with Cancer UK. This was a great idea to get the Rainbows involved in some charity work and I recommend to other leaders to do the same. Seeing how happy and excited they were to help save children's lives makes my volunteering worth while!

I would like to thank all my Unit helpers (Nikki, Nicole and Julie) for making this Fundraising event successful.

**Stephanie Sharp**  
*1st Bourtreehill Rainbows*



# #GIRLSCAN



## COUNTY EVENT

On behalf of all the Rainbow units in Ayrshire North, 2nd Kilmaurs Rainbows would like to thank Elizabeth Howie and her team for organising another fantastic Rainbow Ramble in May 2018.



The weather was wonderful and meant that sun cream, hats and cold drinks were major requirements for the day.

We took our map and walked round Eglinton Park looking for unusual sights, like the headless statue. There was a game of Pooh Sticks on the bridge over the river, a treasure hunt for Rainbows in the trees and tricky ball games to complete before having our picnic. We enjoyed meeting Claire who came and took our photos at the castle. We did get a bit lost, but that all added to the fun. It was also good to see so many other Rainbows there too, and understand better that we are part of a big Girlguiding family.

The Rainbows had a great day out, with roly-polys down the hill being a special highlight for many of them.

Thanks also to the Trefoil Guild ladies from around the County for dispensing refreshments and badges.

**Lesley Hamilton**  
*2nd Kilmaurs Rainbows*

# RAINBOW RAMBLE



# XMAS LUNCH

## COMMUNITY PROJECT

**Brownies**

Ayrshire North

2nd Darvel Brownies decided in spring 2017 to hold a community event for their town in Darvel.

The brownies decided to host a free over 60s Christmas lunch with entertainment in their town Hall. We decided to apply to our local co-op for funding and we were successful and we also fundraised by holding a table Top Sale with a coffee morning. On Saturday 8th December we entertained 150 guests with a lovely festive 3 course lunch and even Santa visited. The whole event was funded by the co-op and our fundraising. We sang carols and had a band to entertain our guests.

The older Brownies sat at the top table and other brownies joined other tables to chat with our guests. It was a very happy afternoon with many brownies earning their hostess badge.

**Christine Campbell**  
*2nd Darvel Brownies*





## COUNTY EVENT

### My first sleepover with brownies

At first, we all met in Kilwinning to get the bus to Glasgow. We were going to sleep on the Tall Ship, I was very excited.

We went on the Tall Ship and made paper and cardboard boats which was good fun. Then we walked to McDonalds and had dinner. Once back at the Tall Ship we made up our beds and had a snack of biscuits. Then we got on our PJ's and sang lots of fun songs.

I had a great first Brownie Sleepover.

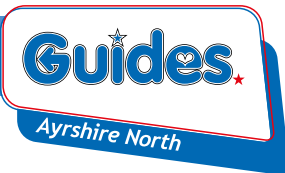
Orla Allison  
6th Kilwinning Brownies



# KIP IN THE SHIP



## HOSPITAL UNIT UPDATE



### 22nd Ayrshire (Crosshouse Hospital) Scout and Guide Group

**I am happy to report it has been another successful year at the hospital unit.**

We have a weekly programme covering crafts and various topics each week, if the young patients are unable to visit the playroom we arrange to visit them at the bedside to provide a suitable activity.

We find this service provides a break for the visitors, allowing them some free time to leave the ward.

I would like to thank our volunteers both Guiders and Scout Leaders who take time on a Tuesday night to spend time with the paediatric patients in ward 1B. At present we have several keen Young Leaders helping as an ongoing part of working towards their Duke of Edinburgh award.

I would also like to thank the Ayrshire Quilters who gave us a donation of £150.00, this is very much appreciated.

Elizabeth Bell  
Hospital Lead Guider

# OUR YEAR IN PHOTOS





# NSGCB CONCERT



## NATIONAL EVENT

Guides

Ayrshire North

**I was lucky enough to be offered a place in the National Scout & Guide concert band which met for a week in August in Birmingham.**

The band consisted of over 60 musicians aged between 12 and 25 from Scouting and Girlguiding. During the same week the National Scout and Guide symphony orchestra also met - between both groups there were over 140 of us.

The week consisted of intensive rehearsals as well as a number of formal and informal concerts held in places like Birmingham new street station and the Birmingham conservatoire. Scout and Guide members had travelled from all over the UK and Europe to take part. As well as our rehearsals there was plenty of time to take part in Guide and Scout activities such as a campfire, games, a ceilidh and badge swaps.

It was great to make new friends who share a common interest in music and Guiding. Everyone was very friendly even though it was my first time attending (lots of people have attended for several years).

The standard of playing was amazing and the concerts were well received by all the audiences. The only slight hiccup was having my trombone searched by airport security both going to and coming back from Birmingham!

I would really recommend the concert band or orchestra for any young musician involved in Guiding. Information about applications is on the Facebook page NSGSO and NSGCB where you can also view some video footage of us playing. I would really love to go again next year!

**Emily Gilliver**  
*2nd Kilmarnock Brownies / Guides*



Dash to Denmark was an event organised by Girlguiding Scotland. It lasted one full day around the city of Copenhagen, Denmark. The event for us started at the airport on the way there when we met girls from different units who were also going to Denmark.

It meant we saw everything there was to see in Denmark in a short period of time, we were set tasks to go visit certain places and take photos at specific monuments such as the little mermaid statue and nyhavn.

As well as different activities like talking to someone in Danish and take a photo with a guard as well as singing a song at the little mermaid statue.

Overall everyone enjoyed the day and thought it was organised very well, the tasks were fun and meant we got to know each other better and overall we got to see all the main tourist attractions in Copenhagen. Because we were in Copenhagen for the Dash to Denmark event we also had the opportunity to visit Tivoli gardens (theme park) as well as have a trip over the bridge into Sweden.

On our final day the group split into two, some of the girls went to Copenhagen zoo whilst the others went to see some of the museums

**Jemma Breingan, Tatum McGregor,  
Zoe Breingan and Abbie Clark.**  
*1st Kilwinning Rangers*

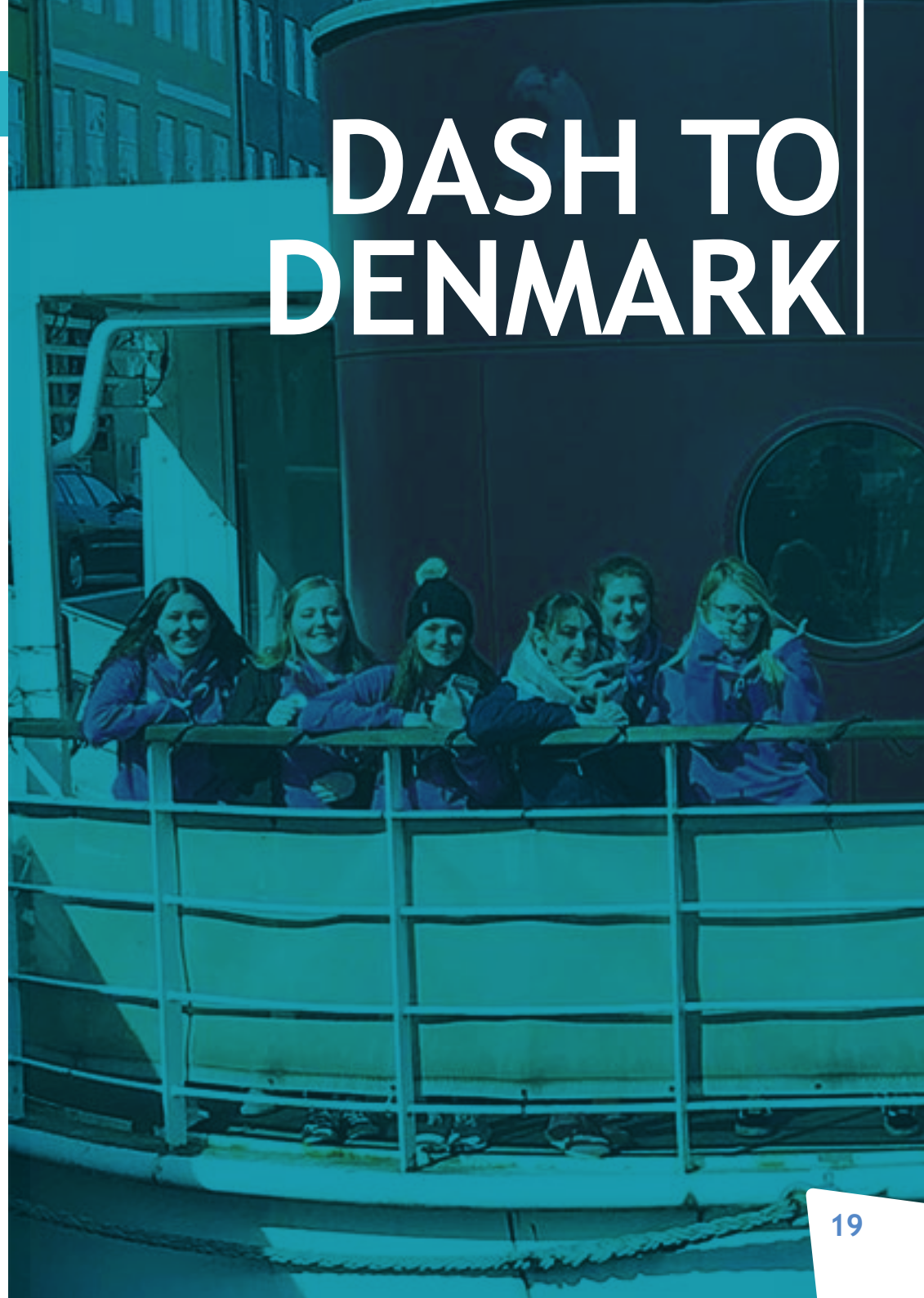
# DASH TO DENMARK



Funny memories: Tatum broke her case on the bendy bus to Sweden.



All of the group going on the same ride 4 times in a row at Tivoli gardens, the ride was for age 4 plus.



# TREFOIL GUILD



## TREFOIL GUILD

GUIDING FOR ADULTS  
**Trefoil Guild**

Ayrshire North



**2018 marks the 75th Birthday of Trefoil. Groups, counties and regions throughout the UK have all been marking the occasion.**

The chosen charity for the year is Riding for the Disabled. In Ayrshire North we had a Thinking Day Service in Largs organised by Kelburn Trefoil also marking their 10th Anniversary. Eileen Martin, the Scottish Trefoil Chairman, and our County Commissioner, Helen Shedden, attended.

Our annual lunch with Ayrshire South was hosted by Beith Trefoil and featured a special cake. "Celebrate Together", the County's main celebration, was held at Blair Activity Centre on 30th June in glorious sunshine. We presented a bench for use at Blair. A booklet was written giving a snap shot of Trefoil in the County over the years.

We mounted a display about Trefoil in Largs Museum. Margaret Kennedy and Elizabeth Howie joined members from all over the United Kingdom on the 75th Birthday Cruise on the Danube.

We continue to support local units and county events. Helping at fundraisers, supporting girls and leaders going on international trips and being a part of the Rainbow Rambling Day. Irvine presented a starter pack to 1st Castlepark Guides. Opportunities are available for members at Scottish level such as the rambling group and the Netherurd activity breaks.

Congratulations to Evelyn Crawford, Elizabeth Howie and Rae Hill on gaining their Gold Voyage Award and to Elizabeth Higton on gaining her Silver.

This is my last report as County Chair. I have thoroughly enjoyed the role and getting to know so many people. Thank you all for your kindness and support.

**Edith M Shedden**  
*Trefoil County Chairman*

2017 - 18 was a busy year for Trefoils in the County. We now have 99 members enjoying all that Trefoil has to offer. Each group's syllabus was varied making sure there was something for everyone. A Boots No7 evening, a visit to Glasgow Gurdwara, an international themed meeting, talks on recycling and guide dogs for the blind, to highlight a few evenings, were complimented by the usual coffee mornings, cheese and wine evenings, trips to the theatre and meals out.



## BLAIR ACTIVITY CENTRE

I am delighted that some county members and invited guests saw Lisa Millar, new Deputy Scottish Chief Commissioner, officially open the new building on Saturday 18th August. We were honoured to be joined by Lisa as it was her first official engagement.



I just wish more of county could have been included on the day but numbers were restricted. Representatives from each division were asked along and I am pleased to say that we had girls and leaders from most areas in county.

County should be so grateful to have such a wonderful asset to use. Hard work and effort has gone into getting where the centre is today.

We need to be thankful to all those who have contributed physical, emotional and financial support. We now have to use Blair to its fullest potential for various unit, division and county meetings and events.

**Helen Shedden**  
*County Commissioner*



# BLAIR OPENING

# COUNTY STATISTICS

2017 - 2018

44

Units in county

515

Rainbow members



Brownies

Ayrshire North

55

Units in county

871

Brownie members

Guides

Ayrshire North

35

Units in county

472

Guide members

RANGERS

Ayrshire North

10

Units in county

42

Ranger members

+2 Joint Units

1900

County members

146

Units in county



# PROMOTE YOUR UNIT

Marcom are looking to promote units and activities across our county social media pages.

## Fundraiser Advertisement

If you're hosting an event such as a fundraiser, we can offer promotion of this to all county leaders via emails and social media posts. Message us for further information.

## Unit of the Week

Got a special themed week or trip planned with your unit? Let us know to be featured as Unit of the Week. Starting from 2018 a unit in the county will be highlighted across our social media platforms.

Steph & Claire  
GGAN Marcom

📧 /ggayrshirenorth  
📱 /girlguidingayrshirenorth

Email us at;  
[marcom.ggayrshirenorth@gmail.com](mailto:marcom.ggayrshirenorth@gmail.com)



## DOFE BRONZE AWARD

Eilidh Browning  
*UIV Ranger Unit*

## YOUNG LEADER QUALIFICATION

Emily Gilliver  
*2nd A Kilmarnock  
Brownie Unit*  
 Abigayle McCallum  
*1st Pennyburn Guide Unit*

## LEADERSHIP QUALIFICATION

### GARNOCK VALLEY

Lynn Coull  
 Jennifer Harkins  
 Emma Harkness  
 Fiona Kelly  
 Sarah McClune

### IRVINE & DREGHORN

Krystle Baird  
 Nikki Bell  
 Stacie Weir

### KILMARNOCK

Danielle Farrel  
 Emma Haggarty

### KILWINNING

Joan Gorman

## NORTHWEST CUNNINGHAME

Hannah Burns  
 Teresa Louden

## STEWARTON

Karen Cunningham  
 Kaitlyn Elliot  
 Jennifer McGlashan  
 Shirley Rankin

## UPPER IRVINE VALLEY

Yvonne Lazenbury  
 Calix Winning

## GOING AWAY WITH

Fiona Malcolm  
*Kilmarnock*  
 Chats Winning  
*Upper Irvine Valley*  
 Chloe Smart  
*Kilwinning*  
 Hazel McSorley  
*Irvine & Dreghorn*

## OBE

Joyce White received her OBE for services to Local Government, Further Education and Girlguiding.

## TREFOIL GUILD VOYAGE AWARD

### SILVER VOYAGE AWARD

Elizabeth Higton  
*Upper Irvine Valley*

### GOLD VOYAGE AWARD

Evelyn Crawford  
*Upper Irvine Valley*  
 Rae Hill  
*Kilwinning*  
 Elizabeth Howie  
*Kilwinning*

## CHIEF COMMISSIONER'S AWARD - SCOTLAND

Martha McCrea  
*Received at Annual  
Review 2017*

## SERVICE AWARDS

### 5 YEARS

Kimberley Abercrombie  
*3rd Dreghorn Brownie Unit*  
 Audrey Addies  
*2nd Beith Guide Unit*  
 Bethanie Bell  
*1st Beith Rainbow Unit*  
 Kathryn Burton  
*Kelburn Division*  
 Jill Garvie  
*1st Largs Brownie Unit*  
 Beth Gibson  
*2nd A Kilmarnock  
Brownie Unit*  
 Clair Gillespie  
*1st West Kilbride  
Rainbow Unit*  
 Kirsty Girvan  
*3rd A Howard  
Rainbow Unit*  
 Rachel McGarry  
*2nd A Kilmarnock  
Brownie Unit*  
 Heather McIlwraith  
*1st Galston Guide Unit*  
 Karyn McKelvie  
*1st Shiskine Rainbow Unit*  
 Mandy McLachlan  
*1st Pennyburn  
Brownie Unit*  
 Lizanne Millan  
*1st Beith Brownies*  
 Karine Moore  
*3rd Pennyburn  
Rainbow Unit*

Alison Murdoch  
*15th Kilmarnock  
Brownie Unit*  
 Pauline Ringland  
*2nd Darvel Brownie Unit*  
 Shona Russell  
*2nd West Kilbride  
Guide Unit*  
 Jennifer Tait  
*1st Kilmaurs Brownie Unit*  
 Heather Tudhope  
*5th Kilwinning  
Brownie Unit*  
 Niamh White  
*1st Galston Rainbow Unit*

### 10 YEARS

Janine Crisp  
*1st Shiskine Guide Unit*  
 Tracy Donnelly  
*1st Newmilns Guide Unit*  
 Julie Holden  
*5th Bourtreehill  
Brownie Unit*  
 Melanie Holden  
*2nd Bourtreehill  
Guide Unit*  
 Vicci Holloway  
*2nd Kilmarnock  
Brownie Unit*  
 Lynsey McCloy  
*1st Dalry Rainbow Unit*  
 Linda Nordbo  
*1st A Largs Brownie Unit*  
 Wendy Piper  
*2nd Stewarton Guide Unit*  
 Lorna White  
*1st Galston Brownie Unit*

## 20 YEARS

Lauren Hussain  
*1st Stewarton Guide Unit*  
 Lesley McDade  
*1st Dreghorn  
Rainbow Unit*  
 Stacey McWilliams  
*2nd Beith Brownie Unit*  
 Susan Russell  
*3rd West Kilbride  
Brownie Unit*  
 Ashley Smith  
*20th Kilmarnock  
Guide Unit*

## 30 YEARS

Sheena Baillie  
*15th Kilmarnock Rainbow  
and Brownie Unit*  
 Linsey Brown  
*74th Ayrshire James  
McFarlane School  
Joint Unit*  
 Shona Kirkwood-Tracey  
*5th Stevenston  
Brownie Unit*

## 40 YEARS

Ann Hume  
*1st Onthank Rainbow Unit*  
 Sally-anne Dixon  
*1st Shortlees  
Brownie Unit*  
 Ann Sharp  
*1st Stewarton Guide Unit*



*WE DISCOVER, WE GROW*

# Girlguiding

*Ayrshire North County*

## **Girlguiding UK (306016)**

Patron: Her Majesty the Queen

President: Her Royal Highness the Countess of Wessex

Chief Guide: Amanda Medler

## **Girlguiding Scotland (SC005548)**

President: Linda Urquhart

Scottish Chief Commissioner: Moira McKenna

## **Girlguiding Ayrshire North (SC036295)**

President: Kim Main

County Commissioner: Helen Shedden

[www.girlguidingayrshirenorth.org.uk](http://www.girlguidingayrshirenorth.org.uk)