

[From the County Commissioners](#)

As we write this it is St Valentines Day, next week it is Thinking Day, then Mothers Day. All these are occasions for us to stop and think about what is important to us. Our partners and families who enable us to give time to Guiding, the 10 million members worldwide who are also proud to call themselves Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

Some future events to be aware of: our District and Division Commissioners' conference on 25 March; our Annual review on 25 May when we are going to be holding a special evening of celebration and thanks - location to be confirmed; Bubbs Hill Bash on 24-25 June; Deer Park Barn dance 8 July; and Rainbow 30th birthday celebration at Cowley on 9 July. Re latter we are still looking for a team of leaders who can help organise the day. If you are interested please [email us](#).

Reminder that our Annual Subscriptions will become due for payment on 9 March 2017. Please will all units ensure that they send off their cheques asap after this date. Investigations into late payers will begin in April.

Finally "Growth and Retention" is Girlguiding's main focus at the moment. Making our volunteers feel valued is extremely important and the words 'thank you' can go a long way in doing this. Please remember to thank everyone who volunteers in your team; it can make all the difference in them coming back each week.

So THANK YOU for all you do

Anne & Karen

[Bubbs Hill Bash!](#)

24-25 June 2017

This will be running again this year Bookings are open via the Bubbs Hill Bash website or Booking forms can be downloaded from the [County website](#). If you have a Senior Section group who would rather participate than do service please do feel free to complete a booking form for them.

[Deer Park News](#)

[Bookings](#)

We do have spaces available for bookings, and the website shows the latest dates available.

Visit the Deer Park [website](#) for details on [how to book](#) daytime or evening sessions such as backwoods cooking, wide games or trails for your units.

[Barn Dance 8 July 2017](#)

We will be running the barn dance again this year, leaflets and tickets are available from either your Division Commissioner or directly from Deer Park. The cost this year will be £10 but will include a drink and either a burger, hotdog or pork roll. Additional food and drink will be available at very reasonable prices. You

can download the poster [here](#). camping is available on the main site field once again.

[BP Adventures](#)

The next County BP Adventure weekend will take place from 22-23 April in Bourton on the Water. To register your interest in the weekend, please complete the booking form (found on the Downloads page of the website) and return it to Debbie. Full details will then be sent out towards the end of February. Debbie, bpadventure@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk

[Adult Support](#)

[Safe Space trainings](#)

Keep an eye on the website for new training dates.

[First Aid](#)

First Response and Update Training - 11 March 2017 Cheltenham
Update Training - 23 March 2017 East Division
Update Training - 27 April 2017 North Division
First Response and Update Training - 13 May 2017 Dursley
Update Training - 8 June 2017 Highbury, Cheltenham
First Response Training - 10 June Highbury, Cheltenham
First Response and Update Training - 15 July St Marys, Gloucester

BOOKING REQUIRED as places are limited. Please contact [Rachel, First Aid Trainer](#) or fill in the [online booking form](#).

[Annual Subscriptions](#)

The Annual Subscription levies have now been set for National £13.10; Region £8.40 and County £8.50, making a total of £30. You should already have been informed if your Division and/or District will be adding a levy too. Please ask your local Commissioner if you are unsure.

Please ensure you have enough funds available in order to pay your invoice as soon as possible after the Invoices become available on 9th March 2017, but no later than Thursday 13 April 2017. Remember that the annual subscription provides the support you need and enables even more girls to enjoy the benefits of guiding.

[Click here](#) to find out more about where the money is spent.

The dates for the 2017 subscription process are as follows:

- Noon on Tuesday 24 January - Trial invoices will be available to view and amend.
- Noon on Tuesday 7 March - No further changes can be made to trial invoices.
- From noon on Tuesday 7 March - noon on Thursday 9 March - The role management area on Go! and transfer from Join Us to Go! will be unavailable.

- Noon on Thursday 9 March - Official invoices will be available to download and send with full payment.
- Noon on Thursday 13 April - All official invoice payments must be received in full.

County Email Addresses

Please note that all Division Commissioners and volunteers with County roles are now using our County email addresses. If you need to contact any of these people please use their @girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk email address rather than any personal addresses that you may have for them. This helps our volunteers to keep their emails all together and organised and also ensures that you will always be contacting the correct person even when the person holding a role changes. We will also be rolling out email addresses for District Commissioners very soon. A full list of all email addresses can be found [here](#).

Trefoil Guild March 2017

This is a busy time of year for Guilds as many of them have had or are about to have their Annual Meetings where often there is a change of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurers.

We welcome all the new Guild Chairman, Secretary's and Treasurers and look forward to working along side you all.

We would like to give a big thank-you to those Chairman, Secretary's and Treasurers that have finished their appointments. The work they have done on behalf of their Guilds is appreciated by us all.

Our Thinking Day Lunch at Bowden Hall has been another great event for us all and good time to all get together and remember our Guiding Sisters around the world. The report below from Charlton Kings is a bit of a puzzle for you all. Can you work out what they have been up to in their Guild? The first person to let Meg Broome know the answers and they are right might get a little gift from County.

Report from Cheltenham Trefoil Guild

At our October meeting we welcomed Peter Berry with some fantastic slides of his visit to Darjeeling in Northern India. He was a most interesting speaker with pictures of the smallest railway and everyday life. November we welcomed Janet Bollington, who had just returned from India so was able to give us first hand information of the work that goes on within the Donkey Sanctuary that she supports. The year ended with our Christmas meal at the House in the Tree. A collection for our chosen charity GARAS (Glos Action for Refugees and Asylum seekers) which raised £78.

Our Programme for 2017 is planned and we look forward to hearing about the work of The Butterfly Garden, National Garden scheme, homeopathy, Magic Lantern Show, and a Red Nose fun evening as well as supporting County events etc.

Bishops Cleeve Trefoil Guild

Our overall membership remains constant with one resignation through illness and one new member, with an average monthly attendance of 15. Sadly at the end of January one of our loyal members, Dorreen Kreye died. She will be remembered for her cheery smile and willingness to help. She will be greatly missed.

In August our afternoon tea party was a great success. The following month, our speakers at our A.G.M in September were Jill and Peter Muir on their involvement with projects in Rwanda.

In October, Ro Hunt a local librarian spoke on the future of our library and what it offers.

There was much chattering during a craft afternoon. Knitting smoothie hats for Age Concern and knitting Ferro Rocher Christmas puddings, or painting Christmas baubles. It was a fun November meeting.

Our Christmas lunch was different, instead of the usual fare we had Fish and Chips, which went down well. We started the New Year with morning coffee at our local coffee shop. We are looking forward to another active year.

Mary Hughes, Chairman

Charlton Kings Trefoil Guild

Here's our Quiz:

Can you work out what we were up to in 2016?

May 13th 2016

This meeting was really, number 41 (time for fun) and even we are not number 16 (Sweet Sixteen) any more, there is always time for number 3. (Cup of Tea) and of course before we eat we always number 68. ("Saying" {Saving} Grace).

Answer oginB

June 10th 2016

On the hill where the Monks no longer live, a delightful garden we did see. But the best (at least for me) was a most delicious cream tea.

Answer yebbA hsanknirP

September 9th 2016

In our Guild we enjoy our meetings, as We Whistle a Happy Tune, whilst Getting To Know (You) each other. Sometimes it seems too soon to go Home Sweet Home. But we all think Trefoil is Something Wonderful, although we are not too sure We Could Have Danced All Night.

Answer I dna gink eht

[Cheltenham Guide receives commendation for bravery](#)

Rhiannon from 16th Cheltenham Guides had a special surprise visit from South West England Region Chief Commissioner, Carole. Rhiannon was presented with the Chief Commissioner's Certificate of Commendation for her bravery and courage when the Bournside School coach she was travelling on was involved in an accident last summer, while in France on a school trip.

[World Thinking Day](#)

Our members have been busy celebrating World Thinking Day with all sorts of fun activities! World Thinking Day is a special day in the Girlguiding calendar, when we think about our 10 million sisters in guiding all across the world. Groups typically celebrate with activities to learn about other countries or the history of guiding, and often meet up with other local groups to help remind us that we're part of a huge global movement!

[Chief Guide Communications!](#)

1st Yorkley Brownies were really proud to receive this letter from the Chief Guide this week. They have been nominated by our region for an award for our social action with Forest Pulse.

[Queen's Guide Award for Hannah!](#)

Congratulations to Hannah Kiely who was presented with her Queen's Guide Award this weekend by County Commissioner Karen McFarlane at their unit sleepover.

[Beauty and the Beast](#)

Girlguiding Partnerships have launched a new partnership with Odeon cinema and they're offering bargain ticket prices across the Country on March 18th. Visit the link to get all the juicy details!

[Salem Guides Sleepover](#)

Salem Guides had a great time at their sleepover at the weekend, including a treasure hunt and catching up with leaders Hannah and Sian who are now working away from Cheltenham