

Diamond Jubilee activities



Introduction

2012 is a special year for Her Majesty The Queen. Not only is she Queen of the country hosting the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, but the year also has a particular significance for her: it is 60 years since she became Queen of the Commonwealth and Patron of both The Scout Association and Girlguiding UK.

The following ideas are 'sparks' or starting points to get you thinking about how to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee, and are by no means exhaustive. They are designed to encourage you to celebrate and make links with other Guiding and Scouting groups, enjoying joint activities wherever possible. Although you can participate in the national Jubilee festivities if

you wish, this is a great opportunity for members from both organisations to plan and run joint activities throughout the Jubilee year to highlight and celebrate our shared Patron. The following ideas, based on the themes of 'Diamonds', 'All things 60' and 'Jubilee', have been designed to encourage local groups to get involved in the occasion. We very much hope that both organisations will join together and celebrate. Where this is not possible, these ideas are suitable for use with just your own group.

Don't forget to give your young people the opportunity to use these ideas to work together to plan and carry out their own Jubilee celebrations.

Jubilee badge

As an accompaniment to this resource, Girlguiding UK and The Scout Association have joined together to produce a badge to mark the celebrations. The badge is available from both organisations for £1.

The badge can be ordered today from Girlguiding UK Trading Service at www.girlguidingukshop.co.uk (order code 7191) and from Scout Shops at www.scouts.org.uk/shop (order ref 103982). The badge can be worn as a uniform item throughout 2012.



Activity Ideas – Diamonds

Bling and Buy Sale

Raise some money for local Scouting and Guiding! Hold a sale with a diamond or 'bling' theme. Decorate and embellish your own clothes and trainers, create your own jewellery to sell, make 'rock' cakes (fairy cakes decorated to look like precious gems) or compose a rock soundtrack to play at your sale. You could do this by yourselves or join with other local groups to raise more money.

Blood Diamonds

Where do the diamonds in jewellery come from? What are blood diamonds? Start with a picture of a diamond and try to trace it back to its origins. Where was the diamond mined? Explore the history of the diamond trade and find out about some of the organisations working to support workers in it. Discuss some of the things that diamonds are used for other than jewellery. Visit www.kimberleyprocess.com/home/index_en.html or www.diamondfacts.org/ for more information.

Diamonds are Forever

The Queen will be burying a time capsule in London as part of the official Jubilee celebrations to help preserve a snapshot of life from the 1950s to the present. It will contain stories and experiences spanning the last 60 years, with contributions from all over the Commonwealth. Create your own capsule, including stories from past and present members, and memories from activities or camps, to show how Scouting and Guiding have changed with the times since the 1950s. Find more information about the Jubilee Time Capsule Project by visiting www.jubileetimecapsule.org.



Activity Ideas – All Things 60

Camp 60

Organise a camp with 60 people – one for each year of the Queen's reign. You could invite 30 Scout Association and 30 Girlguiding UK members to come together for the camp. How has camping changed over the last 60 years? How do participants think it differs from today's experiences? Alternatively, hold a camp and invite 60 guests from the other organisation to visit for the day and join you for activities.

60-minute Banquet

Challenge teams to create and cook a three-course meal in 60 minutes from a fixed selection of ingredients, or provide specific menus and have a cook-off and a taste test. Menus could have a royal or jubilee theme.

60 Games Challenge

Hold a joint games evening. Can you include 60 different games in your programme? Skipping, hoops and marbles were all popular 60 years ago and could be included. If you have limited space, use fewer activities and introduce a challenge by seeing who can do the most skips, beanbag throws, basketball hoops etc in 60 seconds. Events that have a larger number of participants can include group challenges, such as getting 60 people to juggle at the same time.



Activity Ideas – Jubilee

Floating Along

There will be a flotilla of 1,000 boats on the River Thames on Sunday 3 June 2012, and while we can't all be there we could have our own celebration. Ask members from all sections of Guiding and Scouting in your local area to make 1,000 origami paper boats between them, or get some help from parents. Number them and launch them on a river with a prize for the first boat over the finishing line. A small charge could be made for sponsoring a boat. Perhaps you could have your flotilla at the local swimming pool? Could it take place on a boating pond?



Commitment to our Patron

Although the Scout and Guide Promises are slightly different, they do have common elements and both share a commitment to our Patron, the Queen. Celebrate this by holding a joint meeting outdoors, and include activities such as a nature hunt, making a crown from natural materials, or an obstacle course. End with a campfire (where possible) with marshmallows, or decorate cakes and share them after a joint Promise renewal.

Community Party

Celebrate the Jubilee by inviting 60 people from your local community to a joint party with Guides and Scouts. They could be people who provide a service to your community, people who remember when the Queen came to the throne, or even people who belonged to your section when they were children. You could theme your party – with games, food and clothes from 1952.

For more ideas and information on the Jubilee please visit your Association's website:

- ◆ Girlguiding UK: www.girlguiding.org.uk > Members' area and Go! > What's happening
- ◆ The Scout Association: www.scouts.org.uk/jubilee.



Girlguiding UK
girls in the lead



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