

March 2016 content for newsletter and website

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County Commissioner's Report

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

As we write this it is Valentines Day, next week it is Thinking Day, then Mothers Day and Easter will be arriving in short order. 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 and a key point in the religious calendar. Hopefully these have enabled you to have some interesting conversations with your Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Senior Section about their personal values and how the Promise remains at the core of all we do.

This year the Queen will celebrate her 90th birthday and Guiding has been invited to the party on the Mall. Any District can apply to go into the draw for places at the picnic, but because that will only be open to a few, we are planning to join in the nationwide ring of beacon fires being lit on 21st April to mark the occasion. The top of Bubbs Hill will be the place and we hope lots of members of Guiding and the Trefoil Guild will be able to join us to celebrate this important milestone. There will be more information in the next newsletter. We hope Senior Section members can help us build the fire and run the event as it will be part of their Centenary celebrations too.

Another date to note is 25th May when we are going to be holding a special evening of celebration and thanks at All Saints Academy in Cheltenham. We will be joined by Solange, our Region Commissioner and guests to say thank you to Anne Cadbury for her more than 25 year contribution to Girlguiding Gloucestershire. We will also be welcoming our new County Leadership Team and presenting a number of awards. We are trialing an on-line ticketing system this year to help us with planning and catering so in the next month you will receive an invitation to apply for a ticket. There are 250 seats available and we are asking people who need extra assistance (e.g. blue badge holders) to select this option when they book so we can ensure we have assigned parking and ground level seating for them. Fingers crossed it all works smoothly.

After a successful round of fundraising, we are delighted to report that the refurbishment of our old toilet block at Cowley will shortly be getting underway. We hope it will be complete before the start of the main camping season but ask visitors to take extra care while it is underway as there may be building materials, skips and equipment around on that part of the site.

On a final note Annual Subscriptions became due for payment on 22nd February. If you have not already done so, please will all units ensure that they send off their cheques immediately. Investigations into late payers will begin in mid-March.

Helen & Carole

Adult Support - Year End Accounts

Just a short reminder that all Division accounts are now due in to me. All Districts accounts to Division designated person and unit accounts to District designated person.

Many thanks

Susan

Activities & Adventure - Deer Park Report

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

Queens 90th Birthday Beacon - Thursday 21st April 2016

We will be lighting a Beacon at the top of Bubbs Hill on the 21st April for the Queens 90th Birthday celebrations. We will be informed of the official time in March but all groups will be welcome to come up on site and use our facilities prior to and after the lighting. We will offer hot and cold drinks and will be inviting people from the local community to join us. More details will be in the March newsletter.

Barn dance - Saturday 21st May 2016

Deer Park friends will be running an afternoon tea followed by a Barn dance on the 21st May, see attached flyer. Why not come along as a unit, division, district. We will have a bar and bbq and will offer free camping to those attending if you wish to stay onsite.

Bubbs Hill bash 25th - 26th June

See the website for information about this year's fantastic challenge camp.

Residential/Camp Bookings

The Deer Park website shows available dates, and is kept as up to date as is possible. We have a few dates left before the Summer holidays but plenty during and after available.

We hope to see many of you up on site and if you wish to book evening sessions then do please get in touch to book. We are still looking for help onsite, it could be as a working party or groups or individuals or if you have a specialised skill you could help us with.

Best wishes

Sarah

Growing Guiding - Vacancies

2 new adverts for volunteers

17th Cheltenham Brownies

http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk/uploads/5/7/4/2/57427995/17th_cheltenham_brownies_assistant_leader_person_spec.pdf

37th Cheltenham Brownies

http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk/uploads/5/7/4/2/57427995/37th_cheltenham_brownies_assistant_leader_person_spec.pdf

Growing Guiding - Main Report

Successful volunteer recruitment

We have had positive responses in February from our online adverts on www.Indeed.com, www.Do.it.org and via University of Gloucestershire. So please continue to let me know when you have vacancies and I will advertise the roles. We were also present at the University's Volunteers' Fair on 23 Feb.

If you need more help with any Growing Guiding aspects then please get in touch

Trefoil Guild - Main Report

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

Many Guilds have had their Annual meetings since the beginning of the year and we welcome all the new Chairman, Secretary's and Treasurers that will be working in their Guilds and thank them for the time they are willing to spend attending meetings and keeping the books balanced. Without members willing to take on these roles we would not be able to function, so once again a big thank you to you all and we look forward to working with you all.

We congratulate two more Guilds members that have gained their Bronze Voyage Award. Judith James from Forest South and Sian Green an Internet Trefoil Guild member. I look forward to presenting these members with their brooches very soon.

Dates for your diaries.

- Trefoil Chairman's Meeting 24th March, St Mary's Gloucester
- Spring Coffee morning 13th April, Deer Park
- Guide County Day 16th April, details in the newsletter
- Spring Walk 20th April Stroud, forms in to Stroud Guild by 20th March please.
- Region Annual Meeting 14th May, Basingstoke.
- County Trefoil Annual Meeting 18th May, Kings School
- Friends Day & Barn Dance 21st May, Deer Park
- Trefoil Camp 27th June-1st July, Macaroni Wood

Cheltenham TG

Wanted - Baby and toddler clothes

Cheltenham Trefoil Guild are collecting colourful baby and toddler clothes for 'Life for African Mothers,' to be sent to countries which have been struck by Ebola such as Sierra Leone

We sent two big bags in November and are now collecting for a second donation.

The charity would particularly like colourful new born and premature baby size clothes as so many babies are tiny because mothers are undernourished.

White is the colour associated with death in some of these countries so if you are making new clothes then please use bright colours but if you have good second-hand items that are white please still send them as they will be accepted.

Please contact Wendy and we can arrange collection.

Stroud TG

With Christmas and New Year fading into the distant past we are looking forward to a varied programme for the rest of the year. We try to include all our members in the planning. Our February meeting was Janet Bollington talking about her latest trip to India which seemed appropriate as it was nearly Thinking Day. Janet showed us some photos of how Sangam has changed some areas including the swimming pool which looks lovely now. Her principal reason for visiting was to work with a vet in the north of India who educates the very needy how to treat their donkeys and inadvertently also helps those same needy people to live better lives. Janet is a very interesting speaker. Included in our programme are a visit to the Owl Sanctuary, a ninetieth birthday celebration for one of our members and we are going fruit picking. Some of our members are going to Foxbreak in March. We are looking forward to hosting the spring ramble in April when we will have some interesting walks to see how the canal has been restored. For those who are unable to walk or just prefer not to a member of the canal Trust will give an interesting talk about what has been overcome and what is still to be achieved.

Nailsworth & Minchinhampton TG

The Guild's programme came to a conclusion last year with members making a Christingle and being entertained by the five current Silver Voyage Award members. This was followed by a lovely Christmas meal at a local pub in December. 2016 began with the Guild's AGM. Sue Bufton was appointed as Chairman and Margaret Marshall as Secretary. Thanks were given to Eileen Ind and Heather Pearson for all their hard work over the last three years. The evening came to a conclusion with a talk about Stroud District Foodbanks. We

discovered that the food bank provides emergency food for three days for local people in need? It is run by a network of churches in the District of Stroud and relies on schools, churches, businesses and individuals to donate non perishable but in date food. The food bank network is part of the Trussell Trust which also runs a furniture bank and kids stuff' for the needy.

Girlguiding's Partnership Update

Tesco Farm to Fork Trails coming after Easter

We're delighted to announce our exciting new partnership with 'The Tesco Eat Happy Project'. Rainbows and Brownies can earn a free fun badge by taking part in a free Farm to Fork Trail either in store or in their unit. They will learn about healthy eating and where their food comes from. The project can also be used to support the Rainbow Roundabout Get Healthy or the Brownie Cook Badge

This will be a great opportunity to secure some fab on message local coverage in your area around healthy eating, linked to core programme. Keep your eyes peeled for more information regarding this partnership coming soon, on the Girlguiding website and via our communications channels. In the meantime get talking to Rainbow and Brownie Leaders in your local area to see if they would be interested in taking up this fab free opportunity through our partners Tesco, after the Easter break.

Girlguiding's Fundraising Update

http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get_involved/support_us/challenge_events/international_opportunities/vietnam_to_cambodia.aspx

Girlguiding still has places available on its Vietnam to Cambodia cycle challenge that we'd love to fill in the next month if possible. If you could share details of the trip in newsletters or to anyone who might be interested in fundraising for Girlguiding, whilst experiencing a trip of a lifetime to South-East Asia, we'd really appreciate it. Details are below for you to share where possible:

This challenge is for anyone who is over 18 who wants to raise money for Girlguiding. You don't have to be a member or former member to sign up. The trip lasts for 11 days, from 02 -13 November 2016. Participants are asked to raise a total of £3,700 for Girlguiding. This is broken down in the following way:

- £399 registration fee upon booking
- Of the remaining £3,301:
- 80 per cent (£2,640) is payable by 15 June 2016
- the final 20 per cent (£661) is payable by 31 August 2016

The £3700 total includes your registration, your donation to Girlguiding, flights, accommodation as well as entry to temples and other exciting tourist attractions along the way. More details and trip itinerary can be found on our website:

http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get_involved/support_us/challenge_events/international_opportunities.aspx

The fundraising team will be on hand to support participants in their fundraising efforts and can answer any questions prospective participants may have. We can be reached on 0207 834 6242 ext 2300 or charity.challenges@girlguiding.org.uk

As always, if you have any questions, or you would like any more information about anything, please contact your designated PR Officer.

Youth Participation

<http://www.girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk/youth-participation.html>

Centenary Event: Capital Cities Adventure

5th - 8th April 2016

Bookings have now closed for our big centenary trip, Tues 5th - Fri 8th April 2016. We're looking forward to a great few days in Edinburgh, Cardiff, London and at Deer Park. For full information visit our website or contact Liza, County Centenary Champion on sss@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk

Reminders about these events:

- Wimbleball 8th - 10th July
- Alton Towers 25th - 26th June

Plus new date for the diary:

- Peer Education Training - 1st - 3rd July in Wiltshire

Gloucester Guide & Scout Gang Show

<http://www.glosgangshow.co.uk/>

Gang Show is an amateur performance put on by Guides and Scouts in Gloucester; it is a family show, suitable for all ages.

It is a brilliant trip for units to attend and support local scouts and guides by watching.

The show takes place at Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham, 28th March - 2nd April. Evening performances start at 7.15pm and the Saturday Matinee starts at 2.15pm. For members of Guiding (who turn up in uniform) the cost is: £5 children, £7 adults. For non-guiding members the cost is: £7 for children and £9 for adults.

County Team Vacancies

County Outdoor Residential Adviser

In June 2016 Caroline will be standing down as County ORA and so we're seeking to appoint someone new into this role. You will work with a team of Division ORAs to provide help and support to Leaders undertaking the Going Away With scheme for camping as well as coordinating training in this area and overseeing events at a County level that involve camping.

If you would like to find out more contact Team Leader [Val](#)

Other vacancies

Marketing & Communications Team Leader - Contact [County Commissioners](#)

Water Sports Adviser - Contact [Val](#)

Peer Education Coordinator - Contact [Sarah](#)