

One in a MILLION!



This week, we're recognising the adventurous work of Charlotte Russell, 32, from Lichfield. She said...

Looking around the room, the sweet smell of baking filled the air. Stopping off in Paris in summer 2016 with my Girlguiding group, we reached the second destination on our worldwide inter-railing trip.

Smiling, I watched as the girls made their macarons. 'Look at mine!' they yelled. Seeing the joy on their faces made all my work with the group, based in the north west of England, worth it.

But I wanted to make special adventures such as these accessible for all children, whether they're in a guiding group or not.

After meeting my now husband Jamie, 33, at a World Scout Jamboree in



Me and Jamie

Japan in May 2015, I knew I'd found the right person to do this with. But we'd have to raise £1,000 for camping equipment to start our own group.

Having grown up girl-guiding and earning badges along the way, I went back to my roots.

Drawing the design for our first badge, I drew a teddy bear – naming him Rik, he became our mascot!

'Pawprint Family just makes sense, doesn't it?' I suddenly realised, discussing our potential name with Jamie.

Setting up our own website, we began selling badges to nationwide guiding groups which children can achieve once completing an activity.

Connecting with teachers and parents on Facebook, we

encouraged children to be adventurous wherever they are – in school and at home.

Shortly after, we launched another five badges and designed activity packs, free to download online.

Now, we have over 10,000 different activities and over 500 resources online.

We've even launched adventure trails in cities across the UK, encouraging children to get outdoors from all over the country.

During the Covid lockdowns, parents turned to us.

For Halloween, we designed a special glow-in-the-dark badge and one customer said that their dad had tested it out by hiding in a cupboard!

In March 2020, Pawprint Trust was registered as charity.

And since then, Jamie and I have expanded our own Pawprint family, too.

My three-year-old daughter, nicknamed Baby Pawprint, will soon be promoted to Little Pawprint when our youngest daughter arrives this summer.

I'm so proud of the family we've created beyond just us three, though.

Making global adventures accessible for all children means the world to us!

● Visit: pawprintfamily.com



WORDS BY FLOSSIE PALMER. PHOTOS: SWNS

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Bitesize!

JUST FOR FUN

1	2	3	4
5			
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ACROSS

- 1 Measure of land (4)
- 5 Weaving apparatus (4)
- 6 Russian pop duo (4)
- 7 __ Redding, singer (4)

DOWN

- 1 Voice below soprano (4)
- 2 Jacket (4)
- 3 Flatbread (4)
- 4 Flightless birds (4)

Read down the shaded squares for the answer.

Answer on page 47.

DON'T MISS OUR PICK ME UP! SEPTEMBER SPECIAL OUT NOW!



Sneaky peek at this week!



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