



Girlguiding

Sir Morgannwg Ganol
Central Glamorgan county

March Newsletter 2024

Message from the County Commissioner

Happy Easter! Thank you for your dedication and commitment to Guiding, your leadership and skills do make a difference.

Subscriptions - thank you for paying on time it is much appreciated. It ensures that Girlguiding can go forward as an organisation. The number of young people on Go was 1535 it is now 1596 an increase of 61 in a month. Imagine if we kept growing like this!! I appreciate it takes time but keeping your unit records up to date, but it does help.

How fantastic that Central Glamorgan has been represented in so many ways from Q&A time, representing Girlguiding UK at parliament to being on the GGUK national award committee. It's fantastic to see members getting involved at so many different levels. Please send achievements of your members into the newsletter so we can celebrate them.

As the lighter nights start and units start venturing out of the unit place, prepare for camp and holidays please remember to complete the appropriate forms and carry out risk assessments. They are there to protect you and our members.

If you have any information, events or some activity you wish to share please email to newsletter.girlguidingcg@gmail.com

Please take time to read the newsletter and the opportunities available.

Julie

Julie.girlguidingcg@gmail.com



County information

Dates for the diary

- 21 April** First response training Abercynon
Community Centre (9:30 to 4:00)
- 8 June** Annual Review – Sker Division
(venue to be confirmed, afternoon)
- 13 July** Brownie & Rainbow Fun Day Gorwelion
(10:00 to 4:00)
- 14 July** First Response Training Gorwelion
(9:30 to 4:00)
- 14 July** Open house & Cream Tea at Gorwelion
(1:00 to 4:00)
- 18 – 20 October** County weekend to Lorne, Belfast

Tesco blue coins voting

Organisation Name - Girlguiding Central Glamorgan – Gorwelion

Project Title - Refurbish Campsite Toilet Block

Please can you circulate this information. Voting will commence in store from the first week in April 2024 until the end of June 2024. The project with the highest number of votes across your region will receive £1,500, the second placed project £1,000 and the third placed project £500. Please see below a list of stores taking part in the voting on your project.

Bridgend Tesco Extra	CF31 3SQ
Bridgend Tesco	CF31 4AP
Gentle Way Bridgend Tesco Express	CF31 5EJ
North Cornelly Tesco Express	CF33 4LN
Pencoed Tesco Express	CF35 5NG



Important information

Improving how we log on to Go!

From 9 April 2024, Girlguiding UK will be making it easier for you to log in to GO and the learning platform. There are 2 key changes you need to know about.

1. New login process

When the new process goes live, you'll only need your email address and 1 password to access both GO and the learning platform.

All the current weblinks that you use to access GO or the learning platform will stay the same. What will change is what the screen looks like when you go to log in. Keep your eyes peeled for a sneak peek of what this will look like, coming soon. You'll be asked to type in your email address and password. You'll then need to confirm who you are – there's more information about that below.

2. Confirming your identity

We're also taking steps to help keep everyone's data as safe as possible. That's why we're introducing a new 2-step process for confirming your identity – similar to something you might use when you access your bank or shop online. You'll be able to choose how you want to confirm that it's you logging in. You can do this by:

Email.

Text message.

Mobile phone call.

Using the Microsoft Authenticator app

This will be more secure than the current 2-step process for logging in to GO which asks you to answer an authentication question. You'll need to complete this 2-step process and confirm who you are every time you log in.



Important information

Improving how we log on to Go!

How can I prepare?

When this new login process begins, we'll have information and step by step guidance ready to help you. But there are a few things you can do before, to help everything go smoothly.

Check your mobile phone number and email address are correct in GO. You'll need to have an accurate, up to date email and mobile phone number listed in GO to be able to confirm your identity.

Allow extra time the first time you log in. Once this new process is in place, you'll need to spend a few extra minutes getting things set up the first time you want to use GO or the learning platform. But don't worry - you won't need to rush to try out this new process on the day it goes live. Just allow a little extra time when you next log in to GO or the learning platform, whenever that might be.

Think about other people who you could help. Could you help Rangers, parents, or other volunteers in your units prepare? Making sure they're aware this change is coming and have the correct email address and/or phone number listed on their GO records will help things go smoothly



What have our members been up to?

1st Abercynon Guides and Rangers



1st Abercynon Guides and Rangers have been doing the civil engineering badge and had a great time building a shelter!

Silver awards for 3rd Newton Brownies

After a lovely evening making Easter bonnets, Summer, Allana, Esme and Susan were delighted to receive their Silver Awards. They have all enjoyed lots of fun and adventures and are looking forward to Brownie holiday in Gorwelion very soon!



What have our members been up to?

Cricket Wales and Girlguiding Cymru

Nine girls from Girlguiding Cymru including one from Efil Isaf, Central Glamorgan. What an incredible opportunity to have an online Q&A session with the talented cricketer, Georgia Elwiss! This exclusive interview is part of our 2024 Cricket Challenge Pack.

Thank you, Georgia, Deputy Chief Commissioner Sarah-Jane Burns, Rebecca and Nathan from Cricket Wales, for making this happen! The girls, your enthusiasm and insightful questions were appreciated. Thank you to the leaders and families in helping to make this event happen.

The 2024 Cricket Challenge pack will be released on the 8 May 2024.

Q&A with Georgia Elwiss

16:46

Chat People Raise React View Notes More Camera

Sarah-Jane Rebecca Georgia

WELSH FIRE
TAN CYMREIG

CRICED CYMRU
CRICKET WALES

Girlguiding
Cymru



What have our members been up to?

2nd Kenfig/Nottage Hill Brownies



2nd Kenfig Hill/Nottage Brownies have been working on their archaeology interest badge and have finished it off by visiting the South Wales Police Museum. They had a brilliant morning.

They had a brilliant morning. The session was given by Melanie Thaliasingham a previous member of Central Glamorgan. The girls learnt what is done at the police headquarters. They participated in lots of activities including, finger printing, crime scene investigation and trails. They enjoyed trying on uniforms and looking at all the museum exhibits. They decided up to date uniforms and equipment was far improved from original.

Thank you Sarah-Jane



Thank you, Sarah-Jane - Deputy Chief Commissioner, for Girlguiding Cymru and leader for 3rd Newton Brownies for all the opportunities you and the Girlguiding Cymru team put on. It's really appreciated!

Central Glamorgan has participated in several of them and enjoyed themselves. Yes, Girls can do anything!

Advocate

Hi, I'm Libby Phillips from 1st Nottage Brownies. I'm a newly appointed first year advocate for Girlguiding!



Recently, I attended an event in the house of commons as an advocate for, and representative of, Girlguiding. The event was hosted by Care International regarding climate change and feminism, specifically on why the climate crisis needs a locally led feminist approach. Not only were the panel sessions informative, but really interesting and honestly shocking. However, the room was full of determined optimists, so here's to a surging hope for our planet and our girls! Going to Victoria for any reason is always a blast, especially with my advocate friends. I'm considering writing an opinion piece based upon the panel, I'll be sharing it if I ever do!

I am the only advocate from the South Wales area, so I'm proud to represent all our Qelsh women and girls- both in and out of Girlguiding- and to be a voice for women and girls internationally. We are a powerful generation and our voices will be heard!

I'm open to requests in regards to holding talks with a unit, perhaps for skills builders like influence, lead, make change, or even interest badges such as those to do with rights, speaking out, protesting, campaigning, even guiding history and world guiding. or even to just talk about my role and how it holds importance to our girls.

If you want to get in touch please email:
libby.hopkins4113@gmail.com



Dyfodol Y Ddraig

Caitlyn Kochalski

Hello, my name is Caitlyn Kochalski and I have been a member of Dyfodol y Ddraig for Central Glamorgan for 2 years. I enjoy taking part in the group as I enjoy learning information from the other members of the group and sharing different ideas.



DYD has been doing more recruiting, we've updated the welcome pack and are in the process of updating the application form. The members of DYD have had an informal meeting where we share different ideas for activities at unit meetings and different badges that the Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers have been working on. DYD members also share information about the different places that they have been, for example, camps or international trips.

DYD are prompting members to write blogs to go out on social media about themselves and their guiding journey. Also, we've given input into the survey for 2025 events and members have done the uniform activities in their units. There is a wide range of members in the DYD group including Molly Jones who is a new member of Central Glamorgan with me.



Opportunities for young members

Volunteers for the National Eisteddfod

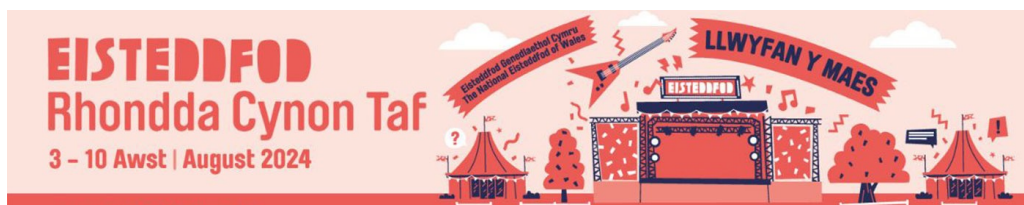
As some of you may be aware, this year the National Eisteddfod is being held in Rhondda Cynon Taf in the Summer (Pontypridd). Attracting up to 170,000 visitors every year, the National Eisteddfod is the largest cultural festival in Europe. The dates are Saturday 3rd August to Saturday 10th August.



This is a prestigious event in the Welsh calendar and one that will probably not be coming to our area for several years. We have requested a stall to promote Girlguiding but we will need volunteers to help out during the week. The Eisteddfod is an inclusive cultural event to be enjoyed by all, it's not an event for Welsh speakers only and this is being emphasised this year. With the Eisteddfod encouraging everyone to come along no matter what your Welsh language ability, whether you are fluent, speak a little, can say 'Shwmae' or know none at all, the Eisteddfod welcomes everyone. Therefore, it would be great if we could have a mixture of volunteers with different abilities in the Welsh language during the week. This national event will be a fantastic opportunity to promote Girlguiding and all we have on offer to girls, not only in our area but across the UK and beyond.

It would also be amazing if we could encourage more local visitors to sign up to volunteer with units in Central Glamorgan so that we can grow Guiding. Please follow the link below and complete the form if you are interested in volunteering (minimum age 16).

<https://forms.office.com/r/4mSFgzy7CM>



Opportunities for young members

UK Parliament week is back

UK Parliament Week returns on 18-24 November 2024.

SIGN-UPS FOR UKPW 2024 ARE NOW OPEN!

UK Parliament Week is an opportunity to empower the people in your network to get their voices heard in UK Parliament.

When you sign up you'll receive a free resource kit with everything you need to confidently run your UKPW activity. It includes a pop-up Victoria Tower ballot box, bunting, stickers, and the exciting new Give Way card game to test your knowledge on UK Parliament, plus an activity booklet.

International Community Experience (ICE)

International Community Experience (ICE) is for Guides aged 11-13. **To meet the criteria of the ICE, the Guides will need to be aged 11 by 1 September 2024 and 13 or under by 1 August 2025.**

The purpose of an ICE weekend/trip is to give girls a taste of community action, increase their global awareness and prepare them for international experiences.

Girlguiding Cymru Ice Project

Our ICE 2024/25 adventure begins with a residential weekend of community action and international experiences. We will explore what a community is and how we can make a difference, no matter how small. This will be achieved by taking part in a community project, such as environmental work/research at each of our locations. The Guides will also learn about global issues, have lots of fun and meet new friends!

Our ICE experience comes together at the final project during the **Summer Holidays 2025**, where the Guides will apply and develop their new skills through a community action project/research on Brownsea Island.

For more information please follow the link on the newsletter email.



Opportunities for young members

Queen's Guide and Gold DofE residential



An amazing opportunity to meet new Girlguiding friends from not just Ulster, but from all over the UK. Take part in volunteering opportunities, be challenged to visit Belfast for Free, take part in outdoor activities and so much more! Based at Lorne, the cost is £200 for the week. Who is it for? Any Girlguiding member who is undertaking the amazing challenges of the Queen's Guide Award and the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award.

For more information contact: Felicity at lornevolunteering@girlguidingulster.org.uk

To register go to:

<https://girlguidingulster.org.uk/events/residential-for-gold-dofe-and-queens-guide-award>

Gold DofE residential

This summer the Youth Hostel Association (YHA) are trialling a new National Park DofE Gold Residential based in conservation.

Who: 16-25 and 18-25 Gold DofE participants
Cost: £40 (travel expenses up to £75 covered)

More info: <https://groups.yha.org.uk/groups/duke-of-edinburgh-award>

Try something new

Journey through The Gambia



As part of her Queen's Guide Award Gwenllian from Cynon Valley Division has created a pack to raise funds to support the Mansa Maru school in the Gambia which she has visited and will be returning to in February. The pack is ideal for world Thinking Day, pack holidays, camp or even completing within weekly unit meeting and is linked to the programme for all sections.

Badges are £1.20 each plus postage. For more info please email: Hirwaunbrownies@hotmail.com

Girlguiding Cymru challenge badges



Have you seen our County resource pack? It's well worth a look! There are 5 sections looking at teams, construction, Guiding, wellbeing and friendship - these activities for all sections. Why not start this new term with this activity pack and build your unit, plus you will be supporting the County and Gorwelion.

The funds raised from this badge go to Gorwelion for us as a county to Build on what we have and make exciting changes for our future generations. Badges cost £1.00 each plus post and packaging.

Contact Julie.girlguidingcgc@gmail.com for a copy of this pack.



Supporting units and volunteers

First response training

All units must have a first aider. It is the responsibility of the leadership team to ensure compliance. Training dates for 2024 are as follows:

21st April at Abercynon Community centre

14th July at Ynysmaerdy Community Centre

17th November at Porthcawl Guide hall

You will need to complete the online learning before attending the course.

To book onto this course and more information please contact Beth Williams -bethAN316@btinternet.com.

Safe space training

Safe space L3 virtual training

New dates for Spring-Summer 2024

Girlguiding Cymru

April

Tuesday	30th	6.30pm
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May

Saturday	11th	10.00am
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June

Wednesday	5th	6.30pm
Thursday	27th	6.30pm

Each session: 2 hours long

Book now via the **Girlguiding Learning platform**

learning.girlguiding.org.uk

Gorwelion

Give a Gift to Gorwelion appeal 2024



We are launching this appeal with the aim of raising £5000 in order to continue to improve the facilities at Gorwelion, our wonderful home by the sea. We are looking at making both campsites more accessible for all to be able to enjoy. We would love as much support as possible to achieve this, so that generations of young people and adults can continue to enjoy Gorwelion and all it has to offer too.

Please share with your units/leaders/parents, and also with friends and family too!!

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/give-a-gift-to-gorwelion-2024>



Contact us

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