

**2nd Cox Green Guides join with
4th Maidenhead Guides to do the**

Big Gig 08

On 18th October, a coach taking 52 excited Girl Guides, Brownies, Young Leaders and leaders journeyed to the NEC, Birmingham to see this year's Big Gig. The journey went without a hitch giving everyone time to have a packed tea and a wander around goody stalls before entering the arena.

The lights went down at 7.15pm to the most earth shattering sound as 10,000 Girl Guides from all over the UK screamed and cheered with excitement. The sight of so many excited girls most of them illuminated in some way by Flashing Bunny ears or similar was breath-taking. Sugababes kicked off the concert with some well-known favourites including 'Here Come the Girls'

Most of the Guides were on their feet for the whole evening dancing and singing along with each act. Leaders were amazed that the girls knew so many of the songs 'word perfect' and at times when the performers decided to let the girls take over, the arena resonated with the sweet sound of 10,000 girls singing acapella.



When Cox Green Guides were asked afterwards what part of the concert they like the best, the consensus was initially 'All of it!' and then they decided that 'Scouting for Girls' really made the night. Two Young Leaders were convinced and still are that the lead singer, Roy Stride looked straight at them and sang 'You're so Lovely'. I'm sure this memory will be with them for a very long time!

For me, as a Leader, the most special part was Leon Jackson (winner of X-Factor 07) leading the girls in the promise. Hearing this many girls say their promise in unison may be something I never hear again but this especially reminded me of why I'm a Guide Leader and am so proud to have enabled the girls to attend such a fabulous event staged 'just for us'.