

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2026, and a very happy new year to you all. We hope you enjoyed a restful break and are feeling refreshed and ready for the year ahead. Thank you, as always, for everything you do to support Girlguiding across Derbyshire — your dedication continues to make a real difference to young members and fellow volunteers alike.

We're delighted to begin the year by sharing some exciting news. Girlguiding Derbyshire is now the proud owner of 25 Grosvenor Road, Ripley, which will become our permanent county office home. This has been made possible thanks to the very generous legacy of the late Barbara Lomas, to whom we owe our sincere thanks. We look forward to sharing updates as the building begins its transformation.

There's plenty to look forward to in 2026. County Day 2026 bookings are now live — please see page 5 for full details and to book [click here](#). We're also inviting applications for our International Selection for Japan 2027, an exciting opportunity not to be missed; further information can be found on pages 3 and 6



1st Response training dates

Dates for 2026 so far. All bookings can be made by clicking the link below:

Sat 28th Feb- Long Eaton- 9 SPACES

Sun 8th March- Spondon- 6 SPACES

Sun 29th March- Matlock- 7 SPACES

<https://www.girlguidingderbyshire.org/learninganddevelopment>

Other training opportunities

Gift Aid- virtual session- Friday 9th Jan- 8-9pm

Step by step information session on how to apply for Gift Aid and boost your unit funds.

Booking link: <https://bit.ly/GiftAidJan26>

Money Matters- virtual session- Tuesday 20th Jan- 8-9pm

Help and support on how to manage and keep unit accounts

Booking link: <https://bit.ly/MoneyMattersJan26>

Anglesey Adventure!

Commissioner support

Events

Date	Event	Venue	Booking link/more information
Fri 9 th Jan 2026	Gift Aid Zoom session	Online-zoom needed	Step by step information session on how to apply for Gift Aid and boost your unit funds. Booking link: https://bit.ly/GiftAidJan26
Tues 20 th Jan 2026	Money Matters zoom session	Online-zoom needed	Help and support on how to manage and keep unit accounts Booking link: https://bit.ly/MoneyMattersJan26
Sat 21 st March 2026	County Day 2026	David Nieper Academy	Bookings are live now! Event for all young leaders and adult members of Girlguiding Derbyshire. To book: https://bit.ly/CountyDay2026
Sunday 22 nd February 2026	County Thinking Day Event	Different areas across the County	We are looking to get all areas together to celebrate World Thinking Day as we would love to celebrate the 100-year anniversary 'together'. Your areas should be sharing more information soon
17-19 th April 2026	County social weekend	Pax Tor, Darley Dale	More information coming soon but this is a chance to get together and socialise. There will be different options available- from staying over, joining for the day/half day or joining for an evening meal. Save the date!
6-9 th August 2026	County Anglesey Adventure- Guide and Ranger groups	Conway Centre, Anglesey	See poster below for further information

Commissioner support zoom calls 2026 - for all ACs and DCs:

- Wednesday 28 January
- Monday 1 June
- Tuesday 13 October

January call will be at 7 to 8pm on risk assessments – your responsibility as a commissioner.

Hints and tips on how to support the volunteers in your Area or District in preparing risk assessments, as well as a chance to ask questions.

Please put the dates in your diaries- a good opportunity to share information and support each other in your role.

Anglesey Adventure: Sea Wonders

County trip to Anglesey for Guide and Ranger units (ratio of 1:5)

When? 6-9 August 2026

Where? Anglesey Outdoors Centre, Holyhead, Anglesey

Cost? £400 for girls and £225 for leaders

Whats included? Accommodation, transport, food and all activities: sea kayaking, gorge walking, raft building and more!

For more information contact peaksanddalesnorth@gmail.com
and to book your units place contact
office@girlguidingderbyshire.org

£100 non returnable deposit due by 31st January 2026



International opportunities- please share with your Guides, Rangers and Young Leaders

Trip 1: Are you ready for the trip of a lifetime? Japan 2027

In summer 2027, we're taking a small group of up to 12 young people from Girlguiding Derbyshire on a once-in-a-lifetime journey across Japan.

Over two unforgettable weeks, we'll explore some of the most exciting, beautiful and culturally rich places in the world:

Tokyo where we'll find neon lights, anime energy, the world's best Disneyland all in the busiest city on Earth.

Kyoto home to beautiful temples, Japanese traditions and some of Japan's most breathtaking history.

Hiroshima a powerful and important part of world history and heritage.

Nagano National Girl Scout Centre of Japan where we plan to spend a few days volunteering and connecting with Japanese Girl Scouts.

We may also investigate visiting Osaka (if we have time) with its brilliant food, bright lights and legendary fun.

But the programme is not set. Once the group is selected, we'll design the trip itinerary together, choosing the activities and deciding how we want this adventure to be.

Before you apply, here are a few important things to know:

It's hot. July/August in Japan is no joke; humidity and high temperatures every day. So, you'll need to be able to cope with the heat.

It's active. Expect 20k steps a day as we explore multiple cities across Japan. This is a full-on, exciting, on-the-go trip as we'll want to pack in as much as we can.

It's different. Not just the language, but the food, customs and cities too. Tokyo alone has nearly twice the population of London, so you'll need to feel comfortable navigating very busy, very vibrant places.

You'll need to be aged between 16-18 in July and August 2027.

If you're curious, open-minded, up for a challenge and love discovering new places, this might be the adventure you've been waiting for.

Sound like your kind of trip?

Come along to our selection event on 11th January from 11am to 4pm at County Office, Ripley, and for those who are selected our first get together will be on 1st February 2026.

Please email International@girlguidingderbyshire.org to book your place (this selection event is only for the Japan trip).

Trip 2: Cycling the Netherlands 2027

Are you looking for a challenge in 2027? Girlguiding Derbyshire and Derbyshire Scouts are teaming up to run a week long cycle touring exploration of The Netherlands for Guides, Rangers, Scouts, Explorer Scouts and Young Leaders in Summer 2027.

We aim to cycle around 250km in total, travelling between campsites plus programme days to take part in activities and cultural activities.

The estimated cost is £650. You don't need to be an experienced cyclist, but be prepared to put some training in. We will be holding selection rides for participants in Spring 2026. More info about these dates will be shared through DigiPost and on the leaders Facebook group in the New Year.

Interested adult? We are still looking for leaders to ride with the girls or to drive a support vehicle. If you think this could be you, please contact International@girlguidingderbyshire.org



Selection event for our 2027 county trip to

JAPAN



Sunday 11 January
County Office, Ripley

11am - 4pm

Will you be aged 16-18 years
in Summer 2027?

Contact -

international@girlguidingderbyshire.org
to book your place at the selection event

County day 2026

Time to laugh, learn and share!

When? Saturday 21st March 2026

Time? 8.45am-4pm

Where? David Nieper Academy, Alfreton

Cost? £6pp

Bookings will open the first week in January and the link will be shared with all registered County members and on our social media pages.

There will be opportunities to meet and chat with County advisors.

A range of sessions will be available for you to choose from, including one specially for young leaders and another for leaders in training.

Some of these (but not all) are:

To book your place:

Bookings open 6th January at 8am and close on Sunday 22nd February at midnight <https://bit.ly/CountyDay2026>

Slow flow
Yoga

Be Well ideas

Neurodiversity

Stress
relieving
crafts

The new
"Going Away
With"
scheme

Music

Teamwork

Effective
Communication-
LDP Module

Tricky
Conversations



Recruitment
Science



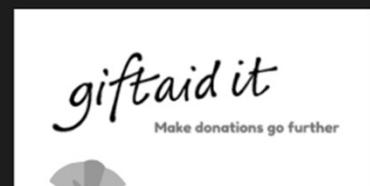
Gift Aid zoom session

When? Friday 9th Jan, 20:00-21:00

Where? Held virtually on Zoom so from the comfort of your own home!

Unsure how to claim Gift Aid and want to find out more about setting up your account, getting appropriate details from parents and submitting your Gift Aid claim? Join us for this virtual session where we walk you through the process and answer any questions you may have- all from the comfort of your home!

For more information see the link in the calendar to book



Money Matters zoom session

When? Tuesday 20th January, 20:00-21:00

Where? Held virtually on Zoom so from the comfort of your own home!

Help and support on how to manage and keep unit accounts

Join us for this virtual session where we walk you through the process and answer any questions you may have- all from the comfort of your home!

For more information see the link in the main post.





Girlguiding
Derbyshire county

Some photos from our
Celebration afternoon
tea on 2nd November.
More pictures can be
found on our
Facebook page and
County website

