



**Girlguiding**

Sir Morgannwg Ganol  
Central Glamorgan county

# September Newsletter 2024

## Message from the County Commissioner

I hope you all had a great summer! We are back and full of energy for an action-packed term ahead, both as a county and in units.

During the summer months 2 members went away on an international opportunity to India – what a fantastic experience that they have shared with us in this newsletter. There were also many holidays and camps for our members to enjoy locally.

Starting this term, I know some groups have taken part in piloting some new badges for GGUK. Thank you for your time and please provide honest feedback, you are part of shaping our new badges for our members going forward.

Unfortunately, our number of young members has gone down over the summer period to 1667. However, we do have significant waiting lists and adults awaiting recruitment. Please have a look at these and let's grow guiding in Central Glamorgan. Please can I request you contact new enquiries within the required timeframe as I do get emails if they are not contacted – this would be much appreciated.

If you have any information, events or activity you wish to share please email to [newsletter.girlguidingcgc@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter.girlguidingcgc@gmail.com)

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

Julie

[Julie.girlguidingcgc@gmail.com](mailto:Julie.girlguidingcgc@gmail.com)



# COMPLIANCE

During the summer I received a number of emails regarding members safe space needing renewing. Please check your record via GO also have a look at your emails via my communications. Girlguiding Central Glamorgan appreciates every person who supports Girlguiding but it is impossible with over 300 adult volunteer to remind everyone personally.

All units need to have a person with a current First Aid Qualification. Good practice would be that more than one member in the unit has this qualification so as to allow flexible Guiding and that the unit is always covered. **The next First Response training is 17<sup>th</sup> November at Porthcawl Guide Hall.** If you have recognised prior learning or external course on first aid this will need to be verified through the [external first aid area of the learning platform](#). This will be verified by your region first aid verifier team. You'll still need to complete the 1st response e-learning before you're able to upload your external course for verification. You'll be asked to provide your certificate as well as information regarding how your external course has covered the [1st response syllabus](#).

DBS – these must be current and they are part of the recruitment check process. Please contact your Commissioner if a DBS is required for any member of a unit.

GO should also be up to date to help you manage your unit easier and also at county, region and Girlguiding UK HQ level to see where help is needed. The data from GO is used by Girlguiding HQ to inform the decisions they make, especially around recruitment campaigns and funding so it is important to maintain good records.

# County information

## Christmas craft evening

Last day to sign up Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October  
Booking link: <https://tinyurl.com/centralglam>

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# CHRISTMAS CRAFT EVENING

FRIDAY 11TH OCTOBER  
7.30-9.30

NEWTOWN LLANTWIT SCOUT HALL  
LLANTWIT FARDRE, CF38 2NA

Come and join in with a relaxed evening of Christmas craft, refreshments and festive fun! There will be a variety of crafts on offer and you'll need to select two when booking. Some of the crafts include; making wooden Christmas trees, bunting, gnomes, book folding Christmas trees, Christmas wreaths and more!!

Cost £10 per person (this will include light refreshments) Young leaders welcome too

All monies raised will go towards a new toilet block for Gorwelion campsite

Here's the link to book  
<https://tinyurl.com/centralglam>  
or scan this code...



# County information

## County dinner

The County dinner this year will be hosted by Garth Maelwg Division and will be held at the Pontyclun Athletics Club. Arrive from 7pm, food at 7.30pm. 2 courses £20. Young Leaders welcome too.

Here is the link to book.

<https://tinyurl.com/countydinner>



# County information

County training day



Girlguiding  
Morgannwg Ganol  
Central Glamorgan

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**COUNTY TRAINING DAY 2024**  
**SUNDAY NOV 24TH**

**9.30-3.00**

TON PENTRE JUNIOR SCHOOL, THE RHONDDA

**BOOKING OPENS END OF SEPTEMBER!!**



# County information

## Gorwelion 80 challenge

Having submitted plans to build accessible outdoor toilets at Gorwelion and some changes on the little site we need to fundraise to support this alongside approaching sponsors and grant funding bodies.

Gorwelion turns 80 this year so it would be fantastic to celebrate by giving it a present!

To fundraise we are challenging you and your units to join us walking the number of steps to circumnavigate the World! This is equivalent to:

**37,297 miles**  
**60,023 kilometers**  
**87,523,132 steps**



We need your help to walk the 87 million steps around the world to raise money for Gorwelion. Individuals who raise over £10 will receive an Around the World challenge badge and individuals who raise over £50 will receive an Around the World teddy and challenge badge!

This challenge is taking place from the 1<sup>st</sup> May – 1<sup>st</sup> December 2024 and it would be great to see how far we have reached on our social media and newsletter so please send in how many steps your unit has walked monthly to [donnajacka@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:donnajacka@hotmail.co.uk)!

For more information and forms please follow the link in the email and on the newsletter page on the website or contact your commissioner.

# County information

## Gorwelion 80 challenge

1<sup>st</sup> Nottage Guides have joined in with gusto and every step they take is counted towards the final total. If most units take part they only need walk a total of 583,488 steps per unit (a total of approx 250 miles). Not that far when you consider we have until the end of November to complete.

1<sup>st</sup> Nottage Guides, Sker Division, are well out in front of their needed target and their total steps, taken on 12<sup>th</sup> June stands at 2, 530,984 - about 4 times as much as they need to do, but the weekly total keeps going up. Is there anyone out there that can match or better this? Nottage has thrown down the gauntlet girls - can anyone beat this or catch them up!

Please let me know your totals so that we can keep a running total until the end of November

Please reach out to Donna for more information.

[Donnajacka@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Donnajacka@hotmail.co.uk)

Please see the link on the email and on the county website for sponsor forms and Unit records.



# Celebrating our members

## Congratulations



Elli Bufton (Young Leader Advisor) completed a 25km summer walk in London in aid of the charity 'Mind' as part of her Queen's Guide award – Well Done!

Congratulations to Carys Sheard from 4<sup>th</sup> Bridgend Guides who worked hard preparing a week-long camp for her licence. She has been a Guide and Young Leader and her enthusiasm as a leader is an inspiration to all!





# Celebrating our members

## Congratulations



Girlguiding Central Glamorgan members, including Caitlyn Kochalski and Gwenllian Rees-Williams, were nominated to attend a red-carpet event, Girlguiding Celebrates, at the Odeon Leister Square London in recognition of the difference they have made to girls' lives in their area. Congratulations!!

Congratulations to Kaya Vandermeer on completing her Leadership qualification with 2nd Pontyclun Guides!! Kaya joined the unit as a Guide in 2010, when the unit was established, and she came back to help in 2022. Kaya is hoping to complete her going away licence early next year!! Llongyfarchiadau.



# International adventures

## Sangam, India

This August Girlguiding Central Glamorgan members, Molly Jones and Liz Dunford, had the amazing opportunity to travel to Sangam, our Girlguiding world centre in India. Here are some memories of the trip from Molly and Liz:

We arrived in Mumbai where we did a tour of the city, we saw many cultural things like the market and the laundry where 10,000 men worked to wash clothes. Next was Sangam where we visited the town (where we took a public bus), bought Saris, volunteered in the local schools and made lots of friends. Our final leg of the trip was the golden triangle. First was Delhi where we visited both new and old Delhi. We continued our travels and visited an elephant sanctuary!



# International adventures

## Sangam, India

We got to learn about why they are in captivity and how they are working towards stopping the use of elephants for show. After this we arrived at Agra where I saw my first of the 7 wonders of the world- the Taj Mahal. The final place was Jaipur – the pink city. It gets its name from the whole city being painted pink, we went jewellery shopping and were in awe at just how pretty it was. Along the way we took many rickshaw rides both electric and traditional cycle ones, saw many animals including monkeys and peacocks. We had the most brilliant time!



## Girlguiding Cymru Sangam trip



# Gorwelion Olympics funday

A fun packed day at Gorwelion was had by Brownies and Rainbows. The theme was the Olympics and there were numerous activities from races to teamwork, craft and chilling out. Thank you to all who helped make this happen and to those who came along!



# Duke of Edinburgh's Award

D of E recruitment

It's the time of year where we look at numbers for Duke of Edinburgh's expeditions for 2025.

Girls need to be in Year 9 to sign up for Bronze Award, Year 10 for Silver Award and at least 16 to sign up for Gold Award. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a fantastic scheme to get involved in! For more information please contact:

[Nadine.thomas@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Nadine.thomas@hotmail.co.uk)

To sign up for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award with Girlguiding Cymru please fill in the link below.

<https://form.jotform.com/GirlguidingCymru/girlguiding-cymru-dofe-participant>



# NSGSO and NSGCB

Applications open for 2025



Please share with our younger members aged 12-25. I went to the concert this year, which featured one of our young members Seren, and it was fantastic.

Applications are now OPEN for the NSGSO and NSGCB summer course 2025!

Next year is their 50th anniversary course of the NSGSO and 10th anniversary course of the NSGCB, taking place on 2nd - 10th August 2025. It would be great if Central Glamorgan were strongly represented. Applications are accepted on all instruments for members of @scouts and @girlguiding aged 12-25.

Next year it is in Stourbridge for the week, with performances at the Nottingham Albert Hall and Birmingham Symphony Hall

For more details, and to apply, visit [nsgso-nsgcb.com](https://nsgso-nsgcb.com)

Applications will close at 9am on 1st December 2024



# Girlguiding Cymru opportunities

## Board of Trustees

Girlguiding Cymru is looking to expand their Board of Trustees. Could you be interested in joining them? We are looking for additional trustees to join the Girlguiding Cymru Trustee Board including a member aged 18-30.

Do you have experience, skills or knowledge in Risk Management or Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and the Welsh Language, Governance and Charity Law.

Learn more: <https://girlguidingcymru.org.uk/trustees>

## Board of Trustees

Girl Guiding Cymru Castell to château leaders trip 2025 closing date has been extended Closing date OCT 2024

The plan is for leaders to stay in at or near a Castell in your local area within 2 weeks of travel to Paris. The leaders will travel by their own method to meet up at the PGL centre Chateau de Grande Romaine - PGL.

There are limited places for the event so book now.

Learn more:

<https://girlguidingcymru.org.uk/castell-to-chateau>



# Girlguiding Cymru opportunities

## Shout out to Gold Award Holders

Girlguiding Cymru has Gold award galleries!

We at Central Glamorgan are so proud of all our amazing members who have gone for Gold! So please remember to share your photos if you wish to feature them in Girlguiding Cymru Gold galleries. Leaders and parents/carers can submit them.

Send yours here:

<https://girlguidingcymru.org.uk/gold-awards>

## Parliament week



UK Parliament Week runs from 18 - 24 November 2024. Last year over a million people took part in over 10,000 activities in every region and nation of the UK, and countries all over the world.

Sign up and get your pack now

<https://www.ukparliamentweek.org/en/>





# North West England Opportunities

## Mental health seminars

Girlguiding North West England are holding some webinars with the charity Young Minds to help members understand more about young people's mental health and wellbeing.

The webinar will:

- Explore advice and guidance from young people and adults about what it means to be a trusted adult.
- Start to develop some tools when communicating with young people about their mental health.
- This training is available for any adult volunteers (18+) including those outside of the North West region so grab your place now

There are webinars you can sign up to:

Thursday 14 November-

<https://www.girlguidingnwe.org.uk/event-training-comp/understanding-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-with-young-minds-2/>

Monday 9 December-

<https://www.girlguidingnwe.org.uk/event-training-comp/understanding-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-with-young-minds-2/>



# Contact us

ALQ coordinators – Bethan Hicks, Jayne Rodgers

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Booking secretary Gorwelion – Sharon Lima

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County badge secretary – Dian Jones

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Young leaders' adviser – Elli Bufton

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