



## World Thinking Day, Subscriptions & What's Coming Up

---

Hello everyone,

Can you believe it's February already? With annual subscriptions and **World Thinking Day** just around the corner, there's lots going on across the county.

Our annual **World Thinking Day Treasure Hunt** is taking place on the *actual* day itself – **Sunday 22 February** – which is pretty special! Please do book and come along (all the details are on the website here: [Thinking Day 100th Anniversary Treasure Hunt – Girlguiding Birmingham](#)).

The **Adventure Team** have been busy researching and planning the route, so it's a great chance to explore our wonderful city, have some fun, and earn a fantastic badge along the way.

The **Archive Team** have also been hard at work and have put together a **100 Years of Girlguiding Birmingham World Thinking Day display** at **Trefoil House** on **Saturday 21** (1030am to 2.30pm) **and Sunday 22 February** (exhibition open to anyone coming to the building as part of the Treasure Hunt – anyone else, please let us know you are coming and we can arrange a time). Please pop in if you can – there will be refreshments, time to catch up, and opportunities to ask questions. I'm really looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible over the World Thinking Day weekend.

I can see from GO that lots of you have been busy tidying up your unit data to make sure your numbers are correct ahead of invoices – thank you for all your hard work on that.

### **Subscriptions for 2026**

Subscriptions for **2026** are due on **22 February 2026** and are **£62 per person**, plus any division or district levy.

Please take a moment to look at your unit accounts and make sure you're able to pay your unit subscription when invoices arrive. If you're worried that you may not be able to pay the full amount, please contact the **County Office as soon as possible** [countyoffice@girlguidingbirmingham.org.uk](mailto:countyoffice@girlguidingbirmingham.org.uk) You'll need to provide:

- Your last year of unit accounts
- Your most recent bank statement
- A short explanation

This helps us understand your situation and make sure you get the right support. Requests for help need to be made by **28 February**, and we'll let you know the outcome the following week.

### **Unit Accounts**

Girlguiding Finance Policy requires Commissioners to see unit accounts in their division each year, including knowing unit year ends, bank details, and signatories.

To help with this, each unit needs to:

- Complete their unit accounts
- Have them independently checked within **three months** of their year end
- Send them to their Commissioner

We'll be sending a spreadsheet to Commissioners shortly to confirm that units have completed and independently checked their most recent accounts. If you're finding this difficult, please have a chat with your Commissioner – support is available.

### **County Plan**

Commissioners and advisers recently got together over lunch to talk about future plans. We looked ahead to the next two years, including what we'd like to achieve and succession planning.

So, watch this space for:

- New opportunities
- Events and activities
- Training
- Birmingham merchandise
- A range of new badges

As always, your ideas are very welcome – if there's something you'd love to see or take part in, please let us know.

### **Current Opportunities**

We're currently looking for volunteers for the following roles:

- County Treasurer
- International Lead
- Growth Team
- Social Media and PR Team
- Training Coordinator
- Mentors (Leadership and Going Away With)
- Guide/Ranger Residential Adviser
- Adult Support
- Trainee Trainers

If you're interested or would like to find out more, please contact **cc@girlguidingbirmingham.org.uk**.

### **Upcoming Events**

Please remember to book your places on the website:

- **Guide Arts Day** [African Rhythm guide activity day – Girlguiding Birmingham](#)
- **Snow Days** – just a few places left [Snow adventure days – Girlguiding Birmingham](#)

- **Faiths for Fun** – please book directly with Peter Rookes [Faiths for fun – Girlguiding Birmingham](#)

## Awards

County Award nominations are open now and need to be received by the end of April. Who do you know who goes the extra mile in your unit or the county? It may be week in, week out, or a one-off special event they have organised or supported to make it happen. A nomination form is attached – or use our online nomination form here: [Girlguiding Birmingham Awards – Girlguiding Birmingham](#)

I'm also very close to completing my personal challenge of **70 visits in 70 weeks**, visiting units and events and meeting girls, volunteers, and guiding friends across the county. It's been busy, inspiring, and such a joy. I've loved seeing the dedication you all show week in and week out.

I've met hundreds of our members – young and not so young, including Trefoil – all living their Promise, achieving awards, building confidence, having fun, and making wonderful memories.

Wishing you all a very happy **World Thinking Day**.

As always, thank you for everything you do for **Girlguiding Birmingham**.

My very best wishes,

**Janice**

Girlguiding Birmingham

Trefoil House

2 Ellis Street

BIRMINGHAM B1 1HL

[cc@girlguidingbirmingham.org.uk](mailto:cc@girlguidingbirmingham.org.uk)

[www.girlguidingbirmingham.org.uk](http://www.girlguidingbirmingham.org.uk)