

# World Friendship Day

World Friendship Day is marked on the 30 July annually, and celebrates friendships between individuals, countries and cultures. Although World Friendship Day wasn't officially recognised by the United Nations until 2011, it has origins as far back as 1958 within the World Friendship Crusade.

## Five Friendship Themed Activities

♥ **Make Friendship Bracelets:** There are many different tutorials for friendship bracelets online, from simple plaits to more complex knotted designs. Choose your favourite patterns to make, then swap your bracelets at the end of the meeting with other members in your unit.

♥ **Hold a Bring-a-Friend Night:** Holding a Bring-a-Friend night is a great way to introduce new people to Girlguiding and share your favourite activities with them. You could also give out a fun badge to anyone who comes along!



♥ **Learn to Tie a Friendship Knot:** Learn to tie a friendship knot and make a friendship knot keepsake using ribbons, or use it to tie your unit neckerchief if you have one.

♥ **Guide Friendship Badge:** Girlguiding recently released 72 new interest badges, which includes the Friendship badge for Guides. You can complete this badge with your Guiding friends in your unit, or at home!



♥ **Write to a Pen Pal:** Connect with another units in the UK or abroad and send letters to a new Guiding friend! If you are writing to someone in another country, you could find out what Girlguiding is like for them, and whether there are any similarities or differences compared to the UK.

## **Making Guiding Friends**

- ♡ If you are at university, you can join the Student Scout and Guide Organisation, even if you aren't able to volunteer regularly. Each SSAGO club organises regular social events, as well as attending national camps!
- ♡ Girlguiding North West England has an Inspire group for 18–30 year olds which also organises regular trips throughout the year for members with another active Guiding role.
- ♡ There are many opportunities where you can meet people with similar interests in Girlguiding, including the National Scout and Guide Symphony Orchestra and Amplify.
- ♡ Members of Girlguiding can apply to volunteer at one of the WAGGGS World Centres, which involves working with people from around the world!
- ♡ Applying for international trips through IntOps is another great way to meet people from across the region.