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Girlguiding Hampshire East County

## LEADER NEWSLETTER

June 2020



### Message from Lyndsey

In Volunteer week I wanted to thank you for all you do for the girls and young women in Hampshire East.

Volunteering is like a mint - Achievemint, Commitmint, Encouragemint, Investmint and Involvemint!

*Lyndsey*

Lyndsey Cook  
County Commissioner Hants East



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## Region Updates

### Legoland Sleepovers and Takeover Days

You will be aware that these events were originally in the diary for March 2020 and were subsequently postponed to September 2020. Following discussion between Youth Fun Days and Legoland it has now been agreed that the takeover days and sleepovers will be postponed until March 2021.

Refunds will be given to all units who had sleepovers booked for September - these units will be given priority bookings when the booking site for sleepovers in March 2021 is opened.

### International Trips 2020/2021

The following trips have been postponed until 2021 or cancelled:

European Jamboree, Poland - postponed

Spain - postponed

ICE Dublin - cancelled

ICE selection weekend 18-20 September 2020 in Bristol has been cancelled and is replaced by virtual selection for ICE

ICE selection weekend 9-11 October 2020 in Berkshire has been cancelled

### Try, Inspire and Qualify

The decision has been made to postpone this event to 2021 - a date in September will be confirmed with Foxlease. All participants who had signed up to attend will receive a refund.

### Region Conferences

#### Commissioner Conferences

The conference bookings for both conferences have been postponed by 12 months to 18 September 2021 in Bristol and 2 October 2021 in Basingstoke.

### Membership Growth & Retention Conference

This event has been postponed to 20 November 2021.

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## **National Information**

### **New Members**

Yes, we can still welcome new girls to guiding!

Girlguiding are working on adapting the new starter list form so that it can be completed remotely and this will be ready in the next few weeks. In the meantime, provided you have space for them to join, you can invite girls who have registered an interest in your unit to join. You can then involve them in however you are currently running activities be it my email, virtual meeting or post.

### **Transition to the next section**

If you have a girl in your unit who is due to transition to the next section and she feels confident to do so, has met her leader and the girls from the next section, then it might be possible to transition her by arranging a digital welcome / meeting with her new unit. However, in situations where girls need more support around transition between sections, do not know the leader of the new section, or in general has raised concerns about transitioning during virus related isolation, then leaders can postpone the official leave date for the time being until there is more clarity around timescales of the social isolation period.

We would encourage movement to the next section if you feel it would be appropriate.

### **A Safe Space**

Launch of virtual training for level 4 is imminent. Level 3 is still being worked on and is likely to be piloted with those needing to renew rather than those needing it for the first time. A few trainers from each Region are working towards a webinar accreditation to be able to deliver level 3 and level 4 virtually.

### **International**

The website should now be updated with FAQs relating to international matters, including Venture Abroad. The current advice is not to book any new international trips without adequate insurance.

### **Adventures at Home Festival**

This was very successful with at least 40,000 viewings, possibly more when the final figures are in. Girlguiding are looking into the possibility of another one in the summer with requests for a longer campfire.

### **Return to Guiding**

With the Government's guidelines on Covid-19 continually changing, please remember that no face-to-face meetings should be taking place. This includes unit meetings, training sessions, trips and events across the UK. Girlguiding are constantly reviewing the situation and will notify you when we're able to safely return to face-to-face guiding. We're also aware that some of you have concerns about going back to face-to-face guiding. Please be assured that we'll issue you with guidance in good time, before unit guiding starts back again.

The clear message is that volunteers should NOT start face-to-face meetings anywhere in the Countries and Regions until such times they are informed by GG. This may be on a Region basis, depending on the

situation going forward.

This will of course depend on Government lockdown easing and could be some time in the future. We would therefore encourage all units to make contact with their girls and offer some activities in any way you can.

### **Subscriptions 2021**

Discussions are still ongoing. Girlguiding will have information as to the National amount in July and Region will decide by end of September.

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## **County Updates**

### **Kingswood Trip**

Due to the ongoing situation, units not meeting and uncertainty as to when large events can take place, the County Executive Committee in conjunction with the Finance Committee has decided to postpone this event to the end of Spring 2021.

All girls currently booked can still attend, even if they will be in Guides by then. Further details will be sent to leaders of groups attending in the next couple of weeks.

### **Virtual Sleepover**

As no residential events can take place this summer, we are organising a virtual sleepover event that all units or individual girls can take part in. More details to follow in next month's newsletter.

### **Leader Virtual Event**

We are hoping to organise an event or activity for leaders too. Current suggestions are quiz, campfire or photo challenge.

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## **Publicity**

I am sure that lots of units are doing wonderful activities in these strange times. I would like to prepare an article for the press about how Guiding is coping! If you have done anything that merits a mention please let me know - I only need to know what the event was and how it was received, a quote from a girl is always good too.

Liz Dunning

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## **Training**

As we are unable to hold our unit meetings for the foreseeable future, please take this opportunity to ensure you are up to date with training such as A Safe Space Level 1 and Level 2 as much as possible using the e-learning on the Girlguiding website.

## Zoom Training

Are you thinking of using Zoom? Are you new to using Zoom? Do you need help in getting started and with learning the basic features? Uncertain about how to plan a virtual unit meeting? South West Region have it covered! Training is free. Dates available are:

Tuesday 16th June at 7.30pm

Thursday 18th June at 10.30am

Saturday 20th June at 10.30am

Please visit <https://www.girlguidingsouthwestevents.co.uk/> for more information and to book a place.

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## Winifred (Winnie) Beer

When Winnie sadly passed away she left a legacy to the Girlguiding Training & Activity Centre at Foxlease. The Treasurer & Membership Secretary of the Friends of Foxlease have written to Lyndsey letting her know how the legacy was used, an excerpt below:

*"We are always most grateful and, as the Committee of the Friends of Foxlease, we consider most carefully how best the funds will be used to support the TAC in her memory.*

*Each year the Centre Manager at Foxlease draws up a Wish List of items that they would not otherwise be able to afford and these items are discussed at the Friends' AGM each year.*

*On this occasion it helped us to refurbish the swimming pool at Foxlease and we will be putting up a plaque to that effect when we are able to."*

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## Leadership Qualification

Congratulations to the following leader on gaining her Leadership Qualification:

Jessica Pang [Modules 1-3] - Portsmouth South

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## Dates for your Diary 2020

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

27 Sep 1st Response  
2-4 Oct County Brownie Activity Weekend - POSTPONED TO SPRING 2021  
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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