



Letter from our County President

FEB. 2012



Dear Greater London West,

Thinking Day 2012 will soon be with us and I wonder how memorable and special the event will be for you and your unit? Will it be an occasion to share your celebrations with other units or even with other Districts in the County? Will you be joining a nationally organised event and meeting Guiding members from much further afield? I'm sure your Unit meetings will have opportunities for enjoying dressing up in international costumes, sampling international food and traditional dishes, playing some international games and practising international dances so that you can entertain others.

Do you have any international contacts who would be delighted to receive a specially made Thinking Day card? Has anyone left your Unit recently who would be delighted to be remembered by receiving a card? Perhaps a Young Leader who is now living away from home would be particularly thrilled with this.

The County still has some close contacts with members of Ukraine Guiding and plans are just beginning to take shape for the next exchange visit with them. (Watch the Newsletter for further details.)

With just over 6,000,000 members world wide it cannot be difficult to make contact in some way enhancing the Unit's appreciation of our World Association.

Whatever you do or however you decide to celebrate Thinking Day make a resolution to develop the International dimension and not only on this one day in the year.

My very best wishes to you all in every endeavour,

So nelly.

COUNTY DIARY

FEBRUARY

4th COUNTY DAY
Teddington School

MARCH

2nd Fun in the Dark, Heyswood, 7-9 pm

5th Fun in the Dark, Heyswood, 7-9 pm

19th County Exec, Cheam, 7.45 p.m.

24th First Aid Trainings, Chessington

30/1 Ap BP Challenge weekend, Wimbledon

APRIL

19th Jack Petchey Presentation Evening, King's Centre, Chessington, 7.30 pm

21st Sixers' Outdoor Fun, Heyswood, 2-8 pm

28th Camp Skills Day, Heyswood, 11-3.30 pm

MAY

19th On Your Marks, Heyswood

25/27 Wild Weekend Fun, Heyswood

JUNE

16th Olivia's Royal Jubilee party, Heyswood

22/24 Camping with your Peers, Heyswood

JULY

6th COUNTY REVIEW, Heyswood

7/8 Brownie Leader Residential Training, Heyswood

Welcome to our new Division Commissioner for Kingston & Malden:

Mrs Charlotte Fitzgerald (see latest County Register)

Also welcome to Helen Reed who will share the County contact role with Gill Gooding.

Thanks to Jane Donovan and Rosey Hickson who have completed their terms in these roles but who will be continuing as Unit Leaders.

WIMBLEDON DIVISION BADEN POWELL ADVENTURE



Saturday 31 March - Sunday 1 April 2012 (£30)

Come and play 'Hide and Seek' in WIMBLEDON ... Come and find the Wimbledon cache and then come and leave your BP stamp! Please apply for an application form before the end of February to: Jen Huckstepp (details from news@girlguiding-glw.org.uk) enclosing stamped, addressed envelope.

ON YOUR MARKS

We are looking for Brownie Leaders to help plan this event at Heyswood in May.

We have some ideas but would like representatives from around the County to be part of the team. We must have a team in place before we can send out the application forms. Please contact Sue Grout as soon as possible for further information: news@girlguiding-glw.org.uk

All items for the March Newsletter should be with me by 22nd February please. Janet Hill news@girlguiding-glw.org.uk

Letter from our County Commissioner

Dear Greater London West,

The New Year seems to have started gently but there are many exciting events being planned, so I hope you will give your girls the opportunity to take part in what's on offer including events at Heyswood for every section – book the dates now.

While it is quieter please spend time checking your unit details on GO! – subscription invoices cannot be amended this year but you can run a report now to show who you will be expected to pay for – if you need any help just ask NOW. You may be interested to know that the suggested minimum unit size for Rainbows is 5, Brownies is 12, Guides is 12 and Senior Section is 5. If your unit is near or even below this number can you increase your membership? We are aiming to 'grow' Guiding so ask your girls to bring a friend along or try other ideas to increase numbers.

As soon as you have completed your accounts for 2011 please ensure that your District Commissioner receives a summary copy for her records.

We now have a panel to review appointments of those wishing to continue as assistant leaders beyond the age of 70 – please ensure that your commissioner is aware of those over 70 who would like to continue in this role so that we can arrange a mutually convenient time and venue for a review.

A letter for Thinking Day requesting that girls be allowed to wear Guiding uniforms to school on Wednesday 22nd February will be circulated to schools but leaders are welcome to pass a copy personally to their local schools as attached.

Happy Thinking Day,

Christine



Situations Vacant

Guide Section Contact - ideally willing to attend Region Day on 10th March on our behalf to find out the latest news on the Guide Section and forward information to other Guide leaders.

County First Aid Adviser - willing to undertake a 16 hour training to be able to train leaders for 'First Response'.



Calling all badge collectors...

Kerry and I are going on an incredible expedition to Tanzania in East Africa to help people less fortunate than ourselves. Kerry and myself, along with 5 other Guide & Scout leaders are taking a team of 33 Guides & Scouts to the remote village of Itete in Tanzania, for 4 weeks in August 2012.

To help us raise funds we are selling the expedition badge for £1.50 each. If you would like to buy one or more, please contact us at

guides6thcheam@yahoo.co.uk

Thank you in advance for your support.



Kerry & Yvette

Stella V. Cunliffe M.B.E.

It is with much sadness that I bring you the news that Stella passed away on Friday 20th January 2012. Stella had been in a Nursing Home for three years but you may remember seeing her being interviewed for a T.V. programme during our Centenary year.

In our County Stella will be remembered for being our C.C.A. during the 1950's to early 60's and the wonderful Camp Training programmes she masterminded at Heyswood. Many Leaders will have taken part in these trainings and a very high proportion gained camping qualifications. Our County held the record for the highest number of campers in any County in England! She was also instrumental in achieving electricity to the site and a Wardens Bungalow along with several other improvements.

Stella was the Leader of Epsom Cadets and many young women will never forget the fantastic programme she was able to offer them. She was also a member of our Association's Executive Committee and served on both the Association's Finance and Foxlease House Committees. She gained a Training Diploma and gave of her talents countrywide with great enthusiasm and untiring energy. She was always a valued member of committees organising and delivering large scale events and to mention one or two she worked for the World Camp at Windsor in 1957 and the Discoverers Camps in 1964.

Stella was appointed as County Commissioner for London South West and during this time was awarded the Association's highest award of the Silver Fish. London South West have a campsite called Faurefold and after being its Chairman she

maintained her interest in the bookings at the site until she went into her Nursing Home.

Stella was also on several committees for our Region but particularly her energies were for Cudham Campsite. With her amazing talent for obtaining funds she was able to see the addition of several new buildings, enabling wider use of the site.

Towards the end of the Second World War Stella volunteered to train with the Guide International Service and was a member of the team who were the first into Bergen Belsen and assisted in the liberation and resettlement of prisoners of war. These experiences were extremely tough physically and emotionally and Stella was always reluctant to speak about them.

One position where she was much respected for her articulation and participation was as an Independent Councillor on Mole Valley District Council, taking a lively and energetic interest in local planning matters. Stella was a well qualified Statistician and worked extremely hard and at a very high level. She was the first female President of the Royal Statistical Society.

She came from a supportive and loving family and is survived by many delightful nephews, nieces, great nephews and great nieces. Together with all these young people we give thanks to God for her outstanding life and our privilege in having known her.

Dorothy Slyfield, County President

TRADING & BADGES

Yellow Brownie Fleece sling bag Code 2451 has now been discontinued, please consider 8329 Brownie Sling Bag.

Rainbow's Big Birthday - 25th Birthday Challenge with woven badge. Pack can be downloaded from the GGUK web site and badges will be available from February.

On Your Marks—6050

Resource for 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Badges all have the official 2012 Inspire mark logo. £1 each

7043 On your Marks—Sport

7044 On Your marks—Culture

7045 On Your marks—Values

Brownie Adventure On

Special offer pack at £20

5 x Brownie Adventure On books

56 x Go For It! Mini certificates (1 pk)

5 x Adventure On woven badges

Centenary packaway Rain Jackets

Last few remaining sizes, £2.50.

Child 3/4, 5/6, 7/8, 11/12.

County Day 4th February

I will have badges for sale but if you can send in your orders in advance for collection on the day it is much easier and quicker for everyone. However, if you bring orders on the day please hand them in on the morning for collection at lunch time.

Madelaine Reid

✉ trading@girlguiding-glw.org.uk

Jack Petchey Foundation

Achievement Award Scheme



Our next exciting Presentation evening will be take place on Thursday 19th April, again at the King's Centre, Chessington. All the girls and Leaders who have received awards from March 2011 to Spring 2012 inclusive have been invited to this event to receive the medallions and are expected to attend. They may bring two guests from outside of Guiding; Commissioners, Leaders and Helpers are automatically invited. We would love to hear from anyone in the County who would like to take part in the entertainment for this evening. Can you sing, play an instrument, dance, perform a sketch...?

We are delighted that the following Leader Awards were approved for 2011. They are all very well deserved:

Wendy Cannon
Naomi Cheatle
Maureen Crabb
Heather Fowler
Gillian French
Rachel Jones
Jackie Junemann

Charlotte Kemp
Alison McArthur
Lynda Morris
Charlotte Rees
Candy Sheldon
Ros Townsend
Anne Wade

Janet Hill

✉ Jpawards@girlguiding-glw.org.uk

WILD WEEKEND FUN CAMP

Guides and their Leaders who do not hold a Campers Licence are invited to camp at Heyswood for the weekend 25th – 27th May 2012.

Along with the outdoor camping experience you will enjoy a programme that includes activities such as 'Wet & Whacky', 'Fun with Chocolate', 'Towers Away' and 'Strictly Dance'!

Units to provide their own tentage if possible, if not then equipment can be hired from Heyswood.

To register your interest please complete the attached form and return to Pauline Wilson by 28th February

If you have any queries, please contact Pauline

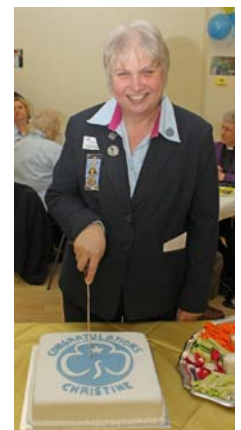


Christine's Laurel Award Celebration

Many members of Girlguiding past and present attended the presentation of a Laurel Award to Christine last Saturday. Dorothy, our President, welcomed guests saying 'The award given for 'Exceptional Service' was fully deserved. Only a very few people each year receive this award and it recognises the achievement and dedication which Christine has shown for more than 40 years as a Leader'.

The award was presented by Joan Barclay an ex Guide leader from Clapham Park who was Christine's inspiration in her early years, encouraging her when she might otherwise have given up. The badge was pinned on by Cynthia Beg, Christine's Ranger Leader who had also played a major part in her early Guiding years.

Christine and guests celebrated afterwards with a buffet and photo quiz – pictures of Christine as a Brownie, Guide, Ranger and Leader over the past 40 years – where everyone was invited to guess when, where and what the occasion was.



The Big Chocolate Tea Party

The Sick Children's Trust provide 'home from home' accommodation for families while their children are receiving treatment for severe illness in hospitals across the UK. Our 'Home from Home' enables the family to maintain some resemblance of normality at an otherwise stressful and difficult time.

We have a campaign in April called **The Big Chocolate Tea Party**. We are asking individuals, community groups, schools, universities, churches and companies across the UK (and maybe even further afield) to hold a Big Chocolate Tea Party, with donations on the day being made to The Sick Children's Trust. If anyone would be interested in holding a Big Chocolate Tea Party in aid of The Sick Children's Trust, I would be more than happy to come along and help out on the day and provide you with whatever fundraising materials you think you might need.

Sophie Dean | Community Fundraiser
- House Support | The Sick Children's Trust
020 7931 8695
sophie@sickchildrenstrust.org

Following information received through Region. Do you fancy something different?

Futurebuilding is a **once in a lifetime international volunteering opportunity** for people in the UK that want to change the lives of children around the world. **In 2012, our focus is improving access to education**, working in line with Millennium Development Goal 2. We have **50 schools** across rural communities in Tanzania and India, each needing 15 Futurebuilding volunteers to step out of their comfort zone and onto a project site for just 10 days to make a real difference in children's lives.

In short: **We NEED you!**

No specific skill sets are required, just willingness and dedication. We will guide you by the hand through fundraising; book all your flights, in-country logistics and look after you onsite with a full campsite and campsite team. And we will make sure you have great food and some unforgettable times around the campfire each night too!

More information from:
Kate Wolfenden
www.childreach.org.uk

Jamboree?

The 7th New Malden Guide Company are attending the Essex Jamboree in August and are wondering if anyone else from the County is going and would like to share a coach with us.

If you are interested please contact Charlie Rees:
news@girlguiding-glw.org.uk

Subscriptions 2012

Four weeks left to check your subscription invoices for your Units so please have a look as soon as possible, if you have not already done so. If you feel the amount due is incorrect you must check the details of those you will be paying for. Go to "Reports Management - Unit user" and run the "Unit Subscriptions Due" report and you will find lists of all Leaders and girls. Check the roles of the girls and amend and ask your Commissioner to amend incorrect details for your Leaders.

Any questions, do please contact me.

No amendments can be made to invoices after 20th February and they must then be paid as shown and as soon as possible.

Janet Hill

Congratulations to the following Leaders who have just completed the Brownie Holiday Licence:

Elisabeth Bingham, Wimbledon
Kim Fairhall, Surbiton
Emma Green, Kingston & New Malden
Jenny Ryan, Wallington

Girl Guiding exclusive offer – Bring a group and save up to £6.00 per ticket!



Db Promotions UK are working in conjunction with Girlguiding UK and have an exclusive deal especially for all Guides, Brownies, Rainbows and leaders, plus all of your families... welcome to Disney On Ice's Guide night! We are skating into a city near you with our specially selected Guide nights...

London Wembley Arena
Wed 7th March 6.30pm, £18.00
Booking fee of £5.00 per group (10+) applied or £2 per ticket if less than 10 persons are booked

This is a great saving for Girlguiding UK members and their families.

Call us now to book your tickets:

DB Promotions UK on 0121 308 4511

Or check out the online offer at:
www.girlguiding.org.uk in the Members' Benefits Section

Brownie Leaders—Residential Training Weekend 6th - 8 July 2012 - Heyswood

Cost: £35.

Gain your qualification to take your Unit away for a residential experience.

Please contact me for further information or application forms.

Melissa Roots-Smith
training@girlguiding-glw.org.uk