



## Bournemouth Guide Camp wins Heritage Lottery Fund support

Bournemouth Guides have received £32,300 from the Heritage Lottery Fund for an exciting project to investigate the 3000 year old hill fort called Dudsbury that their campsite is situated on at West Parley.

Led by the Girlguiding members the project focuses on the historical importance of their ancient Iron Age hill fort and also the changing camping experiences in living memory for the Girlguides over their 85 year history on the site.

A group of local Girlguides will gain personal badges and awards as they discover how their fortified campsite links to other better known local sites of historic interest such as Hengistbury Head and Badbury Rings. The girls and young women will learn how to permanently record and communicate their findings for visitors along the Stour Valley Way at their currently uninterpreted site.

Dudsbury Camp was secured as a Girlguiding campsite in 1931 and the current Girlguiding members are excited about discovering its oral history from local volunteer members of the Trefoil Guild. The girls will learn interviewing techniques and how to create permanent archives for the valuable memories they record.

Commenting on the award, Debbie Thorpe, Division Commissioner for Girlguiding Bournemouth South and Trustee of the Campsite said:

We are hugely grateful for the support from the Heritage Lottery Fund which will enable our young members to discover the ancient and modern history of our campsite and share it with the local community. Girlguiding aims to give girls new opportunities, skills and a breadth of experiences to take with them as they discover their potential. Bournemouth Guide Camp Trustees are delighted that this grant will offer our girls important skills and insights that we hope will empower them to inspire others to understand, care and protect this local listed ancient monument on in to the future. [www.dudsburyguidecamp.weebly.com](http://www.dudsburyguidecamp.weebly.com) [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)

\*HLF quote

Notes to editor:

Girlguiding is the leading charity for girls and young women in the UK. We empower nearly half a million girls to be their best and face the challenges of growing up today. Bournemouth Guide Camp Association operates under the umbrella of Girlguiding and aims to provide unforgettable learning experiences and foster independence skills in the great outdoors.

About the Heritage Lottery Fund:

From the archaeology under our feet to the historic parks and buildings we love, from precious memories and collections to rare wildlife, we use National Lottery players money to help people across the UK explore, enjoy and protect heritage they care about. [www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk)

Further information:

For further information, images and interviews please contact Debbie Thorpe Bournemouth Guide Camp Association - e: [bournemouthsouthguiding@outlook.com](mailto:bournemouthsouthguiding@outlook.com), m: 07791 737902