

## **Annual Report 2019 – 7<sup>th</sup> Thorpe Bay Brownies**

7<sup>th</sup> Thorpe Bay Brownies has had another fantastic year. Our unit leader team has had the addition of Beth McMahon who has joined our team as a residential helper, to help with pack holidays and attends Monday meetings when they fit around her work rota. Beth is an excellent addition to our team.

We have also had two former brownies return to our unit as young leaders. Tabitha and Chloe have been enormously helpful, and bring a lot of enthusiasm and new ideas with them.

### **Trips**

As a unit we held two brownie Pack Holidays again this year. The first Pack Holiday was held at Guideacres and the theme was Alice in wonderland and the second was held at Guidewoods and the theme was Harry Potter (We repeated this theme as it is a firm favourite). The girls that came on Pack Holiday gained their Baking and Mindfulness badges.

We also had our annual trips to kids kingdom.

### **Badges**

The brownie badges have all been updated, and we are now working on a new badge system. This has taken a while to adjust to, but the girls have worked on a number of badges, Communication, Performing, Network and Local History to name a couple which then lead to the girls gaining their theme award badges (know myself and express myself). We have a couple of girls that have also completed a badge outside of unit meetings (Dancing).

We continue to receive enquiries to join our unit throughout the year and we remain a nice sized unit. The team of leaders I have are amazing and continue to support each other in brownies and outside of brownies too.

### **Guides**

We found in the last couple of years that our brownies were not always going up to Guides, as they did not like the idea of change in leadership or venue. Due to the success of our brownie unit and the continued commitment and support of the leadership team, we are going to be opening a Guide unit in September 2020. The brownies have shown a lot of interest in continuing their guiding journey and joining our Guide unit. Guides is for girls aged 10 to 14, and our unit will also run on a Monday evening, after brownies, from 7pm until 8:30pm.

At Guides the girls will complete more advanced badges and gain new skills, as well as this they will also have the opportunity to go on Guide Camps (in tents). They will also have the opportunity to go on more adventurous trips, such as canoeing, raft building, rock climbing, crate stacking and abseiling. We are very much looking forward to this new venture.