



# SPOTLIGHT ON G.B. NIUE

## SPOTLIGHT ON OUR COUNTRY

**SPOTLIGHT ON OUR Island Niue** is an island in the South Pacific Ocean, 2,400 kilometres northeast of New Zealand, east of Tonga, south of Samoa, and west of the Cook Islands.

The island is commonly referred to as "The Rock" It is one of the world's largest coral islands; a coral reef surrounds the island. There are steep limestone cliffs along the coast with a central plateau rising to about 60 metres. Near the coast you will find many limestone caves.

Niue, is a self-governing state in free association with New Zealand; and Niueans are citizens of New Zealand, and Queen Elizabeth II is head of state. Between 90–95% of Niuean people live in New Zealand,

Niue is subdivided into 14 *villages* (municipalities). Each village has a village council that elects its chairman.

**Places to visit:** Avatele beach, Niue's coastline and the Natural Stone Arch

**Population:** Predominantly Polynesian, approx. 1,600 (2016)

**Capital:** The village of Alofi

**Economy:** Tourism, fisheries and agriculture are the main 'industries'. Subsistence agriculture is very common.

**Currency:** The New Zealand Dollar

**Language:** Niuean (a Polynesian language closely related to Tongan and Samoan) and English are the two official languages.

**Flag:** The flag of Niue adopted in October 1975, consists of the Union Jack in the upper left corner with a star in the middle (representing Niue) and four stars around it representing New Zealand

**Climate:** Tropical climate, with most rainfall falling between November and April.

the girls' brigade  
girls' lives transformed  
god's world enriched



## PHOTO GALLERY

Fun at Joint Camp



Banana Plants



Niue National Flag



## SPOTLIGHT ON A GB MEMBER

Dear Friends

I am Amy and as you will guess I live on Niue. It is a beautiful peaceful place to live.

My home is typical of many houses on Niue. It is a small wooden building with a corrugated iron roof surrounded by a beautiful garden in which you will find banana plants, and coconut palms. We grow taro too which is one of our main foods. It is a root vegetable and it can be baked, steamed, boiled, mashed or even sliced and fried into taro chips

I go to Niue primary School.—it is the only primary school on the whole island! There used to be eight schools but there were so few children living here that the Government decided to amalgamate all the village schools.

Sunday is a quiet day in Niue—a day of rest and worship. Most people attend church in the morning and again in the afternoon. I am also a member of our village Girls' Brigade group and love meeting my friends there. I really love the craft and have learnt how to weave the leaves from the palm trees and to make head dresses from leaves and flowers. My sister goes to GB too. She is a Pioneer and has been training to earn her Young leader's chevrons. One of the best things about GB is going to camp we have such great fun there. At the side there are some photos of what we did at the camp last year.

Goodbye Amy.



# SPOTLIGHT ON G.B. NIUE



Every GB country around the world has the same:

## Aim, Motto, Principles, Badge & Vision

But, look at the GB facts here and spot the similarities and differences between GB in our country and yours!

## Our History

Girls' Brigade first arrived in the Australia in 1927 and began in New Zealand just a year later in 1928. Gradually the work spread to islands in the Pacific and in 1947 it reached Niue. The first company opened then and in 2017 they celebrated 70 years of Girls' Brigade's mission.

## Statistics

Number of Companies: 9  
Number of Girls: 126  
Number of Leaders: 35  
Total Membership: 161 (2017 figures)

## Age Groups & Sections

The Units are Juniors, Seniors and Pioneers.

## Uniform

The girls wear saxe-blue skirts with straps on which they wear their badges. They also have short sleeved white blouses, black shoes, white socks and saxe blue forage hats. The officers wear lighter blue skirts, jackets and hats.

## Programme

Leaders in Niue do not have the privilege of having published programme material but they, like others around the world, follow the four sided programme. Their annual programmes are prepared by their National Commissioner and sent out to companies. During their meeting time, alongside their badgework the girls do devotions, drill and lots of games.

## Awards

The Juniors earn a Star (Blue, Green, Red and Gold)  
The Seniors earn a Circle (Blue, Green, Red and Gold)  
The Pioneers earn a Triangle (Blue, Green, Red and Gold)  
The Young Leaders Chevrons are Gold – Leadership, Red – Arts and Crafts, Green – Recreation and Blue – Spiritual.  
Service Awards are also earned for each Unit.

## Activities

Once a year the nine Girls' Brigade companies on Niue run a joint camp. It is a great time for the girls to meet together. Many of them, of course already know each other from school!

The Leaders are invited to join other leaders from the Pacific for their Leaders' Fellowship Conference. Look at a map and see how far they would have to travel and how long it would take them!

## Something Interesting you should know

Niue is separated from New Zealand by the International Date Line. The time difference is 23 hours during the Southern Hemisphere winter and 24 hours when New Zealand uses Daylight Saving Time. How strange is that?

And how about this....

It was only in January 2015 that Telecom Niue completed the laying of the fibre optic cable around Niue connecting all the 14 villages, making land line phones and ADSL internet connection available to households..

## And Finally An Idea To Share:

On Niue, like many of the Pacific islands, the women love to create beautiful crafts. They love to weave using coconut palm, plants and natural fibres.

Why not explore your weaving skills. Young girls could try paper weaving, older ones could weave with fabric or try this:

- \*Cut down sides of cup 9 times, from the mouth of the cup to the base leaving approximately 1/4" [0.5 cm]
- \*Cut smoothly so the yarn does not snag
- \*Tape end of yarn to the inside bottom of the cup.
- \*Weave yarn in and out of strips, pushing weaving to bottom of cup as you work
- \*To begin weaving with new colour, trap the yarn tails between weaving and inside of cup as you go.
- \*Seal the top of the cup with tape



## Find Out More

Find out more about GB Niue from the Pacific Fellowship IVP  
Contact: [pacific@gbworldwide.org](mailto:pacific@gbworldwide.org)

