

Girlguiding Gloucestershire Printable Newsletter July 2017

County Commissioners' Message - July 2017

Our Guiding year is coming to a close and we can look back on yet another successful year when many fun and exciting opportunities happened in Units across the County. None of this would have been possible without you, the Leaders.

We have both had quite a busy month representing the county - ranging from the opening of the Eco-loo at Elkstone by the Bishop of Tewkesbury to attending the Sheriff of Gloucestershire's Garden Party!

We are looking forward to meeting up with many of you at the Deer Park Barn Dance on 8 July and the Rainbows 30th Birthday on 9 July.

We are delighted to welcome Rosemary Grimes as our new Division Commissioner for Cotswold North.

As we are coming to the end of the summer term, we would like to encourage Rainbow, Brownie and Guide leaders to make sure their girls are on the waiting to transfer list of their next section's local unit. Our stats show that we lose many girls on transition between sections over the summer holidays.

We know lots of you will be going on residential trips with your Units over the holidays. We hope you have a happy and safe time and that you also manage to spend some time relaxing too.

We especially wish Leaders Jodie Sabin and Sian Reis and the Guides/Senior Section a fabulous and memorable trip to Slovakia. Best wishes too to the leaders running our Holiday Rainbows Programme. We still have spaces so if you know of girls who'd benefit from the chance to experience Brownies for the first time (21-23 August) let us know.

Also coming up on 22 & 23 July is our first 'Lead into guiding' weekend for young volunteers (aged 14-18). Please encourage your Young Leaders/Senior Section to attend.

This month we're introducing a new item in the newsletter which will be a regular monthly feature. It's called Good Guiding in Gloucestershire and it will contain a different snippet each month to help us maintain best practice in the County to ensure Gloucestershire is not just Good Guiding but is the Best! If you have any suggested topics for this new feature then please email us.

If you are taking a well-earned break from Guiding during the holidays - have a lovely time wherever you are.

County Planning Day 2017

We would like to invite any adult members of Girlguiding Gloucestershire to take part in our County Planning Day this year. It doesn't matter whether you have a year of Guiding experience or 40 years, we'd like a range of people to help us plan the year ahead, and everyone has different ideas that we can add to the mix. We will be asking for your input so come armed with ideas for events, training, activities, etc. and ready to have your say!

The day will take place on Saturday 16 September at Deer Park. The County Exec will meet from 9 am with everyone welcome from 11 am to 4 pm. A light lunch will be provided. If you would like to attend then, please email us with your name, unit, Division and any dietary requirements by 25 August

Anne & Karen

Gloucestershire Rangers

A new County Senior Section Unit will be opening in September 2017. Gloucestershire Rangers will facilitate girls aged 14-26 to continue to participate in Guiding, planning and organising their own programme. We will be open to girls all over Gloucestershire County and can be flexible so that girls can attend as often as they can.

We would like to invite all 14-26 year old Gloucestershire Guiding members, 14 year old Guides and their leaders and anyone else who would like to join in, to our opening night taster session on Monday 4th September, 6:30-8:30 pm at Deer Park, Cowley. We will be cooking over fires and enjoying getting to know everyone.

The unit will run on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at Deer Park and subs will be £15 per term.

Penny, Maddie and Sarah

Let us know you're coming - Sarah Crocombe - 01242 870284 / 07870 735529
Unit email - gloucestershirerangers@gmail.com

Good Guiding in Gloucestershire

This month's focus is on Information & Consent Forms.

We have to gain specific permission from parents/carers if we are going to take part in an adventurous activity, take part in any activities outside the normal meeting times or away from the normal meeting place. This includes something as basic as taking the girls out on a walk round the local area as well as when you run trips, camps, holidays, etc. You can put more than one activity or outing on one form so many units will create one form for the term with everything on it happening over that time period.

The Guiding Manual was updated several years ago now to state that you must use the official forms. If there was an accident or incident whilst you're out and about, Girlguiding would find it difficult to support you without the official forms completed by each parent/carer.

Information & Consent Forms should be kept until the relevant event has taken place.

Don't forget to let your local Commissioner know if you are doing anything that warrants an Information & Consent Form. Let her know when you begin planning as she will be able to support you, put you in touch with other advisers as appropriate (eg a member of our Activity & Adventure team or Residential Adviser). Then, nearer the time, let her have your final plan details and a copy of your risk assessment. It is also important that the local Commissioner is in the know in case something goes wrong. Should the worst happen and the press were to pick up on it, the local Commissioner will be their first enquiry to find out more so it is really important that she has prior knowledge of your plans rather

than being on the back foot if that call should come. Local Commissioners are there to support you.

Follow this link for full details on Getting Permission in the Guiding Manual.
<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/making-guiding-happen/programme-and-activities/guidance-on-activities/getting-permission/>

Gloucestershire Trefoil Guilds Newsletter July 2017

As the weather improves and the days get longer many Guilds use the opportunity to explore their own County and visit further afield and details will be in their reports and we hope to see lots of lovely photographs of these outings.

Some members have been to the National Trefoil Annual Meeting in Brighton where they were able to see some of the exciting things that will be on offer to celebrate Trefoil Guilds 75th birthday in 2018. The Trefoil magazine is definitely one to watch as it has all the details inside.

At the Chairman's meeting in June we had a great presentation from Terry Baddeley about the train adventure that SWE Region Trefoil are organising for us all around all the Counties and Islands in our Region. It is called 'The Train Trek' meet up and steam up will begin for us here in Gloucestershire on Tuesday October 9 2018 where we hope to ride the Gloucestershire & Warwickshire Railway. More of the plans will be coming out over the next few months.

Have a good summer everyone, enjoy getting out and about and let us all know what you have been doing.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at the Boules evening on August 4th at Deer Park, don't forget to get your team registered to take part.

Linda Raggett
Chairman Gloucestershire Trefoil Guilds.

Report from Gloucester City Trefoil Guild January to June 2017

In January we held our Annual General Meeting and Ann Apperley was elected Chairman. Joan Perry - Secretary and Daphne Johnston, Treasurer.

In February several of us attended the enjoyable annual County Lunch at Bowden Hall.

In March we attempted Easter craft with Linda Jones and gained success with completed art work i.e. Easter Egg!

As Ann was in Thailand in April members went out for lunch instead of a monthly meeting, enjoying social time together. Some of them also attended the very patriotic St Georges Day service in the Cathedral.

No meeting on May but in June some of us went to a Murder/Mystery lunch with two TG ladies being members of the producing company. Our next TG get-together is tea and cake planned to take place at Ann's home, also in June.

We are a very small Guild and even smaller when we are hit by illness as in recent times, but we do keep in touch and support each other.

Ann Apperley, Chairman

Double Gloucester Guild Report

The year started with some activity in the form of Clog Dancing led by Ceri. Some members will remember her from the County Skills Day held last September. We had a most enjoyable time brushing up on our dancing skills and it was observed that a few members had hidden talent.

To celebrate Thinking Day we had an international evening "Serata Italiano. Members enjoyed making pizzas, singing a few Italian songs and concluded the evening by singing Taps in Italian

We have had opportunity to learn new skills in craft. On one occasion Sandra Townsend came to speak about the history of the Easter Bonnet, followed by a demonstration on decorating a hat using tissue paper and ribbons. A delightful evening and an array of beautifully decorated hats by the end of the evening.

Nick Jones from the Photo Studio, Tewkesbury joined us and not only showed a good number of fantastic photographs but very patiently and expertly shared and demonstrated all the features of the camera on both the mobile phone and android tablet. We are all much wiser and prepared for the next holiday.

Parallel to our meetings we continue to document our activities in the Memory Book. It will be lovely to look at the photographs in the future

It is good to celebrate members birthdays too.

On occasions we are asked to be involved in projects. Recently Margaret Dale has asked our members to revisit their knitting skills. Tewkesbury Abbey will be celebrating 900 years in 2021 and 900 knitted monks are required. A number of members are up to the challenge.

Chris Evans from The Butterfly Centre, Cheltenham gave a very moving talk sharing how the project started and developed for individuals dealing with issues that they find disabling. The centre offers a safe, recreational and a social environment with a wide range of purposeful and stimulating activities.

The Butterfly Centre will be our Charity for 2017 so we invite you to join us for a Charity Fund Raising Evening on Thursday 28 September 7.30pm at St Mary's Congregation Church, Gloucester. The evening will take the form of a Butterfly Drive plus entertainment, not forgetting Butterfly cakes too.

Teddy Bears Parachute!

On Sunday 11 June, 1st Bishops Cleeve Brownies helped out at the local village street fair. St Michaels and All Angels Church invited the Brownies to help with the teddy bears parachute.

1st Bishops Cleeve Brownies were the emergency teddy bear first aid team ready with their stretchers to collect the bears after they parachute from the top of the church! Some had quite a landing on the ground, but others floated perfectly in the wind with a softer landing! A few bears flew away and we had to run after them and a penguin got stuck in a tree!

Well done Brownies for your hard work! The bears are safe at home with their families now!

One of our rainbows in our district who was looking after Olivia rainbow doll even submitted her in the competition and she parachuted off the church!

Rainbow 30th Birthday activity afternoon- 9 July 2017 at Deer Park - Book now!
All Rainbow Units are invited to our County 30th Rainbow Party at Deer Park Cowley!
Proposed plan for the day:

- Staggered arrival
- Packed Lunch
- Two sessions of activities with drink break in between: Grass Sledging, Tunnels, Arrows Archery and Parachute Games on Bubbs Hill
- Crafts, Adventure Playground, Cupcake Trail, Toasting Marshmallows
- Birthday Cake, Squash and Closing sing song
- Staggered departure

and Shop Visit on the Main Site

All attending will receive a special celebration badge!

Booking information, consent forms and a parents letter are all available on the County website to book your units space.

Holiday Brownies 21-23 August 2017 at Deer Park, Cowley

Who is Holiday Brownies open to?

Any girl who falls into at least one of these areas:

- Any Rainbow aged 7 years by July 2017 who will be moving on to Brownies in September.
- Any Rainbow aged 7 years by July 2017 who is ready to move onto Brownies but who does not yet have a space available locally to her.
- Any girl on a Brownie unit's Waiting-to-transfer list who is aged 7+ years by July 2017
- Any girl on Join Us who is aged 7+ years by July 2017

What we need from Rainbow & Brownie Leaders across the County: We cannot recruit girls for Holiday Brownies without the help of the Rainbow and Brownie Leaders whose list these girls sit on.

If you have a Rainbow/waiting-to-join girl who fits the criteria, please hand out the Holiday Brownies flyer to the parents and/or point them at the page on the County website for Holiday Brownies.

If you would prefer for us to make contact with them then please pass on the following information using the contact details below:

- Rainbow/waiting-to-join girl's Name & Date of Birth
- Parents' Name & email (preferable) or phone number

We will send details to everyone on Join Us who is eligible on 6 May. We would, therefore, ask Rainbow/Brownie Leaders to update Join Us/Go! promptly at the beginning of the new term so we are targeting the right girls.

Holiday Brownies Leaders: If you have a young Leader heading off to University who might be interested in getting involved please ask them to get in touch. They do not need to be Brownie Leaders already. They can work on the additional Brownie module if they have already completed the LQ with another section or they can work on/continue to work on the LQ whilst they're with us.

For all enquiries contact Anne by email, phone 07891 748606 or visit the website for more info.

Arts Taster Day - 26 November 2017

A very warm invitation to ALL Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Senior Section to come and 'have a go'. Come and HAVE FUN with fantastic workshops including; Drama, Circus Skills, Fun with Notes, Dance, Drums and Singing.

Led by professionals from Everyman Theatre; ZumbAtomic; Thomas Trilby (Circus Skills) among others.

Early-bird Discount (received by 31 July) £18 OR £20 fee (from 1 August) Both non-refundable (Cheques payable to Girlguiding Gloucestershire) to arrive by 21 October 2017 An info poster and consent form can be found on the [website](#). For more info [email the team](#).

County International Trip 2018

Leader Selection: We are looking for Leaders to come forward to plan and organize our County International Trip in 2018. Our trip Leader will need to hold the Going Away With Scheme (mods 1-7) for Guide or Senior Section (or the previous equivalent). They must also hold, or be willing to work towards, the International module. Trip Assistants do not need to be qualified but need to be willing to help share this side of things. Destination will be decided by the team and the County International Adviser. Have you ever fancied attending an overseas camp or visiting a World Centre perhaps? Full support is given and grants are given for Leaders.

Please [email Alison](#) for a chat if you interested or for further information.

Details for participant selection weekend will follow shortly. This year all girls/young women Y8 and above (aged 14 by August 18) are invited to attend (no Division selection required). They will need a recommendation from District Commissioners and approval from Division Commissioners. Forms will be on the County website soon.

Brownie Camper Badge Weekend at Deer Park, Cowley

14 to 16 July 2017 Cost: £35

A weekend for Brownies and their leaders (1:4) to complete their Brownie camper badge at Cowley. Taking part in a mix traditional camp activities and on-site activities. Sleeping in tents, which we can provide, Brownies and Leaders will help with all aspects of camp life!

For more information please contact [Jess](#).

Deer Park News

Bookings

We do have spaces available for bookings, there are a couple of weekends still available for indoor residential weekends and plenty of camping space please check the website for indoor dates and get in touch for camping availability.

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 is available at very reasonable prices. Please share our [poster](#) with leaders, friends, and family, everyone is welcome! Camping is available on the main site field once again.

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their stretchers to collect the bears after they parachute from the top of the church! Some had quite a landing on the ground, but others floated perfectly in the wind with a softer landing! A few bears flew away and we had to run after them and a penguin got stuck in a tree!

Well done Brownies for your hard work :D The bears are safe at home with their families now!

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Bubbs Hill Bash 2017

This weekend 130 Guides came together at Deer Park, Cowley to take on the 26 challenges that make up the Bubbs Hill Bash!

In the morning the girls pitched their tents and prepared for the challenging afternoon ahead. After lunch and the opening ceremony it was game on and time to earn as many points as they could by completing the various challenges, ranging from Soduku to Pistol shooting, Play Your Cards Right to Spider Mountain!

The challenge stations were set up all across Bubbs Hill and careful planning was needed to be able to get around them all.

At the end of the day everyone relaxed with a hot chocolate before bed while in the office the points were counted.

At the prize giving ceremony on Sunday morning it was revealed that a team from Amberley Guides were the winners! They were also the only team to have completed all 26 of the challenges!

Congratulations to the winning team and well done to all of the Guides who took part in this years Bash!

Pretty muddy... but still sparkling!

Well done to members of Dursley District "Sparkling" Senior Section who took in the Pretty Muddy challenge at Cheltenham Racecourse and raised over £200 for Cancer Research! If anyone would still like to donate you can do so [here](#). Thank you to everyone who has supported them!