

From the County Commissioner....

In this eBulletin I was going to write about the hilariously windy day at Rutland Water, when nearly 200 Leaders came to enjoy our Centenary Thank You event, but I find I don't need to because this wonderful poem arrived from ex-County Commissioner, Ronnie Johnson. She has summed up the whole day so neatly.

THE LEADERS' THANK YOU PICNIC

Somebody in Leicestershire had a great idea
To celebrate our birthday - a century this year.
One hundred years of guiding - we couldn't let it pass
A Leaders' picnic, by a lake with tents pitched on the grass.
One for each Division - Rutland Water would be good.
A drink to be provided, but each to bring own food.
The planning went ahead and on the day we all turned up
BUT nobody told the weather man which caused a slight hiccup.
The wind blew almost gale force. One tent tried to take flight
A few more tent pegs hammered in and that soon put it right.
Some rain showers tried to spoil our day, but only for a while.
WE WERE HERE TO CELEBRATE and that we did in style.
We ate our cake and drank a toast and gave ourselves three cheers
Then left for home in high hopes for the next one hundred years.



And here's the rogues gallery of County Commissioners, past and present.

Rachel Webb-Jenkins



International Opportunities

Applications will open earlier than normal this year for the International Opportunities weekend for travel in the summer of 2019.

International Opportunities Weekend

at Topstones County Campsite

16th-18th March 2018



The closing date for all applications will be 30th December 2017.

The new application form will soon be on our website, www.leicestershireguides.org so look out for it.

Please contact your Division International Adviser or Tracey Ball for more information or to apply. Applications are open NOW.



We are also looking within the County for **Leaders** to apply to be considered to take International trips. To help this we are holding an International Leaders Selection Day Saturday 20th January 2018 at County Office, 97 Princess Road East, Leicester from 10am–2pm.

Please contact Tracey for more information.

Tracey Ball County International Advisor

Traceysim64@hotmail.co.uk

Saturdays @97

Don't forget our sessions, usually on the first Saturday of each month.

10am - 11am for new Commissioners' training.

11am - noon for DBS checks, GO workshop and group mentoring for Leaders working on their Leadership Qualification.

The current dates are November 11th, December 2nd 2017 and February 3rd 2018.

Please book with County Office by 4pm the previous Friday.

Appointments

Eileen Melling

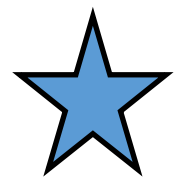
Membership Support Coordinator

Ann Downs

Leadership Qualification Coordinator

Rachel Sykes

Charnwood Division Commissioner



We wish them all the best in their new roles!



Upcoming Trainings

Full First Response

This is a mandatory training for those new to guiding or those who have not renewed for over 3½ years.

Sunday 29th October 2017

9.30am - 4.30pm

County Office, 97 Princess Road East, Leicester, LE1 7DW



Sunday 19th November 2017

9.30am - 4.30pm

Hinckley

First Response Renewal

This is a mandatory training for those who have not renewed for between 3 and 3½ years.



Tuesday 12th December 2017

7.00pm - 9.00pm

County Office,
97 Princess Road East,
Leicester, LE1 7DW

A Safe Space (16+ only)

Mandatory training for those new to leadership.



Thursday 16th November 2017

6.30pm - 9.30pm

Sandy Lane Methodist Church,
Sandy Lane, Melton Mowbray,
LE13 0AW

International Activities

followed by

Dragon Making

Sunday 14th January 2018

10.30am–12.30pm and then 1.15pm–3.00pm

County Office, 97 Princess Road East, Leicester, LE1 7DW



To book a place on a training please complete the on-line booking form via our website, www.leicestershireguides.org

- Bookings will be *provisional* until you have received an email from County Office.
- Please do not just turn up - courses could be full.
- Uniform/guide wear is worn at all trainings.
- There is no charge for the training sessions. However, for First Response only, if you fail to let County Office know that you are unable to attend, then your Division will be charged £5 per place.
- There is often a waiting list so PLEASE tell us, if for any reason, you have to cancel.

TOPSTONES



The Centenary Scramble at our County campsite, Topstones is to be refurbished and elements replaced. A contractor has been appointed and we are hopeful that work will begin early in the New Year. In the meantime please note that the Centenary Scramble is not in use.

All other activities at Topstones are still available. A Den Building area and Bushcraft area have recently been added to the attractions.

Topstones Management Committee

Bushcraft

Do you want to try Bushcraft with your girls? We have two Bushcraft kits (including knives suitable for use by girls), fire strikers, kelly kettles and a variety of useful implements which can be borrowed; one kit is kept at Topstones and one is available through contacting Dawn Scott. There is no charge for using these (consumables should be replaced) but they are only available to those Leaders who have had Bushcraft training. If you want to find out more about the kit or how to access training, contact Dawn Scott, dawnguiding@btinternet.com





ESCAPE



Girlguiding Leicestershire
County Camp 2018

5th - 11th August 2018
at Topstones

Have you booked in for Escape 18?

Bring your guides to a week of fun, adventure and to experience new activities.

Bookings are going well but don't miss out on this exciting event.

Plans are in place for an exciting 6 night camp at Topstones.

Each day will have a theme and just to give you a taster,
Monday will be "Escape to the Wild".

The cost is £145 for Guides, £120 for The Senior Section and £30 for Leaders.
Second instalments are due on the 1st December.

More information and booking form on the County website

www.leicestershireguides.org

More information re the sleepover for older Brownies is to follow early January.

Interested in joining the team? We are also looking for staff to help run the
camp. If you can help at any time during the
week please email

Seonaid McPhail, seonaidmcphail@btinternet.com

or Sue Mayhew, suemayhew@btinternet.com

or County Office, office@leicestershireguides.org



Region Chief Commissioner's Award

I am pleased to be able to tell you that the following Leaders have been invited to receive the Region Chief Commissioner's Award, because of their service with Girlguiding Leicestershire, at a presentation event to be held on December 3rd - watch out for pictures in the January Bulletin.



Ann Cox	Melton
Ann Insley	Bardon
Melanie Jackson-Wevill	Ashby
Yvette Joyce	Melton
Jo Lee	Hinckley
Sue Styche	Hinckley
Rachel Sykes	Charnwood
Ann Valentine	Oadby and Wigston
Mel Weaver	Rutland

Our congratulations go to all of the thoroughly deserving nominees. Nominations for next year will be due in the summer of 2018 - information will be available in due course.

Maggie Silver
County Awards Adviser

Guiding Essentials Leicestershire

Please look at the website, www.leicestershireguides.org for up-to-date shop opening times.

<i>Christmas closing</i>	6pm Tuesday 12th December 2017
<i>Reopening after Christmas</i>	10am Saturday 6th January 2018
<i>Easter closing</i>	3pm Friday 23rd March 2018
<i>Reopening after Easter</i>	12noon Monday 9th April 2018
<i>Mayday closed</i>	Monday 7th May 2018
<i>Spring Half Term closing</i>	3pm Friday 25th May 2018
<i>Reopening after Half Term</i>	12noon Thursday 31st May 2018





Woodhouse Eaves Guides have said bon voyage to their Leader Jill McLeod as she has moved back home to America after starting the guide unit 4 years ago.

Jill was a Girl Scout Leader before she moved to the area with her husband and two daughters Ruth and Alynn and she brought some Girl Scout ideas with her.

Over the past few years girls have learnt carpentry skills and visited B&Q to learn how to use tools safely. They started with making bird boxes, this has progressed to a larger scale Little Free Libraries.

Before Jill left the three libraries have been unveiled in Woodhouse Eaves and Woodhouse. They are themed with a book worm and as a windmill with a living roof and as Beaumanor Hall.



Each library's unique motif was brought to reality through the wood working talents of villager Mervyn Greenhaugh who worked with each team of Guides using their concepts, research and drawings. The idea is for villagers to take a book and leave a book.

Local MP for Charnwood, Edward Argar, officially opened the first library outside the Village Hall in Woodhouse Eaves in March and the final one was unveiled in August.

Rachel Sykes
1st Woodhouse Eaves Guides



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One Festive Night
**An evening of musical
 entertainment**

Saturday 2nd December 2017

7:30pm

Wigston College
Station Road, Wigston
LE18 2DS

Tickets £6 each.
 Available on the door or in
 advance by contacting us :

07834186111

owsgbuk@gmail.com



Special Scout and
Guide Discount

Tickets only £4
each when in a
group of 5 or
more and wearing
your uniform top

Leicestershire



WE DISCOVER, WE GROW

Girlguiding



Centenary Challenge

Whether it is visiting a place of interest, trying a new sleepover venue, a brilliant day out, something to make, an activity, a community opportunity, a recipe, a special event or anything else in Leicestershire, we are challenging you all to be a part of it.



This County Challenge is designed to be worked on by every member in the County from Rainbows to Trefoil Guild throughout the year and at any point from May 2017 to 31st May 2018.

The challenge is now available to download on the Girlguiding Leicestershire website, www.leicestershireguides.org so you can just print the sections you need.

Each Division has written challenges relevant to their area, this maybe a visit to a local park or attraction, or an activity to run within your unit meeting.

To gain the badge you need to complete one activity from four different Divisions including one activity away from the meeting place, but you may complete more! The badges cost £1 each plus postage. Once all your members have completed their activities, fill in the order form on the website and send it with your cheque to the County Office.

Bushcraft Training Weekend



Eight Leaders and 2 members of the Senior Section attended the County Bushcraft Training weekend at Topstones.

During the basic training, they learnt how to use axes, knives and saws safely, how to light fires without matches, simple cooking and how to pass these skills on to girls of all ages.

After an overnight stay in the pods, they started their Intermediate Bushcraft training by putting up shelters and hammocks, before using the skills learnt the previous day to cook a 3 course meal using a huge variety of different methods, with and without utensils. The trout cooked in newspaper was very popular along with the delicious apple sponge cake!

We look forward to seeing more girls doing bushcraft as a result of their Leaders gaining new skills and confidence.





THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

Girlguiding continues to offer members aged 14-25 the opportunity to complete their Duke of Edinburgh's Award. For more information about this award please see www.dofe.org

Sixteen members of The Senior Section completed their Gold Duke of Edinburgh expedition by canoe in August. They were blessed with lovely weather, which was very welcome after the rain and wind of their practice expedition earlier in the year. The teams had completed a number of training days, often in cold, wet and windy conditions, and whilst they said that canoeing was definitely not the "easy option" over a walking expedition, they appreciated the opportunity to complete their expedition by a different method of travel.

In early September, 6 members of the Senior Section completed their Silver DofE expedition in Derbyshire, starting at Buxton and finishing at Tissington. They didn't particularly enjoy the climb up the Roaches on the second morning, but all agreed that the views were spectacular. They showed great teamwork, and excellent navigation skills throughout and are already thinking about going on to complete Gold.

We are looking forward to another busy expedition season in 2018 and participants can register now for their awards.

Dates for the diary

2-4 March	Basic Expedition Training at Thurnby for Bronze and all direct entrant Silver/Gold participants
5-8 April	Midland Region Gold Training walking weekend—North Wales
6-8 April	Silver practice walking expedition—Peak District
28-29 April	Bronze practice walking expedition—Leicestershire
26-28 May	Silver qualifying walking expedition—Peak District
30 June-1 July	Bronze qualifying walking expedition—Leicestershire

Thank you to the DofE team for their continued support: Lizzie, Ros, Beck, Dawn, Ian and Alison

Registration forms are available on the Girlguiding Leicestershire website, www.leicestershireguides.org

for anyone aged 14-25 who wishes to participate in DofE.

For any queries about DofE, please contact Lucy Foulds, County DofE Adviser, on lucy.guiding@gmail.com



GO Hints and Tips!

I hope you have all now logged in to GO, our new combined membership system? I have had a few queries and updates so thought I would pass on some hints and tips to you.

- * You need to first access the system via the email link you should have been sent round about 29th August. This might have gone into spam/junk if you haven't seen it.
- * Check and, if necessary, amend your own details. Click on your name in the top right hand corner and 'My profile'. Amend the details and click 'update' at the bottom.
- * The Help files and videos are very good so do have a look at them if there is anything you are not sure about. If you click on the 'known bugs and issues page' in the blue bar at the top of this page you can see the current issues that they are working to fix.

Unit Leaders and contacts

- ◇ For all unit access click on 'Unit Leader' > 'My Units' > unit name.
- ◇ Click on 'Young Member Enquiries' to look at your girl enquiries. On the right hand side click on the action arrow where you can add girls to your waiting list or your active girls list (click confirm role), refer to another unit or mark them as decided not to join.
- ◇ Click on 'Young Member Roles' to update details for your current active members, to end their role and to transfer them to the next section. You will also need to end a girl's role when you transfer them out. You can also download a Unit All Purpose Form and the Unit Meeting Register by clicking on the blue Young Members Roles. These can all be downloaded to Excel.
- ◇ If you want to generate Girls Individual Details forms then you will find this at the bottom of the Unit Details page. This takes a few minutes so if you click off the page and come back to it then a download link will appear at the bottom of this page.

Commissioners and level administrators

- ◇ For all District and Division access click on 'Commissioner/Level Support' > 'My Division/District Roles' > Division/District Name.
- ◇ The first thing that appears is the District/Division details. If you scroll down you will see Districts and Units within the level. Above the headings you can select all Active Units or just one section and then sort the lists by clicking on any of the blue headings.
- ◇ The 'Volunteer Roles' tab allows you to update the roles within your area and to add new roles. This shows every volunteer who has a role in your area.
- ◇ The 'Individuals' tab shows you all the information about volunteers who have their main role in your area. You can see their qualifications by clicking the actions arrow and selecting View Achievements.
- ◇ The 'Commissioner Management' tab > Volunteer Roles allows you to download volunteer information in various ways, including postal addresses.
- ◇ The 'Disclosures' tab shows new volunteers who need a DBS check and existing ones who need a recheck. You need to assign an ID verifier to these so that they appear on the Verifier's list.
- ◇ The 'Learning' tab shows you all the different qualifications and courses.

Please contact your Division Membership Systems Coordinator or me if you have any questions.
Sheila Lickess, smlickess@aol.com County Membership Systems Coordinator

Have you downloaded the new Girlguiding Leicestershire App?
If you do, it can send you notifications when new events or trainings are added to the website and also let you know when bookings open
- never miss an opportunity again!



DIARY 2017-2018

OCTOBER

29 Full First Response Training 9.30 am County Office

NOVEMBER

3-5 County Training Weekend Broneirion
 11 Saturday @97 10.00 am County Office
 16 A Safe Space Training 6.30 pm Melton
 19 Full First Response Training 9.30 am Hinckey
 22 First Response Renewal 7.00 pm Wigston
 23 County Exec 7.30 pm County Office
 29 Presentation Evening

DECEMBER

2 Saturdays @97 10.00 am County Office
 7 Bulletin deadline
 12 Shop closes for Christmas 6.00 pm County Office
 12 First Response Renewal 7.00 pm County Office
 16 Centenary Finale

JANUARY 2018

6 Shop reopens after Christmas 10.00 am County Office
 14 International Ideas and Dragon Making 10.30 am County Office
 20 International Leaders Selection 10.00 am County Office

FEBRUARY 2018

2 eBulletin deadline
 3 Saturdays @97 10.00 am County Office

MARCH 2018

2-4 DofE Basic Expedition Training Thurnby
 16-18 International Opportunities Weekend Topstones
 23 Shop closes for Easter 3.00 pm County Office

APRIL 2018

5-8 DofE Midland Gold Practice Expedition North Wales
 6-8 DofE Silver Practice Expedition Peak District
 9 Shop reopens after Easter 12 noon County Office
 28-29 DofE Bronze Practice Expedition Leicestershire

MAY 2018

7 Shop closed for Mayday County Office
 25 Shop closes for Half Term 3.00 pm County Office
 31 Shop reopens after Half Term 12 noon County Office





Our centenary
charity is...



We need new pants and new or gently worn bras for
distributing in Africa through S4A
We are collecting all year. Please bring into the County
Office.
Thank you.

The closing date for the next Bulletin will be

Thursday 7th December 2017

Please send any articles to office@leicestershireguides.org

**Have you seen the updated Leicestershire website
www.leicestershireguides.org?**

Did you know -

- ◆ You can subscribe to our Events and Training Calendars on your mobile?
- ◆ You can book equipment to hire on our website?

Please have a look and send your feedback to office@leicestershireguides.org

Girlguiding Leicestershire, 97 Princess Road East, Leicester LE1 7DW

Tel: 0116 254 5290

www.leicestershireguides.org

email: office@leicestershireguides.org

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