

**June 2009**

## IGG Road Safety syllabus shortlisted for National Award

The Irish Girl Guides Road Safety syllabus was shortlisted in the final 10 for the national 'Connecting Communities' awards scheme run by the Ombudsman for Children. It also received the title of 'Category Winner' in the Safer Communities category.

The syllabus, which was launched in February 2009 was developed for Ladybirds, Guides and Senior Branch. There is a huge need for road safety awareness among young people today. We hope that this new syllabus will go some way towards making our members safer road users, and that it will foster long lasting road safety awareness among us. Activities in the pack include playing games whilst using your mobile phone and important checks to make on cars and bicycles, as well as interactive activities to do with pedestrian and bike safety.

The Irish Girl Guides were delighted to hear the syllabus had been shortlisted and a group attended the awards ceremony on June 25<sup>th</sup> in the Office of the Ombudsman for Children. Congratulations to Leaders Sheila Linden and Mary Clarke, Guides Linda McCormack, Tracey Cummins and Katie Linden and Ladybird Katelyn Sommerville, for representing IGG on the day.

Emily Logan, Ombudsman for Children commented on the project:

"We were really impressed with how up-to-date the Road Safety syllabus was and we feel that it really has the potential to change young people's thinking and behaviour regarding road safety.

Through Connecting Communities, my Office aims to celebrate child and youth-friendly communities and to recognise and celebrate examples of projects which apply best practice in promoting respect for the rights of children".