

The Gazette

September 2008

News and views from Girlguiding Staffordshire

Happy Birthday Rainbows!



Rainbows in Staffordshire celebrated their 21st birthday with the 'Rainbow Romp' at Kibblestone in June. 800 Rainbows took part in activities based on a Disney princesses theme. Each girl was given a special backpack as a birthday present. Many thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make it a fantastic day. You can find more photos on the county website. Were you there? Send your best photos to publications@girlguidingstaffordshire.org.uk for inclusion in the gallery.

Changing the World

11th October 2008

Staffs University,
Stafford Campus

Flyers sent by direct mail to Unit contact. If you have not received this contact the County Office.

From the County Commissioner . . .

"Non-stop" is the best way to describe the past few months. A very successful Commissioner/County Adviser day was held in April at the BT Conference Centre, Yarnfield, where we were lucky to have the senior consultant from Champollian, the marketing and media company who are working with Girlguiding UK to raise the profile of Guiding.

One of our ambitions is to make sure that everyone knows about Girlguiding Staffordshire. Maureen Recine, ACC, has set up a small CHAT team (Communications, Hear and There) whose first venture was to host a stand at the County Show in May. With our own designer marquee and display stands we were certainly noticed. Based on our success we're planning to take part again next year but hoping for better weather!

It has been good to see the wonderful articles that some of the Divisions have had in local newspapers. We want to see more of this positive view of guiding and so work is in progress to help Divisions achieve this.

In June we were at Kibblestone to celebrate the Rainbow 21st Birthday with our 'Rainbow Romp'. With about 800 Rainbows taking part it was a lovely day and so well organised. Everyone was excited to meet 'Ariel' but not too sure about 'Ursula'!

July has been a busy month finalising the 2009 calendar and discussing dates for 2010. At the September Executive Committee meeting these will be discussed and confirmed and you will hear the county's plans for an exciting centenary at your next Division or District meeting. A big 'thank you' to everyone who has worked hard for our successes in the last months, it's been fantastic.



Pauline

INSIDE:
**Leadership
Congratulations
- Giant Sleepover -
Poland and more ...**

Congratulations Glenda

Glenda Lockley a Guider with 1st Newcastle (St Paul's) Guides for 45 years has been presented with a special award by the Mayor of Newcastle, Mr David Clarke, on behalf of the Borough Council for Outstanding Service to the Community.


Girlguiding
Staffordshire
girls in the lead

A Giant Monkey Sleepover

17 Girls and 3 leaders from 8th Rugeley Guides spent an unusual night at Trentham Monkey Forest.

As part of a Guinness World Record attempt, 8th Rugeley Guides participated in 'The Giant Sleepover'. The hope was to have 50,000 children across the UK, and the world, simultaneously having a Sleepover on Saturday 14th June. 8th Rugeley Guides went one step further - and found an unusual place to hold their sleepover. Thanks to Trentham Monkey Forest they were kindly given use of their facilities for a fun and exciting overnight. The trip included a private guided tour of the forest, where the Guides got up close to many of the monkeys that live there. Laura, age 10, said 'It's amazing seeing all the monkeys, especially the little baby ones, playing in the grass and trees, right beside us'.



The Sleepover finished on Sunday morning with another record attempt - everyone simultaneously brushing their teeth at 8.30a.m.!

Banging the drums with Girlguiding Penkridge

140 Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and leaders took part in a district event on Cannock Chase.

The girls built their own natural shelters, created animal nature collages and a giant trefoil.



Then they had great fun answering clues and playing drums on their 'walk on the wild side'.

Diane Jones

Sizzling Summer Sing

An amazing 800 people came to the County Sausage Sizzle in June.



CHAT at the County Show

Our stand at the County Show, May 28/29th, attracted a lot of interest. We took about 80 names and addresses of prospective girl and adult members and had the chance to talk to lots of people. Maureen had a video camera and 'persuaded' people to share their experiences of when they were a Brownie or Guide or Leader. The video will be used as part of the County centenary archive.



Congratulations

These Guiders have all successfully completed their Leadership Qualification, or added additional Modules since January 2008.

(A.M. = Additional Module)

Burton Perenel Cox, Jennifer Gurney, Kirsty Carr

Lapley Nicola Mole, Jane Green

Leek Andrea Hulse, Janice Evans, Sasha McCann, Susan Leese, Linda Devlin, Katie Devlin, Julie Jackson, Maddy Wilkinson, Karen Johnson, Deborah Simpson (A.M.)

Lichfield Kim Martin, April Cook, Julie Patterson, Donna McKeon, Joanna Lindsey, Natalie Hill (A.M.) Sam Abell (A.M.)

Longton Tanya Prior

Newcastle Rachel Armstrong, Leonie Lawton, Ellen Wainwright, Fiona Reale (A.M.)

Stafford Alison Squires, Charlotte Gradowska, Katherine Boulton, Theresa Raffan, Christine Hug-Felin

Stoke South Jane Hurst

Stone & Eccleshall Hannah Hodgetts

Tamworth Heather Codd, Marie Hames, Laura Bailey

Threapwood Lisa Hollins, Alice Parry, Denise Wheat, Janet Sidaway (A.M.)

Uttoxeter Helen Nicholls (A.M.)

If you have also completed your Leadership Qualification workbook and not yet sent in to Girlguiding Staffordshire HQ at Hixon to claim your certificate and badge, then NOW is the time.

Poland

Hi, I'm Jenny. I was selected to take part a region trip to a Polish international camp. It was my first international camp and one of the best things I have ever done. The camp was called 'Drop into Poland'. I wasn't sure what to expect as I had heard that every international camp is different, but everyone I had spoken to, told me that they had really enjoyed themselves at their different camps.



It was a big campsite, which was divided into 4 sub camps (observe, develop, protect and remember). Each sub camp consisted of a group of Polish Scouts/Guides, and a group of Scouts/Guides from either Germany, Wales, England or America, with 200 Scouts and Guides attending. Everyone met up at mealtimes and at campfires. The food on the camp was lovely except as you can imagine when trying a new cuisine there are always a few surprises. The food on our camp was freshly prepared and anyone was welcome to go up for seconds!

Some of the activities that we did at camp were kayaking, climbing, canoeing, orienteering, crafts and sightseeing.

On this trip I made so many new friends and will definitely stay in touch with them. I would like to thank everyone who gave me the chance to go on this trip, and for their wonderful support, especially my Guide leader Sue Brownsword and my District Commissioner Rosemary Mountford. To anyone who gets the chance to go on an international trip: Take it, as it is brilliant, exciting, wonderful and a once in a lifetime experience that you will not regret!!!! *Read Jenny's full report at www.girlguidingstaffordshire.org.uk*

Safe 4 Life in Stoke on Trent

The launch of Safe 4 Life took place on Saturday 7th June and was attended by 2 Brownie units from the Stoke and Penkull area. The girls participated in various activities covering 4 areas of safety: sun safety, car safety, dog safety and food safety. Activities included how to dress on a sunny day; applying sun cream (hence the pink faces!); importance of hand washing and food storage; car seats and air bags; micro-chipping of dogs and scooping the poop (fortunately the poop was only a plastic one much to the girls relief!)

The event was also attended by the Lord Mayor, who chatted and joked with the girls as they undertook the activities with interest and enthusiasm. An unexpected treat for the girls included a visit to the Lord Mayors Parlour, where they were given a brief history of the City, gasped at all the silverware on display and were allowed to sit in the Lord Mayors Chair! An enjoyable time was had by all and we hope that the publicity raised from this launch will encourage other units to participate and stay Safe 4 Life.

Lindsey Dale, 12th Stoke Brownies



International Opportunities for 2009

Three County international trips will be taking place in 2009:

1. A group of 13 and 14 year olds will be going to Windsor International Guide and Scout camp (WINGS 09) from 1-8 August 2009.
2. A group of 14 and 15 years olds will be going on a JEKA adventure holiday in Europe during the summer holidays.
3. A group of 16-22 year olds will be going to Roverway in Iceland from 20-28 July 2009.

The Division representatives for the two trips for the younger age groups have been selected at Division level.

Each Division has been asked to send two girls aged 16–22 to the County selection weekend on 27-28 September 2008 at Brook House, Burton (please note change of date and location).

At this weekend, the participants for the Roverway group and our representatives for the Region trips for 2009 will be selected.

Please contact your Division International Adviser for more information.

We are also looking for leaders to lead and assist with our County trips and to go forward for leaders selection at Region. If you are interested or would just like to find out more about what is involved, we are holding a Guiders international evening at Hixon on 21 October 2008 at 7.30pm. You will not commit yourself by attending, so please come along, meet the International Team and discover the opportunities that we can offer you. The Region leaders selection day is on 8th November 2008 at Region HQ.

INFORMATION

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme



Can you spare some time to help train girls from within the County to complete the Expedition Section at all levels of the Award? Help is needed to train Navigation and Observation Skills, Route Planning which are a necessary part of a successful expedition.

If you hold a Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3 Girlguiding Qualification, a Mountain Leader Qualification or an equivalent nationally recognised qualification and would like to offer your help from time to time then please contact: Barbara Coope - County D of E Adviser on 01543 682800 or e-mail barbara.coope13@ntlworld.com

What's on?

September

- 12th International Debrief
- 13th Region Singing Day in Staffs
- 15th New to Guiding Training
- 17th Mentoring Evening/Div. Reps
- 18th Commissioner Training
- 22nd Rainbow/Brownie Training
- 24th Div. PR Adviser Evening
- 27th–28th International Selection W/end

October

- 1st Guide / Senior Section Training
- 4th Bell Boat Regatta
- 3rd–5th County Brownie W/e @ Waddow
- 11th Changing the World
- 21st International Leader Selection

November

- 6th Christmas Crafts at County HQ
- 13th County Annual Review
- 16th Camp & Holiday Licence Day

2009

January

- 14th Commissioner Training
- 28th Adult Leader Training:
Five Minute Fillers
- 31st County Exec meeting

February

- 7th Food Hygiene preparation
- 28th Commissioner Training

See the County Website for the complete calendar and further details of events.

Camp & Holiday Licence Training For Brownie And Guide Leaders

Date: Sunday 16th November 2008

Prompt start: 9.15am for 9.30am. Finish by 5.30pm

Venue: Rugeley - exact venue to be confirmed.

Please bring a packed lunch. All drinks will be provided. A £10 booking fee (payable to Staffordshire Guides - Outdoor Account) to secure your place is payable in advance no later than 31st Oct.

This training is your opportunity to find out what's involved in Camp and Holiday licences in readiness for summer 2009. Handouts outlining all aspects of the training will be available on the day.

An application form can be downloaded from our County Website. Please return it to Julie Tanner, 4 Baswich Lane, Stafford. ST17 0DB by 31st October 2008 at latest.

If you require any further details please contact either: Julie Tanner - Brownie Pack Holiday Adviser on 01785 220853 OR Rachel Aston - Camp & Holiday Adviser for Guides on 01785 254570.

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Bell Boat Regatta - 4th October

Visit the County Website for further details and to download your entry form. All applications must be received by 29th September at the latest.

Forthcoming Training Events

New to Guiding Training – Monday 15th September

Rainbow / Brownie Guider Training – Monday 22nd September

Guide / Senior Section Guiders Training – Wednesday 1st October

All the trainings are at Hixon, with a 7.30 pm start. Please apply directly to County HQ. The cut off date is a week before the training. Application forms are available on www.girlguidingstaffordshire.org.uk/guidersinfo



Copy date

for the next Gazette is **31st October 2008**. (To be published 18th November 2008)

Articles should be a maximum of 200 words long. Good quality digital photographs welcome.

Gazette and web site contributions to: publications@girlguidingstaffordshire.org.uk