

When it was decided by the National Library of Wales to mount the exhibition 'Pushing Boundaries' featuring Girlguiding Cymru, the question arose 'What should be the centrepiece?'

The decision was made to have a wall hanging depicting the theme, and the Trefoil Guild was asked if they would like to undertake the task.

The ladies who took on the job started by investigating other large tapestries to gain ideas and inspiration for layout, fabrics and stitches. A good deal of research into Guiding history was also undertaken.

A plan was then drawn up – a central panel to depict 'then and now' with a border of smaller sections, one for each Guiding County in Wales. These smaller sections were to be designed to represent the area, and then stitched, by Trefoil Guild members in the relevant Counties. The borders of these sections were to be all in the same colour and stitch to maintain continuity.

Packs of canvas, instructions and one hank of wool for the border were sent out, and work began all over Wales.

The central panel was created in three parts.

The designer found pictures of girls in the first uniforms taking part in a wide variety of activities. The out-of-doors was very popular, but home-making skills were also emphasised. These were shown in the bottom section 1910 – 1945.

For the middle section, it was decided to feature Broneirion, as it is the home of Welsh Guiding, with girls in the uniforms of the period, and an emphasis on the world wide aspect of the Movement.

The third section, 1981 – 2015, is very lively and shows all branches of modern-day Guiding, including the Trefoil Guild, and also features the badge of the World Association of Girl guides and Girl Scouts.

These three sections were then invisibly joined, and finally the County sections were stitched on.

The wall hanging was delivered to the National Library, and hung in the place of honour at the heart of the exhibition.