

RANGERS

London & South East
England

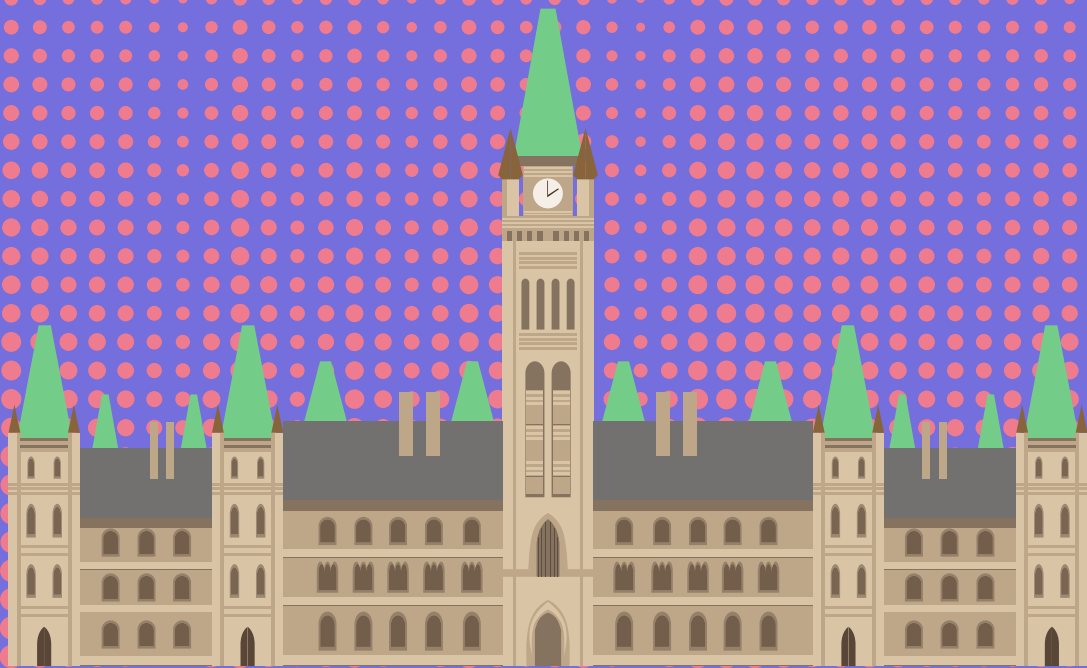


WE DISCOVER, WE GROW

Girlguiding

London & South East England

UK Parliament Week



THE HIVE

Girlguiding LaSER

UK
PARLIAMENT
WEEK

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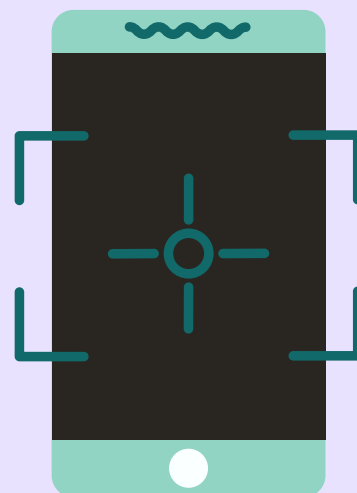
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This activity pack was created by Ellie, a Hive admin and Ranger who wanted to create this to celebrate UK Parliament Week with you.



How to use this booklet?

Throughout this booklet we have put QR codes. To use these codes hold your phone camera up with the code in frame and a link should come up. If you click on it you can go straight to the page you're looking for!



If your phone camera doesn't work you can also try Snapchat - press the screen it will begin to scan and then give you the link. You can also find websites that will scan the code!

The great thing about QR codes compared to links are, if you decide to print this booklet you can scan them or if you decide to download it you can still scan it off a screen!

What is UK Parliament Week (UKPW)?

Parliament week is a week to learn about parliament and get thinking about causes that are important to you. Have you ever wondered how a law is made? Or how people become Prime Minister? Now's the perfect time to find out!

Why do we have UK Parliament week?

Parliament week first took place in 2011. In 2016 it became UK Parliament week. UKPW aims to inspire young people to find interest in democracy, parliament and politics. Each year the House of Commons and House of Lords get together to create activities for Parliament week alongside schools, charities and community groups.

What can you do for UK Parliament week?

There are so many things you could do for parliament week! That's why we've created this pack, there's a few activities you could do as a unit and some you could do at home!

That's not all, you could also check out what UKPW has put together, or even come up with your own activities! You could write to your local MP with something you're passionate about, or try a mock debate.

[Go to the UKPW website for loads more ideas.](#)



Ranger interest badges



If you're a Ranger, take a look at the [badge finder](#) for ideas on how to get political. We've picked out our favourites below.

Voting badge

Take Action interest badge

Nothing about us without us

Get vocal about voting, positive about politics, challenge yourself to inspire others, and think creatively about what your ideal political landscape would look like.

01 Create your own party

02 Tackle voter apathy

03 Get registered

Take a look at [what you need to do to complete your voting badge](#)

Protesting badge

Take Action interest badge

Protest to make things happen

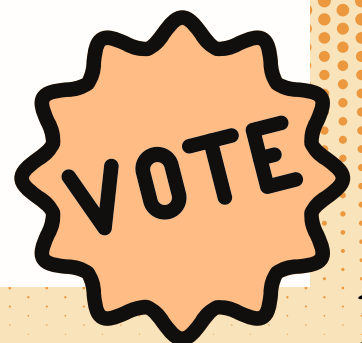
Discover different ways to protest, find out what you care about and make your own protest.

01 To buy or not to buy

02 How to protest safely

03 Make your own protest

Take a look at [what you need to do to complete your protesting badge](#)



Women's Rights

Know myself interest badge

Girls just want to have fun... fundamental rights

Can you imagine not being allowed to go to school because you're a girl? Or being told you can't do your dream job? Luckily, you have rights which try to make sure you're treated fairly.

01 What if...?

02 Current issues

03 Your manifesto

Take a look at [what you need to do to complete your women's rights badge](#)



Who's Who?



HOUSE OF LORDS



This is a photo from inside the house of Lords. In this picture there are 6 roles to identify, do you know who's who? Match the title to where in the house they are. The picture is numbered. If you want an extra challenge, do some research and find out who does what?

Crossbenches

Opposition benches

Lord speaker

**Government front
bench**

**Government
benches**

Backbenchers

Who's Who?



HOUSE OF COMMONS



This is a photo from inside the house of Commons. In this picture there are 6 roles to identify, do you know who's who? Match the title to where in the house they are. The picture is numbered. If you're looking for an extra challenge, find out what each person does.

Ministers

Government benches

The Speaker

Opposition benches

Backbenchers

Ranger meeting activities

Try these activities at your next Ranger meeting! To find your local MP's contact details visit members.parliament.uk

Just one more moment

Take Action UMA- 60 mins

Anyone can 'lobby' the UK parliament (the place where the UK laws are made). This means trying to persuade MP's (the people that are voted in to represent the public and make decisions on new laws) to support your idea or campaign. You can lobby through emails, phone calls or even in person. Often MP's are lobbied by professional lobbyists.

They might work for a business, pressure group, trade union or charity. Did you know Girlguiding has lobbied the UK parliament on issues like period poverty?

You're going to have a go at lobbying your fellow Rangers!
[Download this free activity from the Girlguiding website](#) or scan the QR code.

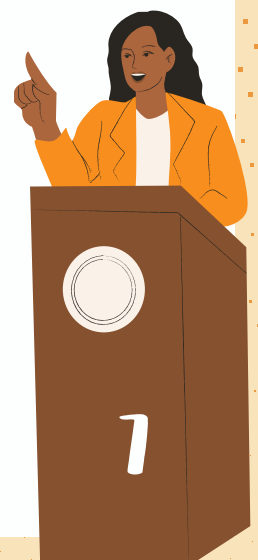


Shape the future

Write to your MP to share what's important to you. There are people who want to listen to what you have to say. Follow this activity to write an awesome and inspiring letter and get your voice heard! You could write individually, in pairs or as a unit.

Who knows, your letter might help shape the future policies and laws that get voted on in Parliament...

[Take a look at this free activity on the Girlguiding website](#), or scan the QR code below!



Unit meeting activities

Try these activities at your next unit meeting! These are for Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. Try running these with different units. If you're a young leader speak to your unit leader. If not, speak to your leader and ask to see if you can go and run them with another unit. To find your local MP's contact details visit members.parliament.uk



Rainbow department of small change

Take Action UMA- 60 mins

Download this Rainbows resource. Work together in your unit and find something you want every rainbow to be able to do.

Listen up!

Take Action UMA- 60 mins

Download this Brownies resource and find something you think should be changed and run your own House of commons



Why, why... why?

Take Action UMA- 60 mins

Download this Guide resource and have your own Question time. The UK Parliament is where laws for the UK are made. The Prime Minister's Question Time happens every Wednesday when Parliament is meeting. This is a chance for MPs to ask the Prime Minister questions about decisions the government is making.



How Parliament began

1215	King John agreed to Magna Carta which allowed the barons to consult and advise the king in his great council	The term Parliament was first used for the great council	1236
1254	Sheriffs sent a representative of the counties to talk to the king on taxation	At Parliament in Oxford the nobels drafted the 'provisions of Oxford' which meant for regular parliament meetings with representatives of each county	1258
1265	Simon de Montfort rebelled against Henry III and called for a parliament meeting with representatives from towns and counties	The Parliaments started to have clerks who would record the proceedings and petitions that were passed	1278
1295	Parliament was made up of nobles and bishops and two representatives for each county and each town. This is the basis of the future parliament	From here on out representatives from counties and towns were at all Parliament meetings	1327
1332	Knights of the shire and burgesses met and were called The Commons	The commons met separately from the upper house	1341
1352	The Commons started to meet in Westminster Abbey at the Chapter House	A rule was established that Parliament must agree on all taxation	1362
1376	The Good Parliament the Commons ran for the first time by an elected speaker	The Commons moved out of Chapter House of Westminster Abbey to its Refectory	1397
1399	Parliament removed Richard II from the throne and Henry IV's reign began	The Commons claimed the right to grant taxation only after their complints had been addressed	1401
1407	The commons decided that it should create all new taxes in its own house	A statute required that burgesses should live in the borough they were elected in, although this rule was ignored	1413
1414	Henry V realised that approval from both houses were necessary to make new laws		

1429 A rule limited voting to only those who owned a property worth over 40 shillings a year

1510 The Parliament started to keep records of the House of Lords in the Lords journal

1523 The first request for freedom of speech in parliament was made by Sir Thomas More, the Spesker of The Commons

1547 Edward VI gave St Stephen's Chapel to The Commons for their use

1576 Peter Wentworth made a speech in The Commons trying to gain freedom of speech in Parliament. He was Punsihed for his outburst and sent to the Tower of London

The Parliaments clerk was no longer official role and began to keep acts passed in Parliment's own archived **1497**

After a fire at the Palace of Westminster Henry VIII moved the royal family out and left it for parliment and goverment offices **1512**

The parliment went through reformation and made a King-In-Parliment the lawmaker **1529-36**

The Commons journal was created by the clerk of The Commons **1547**



To vote or not to vote

Voting is something very important to do, especially for young women! It's important to get your voice heard by parliament. Have a say in how you think things should be run!

Who can vote?

Great now your'e excited to vote? but how do you know if you can?
To vote in the General election in the UK you need to be:

- registered to vote
- over 18 on the day of polling
- be a British, Irish or qualifying commonwealth citizen
- be a resident in the UK
- not legally excluded

you can get registered and check you meet all of these here;





Catch up with Nickie Aiken

Nickie Aiken is an MP in the Cities of London and Westminster as part of the Conservative party. We are very lucky to have gotten to ask her some questions last year, and now she's back for a catch up. If you wanted to ask your local MP some questions find out who they are and send them an email!

Whats one law or policy you'd make/change/get rid of?

I would like to reform local government funding to allow councils to charge those in more expensive homes proportionately a lot more than those in social housing and less expensive homes.

What does a typical day look like for you?

Wake up at 6am, get my son off to school. Go through emails and text messages and check diary to confirm my meetings ahead.

If I have the time (and inclination!) I will go to the gym for 45 mins or a walk with a friend before I get to the office.

If Parliament is sitting I begin meetings anytime from 930 onwards. It will be a mixture of meetings online and in person with constituency based businesses, organisations and individuals. I also meet a wide range of people involved in issues I am interested in eg rough sleeping; securing education for girls to at least 12 in developing countries; preventing sexual violence in conflict. I will take part in Commons' debates and Ministerial questions. I also meet with Ministers and colleagues to discuss policy and lobby for any changes I think necessary. My biggest successes have been from private lobbying of Ministers. During the day I also do my admin and emails.

If Parliament is not sitting I catch up on constituency correspondence and do more constituency visits.

Do you have a favourite topic to discuss in parliament?

Anything around women's rights and equality and encouraging women and girls from all walks of life to have the confidence to strive to reach their goals.

Whats your ideal day off?

What's a day off?!! Seriously it will involve catching up with family and friends.



Can you briefly describe any projects you currently have underway?

I have a Private Member's Bill which hopes to secure employment rights for people under going fertility treatment. At the moment they have to take paid leave to attend appointments.

What topics do you advocate for most?

More mental health and addiction services for rough sleepers. The vast majority of intrenched rough sleepers live with addictions and poor mental health which means they refuse all help to move them off the street. If we had specialist services I think that would help reduce the number of people living on the street.

What are you planning on doing this year?

I want to do more on preventing sexual violence in conflict. The UK is hosting a major global conference in November which we hope will persuade countries to do more to prevent crimes such as rape being used as a weapon of war. I also hope to visit more organisations and businesses in my constituency. Covid meant I couldn't visit as many as I had hoped and I think it is very important to speak to as many that I represent as well as constituents to ensure I know how they feel about a range of issues so I can feed back to Ministers.

Queens Guide Award

During parliament week is a great time to start your Queens Guide Award. Use your Community Action project to learn about what parliament has to say about a cause close to your heart. And use this to help make change for it, whether its Homlessness, domestic violence or Getting people active!



Your Queens Guide Award is the highest award you can complete as a member of Girl Guiding. You have from the ages 16-26 to start it and it takes a total of 3 years to complete. As someone who's started it, it's definitely a challenge, but you can do it!



Check it out here for more informations!





How has The Hive celebrated UKPW before?

We've put together a selection of our favourite blogs we've written about Parliament!

Scan the QR codes to go to that blog. Take a virtual tour around Westminster, join

Sophie on her day shadowing Lady Sugg and many more!

My experience of the Youth Strike 4 Climate in London

Written by Tamar

In this blog Tamar goes to the Youth Strike 4 Climate in London, unsure of how it might go. She jumped straight into the cause. Read all about her experience here.



Shadowing a peer in the House of Lords

Written by Sophie

Read all about Sophies trip to the House of Lords where she got to shadow Lady Sugg for the day. She got to sit through a session at the House of Lords and so much more! Read all about her experience in the blog she wrote



Create the debate this #UKPW

Written by Izzy

Join Izzy in a blog to learn how to debate, with top tips like 'Don't make up facts or statistics'. In this blog Izzy walks you through how to run a debate in your unit or with friends.





UK Parliament Week 2019: find out what it's like to visit!

Written by Ayushi

Read about how Ayushi celebrated parliament week in 2019 by going on a Parliament tour. She learnt a lot during her trip and even shared some of these with us through out. Would you want to go on a Parliament tour?



Fantastic resources to celebrate UKPW!

Written by The Hive

Check out our blog with a whole range of activities, want to take a virtual tour of the Palace of Westminster? Book a free tour in our blog. Find some more Parliament blogs or even create your own Parliament week bunting!

Breakaway to Belgium

Written by Caitlin



Check out Caitlin's Blog about a trip she had to Belgium with her unit. They had a lot of fun! They even got to go to the Parliamentarium Museum and the European Parliament.





Meet Nickie Aiken, MP for Cities of London and Westminster

Written by Ellie Barton

We were very lucky enough to be able to do a Q&A with Nickie Aiken, MP for Cities of London and Westminster. Read all about why she became an MP and what she does in Parliament.



Meet Yasmin Qureshi - MP for Bolton South East

Written by Ellie Barton

We were very lucky enough to be able to do a Q&A with Yasmin Qureshi, who is MP for Bolton South East. Read all about why she became an MP and what she does in Parliament.



This pack has six parts: Herstory, Sister Suffragette, Speak Up, Get Safe, Pretty Propaganda and Tea-Party.

To complete this badge; You should complete a minimum of one clause from each section plus six additional activities of their choice.

Every unit must then complete the final section 'Tea-Party' - you might need more preparation for this one.

Head over to the Girlguiding laser page to download this badge pack or scan the QR code and give it a try!



LIBERTEA

Egham Rangers & Girlguiding LaSER

The Libertea badge is to celebrate 100 years of women having rights to vote, 1918-2018.

This historical change was only made possible by a generation of strong women who stood up and spoke out for what they believed in. They belonged to many different political groups, but today they are mainly remembered as The Suffragettes & The suffragists.

Throughout the badge pack, they refer to these historical women as Suffragists: this word refers to anyone who was campaigning for votes for women. Inspired by their passion, the Libertea Badge has been designed to help each member of Girlguiding find the worth and power of her own unique voice.

'Power' is a complicated word: for the Suffragists being able to vote meant having the power to influence the society that they lived in. Thanks to their commitment and sacrifices, we now have that power.

Through this badge, we will learn how to make the most of that power, stand up and speak out for what we believe in, and be the best possible version of ourselves we can be in society today.



Meet Kirsty Blackman

Kirsty Blackman is an MP for Aberdeen North as part of the Scottish National party. We are very lucky to have gotten to ask her some questions. If you wanted to ask your local MP some questions find out who they are and send them an email!

Whats one law or policy you'd make/change/get rid of?

Independence for Scotland would be my top priority, so that the people of Scotland could make our own decisions rather than consistently having to live with policies we didn't vote for.

I would also be keen to reform the electoral system - no un-elected Lords, no unfair first-past-the-post and, of course, allowing 16 year olds to vote.

What does a typical day look like for you?

It's so difficult because every single day is different! Generally you'll find me running about between meetings - I always wear flat shoes so I can get places quickly. Meetings in parliament might be with charities, businesses, other MPs, parliamentary staff. We can be discussing literally anything, from child poverty to financial regulation, from online safety to the horrific situation in Ukraine.

In Aberdeen I'll also be dashing about between meetings. Often in the bus, on my bike or on foot. I love visiting schools to talk to young people, and community organisations where I can meet passionate staff and volunteers trying their best to make a difference in their local area.

Do you have a favourite topic to discuss in parliament?

I have lots of favourite topics to discuss in parliament. As the Shadow Secretary of State for the Department for Work and Pensions, I often discuss poverty, social security and workers' rights. There are so many policies that need to be improved in order to get us towards being a fairer, more equal society.

Whats your ideal day off?

I love spending time with my children. Recently we went bramble picking and made jam and crumble afterwards. I love doing outdoors activities with them. At home, I like to read, sew my own clothes, and play video games. (I recently completed Ratchet and Clank - Rift Apart, and I'm probably going to start an Assassin's Creed game next).



What would you say to a young person wanting to go into politics?

Get stuck in with trying to improve your community. Join a political party. Get involved in doing what you can to make change. You don't need to wait until you're an adult to get involved in politics - if there's an issue you want to lobby an MP on, go ahead and do it!

What are you proud of completing during your time in politics?

I took a bill to parliament about increasing support for people fleeing domestic violence. Being able to raise this on behalf of so many women and so many women's aid organisations was a huge privilege, and I'm glad I could do even a little bit to raise the profile of this issue.

If you hadn't gone into politics what would you be doing instead?

I left school wanting to do two things - have children and help people. I think if I didn't have a job that involved helping people, I would spend more time volunteering. I was quite good at maths and physics, so I could imagine working in an engineering field.

Did you go to university? If so what did you study?

Yes. But not for long. I left school to do Medicine to become a Doctor. It was awful for a number of reasons, and my mental health was really terrible. I chose not to continue in the course. Since, I have done a few Open University maths courses. I don't have a degree.

How did you get into politics and become an MP, as its not quite a job you can google!

I joined the SNP when I was 14 or 15 and I got heavily involved in the local party. I went from being a member, to delivering leaflets, to becoming a branch officer, to running campaigns and designing leaflets. In 2007 I was asked to stand as a local councillor. I was elected aged 21. (I would have been the youngest councillor in Scotland but my little brother also got elected...!) I didn't intend to become an MP. In fact, when I joined the SNP it was very unusual for us to have more than a handful of MPs. In 2014 we had the Scottish independence referendum. We didn't win independence. I figured, since we were stuck with the Westminster system, that I should go down there and sort them out. So I put myself forward, became a candidate, and was first elected in 2015.



Whats the best thing you've experienced during your career?

Generally little moments. When I get an email telling me someone's visa has been approved and they can now travel to see their family for the first time in years. Or when the DWP agrees they've made a mistake and refunds someone hundreds of pounds. Or when someone is finally offered a move to a more suitable property after years on the waiting list. All those 'little' moments that make a huge difference to people's lives

What do you do in parliament?

My kids say my job is just meeting after meeting after meeting. But, to be fair, every meeting is different! When MPs are not in the chamber, we are often either in our offices dealing with emails and calls, or in meetings with all sorts of organisations. Typical weeks will see me meeting charities, businesses, trade associations (groups that lobby on behalf of certain industries), and also other MPs. I also usually attend Select Committee meetings.

Why is it important to vote?

Politics has an impact on all our lives every single day. Not enough people vote. Not enough young people vote. If only older people vote consistently, then politicians have no incentive to have great policies for younger people. (Why would they produce a raft of policies to appeal to people who won't bother to vote, when they could be spending time on policies to woo those who do vote?) Even if you don't think there's anyone you'd like to vote for, it's important to go in to the polling station (or by post!) and submit your vote. Even if you can't bring yourself to put a cross in any of the boxes, voting for nobody registers your dissent. Please, always, vote.

What topics do you advocate for most?

Any issue where I feel people don't have enough of a voice. So immigration and social security are often top of my list. I also talk a fair bit about inequality and how to solve it.

What made you want to go into politics?

I really wanted to help people. As an MP, I have an office of staff employed to help folk with any issue. We make a positive difference to the lives of so many people. I can't imagine anything better.



What do you think would attract girls into politics?

Politics isn't all shouting at each other during Prime Minister's Questions. People want their politicians to have empathy and to want to make a difference. I think a lot of girls and young women have exactly these ambitions and qualities. If more politicians lived by the Guide Promise and the Guide Law, politics would be in safer hands.

Can you briefly describe any projects you currently have underway?

I was part of the committee scrutinising the Government's Online Safety Bill. A lack of safety online has been an issue since I was first using the internet in the early 90s. It's uncertain just now whether this bill will make any more progress, but, even if it doesn't, I will continue to push to ensure children are safer online.

Would you run for PM if the opportunity were to arise?

100% not. It sounds like a horrendous job. I like helping my constituents and making a difference.

Were you ever a member of girlguiding?

Yes! I joined guiding aged 5. I was a Rainbow, a Brownie and then a Guide. I was in Senior Section and was a Young Leader. I haven't been active since my early 20s but, when I don't have young children and a hectic job, I would love to come back to the movement, possibly as a Guide or Brownie Leader.

If you could give one piece of advice to your younger self what would it be?

If things are getting on top of you, talk to someone. Go and get help.

COMMONWEALTH AWARD

Did you know you could do your Commonwealth Award from age 13 in Guides all the way up until age 25!

What do you have to do?

There are 3 challenges you must complete, then 2 additional that you can choose from. With things like creative writing and investigation, there will be one you'll enjoy!

You'll learn more about The Commonwealth and countries in it along with the history of Girlguiding.



What does this have to do with Parliament Week?

One of the additional activities 'Citizenship' involves learning about Parliament in the UK and another commonwealth country! What better time to start this section than during parliament week?

Scan this QR code or head to the Girlguiding site to find all about this award!



1

Write us a blog!

Write us a blog to tell us what exciting things you've done for Parliament week! From this year or another. Maybe you visited Parliament or wrote to your MP or started a petition? Get your writers hat on and send us a blog of what you did and you might see it on the site soon!

HAVE YOU DONE ANYTHING FOR PARLIMENT WEEK?

TELL US!

2

Send us a message

If writing's not your strong suit, send us a message and some pictures and we could turn it into something! We'd love to hear and see what you did.

3

Send us an email

Send us an email with anything you did and add pictures if you have any!

Email us at:
thehive@girlguidinglaser.org.uk

4

Join The Hive on our socials

Scan this QR code to get to our page where we have links to our socials!

