



**ARDEN 2010**  
1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> August  
'Field of Dreams'



No 5: April 2010

Dear Friends

Can you believe it's only three months before we all meet at Arden 2010? I'm sure you and your Guides are all very excited as the time draws near. However, we still have work to do! We'd like to remind you to do the following:

- **Return the form with the information we need to support your visa applications without delay, if any members of your group require a visa**
- Return your completed excel spreadsheet to help us with our own administration
- Return the Activity Preference forms for your contingent
- Return the t-shirt order forms
- Return the Central Catering form (Central Camp staff only)
- Tell us if you need accommodation before or after camp

All camp fees were due to be paid by March but there are still a few outstanding. When you make the bank transfer, please remember that you are responsible for our bank charge as well as your own.

**Insurance:** Please make sure all members of your group are covered by travel and health insurance.

**Transport to camp:** Dave Franklin, our Transport team leader, has over 1200 people to get to camp on 1<sup>st</sup> August, so please help us by telling us your itinerary. We would like to make sure you all receive a good welcome at the end of your long journeys, so we need to know your expected time of arrival at either Birmingham International Airport or train station so that we can make sure we are there to greet you. If you have arranged your own transport direct to camp we'd also like to know. If we have arranged a pre-camp stay for you, then we'll tell you what time you will be collected and taken to camp on 1<sup>st</sup> August. We will be providing transport to and from any pre and post camp accommodation we have arranged, unless you are travelling outside our area. If so, we can give you details of a reliable mini-bus company so that you can make your own arrangements.

A big 'thank you' to all who have already done all of the above! I understand that some groups and individuals started later than others, but we do urge you to complete the formalities as soon as possible now please.



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**Sub camps:** We will soon be able to tell you where you will be camping, so that you can be in contact with your group camp leader. Those of you who are coming as helpers are mostly on Central Camp, apart from a few who will be camping with friends on other camps. In line with our theme 'Field of Dreams', our three Guide sub camps are called 'Sport', 'Theatre and Drama' and 'Exploration'. The group camps will have names in connection with their sub-camp theme.

### "The Star" : The International Centre

Plans are now well underway for your International Visitor evening, and we would just like to remind you to let us know what you are planning to entertain us with, and what equipment you may need (a cd player for instance). Also a reminder that your entertainment should not last more than 5 minutes (otherwise we won't have time to see everyone perform).

We have already asked you to bring a craft that would be suitable for any age group for around 30 people, and we would now also like to ask you to prepare some sort of game or activity for the same number. During the international evening, we are planning to get the whole camp enjoying your crafts and activities, with groups of 10 attending your craft and another 10 attending your activity, at any one time.

Groups will be performing in one marquee, and the crafts and activities will be in the marquee next door, with three sub-camps watching the performances and the fourth sub-camp doing the activities and crafts. The sub-camps will change around after 20 minutes.

We are looking forward very much to meeting you all and welcoming you to The Star, and making lots of new friends as well as renewing friendships already formed.

Vicki

### **Souvenir Shop:**

*The ladies running the souvenir shop are really pleased to finally be able to announce that the shop will be called THE PRESENT SHOP in honour of Anita Roddick, the pioneering woman who founded the THE BODY SHOP. Her aims and values fit with Girlguiding's in that they have 5 core aims including supporting community trade, activating self esteem, defending human rights and protecting our planet. We feel that these aims fit really well with our aims of encouraging girls and women to achieve their full potential as well as thinking globally through experiences such as Arden 2010.*



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*We are working hard to fill our shop with lovely souvenirs for you to buy. We have come up with an innovative postcard that we think is completely original and doubles as a present for dad! We are trying to make sure that everything is good value and will not only remind you of a brilliant camp but be useful – like a waterproof cowboy hat - so you can be prepared for whatever the English climate throws at us! We can't wait to show you our shop and hope you are getting as excited as us!*

*Janice, Alison & Clair*

**Do you need somewhere to stay?** If your flights do not fit in exactly with the camp dates, you will need somewhere to stay for a night or two. Judy will make these arrangements for you if you let us know as soon as possible. She will also find somewhere for any of you who want to extend your stay for a few days, before or after, to explore the area before returning home. She will let you know the cost.

### **Centenary Year**

Would you like to hear a little about how we are celebrating the centenary here during this special year? Well, we started with a series of grand local launch parties on 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> September - each one different but all tremendous fun. For World Thinking Day each region of the UK held its own 'One World One Beat' event and the Midland Region gathering was really fabulous. Based on the arts and entertainment the event finished with a spectacular show based on what the girls had learned in a series of workshops. It was enjoyed by young and old alike! In April we are holding a Carnival at a Theme Park. In June we are taking part in a Centenary Walk from Crystal Palace in London (where, in 1909, the girls gate-crashed the Scout event and demanded Scouting for Girls) to Stratford upon Avon in our own county. Then we are hoping the sun will shine on our 'Party in the Park', to which we hope the girls will bring their families and friends. Next comes Arden 2010 when we shall be celebrating with you all. We are looking forward to the special Centenary Day on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> August. The year will end at 20.10 on 20/10 in 2010 (ie 20<sup>th</sup> October) with a Promise Renewal Ceremony and the launch of the next 100 years. Of course there have been and continue to be very many other parties, challenges and experiences for all our members across the age ranges, too many to tell you about but I hope this gives you a taste of how we are celebrating this special year.

Don't forget, we're here to help so keep asking your questions, we love to hear from you.

With very best wishes from us all on the International Visitor Team  
Joan V, Cara, Judy, Joan R, Anne, Sue and Katie