



Making connections to celebrate World Thinking Day



All smiles at Secteur Argenteuil's district Thinking Day event

On February 20, Brownies from around the province gathered in Montreal for a colourful celebration of Thinking Day on the theme of 'Connect'. More about the **Brownie Connect Carnaval** on [page 7](#)

(Below) Brownies made welcome cards for refugee children and filled hand sewn bags filled with books and art supplies.



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HIGHLIGHTS

- [Staff positions at Camp Wa-Thik-Ane available](#)
- [New First Aid courses scheduled](#)
- [AGM announcement](#)
- [New program ideas](#)
- [Join the Event Squad!](#)

"You mean they really arrive with nothing?"

Greenfield Park Guides joined in provincial efforts to take action for Syrian refugees.
Read more on [page 8](#)



The 1st Greenfield Park Guides filled 15 bags of items for Syrian refugees

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This could be your year!

2 provincial scholarships will be awarded in 2016
Find out more about provincial and national scholarships on [page 4](#)



Opportunities from Council

Message from the PC

If you read last week's *Guidepost*, or have heard from your District Commissioner, you are likely aware of the recent delay in production of our Classic Spring Cookies.

In Québec we are very fortunate that the delays have affected our calendar in a minimal way. The necessary change of dates for Cookie Days in Eastern Canada has, however, collided with our anticipated date for Festi-Guides.

Recognizing that this is a scenario that would stress our volunteers, the decision has been made to transform the Festi-Guides energy into building and sharing event-based resources that all districts can take advantage of when the timing is right for their own communities.

Check out details later in this *Piccolo* and find out more about the [Event Squad!](#) It might be a perfect fit for YOU!

YOU can help shape Guiding's future in Québec!

The three **new positions** below are coming to provincial council in May 2016:

Are you a person who:

- has a strong belief in what Girl Guides is all about for our girl and adult members?
- has good knowledge of Girl Guides, our programs, Vision, Mission, and Safe Guide?
- would like to get more involved in the administration of Québec Guiding?
- is able to look at the big picture?
- would like to have a say in how Guiding runs in Québec?
- is willing to learn and stretch yourself in ways you could never imagine?
- would like to add some skills to your CV?

Girl Engagement Coordinator

Liaison between QC Council and the Program, Camping, and International Advisers and their committees

Member Services Coordinator

Liaison between QC Council and the PR & Communications, Membership, and Training Advisers and their committees

Risk & Compliance Adviser

Bring experience in assessing and mitigating risk

Advise and educate on matters of compliance, accountability and risk as regards properties, human resources, member management and business processes

Identify and inform QC Council regarding current issues and trends relevant to organizational risk factors

Assist in development of plans to mitigate risk

Both these Coordinators:

- Ensure support for these essential activities, through her representation of their needs on QC Council
- Facilitate the relationships of these committees, to best work collaboratively on actions that achieve our common Strategic Goals
- Share Council priorities and direction that impact the committees' focus

For more about what these new positions represent, as well as other volunteer opportunities to support Guiding in Québec... Click [HERE](#) to read all about it!

GGC Québec Council
invites you to attend the

Annual General Meeting

and dinner

May 5, 2016

Crown Plaza Hotel, Dorval
6600 Côte de Liesse, Montréal, QC
Cost: \$50 per person
Registration and cocktails: 5:30 p.m.

Order tickets at info@guidesquebec.ca
by April 24, 2016

Cookie News

NEW dates for Cookie Days

Due to an unforeseen production issue, delivery of spring cookies will be delayed. As a result, Cookie Days will now be the weekend of **April 30** and **May 1**. See details in the [March Guidepost](#). Revised delivery dates will be shared as soon as they become available.

Cookie Pre/Order Form

We're pulling an old favourite out for you to share with your girls!
[Download this handy tracking sheet](#) to collect cookie orders!

And don't forget about the treasure of cookie-selling tools and ideas available on the [Cookie Resources page](#) of our provincial website.



Have you nominated a fellow Guider or girl member for an award lately?

Here's how to proceed for awards that require provincial approval:

- ♣ Request an iMIS profile for the person you are nominating (imis@guidesquebec.ca)
- ♣ Complete the R.3P form available on the Forms page of MemberZone (PDF copy [HERE](#))
- ♣ Obtain the necessary letter(s) of recommendation. Attach the letters and the profile to the R.3P form.
- ♣ Forward letters to your Commissioner or to the Awards Team (awards.reconnaissance@guidesquebec.ca) for approval.
- ♣ Nominations can be shared at a meeting, by telephone poll or by e-mail vote. Each member of the district or Awards Team vote to approve or not approve the award. (You must have a majority vote.)
- ♣ If approved, the signature of the Commissioner is required along with the name of the council.
- ♣ Send the R.3P to the provincial office for input into iMIS.
- ♣ Purchase the award.
- ♣ If the presentation date on the form differs from the actual presentation date, it is the responsibility of the Guider who signed the R.3P form to advise the provincial office of the change.
- ♣ Upon presentation of the award, the recipient can be given the letters of recommendation.
- ♣ The iMIS profile must be destroyed.
- ♣ For Adult Awards, letters of recommendation must contain the following "buzz" words:
Quebec Award: **Distinctive** | Medal of Merit: **Exceptional** | Gold: **Outstanding**
Silver: **Excellent** | Bronze: **Dedicated** | Thanks: **Good**

For additional awards, consult Unit Support Resources in [MemberZone](#).



If you presented awards to your Guiders in the last Guiding year at your annual district function, did you inform the office so that they could be added to the Guiders' profiles? It's not too late.

For awards that do not require provincial approval, we ask that the DC please send the information to imis@guidesquebec.ca. All awards presented at the provincial Annual General Meeting (AGM) are updated through the office as they are recorded in the AGM minutes and approval and compiled by the Provincial Awards Specialist.

PROVINCIAL SCHOLARSHIP

*****2 scholarships will be offered this year!*****

Who can apply? Any registered Québec member of GGC-GdC who is entering or pursuing post-secondary education (in any field of study) on a full time basis.

This scholarship is based on your active Guiding and community involvement. Former Guiders are not eligible to apply.

Deadline to apply: June 1st, 2016

Details are available on the [QC website](#).

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The National Scholarship Program is one of the ways that GGC-GdC recognizes members who embody the Mission and Values of the organization.

Scholarships are open to girl and adult members who are pursuing post-secondary education at a recognized college, university, or trades program.

Deadline to apply: April 1st, 2016

More information on the [national website](#).



How I Stay Safe - a personal safety workshop that can be tied in to program work at all levels



[Find out more](#) about this interactive safety program offered by the [Missing Children's Network](#). They also offer [seminars for adults](#).

PROGRAM CONNECTIONS | **Sparks:** Being Healthy Keeper, In My Community Keeper; **Brownies:** Key to I Can—Staying Safe; **Guides:** You and Others—Learn About Safety, Law Awareness, Street Wise, Computer Skills; **Pathfinders:** Safe at Home or Out and About; **Rangers:** n/a; **All branches:** Cybercitizen Challenge

Looking for a fun spring outing with your unit?

The [Geordie Theatre](#) offers group rates (20%) for groups of 10 or more.

Regular ticket prices (subject to taxes):
\$14.50– children; \$16.50 students/
seniors; \$18.50 adults



Beethoven Lives Upstairs is aimed at children ages 6 and up. *The arrival of an eccentric boarder turns a young boy's life upside down: Ludwig van Beethoven has moved upstairs! At first young Christoph resents the new tenant but slowly comes to understand the genius of the man, the torment of his deafness and the beauty of his music. A heart-felt and mesmerizing tribute for all ages, Beethoven Lives Upstairs introduces audiences to some of the composer's most memorable works.*

D.B. Clarke Theatre, Concordia University Hall Building,
1455 de Maisonneuve W. Montreal, 514-845-9810

PROGRAM CONNECTIONS | **Sparks:** In My Community Keeper; **Brownies:** Key to My Community/Key to the Arts—Special Interest Badge; **Guides:** Discovering You—Discover your Creativity, Beyond You—Discovery Your Community, Performing Arts; **Pathfinders:** Girls Just Want to Have Fun, The Arts from A to Z; **Rangers:** Community Connections/Explore Your Creativity—Your Interests

MARCH is...



Don't forget to check out our four [Engineering Meetings-in-a-box!](#)

Find more meetings-in-a-box and program ideas by branch on our provincial website:
> [Volunteers](#) > [Current Member Volunteers](#) > [Program Ideas](#)

National Nutrition Month!

Are you looking to talk about healthy eating with your unit? [Field Trip Factory](#) offers **free nutrition outings** in French and English in eight Provigo stores in Québec.



Registered dietitians guide the students through the aisles of the grocery store teaching them about making healthy food choices and introducing them to an easy-to-use food navigation system called Guiding Stars. There is a snack offered at the end of the tour and a goody bag. Field Trip Factory has worked with other GGC Councils, and is now promoting within Québec. Take a look at the [Field Trip Factory website](#), for more information.

PROGRAM CONNECTIONS | **Sparks:** Being Healthy, In My Community; **Brownies:** Jobs in the Community, Fabulous Food, Food Power; **Guides:** Discovering You—Stay Fit and Healthy, Beyond You—Discovery Your Community, Healthy Eating; **Pathfinders:** We Are What We Eat, Now You're Cooking, Getting Food on the Table; **Rangers:** Healthy Living

Charyl Hyndman, Program Adviser; Lizzie Knowles, Deputy Program Adviser | programme@guidesquebec.ca



JOIN THE EVENT SQUAD!

Do you think you are a great Guiding cheerleader? Are you full of creative energy and do you enjoy celebrating Great Guiding in your neighbourhood? We are seeking volunteers who would like to be a part of our **PR Event Squad!**

A team of people excited to help with Girl Guide booths during local events this spring and summer, Event Squad members will receive the latest news on opportunities to highlight Guiding in our extended communities. It might be helping to get the pop-up from the office, running an activity at the GGC booth, or talking to the public about our amazing organization. We are looking for YOU!

Let us know if you have a few hours to give in the spring or summer to help another district in need and join our team—send a message to communications@guidesquebec.ca to get your name on the list! There will be an orientation and mentoring meeting for those interested in **early April**.

Are weekend opportunities hard for your family to manage? Many of these Event Squad call outs will be family-friendly, and your daughters can be very much part of the action—they are shining examples of what Guiding means to them, and to your family. The more people who pitch in, the better for us all!



Montreal St. Patrick's Day Parade - Sunday, March 20

This has always been a popular event for Girl Guides and once again we will have a group walking in the parade this year. It is a great opportunity to show off our flags and be seen with our green. We are permitted a maximum of 100 participants. **If you would like to walk in the parade with your unit, please register with us** so that we can keep track of the number of participants.

Parents and siblings are welcome but no pets. Wagons are useful for Sparks as it is a long route. So polish the brass on your flags, unfurl your banners, and show off your Irish green pompoms - everyone loves a parade!

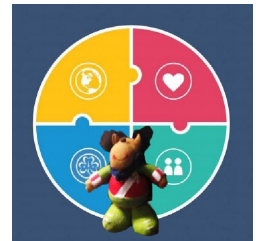
Those registered will get more info about where and when the line-up is on parade day.

To register, please send the information requested below to Angela Whelton-Quinn at awheltonquinn@gmail.com no later than Wednesday, March 16 and include the following details:

- * Unit name
- * Name of Contact Guider
- * Phone number
- * E-mail address
- * Number of participants



Québec Brownies took part in a full day of activities centered on **World Thinking Day** and the international friendships it celebrates. They learned all about our Twinning partner Perú and even took part in some Spanish lessons. The day included a service project to prepare welcome bags for refugee children.



Be sure to visit our [Twinning 2020 Perú-Canada Facebook page!](#)

(Left) Español for beginners!



(Below) The giving goes on and on! Check out our new provincial total!

Total collected donations for Syrian refugees from Girl Guide units in Québec!
Dons pour les réfugiés Syriens recueillis par les unités des Guides au Québec!

manteaux	73	coats
chandails	99	sweaters
paires de gants	40	pairs of gloves
foulards	63	scarves
tuques	52	hats
paires de bottes/souliers	20	pairs of boots/shoes
pantalons	66	pairs of pants
paires de bas	93	pairs of socks
couvertures	50	bedding
matériaux pour l'école	128	items for school
livres/fournitures artistiques	532	books/art supplies
cartes de bienvenue	109	welcome cards
En total 1325 Items in total		



(above) Over 70 hand sewn fabric bags were crafted by Guider Nancy Shaw then filled with books, art supplies, and personal welcome cards from Québec Brownies.



(above) Sharing our gifts with agencies helping refugee families, including the Dorval Mosque. Mr. Mehmet Deger was very happy to pass them along!

The following piece originally appeared on the [GGC QC blog](#).

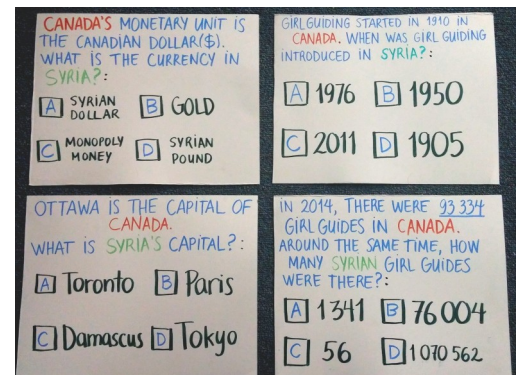
Taking action for refugees... and a better world

by Laurene Bennett

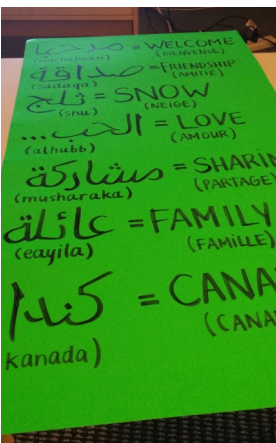
With the plight of Syrian (and other) refugees so prominent in the news, the 1st **Greenfield Park Guides** took special notice when a Québec Council email "Take Action Now" arrived in our in-boxes. The email mentioned that GGC would be tracking the efforts of units across Québec to collect warm clothing for families fleeing from war and upheaval.



This was just the catalyst we leaders needed. At our last meeting before the Christmas holidays, the four of us talked to our unit about what it meant to be a refugee. Would the girls be interested in doing something to help displaced families settle into a new life in Canada? Our Guides were enthusiastic. Within 10 minutes, they had come up with a long list of items they could collect. From winter coats, blankets and school supplies to toys and toothpaste, their ideas were impressive. One girl thoughtfully proposed that we could raise money to pay for a Guiding membership for a refugee girl.



To build momentum, we started off our January programming with a round robin of activities based on a "Syria" theme. The girls learned some simple Arabic words such as "welcome" and "family". They located Syria on a world map and worked together to answer a quiz about that country. They discovered that girls in Syria could belong to Girl Guides and that their promise was not unlike our own. "I think this made them realize that the refugees were real human beings just like them," noted our newest leader, Marie-Lissa.



After that, the girls started collecting many of the articles they had brainstormed back in December. After two weeks, when all the donations had arrived, we made a game of sorting, counting and folding them. In the end, there was a mound of 15 large green garbage bags, each filled to the brim. Seeing the piles of sweaters, mitts, hats, coats and other items helped the girls better comprehend the reality of being a refugee. You could see the mental wheels turning when they asked, "You mean they really arrive with nothing?"

This initiative gave our unit a common purpose that girls, leaders and parents all shared. And we saw how even small actions on our part can, and do, contribute to a better world.

This blog post was submitted by Laurene (Laurie) Bennett, one of four leaders with the Greenfield Park Guides, on Montreal's South Shore. She and her co-leaders would like to thank our provincial Guiders and Greenfield Park Brownie leader Cindy for giving them the information they needed to get started.

Members are always invited to submit photos and stories from your Guiding adventures! Please email photos along with a short description to communications@guidesquebec.ca. Need more information? Download the Piccolo [submission guidelines](#).

90 DAYS OF CAMPFIRES

To kick off **Wa-Thik-Ane's 90th Anniversary**, all units, gatherings and/or districts are invited to book one of the 90 days on the official [Campfire Calendar!](#)

On that date they can record a snippet of a campfire song (edit down to your best minute!), or take a photo of their group, to be posted on a special page of the [Québec blog](#).

Email wta90@guidesquebec.ca to book your date.

Let's fill every one of those 90 days, commemorating each of those 90 years!

**Be creative and be counted.
Challenge another district.
Make this an "emerald" year.**

Here are just a few of the campfire moments that have already been shared! See them all [here](#)



SAVE THE DATE

COME CELEBRATE WA-THIK-ANE'S 90th ANNIVERSARY!

GGC Members and Alumnae of Camp Wa-Thik-Ane,
There will be many activities on this 90th Anniversary weekend:

Guiders' Only Night: Friday, August 12, 2016 (overnight camping)
Group Reservations: August 13 - 14, 2016 (Guiders and Girls)
Formal Anniversary Celebrations:
 Saturday afternoon, August 13, 2016

More details and reservation forms to come
Come and share your WTA memories... and make new ones!

Please send your photos, videos and other memories of Wa-Thik-Ane to wta90@guidesquebec.ca.

Property Committee | lacbouchette@guidesquebec.ca

At the time of publication, the remaining available sites at Camp Wa-Thik-Ane for spring/summer 2016 are:

- May 13-15 all sites
- May 20-22 all sites
- May 27-29 Algonquin, MicMac
- June 3-5 MicMac
- June 17-19 all sites and Stavert Lodge
- June 24-26 Stavert Lodge, Algonquin, Cree
- July 1-3 all sites and Stavert Lodge
- July 8-10 all sites and Stavert Lodge



Pioneer sites:

- Montagnais is available all weekends.
- Chippewa is available all weekends, except June 24-26.

Please see the [Camp Wa-Thik-Ane page](#) on the website for more information on the 2016 reservation process.



*That's right, in ten years
we will open our time capsule located at the Provincial
office in time for Wa-Thik-Ane's 100th Anniversary.*

Consider adding something small you have made at camp or at a unit meeting, like a letter, photographs, personal message or a favourite thing. (Please choose very small items to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to participate.)

They can be dropped off at the office or at Wa-Thik-Ane's 90th Anniversary celebrations this coming August 13th-14th.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR **SUMMER CAMP** ADVENTURES

Sign up today for summer camp
at Wa-Thik-Ane.

Click [HERE](#) for all the details



Mom & Me: July 15th - 17th / July 29th - 31st
Brownie Week: July 17th - 23rd / July 24th - July 27
Guide Weeks: July 17th - July 23rd / July 24th - July 30th /
July 31st - August 6th
Pathfinder and Ranger Weeks: July 17th - July 23rd /
July 31st - August 6th
Adventure Camp: July 24th - July 30th
Spark and Brownie Week: July 30th - August 3rd

Full summer camp details including registration forms and the 2016 brochure can be found on the [Camping page](#) of the provincial website.

We are currently putting together this year's team of **summer camp volunteers**.

Interested? Email wwwta@guidesquebec.ca and we'll send you details of the first meeting.

Spring/summer staff positions at Wa-Thik-Ane still available:

⇒ Lifeguard

⇒ Lifesaver



[Read the position descriptions here.](#)

Interested candidates should forward CVs to:

dir-operations@guidesquebec.ca

Qualified candidates will be called for an interview.

There is only one email address where you should send Safe Guide assessments and questions:



sg.gs@guidesquebec.ca

Please delete all other Safe Guide email address references in your address books.



Congratulations to all Guiders who have completed their Safe Guide training in the last two months.

Guiders who have **not** complied with Safe Guide training requirements have already been notified. Please update your qualifications quickly.

REMINDERS for planning spring camps and activities

- * Give new or different Guiders the opportunity to do the paperwork so they can gain new experience.
- * For a **YELLOW** activity, send the SG.1, SG.2, SG.3, SG.4, and SG.5/7 if applicable to sg.gs@guidesquebec.ca at least 14 days before your activity for assessment.
- * Pay special attention to the SG.4. Use Appendix H and consider your own situation. Your Assessor will provide you with the provincial emergency contact for GGC.
- * Make sure First Aid qualifications, PRCs and A.7s are recorded in iMIS. (Contact imis@guidesquebec.ca if you have any doubts.)
- * If the Assessor requires more information, please provide it to them ASAP to help ensure your activity is reviewed promptly.
- * If in doubt, ask, or consult the Safe Guide document.



Louise Triggs, Safe Guide Adviser | sg.gs@guidesquebec.ca

First Aid Courses

**NEW COURSES
ADDED**

Recertification Course* for Emergency and Standard First Aid (8 hours)

***Pre-requisite:** All recertification participants must have a current (not expired) Red Cross certification at the time of the course, must bring their own Red Cross First Aid & CPR Manual (2011 edition) to the course, and must review the content of the manual before the course.

Recertification - 8 hours - 3 year certification, own manual, \$85

- Sunday, April 17, 2016, 8:30 a.m.—5:30 p.m., West Island (location TBD)

Full Courses (required if you have no certification or one that has already expired)

Emergency First Aid - 8 hours - 3 year certification, \$105

- Saturday, April 9, 2016, 8:30 a.m.—5:30 p.m., West Island
- Sunday, April 10, 2016, 8:30 a.m.—5:30 p.m., Lachute

Standard First Aid - 16 hours - 3 year certification, own manual, \$125

- Saturday, April 9 and Saturday, April 16, 2016, 8:30 a.m.—5:30 p.m., West Island



Remember, upon completion, GGC QC will reimburse two thirds of the course cost for active Guiders.

For details and to register, or to book a course for your own district or Guiding community, please email Joan Lax at pulseaideinc@gmail.com

New resources coming your way!



Participating in local events can be a great way to grow Guiding in your district!

Would you like to have a **booth** at a local event but don't know where to start? Maybe you'd like to invite the public to experience what Guiding has to offer at your own celebration? Look no further than the **Kiosk-to-Go resource document**, launching in the April *Piccolo!*

It will contain information on what materials you may need, what's available at the office and elsewhere, ideas for activities you might use to attract kids and parents, and ways you can network with other Guiders in the province for input and assistance.

Get out in your community with the Kiosk-to-Go!

Shannon Jackson, Diane Oki; PR Committee Co-Chairs | pr.rp@guidesquebec.ca

Treasurers' Trove

News for Treasurers keeping books for multi-unit accounts:

I'm putting a new version of the workbook up on the website, with the Multi-Unit Account Tracking Sheet after each of the Main Form sheets. Most of the information will transfer over; you will just have to fill in the amount for each Unit or the District. If you want to transfer amounts between Units and/or the District, put "Internal Transfer" on one line in the Main Form to allow a line to do so on the Tracking Sheet. Let me know if something doesn't work!

Many thanks to the District Treasurers who turned out on February 27 to help review each others' books.

For those of the District Treasurers who did not attend, note that the District Financial Books should have been sent to the office by now.

The **Unit and Trefoil Guild books** should have been reviewed and the Annual Financial Reports and Financial Review Checklists should have been sent to the office.

For books which have been reviewed (i.e. Unit books), we don't need copies of spreadsheets sent to the office, just the AFR and FRCs. But remember that you must keep all documentation (including receipts or copies of the receipts if the originals were sent in for taxation purposes as well as copies of the spreadsheets, etc.) for 7 years.

Don't forget your CWFF money! Your District should send a cheque to the provincial office. It should be for at least all money you have collected if you had a special event, or a minimum of \$1.00 per member.

Cookies will soon be here. Remember there is a blackout on other fundraising for one month after the cookies arrive. This allows our girls to concentrate on the best fundraiser available to us!

If you have any questions about Guiding finances, e-mail me at finances-support@guidesquebec.ca

Dawn Coffey, Treasurer Support Specialist | finances-support@guidesquebec.ca

TBD	Spring Cookie Deliveries
April 1	GGC National Scholarships - applications due
April 30 - May 1	Cookie Days in Canada
May 2-8	Make a Difference Day: National Mental Health Week
May 5	GGC-QC Annual General Meeting
May 7	Camp Opening Weekend
June 1	GGC-QC Scholarship applications due
July 15 - August 6	Summer Camp at Wa-Thik-Ane
August 12 - 14	Wa-Thik-Ane 90th Anniversary weekend - Save the date!

News from the office

Rebecca is moving on...

We bid farewell to Rebecca Purver as she leaves her position as Communications and PR Coordinator for Québec Council to pursue another professional opportunity. Thank you for your contribution to our Provincial Team and we wish you well as you embark on your new challenge.

The provincial office will be closed on Friday, March 25 and Monday, March 28 for the Easter holidays.



(above and right)

Thinking Day was celebrated in style in Riverdale District! Brownies and Guides hosted a tea party complete with china cups and fascinators which they created themselves!

