



Letter from our County Commissioner

Dear Greater London West,

A very busy month started with a visit to the Trinity Scout and Guide Dick Whittington pantomime on the eve of County day.

It was good to see so many leaders at County Day and to consider what we will be up to 'Beyond 2010' and we thank you for giving up another day to Guiding. Most people seem to have enjoyed the day and found the sessions useful - my only complaint that I must have walked miles! Many thanks to all those who were involved in organising and running the day, especially Karen who completed her term of office with a flourish!

The Division Commissioners met informally and most of our advisers attended the Region Day. Postponed by the snow, leaders took an evening opportunity to find out more about taking a Residential Qualification.

Richmond and Merton boroughs have held meetings about Project YOU - Youth Organisations - Uniform - This project will soon be launched across all 32 Metropolitan Police Boroughs and I shall be attending a briefing meeting at New Scotland Yard.

I have been pleased to make some long service award presentations as it is always good to recognise the dedication and commitment of our leaders. Special congratulations to Jane Donovan and Dawn Sullivan who were presented with Community Awards by the Mayor of Kingston in recognition of their achievements.

I am just hearing about more successes in applications for Grassroots grants enabling us to not worry about rent costs and deliver improved Guiding opportunities with newer equipment. Don't miss the chance to apply, we have several 'experts' who can advise and the Thames Community Foundation is also very helpful with applications.

The County Wimbledon Park Watersports Day is booking up fast but we also need some extra volunteers to help with activities.

Centenary plans are really taking shape but Sarah Pink our Centenary Champion would be very keen to hear from people interested in helping with the Promise Renewal and closing ceremony - 20:10 20.10 2010. Although 18 months seems a long time ahead, bookings need to be made so that it can be just as memorable as the other events - please contact Sarah NOW!

Finally our first Jack Petchey Presentation evening will be held on 23rd April. It will be a good entertaining evening to celebrate the nominations of 126 girls and 14 leaders since last June. Please remind those who have not yet responded that they are *expected* to attend the presentation. We have invited our Mayors, MPs and Councillors, our Region Chief Commissioner and other VIPs. All Guiders and supporters are invited but you will need a ticket so please contact Janet Hill if you would like to join us.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the King's Centre

Best wishes,

Christine

COUNTY DIARY

APRIL

- 3/4 BP Challenge Adventure
- 23rd Jack Petchey Award Presentations, Kings Centre, Chessington, 7.00 pm
- 25th First Aid trainings, Chessington, 9.30am - 4.00pm
- 30th Adult Leadership Qualification, Raynes Park, 7.30 - 9.30 pm
- 30th Money Matters Training, Raynes Park, 7.30 - 9.30 pm

MAY

- 6th County Exec. Heyswood, 7.45 p.m.
- 16th County Watersports Day, Wimbledon Park, 10am - 4pm.
- 23/24 Camp Licence Training, Heyswood

County Watersports Day

Wimbledon Park 16th May 2009

This event is almost fully booked and we need a few volunteers to help.

We are looking for somebody to oversee the crazy golf area in the afternoon. We also need at least two people to run the morning games sessions, and ideally two different people to run the games in the afternoon. Equipment for the games sessions such as a parachute, bases, kwik cricket and rounder's type bats and balls can be provided.

We also need two volunteers for the crafts in the morning and two for the crafts in the afternoon. Volunteers for the crafts need to provide what they require to run 2 x 1 hour craft slots with up to about 24 girls in each session ranging from Brownies up to Senior Section age. Money will be reimbursed for any resources used. There may be some Guiders or Young Leaders working towards their ALQ who would like to help.

Any offers please contact Erica Bishop as soon as possible.

✉ countyday@girlguiding-glw.org.uk

Jack Petchey Foundation

Achievement Award Scheme



Our congratulations to the girls who will be receiving awards for March 2009:

Harriet Bishop
Jess Brown
Philippa Cope
Maddy Doyle
Charlotte Kean

Fiona Laws
Olivia Lenon
Harriet Matthews
Sarah Milroie
Lucy Peto

Jenny Smith
Esme Soiza
Lisa Villacci
Chloe Waller

Congratulations to the following girls who have completed the Baden Powell Challenge:

*Julia Sheehan,
Kirsty Sheehan,
Alanna Murphy
Hannah Bennet
4th Berrylands Guides*

Jack Petchey Awards Presentation Evening
Thursday 23rd April 2009
King's Centre, Chessington 7.30 p.m.

Look forward to seeing you there!

Invitations/tickets will be sent out this week via Leaders/Commissioners and I would be grateful if you would distribute these. Should you require further invitations please let me know details as soon as possible.

Janet Hill

✉ jpawards@girlguiding-glw.org.uk

SENIOR SECTION Volunteers wanted!

Your chance to be involved and make the Senior Section Centenary Camp in July 2010 what YOU want it to be!

Come and join the team.
Contact me:

Victoria Ling

✉ seniorsection@girlguiding-glw.org.uk

SENIOR SECTION

Opportunities for 2010

Check out the Senior Section web page for details of opportunities available to all Senior Section members in our Centenary year.

www.girlguiding-glw.org.uk

Was it you?

Can who ever ordered 37 Changing the World Badges contact Madelaine Reid please.

✉ Trading@girlguiding-glw.org.uk

ADULT LEADERSHIP QUALIFICATION TRAINING

For new Adult Leaders, Adult Leaders changing section, and Young Leaders aged 16-18 needing to attend a Sectional Training to complete module 1 of their Adult Leadership Qualification.

Thursday 30th April 2009: 7.30pm - 9.30pm

West Wimbledon Primary School, Bodnant Gardens, West Barnes Lane, Raynes Park SW20 OBZ

Cost £2 a head, payable at registration, and should be claimed from unit funds.

(When booking please give your name, which session you wish to attend i.e. Rainbow, Brownie, or Guide, and a contact telephone number in case of venue change/cancellation).

MONEY MATTERS GIFT AID & ACCOUNTS TRAINING

Thursday 30th April 2009: 7.30pm - 9.30pm

West Wimbledon Primary School, Bodnant Gardens, West Barnes Lane, Raynes Park SW20 OBZ,

Cost £2 a head, payable at registration, and should be claimed from unit funds.

To apply for either training contact:

Joan Pearson

Email: training@girlguiding-glw.org.uk

Guide wear is not needed for evening sessions.

(For Senior Section training please contact Joan Pearson to arrange a fireside session).

TRADING & BADGES

Swop Shop

Ann Lovelock from Devizes is looking for a framed/unframed picture of Lady Baden-Powell A4 size. Contact 01380 723642.

Discontinued

2036 sleepover nature 10p

7342 Senior Section carabinier key ring.

GFI 4 Seasons - postponed until further notice.

Me to you Bear T shirt **blue** - no date yet. (**White** in stock.)

Clearance

2949 pink sling bag £1.50

2980A bad dreams book £1.00

6005 Brownie 2009 Annual £1.00

Out of stock

Adult hoodies - expected late March/early April.

7852 Centenary porcelain mug - expected April.

Now in stock

Centenary polo new stock w/c 16th March.

Brownie Flag case, poles and finials back in stock.

6478 New edition Camps & Holidays (price in "Guiding" incorrect) £4.75

2230 Brownie key ring due 20/04/09

6012 New edition Commissioner's Pack, no discount £10.00

Thank you to everyone who supported us at County Day, we were very pleased with the result. We would ask for all money owing to be paid as soon as possible. All items have now been ordered, including badges that we ran out of. Goods should be with you in 10 days (at the latest) but please advise me of anything not received. We would like to thank everyone for their patience and help in supplying change etc.

Our totals to date are Badges £684.24 (with a few still to pay) and Trading (including Centenary goods on order) £576.75 with about 10 orders to pay for

Thank you all. Keep shopping!

*Madeline and team
(Merilea and Candy)*

Madeline Reid,

✉ trading@girlguiding-glw.org.uk

All items for the May Newsletter should be with me by 22nd April please.

Janet Hill,

✉ newsletter@girlguiding-glw.org.uk

International News from JEKA

JEKA'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY - FREE PLACE EXTRAVAGANZA!

In 2010 we will be celebrating our 50th anniversary, having formed our organisation back in 1960 after a successful first 'camp' in the Lech Valley Austria in the summer of 1959. We'd like to mark our very special occasion by giving something back to you, our loyal customers by way of a 'free place extravaganza'. We are giving away 100 free places to be divided between 20 groups, each group receiving 5 free places. Although not compulsory, we would like to think that these places could be used to fund members who, in the current economic climate, could not otherwise afford to travel. The grand draw will take place in February 2010. Any group that has already booked or confirms a booking by 30th November 2009 will be entered into the draw.

*FREE LEADERS INFORMATION TOUR - SWITZERLAND - MAY 2009

Why not use the opportunity of a potentially *free place on our forthcoming 'Leaders Information Tour' to plan your 2010 Summer Camp in the beautiful alpine village of Adelboden? Our information weekend departs **Friday 22nd May 2009** from Gatwick airport and arrives back on **Monday 25th May 2009**. During our time in Adelboden, leaders will have the opportunity to see the accommodation for themselves, to sample excursions and of course visit 'Our Chalet' and the Scout Centre in Kandersteg. The price of this tour is approximately **£199.00 + flight per person*** (dependant on the flight price we eventually secure) and includes flights, accommodation/meals for 3 nights and a full itinerary as detailed on our website:

www.jeka-groupholidays.co.uk

*Group leaders booking our leaders information tour 2009, who subsequently confirm a Summer Camp for 2009 or 2010 will have the price of one leaders tour place (£199.00) deducted from their Summer camp invoice. This offer is limited to one leader per group and per Summer camp booking.

The Great Guide Get Away to Switzerland

14th - 22nd February 2010

Do you struggle to find leaders for International trips?

This event is being led by an experienced Girlguiding UK team in partnership with Venture Abroad and Our Chalet and so it is the perfect opportunity for Leaders to gain international experience for the future with the complete reassurance of onsite support from an experienced Girlguiding UK Centenary Adventure team.

This exciting adventure will ensure the trip of a lifetime for 1,000 Guides. Activities include a trip to the ice palace at the Jungfrauoch, the rooftop of Europe, a magical day at Our Chalet, open-air ice skating, igloo building, a snow shoe expedition and much more. The week will close on Friday with a lantern-lit finale to celebrate World Thinking Day with all 1,000 participants - a true mountain-top moment!

Bookings are being taken from groups of 10 Guides with 2 Leaders.

More information can be found on the Centenary website:
www.girlguiding100years.org.uk

New Centenary Adventure for Leaders

13th - 21st February 2010

Have you always wanted to visit Our Chalet?

This is an opportunity to sample the snow filled surrounds of Our Chalet and the Bernese Oberland, staying at the Gemmi Lodge in Kandersteg with full board. 2, 3 and 4 bedded rooms all with ensuite, indoor swimming pool.

All inclusive price £700.

100 places available.

BOOK NOW - Contact Charlotte Charles at Venture Abroad
01332 342050

Bookings close 9th April

1st Response/Health & First Aid for Camps and Holidays Training

Saturday 25th April 2009

Chessington Methodist Church Hall.

Enquiries to Ann Fairhall
Firstaid@girlguiding-glw.org.uk

Centenary Badge Competition

DEADLINE EXTENDED

Thank you for all the brilliant designs which I have already received for the Centenary Badge Competition.

The deadline for the badge competition has been extended until **FRIDAY 1st MAY** to allow the girls to have the Easter holidays to create their designs. The application form is available to download on the Greater London West website: www.girlguiding-glw.org.uk. Please encourage your girls to take part and send entries to me.

CENTENARY FINALE - Oct 2010

October 2010 may seem a long way off, but we need to start organising our Centenary finale and to do this we need a volunteer to lead the team for this event. We have several people who have offered their time to help with our Centenary finale, but without someone to lead this team, we will have to cancel this event. This is not what we want to do as an event at Wimbledon Common would be memorable for our girls and as the home of our County badge, it is the perfect place for GLW to have an event.

Please contact me if you would like to lead this team or have any questions. Centenary@girlguiding-glw.org.uk

CAROL SINGING
10th DECEMBER 2009

If you would like to take your girls carol singing at either a local mainline or London Underground station, please let me know by **MONDAY 30th MARCH**. This will ensure we don't have too many units at one station and that enough badges are produced for the girls who take part. If your unit is not registered, they will not be able to have a badge.

This event will drive positive awareness of Girlguiding UK and also allow units to raise money. The suggestion is that the money raised will be split 50/50 with a charity of your choice and your unit.

If you would like to help co-ordinate this evening, don't be shy, please contact Sarah Pink: Centenary@girlguiding-glw.org.uk

CHANGING THE WORLD

Please make sure that you register and evaluate the Changing The World project you have worked on via the website - <http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/changingtheworld/>

The evaluation is really crucial to Girlguiding UK so that we can shout out about this project in our Centenary year. The more people who evaluate the more impact this will have.

If you have completed more than one project please evaluate for each project as we want to make sure all your hard work is recorded and included in the final results of Changing the World.

By completing your evaluation online, you will receive the unique order form to enable you to order your badges from Madelaine Reid.

**** HOT OFF THE PRESS ****

The Mother & Daughter picnic has now been booked for **Sunday 9th May 2010** and will be held at Morden Hall Park and Ham House. These two great National Trust properties within GLW will be fantastic locations for a picnic and activities.

Thanks to those of you who have volunteered to help with this event, but we still need more people. If you would like to help plan this event or you can be available to help on the day, please let me know. Centenary@girlguiding-glw.org.uk

For all items above contact Centenary Champion:

Sarah Pink, 4 Oakwood Court, Benhill Wood Road, Sutton, SM1 4HS

✉ Centenary@girlguiding-glw.org.uk



Centenary Launch Party

4-6th September 2009, at Heyswood

Volunteers needed!

We are looking for:

- Service crew
- Sub-camp leaders
- First aiders

If you would more information or to offer your services please contact Sarah Penneck on: glwcentenarylaunch@yahoo.co.uk



Jane Donovan receives the Mayor's Community Award from the Mayor of Kingston on 18th March 2009.

Congratulations.

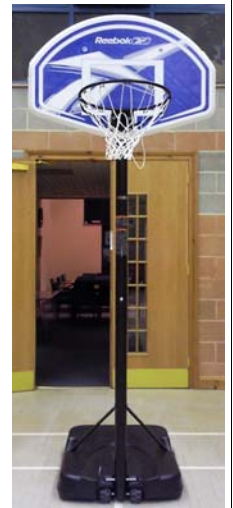
FOR SALE

REEBOK PRO COURT PORTABLE BASKETBALL SET

Any reasonable offers considered!

2 x basketball systems. Fan - shaped, 111cm virtually unbreakable impact backboard. Heavy duty goal with welded steel net hooks and all - weather net. Telescopic pole height adjustment mechanism. Base weighs 102kg filled with water, or 170kg filled with sand. New £160 each.

For more information email Angela at: ian.higgins1@blueyonder.co.uk



Girlguiding

Greater London West

girls in the lead

Senior Section Camp permit weekend

6 pm 17th July - 1 pm 19th July 2009

Heyswood campsite

'The Senior Section Permit enables any Senior Section member to take up to eight others, from the Senior Section or Guide Section, on a camp or holiday of two nights or more.'

A brilliant opportunity to gain your Senior Section Camp permit, you need a group of 4-8 guides/ young leaders/rangers who are willing to camp with you. You will need to budget and plan the event (this can include any off site activities), as well as carry this out across the weekend.

Details of the modules you have to work towards will be on the web site. Once you have gained your Senior Section Permit, then you can use some modules towards your adult qualification as well as take members of your unit away.

The qualification also counts towards the Queens Guide Award if you are working on this.

If you are interested please return the form below, with a £10 deposit (cheques made payable to: "Heyswood Campsite Fund") to: Victoria Ling, please include a SAE. (See County Directory for details)

If you have any queries then please contact Victoria Ling on seniorsection@girlguiding-glw.org.uk

Name of Senior Section member:

Unit/District/Division:

Address:

Email:

Phone number:

Amount of girls:

Guide Camp Licence

I am running a Guide camp licence training. It will take place from Saturday 23rd May to Sunday 24th May at Heyswood. I will incorporate any of your camp training needs into the two days.

If anyone is interested in joining us please contact me as soon as possible.

Kate Bloor
County Camp Adviser
✉training@girlguiding-glw.org.uk

Congratulations

...to the following leaders for gaining their Guide Camp Licence:-

Hazel Peach

3rd Beddington Guides

Becki Tolley

West Sutton District



Keeping Children Safe

A child protection awareness programme

Keeping Children Safe is a training programme on child protection that you can do by distance learning. The programme is provided by Educare and endorsed by Girlguiding UK, The Scout Association and St John's Ambulance.

The cost of the programme is just £10 and can be covered by unit, District, or Division Funds. It consists of three modules:

- Module 1 - Understanding the basics
- Module 2 - What happens if?
- Module 3 - Principles of good practice.

On completion of the programme successful participants gain a certificate from the NSPCC.

This programme is aimed at those with little or no experience of child protection issues. To date over 2,000 Leaders have taken part.

What is involved?

You will be sent the three modules at home. They consist of 4 x A4 pages of information and a multiple choice question sheet per module. There is no time limit on the completion of modules. Once you have completed all three modules you will receive the completion certificate together with a breakdown of your answers.

Take part - Contact:

Pat Wheatley
Girlguiding UK,
17-19 Buckingham Palace Road,
London SW1W 0PT
☎020 7834 6242
✉Pat.Wheatley@girlguiding.org.uk

Family Camping Weekend 3rd-5th July

Please could all guiders photocopy the letter sent with newsletter and give it out to all parents at the start of next term. I would like to have all forms returned to me by May 22nd (the end of the half term).

Don't forget that you could also camp as a family, several Guiders do and you would be there to celebrate Heyswood's 60th Birthday as long as any children could be taken home in the morning. *Sandy Brown*
(Letter is available on application: heyswood@girlguiding-glw.org.uk)



Celebrating 50 years in Guiding - Jean Coker

Starting in Brownies aged 8 during the war years, Jean became a guide at aged 12 when the family moved to New Malden. Jean left Guides and went to help with 4th New Malden Brownies at what was then called the Guide Hut, since renamed Marion Hill House.

In 1955 she transferred to St John's the Divine in Kingston Road to help with the newly opened Brownie unit. She became a Brown Owl in 1957 when the leader left to get married, and saw many changes of uniform and had many different helpers during the 43 years that she ran the unit.

12 Years later in 1969 she took over the Guide unit to save it from closure. She continued to run it until 2001 giving hundreds of girls the Guiding experience.

In the early days there were fewer cars on the road, and wherever the Guides and Brownies went they had to use public transport. Going to camp was a major operation that involved the hire of a coach (for about £50) and also hiring equipment from the campsites.

Jean is celebrating in two ways today having recently completed both 50 Years in Guiding and also 50 years association at St John's Church. Jean is completely devoted and selfless. She still helps at the 9th New Malden Guide Unit every week whatever the weather. The only meeting she missed recently was in the snowy conditions in early February. She opens up the hall, collects the subscriptions, liaises with the parents, encourages the leaders and is a mine of information about Guiding past and present. She is extremely valuable and irreplaceable for Elaine Ryder-Mills (Unit Guider), Elizabeth Chambers, Rhian Lewis (Assistant Guiders), and Jane Donovan (Division Commissioner)

Thank You Jean

Tyres at Heyswood



Please do not remove the numbered tyres on the 3 posts near site 20 and then leave them down in hike site. They are part of the team building equipment and should be in place for others to use.

The unnumbered tyres are for the water slide and should be on the plastic sheet to hold it down.

Thank you for your co-operation.