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Girlguiding Hampshire East County

LEADER NEWSLETTER

April 2020



Message from Lyndsey

Hello to you all.

In these very strange and uncertain times I hope you and your families are all keeping well. To those of you who are key workers or on the front line of the NHS a huge thank you.

I think we are all finding out very different ways to keep occupied. At school we are all now doing the Joe Wicks workout, including all staff! Gosh how unfit I am! I've also become interested in the ironing!

Guiding is not as we know it but I know some units are doing amazing things online. We are including a few ideas in this newsletter. If you have seen or tried other ideas let Liz Dunning have links so that they can go on the County Facebook page. However, please do not feel you have to keep your unit going with activities at all.

Guiding has yet to release information on some of our processes but I'm sure will in time, keep an eye on the website.

I came across this poem the other day which made me smile.



With very best wishes to you all.

Lyndsey
Lyndsey Cook
County Commissioner Hants East



Recognised Prior Learning for A Safe Space Training

A reminder that all Recognised Prior Learning for A Safe Space training requests need to be sent to South West Region's ASS Lead, Janet Parker [details available via the SWE Region office] and not to the HQ's Safeguarding Team nor to Jill Webb.

Recognised Prior Learning documentation can be located on the Girlguiding Safeguarding area of the

national Girlguiding website: <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/making-guiding-happen/learning-and-development/a-safe-space-training/>



Membership, Growth and Retention Working Party

Membership, Growth and Retention

We had hoped to have a Guiding stand at Sultec and Portchester Gala but both these events have been cancelled. We have booked a spot at the South Downs Show and the Southsea Race for Life but of course we don't know if these will still go ahead. We do still need volunteers to help at these events as 'Chatters' so if you are interested please contact your Division Commissioner.

Badges

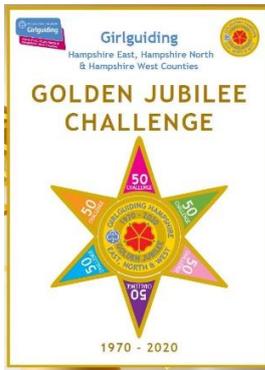
From April 1st there will be an increase in the postage costs for badge orders. In order to make it slightly fairer, I am introducing a two tier payment charge. For 10 or less woven badges the postage cost will be £1, for 11 or more woven badges or any order that includes a pin badge the postage cost will be £1.20.

There will be a new badge order form on the website so please use it where possible. The badge list on the website shows the code and cost for each badge, you can also add the fun badges from the Essentials Catalogue and any resources that you may require.

I have lots of badges in stock so if your girls are working on badges during this time please order any that are needed.

Thanks
Liz Dunning

[Badge Order Form April 2020](#)



Golden Jubilee Challenge Badges

These have arrived and look great. A set of 6 triangles cost £1.50, the postage rates are as normal badge orders.



Residential Badges

There will be two new Guide Camp badges in stock shortly - they will have red and blue borders - once they have arrived Liz will update the website with the range available.

SWE Region International Trips

South West Region are beginning to receive queries about the international trips they are running this summer - Ghana, Spain and the European Jamboree, Poland - and also about payment of outstanding fees, grants and what to do about them if the trip is cancelled etc. Whilst they do not have all the answers at the moment, the message below is what they are giving to anyone who enquires - whether that be from a parent, a leader, an adviser, a commissioner or a county finance representative. The wording of the reply may vary depending on the question but the message is still the same.

We appreciate that this is a difficult and unsettling time for everyone but at the moment your [your daughters / your county representatives] trip to XXX is still going ahead as planned. We are obviously monitoring the situation very carefully and if the Government's advice about travel changes, and that affects the trip, then we will be in contact with you.

If the trip does have to be cancelled in the summer then we will explore the possibility of rescheduling it. Obviously, no decision on this will be made without consulting all Leaders and girls/parents involved.

If the trip is cancelled all together then we will look to claim through the trip insurance a sum to cover any costs that have been lost.

Trip leaders and girls should be aware that some money has already been spent for things like pre-weekends, badges, clothing etc and this cannot be recovered.

Below is the guidance that has been issued by Girlguiding about the return of fundraising money. It is aimed more at unit trips but does provide some guidance for us to use. Point one would be applicable for any grants you have received from within Girlguiding or from external sources.

I've been fundraising for a trip that can't go ahead - do I have to return the donations?

It depends on how you raised the money for the trip, and what you said to the donor at the time. Here are some examples:

- 1. If you have been sponsored to do something to raise money for your trip and your trip is now cancelled, you need to contact each of your sponsors and let them know about the*

- cancellation. You must ask them if they are happy for funds to still go towards the Girlguiding group who were going on the trip you were fundraising for, or if they want a refund.*
2. *If you held a bake sale / raffle/ quiz night to raise money for your trip and your trip is cancelled, refunds will not need to be made even though the trip is cancelled. The money must still be given to the charity you were raising money for e.g. your unit*

Because the trips are all going ahead at the moment the Region has also had to ask all Leaders / girls to ensure they have paid for any trip fees etc by the date in their payment plan or by the final date for payment for those who did not sign up to a payment plan.

In addition they have also asked for anyone who thinks they will have difficulty in meeting the payment deadlines to let them know - they have had a discussion in the Region office about this and can, if need be, extend the payment deadline to end of November before they consider any other action.

Julie has started having discussions with African Adventures who are running the Ghana trip, Venture Abroad who are running the Spain trip and at the moment whilst they understand the dilemma we are in they have asked for our patience - they are dealing with trips due to go out now that they are having to cancel. SWE Region understand that Girlguiding are in touch with the organisers of the European Jamboree and would guess that as soon as they receive any information Region will be advised.

It is a catch-22 situation - if Region cancel the trips they [and those going] will be liable for any outstanding payments as per the contracts. If they wait for the organisers to cancel then they will be in a position to seek refunds / insurance claims.



There is always
something fun to do!

Although we are no longer holding our meetings some Divisions and units have been keeping in touch with their young members and sharing ideas / activities for them to do at home. Here are some of the things that they have been doing:

[CLICK HERE](#) for Hug in a Mug - maybe you could adapt this activity for girls to send to their neighbours

The County Facebook page is regularly being updated with activities - Gosport North are doing the Coronavirus Isolation Challenge that Girlguiding Northamptonshire have put together.

Girlguiding have launched Adventures at Home - check out the website for more details <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/what-we-do/adventures-at-home/> Scroll down and you will find information such as 'Getting started with online guiding and virtual unit meetings' under the heading 'Member Zone' - *please ensure that all GDPR and Safeguarding guidelines are adhered to. Leaders must make sure they have security settings set not to allow other non-unit members to join their Facebook or Zoom conferences. There has been a report in the Guardian newspaper of random 'Zoomers' joining conference meetings, so we encourage you to proceed with caution.*

Trefoil's [Lones newsletter 2020](#) has some activities your units may like to do.



Long Service Awards

Congratulations to the following Leaders and Unit Helpers on gaining their service awards:

SW Region - 1 Year Service Award

Andrea Densham - Horndean
Emma Morris - Gosport North
Gemma Lewis - Portsmouth North
Julie Langridge - Gosport South
Lorraine Tester - Fareham
Tracy Hazley - Gosport North

SW Region - 3 Year Service Award

Becky Truscott - Bere Forest
Kirstie Poulton - Horndean

10 Year Service Award

Cindi Bronger - Bere Forest

20 Year Service Award

Frances Philbrick - Portsmouth South



Dates for your Diary 2020

Please note these dates are subject to change as the coronavirus situation changes

16 May	LQ Day for New Leaders
21 May	1st Response Renewal
13 Jun	1st Response
22-26 Jun	County Training Week
27 Sep	1st Response
2-4 Oct	County Brownie Activity Weekend
6 Oct	Managing Finance & Accounts
14 Oct	1st Response Renewal
22 Nov	A Safe Space Level 3
22 Nov	LQ Day for New Leaders



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Girlguiding Hampshire East

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