

## **February 2018 content for newsletter and website** **(In no particular order)**

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Please send items for the website/newsletter to [news@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:news@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)  
The deadline for the next newsletter is 14th February for the next release on 28th February.

### **County Commissioner's Report**

<http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk/for-leaders.html>

Happy New Year!

We kicked off the new year in style, with 240 Leaders being trained in the new A Safe Space Module 3. It was great to see so many people receiving the new training en masse. Thank you to all the trainers who delivered the training twice in one day. We're also delighted to let you know that Rachel Jacques has officially taken on the new Safeguarding Lead Volunteer role for the County and is liaising with the Region team to ensure we're well supported in the County.

Don't forget it's almost time to pay your Annual Subscriptions. More details further down this newsletter.

Our Annual Review will take place on 29th April at The Pavilion in Cheltenham. It's just off the motorway with easy access from almost anywhere in the County. We will be having an afternoon tea and we do hope you'll join us to celebrate everything we have achieved as a County in 2017. Invitations will be on their way to you very soon.

We're pleased to report that the zip wire on Bubbs Hill is now complete. Sarah is busy organising the training for the instructors and we hope the activity will be on the list for bookings in the Spring.

We have several volunteering opportunities available in the County. We're looking for a new Team Leader for the Adult Support team from October 2018, a new Team Leader for the Marketing & Communications Team to start as soon as possible and we have a new role, Executive Assistant to the County Commissioners. Please see below for full details for these exciting opportunities and how you can put yourself forward or to make a suggestion if you know someone who would fit the bill.

Karen & Anne

### **Good Guiding in Gloucestershire**

<http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk/for-leaders.html>

This month's focus is on Transition!

It has become apparent on a national level that a very small number of girls transition to the next level within Girlguiding.

Here are some ideas to help encourage girls to move up:

- Encourage girls to go on waiting lists for the next section as soon as they start with you so that there is a space ready for them when the time comes.
- Commissioners and Leaders need to work together to make moving between sections less scary for the girls.
- Leaders need to have discussions with their girls about the next section and sell it as a positive move.
- Remember, girls don't have to leave your unit just because they have hit the top age; girls should be encouraged to move when they are ready. This might mean a Brownie moves to Guides the week after her 10th birthday or she might stick around another 6 months or so until she's ready.
- Run joint events with the next section so the girls in both sections get to know each other.
- Run taster evenings in your meeting for those thinking about coming up to visit.
- Involve parents so they understand about the next section.
- Get Rainbows, Brownies and Guides to talk to each other.
- Brownies can work on the Move On Up! Go For It to prepare them for Guides.
- Guide units could send their unit newsletter to the 9 and 10 year old Brownies on their waiting list to encourage them to move when the time comes.
- Guide Leaders could visit the Brownie groups and Brownie Leaders could visit the Rainbow groups so the girls know who their new Leaders will be before that first meeting.
- Leaders could visit the next section on their girl's first meeting with them.
- Brownie and Rainbow units could have a Guide as a Rainbow or Brownie Helper and/or Young Leaders to help the younger girls understand about the older sections.

If you need any support or advice on accounts then please talk to your Commissioner or email us at [growcoord@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:growcoord@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

### **Annual Subscriptions**

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/making-guiding-happen/running-your-unit/finance-insurance-and-property/subscriptions/>

Every year Girlguiding at every level collects an Annual Subscription - historically referred to as 'census' - to run that particular level of Guiding. Annual Subscriptions is paid for every member (children & adults) within the unit. Subscriptions for volunteers is a valid unit expense.

### 2018 Fees

National £15 (up by £1.50)

Region £8.90 (up by 50p from 2017)

County £8.50 (same as 2017)

**Total £32.40**

**Plus any District and/or Division level levy**

The 2018 Annual Subscription process is:

**Noon, 23 January** - trial invoices are available to view and download on the Subscription system. Changes should be made on GO.

**5 February** - Reminder if you have not viewed your trial invoice by this date.

**Midnight, 19 February** - no more changes can be made to trial invoices. GO and the Subscription system will be unavailable.

**Noon, 20 February** - GO will be available after the normal Tuesday downtime.

**Noon, 22 February** - official and payable invoices will be available to download from the Subscription system. Follow the steps on your invoice to send your payment.

**20 March** - Reminder if we have not received your official invoice payment by this date.

**Noon, 3 April** - all subscriptions payments must be received in full by this date.

**PLEASE REMEMBER:** Invoices must be paid (and cheques cleared) by 3rd April. However you don't need to wait until the 11th hour to get your cheque in the post. Please post it as soon as possible after 22nd February.

**Prepare now:**

- Make sure your unit has sufficient funds in the bank account.

- Arrange a date/time during the week the invoice is due to meet your signatory to get the cheque signed.
- Buy a stamp!

Last year there were 10 units that didn't pay their bill in time. This meant the County had to foot this bill and then chase for the payments. This takes a huge amount of our volunteer time and effort so please can everyone make a really big effort to get their bill paid in time this year.

Many thanks

### **Volunteer Vacancies**

#### **Executive Assistant to the County Commissioners**

This new role we're introducing is a common one in large charities. The role is an administrative one that can be done from the comfort of your own home and requires someone who is organised by nature. They will get involved in helping to plan and organise events such as the Annual Review and Commissioner Forums as well as helping us pull together information from across the County for reports we have to submit to Region, etc. If this sounds like something you'd like to find out more about, please get in touch.

#### **Marketing & Communications Team Leader**

Our M&C team are responsible for keeping us all informed. This has been a very small team over the last 2 years and we have agreed that we need to shake it up a bit! We are looking for someone with knowledge of social media, website design, eNewsletters, etc to lead a team to ensure that the County is well informed of all the amazing activities, trainings, socials, etc on offer. We will then be working with this person to build up the number of volunteers within the team. If you are interested or would like to put forward a suggestion, please get in touch.

#### **Website & Newsletter Volunteers**

Are you a whizz on the computer? We're looking for people to join our website and newsletter volunteers. Both of these are created using very simple, custom built online software (Weebly & Mailchimp). No coding knowledge is required. Just a bit of spare time to work from home, an attention to detail and an enthusiasm for ensuring that every member within our County gets to hear about the fantastic opportunities, trainings, events and activities we have on offer.

#### **Adult Support Team Leader**

Helen Murphy will end her term as Adult Support Team Leader in October this year so we are looking for someone new to take on this team. This person does not need to be a trainer but does need to have an interest in training and supporting the amazing volunteers we have within the County. They need to be organised too with the ability to plan and organise meetings, trainings, support sessions, etc and to coordinate our team of trainers and advisers in the Adult Support team. If you would like to find out more or think you know someone who would be great for the role then please get in touch.

Please contact [Anne & Karen](#) if you are interested in any of these volunteering opportunities.

Email [cc@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:cc@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

### **Contact the County Team**

<http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk/address-book.html>

Did you know all the volunteers at a County level have a [girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:cc@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk) email address so that we can comply with Data Protection laws and advertise them publicly. They can all be found on our website on the Address Book page via the link above or from our website, hover over 'Contact Us' and choose 'Address Book' from the menu that pops up.

### **Adult Support - One Stop Weekend**

<http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk/uploads/5/7/4/2/57427995/onestopbranded.pdf>

We are looking forward to our One Stop Weekend, designed specifically for Leaders in Training and Young Leaders working on their Leadership Qualification. This is an excellent opportunity for you to cover many of the formal clauses of the Leadership Qualification. It's not too late to get involved. You can come along for the whole weekend or just book onto the sessions you need to help you get qualified.

For full information visit the County website.

### **Adult Support - First Aid Training**

<http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk/adult-support.html#FirstAid>

Upcoming First Aid courses in the County:

- First Response Training - Saturday, 3 March at Deer Park
- Update Training - Sunday, 4 March at Deer Park
- Update Training - Saturday, 28 April in Nailsworth
- First Response Course - Saturday, 12 May in Dursley

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

Email [firstaid@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:firstaid@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

### **Adult Support - Leadership Qualifications**

<http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk/lq-notification.html>

**Calling all Unit Leaders and Commissioners!**

**Your New Year Resolution**

While you are logged on to GO to check your Annual Subscription invoice, please also make the following checks:

**Leaders in Training** - has their role become Active Pending because it is more than 2 years since the role started?

**Young Leaders** - Have they become Active Pending because they have past their 18th birthday and therefore need a DBS and setting up as a Leader in Training (if working on LQ) or Unit Helper (if not doing the LQ)?

Please also remember that I do not have supernatural powers! I only know someone is doing a Leadership Qualification if the form on the county website is completed. This includes those adding and extra module 1 for a new section.

No County Form = No Leadership Book

The same applies in reverse; if someone has decided not to continue with an LQ please let me know and end their Leader in Training role on GO.

Also please remember to change Leaders in Training to Leaders as soon as possible after I send back their completed LQ. The letter I send will give you the relevant date.

Many thanks

Ann Jackson, Leadership Coordinator

Email [alq@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:alq@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

### **Activity & Adventure - Duke of Edinburgh**

<http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk/activities--adventure.html#Other>

**Final call!** If anyone is interested in completing the Expedition Programme for D of E during 2018 - Bronze or Silver - then please email me asap. There is a meeting planned for 8 February for anyone interested, location to be confirmed once numbers have been established.

Email [dofe@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:dofe@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

### **Activity & Adventure - Walking**

<http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk/activities--adventure.html#Walking>

If you like the outdoors then the list of outdoor shows and festivals we received from the National team might just take your fancy! Check out the list on our website.

### **Deer Park**

<http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk/camps--holidays.html#DeerPark>

**Bookings**

We have booked up fast for the spring and summer terms but have space still available in the summer holidays and through the Autumn term. If you would like to book please get in touch.

**Zip Wire**

Our newest activity will be available to book from the middle of March onwards with final details to follow of costs and group size. However we have training for anyone interested in becoming an instructor at Deer Park taking place on the 17th March. If you are interested please get in touch.

Email Sarah, [deerpark@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:deerpark@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

### **Bubbs Hill Bash - 23 to 24 June 2018**

<http://bubbshillbash.weebly.com/>

Bookings for Bubbs Hill Bash are now open, forms and information are available on the [bubbshillbash.weebly.com](http://bubbshillbash.weebly.com) website or linked below. We have an early bird offer for bookings made before the 22nd February at £25 per girl; after this date it will be £27.50 per girl. The cost for leaders and volunteers remains at £10. If you would like to come along and help please go to the website and fill in a form; we would love to have your help.

Senior section can come along and volunteer or they are welcome to form their own team and participate.

[Bubbs Hill Bash Information Flyer](#)

[Unit Booking Form](#)

[Volunteer/Senior Section Helper Booking Form](#)

### **Barn Dance - 7 July 2018**

We will once again be having the Barn Dance up at Deer Park, another opportunity to come and dance the night away. We have free camping or limited indoor accommodation for those who want to stay over. Tickets are £10 to include pork/burger/sausage/veggie option filled roll. It will be Bring Your Own alcohol with soft drinks on sale.

For those who have not been before, it is a night to socialise with Leaders and friends from around the County whilst having a good old dance! Tickets will be available from your local Commissioner or direct from Deer Park.

Call Sarah on 01242 870284 or email [deerpark@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:deerpark@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

### **Brownie Activity Day - 8 July 2018**

Following last year's successful Rainbow fun day, this year we are running a Brownie Activity Day.

The cost will be £5 with Brownies able to participate in a range of onsite activities, games and crafts whilst earning a badge.

We are still looking for some volunteers to come and help organise the day so if you are interested in helping out then please do get in touch.

Call Sarah on 01242 870284 or email [deerpark@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:deerpark@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

### **Trefoil Guild - Happy 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

<http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk/trefoil-guild.html>

Our events for 2018

We start off this wonderful year of celebrations with the Thinking Day lunch at Bowden Hall on the 22nd of February. Where many members will enjoy a lovely lunch and short Thinking Day service.

We will then all join together for the Spring Coffee morning at Deer Park on the 10th of April.

Our Spring Walk is being organised by Bishops Cleeve Guild and will be starting from the Abbey Fields Centre in Winchcombe on the 26th of April.

We next join with other Trefoil Guild members from around the South West of England for the S.W. of England Annual meeting in Weymouth on May 12th .

Gloucestershire County Trefoil Annual meeting is on the 17th of May at Deer Park School Cirencester and is hosted by Corinium Guild.

As we progress through this wonderful year we join other Trefoil members from around the Country in Birmingham for the National Trefoil Guild Annual meeting on June 16th.

The Trefoil camp will take place this special year at Macaroni Woods from the 25th to the 29th of June and if you need details please contact a member of the County team. This is a great way to spend special time together and enjoy a lovely relaxing break.

Our 75th Celebration Tea will take place at Bowden hall on the 22nd of July and all details will be out soon. This will be a lovely afternoon where we can dress up and enjoy a lovely tea and enjoy the grounds of the hotel as well.

We hope to have the annual Boules competition in August with the date to be arranged.

The South West England Train Trek starts in Gloucestershire on the 9th of October. Forms are with all the Guild chairs, please make sure to get your forms in as soon as possible as the deadline is the end of January. This will be a great opportunity to advertise Trefoil Guild, have some fun and hopefully increase our Guild numbers so please come along to support it.

#### **News Item - Macaroni Newsletter**

[http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk/uploads/5/7/4/2/57427995/newsletter\\_2018.pdf](http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk/uploads/5/7/4/2/57427995/newsletter_2018.pdf)

Macaroni is run by Gloucestershire East Division. They have a new booking secretary and an open day in 2018. Click through to the full newsletter to find out more.

#### **Volunteers' Facebook Group**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/497050423722598/>

Have you joined our Closed Facebook Group yet? If not, why not!? Follow the link above and request to join. You'll never look back!

Please note this group is open to current volunteers for Girlguiding Gloucestershire. We check you hold an appointment on GO before letting you access the group.