

November content for newsletter and website  
(In no particular order)



1. Helen - Adult support
2. Sarah - Youth Participation
3. Sarah - Deer Park
4. Liza - SSS
5. Freda - Singing Circle
6. Amy - Challenge Badge
7. Jen - M & C
8. Rosemary - BP Adventure
9. Linda - Trefoil Report
10. Karen - DPA
11. Karen - Growing Guiding
12. County Commissioners - Report
13. Jeannette - DBS, Go! And Join us
14. Margaret - Tribute to Beryl Evans

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Safe Space trainings

Monday 16 November 7.00pm, Ampney Crucis Village Hall

Monday 16 November 7.00pm St Marks Church Hall Church Road Cheltenham

Thursday 4 February 7.00pm Sharpness Scout and Guide Hut

January 29 - 31st 2016 One Stop weekend for Leadership Qualification, this will include a safe space session, leaders will be able to attend whichever sessions they require for their qualification.

Full details will be published in the December newsletter

Saturday 16 April County Day at Sir William Romney School Tetbury, any ideas for sessions please send to [adultsupport@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:adultsupport@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk) as soon as possible

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This is a report from the recent Senior Section London Wide Game: Bright and early on a Saturday morning 38 girls and leaders from around Gloucestershire embarked on a mission in the capital. Tasked with getting photographed with as many different methods of transport as possible, we roamed around London for the day, with bonus challenges to complete. The eight different teams came up with some imaginative ideas including handstands, gravity, sedan chairs and a racing mono-ski, as well as the more conventional busses, trains and Boris bikes! For the bonus challenges teams took photographs outside tourist attractions such as Downing Street and Trafalgar square as well as guiding locations like Baden-Powell House, Pax Lodge and Girlguiding HQ.

It was lovely to see the wide variety of ages and roles taking part; from rangers, to young leaders and a couple of adult leaders too! Some teams met on the day and had the extra fun of meeting new Senior Section members to complete the challenge together. The winning team managed to get photographs of a whopping 78 different forms of transport and completed six of the eight bonus challenges! It was a

fabulous event to prepare Gloucestershire for the Senior Section Spectacular and we hope to see many more of you there next time! A massive thank you goes to Sarah Jones (Youth Participation team leader) for organising the event!!

Check out the Senior Section Facebook group for the highlights of the trip from the teams themselves and to keep up to date with our future events!!

Charlotte Moore and Belinda Murphy (Senior Section Exec and 2<sup>nd</sup> place team members!)

The next County Senior Section event will be publicized in the Senior Section Facebook group.

#### Baden-Powell Award

The next Baden Powell Award Adventure weekend will be held on 20th - 22nd November at Deer Park. The theme is "All Things Italian". Sign-up by 30th October. For further information contact Rosemary ([bpadventure@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:bpadventure@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk))

#### Peer Education

If you are a Senior Section member who is interested in becoming Peer Educator - but who still needs training, then please contact Caroline ([peereducation@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:peereducation@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)). We are hoping to organise a training, in Gloucestershire, in March 2016, but would like to have an idea of the numbers of girls who are interested.

#### Queen's Guide Award

A Facebook group has been set up to support anyone completing their Queen's Guide Award. To join, or to find out more about the Queen's Guide Award contact Sarah. ([queensguide@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:queensguide@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk))

#### Senior Section Spectacular

Details of the national and regional plans for the Senior Section Spectacular have been released, and you can now sign up for Spark (the national launch event) on 20th and 21st Feb 2016; and for the Region Takeover of Alton Towers on 25th and 26th June. It's also now possible to sign up to the Gloucestershire Four Capitals Adventure (5th - 8th April). Further details and links to more information can be found here: <http://spectaculargloucestershire.weebly.com/> Or contact Liza ([sss@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:sss@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk))

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**Are you doing your Queen's Guide, Adult Leadership Qualification, Duke of Edinburgh award or want to pass your skills on?**

Check out why we need you on the Deer Park website <http://www.deerparkcowley.com/badge-and-skills-daysweekends.html>

#### Bookings + Prices

Availability for Deer Park is filling fast only one weekend left this year and some dates are still available for the indoor accommodation and plenty of room for camping for next year. The 2016 prices for Deer Park along with the revised booking conditions are now available.

#### Volunteering

We have had two groups onsite volunteering:

Zurich Insurance, brought to us by Rebecca Fey did some great work in painting the outdoor furniture. They look great and will last into the future.

GCHQ were a little camera shy, however they did enjoy the day and worked hard on the pond and painting the bedrooms of the Deer house with the grateful help of several Guiders, Gail Wager, Val Thomas and Lucy Parkes.

Both groups said they enjoyed themselves so much that they hope to come again (could be just for the cake though!). If you have a unit, company or you have time to help onsite you can contact me direct, we have a variety of jobs that need doing (cake is readily supplied in exchange for work).

## Pictures

I'm still in need of some pictures of your units at Deer Park, could be doing onsite activities, your own activities or making use of any of the facilities at Deer Park or just being silly, they are to go on the website so we can encourage people to come and stay so do ensure you have permissions.

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SS Centenary trip - the Four Capitals Adventure

Here's the link for the booking:

<http://spectaculargloucestershire.weebly.com/booking.html>

Here's the link to the info sheet:

[http://spectaculargloucestershire.weebly.com/uploads/5/7/9/8/57980461/four\\_capitals\\_adventure\\_-\\_info\\_sheet.pdf](http://spectaculargloucestershire.weebly.com/uploads/5/7/9/8/57980461/four_capitals_adventure_-_info_sheet.pdf)

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Gloucestershire Singing Circle, together with friends from other Circles in England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales joined together for a concert in Highbury Congregational Church, Cheltenham on Saturday 26th September with proceeds in aid of the MS Society. This was in memory of Diana Adams who had been a Guide Guider at Highbury Church, a Rainbow Guider at Emmanuel Church, secretary of the County Trefoil Guild, producer of the County Newsletter and also a long time member of Highbury Church where she was a Deacon and where she also produced their monthly Church Magazine. As well as all of this she sang in the church choir and was a member of our singing circle. A very busy lady.

We are pleased to tell you that we raised the sum of £1860 to present to the MS Society. A fantastic result. Thank you to everyone from the County who came and supported us.

If anyone is interested in joining the Gloucestershire Singing circle, our next meetings are Friday 13th November and Tuesday 15th December (this last one follows the Peacelight Service) and they are all at St Mary's Congregational Church, Gloucester starting at 7.30pm.

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'Splosh & Splat Challenge' badge

17th Gloucester (SA) Girlguiding have created a messy challenge badge, guaranteed to bring extra giggles into your meetings or holidays. The challenge is suitable for all ages, with lots of various messy activities, including craft, games, food and mud!

If you would like the challenge pack please contact Amy [guiding.17thgloucester@gmail.com](mailto:guiding.17thgloucester@gmail.com).

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Our branded county Gazebo has arrived! Who will be first to use it? If you have a PR event coming up then this could be most eye-catching. Don't forget we also have pull-up banners, feather banners and display boards you can use to shout out about Girlguiding when recruiting girls and adults. Arrange to use them with Jen [pr@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:pr@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk) and arrange to collect them from Deer Park with Sarah [deerparkcowley@btconnect.com](mailto:deerparkcowley@btconnect.com).

### House of Lords Chamber Debate

60 Girlguiding members aged 15+ from across the country are to be given an amazing opportunity to take part in the House of Lords public debate. 'Talking Days' are taking place across the UK to prepare girls for the main event in the House of Lords on 4 December. The talking days have 10 spaces for Girlguiding members and will be held in the following cities between October and late November: Edinburgh, Cardiff, London, Belfast, Manchester, Birmingham. Those who are interested can apply online. The dates of the 'Talking Days' will be updated as soon as the House of Lords informs us. Please promote in your areas, full info & online application can be found here: <http://new.girlguiding.org.uk/latest-updates/opportunities-with-girlguiding/join-the-house-of-lords-public-debate>

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Nearly finished your Baden Powell Challenge and ready for your Challenge Adventure Weekend?

If so, look no further. Come and join us for

**“ALL THINGS ITALIAN”**

An indoor weekend with outdoor activities and an Italian flavour !

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November - Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2015**

**County HQ Deer Park Cowley**

Complete and return the **reply slip** plus a **signed Baden Powell Adventure Application Form**, **cheque for £65** Payable to “Girlguiding Gloucestershire” and **A5 self- addressed envelope**.

Allocation of places will be strictly ‘first come - first served’.

Closing date for applications is Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2015

Please see website for form and flyer.

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Trefoil

Whether or not you have ever been ‘in Guiding’, it’s never too late to join us and enjoy fun and friendship. All you have to be is 18 years and over.

This is just for you! We travel and explore the world - enjoying the great outdoors as we go along.

We share and discover new and old skills and interests. We escape from the daily routine and take on new challenges. We get involved with helping and giving support to the community including Girlguiding UK. If you feel like achieving a goal, there is the Voyage Award. It is designed as a personal and team challenge and has three levels Bronze, Silver and Gold.

The Trefoil Guild is a great way to make new friends and rekindle old friendships, give support, become involved and get active whether it is rafting down a rapid, going ape, rambling through a forest or geocaching across the moors. You can see we just don't make tea!

The Guilds have returned after the summer break to begin their wide and varied programmes and we look forward to hearing about them in the future.

The County Trefoil have been busy with events since the beginning of September starting with Freshers Fayre on the Gloucester University Cheltenham Campus where some of the County team were joined by Cheltenham Spa Guild members who were encouraging the students to join the Trefoil Guild.

We had a lively display and hope to gain more members for the Guilds.

Many members of the Guilds attended the concert in Cheltenham in memory of Diana Adams, it was a really lovely evening put on by Gloucestershire Singing Circle who were joined by members of Singing Circles from around the Country. All the money raised by the Concert is for the MS Society and the total raised to date is a wonderful £1,865.

October saw Guild members from around the County out in the beautiful Forest of Dean for the Autumn Walk. The weather was very kind to us and the leaves in the Forest were just beginning to wear their Autumn colours. At lunch everyone enjoyed catching up with friends and listening to all the news.

Many thanks to Wendy Lewis and her team from Forest South Guild for arranging such a lovely day for us all.

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October saw Guild members joining together for an International 'Fun' Day. I call it a fun day as this is just what we all had. Laughter could be heard all around the room as we enjoyed all the activities on offer. They included drumming, Japanese writing, crafts, team working skills, quizzes and of course food. Each Guild brought with them food from the Country they had chosen to be shared with us all, it was a true International Lunch.

The day ended with a camp fire which at times was very lively. All our thanks goes to Ede Holyhead for arranging the day for us all to enjoy and many thanks also to all the Guilds members who came and shared in the day.

#### **Dates for your diary and forthcoming events:**

Next County Trefoil Chairman's Meeting, November 19<sup>th</sup> 10am. St Mary's Church.

Change of Date for The Trefoil County AGM now **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2016** more details later.

Region Trefoil AGM 14<sup>th</sup> May 2016, Basingstoke.

Thinking Day Lunch 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016, details from Ann Gibbons

There are still places for the trip to the National Trefoil AGM in Harrogate 17-21<sup>st</sup> June 2016. Please contact Ann if you would like a place. The cost £260 for transport and hotel etc.

## DATA PROTECTION TIPS

Did you know that, as well as Girlguiding UK, most counties are also registered separately with the Information Commissioner's Office, including Girlguiding Gloucestershire?

Information to be emailed to **Home Contacts** must be encrypted within the email and destroyed when no longer needed.

Leaders can keep **parents' mobile numbers** on their phones, but only if they have explicit permission to do this, including an agreement on how long the information will be kept.

Please remember to use **GO! And JOIN US for your unit's lists and waiting lists**. As an adult member of Girlguiding, leaders have agreed to adhere to the Girlguiding Data Protection Policy, which conforms to the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998 regarding storing personal data. Keeping your own records is a failure to comply with this policy. Please read the Data Protection Policy in The Guiding Manual for guidance, [www.girlguiding.org.uk/guidingmanual](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/guidingmanual) > Policies > Data protection.

When **logging out of GO! And JOIN US** always use the "log out" button and not the "X" in the corner of the screen.

Any queries please contact me.

Please note my new county email:

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

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## 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

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>

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From the County Commissioners.

We hope that you are enjoying our new look newsletter and website, and are able to find the information you need in a timely and easy manner.

Once again Helen and I have had a busy month representing Guiding within the County and beyond. We are proud to be County Commissioners of so many wonderful leaders who give their time and energy to being their best. Particular mention this month go to Kate Badge, Ann Bailey, Sue Simpson, Lorraine Wells, Louise Dembney and Claire Gibbons on their recent Compass Awards, to Jen and Caz for delivering some excellent Social Media sessions at the Region Commissioners conference, to Diane Ansell for her sessions at the Midlands Region Growing Guiding conference, to Hannah Kiely who has been selected to represent South West England on Girlguiding's National Council and last but not least Sophie Pearson,

probably now safely back from her GOLD project in Ghana and the SW England nominee for the Points of Light Awards Committee.

Congratulations to the Senior Section team who ran a brilliant London challenge for members across the County - just a taster of the opportunities coming next year for the Senior Section Centenary Spectacular.

We both love to hear about the superb and varied activities that take place both in and out of the meeting place. Please keep sharing your stories with us, it really helps us when we are out and about talking to businesses and potential supporters to show the opportunities being offered to girls week in and week out.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the girls and leaders who have shared their exciting international experiences in fabulous reports and letters. We love hearing how these trips have made a difference to them and how they plan to share and take forward what they have learned.

By the time you read this our first "Inset Week" will have taken place. Thank you to Helen Murphy and her team for their hard work in making the trainings happen. We hope you all found the sessions enjoyable and helpful. Please do let us know what you thought, to help with future planning.

We have been lucky to have 2 local companies who have allowed their employees to come up to Deer Park and volunteer for a day. Benches and picnic tables have been renovated, some of the Deer House has been painted and more work has been done in the pond area. We are very grateful to the Zurich and GCHQ volunteers for giving their time and energy!

Please note our new email address: [cc@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:cc@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

Carole and Helen

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## DBS

**Membership Number Field.** Please can all ID verifiers remember to enter either a membership number (if the candidate is already registered on Go!) or the words **Join Us** in the membership number field on the Disclosure system when submitting an application. This is the main reason that Go! and Join Us are not updated when a disclosure is completed.

HQ intend to make this field mandatory and are testing it at the moment.

As a reminder, the automatic transfer of the disclosure certificate number to a record looks for the **exact** information to match the volunteer's details i.e. membership number, date of birth, address, postcode, **legal** name and surname.

### **COUNTY DBS COORDINATOR:**

Denise Handley [dbs@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:dbs@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

### **SYSTEM ENQUIRIES AND TRAINING:**

Jeannette McGhee [gojoinus@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:gojoinus@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

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## GO!

**Retirement Age.** Please remember that until the rules change on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016 we still need to follow the existing procedures on Go! of reverting full Leaders to an "Assistant Leader" on their 65<sup>th</sup> birthday and having reviews at 5 yearly intervals thereafter.

On January 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 Leaders will no longer have a "Valid to" date on their record so will not have to revert to Assistant and volunteers who have already reverted to "Assistant" may return to being a full

“Leader” if they wish. Reviews will no longer be required at five yearly interval but volunteers will still need to complete an insurance notification at age 75.

**Health and First Aid Scheme.** From September 2015 the Health and First Aid Scheme has been discontinued. I will be able to update details of those who hold this qualification only until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015 so if you already hold it and it is not already entered on your Go! record please contact me with details as soon as possible.

**Rainbow Units.** HQ have noted that many Rainbow Units only have one active volunteer registered in the Unit and will be contacting Commissioners to remind them that it is a requirement that all Rainbow Units have two adults in every Unit. If the second adult is a regular helper they must be registered on Go!

**Units with Active Girls but No Active volunteers.** There are a number of active units on Go! with no active adult volunteers recorded in the unit. It may be that there is a rota of Leaders running the units so these individuals should be recorded in the Unit on Go!. Direct communication will be sent the Commissioners of these units asking them to ensure that these individuals are recorded with the appropriate role for the unit on Go!. If the unit has closed it should be made inactive through County Go!.

**COUNTY GO! COORDINATOR (NEW UNITS, SYSTEM ENQUIRIES & TRAINING):**

Jeannette McGhee: [gojoinus@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:gojoinus@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

GENERAL ENQUIRIES: Ann Jackson [alq@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:alq@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

YEARS OF SERVICE CHECKS & AWARDS: Babs Hannis [badges@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:badges@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

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## JOIN US

The **Column Manager**  has been updated so that you can select to display the same columns of information on each of the enquiry stages e.g. Assigned, Waiting-to-join, Meeting Arranged etc...

A new **Multi Sort Function**  has been introduced allowing users to sort enquiries by multiple columns e.g. registered date then by age or last updated date.

A **Contact Report** is available for Units, Districts and Divisions. Units are able to produce one list to contact the parent/carer of girls on their unit's waiting to join list and Districts/Divisions can produce a list of email addresses for enquirers (Girl and Volunteer) to update them about their enquiry or units opening/closing.

**Contacting enquirers.** Please remember that Units should always contact the parent/carers of a new enquirer even if only to advise them that no place is available at present and to give them the alternative of being transferred to another Unit or being placed on the waiting list.

Once a parent/carer has entered the child's details on the Join us website they have no way of checking the progress of that enquiry unless the Unit contacts them to acknowledge that it has been received and, if placed on a waiting list, to give regular updates on the position (every six months at least for a child who is already old enough to join).

Similarly no child's enquiry should be transferred to another Unit without the parent/carers being advised. It is also courteous to contact the other Unit first to check on the position of their waiting list because they may have no more hope of starting a child than you.

If there is no chance of a child starting in a section before they reach the age range for the next section (eg a child on a Rainbow waiting list approaching the age of 7) please contact the parents to ask if they would like the child transferred to the next section and to see if they have any preference for the Unit. Please do not just delete the child's name from the system.

**21 Day Action.** If an enquiry has not progressed from any stage for more than 21 days (excluding the Waiting-to-Join list stage and the Awaiting Recruitment checks stage) an 'Action needed' email will be sent from HQ to the main contact as a reminder that this enquiry requires action. As these are automated notifications based on the enquirer's status this reminder email cannot be stopped for

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individual enquiries nor can the system read what comments have been added since the last action. If action is being taken with an enquiry outside of the system but it cannot yet be progressed to the next stage, users can ignore this reminder.

It is however important to add comments whenever possible because reminders are also issued at County level and we will take account of the comments and not issue reminders when it is clear that the enquiries are being followed up.

#### **SYSTEM ENQUIRIES AND TRAINING:**

Jeannette McGhee [gojoinus@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:gojoinus@girlguidinggloucestershire.org.uk)

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### **Guiding Tribute to Beryl Evans, MBE Gloucestershire County Commissioner 1986-1991**

Beryl was born in the Forest of Dean and lived there throughout her life.

She was a Forest Guide, Guider, District Commissioner, then appointed County Commissioner, - a first for Gloucestershire. She later became a Trefoil Guild member and then County President of Gloucestershire Trefoil and Chairman of County Fellowship.

But in more detail, especially as County Commissioner.

She was ready to take risks\_for the good of Guiding:

she split Forest Division into two separate Divisions North and South, and revised other Division Boundaries to bring about greater cohesion and a sense of belonging - moves that were not popular but which have proved themselves over time.

She, along with Bob Lyle, her opposite number in Scouting , encouraged the development of two memorable and enjoyable joint camps, in the Kielder Forest and the Brecon Beacons.

Beryl was good with people and had great ability to see potential in people and to appoint them to key positions - and to place her trust in them. This, linked with great powers of persuasion! I went one afternoon to see her concerning a problem in our Division. I came away as County Chairman of Training. When I asked her what the job entailed, she said 'Not a lot', - I found out! There are many of you who found yourselves in the same situation and because of her confidence in you, rose to the occasion.

She was a good listener and confidante\_and I know that many personal as well as Guiding problems were shared with her. She was caring and concerned, a supporter of people and upheld the right and was generous with her time. She valued the time we all gave to Guiding, and when the County Youth Service was threatened with cuts because of finances , she calculated the number of hours given and what it would have cost if we were paid as youth service workers and not volunteers. It helped to save the day for the Youth Service.

As a driver she was notorious!-and there were many escapades. Returning from a County Executive meeting one night, after dropping off her passenger, she made her way home, -except that she found herself off the road and rather deep in the forest. Eventually she was found by travellers, and rescued by them and husband, Colin. The travellers were invited to stay the night, but had gone next morning, leaving money for their hospitality. This happened about the time, following the resignation of Betty Jones, that she invited me to be her Assistant, or was it to be her chauffeur? We certainly travelled many miles together.

Above all, there was Beryl's irrepressible Humour,\_used to help us see things more clearly or to 'prick the bubble', or simply to entertain. Some of you may recall the launch of the Guiding Manual to

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replace POR, a rule book for Guiding. It was the World Chief Guide who said we needed to free guiding from the Red Tape and replace it with Green Elastic. Beryl always tried to bend the rules if it was more helpful. To demonstrate this we had a symbolic burning of a copy of POR before handing out the Manuals -with some Green Elastic.

At a county event in the Forest, our speaker was Lady Juliet Townsend, the then Chief Commissioner. There was a degree of tension in the hall as Beryl stood on the stage, so we thought, to begin the proceedings. However, she began by saying, 'If any of you heard that I was locked in the girls' loos with the Caretaker last night, it is perfectly true!' She then proceeded to open the meeting.

We had a county Weekend at Foxlease and as part of the Saturday evening entertainment there was an international element. Guiders created costumes representing various parts of the world. Beryl appeared some moments after everyone had assembled, dressed in her son's Welsh Rugby kit and complete with cap. Everyone was helpless with laughter.

Just a little of the Humour and Fun she brought to Guiding.

However, what showed through all that she did was her steadfast Christian faith.

The Guide Association recognised work Beryl had done in many areas of Guiding, both at home and overseas, by presenting her with the Beaver Award. This was richly deserved.

Beryl remained true to the Guide Promise made when she became a Guide, promising 'on her honour to do her best' and to be trusted to keep this promise. I do not believe that she ever betrayed that trust and this she expected of us all.

As Guides we learnt a rhyme which helped us remember the ten Guide laws:

A Guide is - Trustworthy. Loyal Helpful,  
Sisterly, Courteous, Kind.  
Obedient, Smiling, Thrifty,  
Pure in Heart and Mind.

This I believe was Beryl -a true Guide and an example to us all. We will all miss her.

Margaret Dale