

Stop Press

Hello and welcome to the October edition of **DIGI-POST**, your monthly newsletter.

Inspired by the recent International trips which have happened in our County? Check out pages 3 and 4 to read more about the different travels over the summer!

A huge thank you to Jane Stoney for all her hard work ensuring County finances are up to date and supporting units with completing accounts- this is a very small snapshot of the hard work she has completed behind the scenes.

Taking over Jane's role of County finance is Fiona Caldecott... I'm Fiona (Fi) Caldecott. I re-joined Girlguiding about 10 years ago having been a Brownie and a Guide as a child and I've been a leader with 10th Ilkeston Brownies for 8 years. I'm also the Chair of Trefoil House in Ilkeston. Having just got back from PGL with Girlguiding, working with a great team of guiding leaders (and the PGL team of course) to give our girls a weekend full of adventure and fun, I'm proud to be part of this incredible organisation. Outside of Girlguiding I'm a Finance Manager, and its great to be able to use my professional skills and knowledge to support our new County team as Treasurer.



Learning & Development

First Response

Please see the dates below for the various different First Response, face to face, training sessions. All of these training sessions can be booked online. Please click [here](#) to book your place.

Note- trainees must complete e-learning First Aid on the Learning platform prior to course.

- Sunday 8th October- Chesterfield- Full
- Saturday 21st October- Buxton- SPACES
- Saturday 11th November- Littleover- SPACES
- Saturday 18th November- Belper- SPACES
- Sunday 19th November- Ilkeston- SPACES
- Saturday 2nd December- Etwall- SPACES
- Sunday 14th January- Matlock- SPACES
- Sunday 11th February- Chesterfield- SPACES
- Sunday 10th March- Belper- SPACES
- Saturday 11th May- Long Eaton- SPACES



Practical Assessment- 2 hour face to face training session (module 1)
Sunday 24th March- Long Eaton- SPACES

Events

Date	Event	Venue	Booking link/more information
Sat 1 st Apr-Tues 21 st Oct	Ramble Around the Region-Midlands event	Across the Midlands	The new Girlguiding Midlands walking challenge for 2023. More information please click here
Sat 14 th -Sun 15 th Oct	New Commissioner's weekend		Emailed out by Midlands office
Sun 15 th Oct	Region Advisor's Day	Birmingham	Emailed out by Midlands office
Sat 28 th Oct	Commissioner Day	The Studio, Birmingham	Emailed out by Midlands office to all commissioners
Mon 30 th Oct-Sun 12 th Nov	BBC Children in Need	Nationwide	Fundraising pack available from here
Sun 26 th Nov	Woolies and Wellies-Midlands event	Lower Drayton Farm and Playbarn, Stafford	Activity day for Rainbows and Brownies. More information please click here
Sun 5 th Nov	Derbyshire County Awards	Incora County Ground, Derby	Invites have been sent out.
Sat 25 th Nov-Sun 26 th Nov	Sparkle and Ice camp	All GG activity centres	Available for Guides, Rangers and leaders. Click here for more information.

Initiatives

- Young Leader new initiative will be available from 2024.
- 11th October is International Day of the Girl. There is a badge available from Girlguiding Trading and lots of activity packs available from [Unicef](#) and [WAGGGS](#).
- October is Black History Month. Keep an eye on the Girlguiding UK website as there will be resources available to support

Other Notices

Girlguiding UK Insight and Innovation pool: interested in supporting and making change within Girlguiding UK? See this link for more information: [click here](#)

Vacant posts

- County Young Leader Co-ordinator- to support the introduction of the qualification. It's a chance to make a difference to a new position!
- County Awards Chair and committee member- hear about the great work that is going on in the County and reward volunteers and members accordingly.

Contact Angela on cc@girlguidingderbyshire.org for more information or to register your interest.

Shout out about Girlguiding in your area! If you have any pictures to share whether it is trips, unit activities, programme related or awards please get in touch with Rachel on accgrowth@girlguidingderbyshire.org or post on the Derbyshire Leaders Facebook page (with photo permissions granted) so we can share this on our public facing social media pages.

Derby Rotary Love in a Box appeal- Derby Rotary are once again holding their 'love in a box' appeal. This year their boxes will be sent to Ukraine, Moldova, Romania, Georgia and Bosnia. If your unit would like to get involved please contact John Worthy on worthyshoeboxes@gmail.com

Commissioner Zone

Commissioner Support:

There are various different in person events for Commissioners- the new Commissioner weekend and Commissioner day in October. Please contact Midlands HQ if you want more information about either of these.

There is a new e-learning course on the learning platform called becoming a commissioner and is designed to help new commissioners in the role. Login to the learning platform and search 'Commissioner' for more information.

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International special!



Over July and August there were various different International trips that members from across our County took part in.

Read about what they got up to on their adventures and if you feel inspired to find out more about international opportunities, contact Zoe, our International advisor, on international@girlguidingderbyshire.org



Country trip to Mexico!

"On Sunday 30th July 9 girls from the length and breadth of Derbyshire and 3 leaders set off from London Heathrow for the trip of a lifetime to Mexico.

We would be in Mexico for 12 days to volunteer and see a small part of Mexico.

After a long flight and bus ride we arrived at the beautiful City of Morelia, our base for the first half of the trip. Our first volunteering experience was in the amazing setting of Morelia Zoo. We would be here for 2 days and delivering sessions to local school children who were also on their summer holidays. The girls and leaders sang songs and played games with all the children, all of which went down extremely well. The zoo was so impressed with the sessions delivered they gave us a pass to any of the zoo's attractions! So as well as feeding the giraffes, the train around the lake was the resounding choice to go on. We had seen it go past many times whilst we had our meals in the zoo's cafe and it wasn't just once around the lake, it was twice! Choo choo!!

Next stop Guayabitos. After a long day we finally arrived at the hotel and it was hot! The temperature was a balmy 30 degrees most days.

After some tea we met Vincente who runs the turtle project and he bought out a box of what we were all waiting to see, baby turtles. They were all put in a bucket of water to see if they could swim and ready to be released into the sea. A crazy day but who could be mad after seeing baby sea turtles.

The next night we were very lucky to see 4 turtles laying their eggs. We were asked to dig the eggs out of the sand so they could be relocated to a safe space. We were then given a bag of baby turtles to release into the ocean- a truly magnificent experience. On our final day in Guayabitos the group went to another beach and did our bit for the environment by doing a beach clean. This was sweaty work but we collected a good amount of rubbish and got to see the sunset.

Our final stop was Mexico City. We were able to be tourists here but also got to meet up with a local Guide unit. We learnt all about how their unit is ran and shared songs over a mutual love of karaoke! There is so much more we could say about this trip but it really was a truly remarkable experience, one we will treasure forever and we know the girls will too!



International special continued..



Hilton Guides at Lorne.

Not technically an international due to the trip being in Northern Ireland however it still involved visiting another country!

Hilton Guides had a jam packed 5 day adventure, staying at Lorne and visiting Belfast!

They started off with a tour along the coast, stopping at The Giant's Causeway and Carrick-a-Rede rope bridge.

The next day included an open top bus tour of Belfast, seeing the Peace Walls and the Titanic experience. Back at Lorne the Guides took part in activities such as archery, crate stacking and high ropes as well as a Flintstones Challenge having a campfire.

Trips around City Hall, across town to play crazy golf, and to explore St George's Market filled the remainder of the week and it was soon time to fly home.

Great fun was had by all with everyone getting stuck in and really making the most of the jam-packed week! For some of the girls this was their first time away with Guiding or their first time on a plane and it is safe to say they definitely have the bug for International Adventures with Guiding!

They stayed at Lorne House (Girlguiding Ulster) and were fully catered for. For anyone interested in seeing what Lorne has to offer, see their website for more information:

<https://discoverlorne.org.uk/>



Caitlyn is a member of 1st West Hallam Rangers. This summer she was given the opportunity to go to the WSJ in South Korea, as part of the Midlands region contingent.

Hear what she has to say about her adventure:

"To be selected for this I had to apply and attend a selection day in 2021. I was one of only nine Guides that were selected in which I was the only one from Derbyshire. I did lots of fundraising and attended many training camps in preparation. After two years of hard work, we finally set off!

Once we arrived in Korea and attended the Jamboree site, we got to meet so many people from all over the world. Unfortunately, we had to be removed from the camp site as it was not deemed safe by the UK contingent. However, they did a great job in getting us all back in to the capital city of Seoul and arranged some amazing activities for us to take part in. We got to visit the Korean temples, wear the traditional clothing called 'hanbok', and visit the demilitarized zone between North and South Korea as well as lots more. Although it was not the camp we had planned for, it was an amazing trip where we were able to experience the culture of such a fascinating country. I would highly encourage everyone to take the opportunity to attend an international trip with Girlguiding if given a chance!"

