



Girlguiding
Catton and Spixworth District

Centenary Adventure of the Great Guide Getaway to Switzerland 13th - 21st February 2010

As some of you may or may not know, 2010 is the Centenary year of Girl Guiding. We are celebrating with many events all over the World. Some girls and Leaders had the golden opportunity to celebrate in Switzerland.

The Great Guide Getaway to Switzerland had two Leaders from Catton District; Sara Green and me, together with 96 other Leaders and 600 Guides from all over the United Kingdom. We all started our journeys independently and all made our way to Victoria Station to commence the journey to Switzerland at various hotels. One small group of Guides had the pleasure of staying at "Our Chalet" the Guiding World Centre in Adelboden.



The vacation started with various challenges such as igloo making, skiing, ice-skating and snow walking up the mountain at Kandersteg. Also trips to the International World Scout Centre, Interlaken and Bern the Capital of Switzerland, where there were plenty of opportunities for sightseeing and shopping, especially



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the chocolate shops. Another trip was to Jungfrauoch 3454 metres up a mountain - "Top of Europe" - visiting an Ice Palace and the Sphinx observation terrace, although we could not see anything because of a snow blizzard.



We could not go home without visiting "Our Chalet" and what a beautiful place it is. Our Chalet is run by volunteer Guiding personnel from over the world. Later that evening all the 698 Guides and Leaders on the GGG to Switzerland attended a World Thinking Day Finale in Frutigen.

It was sad to say goodbye to all the new found friendships that we had cemented, and to the remarkable winter wonderland - Switzerland. Saturday saw 17 coaches start the drive back to the United Kingdom.

Patricia Threadgold
Senior Section Leader
Wensum Division Commissioner