i-girlz leaderz e-newz





Issue 25

Winter 2014 Pictures: IFG Friends

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North Island Road Trip

Last month, during my North Island road trip, I was able to catch up with some of the Senior Leaders of Units who were unable to make it to the Leaders' Training Weekend in Matamata. Always so good to hear of the great work you are doing with our girls. You are such an innovative lot!

For example, the leaders at the Unit in Pukekohe based at the St James Presbyterian Church are using different coloured ribbons to encourage their girls to pray more than just "thank you" prayers. A board helps the girls remember what each colour represents.



Welcome Geraldine

A big welcome to the latest member to join our IFG family. The Geraldine Unit is based at the St Andrews Presbyterian Church. To date this is our most southern Unit.

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Girls' Brigade National Conference

The National Conference was held in Palmerston North in June. No National Commissioner was appointed and the National Chaplain has been asked to chair National Board meetings for the next year. The IFG Ministry Team will continue lobbying the Board for IFG to have a voice on the GB National Council.

Girls' Brigade International Conference

Our Jennifer is currently in Perth attending the International Conference of Girls' Brigade. As Chairperson of the GB Pacific Fellowship, Jennifer is a vice president of GB International. We are looking forward to hearing from Jennifer on her return all the exciting news from all the countries where GB is a vibrant mission outreach.

National Fees

When the National Fees for GB and IFG were set at \$60 per girl for 2014 the Board agreed that the IFG Ministry Team could charge \$50 per girl directly to each IFG Unit and that the Team would cover the other \$10 from their reserves. This seems to have got lost in translation as it was recently bought to my attention by a Senior Leader that she has received an invoice that does not reflect this. I am presently trying to resolve this issue with GBNZ staff.

Good News and Bad News

As Leanne from Seeit Promotions and I have both lost close family members in the last few weeks, we have not been able to move forward on completing the IFG Corporate Page on the Seeit website as quickly as would have been ideal. However, Leanne and Brian have done a great job of upgrading the images of all the badges and these have all gone to the GB office to be double checked for accuracy. Once checked everything should be ready to go with Unit contacts receiving their User Name and Password within the next few days.

Badges

I alluded in our last e-newz to changes around the supply of badges. After five years as the maker of our badges, U-Name-It, has reluctantly had to increase the price of our badges. Because they produce each badge in such small numbers they were actually losing money on what they were charging us. They have given us the best deal possible and having compared with other suppliers, I agree.

The cost of each badge has increased to \$4.60.

The other change is that spare badges can no longer be returned for a credit. However, badges surplus to your requirements can be returned and swapped for other badges that you need.

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Uniforms

As stock of our existing v-neck green T-shirts is exhausted the new round-neck shirts will be coming on stream. The size 8 shirt is already in the new style and there is a very good price decrease. The report from the year-long trial we did with one Unit told us that there were no comments at all from the girls or parents about the shirts being a little different.

Based on your feedback the style of cap has been changed and this also results in a good decrease in price. If you order caps you will receive this new style.

If you prefer a loose fitting shirt but don't like the polo option, I have found that the new style t shirt but in a larger size works OK for me. On the Corporate Page you will notice that the images of some of the items do not show them as having IFG logos. Once items have been ordered these images will be updated.

The website will be updated once the Corporate Page is live.

Bracelets

Based on your feedback we are no longer providing made up bracelets or components. Leaders were happy to make up their own version and use bracelets for different purposes – such as good attendance, community service, attendance at camps, or special achievements.

What we do have now is a lovely little IFG logo charm. The ladies at the training weekend were all delighted with this. It is available through Seeit for \$4.60.

Our Website Host

Our website is hosted by Zeald. If you or someone you know is looking for professional website designing please consider referring them to Zeald. Zeald will reward IFG for any referrals received from its members.

A Friendly Reminder

To comply with our Health and Safety policy all IFG leaders must complete the church-endorsed leader's registration form and a Police Vetting form. Please also let us know at <u>info@iconz4girlz.org.nz</u> when a leader resigns so we can keep the leaders' database up to date. We will pop the forms on the website under Leaders' Resources.

A Love That Will Grow

Every time you cross my mind, I break out in exclamations of thanks to God. Each exclamation is a trigger to prayer. I find myself praying for you with a glad heart. I am so pleased that you have continued on in this with us, believing and proclaiming God's Message, from the day you heard it right up to the present. There has never been the slightest doubt in my mind that the God who started this great work in you would keep at it and bring it to a flourishing finish on the very day Christ Jesus appears.

Philippians 1:6 The Message (MSG)



Chris Brunt

Convenor iconz4girlz Ministry Team