

Birmingham Broadsheet



Girlguiding Birmingham September 2012

AT LAST WE HAVE OUR NEW TUPTONIA!!!!



After about 7 or 8 years of fundraising, letter writing, organising events, opening locks, making cakes, doing chemical magic, eating fish and chips at Skittles nights, and holding all sorts of other events, we have now taken delivery of the new boat! It still all seems like a dream!!!

As with the old boat, the new Tuptonia sleeps 12, there are 8 bunks for the girls and 4 beds for the adults - 3 at the front and 1 at the back (for the skipper). There are 2 bathrooms each with toilet and wash basin, 1 of these has a shower (emergency use only). The fully equipped galley has a gas cooker with 4 burners, oven and grill, a fridge (no ice box), and a microwave (this can only be used with the engine running!!!). The back end of the boat is different - a semi-traditional stern instead of the open cruiser stern means there are spaces for people to sit safely at the back as well as at the front. The saloon is more spacious than on the old boat, two tables and comfortable seats for 12 with a bit more room to move! We have two side hatches which give extra light to the interior and provide additional emergency exits. We also have an effective heating system which means the boat can be used in the winter.

The boat really is great and runs so very well, we found it hard to find anything wrong to report to the boatyard at Alvechurch, who have done an amazing job of building her. We have identified a few small extras which will help make your trips absolutely perfect and these items should all be done by the Launch Weekend which is 27th and 28th October 2012 at Alvechurch boatyard. If you would like to come along and see the boat that weekend please complete a form to tell us when you are likely to come and how many people will be coming.

Parking may be a problem, so if you are near a railway station and can get the train to Alvechurch station that is the best way of getting there. The boatyard is a 5 minute walk from the station. (Division Commissioners will have forms after the County Executive meeting on 11th September).

Bookings can now be taken for trips with girls next year, why not try and be amongst the first units to make a trip?

We do not have Information Booklets to send out yet, but a £50 deposit and a completed Booking Form will secure a booking, we will provide the skipper, you just need the girls (Brownies must be 9 years of age to sleep on board) and the relevant holiday qualification and helpers.

Contact Lynne Alexander for more details: lkalexander@waitrose.com

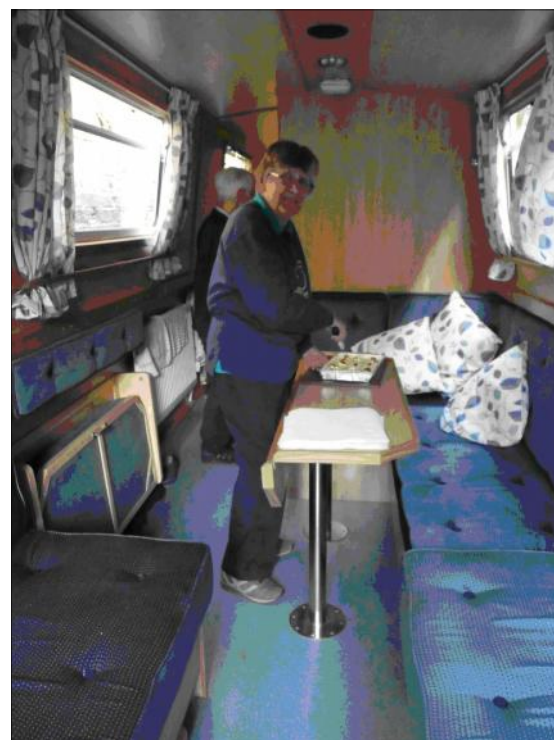
A date for your diary

Goodrest Autumn Working Day

Saturday 20th October 2012

Bring your tools and help clear up the campsite for the winter.

Contact Diane Morgan 01214585422 for more details





Message from Sarah and Ruth

Hello to all members, friends and supporters of Girlguiding Birmingham,
Welcome back to the start of a new term and hope you've all had the chance of a break and some time to relax during the summer.

We're looking forward to our County Day on 6th October - there will be lots of opportunities to gain new skills and ideas to use with your unit and find out about important topics such as making sure that Guiding is a Safe Space for girls and leaders and how Youth Participation works in units. The day will also include a special session just for Young Leaders. Book your place now - why not come along as a unit team and bring your young leaders with you?

See elsewhere in the Broadsheet for details.

We're delighted that the Chief Guide will be coming to launch our new narrowboat, Tuptonia, on Saturday 27th October. During the weekend of Sat 27th and Sun 28th October there will be the opportunity for girls, leaders, friends and families to visit the new boat. But please book in advance because we can only take 12 people on the boat at once due to insurance. We look forward to seeing many of you there - come and see our wonderful new boat! Again, details elsewhere in the Broadsheet - but please remember to book!

We'd like to say - it's been a real privilege to be County Commissioner and Assistant CC for Girlguiding Birmingham for the past five years. During this time we've had some amazing experiences and some real mountain top moments. In the midst of so many wonderful memories, one day stands out in particular for the two of us, which we would not have experienced in the same way were it not for our roles... the Centenary Launch at Symphony Hall. There was a breathtaking moment as we came onto the stage at the start when we saw Symphony Hall full to overflowing with excited girls, leaders and parents. As the event drew to a close and everyone came back on stage for the finale of "Don't Stop Me Now", the balloons came down, thousands of girls screamed and sang along with delight and we were overwhelmed with the enormity of what had been achieved to celebrate such a momentous occasion. We're sure the county will continue to move from strength to strength - with such enthusiastic leaders and supporters and a vision for the future inspired by our young members, it will be the place to be! Go for it, girls!

We're both delighted that Maggie Jones is taking on the role of County Commissioner. Many of you will have met Maggie by now and we know that you will give her as much support as you have given us. Maggie - we wish you all the best in your new role and we're sure you will have an amazing time as Girlguiding Birmingham continues to develop and move forward over the years to come.

Best wishes,
Sarah and Ruth

Sarah Trinder
County Commissioner

Ruth Smith
Assistant County Commissioner

VIRTUAL BOUQUET

A huge thank you to all those involved in fundraising for the new Tuptonia and to the members of the committee for tireless work and enthusiasm in getting us to this point!

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered their time, skills and expertise, as advisers, commissioners and many other supporting roles, on the County Executive Committee, numerous county committees, and all the committees and teams across the divisions and districts. It is not easy to give up yet more time to guiding when we have such busy lives - yet what you do has moved the county forward and ensures we can provide activities and opportunities for all our young members.

Thank you to all leaders, unit helpers, volunteers and supporters who have made Girlguiding Birmingham such a vibrant and fun place to be for all our young members over the past five years - it wouldn't have been the same without you!

To all our readers, friends and supporters - thank you!

Many thanks to all the ladies who have given their time to pack up and then re-stock the shop following the refurbishment this summer. Well done to you all!!



I would like to send a Virtual Beer to all those chaps who helped and supported the leaders that went Summer Guide Camp at Sarsden. Cheers Thanks Guys!





Letter from Maggie Jones County Commissioner Designate

Dear Division Commissioners, Team Leaders and Advisers,

I'm sure you are all wondering how I am planning to take the County forward when I take over the C.C role on 1st October 2012! Many of you have come forward to offer your continued support to the County in general, and to me in particular; for that I am very grateful.

Some of you are coming towards the end of your appointment, some want a change of direction, some want to finish and some of you having been trying to finish for some time!

Many of you have asked for a one-to-one chat about your roles and I will be getting round to meeting you all in the Autumn term.

One of the first jobs I want to do is to look at the County teams; how they are made up, where, when and why they meet! Hopefully this will enable us to make the running of the County more effective, efficient and strategic.

What I am going to propose, therefore, is that we all, including those whose appointments have expired or who want to give up/are giving up soon, meet together; Division and District Commissioners with your Division teams/Execs, Team Leaders with your Team members, including Trainers, and Advisers, to discuss the way forward and to generally get to know each other.

The date is: **SATURDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2012, TREFOIL HOUSE, 9.30am - 12.30pm** followed by lunch.

I am proposing that this will replace the full November Executive meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday 13th November. (I intend to make this night a meeting for Division Commissioners only.) I will send out an agenda nearer the time with a reply-by date, but in the meantime I would appreciate you putting the date in your diary. I will send out reminders via the Broadsheet over the next few months.

Could I ask you to circulate this letter to your respective teams as soon as possible, encourage them to come along, meet me and help shape the structure of the County for the future.

I am really looking forward to working with you all!

Have a great summer, relax and enjoy the break.

Best wishes

Maggie

County Commissioner Designate

Brownie Centenary Celebrations 2014

Calling all Brownie Guiders!

Would you like to help plan and organise the County Brownie Centenary Celebrations for 2014?

Are you doing your Adult Leadership Qualification and need to help organise a large event?

Well, if the answer to those questions is "Yes", we would love to have you on board!

We are holding a planning meeting on Wednesday 17th October at Trefoil House at 7.00p.m.

Come along and share your ideas so that we can make the Brownie Centenary Celebrations very special!

Please let County office know if you are able to attend: girlguidingbirmingham@btconnect.com

We look forward to hearing from you.

Maggie Jones

County Commissioner Designate

Howarts at Trefoil Croft!

The 16th Sutton Coldfield Brownies had a fantastic Brownie Holiday At Trefoil Croft in August. Our theme was Harry Potter.

Two of our leaders, Olivia and Anna are leaving to go to University in September. We ended our holiday with a special graduation lunch to say thank you and good luck for Univ.

We all dressed for the occasion Hogwarts.

Earlier in the week Olivia and Anna led the brownies in exploring the woods—having great fun getting very wet and muddy!

Sue Mitchell



Sending best wishes to members of Girlguiding Birmingham taking part in the tour of 'New England' - USA later this month with members of Girlguiding West Mercia - have a lovely time and safe travels!

Claire Storrie



Letters to the Editor

Contact Hayley Jones Email: news@girlguidingbirmingham.org.uk

The change of season has heralded changes within Girlguiding Birmingham! We thank Sarah and Ruth for all that they have achieved over the last 5 years as County Commissioner and Assistant County Commissioner and wish them every success in any new ventures. We look forward to working with our new County Commissioner Maggie Jones. This is also the last Editor's column from myself, as I am passing the mantle over to Hayley Jones next month to revitalise the County Newsletter.

Please note the new email address for Broadsheet articles "news@girlguidingbirmingham.org.uk"

Email distribution still via Rachel McMaster "mcmasterrachel@gmail.com"

I would like to thank all my regular contributors for their support over the years. Please keep your articles coming in via the new email address and support Hayley in keeping everyone abreast of events in Birmingham Girlguiding.

I would also like to thank Christine Cheel for making me feel so welcome in my relatively new role as County President when visiting the Edgbaston Camp on a beautiful sunny day in August.

I am retaining my role as County PRA for the time being, so please keep both Jayne Howle and myself in mind for press releases and of course recruitment help. Jayne Howle Email: JayneHowle@aol.com

Sue Burton Email: sueburton62@blueyonder.co.uk

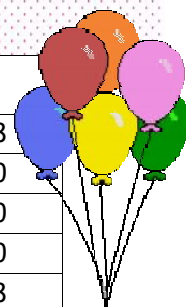
Sue

Sue Burton

Leadership Qualifications

Congratulations!

Diane	Candelent	231st Birmingham Rainbows	Mod 1	Cole Valley	2012-07-18
Helen	Moxley	94th Birmingham Brownies	Mod 1-3	Edgbaston	2012-07-10
Sharon	Chloe	94th Birmingham Brownies	Mod 1-3	Edgbaston	2012-07-10
Catherine	Robinson	6th Birmingham Brownies	Mod 1-3	Edgbaston	2012-07-10
Grace	Oliver	1st Hall Green District Rainbows	Mod 1 & 4	Hall Green	2012-07-18
Sarah	McGuire	273rd Birmingham Guides	Mod 1	Hall Green	2012-06-27
Anastasija	Leech	190th Birmingham Brownies	Mod 4	Kings Norton	2012-06-19
Shelly	Keil	238th Birmingham Brownie Unit	Mod 1-3	Middlepark	2012-07-20
Emily	Meyrick	289th Birmingham Brownies	Mod 1-3	Middlepark	2012-07-17
Sally	Betteridge	122nd Birmingham Brownies	Mod 1-3	Middlepark	2012-07-02
Mary	Davies	Northfield Div Senior Section	Mod 1-3	Northfield	2012-07-20
Jaime	Church	272nd Birmingham Brownies	Mod 1-4	Northfield	2012-05-19
Kirsty	Moore	9th Sutton Codfield Rainbows	Mod 1	Trinity	2012-08-20
Debbie	Hele	23rd Sutton Coldfield Brownies	Mod 1-4	Vesey	2012-07-03



Janet Nunn County Leadership Coordinator - Tel: 0121 421 5954

Big Gig Tickets

I have six Big Gig tickets for sale for the afternoon performance at Sheffield Motorpoint Arena on Saturday 6th October. The tickets are £40 each (£25 for the ticket and £15 for coach travel) and are in Block C, rows 10 & 11 - very close to the stage! Please let me know if you are interested ... More details about the event at <http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/guides/bigbig/index.html> Rachel McMaster 07710 262 363 mcmasterrachel@gmail.com

Go Top Tips

At the beginning of this new term please could everybody check their own GO! Record and make sure that their telephone numbers and email address are up-to-date. We try and send out all information via email to save postage. If there are any problems with this, please contact Gaye in the County Office girlguidingbham@btconnect.com.

Wanted

CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINER FOR RAINBOW WINTER WONDERLAND WEEKEND
Can anyone recommend a children's entertainer who might be able to keep a large group of about 150 girls entertained with magic show and disco. Please could you send details and what sort of setting you have seen the person work in to Ansley Stenning on astenning@blueyonder.co.uk together with your own contact details.



California Dreaming'

I began planning for California Dreamin' 2 long years ago at the Centenary camp in Yorkshire. From signing my name on a piece of paper to finally arriving in London, the wait had been huge but completely worth it. The first week at the Camporee, in 42° heat, saw us doing traditional Guiding activities and swapping like mad. The night's were cooler thankfully, as the open-air disco and karaoke was very energetic. One of my best memories of the entire trip comes from the first night, singing Party in The U.S.A. with complete strangers, in a way that you would only find in a Guiding environment. My chosen activities were surfing the Pacific waves and Duck tape workshop (I can do all sorts of things with a roll or two now!!!). We visited a traditional boardwalk (ate corndogs and deep fried oreos - YUK!), viewed the stars with an expert from NASA and watched The Oakland A's versus The Tampa Bay Rays - where one of our group caught the baseball! The closing ceremony was a beautiful candlelit event which thanked everyone for helping create the wonderful experience and made us all glad that we were a part of something so special in the worldwide Guiding movement.

Although camp was over and the goodbyes were incredibly sad, we still had a week's worth of tourism to look forward to in the heart of San Francisco. During this week we visited Alcatraz, walked The Golden Gate bridge, crossed the longer and older Bay Bridge and toured the streets of San Francisco on an open topped bus, ironically bought from London. The many nights spent on Pier 39 allowed us to really bond as a group and we had a spectacular time watching the sun set over Angel Island and viewing the entire cityscape from the Golden Gate Bridge where we also made and renewed promises.

The entire trip was so perfect thanks to all the wonderful people that made up my group. What started as a group of strangers are now lifelong friends. Thanks go to my group including our leaders Teresa and Stella, the camp organisers and the people back home who allowed me to be there in the first place. I hope that my experiences encourage others to participate in similar activities, because they create memories and friends that will last a lifetime.

Bev Parsons Hall Green

Indoor Climbing Evening

SENIOR SECTION INDOOR CLIMBING EVENING

On Monday 12th November 2012.

An evening of climbing has been arranged for Senior Section members aged 14-25—Come along and scale to great heights!! Whether you are an absolute beginner undertaking your first climb or have climbed many times and wish to improve your skills now is your chance! Cost £9 per person for an instructed 2 hour session. Please see attached flyer and booking form.

Do not delay in making a booking as we need to ensure we get sufficient numbers to make the evening viable

Karen Edwards

Selly Oak Trefoil Guild



Triple celebrations at Bournville College Luncheon Party when Selly Oak Trefoil Guild celebrated the Queen's Jubilee, Trefoil Guild 65th Anniversary and Joan Stoker's 90th Birthday. Joan was a founder member of the Guild.
Muriel Christie



Bev Parsons California Dreamin'



Congratulations to Leona Candelent on her marriage to Andrew Patrick on 28th July at Holy Trinity Church, Sutton Coldfield. Leona is pictured here with her very proud mum, Diane and sister Heather. All three are leaders with 231st Birmingham units in Cole Valley Division.
Penny Hall

EVER BEEN ON A WINTER CAMP?

Why not join our friends from Birmingham Scouts at ICE SCOUT a winter camp for scouts/guides/explorers and senior section members at Blackwell Adventure. See www.icescout.org.uk for more details. Volunteers also sought from members aged 18 plus to assist on staff for weekend.



Roverway 2012

Two of us from Birmingham, FlissCallanan (Northfield) and Emily Mason (Middlepark) were selected to go to Roverway in Finland this summer as part of the Girlguiding Midlands group. We attended briefings to plan our trip and a weekend for the whole UK contingent, before leaving from Heathrow on Thursday 19th July.

Our first flight landed in Helsinki, where the sun was still shining brightly at 10pm! We then caught a second, smaller plane, and landed in our starting city, Tampere. We arrived at our pre-Roverway school at 2am, and were told they'd be getting us up again at 6:15!

Slightly tired, we made our way to the Opening Ceremony, which was held simultaneously in three cities across Finland. We were the only UK Guides at our opening city, but we could see the others elsewhere.

From there, we joined our Tribe (a group of 50 Scouts & Guides from 7 different countries, with whom we would spend the first 4 days of Roverway) and walked to the Scout hut we were staying in. We spent the afternoon exploring Tampere, before cooking on Trangias in a local park and playing games. The next day, we did some community service tidying up a music festival, before trying black sausage (like black pudding - but in a sausage!) and heading off to a local sculpture museum.

That afternoon, we tried Finnish church boat rowing - a large boat which was rowed by 17 people at a time, heading to a clearing for a snack of pizza and berries before heading off to our first campsite, which belonged to a local Scout group.

Our campsite was right on the edge of a lake, and it was absolutely beautiful. However, as the land we were camping on was actually forest, it was quite difficult to pitch a tent without a rock in your back. We also had no running water on site... so no toilets - but there was a sauna! We had the opportunity to sauna each day in camp, which we really enjoyed. We also cooked, chopped wood and swam in the lake. One evening was an international dinner, and everyone enjoyed cooking and serving food from their country (especially the 'English' smores!).

Then we packed up and headed to the main camp at Evo - along with 3,500 others. We arrived at camp and saw the UK contingent tent, before setting up and heading to the opening ceremony - which featured chart toppers played by the Finnish National Defence Band.

Five days at camp passed as a blur - but highlights were:

- Cafes - open late into the night to chat and enjoy
- Loverway - a festival day where every country shared something with everyone else
- Smashing up cars (yes, this was really an activity!)

Before we knew it, camp was over, and we headed off on our own Midlands adventure... we caught the train to a port, and then stayed overnight in a hostel on a boat (with a shower - heaven!), before catching the ferry the next day to the Aland islands, which are between Finland and Sweden. We headed to our campsite, and enjoyed the nearby beach, explored the town and took a trip to a tiny island, half of which is Finnish and half is Swedish. We then got back on the ferry and headed to Sweden, where we had a fabulous barbecue, before heading back to the UK on 1st August.

It was a fantastic opportunity, and we'd like to thank everyone who helped us get there:

Fliss:

Claire Storrie - for mentoring me through my international module

Fiona Hartnell-Smith, Bev Smith & Northfield Division leaders - for generous donations and supporting all of my fundraising! Northfield Division Trefoil Guild - for their kind donation Northfield Division Senior Section - for helping out at fundraising events.

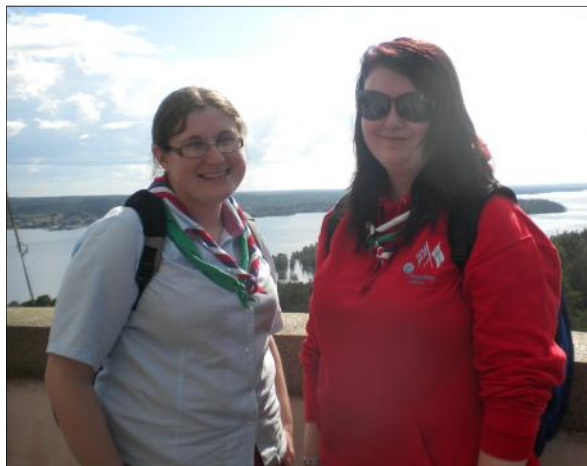
Emily:

International team—for selecting me for a fantastic event

Jill Morton, Karen Edwards

and Weoley Rangers

- For their help and support with fundraising Kings Norton Girls' School for letting me do endless cake sales at Parents Evenings and Mum for letting me hog the Kitchen.



In4mer Information

Please contact Fliss Callanan to book an in4mer to visit their unit or for Senior Section members who are interested in going on a Basic Training—Email: felicitycallanan@hotmail.com