

Birmingham Broadsheet

Girlguiding Birmingham October 2012

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trefoilhousebookings@btconnect.com



Out On The Water



There are days in Guiding like life when you wonder what's it all about and is it really worth it and then sometimes it all falls into place and you realise exactly what it's all about, why you go back week after week and that yes it really is worth it- well that was my experience on our recent Tuptonia trip.

Following on from the enthusiasm of my assistant leader to take her skippers licence she decided that we should do a brownie holiday aboard Tuptonia. As we had lots of girls who fell into the over 9's age group we decided to do 2 sleepovers rather than a 2 night holiday so more girls would have the opportunity to take part.

After some very wet weather the previous week it was with some trepidation we set off, however the weather was kind and we had a beautifully sunny first day and a slightly cloudier one the second but no rain.

The girls worked incredibly hard in pairs with an adult opening paddles, pushing lock gates and having a go at 'steering'. Their excitement and pleasure was infectious and we all had a relaxing time.



They asked for a bowl and went blackberry picking which made a lovely end to lunch, asked questions about life on the canal and spent the evenings doing crafts.

This is supposedly the generation that can't get by without TV's, mobile phones, iPods and the internet, well our girls did and they didn't seem to miss it. They got fresh air, plenty of exercise and had loads of fun, they now can't wait to go again on the new boat.

Emma James 72nd St. John's Brownies

Notices and Reminders



Advanced Notice
County Swimming Gala
Saturday 16th March 2013

Just a reminder about the
Brownie Centenary Planning
Meeting on Wednesday
October 17th 2012



All Units

To make sure that we can contact a unit when we need to, please can you check that there is a contact email for each unit listed on Go. If you have any problems adding the email address please contact Gaye on girlguidingbham@btconnect.com.

Gaye

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Editors Notes

Hiya, you may have noticed that the Broadsheet has taken on a few subtle changes... We have the new Girlguiding Birmingham Badge which I hear is being recieved by a mixed response. What do you think? We would love to hear your suggestions. We also have a new editor and I am really looking forward to making the Broadsheet something that everybody reads so for those of you who are just skimming **STOP!** and tell me what you want to read. What will make you read instead of skim? Is there a special section you would like to see? A change of format maybe? I would really appreciate any comments to bring the Broadsheet current to what you want. There are discussions going on to make sure the pictures you send in are seen in full, links between the Website and the Broadsheet, question and answer sections etc, but it is your Broadsheet so send me your opinions and artictles to our new email address: news@girlguidingbirmingham.org.uk, these need to reach the editor by the second Monday in November.



Your new editor - Hayley

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme



Most of you will know about the Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE) which enables young people to pursue an adventurous selection of activities, widening their experience, developing skills and having a lot of fun along the way. There are three levels - Bronze, Silver and Gold - and four sections in Bronze and Silver, five in Gold: Volunteering, Physical, Skills, Expedition and, for Gold, a Residential. Participants can choose what they do in each section and many of the activities will overlap with what they are already doing in Guides / Senior Section.

The choice of activities for each section is almost limitless - it might be working with the environment or animals, helping with a charity, pursuing a new sport or hobby or undertaking training to improve skills or fitness, planning and sharing an expedition with a group of friends on foot, by bike, kayak, boat or even a horse. The Gold Residential can be a life-changing experience, sharing five days with a group of new people , learning a skill or working on a project that will help others.

There is a wide range of equipment stored at Trefoil House which can be borrowed by girls to use on their expeditions and although there is a small cost to register for DofE, there are funds available which could support girls pursuing DofE.

DofE within Girlguiding Birmingham is now not run as a central group but there is a lot of help and support for leaders of Units where girls are participating in DofE. Please encourage the girls in your units and divisions to take part so they realise there is a lot out there just waiting to be experienced !

For any further help or information please contact me at caroline.raynor@hotmail.com

and as DofE Administrator for Girlguiding Birmingham I'm always happy to help.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Tamsin Lane on the birth of her new baby daughter on Thursday 27th September 2012 (another prospective Rainbow) from Birmingham Guiding.



Congratulations to Ruth Smith and Nic Carruthers on their tying of the knot. Both looked lovely and the cake was amazing.

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County Commissioner's Comments

Maggie's Message

Hello everyone!

Well, the first of October arrived and when I woke up I didn't feel or look any different but that was the day I officially became County Commissioner for Girlguiding Birmingham.

I have been working alongside Sarah for a few months now, learning the ropes and taking on a few tasks! I really do feel privileged to be taking on such an important role in the County and would like to take this opportunity to once again thank Sarah and Ruth as ACC, for all their hard work, commitment and enthusiasm over the last 5 years. Hard acts to follow!

I hope those of you who attended the County Training Day on Saturday had a great day, sharing new ideas with friends old and new. I'm sorry I couldn't be with you, but it was my first Region Executive Meeting, which I really had to attend. However, I look forward to meeting you at events in the future.

Please invite me into your units, districts and divisions as I really want to get to know you and your girls; I will always do my best to attend, if I am able.

At present we are in the process of ensuring that all the "technology" has been handed over to me. I very much look forward to working with you all.

Here's to our next five years together!

Best wishes

Maggie Jones

County Commissioner

Quick Note From Sarah

Hello everyone,

By the time you read this Maggie will be our new County Commissioner and I'm sure settling in well to the role!

Maggie will be taking over the CC email address: ccguiding@btconnect.com and the county mobile

07853 137555.

My new contact details will be: sarahtrinder@hotmail.co.uk and my mobile is 07979 362752.

It would be lovely to hear from you.

Best wishes

Sarah

Virtual Bouquet

Many thanks to the following people for all their help at the County Training Day:

Janice Price, Sue Mitchell, Felicity Callanan and Anne McGibbon and Margaret Aitken.

Many thanks to Sue Burton for all her work on the Broadsheet for many years

and keeping us up to date with all the goings on in the county.

Is there somebody out there that you think deserves a Thank You in the broadsheet?



Leadership Qualifications

Huge Congratulations To:

Ellen	Moore	188th Birmingham Brownies	Mod 1-4Kings Norton	2012-09-03
Mandy	Quayle	247th Birmingham Guides	Mod 4 Kings Norton	2012-08-20
Christine	Daye	123rd Birmingham Guides	Mod 1 Kings Norton	2012-08-13

Janet Nunn

County Leadership Co-ordinator - Tel: 0121 421 5954



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International Announcements

COUNTY INTERNATIONAL PRESENTATION EVENING

Saturday 1st December 2012
7.00pm

Trefoil House

Please come along and join us to browse the various displays and listen to the experiences of girls and leaders who have attended International Guiding events during 2012. This will be an enjoyable and enlightening evening as you listen to the adventures that girls and leaders have had on trips to Finland, India, Russia to name just a few!!!

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

If would be helpful to know in advance who will be attending if possible - many thanks.



Claire Storrie
International
Adviser

Tel: 0121 459 9172

Email: c.storrie1@
btinternet.com

JAILBREAK 2013

Saturday 27th July - Saturday 3rd August
2013

An exciting 'challenge' for Senior Section members, in groups of 6-8 your team will go on the run across Europe, in 8 eight days you will visit a minimum of 3 countries and will accomplish challenges/tasks in order to earn your 'parole'.

For more information visit
<http://www.girlguiding-midlands.org.uk/>

**Closing Date for Applications: 31st October
2012!!!**

Please contact me if you are entering a team
Claire Storrie (International Adviser)
Email: c.storrie1@btinternet.com

SUMMER-TIME FUN IN SWITZERLAND!!!

On Friday 17th August 2012, after nearly 2 years of planning; 24 Guides and Rangers and 9 leaders excitedly boarded the coach to begin their Switzerland adventure! Our coach companions for the next 10 days were 22 Guides and leaders from Fulwood, Sheffield and Glynn and Bill; our fabulous coach drivers. We arrived at 'Schwyz' chalet in Adelboden on the Saturday afternoon, what a beautiful location - right beside the river and surrounded by mountains...it was stunning!

We had a nice chilled day on the Sunday, with a little time for shopping in Adelboden followed by swimming in the outdoor pool. It was a lovely hot sunny day. Then the action packed programme for the week began! We had a very early start on the Monday morning with a ride on a coach and a couple of trains that took us up through the mountains to 3454 metres to Jungfrauoch - the Top of Europe. This was a highlight of the week for quite a few members of our group with a visit to the Ice Palace and sledging on snow. It was very memorable and lots of fun! The following day the girls left their mark at the Woodcarvers Cottage; the woodcarver added our group badge to his collection of badges on the ceiling of his chalet! Then we had a fantastic tour of 'Our Chalet'; the Guide World Centre in Switzerland followed by lots of photos on the famous stone steps of the chalet! On the Wednesday we had the first ride of our trip on a cable car up to lake Oeschinensee; where some girls had a paddle and we also had a thrilling ride on the summer toboggan dry-run. And of course no visit to Kandersteg would be complete without a very quick visit to the International Scout Centre. Our second cable car experience was the following day; up to Engstligenalp where we visited a cheese farm and was able to get breath-taking views of Engstligen Waterfall. On the Thursday night, we had chocolate fondue which was delicious followed by our 'sleeping in straw' experience where we slept in a barn for the night...the girls loved it! Friday was nice and relaxing again with a boat trip on Lake Thun and then just time for a quick dip in the outdoor swimming pool before heading back to the chalet to start packing! We boarded our coach again at 11.00am on the Saturday morning for the long journey home! But wow...what a week!

Or in the words of the girls...I've had the most AMAZING time ever!!!

Claire Storrie

Kings Norton District Guides and Rangers

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Senior Section Activities



Are you new to Birmingham? Perhaps just started Uni? Or maybe new to Senior Section?

Are you a young guider wanting to meet other senior section members in the county?

Then why not come along to the senior section 'INDOOR CLIMBING EVENING' on Monday 12th November?

We'd love to see you.

For more information, see attached flyer or contact Karen Edwards
kazedwards@btinternet.com

Straight From The Newsroom



I accepted an invitation to meet Paul Fulford, the new Community Editor at the Birmingham Mail in their impressive offices in the Fort Dunlop building on 20 September. Girlguiding Birmingham was one of the 21 organisations invited to learn how to get stories into the press.

Over time and with the development of digital technology the numbers of news reporters and press photographers has dwindled and as a result the Birmingham Mail would like to encourage stories from the community but having said that, they accept that stories are not always published



depending on news and print space. They want those who submit stories and details of forthcoming events to keep the details short and look at it from the end user's perspective.

The afternoon included a tour of the newsroom and a talk about what makes the ideal photograph and the use of social media. Ideally there should be no more than 3 or 4 people in the photo and images of girls doing something are far better than a line of smiling faces, however lovely that might be.

I attended in uniform to help promote our organisation and hope the information will prove useful.

I am happy to support leaders writing short press releases or forwarding details of forthcoming events. Please let me know about your activities so we can promote the great things the girls do and the wonderful efforts of our volunteer leaders.

Jayne Howle

Exciting New Challenge Badges

There are two new and exciting challenge badges out at the moment, one is a Disney badge and the other is a monopoly challenge. The Disney is great for all Sections, even Senior Section but the Monopoly Challenge is a bit complicated for Rainbows.

If you would like a copy of these please email brownowl18@gmail.com

**Thankyou to Sarah and Ruth for everything they have done and achieved.
Good luck to Maggie as our new County Commissioner**

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Indoor Climbing Evening at



Moseley Road, Moseley B12 9AA www.creationleisure.co.uk
(only 15 minutes on the No. 50 bus from City Centre)

Open to all
Senior Section
aged 14-25 as well as senior section leaders
Monday 12th November 2012
7pm until 9pm ~ Cost £9.00

The evening will cater for all levels of expertise - whether you are an Absolute beginner or wish to come along and improve your skills. Come along and join other senior section members for what promises to be a fun evening! All sessions will be in a group of up to 8 with a qualified instructor. Places are not limited but we need you to make your booking as soon as possible in order to ensure we have sufficient numbers to make the evening viable.

Please return the booking form, together with your cheque/s to: Karen Edwards
c/o Trefoil House, Brownsea Drive, off Blucher Street, Holloway Head B1 1QL no later than 31st October 2012 Further details will be sent those attending on receipt of booking form.

Senior Section Climbing Evening

I would like book places for the Senior Section Climbing Evening:

NAME:..... (please print all details clearly!)

UNIT:

CONTACT PHONE NO: EMAIL:

I enclose a cheque for £ (payable to "Guide Association Birmingham")

If you are booking for more than one person please can you provide the names of all participants

For more information contact:

Karen Edwards email: kazedwards@btinternet.com mob: 07540 953065

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LOOKING FOR A PLACE FOR YOUR YOUTH GROUP OR SCHOOL TO STAY!
THE 'FED' CAN MEET YOUR NEEDS FROM CAMPING THROUGH TO A FULLY CATERED SERVICE!



The Bilberry Hill Centre (B45 8RT)
Set in the beautiful Lickey Hills 500 Acre Country Park about 9 miles from Birmingham's City Centre. Sleeps 64 and includes a range of activity rooms including a useful 'sports hall'.

Earlswood Log Cabin & Camp Site (B94 5JP)
7 acres of wonderful woodlands near Earlswood Lakes. Introduce your young people to camping! Bring your own tents or hire our Tent Village, sleeps 106 or use the Log Cabin that sleeps 20.

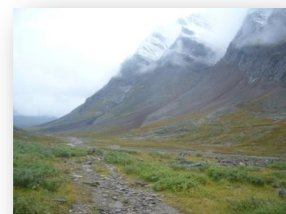


Highball Country Centre (WR8 0DX)
Close to the majestic Malvern Hills with plenty of space in the grounds for youngsters to let off steam. Sleeps 60 in dormitories. Close to the historic cities of Worcester, Gloucester & Hereford.
(Bookings managed on behalf of the Highball Trust)

For more information check our website @
www.birminghamclubsforyoungpeople.btck.co.uk
www.highballcentre.org or
call 0121 453 3531 (9.30am-3.30pm)
Tel: 0121 453 3531 or 07803 889388

Arctic Adventure

Date: 19 to 31 August 2013



Cost: Approximately £900 excluding flight costs, Spring Get Together and some meals. There are a limited number of places and a non-returnable deposit of £150.00 will be required by 1 December 2012 if you are successful.

Who is it for: Senior Section Members aged 16 to 25 years.

Description: Walk in the Swedish Arctic tundra before the snow arrives and experience the remoteness of the glacial arctic mountains. Trek along the Kungsleden Trail with overnight stops in huts, where you will cook and sleep, and meet walkers from different cultures along the way. Explore Stockholm for a day and stay in a hostel overnight.

What's included: Guided Trek along the Kungsleden Trail, travel in Sweden and accommodation during the stay.

Bookings open date: 17 September 2012 - Closing date: 31 October 2012

Notes: You will need a medium level of hill walking fitness and the ability to carry all you need for the Trek including food and sheet sleeping bag in a rucksack. The huts are well equipped but there is no running water or electricity. **This is a wilderness!**

Spring Get-together: It is imperative that you are able to attend the weekend of 22 - 24 March 2013 for a briefing, walk, time to get to know each other etc.

