



# SPOTLIGHT ON G.B. AUSTRALIA

## SPOTLIGHT ON OUR COUNTRY

Our country is in the Southern Hemisphere, in the Pacific Ocean. It is a really large island part of the Pacific fellowship

- Places to visit:** Uluru in the desert of the Northern Territory, The Great Barrier Reef in Queensland, Wildflowers in Western Australia in the Spring, Victor Harbour in South Australia, Salamanca Markets in Hobart, Tasmania, Fairy Penguin Parade, Phillip Island, Victoria Opera House and Sydney Harbour Bridge, NSW Parliament House in Canberra, ACT
- Capital City:** Canberra in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT)
- Population:** 24,183,00 with 19% under the age of 16.
- Economy:** Mixed -service sector 68%, mining 8%, agriculture 12%
- Currency:** 1 00 cents = \$1
- Flag:** The **Australian National Flag** has three elements: the Union Jack, the Commonwealth Star and the Southern Cross
- Language:** English
- Climate:** Varies with latitude – hot and sunny for most of Australia

## SPOTLIGHT ON A GB MEMBER

Hello GB friends

My name is Rachel, I am 12 years old and I go to GB in Kambah, in Canberra ACT. Canberra has hot summers and cold winters. It is set in a large valley and it is the capital of Australia.

I live in a single story house with my parents and younger brother Sam, who is 6 years old. Our house is near the Murrumbidgee River and we like to go swimming there in summer. Our favourite meal would be barbeque sausages.

I go to school Monday to Friday from 9am to 3.30pm. I started pre-school when I was 4 years old. I walk to school because it is close by, but when I go to high school I will catch the bus. My school started in 1995. There are over 500 pupils, which is an average size school.

Every Thursday evening I go to GB. My GB is held in Tuggeranong Baptist Church and I am a "Junior". I enjoy going to GB because I get to meet up with my friends who don't go to the same school as me and my cousin goes there too. I have friends who are older than me and some that are younger. I hope to be a Section Leader one day. My favourite activities at GB are cooking, learning about God, and doing science experiments for our earth achievements. We love to play games in our company and we do that every week.

My leaders are great and always have something fun organised for us, we have sleepovers too and we even go to camp at the beach or the mountains! At the end of the night we pray for each other and the girls in Chibok Nigeria. It was very exciting when we heard that some girls had been released and had gone home to their families.

Rachel



## PHOTO GALLERY

Pioneers with their Pioneer Pin



Girls Having Fun!



Fono—National Camp for Pioneers





# SPOTLIGHT ON G.B. AUSTRALIA

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



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 started in Australia in 1927 in a place called Wyalkatchem – it is very isolated there. Can you find it on a map? Now there is Girls' Brigade all around the country.

### Statistics

Statistics: Number of Companies: 110, Number of Members: 3298 (2016 figures)

### Age Groups & Sections

Cadets: 5- 8 years Juniors: 8-10 years Seniors: 11-13 years Pioneers: 14-18 years

### Uniform

We wear a white or fuchsia polo t-shirt with a blue sash for our awards. We wear navy bottoms. We have a navy jacket for areas where it is cold and a navy sun hat.

### Programme

We use the **Discover and Explore** programmes for our badgework. The program aims to help members of GBA develop holistically and offers a wide choice of subjects under the headings of Spiritual, Physical, Educational and Service.

### Awards

Cadets can earn stars (that the wisemen followed)– blue, red and gold.

Juniors work towards Circle Awards (Seek Serve & Follow Christ) one for each of the three years they are in that unit.

Seniors earn rectangles (with serving hands on them) – there are three .

Pioneers: earn triangles (Christ is King) and can also achieve a Pioneer Pin – the highest Australian Award Older girls may also work for the Queens' Award and the Duke of Edinburgh's Awards.

### Activities

Apart from their weekly work in company, members can get involved in camps, at a local, state and national level. In lots of localities they have game days, fun days and craft days where all the companies in an area get together so girls can meet each other. There is a strong emphasis on leadership training for older girls.

### Something Special You Should Know About Us!

Every other year we run a Fonomarae (Fono) for our Pioneers – it really challenges girls in all areas of their life, especially faith. It goes on for a week and girls travel many, many kilometres to get to the other side of the country so they can be part of it!

### And Finally An Idea To Share

In Australia, we love to cook outdoors. We are famous for our **dampier!** So why not try it!

#### You will need:

900g (6cups) plain flour, 1 tablespoon of baking powder, 500ml (2cups) milk, warmed

#### Method:

Combine flour, baking powder and a pinch of salt. Gradually add milk, stirring until you have a soft dough. Carefully place dough in Camp Oven, cover with a lid, surround with hot coals and bake for 30 minutes or until cooked through (Cooking time may vary according to intensity of camp fire). If you do not have a camp oven handy this can be cooked in a normal oven at 200 degrees C, on an oven tray lined with baking paper for about 30 minutes. Serve warm with Golden Syrup or Vegemite. ENJOY!!!!!!!

### Find Out More

You can find out more about GB in Australia from:

web site: <http://girlsbrigadeaustralia.org.au/>

facebook page: <https://m.facebook.com/GBAustralia>

