

## December content for newsletter and website

(In no particular order)

1. County Commissioners - Report
2. Helen - Adult support
3. Sarah - Youth Participation
4. Sarah - Deer Park
5. Liza - SSS
6. Linda - Trefoil Report
7. Karen - DPA
8. Karen - Growing Guiding
9. Val - Outdoor
10. Adult Leader Qualification
11. Blue Peter World Record Attempt
12. Judith - Growing Guiding Volunteers Adults

---

### County Commissioners

As the darker evenings are drawing in, it is great to see the imaginative activities that are happening in meetings right across the County. We are sure there are going to be lots of homes decorated with original and unique Christmas creations and good smells from tasty seasonal fare emerging from church and village hall kitchens as we all approach Christmas. We know too that it is a time many units share their good fortune with others by carol singing, helping those in need, sending Christmas Boxes to children less fortunate than ourselves, or other thoughtful actions.

It was fabulous to see so many of you helping girls to understand and appreciate the meaning of Remembrance Day and to see pictures of smart, respectful groups taking part in services, parades or unit activities.

Congratulations to Highbury and Yorkley Brownies for being part of the Blue Peter World Record Superhero cape by providing "spots" showing their commitment to community action.

Congratulation as well to the Guides of Stratton, Cirencester who are celebrating their 100th birthday this year!

Thank you to Emily Green who spoke at the World Conference on Growing Guiding about Flexible Guiding and particularly Holiday Brownies, I know already that she has inspired groups in Kenya and the Maldives to go home and explore these ideas.

Please encourage all your 14-25 year olds to look at the many events and activities being planned for the Senior Section Centenary next year. It will help organisers hugely if people can let them know which events they would like to be part of as soon as possible. We can then help to organise County transport to some of them or start booking accommodation. It all kicks off in February which really isn't all that far away.

We both wish you all a very happy Christmas, and hope that you all enjoy a well earned break.

We are now using our new e-mail [cc@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:cc@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

### Carole & Helen

As a member of the WAGGGS European training and events team, I have been privileged to be working on both the European and World level in November and I would like to share some personal thoughts from the World conference on Growing Guiding. It's actually taking a while for them to settle in my brain. In the UK we help girls and young women develop their potential through Guiding and we have enormous numbers of girls led by exceptional leaders and supported by peer educators who grow up stronger and better equipped to face the world ahead. In Ethiopia, Rwanda, Nigeria, Pakistan and Zambia - not only do they do this too, but they save lives too by giving girls the skills, knowledge and confidence to say no to violence, FGM, early marriage and child slavery. I feel humbled and amazed by both the young pioneers in emerging Movements and the ladies who have helped Guiding thrive in their countries through turmoil, war and awful threats to women's lives. Over the next few weeks, I would like to give some real thought as to how I can support some of these organisations as they strive to meet the needs

All the content of this newsletter (and more!) is available at [www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

Please send content for future issues to [news@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:news@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

of even more girls in so much more challenging conditions than we will ever know. I feel sure out of this will come a new project and purpose at the end of my time as County Commissioner - Helen  
(Photo is Pascaline from Rwanda with me with all sorts of other international leaders in the mirror)



---

### Adult Support

Thanks to all those who joined our Inset training week, we will be doing it again but probably in a slightly different format, please pass any suggestions to [adultsupport@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:adultsupport@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

### Safe Space

The safe space training is primarily aimed at Leaders in training, if other leaders wish to attend they will be most welcome and we hope that they will be willing to share their experiences with new leaders and enrich their training experience.

If you are a new leader and undertake children's safeguarding training as part of your job, please discuss with your mentor who will be able to advise you on action to be taken to complete your Leadership scheme. This includes completion of the eLearning safe space modules on the girlguiding website.

Dates booked for safe space training:

January 31st Deer Park, Cowley 1.00pm (One Stop weekend) book using one-stop weekend form.

February 4th Berkeley Scout and Guide HQ 7.00pm book with Gilly Stook.

Watch this space for further dates in Gloucester and Coopers Hill.

### One Stop Weekend

Our One Stop training weekend for Leaders or Young Leaders undertaking the Leadership Scheme will take place from Friday 29 January - Sunday 31 January 2016

This is an opportunity for Leaders to complete a lot of their qualification, meet other leaders and exchange ideas and enjoy our County HQ at Deer Park Cowley.

Please download, complete and return the application form as soon as possible to ensure your place.

For further information please contact Helen Murphy on [adultsupport@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:adultsupport@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

---

### Youth Participation.

All the content of this newsletter (and more!) is available at [www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)  
Please send content for future issues to [news@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:news@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

The final Senior Section event of 2015 will be Paint-It-Yourself Pottery. Join us for a relaxed evening, letting out your creative side. It's a perfect chance to make a Christmas present or decoration. Choose from a plate, bowl, mug or Christmas bauble. There'll also be some food, and a chance to find out more about our Spectacular events. Following the event, your pottery will be glazed and fired, and will be available for collection the following week.

Where: 76 Winchcombe Street; Cheltenham; GL52 2NW

When: Sunday 13th December; 6 pm - 8 pm

Cost: £12.50 (bring with you on the night)

### Sign-up link

**Spark** is the National Launch Event for the Senior Section Spectacular, but is open to members of all sections. It will be held at Alexandra Palace on 20th and 21st February 2016 and costs £17.50. Sign-up is here:<http://spectacular.girlguiding.org.uk/event-activity/spectacular-spark/>

If you would like to attend, and are interested in transport being arranged at a County level, then please contact Sarah ([youthparticipation@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:youthparticipation@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)).

-----

Deer Park.

2015 has been a very busy year with many more visitors coming to stay and do activities; I hope that you all had a great time and will visit us again in 2016. A big thank you has to go out to everyone who helps and supports Deer Park, without these volunteers (and we always need more) we would not be able to keep Deer Park up and running.

### Bookings - [www.deerparkcowley.com](http://www.deerparkcowley.com)

The Deer Park website shows available dates for the coming term but anything longer than that just drop me an email and I will let you know what we have available. Next year is booking fast so would suggest that you get in touch sooner rather than later.

### Badge and skills days - [www.deerparkcowley.com/badge-and-skills-daysweekends.html](http://www.deerparkcowley.com/badge-and-skills-daysweekends.html)

As I mentioned in November's newsletter we really need some volunteers to step forward to help organise this day and to give us your ideas as what we should do to make them successful for you and your girls. Please do get in touch and we will see what we can do to make so great idea happen.

### Thinking day 2016

Deer Park will be running some Thinking day activities

Rainbows and Brownies - Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> February

Guides and Senior Section - Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February

Booking information will be out at the start of the New Year but if you are interested in coming up and participating with your unit or helping with either/both of the days then do get in touch.

### Finally

Deer Park has its newest member of the team, OB, he is settling in well and visiting and getting used to all the Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Senior Section and leaders who visit.



**Merry Christmas!**

**From Sarah, OB and the Management team at Deer Park**

---

There's just one month to enter the Four Capitals Adventure! Make sure you don't miss out - it's open to all members of Girlguiding South West, aged 14-26.

The Four Capitals Adventure runs from Tuesday 5th to Friday 8th April 2016, in the Easter holidays, and will be our main County trip. Gloucestershire Senior Section will be celebrating the Centenary in style, by taking over all four UK Capital Cities simultaneously, before returning to Cowley for the last night of celebrations.

For full information, see the attached booking packs (under 18s or over 18s) and visit our website: <http://spectaculargloucestershire.weebly.com/the-four-capitals-adventure.html>.

Want to get involved with the Four Capitals but can't make the whole week? Perhaps you're not a Senior Section member but still want to join in with the celebrations? We're currently looking for a team of volunteers, to help with pitching tents and setting up at Cowley, for the last night of our Four Capitals Adventure!

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Liza Hadley, County Centenary Champion on [sss@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:sss@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk) or 07454775427. Thank you

---

### Trefoil Guild

Around the County knitting needles have been clicking as Trefoil Guild members knit little hats for the top of Innocent Smoothie Bottles. When these bottles go on sale in February wearing these beautifully crafted hats for each one sold 25p goes to Age UK.

We were asked for help in knitting these hats by a Young Guider working on her Queen's Guide.

As part of her personal development she has taken up knitting and asked the Trefoil Guild to help as part of Community Involvement also to encourage corporate giving and to raise awareness of Girlguiding and Trefoil Guild to local and national companies.

Some Guilds have already been involved in this project on other occasions helping to raise money for Age UK so we hoping to swell the numbers of little hats made this year.

Knitting was a skill that was dying out but not anymore, it has becoming a very popular craft as many young people are now taking it up. Trefoil Guild members would be more than willing to share their skills with the girls in the Units or with the Guiders, please just ask us.

Guilds are looking forward to the Christmas season and have already booked their lunches and parties. We really like to get involved in the Carol Concerts and activities that the Units put on and will always lend a hand wherever we can.

Our congratulations go to Julie Ashworth of Forest South Guild on gaining her Bronze Voyage Award and I look forward to presenting her with her brooch.

Ideas are already being put forward to the big Trefoil 75<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration in 2018 and Guilds are being asked what they would like at Region and County level so please let us know of any ideas that you may have.

If you know anyone interested in joining a Trefoil Guild or thinking about opening a new Guild please use the contact below and we would be pleased to get in touch.

Dates for your diaries:

Peace Light 15<sup>th</sup> December St Mary's Congregational Church.

Thinking Day Meal 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016

[trefoilchairman@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:trefoilchairman@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)



---

## DATA PROTECTION

As Deputy Chair of Deerpark Management Committee, I recently attended a GirlguidingUK Property Conference at Waddow, during which there was a presentation on data protection. Here are the top tips we were given:

- Keep your password secure & regularly change it.
- Always log off your computer and close access to any system completely
- Confidentially destroy any paper records when they are no longer needed
- If sending any personal data electronically always password and encrypt your message
- Try never to send a fax or keep data on a USB stick

All the content of this newsletter (and more!) is available at [www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)  
Please send content for future issues to [news@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:news@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

Any queries please contact me.

Karen McFarlane  
County Data Controller  
DPA@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk

---

## Growing Guiding

Helen has been sharing our Holiday Brownies good practice at Waggs' Growing Guiding conference.

We are working with Viki, our UYSAF development worker, to open a new Guide unit in Cashes Green, in Mid Division. We hope to get support from Youth United. We are also investigating opening a new Rainbow unit in Quedgeley to meet the great demand there (see below).

We've been successful in advertising for Brownie leaders on *Volunteer Gloucestershire* and *Do-it.org* and also on *Indeed.com*. We have 2 new volunteers who have now started with units in Gloucestershire, neither were qualified leaders but both keen to do their ALQ.

## Volunteer engagement in Morrisons

Morrisons are kindly offering the opportunity to hold an in-store volunteer engagement event at your local store. [Pop in to your nearest store and ask for the Community Champion for more details in setting this up.](#)

## Situations vacant/volunteers wanted

Do you know someone who would be interested in helping with the following current **adult volunteer vacancies**, if so please contact me:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Innsworth Rainbows, Coopers Hill Division, Wednesdays ( [link](#))
- 1<sup>st</sup> Severn District Rainbows, Quedgeley, Gloucester Division, Thursdays ( [link](#))
- Proposed new Quedgeley Rainbows, Gloucester Division, Mondays ( [link](#))
- 19<sup>th</sup> Gloucester Brownies, Longlevens, Gloucester Division, Thursdays ( [link](#))
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Quedgeley Guides, Gloucester Division, Mondays ( [link](#))
- 1<sup>st</sup> Elmore Guides, Gloucester Division, Wednesdays ( [link](#))

## New Meet and Greet Role for New Volunteers.

Judith James's new role is to help District Commissioners with new volunteers meet and greet. We know that many commissioners would prefer to make first contact themselves within 21 days target, but Judith is happy to make first contact if commissioners would like her to. Judith will however be picking up those not contacted within the 21 days. Could Commissioners please let Judith and myself know if there is anything else Judith can help with.

If you need more help with any Growing Guiding aspects then please contact the **Gloucestershire's Growing Guiding Team**. Please note our new County emails:

**County Co-ordinator:** Karen McFarlane

- Email: [growcoord@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:growcoord@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)
- <https://twitter.com/KarenGovtKIM>

**County New Volunteers Meet and Greet Co-ordinator:** Judith James

- Email: [growvols@girlguidnggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:growvols@girlguidnggloucestershire.org.uk)

All the content of this newsletter (and more!) is available at [www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)  
Please send content for future issues to [news@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:news@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

**UYSAF Development Worker: Viki Gardiner**

- Email: [viki@ggswe.org.uk](mailto:viki@ggswe.org.uk)
- <https://www.facebook.com/Growingguidingbsgg>
- <https://twitter.com/growguidingBSGG>

---

## Outdoor

Vacancy on Outdoor Team - Do you like playing around on or in the water? Would like to be involved in getting the girls out on or in the water? We have a vacancy on the Outdoor Team for a Water Sports Adviser. If you have an interest or skills in any of the following: boating; kayaking; sailing; swimming; water safety..... please contact Val Thomas [outdoor@girlguidinggloucestershire.or.uk](mailto:outdoor@girlguidinggloucestershire.or.uk)

If you have a Mountain Training walking qualification (Walking Group Leader (WGL), Hill and Moorland Leader (HML) or Mountain Leader (ML) you can have this added on GO. Contact Val Thomas [walking@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:walking@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk) to find out how to get this added.

---

## Adult Leader Qualifications

A few reminders

- 1) Please submit a County form for anyone doing ALQ modules, including those just doing an extra module 1 for a new section or adding module 4.
- 2) Young leaders over the age of 16 can work on ALQ.  
Young leaders working on ALQ should be on Go! as YL-LQ. Once they reach the age of 18 they need to be changed to Leader- in Training if they are still doing the ALQ.  
All other Young leaders should be on Go! as YL 14 -18
- 3) I aim to process the county forms within a couple of weeks, the ALQ book is sent to the mentor and the new leader receives a welcome letter. If anyone does not get these within a month of submitting the form please contact me.
- 4) Similarly, when a completed ALQ book is sent to me I aim to get the certificate and badge to the relevant District Commissioner as soon as possible. If it doesn't arrive within a month please let me know.
- 5) Leaders would have completed modules 1 -4 should be on Go! with the role of Leader, those who have completed modules 1-3 only should be on Go! as Assistant Leader .
- 6) Remember, anyone currently working on their ALQ must complete a Face to Face Safe Space training before I can sign off the Qualification regardless of when they started.
- 7) Please make sure completed First Aid and Safe Space Trainings are added to Go!
- 8) e- learning modules are automatically added to Go! by Headquarters.
- 9) If a Young Leader or Leader- in Training decides to stop working on the ALQ please let me know so their record can be updated.
- 10) Please make sure that anyone who is mentoring a new leader has the role of District (or Division) mentor added to their Go! record.

---

## Blue Peter world record challenge

Thank you to Chief Commissioners for your support in helping to identify units for the Blue Peter world record challenge.

We've had a fantastic response from units across the UK and are starting to receive some brilliant decorated 'spots' complete with illustrations of fantastic community action.

All the content of this newsletter (and more!) is available at [www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)  
Please send content for future issues to [news@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:news@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

Next week the PR Team will begin selling-in stories to local press about units taking part in the challenge. Please find attached to this email a list of the units taking part from each Country and Region. If you would like us to share press materials for your area please contact your designated press officer.

Blue Peter has invited 20 Girlguiding members to be part of the audience during the live show on Thursday 12 November - when the cape will be officially unveiled. We're contacting groups within a close proximity of Salford (where Blue Peter is based) and will keep you updated about girls from your Country/Regions taking part.

The units taking part from your county are

1st Yorkley Brownies (YU)

11th Cheltenham Brownies

---

## **Growing Guiding**

### **Freshers fayre**

*The recent Freshers Fayre at University of Gloucestershire, Cheltenham, was a success with about 40 students interested on the day in volunteering with Guiding, both in Cheltenham and Gloucester. Within a week of Freshers, they were all contacted asking to confirm interest. By mid-October, about 20 had confirmed.*

*To welcome new student volunteers this year, we joined with Spa TG in mid-October to jointly host a mixer event of a cream tea and beetle drive. This was a great opportunity for the students to get to know the local Girlguiding team and to meet other student members.*

*Our experience, over recent years, has been that a quick follow up with students, an early placement and a warm welcome (with cake included) is an approach that works.*

### **New housing estates across Gloucestershire**

*Please let me know of any new housing estates being built near you that may require new units to be opened to meet the extra demand.*

### **Starting new unit grants**

*I've had a few enquiries about the various grants that are available to new units so I have produced a handout. See website.*

### **Saturday units**

*Interested in starting a unit on a Saturday? Have a look at a handout on Saturday Rainbows (including an outline programme) that I have just produced for Midland Region's Growing Guiding Conference. See website.*

### **Join Us - assigned**

*I'm just about to start another review of the girls that are outstanding in the Assigned category on Join Us. So could all leaders please ensure that your unit's records on Join Us are up-to-date, with the Comments field completed as necessary? Many thanks.*

### **Situations vacant/volunteers wanted**

All the content of this newsletter (and more!) is available at [www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)  
Please send content for future issues to [news@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:news@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

We have had some success this last month with advertising adult **volunteer vacancies** with Volunteer Gloucestershire/ Do-it.org (1 response) and Indeed.com (2 responses), so please continue to let Judith and myself know your volunteer requirements.

Do you know someone who would be interested in helping with the following current **adult volunteer vacancies**, if so please contact me:

- 3rd Gloucester Brownies, Wednesdays, Tuffley
- 1st Elmore Guides, Wednesdays, Elmore
- 7<sup>th</sup> Gloucester ( St Barnabas) Brownies, Tuesdays, Gloucester

If you need more help with any Growing Guiding aspects then please contact **Gloucestershire's Growing Guiding Team**. Please note our new County emails:

**County Co-ordinator: Karen McFarlane**

- Email: [growcoord@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:growcoord@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)
- <https://twitter.com/KarenGovtKIM>

**County New Volunteers Meet and Greet Co-ordinator: Judith James**

- Email: [growvols@girlguidnggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:growvols@girlguidnggloucestershire.org.uk)

If you would like help with opening new units in Gloucester City Centre, please also contact:

**UYSAF Development Worker: Viki Gardiner**

- Email: [viki@ggswe.org.uk](mailto:viki@ggswe.org.uk)
- <https://www.facebook.com/Growingguidingbsgg>
- <https://twitter.com/growguidingBSGG>

-----

If anybody is interested in going on a Guide Holiday to Adeboden, Switzerland in July 2017 (during the first week of the school holidays) with a division in the North-East, please ask Judith James for details. This is available for anybody 14+ so please let SS and YL know.

Partylite Party (candles) raising funds for a crèche in Sangam. Please come along to support a fantastic cause. Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at 7:30pm for more details please contact Judith James. Brochures will be available soon and you can place an order without attending the party.

-----