

The
Olave
Baden-Powell
Society



Quarterly Newsletter

April 2022





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Olave Baden-Powell Society (OB-PS)

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Olave Baden-Powell Society's Quarterly Newsletter Contents

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OB-PS President's Welcome

Dear Friends,

Welcome to this edition of our quarterly newsletter and thank you for taking the time to stay informed and connected with the work of the Society. All people deserve the right to live in peace and our thoughts are with all victims of war, no matter where they are in the world. Particularly at this time, we sympathise with all



those impacted, displaced and suffering as a result of the horrific situation in Ukraine. We stand in solidarity with all Ukrainians, especially our Girl Guide/Scout sisters. In true Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting spirit we have seen an opening of hearts and a mobilization of support from around the world. This was further demonstrated through your generosity to the WAGGGS Emergency Appeal which has raised over £170,000. It is at times like these that we see the real power of our Movement and are reminded of why we choose to belong.

It was wonderful to enjoy International Woman's Day (IWD) with so many Members and friends from around the world. Anna Segall, WAGGGS CEO, reminded us of the importance of IWD in celebrating and reflecting on the progress that has been made in promoting and defending women's rights, and also acknowledged that we still have a long way to go. We valued the opportunity to think about the IWD theme "Break the Bias" during the IWD event. The young women speakers were exceptional from start to finish, expertly facilitated by Claire-Marie from Australia; there were many seeds of inspiration and words of wonder including;

"In Girl Scouting we meet as strangers and become lifelong sisters" Mary-May, Canada

"My Juliette Low experience transformed my world and my soul; there was lots of learning and unlearning" Lucy, Malawi

"I would like to break the bias that women and girls have to hide away their imperfections." Signe, Denmark

"Girl Guiding has opened up the world and taken me to the sky and beyond." Ruchira, Sri Lanka

"Because of Girl Guiding I can touch the lives of others in my community and help them to solve their own problems using their own solutions" Stella, Uganda

Now is the time - the 2022 OB-PS Cincinnati, Ohio Event has been launched and we look forward to receiving your registration.

Susan Campbell OAM
President OB-PS

What's Happening in WAGGGS? World Thinking Day 2022

On 22nd February, we joined in a worldwide celebration to mark World Thinking Day. This year's theme was 'Our World, Our Equal Future' and focused on climate change. Thanks to the kind donations we have received from OB-PS Members, the World Thinking Day Fund has got off to positive start, with the hope to raise £70,000 this year!



6

World Centre Virtual
Events



£5,500

Donations raised
so far



39,518

Activity Pack
downloads!

53,111

World Thinking Day
badges sold!



WAGGGS Launches Emergency Appeal

On the **24th of February**, Russia invaded Ukraine. In response to this devastating act, the Movement came together to help in whatever way we could. Girl Guides and Girls Scouts in Member Organisations bordering Ukraine stepped up to offer their support, providing safe spaces, food, drink, and comfort.

WAGGGS launched their Emergency Appeal on the **3rd of March** and have received over 1,200 individual donations, many of these are from OB-PS Members. We have watched in awe as you have given what you can, when you can, so Girl Guides and Girl Scouts can support Ukrainian refugees. This appeal has raised more income for our Member Organisations than any previous appeal. Thanks to you.



We are proud to say that you have helped to raise over £170,000, and our Member Organisations are now able to apply for support from this fund. So far, Slovakia has successfully applied for funds, and we are expecting further applications this week from: Latvia, Poland and Czechia. In Slovakia, your donation is being used to support the Volunteer-Scout Initiative. More than 150 volunteers are supporting in emergency camps in eastern Slovakia. They are helping coordinate relief efforts by transporting goods, delivering food and sorting material items. They have given more than 4,500 hours of their time, and can continue to do so, thanks to your generosity. One month on and we have met the need of our Member Organisations on the borders of Ukraine and will now focus our resources in other critical areas of WAGGGS work. We will continue to bring you updates as the fund is allocated to those in need, however we are no longer calling for you to support this emergency appeal.

“

We've heard a lot of stories. Personally, in a few days, I got used to having permanent tears in my eyes. There are many young children and desperate women who are trying to make sure that their children perceive the loss of their homes and family as little as possible.

Sabina, a Slovakian Girl Guide volunteering on the border

”

International Women's Day 2022



On March the 8th, the whole global Movement came together to 'Break the Bias' and support International Women's Day (IWD). Thanks to support from kind individuals and our corporate partners, we have raised **£45,124** to support young women on their journey to be confident and skilled leaders. As you may have seen, WAGGGS social media accounts were filled with girls and young women sharing their own stories and views on breaking the bias, we managed to reach **283,215** people on social media this IWD!



To mark International Women's Day, we held a special event, 'Women Lead the Way to Break the Bias' on March 8th. If you missed the event, you can watch the recording by clicking the image below.

300+
Event
participants



46
Countries joined
the event

United Nations Commission on the Status of Women



Last month, WAGGGS proudly announced the new network of Global Advocacy Champions who participated in the 66th UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) from 15 - 26 March. This is a unique opportunity for Girl Guides and Girl Scouts to advocate for the rights of girls and young women at a global level, and champion gender equality through the principal global intergovernmental body shaping global policy standards on women's rights. It is thanks to support from OB-PS that these young women are able to represent WAGGGS on these global stages! WAGGGS chose their Global Advocacy Champions for their commitment to gender equality, their involvement in Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting and their ability to lead, challenge and create a ripple effect.



[Click here to meet the 2022 WAGGGS Advocacy Champions](#)



The policy issues covered at CSW:

- 1) Priority areas up for discussion at this year's CSW (Climate Change and Economic Empowerment)
- 2) WAGGGS' existing position on key issues affecting girls and young women
- 3) Emerging issues affecting girls and young women e.g. the new priorities that have emerged during COVID-19, including young women's mental health and also inflation and how it is currently impacting girls and young women's nutrition.



[Click here to read the CSW outcomes we want!](#)

Surf Smart 2.0



We are thrilled to announce that Norton has committed \$1 million to help more Girl Guiding / Girl Scouting associations deliver the WAGGGS Surf Smart 2.0 (online safety and wellbeing) badge programme, especially in Europe!

As the 2021 Girl Attitudes survey by Girlguiding UK shows, girls and young women are facing a horrific level of cyber bullying, and it's causing anxiety, depression and low self-esteem. This donation will arm more young women than ever before with the knowledge and skills required to protect themselves and others online.

Global Youth Mobilization

Launched in December 2020, Global Youth Mobilization (GYM) is a collective movement to address the negative impacts of the pandemic on young people and support them to #buildbackbetter. Watch the new Global Youth Mobilization video reflecting on a year of youth-led solutions by [clicking here](#).

In February 2022, GYM launched a new impact report, "Powering Change: Young People Leading the COVID-19 Response and Recovery", to highlight the reach and investment in young people globally to date. The report highlights a series of policy recommendations for multinational agencies and institutions, governments, policymakers and corporations to address and prioritise the needs of young people and future generations.

[Read the full report here](#)



JOIN US FOR WAGGGS

GIVING DAY

15TH -16TH JUNE 2022

DONATE TODAY, GIRLS LEAD TOMORROW

What is a Giving Day?

36 hours of giving and celebration, for the whole Movement to join together to make a difference to the lives of girls and young women worldwide.

The theme for this years Giving Day is:

DONATE TODAY, GIRLS LEAD TOMORROW

Largely driven through social media and email, this is a digital campaign which uses Giving Day Ambassadors to help WAGGGS raise awareness and reach new audiences.

What can I support?

When donating to the Giving Day, you can donate to a project of your choice

Supporting WAGGGS Member Organisations	The Juliette Low Seminar
The World Centres	Global Opportunities and Connections

All donations will be used to create a brighter, more inclusive future for girls worldwide.

How can I get involved?

1. **Join a Giving Day celebration event!** WAGGGS will be running one month of celebration events in the lead up to the Giving Day for you to hear from the projects and programmes that your donations could support, and hear the impact you could have this Giving Day.
2. Sign up to be a **Giving Day Ambassador**
3. Save the Date and **tell friends!**
4. But most importantly, have fun and enjoy the day and the lead up



OB-PS News and Updates

Staff Member to life-long supporter



For the past two and a half years, Seren Bradshaw has been a dynamic member of the WAGGGS Individual Giving Team. Sadly, Seren will be leaving us to take up a marvelous opportunity at Kings College London.

Those of you who have had contact with Seren or worked closely with her, know of her outstanding skills and talents as a fundraiser and relationship builder. We are going to

miss her very much but are delighted that she will be continuing her WAGGGS journey as a Member of OB-PS. Seren's last day will be Friday April 29th. Please join us in wishing her the very best for the future and thanking her for her significant contribution to OB-PS and WAGGGS.

Inga Pikse and Susan Campbell

OB-PS Annual Event, October 2023

We are happy to invite you to register for the 2022 OB-PS Annual Event taking place in Cincinnati, Ohio, USA! This is the first time we are all able to meet in person in three years, so really is a special occasion and not to be missed. All event information can be found in the [event booklet here](#). Regular updates will also be made to the [Cincinnati webpage](#).

The Host Committee are looking forward to showcasing the many highlights of Cincinnati and give you an insight into Girl Scouting in the USA. There will also be the opportunity for you to hear from inspiring speakers (many of whom are lifetime Girl Scouts, or current Girl Scouts) and the chance to connect with old friends and make new friends. There will also be an active social calendar consisting of a Welcome Reception, Gala Dinner, Princess Benedikte Awardee Reception, and Presentation Ceremonies which celebrate the generosity of new and upgrading members. To register for the event, please [click here](#)



Upcoming WAGGGS Webinar



Meet the CSW66 Delegates! Join us on **Thursday 21st April** to hear from some of the recent delegates who attended the 66th UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). The event provides a unique opportunity for Girl Guides and Girl Scouts to advocate for the rights of girls and young women at a global level, and champion gender equality through the principal global intergovernmental body shaping global policy standards on women's rights.

The delegates will be discussing their involvement with the conference, their conversations and outcomes, as well as sharing how they are carrying on to advocate for girls and young women worldwide.

To sign up for the 8:30 (UTC) session, please [click here](#)

To sign up to the 14:30 (UTC) session, please [click here](#)



Coordinator and Ambassador Update



We are pleased to be able to welcome Lilian Walby as a new OB-PS Ambassador for the USA. Lilian has 59 years of Girl Guide and Girl Scout experience, 10 of those years where when she was growing up in Denmark. Lilian moved to the USA in 1969 and in 1973 joined the Girl Scouts of Tropical Florida Council, where she has held nearly every volunteer position from troop leader to the Council's board of directors, where she is now an Emeritus member. Her service was honoured with the first Judge Edith Atkinson's Award in 2019. Lilian is a Friend of Sangam and has attended many Gatherings at

Macy. She was instrumental in fundraising efforts to renovate the Macy facility. Lilian enjoys our OB-PS global meetings. An exciting opportunity for her was hosting Princess Benedikte at the OB-PS meeting in Miami in 2001 (speaking Danish was a definite advantage!). Lilian is a lifetime member of GSUSA and member of Juliette Gordon Low Society. We hope you will join us in welcoming Lilian in her new role!

UK OB-PS Spring Gathering

Update from Fiona Dalziel

The UK members held a Spring Gathering at Pax Lodge in March. Some members stayed over the night before and were delighted to join in the daily flag ceremony with the staff and volunteers in the morning, singing the World Song. Catherine Welch was our host for the day, and we were welcomed by Susan Campbell from Australia, in the middle of the night for her – her commitment to OB-PS is unwavering. We enjoyed a moment of reflection with Kathryn Duncan Brown via Zoom. She read a beautiful poem by Donna Ashworth, a Scottish poet.

We were also joined by Anna Segall, Inga Pikse and Seren Bradshaw from WAGGGS who gave us a great insight into the advances made by WAGGGS and OB-PS over the last two years. It was lovely to finally meet Seren and Anna face-to-face and to see Inga again!

Alison Spurway gave us a light-hearted account of our UK finances and the value of leaving a legacy to OB-PS, and Morag Liddell, shared with us an insightful view into what it was like to be an OB-PS Board Member during lockdown.



UK OB-PS Spring Gathering Continued

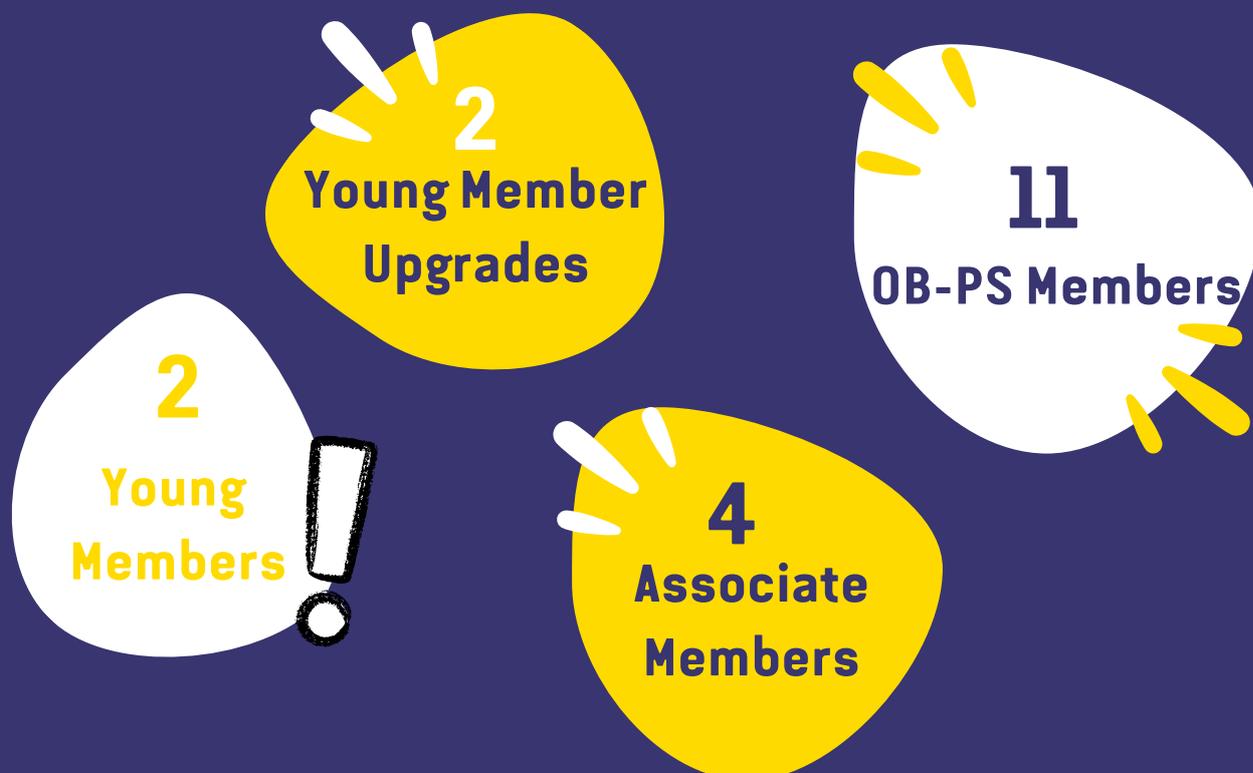
We had a lovely lunch and time to catch up with friends old and new. In the afternoon, we heard from two of our young members. Jess Bond, who was elected to the World Board in 2021 told us of the calls she had been involved in with Member Organisations from Ukraine and surrounding European countries and the amazing work that the organisations in these countries are doing to help with the situation in Ukraine.

Our last speaker of the day was by video and was Germaine Umuraza, WAGGGS Advocacy Manager, who shared with us her experience of attending COP26 in Glasgow as a delegate.

It was a super day and was rounded off ably by Catherine Welch sharing with us plans for Cincinnati. A huge thank you to everyone involved in the day – we missed two members of our team, Kathryn Duncan Brown and Barbara Reid, who were unable to travel, and it was lovely to have Kathryn join us on Zoom.

Finally, thank you so much to all the members who came along – it was so lovely to be back together again. We missed everyone who couldn't manage this time.

OB-PS New Members 2022





New Member Spotlight Marty Davis, USA

My reason for joining OB-PS, is I love a good challenge! Having retired and now having some extra funds, I want to financially support the OB-PS efforts to fund leadership development opportunities for girls and women offered through WAGGGS.

Current involvements include being a member of the Friends of Pax Lodge Committee, USA. Serving as a National Volunteer Partner for GSUSA since 2009. Recently tapped by Sandy Thomas, to join the Capacity Building Team to support WAGGGS Member Organizations.

A favorite Girl Scout memory is participating in the Macy Pinning Ceremony, in the historic Great Hall at Edith Macy Conference Center, a simple yet meaningful, inspiring ceremony with new and long time friends gathered there.

Fun Fact, last year I celebrated my 70th birthday and I rode my bicycle nearly 2000 miles prior to having knee replacement surgery. I am challenging myself to ride 2022 miles this year. I believe my Girl Scouting experience has been rich with good friends, lots of fun, challenging activities and always something new to learn.

“The sisterhood of Girl Scouting has been a lifeline for me each time I move to a new community. Jess, my oldest, has two daughters and is a very involved leader, Cookie Mom and delegate in her Pennsylvania council. I buy cookies from my granddaughters each year to support their program goals.”