

There's nothing like New Year to make you feel excited about the good things to come.

I hope all those in the Senior Section are ready to celebrate their centenary. There is a selection of brilliant events planned to appeal to all. Encourage the Rangers and Young Leaders in your life to take the opportunities and join in with the fun.

This year I've met loads of the fantastic young people in Girlguiding Leicestershire. They're inspiring and a great credit to their Leaders. I look forward to meeting more of you in 2016 in my travels around the county.

Happy New Year to you all.

Rachel Webb-Jenkins
County Commissioner



Discussion Bus

29th February
Coalville
See page 2

County Training Day

Saturday 12th
March
Enderby
See website

International Opportunities Weekend

8th – 10th April
Topstones
See page 3

Charnwood 2016

Staff needed
*See pages
5 and 6*

Midlands Safari Park Trip

12th June
See page 4

Welcome to the first Senior Section News of 2016, the year of the Senior Section Spectacular! Your leader or Commissioner should have a booklet for you packed with all the exciting opportunities to celebrate which are happening in Leicestershire. The booklet is also available in PDF format at girlguidingleicestershire.org.

If you want to contribute ideas to the Spectacular events or Charnwood, make sure you come along to the next meeting of the Discussion Bus (Leicestershire's Senior Section forum) - more details are on page 2.

It's going to be a fun-packed year and I'm looking forward to see lots of you at Leicestershire's Spectacular events!

Megan Thomas
County Senior Section Adviser



Senior Section Spectacular

In 2016 we will be celebrating 100 years of The Senior Section and lots of exciting events are being planned. All members of The Senior Section should have received a booklet with the full list of events which has been sent out via Commissioners.



A digital pdf version is available to download at www.leicestershireguides.org. Bookings are now open for most events so what are you waiting for?

A taster of some of the things being planned for 2016:

- 1st - 3rd July: Senior Section Camp Permit weekend and Get Set ... Camp! weekend at Topstones
- 3rd July: Gold Rush - Challenge day at Topstones
- 19th - 21st August: Carnival Fever at Blackwell Court (Girlguiding Midlands event)
- 17th September: Cannock Caper at Cannock Chase and Beaudesert—option of a high ropes course or segwaying in the morning, followed by challenges in the afternoon and a campfire!

We'll also be getting involved with supporting the Teenage Cancer Trust throughout the year.

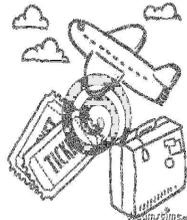
Ask your leader or Commissioner for your booklet to make sure you don't miss out!

DISCUSSION BUS

The Discussion Bus will be coming to Coalville on 29th February! If you're aged 14-25 come along to meet other members of The Senior Section and contribute ideas for The Senior Section Spectacular events and Charnwood. Snacks provided (of course!). Under 18s will need to bring a consent form - these will be available from www.leicestershireguides.org in February 2016. The Discussion Bus will take place from 7.45pm to 9.15pm at Christ Church Hall, London Road, Coalville LE67 3JA on 29th February - see you there!

Megan Thomas
County Senior Section Adviser

Bookings are now open for the next International Opportunity weekend 2016.



International Opportunities Weekend

Friday 8th April - Sunday 10th April 2016
Topstones County Campsite

We are looking for Guides and Senior Section Members who will be aged 14 -18 years by July 2017. You must be 13 years when applying to attend the weekend.

If you are interested in being involved in the weekend, please contact Tracey Ball traceysim64@hotmail.co.uk for more information.

Application forms are available via County Office or downloadable from Leicestershire Girlguiding website

Closing Date for all applications is Friday 11th March 2016.

Tracey Ball
County International Adviser



Guiding Essentials Leicestershire

The Shop re-opens on Monday 4th January 2016

Open usual hours February half term

Closed for Easter 1.30 pm Saturday 19th March 2016

Re-opens Thursday 7th April 2016

Contact 0116 204 4902 or equipstore@leicestershireguides.org

The closing date for the next Senior Section News will be
Monday 1st February 2016

Please send any articles to office@leicestershireguides.org



What are you and your unit planning for 2016?

If your unit Main Contact hasn't received an Adventure in the Midlands booklet for 2016 events please let Midlands Region know.



Make sure you share your copy with your Unit Team.

You will also be able to find booking forms and more information at www.girlguiding-midlands.org.uk

Their biggest event for 2016 is a fantastic trip for Guides and Brownies on Sunday 12th June to West Midlands Safari Park (see www.wmsp.co.uk to learn more about what's on offer).

We are arranging coaches from across Leicestershire to this event at £12 per person. Booking forms will be available on the website and the closing date for booking buses is 31st March 2016. You will still need to book your Safari Park tickets directly with Midlands.

2016 is going to be another amazing year!

Emma Chodynicky
County Guiding Development Coordinator



Well done Sharon!

Sharon Lushiku, a Leader with Abbotsford Guides, volunteered to be a Girlguiding spokesperson and was chosen to be backstage at the recent Big Gig at Wembley Arena.

She interviewed pop superstar Ella Henderson, former JLS member Aston Merrygold, The Wanted's Nathan Sykes (pictured left) and many more.

Sharon said: "It was absolutely amazing to be celebrating such an amazing UN-declared International Day of the Girl with 20,000 girls at the BIG GIG! I think it's just the perfect way to do it. Seeing all those young girls excited and singing along with their favourite acts was the best.

"I think the BIG GIG is an important event because it's just for girls and shows them just how much fun they can have - they can be themselves and be confident".



Hi, I am Liz Bennett and I am your Inclusion Coordinator for Charnwood 2016.

How can I help you, you may be asking....well

Do you think Charnwood isn't for you?

Is it the fear of camping?

Is it the thought of not being able to meet the needs of a particular young person/adult?

Is it a lack of equipment?

Is it health worries or concerns?

Or is it something else??

No matter how small or large the obstacle, I am the woman to help.

I can listen to your concerns or particular circumstances. I will be able to link up with the right team to help address/solve your problems.

Please contact me on inclusion@charnwood.org

Looking forward to hearing from you soon

Liz Bennett

Inclusion Coordinator Charnwood 2016

#BePartOf the Staff Team

Charnwood 2016 needs enthusiastic volunteers for the Staff Team. If you will be aged 18 by the time of the camp then you can come to help - for a day or for the week.

There are many different roles and a variety of options, staying over or not, including an invitation to the opening and closing ceremonies. If you are unsure what is involved then there will be a mini Staff Showcase at County Training Day, where you can find out all you need to know. Don't hesitate, come and join in the fun!

If you have already registered, then watch out for the link to One Stop Scouting on the Charnwood website www.charnwood.org for Charnwood merchandise.



CHARNWOOD 2016



Take your Rainbows and Brownies to visit

Bookings are now open for CRBBC - Charnwood 2016's program for the younger sections. Over the day everyone will take part in three activity areas: adventure, creativity and a main site visit - a chance to have a taste of the Charnwood experience.

You choose the day, Monday - Thursday, 10 am - 4 pm.
Costs £15 per child with one accompanying adult free for each 5 children - additional adults will be charged £5 each.

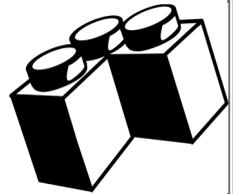
Includes exclusive CRBBC Badge

Download a booking form from the Charnwood website.



Do you have any spare Lego or balls of wool?

If so we would like them for the activities at Charnwood.



Please contact Sheila Lickess on smlickess@aol.com or take to County Office.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Carol Lynch

Hinckley Division Commissioner

Helen Berry

Bradgate District Commissioner

Katrina Rodgers

Field Head District Commissioner

We wish them good luck in their roles

TRAININGS FOR YOUNG LEADERS

County Training Day

Saturday 12th March 2016
Brockington College, Enderby

See www.girlguidingleicestershire.org for more information and to book

Food Hygiene

Sunday 7th February 2016

Ashby TBC
9.00 am - 4.00 pm

Saturday 23rd April 2016

County Office
9.00 am - 4.00 pm

New to Leadership

Trainings and workshops to give new Leaders and Young Leaders skills and knowledge to assist in their role in Guiding.

New Leaders keep these dates free

Tuesday 6th September 2016

Tuesday 13th September 2016

Sunday 18th September 2016 - First Response (9.00 am - 4.00 pm)

Tuesday 20th September 2016

Tuesday 27th September 2016

All sessions at County Office

7.00 pm - 9.00 pm

Please book all trainings through County Office

Please ensure you submit a **fully completed form**, whether written or electronic. The booking form for trainings is on Page 9, or use the on-line form found on the Leicestershire website.

First Response only - any no-shows for these courses, the relevant Division will be charged £5 per place.

TRAININGS FOR YOUNG LEADERS

Full First Response

As part of your Adult Leadership Qualification, you will need to attend the 6 hour Full 1st Response course or an external first aid training course. A list is available on the Girlguiding website of suitable qualifications.

Sunday 7th February 2016 with babysitting service
County Office - 9.00 am - 4.00 pm

Wednesday 17th February 2016 for D of E
County Office - 9.00 am - 4.00 pm

This is a Full First Response course, with additional focus on First Aid on the outdoor environment. Designed for members of The Senior Section undertaking DofE expeditions or Senior Section Permits but open to others

Wednesday 1st June 2016 with baby-sitting service
County Office - 9.00 am - 4.00 pm

Safe Space

Making adventure safe - come and take the mystery out of risk assessment and safety, both at unit meetings and when out and about. Find out how to deal with those concerns regarding the girl's safety and well-being. Discuss cyber safety in a way you can understand.

All Leaders in Training who have not completed their Leadership Qualification must now complete the 3 hour mandatory face to face training.

Saturday 23rd January 2016
Blaby Baptist Church, Northfield Road, Blaby
9.00 am - 12.00 noon

Tuesday 9th February 2016
County Office - 6.30 pm - 9.30 pm

Tuesday 1st March 2016
Ashby TBC - 6.30 pm - 9.30 pm

Please book a place on the trainings of your choice by completing the booking form below or the on-line version via our website

All sessions will be at County Office unless stated otherwise.

- Evening sessions will start at 7.30 pm and finish at 9.00 pm (unless otherwise stated) except for First Response Renewal which will start at 7.00 pm.
- Full First Response will start at 10.00 am and finish at 4.30 pm (Packed lunch, comfy uniform, notebook and pen needed).
- Please check with County office if the shop will be open.
- Uniform 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.
- Materials are free except the First Response book which will cost £3.
- There is often a waiting list so PLEASE tell us if for any reason, you have to cancel.
- Food Hygiene requires a £20 cheque when booking. This is to cover the cost of exam papers and certificates, you will also need photo I.D. on the day - without this you will not be allowed to do the course.



PLEASE COMPLETE A FORM FOR **EACH PERSON**
WISHING TO ATTEND ACTIVITY/TRAINING

send to: Trainings, 97 Princess Road East, Leicester, LE1 7DW

or EMAIL YOUR REQUEST TO :
office@leicestershireguides.org

please remember to include all the details below

Name of Training/Activity

Date of session

Name Membership No.....

Unit/Division

Contact Telephone Number

Role (e.g. Leader, Leader in Training etc)

Email

confirmation of booking will be sent via email only.

First Response only - if you fail to let County Office know that you are unable to attend, then your Division will be charged £5.

Please notify the County Secretary via email or by calling 0116 2545290 identifying any special needs with regard to accessing buildings, rooms etc.



Betty Stevens

5th June 1935 - 20th November 2015

The Service of Thanksgiving for Betty Stevens on the 8th December was very well attended by guiding friends and colleagues.

Betty was a friend to every member of Girlguiding in Leicestershire. She loved people and she loved Girlguiding, but she was also a most effective Leader, making a huge impact on Girlguiding both nationally, regionally and in the county. This was the

more remarkable as she had not been a Brownie or Guide as a child.

Betty was Division Commissioner for Kirby Fields and Joint Organiser of Charnwood 85, held at Stanford Hall.

When Girlguiding nationally decided to consider developing a section for girls below Brownie age, Betty was appointed to chair and lead the planning group. She was determined that Rainbows should be fully part of Girlguiding and not just a play group.

Betty was County Commissioner from 1996 - 2000 and was a great encourager of younger Leaders. Having confidence in their ability she gave them special opportunities. When organisers were needed for Leicestershire's Millennium Thinking Day Performance at Birmingham Symphony Hall Betty took a risk in giving the coordinator role to a group of youthful Leaders. Of course it was a great success and those young women now hold senior positions in Girlguiding.

Betty set the pattern for many of the things we do today, such as setting up Awards evenings and she travelled all over the county to help new District Commissioners with their initial training.

She was to make use of all these links when, after completing her term as County Commissioner, she started helping in the Equipment Store as they wisely asked her to be their staff manager. So Betty expanded the teams looking after each opening time, but if somebody was ill or couldn't make it then Betty would fill the gap.

Betty received many Awards including The Laurel Award for outstanding service to Girlguiding and she was Vice President of Girlguiding Leicestershire. However she would have counted the affection, friendship and respect of so many Girlguiding Leaders as her greatest reward.

Congratulations to Girlguiding Leicestershire's recipients of the Chief Commissioner's Award 2015



Nine ladies from Leicestershire were presented with their awards by Midlands Region Chief Commissioner, Abi Salter, at an event held at St Martin's House in Leicester. The award is given for "outstanding service to local guiding to an active volunteer who holds an appointment at Unit level". The award for "proudest Commissioner of the day" must surely go to Susan Round from Charnwood Division who saw FIVE of her Leaders receive their awards!



Congratulations and thanks for all you do for Girlguiding Leicestershire to:

Rebecca Amey
Gill Bond
Ruth Barber
Sarah Freeman
Sarah Holt
Jacqueline Lewin
Georgina Oliver

Anita Sleath
Sophie Ward
Charnwood
Leicester East
Leicester South
Charnwood
Bardon

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