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Girlguiding Hampshire East County

LEADER NEWSLETTER

September 2020



Message from Lyndsey

It's hard to believe September is here already and we have definitely moved into autumn if the chilly mornings and darker evenings are anything to go by.

I hope you enjoyed the lovely summer weather and were able to enjoy some family time or time away.

What an amazing success the County Virtual Sleepover was! We had about 1800 participants. I enjoyed the quietest sleepover breakfast ever via Zoom with my Brownie Unit and there was no water

on the floor after their washing up attempts!

Again, I'd like to say a big thank you to you all for all you are doing for Guiding in whatever capacity.

We have seen some amazing activities on Zoom and very successful outdoor meetings as well as work girls have done at home with resources provided by yourselves. We also appreciate that for those of you Guiding is taking a back seat at the moment.

At the start of this autumn term we all need to consider how we can make contact with our girls and keep their enthusiasm going.

We also need to be mindful that we will be paying subscription fees next year so now might be a good time to contact parents to ensure you have finances for this as it is a membership fee. I had hoped to bring you news about the cost of the subscription in this newsletter but Girlguiding have not yet enabled us to release the detail. However, I can tell you there will be a number of ways we will be supporting you financially as County and Region are not increasing their levy.

Below are details of how we can continue working with the girls for the time being.

Best wishes
Lyndsey
County Commissioner

Face to Face Guiding

Outdoor face to face Guiding will continue. You must complete the required risk assessment to be signed off by your Commissioner (please remember a minimum of 2 weeks' notice is needed to allow them time to consider and check your paperwork). Although this may be a challenge for many of you due to darker evenings, maybe consider an occasional weekend meeting instead.

As you will have seen in the latest Making Guiding Happen, Girlguiding are working on a new risk assessment, checklist, procedure and parent letter templates to help those that want to and can return to indoor guiding to do just that. We are expecting this guidance before 14th September and it is anticipated indoor meetings can start at the beginning of October.

I'd like to point out that this is the first any commissioners knew of this information and that when guidance is available you allow us all time to read the details and as to how we will have signed off paperwork and what we will need to ensure this is in place.

For this term there is certainly a blended feel to Guiding.

Virtual - via Whatsapp, email, post or Zoom. See below for some ideas about holding Zoom meetings.

Face to Face outdoor - for 15 girls plus leaders, paperwork to be completed and approved.

Face to Face indoor - guidance coming soon.

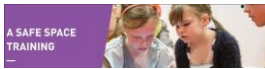
Tesco Covid Grant

Several units in the county have been successful in gaining £500 grants. This would be worth units who will struggle with subscription costs applying for.

The money is there to help cover additional costs arising from the Covid situation to help us continue what we are doing, ie extra PPE, printing and postage costs for sending things virtually, pencil cases and stationery and also to help out finances due to no subs income and struggling families.

The deadline is 18th September. The form is fairly simple - you just need to add a couple of documents including a recent bank statement.

Link <https://tescobagsofhelp.org.uk/grant-schemes/tesco-cv-fund/>



Safe Space Training

We have been having a tremendous response to leaders using the recent months to update their essential training and undertaking to keep their knowledge and skills current. Girlguiding has made 31st December 2020 the date for full compliance for all leaders and volunteers, whatever their role, to have completed the appropriate level of A Safe Space training. This date has not changed.

Whilst we have been making good progress we are concerned on our levels of training, especially as there are still quite a few units across the County that have not got a Leader with A Safe Space Level 3 qualification and have not yet booked onto a course to do so. Region have worked hard to adapt the Level 3 course to an on-line training and you can book on these [HERE](#).

It is important to note that units will not be able to re-open after the compliance deadline date if they do not have a Level 3 qualification with their unit.

All volunteers will also need to complete Levels 1 and/or 2 depending on the role they have and access to these A Safe Space trainings can be found in the Learning & Development section of the Girlguiding website [HERE](#), where you can also find out about which level of A Safe Space training your role needs.

Claire Rees
ACC Excellence



Moving Girls on to the Next Section

Leaders please can we ensure that you

1. Move girls on to the next section, where appropriate, now
2. Move girls from waiting lists into your units even though you are not meeting face to face

We have huge concerns that girls are being held back because of no face to face Guiding. Most units are either meeting virtually or sending out activities and if girls are due to be in the next section then that is where they should be.

Please do not leave girls abandoned on your waiting lists. If you have the space take them into your units now please. They will lose interest if they feel abandoned.

This was highlighted to us by Region a while back and looking through the waiting lists I can see it is still happening, please we don't want to lose these girls!

I would ask Division Commissioners to check their Division waiting lists as well and give Leaders a nudge if the above has not been done.

Thanks
Kathy
ACC Capacity

Virtual Guiding

It has been fantastic to hear about all the fun activities that units have been involved in since we stopped meeting face to face. I know some Leaders have struggled with virtual guiding but fear not there is support available. Click on the button below to find a resource with some activity ideas and handy hints. New ideas will be added as we discover them so please check regularly. There will also be a list of games that can be played on Zoom on the County website soon. If you have any problems please ask your Division Commissioner for help.

Liz Dunning
ACC Voice

[Virtual Guiding Resource](#)

Hampshire Youth Network

We are very grateful to have an agreement from Hampshire County Council for an amount of circa £5000 for five years to support our work, it is good to have recognition of how important they think our work is. We are grateful to the Lord-Lieutenant Nigel Atkinson for his support.

The Youth Members of HYN organised a virtual quiz at the end of August for the County youth and their families and the latest newsletter is available on our County Guiding Facebook page. The HYN website <http://www.hampshireyouthnetwork.weebly.com> is being developed further, I have prepared a bit about Guiding for it, please encourage those aged 11 to 18 to take a look at it and get involved.

Liz Dunning
ACC Voice



Long Service Awards

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

SW Region - 1 Year Service Award

Chloe Cobb - Gosport South
Emma Bradshaw - Havant
Emily Scott - Horndean
Fifi Job - Portsmouth North
Jacquie Limburn - Horndean
Jennie Watson - Titchfield
Vicky Schumann-Edwards - Portsmouth North

SW Region - 3 Year Service Award

Angela Stapley - Horndean
Joanne Butcher - Titchfield

5 Year Service Award

Abbie Hunt - Gosport South
Anne Weites - Gosport South
Donna Day - Gosport South
Emma Rowsell - Gosport South
Laura Smith - Gosport South
Linda Oakshott - Gosport South
Louise Dollery - Hayling Island
Niamh Ward - Gosport South

Rosie Wright - Gosport South
Stephanie Todd - Gosport South

10 Year Service Award

Angela Thorpe - Portsmouth North
Becca Williams - Gosport North
Bo Collier - Gosport South
Gail Terry - Gosport South
Katherine Duffy - Gosport South
Leane Farley - Gosport South
Sandie Taylor - Gosport South
Sheila Simpson - Gosport South

20 Year Service Award

Golly Woodward - Portsmouth North
Jane Harrop - Gosport South
Jayne Ford - Hayling Island
Jo Ward - Portsmouth North
Melissa Harrop - Portsmouth North
Vanessa Davies - Horndean

30 Year Service Award

Michelle Smith - Bere Forest



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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hantseastadm@outlook.com