

How the Girl Guides Won the War



A completely original history of one of the most extraordinary movements in the world the Girl Guides and how they helped win the war. The Girl Guides is one of the worlds most extraordinary movements: millions of women have been members. But what have the Guides actually achieved, since they began 100 years ago? Do they do more than sell biscuits, sing around campfires, and tie knots? In this constantly surprising book, Janie Hampton shows that Girl Guides have been at the heart of womens equality since the early twentieth century - when they were garnering badges like Electrician and Telegraphist. Exploring modern-day girlhood through this very British institutions effect on global warfare, *How the Girl Guides Won the War* reveals, for the first time, the dramatic impact that the Guides had on the Second World War. When the Blitz broke out, they dug bomb shelters, grew vegetables and helped millions of evacuated children adjust to new lives in the country. Many were taken as prisoners of war and survived concentration camps. Told by the Guides themselves *How the Girl Guides Won the War* is packed with rich social history, fond and funny anecdotes, surprising archives, and the lingering taste of smoky tea in a tin mug. Providing a new slant on both the Guide movement, and World War II, Janie Hamptons remarkable book finally gives the Girl Guides the historical attention they deserve.

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