

Newsletter February 2016

County President
Mrs Sylvia Smith MBE

County Commissioner
Mrs Deborah Phillips
ccgirlguidingsussexcentral@gmail.com

County Secretary
Mrs Lisa Barden

Dear All,

Another year has gone by and I can't believe it's February already! Time flies when you are enjoying yourself and as I go round the County to various events and meetings I certainly see that the girls are having fun. This is down to the wonderful volunteers we have in the County.

Last year was busy with lots going on and this year will be no exception, especially with the Senior Section Spectacular. I hope all of you in the Senior Section - and that is not just Rangers and Young Leaders but those Leaders who are 18 - 25 - will participate in the many varied activities and events that Sharon and her team are planning.

This will not be the only celebration as no doubt many of us will be celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday, whether it is doing an activity in your unit, I know many are "cleaning for the Queen," or going to events in London.

The Rainbows will be having their special day in May and many from all sections will be going to the Region event "Discover".

In the summer the Leaders and girls will be off to South Africa with Coco's Foundation so do please keep supporting them by collecting textiles or doing the challenge badge.

March will see many Leaders attending County Day, and our Annual Review. This is always a great day not just to receive training but to meet other Leaders from around the County. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Have a good term and look forward to seeing many of you around the County at various events.

*Best wishes,
Deborah
➔*

Inside this issue:

Message from Deborah	1
Awards Committee News	2
Directory Amendments	
Trefoil Guild News and	3
Directory Amendments	
Anne Collins	4
County Coats	
County Review Invitation	5
GO! And Subscriptions	
Coco's Foundation Trip 2016	6
Countdown to WS2017!	
GOLD Latvia 2015	7
Division News	8-21
County Diary	22
Roll of Honour	23

Awards Committee News

It's great to be able to congratulate the following Leaders who have gained awards in the last few months:

Sue Perkins and **Alison Costain** of Haywards Heath Division who were awarded Good Service Brooches at the County Social at Little Trees in July.

Lyn Cook who was awarded the bar to the Good Service Brooch for continuing outstanding service to the County for more than five years (many more in Lyn's case!). Lyn received her award at the Perrymount District Carol Service in Haywards Heath.

Shirley Webb of Horsham Division who was awarded a County Commissioner's certificate of appreciation for over 60 years service to Horsham Division where she has recently retired from her role as campsite treasurer.

Rowena Woodward of Worth Division who was awarded the BEM in the Birthday Honours list for her services to the community which included her role as a Leader in Guiding.



Congratulations also to all those who have been awarded the new District and Division Thanks certificates for their contributions to District or Division events. Don't forget that any Guiding member can nominate someone for an award. You can find all the details in the June 2015 newsletter or you can talk to your Commissioner who has all the information. We look forward to hearing from you!

Finally just a reminder that the Celebration of Achievement evening for young people who have gained their Baden Powell Challenge Award, their Young Leaders Qualification, their D of E Award or their Queen's Guide Award will be held at Burgess Hill School for Girls on the evening of Wednesday 13th July. Please make sure that when girls receive an award they are given a "hold this date" flyer which, when filled in, will guarantee them and their two guests a formal invitation to the event.

Clare Brittain
Awards Committee Chair

County Directory Amendments

Please make the following amendments to your copy of the recently distributed 2016 County Directory:

Page 2 - County Treasurer
Add: Anna Jones

Page 31 - Horsham Division Commissioner
Pam Leadbeater Replace email address with:

Pages 37 and 55 - Henfield District Administrator and Space Hoppers
Sara Williams Replace email address with:

Page 42
Worth Division Commissioner
Add: Heather Powley - details as per page 11.
Heather will carry on with both roles until after County Rainbow outing in May



Trefoil Guild members joined County members at the “Jack and the Beanstalk” pantomime and “Oh yes they did” have a good time!

Carol Services - were enjoyed in Henfield, in Horsham, arranged by Honor Locke, and in Haywards Heath, where a real baby lay in the manger!

Various Talks & Visits - which have included; Tools with Mission, Sussex Search and Rescue, British Legion Flag Bearer, Visit to church of English Martyrs where there is a replica of the Sistine chapel ceiling.

We were all “fingers and thumbs” for a creative evening of origami and are continuing to knit teddy bears

County Team Lunch



Crafting crackers for the table.



It always ends up with the washing up!!!!



A New Year Resolution.....”Remember to USE your Trefoil Guilds”

You know what they say, use it or loose it!!!!

*Jane Brown,
County Trefoil Chair*

County Directory Amendments—Trefoil Guilds

BEACON GUILD

Delete: Judy Fuller as Chair
Add: Mrs Wendy Dumbleton

HENFIELD GUILD

Delete: Anne Collins as Chair
Add: Mrs Carol Pembrey

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD

Delete: Rosemary Fuller as Chair
Add: Mrs Sheila Hare

Delete: Gill Crook as Treasurer
Add: Mrs Everal Goldsmith

Add: Naomi Robinson (Secretary) Telephone Number is:

Anne Collins - A Guiding Light - 1938 - 2015



Anne was born in Surrey and moved to Sussex when she was 12. She and Pat were married in 1957 and had three children - Sharron, Lesley and Sean.

In 1961 Anne was looking for something to fill her 'spare time' and started helping at 1st Henfield Guides, run by Peggy Whiting. Anne took over running the unit when Peggy moved to a new Guiding role within the newly formed Sussex Central County.

In 1979 Anne formed a new Division within the County - Parkminster - covering Henfield, Partridge Green, Cowfold, Lower Beeding and Southwater. She named the Division after the local monastery whose spire could be seen from all areas of the Division, and became their first Division Commissioner.

Anne also held the role of Division Camp Adviser for some time. Camping, outdoor activities and campfire singing were her fortes, inspiring many Guides with her enthusiasm, skills and knowledge. Guide camp was the annual highlight and Anne was involved with the very first Scout and Guide International Camp at Ardingly - WS1980. International Guiding was also important to Anne and she visited all four of our World Guide Centres and went to Namibia on her own on a camping trip for her 70th birthday.

In addition to being so active in Guiding at all levels Anne was also the main instigator for Henfield acquiring its own Guide Hut with tireless planning and perseverance on her part. After years of hard work by Anne and the BP Guild, with very little funds but loads of enthusiasm, the Guide Hut was opened in 1982. Now used by two Rainbow units, two Brownie units, two Guide units and a large Senior Section, what a fabulous legacy to leave us with.

Anne joined the Henfield Trefoil Guild, playing an active role to the very end as chairman, as well as helping out at unit meetings when asked. Her enthusiasm and skills will be sadly missed. She has inspired many girls to become Leaders and has also encouraged them to take part in international opportunities within Guiding.

Anne also managed to fit in golf, calligraphy, gardening, crafts, singing, Knotters Guild and many more activities as well as enjoying time with her husband Pat, her children and four grandchildren.

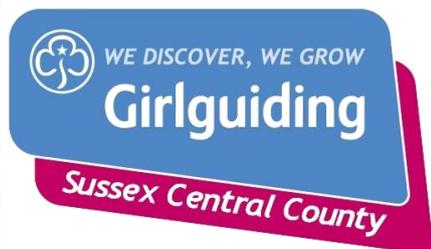
Anne always did everything to the best of her ability, keeping her Guide Promise always.

She leaves a big hole in Henfield and will be missed by everyone whose lives she touched.

County Coats

Following several requests from more members in our County, we are looking to order some more of our County Coats with our Sussex Emblem on the front left breast and Guiding logo on the right sleeve, we need a minimum order of 12 to go ahead. These coats look very smart, are waterproof and warm, with a detachable hood. They cost £48.

Please contact lisa.barden@virgin.net if you are interested, several of us have them in the County so we can arrange for you to have a look at them before you buy.



The County Commissioner Deborah Phillips

and the

County Executive Committee

warmly invite

*all Young Leaders, Leaders, Unit Helpers, Commissioners, Advisors, Co-ordinators
and members of the Trefoil Guild*

to the

Girlguiding Sussex Central County Review

on Saturday 12th March 2016 at St Paul's Catholic College
Jane Murray Way, Burgess Hill, RH15 8GA

2.30 pm for 2.45 pm start, finish at 4pm.

Refreshments will be provided.

Please RSVP to Mrs Lisa Barden by 2nd March 2016.

Please note if you have already signed up to attend County Day, there is no need to RSVP as the Review is part of County Day and you have been included in the numbers for refreshments.

GO! & Subscriptions

Subs

Hopefully you have all checked the trial subscriptions invoices for your unit, District or Division. If not, you have until noon on the 22nd February to do so, and make any necessary changes to your records to get your invoice right.



The final invoices should be available from noon on the 24th February and they are due for payment immediately. Please make sure you know where your unit cheque book is and that your signatories are available.

If you have any problems with printing your invoice, have insufficient funds to pay your invoice, or are currently updating your bank mandate and so can't sign a cheque, please let your commissioner or myself know as soon as possible, ideally before the 24th February so help can be arranged before payment is due. Districts and Divisions will get their levies back on the 8th April as long as we have all paid our invoices by the 16th March and they subsequently clear.

GO!

Do you use the Unit register, or All purpose form in GO!? What about the emergency contact list? There are many useful reports available under Reports Management in GO!, so if you have time, why not have a look and see what might help you when running your unit, District or Division? The reports are constantly being updated, with amendments made to existing reports, or new reports added, so it is often worth a look every few months to see what has changed.

*Natalie Denning,
County GO! Coordinator*

Girlguiding Sussex Central Coco's Foundation Trip 2016



We continue to be working hard as a team getting ready for our trip in August 2016. We are completing a number of fundraising events in our local Districts and Divisions. Thank you to all who have supported us so far in events across the County. The team are really grateful for all support.

There are upcoming events including our Charity Ball (12th February), Swimathon (Haywards Heath and Horsham) and we hope to see you at our fundraising stalls on County Day.

We have now relaunched the Challenge Badge with some new for 2016 challenges. A number of these have been designed by the team completing the service project. Over the next few weeks it should be coming out in the weekly County emails but it is also available to be emailed to units.

We will be selling the badges on County Day if you would like to undertake the challenge with your unit. If you are interested in further information please email us: ggsccocos2016@hotmail.com

We continue to update our Facebook page with our events and fundraising efforts. If you haven't already, please "like" us by typing in 'Girlguiding Sussex Central Coco's 2016' (or if you are reading online, click [here](#).)

If anyone would like to support our trip we have set up a Virgin Giving page. You can find us by typing in 'Sussex Central Guides' (or if you are reading online, click [here](#).)



Countdown to WS2017!

WS2017 - Saturday 5th to Saturday 12th August 2017

WS is an International Camp, held every four years (approximately), for Guides and Scouts from across West Sussex alongside Guides and Scouts from around the world. Held at Ardingly, the camp will welcome over 2000 participants for a week filled with adventurous activities and opportunities for fun and friendship.

Debbie and David Phillips have been appointed as Camp Chiefs for WS2017. Debbie is a Leader with 3rd Chichester Guides, and David GSL for 5th Chichester Scouts. Both have been involved with WS Camps for many years, from attending in 1980 as a Guide and Scout to organising "The City" and "Camelot" the camp centres for WS 2008 and 2013, having also been Unit and Sub-Camp Leaders in the years between.

The Core Team for WS 2017 was formed last year, and will continue to meet throughout this year; the International Team is working towards every group having an International link, and already has expressions of interest from many different countries.

More information can be found on the website WS2017.org.uk and on [Facebook](#).

Units can register their interest now!



GOLD Latvia 2015

In October 2015 I travelled to Latvia as a member of a GOLD (Guiding Overseas Linked with Development) project with the LSGCO (Latvian Scout and Guide Central Organisation).

GOLD delivers sustainable community based action projects in different countries around the world, and sends teams of six leaders aged 18-30 to work with the local associations.

Our project in Latvia was the fourth, and final, year of the overall project and our aims were to help develop the Ranger and Rover programme (equivalent to our Senior Section), as well as do some skills training with units and Leaders.

We spent three weeks in Latvia working with approximately half of the members of the whole organisation (there are only about 600 members in total!). We ran skills training sessions on leadership, team work, communication, and international

activities, played lots of games and even got to go camping with lots of different units across Latvia. We ran unit meetings and sessions for anywhere from five up to 100 members at one time. We also spent time with the Rangers and Rovers discussing common problems with retaining members in that age group, looking at the WAGGGS five essentials, and trying to help them start to develop a programme suitable for their members.

I have learnt so much from this experience, and can safely say it's one of the best things I've ever done. I'm really looking forward to using all the skills I learnt with my Guide Unit and encouraging them to travel internationally with Guiding. Even going on the selection weekend (Go for GOLD) is an experience I will never forget!! This year I was lucky to be asked back to lead one of the 2016 GOLD projects, so will be off to Rwanda with a new team in July/August - I'm excited to see what new challenges this will bring. If anyone would like more information on GOLD, please get in touch - I would love to talk to you about my experience!

*Sarah Kelly
Leader - 7th Burgess Hill Guides*

Check out the GOLD Latvia 2015 blog at: <http://girlguidinggoldlatvia2015.blogspot.co.uk/>



Teaching the Sea Scout Leader (Valdis) how to make a leather woggle



Playing International Connect with Marupe Brownies



Division News

Worth

Thank You Philippa Weekes

Worth Division said a fond farewell to Philippa at the AGM Social on Wednesday 6th January 2016 held at The Glebe Centre, All Saints Church, Crawley Down.

She came to the rescue of Worth Division in 2012 when they needed a new Division Commissioner and steps down with even greater family pressures on her time now. When she came back to her childhood home in Horley in 2007, she brought with her 30 years of guiding experience mostly in West Bridgford, Nottingham.

After becoming involved with Christine and Gwyn Cheesmur and helping at WS2008 she agreed to become Queens Guide Co-ordinator for Sussex Central and ended up getting drawn into the Worth Division Commissioner role for which we were all extremely grateful.



In 2002 Philippa challenged herself to visit all four World Centres before she reached that certain age! This she achieved in May 2012 when she went to Our Cabana in Mexico. The Philippa has always loved all aspects of guiding - crafts, music, sports, events and especially outdoor activities and we hope she will continue with us in a support role of some kind. So thanks again Philippa for bringing good leadership to our Division over the last three years.

Now we are pleased to welcome Heather Powley as Worth Division Commissioner. Heather also comes to the Division Commissioner role with good experience as a Rainbow Unit Leader, County Rainbow Co-ordinator and as an experienced nursery teacher. We are very lucky to have these ladies.

Inventive 1st Cophorne Guides enjoy Mission Spectacular Art Attack

The instructions called for something on a larger scale, but the Guides enjoyed recreating the Senior Section Spectacular and Mission Spectacular logos from something very close to their hearts... FOOD and TOYS!



Pasta, fruit, veg and Lego were the chosen materials, and Becky recreated the logo on her computer using amazing eye gaze technology.

2nd Copthorne Guides celebrate 40th Birthday!

In September, 2nd Copthorne Guides celebrated being a unit for 40 years.

We were joined by representatives from all the local units. We gratefully received lovely cards and messages sent by many of the previous Leaders and Guides. Sophie read a message from her Aunt who was one of the first Guides in the newly formed unit in 1975.



As part of the celebrations we welcomed some new girls to guiding as they made their Promise and Deborah kindly joined us to present Mollie and Lexie with their Baden-Powell Challenge award as they left Guides to join Senior Section. All the girls took part in the evening including explaining the badge we designed collectively as a unit.



Selsfield District Senior Section

Selsfield District Senior Section opened in October 2015 and we're really pleased it is now officially registered! Thanks to our Leaders Gemma Farley and Tina Lukins.

We look forward to welcoming new members as we expand to join in the fun and taking part in many of the opportunities that The Senior Section has to offer.

2nd Crawley Down Guides Youngest Visitor



At 10 days old, Jelissa Singh attended her first meeting at 2nd Crawley Down Guides and is already on a waiting list for Rainbows!

Congratulations to our Assistant Leader Philippa and husband Hardeep on the birth of their baby daughter who was born on Saturday 2nd January 2016 at 1:11am weighing 6lbs 2oz.



Selsfield District Dance Maze Party



Selsfield District can highly recommend holding a dance maze party. For four hours, across four sessions, 117 Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Leaders enjoyed a pre-Christmas treat of interactive, addictive, challenging, energetic, fitness fun.

Trefoil Guild members were on hand to provide light refreshments following each session.

It was an easy activity to organise with 'Fitness Solutions', and looks to become an annual event.



South Down

News from Beacon District

It has been a busy time in Beacon District and the girls and Leaders have enjoyed a great variety of activities since the beginning of the autumn term.

Hassocks Rainbows enjoyed the County event at Drusilla's Country Park and painted pottery at Fun Pots in Haywards Heath.

1st Hassocks Brownies visited Herstmonceux to help them complete their Science Investigator Badge, whilst 2nd Hassocks Brownies celebrated the Rugby World Cup. Both units also attended the Brownie Woodland Day at Pickets Wood, as did I, and we had a fantastic time. Many thanks to the organisers for such an interesting and well organised day.

Beacon District Guides have been equally busy. 1st Hassocks Guides went bowling and 2nd Hassocks Guides had a visit from The Bushcraft Buddha and had their very own Bush Tucker Trial, which included crickets, mealworms and grasshoppers! They tasted surprisingly good.

Both units also visited The Brighton Dome Ice Rink, which is becoming a very popular annual event.



All units thoroughly enjoyed their visit to the Hawth for the panto - a big than you again to the organisers of this event.



A first for Beacon District this year was our stall at the annual Hassocks Light Up event. We went to raise our profile within the community and also to raise money for girls in the District, who are going on this year's CoCo's trip to South Africa. We had a great time and attracted lots of customers with our Teddy Tombola and Lucky Dip, and are looking forward to being part of this event again next year.

*Liz Hollingdale
Beacon District Commissioner*

Beacon District Kitchen Opening

On the 12th December last year Beacon District was thrilled to finally declare our new Guide Hut Kitchen open. With the help of donations from The Rotary Club, Mid Sussex District Council, Child Help in Hassocks and Beacon Trefoil we have been able to replace our rather old and tired kitchen for something much smarter and more fit for purpose.

It will allow the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides in the District to make full use of the cooking facilities, encouraging healthy eating and creativity in the kitchen as part of their programme. The Leaders too are pleased to have a much cleaner and more modern space to work in. We would like to say a big thank you to all the donors and Leaders who helped to make this happen.



South Down Rangers Swoove!

Monday 25th January saw the South Down Rangers trying out the latest exercise trend - Swoove! Singing, whooping and moving for 45mins non stop with the most enthusiastic and energetic instructor- Gail. Well done for keeping up Rangers, great fun.



1st Hurstpierpoint Guides Air Hop!

We travelled up to Air Hop in Guildford for a fun evening bouncing on trampolines and somersaulting into foam pits.



Five of our new Guides made their Promise before launching themselves into the foam pit!

It was a great evening for all ages.

Parkminster

1st Henfield Guides went carol singing on 16th December and raised £390 for two former Guides - now Senior Section members - who are going on the Coco's Foundation trip 2016.

2nd Henfield Guides went carol singing at Terry's Cross. Jo Grover has moved to Andover and Nicola Ansell has moved to Bath - we thank them both for all their help and are pleased to report that Nicola is helping to set up a new Guide Unit and Jo will be coming back to help at camp.

1st Barns Green and Itchingfield Brownies World Record Attempt

1st Barns Green and Itchingfield Brownies were chosen to take part in Blue Peter's attempt to break the record for the worlds largest superhero cape, to be revealed on Children in Need. The task was to decorate a large spot to be added to the cape.

So why us? The unit has helped with the Barns Green Half Marathon for many years, in conjunction with our village Guide unit. The girls hand out water to the runners, and goodie bags when they cross the finish line. Over the past 3 years, our unit has looked at more ways we can join in with community events, therefore helping others and becoming aware of the world around us. Several of the girls joined in the Race for Life, where we took part with Rainbows. We have also joined in with Butterfly Conservations Big Butterfly Count to help provide valuable information for our area. In September, the girls organised and ran a Macmillan Coffee Event as part of the Worlds Biggest Coffee Morning campaign. It started out as a fun way of earning their Hostess badge, but it proved much more than that. The girls worked so well together, came up with many original ideas, they loved 'selling' cakes and running the games. We saw the confident children in their stride, and those who are our quieter members join in with enthusiasm. A fabulous event and it raised just over £418.

When the District was asked to nominate units who had been involved in the local community for the Superhero World Record attempt, Lisa Barden suggested us as she had come to our Macmillan night and seen the event in full flow.

What a compliment! We jumped at the opportunity. The materials for the challenge were delivered after we broke up for half term, and the finished spot needed to be returned to Head Office before our next meeting. We decided to meet on Saturday morning at Sumners Ponds. Not all the girls could make it, so some emailed over their ideas for decorating our spot. Before the girls could start I had to iron on all the letters to spell our unit name, no small task with such a big name!



The Brownies that came discussed ideas, how they wanted the spot to be decorated, drawings, writing and the messages they wanted to share. They divided themselves up into artists and neat writers and took turns to add their part to the spot. The Brownies were really excited to be involved, and worked well together to produce, what I believe to be, a brilliantly decorated spot (although as Brown Owl I am biased). We took photos of the finished creation and we really hope to "spot" it amongst all the others when the cape is revealed on Children in Need.

We continue to look at other community ideas and are just in the process of signing up to 'Adopt a Street', our councils campaign for the public to help keep their street clear of litter. We have plans to build some hedgehog houses for winter hibernation as we have found out that the hedgehog population is declining. We hope to join in the Big Garden Birdwatch in January 2016 and the Race for Life again in June

2016. Between now and then, who knows what other ideas our unit may come up with.

Fiona Christer
Unit Leader - 1st Barns Green and Itchingfield Brownies

Lord Mayors Show Feeding Station

Lee Murphy (joint Division Commissioner) had the pleasure of shadowing another Guiding County representing Sussex Central / LaSER by helping at the Lord Mayors Show feeding station in November 2015 along with Marion Mason and Mary Simmonds from Henfield and others from Horsham and Crawley Divisions - despite the 6am start (that was the train time from Three Bridges) and the torrential rain - we had a fabulous time, and look forward to doing it again in November 2016 when it is the turn of Sussex Central - if you would like to join us, there are places left, so please let your District Commissioner know.

Brownies Christmas Fun

On the 8th December, 3rd Henfield Brownies found themselves homeless and with some time to fill before we were due at Red Oaks Nursing Home for our annual carol singing, so we decided to do some carol singing at Budgens to bring some Christmas cheer.

We were not trying to raise any money, but after explaining for the third time that we were not collecting, we decided it was easier to grab a bucket, and in just 30 minutes we collected an amazing £57. We will use the money to treat the Brownies in 2016. Thank you to all of you who generously donated, hopefully you enjoyed their singing.

We then had a Christmas themed sleepover on the 12th December where we made biscuits and completed a number of crafts. After supper we had a visit from Father Christmas who came bearing gifts. On the Sunday morning we had a snowball fight and made snowmen; both edible and decorative. Then it was off to the Panto at the Hawth where Girlguiding Sussex Central had booked out the whole theatre -

Fire Station Visit

3rd Henfield Brownies also visited Henfield Fire Station one evening and earned their fire safety badge.

Everyone got to sit in the fire engine and have a go with the hoses. Some of the Brownies got dressed up in the firefighters outfits and two other Brownies, Bonnie and Josie, made their Promise while in the cab of the fire engine.



Cinderella



1st Partridge Green Brownies performed their own version of Cinderella for parents and guests just before Christmas, with Fairy Brown Owl sending Cinders to the ball, and a surprise for the girls at the end when the Leaders dressed up as the ugly sisters.

A raffle in the interval also raised £100 which has been donated to Tawny Owl and Badger as part of their fundraising for INTOPs trips they are both undertaking this year.

The evening finished with our now traditional "A Brownie stuck in a tree" Christmas song loosely based upon the classic ~"A Partridge in a Pear Tree!"



Horsham



3rd Horsham Brownies had a special meeting with a visit from Guide Dogs for the Blind.

Our Brownies have been working towards their Disability Awareness badge and this was the final clause. Our speaker was a lovely man called John Hedley, who coincidentally was my A-level lecturer just a few years ago.

John started by introducing himself and explained how people treat him differently because he is blind and inherently talk to his dog. John had a game where the girls had to identify items in a bag purely by touch. If they guessed the item they won the item.

The girls thoroughly enjoyed the visit and consequently have decided they want to do a sponsored swim to help raise money for this very worthwhile cause.

I would definitely recommend a visit from Guide Dogs our girls learnt a lot from the experience.

Jo Graysmark

Unit Leader - 3rd Horsham Brownies



Haywards Heath

Preparing for Haywards Heath Winter Festival

Rainbows, Brownies and Guides from Perrymount District decorated lanterns for the Haywards Heath Winter Festival Procession. Seventy-four members gathered at the Haywards Heath Guide Hall, along with their Leaders and parents, to create beautiful lanterns. These lanterns were processed in the night time parade to give the town a magical atmosphere of Christmas.



Girlguiding Perrymount District Carol Service

Perrymount District Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers held their annual Carol Service at St Richard's Church in Haywards Heath.

The theme was 'A Very Noisy Night' which told of the Inn-keeper and his wife getting very little sleep when people looking for rooms, bright stars, dancing angels, sheep and shepherds, kings and camels, and even very loud animals all gathered in Bethlehem.



The only quiet sounds came from a beautiful lullaby and a real baby in the manger just like that first Christmas Eve long ago. Among our many invited guests included Haywards Heath's Mayor, Sujan Wickremaratchi, and Lions Club President, Richard Johnson, who both expressed their delight in the Carol Service and are looking forward to being invited again next year.

The evening concluded with County Commissioner, Deborah Phillips, and County Awards Chairperson, Clare Brittain, presenting the first ever County Service Bar to Lyn Cook. Lyn has led at Unit, District and Division Levels plus serves several County positions as well. Well Done Lyn!

Our chosen charity for the Carol Service was Chailey Heritage Foundation and a cheque for £305 was presented to Joan Martin of the fundraising team.

Brownies and Guides Fundraising for Haywards Heath Lions Club

Did you see notice the large crowd caroling at Haywards Heath Station recently?

Forty members of the 1st Haywards Heath Brownie and 3rd Haywards Heath Guide Units joined forces with the Haywards Heath Lions Club to raise funds for local special causes.

Everyone sang their hearts out to raise an outstanding amount of £478!



*Diann Johnson,
Perrymount District Commissioner*

East Grinstead



The units had a busy time during the autumn term with scarecrow competitions being entered, Christmas Tree Festivals being prepared for and pantomimes enjoyed.

Several of the Guide units enjoyed the Big Gig last year and the Rainbows went to Drusilla's on the County trip.

Units took part in community activities including learning first aid, filling shoeboxes with gifts for children in eastern European countries and fundraising for Children in Need.

A Brownie Unit had a visit from an RNLI Educator and earned their water safety badge. Rainbows visited Pets at Home and Tesco Farm to Fork to find out more about the world around them.

A Guide Unit fundraised for the local hospital's children's ward by organising a circus themed evening and being stall holders selling all sorts of things from attempts on the hoopla to freshly made doughnuts.

One Rainbow unit took part in the BBC Children in Need event to design a 'spot' to go on the worlds longest superhero cape - winning it a World Record. Parliament Week was joined in with by several units from Rainbows to Rangers and a visit to the Town Council offices.

It was all about the glow sticks last term - from taking them to Big Gig, enjoying a game of glow in the dark bowling to venturing outside on a night walk.

Cooking was a favourite theme too - from a Ranger & Explorer Bake Off to a Guide Mince Pie Bake Off.

During Remembrance Sunday Parade Brownies, Guides and Senior Section members with their Leaders joined the towns other groups and residents to remember.

A Brownie holiday was enjoyed this term too!

The end of term saw us say a big thank you to our Division Commissioner Janet Templeman who has stood down from her role. A Leaders' meal in January saw her presented with gifts from the two Districts.



Crawley

Crawley Remembers

Four Leaders from Crawley were among 20 Leaders from across the Region who represented Girlguiding LaSER at the Festival of Remembrance Service at the Royal Albert Hall in November.

We were seated in the choir stalls near to the Royal British Legion standard bearers and at the same tier of seating as Royal box so had a wonderful view of proceedings and the Royal family (as well as the back of Huw Edwards who was only a few feet away as he presented the evening.)



Caroline Hitchcock, Emily Sellis-Pole, Nicola Pole and Clare Hoggan at the Royal Albert Hall



It was an emotional experience to be there and listen to the stories of the veterans and families who had lost loved ones in conflicts over the years. It was particularly moving when the time came for the two minutes' silence and the poppies descended from the ceiling and an experience we will not forget.

Girlguiding Crawley Division also attended the Remembrance Day Service and Parade in Crawley on Sunday 8th November 2015. A large contingent of Leaders, Senior Section members and Guides from Units across the Division were joined by our Division Ambassador Brenda Burgess.

New Hall and Campsite for Crawley



We are expecting to have the Lease and Surrender Agreements for the new site (Tilgate) and old site (Little Trees) agreed and signed in the next two or three weeks. Tree felling has already begun at Little Trees to get this work completed before the bird nesting season which would otherwise delay the new build for the cemetery.

Work has now started on both our new hut and campsite in Tilgate Park; the hut is taking shape and the campsite is now fenced. We are working closely with the contractors and Council and will be visiting the new site to check progress. At the moment, we are working towards taking possession at the end of June, after which various building assessments will need to be completed before the hut will be open and available for use to comply with both health & safety requirements and building regulations.

17



Baden-Powell Challenge Celebrations

2nd Crawley St Peter's Guides recently held a Baden-Powell Challenge Awards evening to celebrate the achievements of seven of their Guides who were presented with their awards by Deborah Phillips, in front of their families and District and Division Commissioners.

Jessica Budd-Jeffreys, Erin Joste, Amber-Leigh Harper, Emily Fortnam, Alexis Ellis, Megan Glasscock and Jose Hutcheon each completed ten clauses with at least one clause being from each of the following Zones: healthy lifestyles, global awareness, discovery, skills & relationships and celebrating diversity.

The activities and challenges included a visit to Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, a visit to the BBC Studios and a patrol trip to Amberley Chalk Pits as well as a Ready Steady Cook night. They went on to complete their Baden Powell Challenge Adventure with six girls going to Foxlease and one girl going to Blackland Farm.



Unit Leader Helen Dowling started proceedings by recreating one of their challenges along the lines of Ready Steady Cook with a blindfolded cake making activity. The girls were even more surprised when along with their awards, they were also each presented with their very own celebration cake specially baked and decorated for them by Helen. We had a fun evening celebrating with the girls and all at 2nd Crawley St Peter's Guides. Congratulations to all the girls on their achievements.



Burgess Hill

1st Burgess Hill Brownies Celebrate

Celebration was the theme for 1st Burgess Hill Brownie Holiday this year. We started the weekend by celebrating Christmas Eve and as we couldn't get into the Guide Hall until 7.30pm, we headed for the Acorn Restaurant for a meal.

On our return to the Guide Hall we had great fun decorating the hall for Christmas, including a Christmas tree!



The Brownies all sewed Christmas stockings to hang up for Santa's little elf helper.

On Saturday morning the Brownies woke to find that their Christmas stockings had been filled, so with Christmas paper flying everywhere, we spent the morning doing Christmas themed activities before having a full roast Christmas dinner, joined by some of the volunteers who had worked with the unit this year.

The afternoon flew by and it was soon time for a New Year's Eve party with many games including pass the parcel. Despite spending most of the weekend raining and blowing, the weather was with us on Sunday and we were able to go outside briefly for a New Years Day walk around town. Lunch was served and the parents arrived to watch the Brownies' performance of the Twelve Days of Christmas with actions and after much laughter and it was time to say goodbye.

Burgess Hill Remembers

Remembrance Sunday saw a great turnout of girls and Leaders on parade representing most of the Units from Burgess Hill Division.

Some of the Brownies went to the War Memorial after the two minutes silence to have a look at the plaque for the animals that were lost during the wars.



Ice Show Fun for Brownies

7th Burgess Hill Brownies visited the Ice Show at the Brighton Centre on 10th January and had their photo taken with some of the stars!

Burgess Hill Gets Fundraising

Many fund raising events have been organised within Burgess Hill Division in the last few months, including collecting groceries for Burgess Hill Food Bank, thanks to everybody who donated to this. We have been bag packing and carol singing at Tesco before Christmas, raising nearly £800 towards the Guide Hall upkeep funds and a donation to Laura who has been selected for the international trip with the CoCo's team in 2016.

10th Burgess Hill Brownies had great fun raising money for the Children in Need Appeal again this year. They displayed a vast array of great skills at a talent show, to which parents were invited, and this was followed by a sale of many different items and refreshments, raising money for Children in Need.



Pudsey Bear was one of the many home made cakes

Christmas Craft Day

All Burgess Hill Rainbow units joined together at the Guide Hall for a day of fun and creativity. The Rainbows had the opportunity to try many crafts and enjoyed Christmas themed games and food. It was great to see so many Rainbows together.



Deborah joined us during the day and took an active part in the Reindeer races.

5th Burgess Hill Guides

5th Burgess Hill Guides had great meeting when Chloe was presented with her Baden-Powell Challenge Award.

The evening was organised by Guides working on their Baden-Powell Challenge, using ideas from the San Francisco Trip Challenge, in honour of Chloe's recent trip to San Francisco.



This included building a tower out of spaghetti and marshmallows, a quiz about the USA and of course, smores.



Chloe pictured with the Leaders who supported her through the Baden-Powell Challenge Award

Farm to Fork at Tesco - Burgess Hill

1st Burgess Hill Brownies had the opportunity to visit Tesco with Wendy for an adventure with their challenge "Farm to Fork". The Brownies had the opportunity to put on hi-vis jackets and do various challenges around the store, starting off with fruit and vegetables. Tasting them and then going down into the store to find out where in the world they had been grown.

It was then on to the cheese and fish counter, the Brownies again had the chance to try different cheeses and to also try and identify them. The fish counter gave the Brownies the opportunity to see many different fish, many of which they had not heard of or tried.



It was then into the cold store, the freezers and the stock rooms, before completing our visit back in the training room.

Our thanks to Wendy for organising a really good trip.

Forthcoming Event

Copthorne Scouts & Guides

GANG SHOW at the HAWTH

Matinee and Evening performances – Saturday 19th November 2016

Save the date – tickets on sale after Easter

County Diary 2016

Saturday 5 th March	Residential Training, Horsham Guide Hall contact Carol Stalley
Saturday 12 th March	County Day followed by County Review, St Paul's College, Burgess Hill
Thursday 17 th March	County Senior Section Spectacular - Wicked
Thursday 14 th April	Commissioners Forum at The Ark Turners Hill
Sunday 17 th April	Patrol Leaders with their Leaders day - Learning to Lead
Saturday 7 th May	Outdoor Training Day at Nowhurst Camp Site, Horsham
Thursday 12 th May	Safe Space Training - you must attend both dates
AND Thursday 19 th May	at St Paul's Methodist Church Hall, Crawley
Sunday 15 th May	County Rainbows outing to Ladyland Farm, contact Heather Powley
Monday 16 th May	County Exec
Sunday 29 th May	County Senior Section Spectacular - Watersports at Hove Lagoon
Monday 6 th June	County Trefoil Team meeting - venue to be confirmed.
Wednesday 15 th June	Towards Leadership Training at Roffey Millenium Hall
Sunday 19 th June	Guide Canoe Regatta at Southwater Country Park
Wednesday 13 th July	County Youth Awards Evening at Burgess Hill Girls School
Sunday 24 th July	County Senior Section Spectacular Camp at Brownsea Island
TO Thursday 28 th July	
August	County Coco's Foundation Trip
Tuesday 27 th September	County Exec
Saturday 8 th October	County Trip to Paultons Park for Rainbows, Brownies and Younger Guides (the park is aimed at children under 14) contact Natalie Denning
Saturday 15 th October	Training workshops at Downlands School Hassocks.
Tuesday 1 st November	Towards Leadership Training at Haywards Heath Methodist Church
Monday 7 th November	Going Away International Training contact Lee Murphy
Saturday 12 th November	County serving lunches at The Lord Mayors Show
Thursday 17 th November	Technology in your Unit training, Horsham Guide Hall
Wednesday 23 rd November	County Exec

This years County Social date and venue to be confirmed.

For more details on the above trainings contact your Programme and Training Rep and/or watch out for attachments to the weekly mailings.

All County events for The Senior Section Spectacular have been mailed out to all those Senior Section members 14 - 25 as at January 2016. If you have since joined the Senior Section (Young Leaders, Rangers, Adults 18 - 25) please contact our County Senior Section Spectacular Champion Sharon Newman for more details.

Don't forget to keep an eye on the weekly Raspberry Ripple of events happening at Region and National Level.



Sussex Central Roll of Honour

BURGESS HILL

30 Year Long Service Award

Jane Hains

10 Year Long Service Award

Sue Baldwin

Michelle Robinson

Baden-Powell Challenge

Chloe Hodgson

CRAWLEY

Thanks Badge

Carol Fosh

Division Thanks Certificate

Kathy Bennett

Sarah Christian

Lucy Dorkings

Helen Dowling

Sally Dorkings

Pauline Hyner

Maria Lourenco

Sharon Lowe

Nicola Pole

Karin Poulter

Yvonne Preest

Naomi Robinson

Emily Sellis-Pole

Jenny Sutherland

Rebecca Tickner

Adult Leadership

Qualification

Rebecca Ford

Young Leader

Qualification

Emily Sellis-Pole

Katie Tyson

Baden-Powell Challenge

Alexis Ellis

Emily Fortnam

Megan Glasscock

Josie Hutcheon

Jessica Budd-Jeffreys

Erin Joste

Amber-Leigh Harper

HAYWARDS HEATH

County Bar

Lyn Cook

10 Year Long Service Award

Emily Field

Jacqueline Johnson

5 Year Long Service Award

Neeta Still

Leadership Qualification

Caitlin McDonald

Helen Powell

Baden-Powell Challenge

Lauren Henty

Francesca Pitcher

Ella Scoble

Katherine White

PARKMINSTER

10 Year Long Service Award

Debby Broucke

5 Year Long Service Award

Sarah Romano-von-Reuss

Duke of Edinburgh Award (Silver)

Emily Berrett Anderson

Sofia Fowls

Anna Moseley

Emily Rowe

Emma Vickers

Kitty Webb

Baden-Powell Challenge

Jessica Brown

Elena Waite

SOUTH DOWN

5 Year Long Service Award

Jenny Divine

Liz Hollingdale

Alicia Smith

Adult Leadership

Qualification

Katie Smith

Marion Smith

Baden-Powell Challenge

Lily Dumbrill

Maddy King

Olivia Owen

Emily Sykes

Kelly Tucker

WORTH

District Thanks Certificate

Tina Lukins

Items For Next Newsletter should be emailed to the Editor at: ggsnewsletter@gmail.com

by

22nd April 2016

We are always looking for interesting news items for the next edition, so if your Unit has a trip, holiday, camp or other event planned, why not tell us about it shortly afterwards?

We would love to share ideas of things to do, places to stay or trips to enjoy with your girls.

We are happy to receive articles and photos at any time - no need to wait until the next deadline!

Registered Charity No. 283700

