

2008 County Diary

May

13 County Executive

June

7 Stag Holders Lunch

8 Queens Guide Lunch

16 County Finance

21/22 1st Aid training- Theale Green

27/29 PGL Weekend

July

10 County Executive

August

September

6-7 Thirtover Place 18th Birthday!!!!!!!

Saturday Garden Party

Sunday SS Challenge Day

19-21 B-P weekend, CGC

24 Direct Mailing deadline

October

6 Direct Mailing Collation

11 Autumn Training Day

November

1/2 1st Aid training, Maidenhead

December

2009

January

23-25 County Weekend to Foxlease

August

1-8 **WINGS 2009, Windsor**


Girlguiding Royal Berkshire

May



2008

County Presidents Message

Grand Raffle Results

Congratulations to:

1st Nicky Howgego- Emmer Green

2nd Abbi Blake - Bracknell

3rd Katie Mulligan Emmer Green

Remaing Prizes were won by:

B. Turner -Slough

B.Hayes - Bracknell

Penelope Berville, Sunninghill

FOG - Loddon

M.Hynard - Maidenhead

Victoria Phillips - Datchet

Fiona Huggett- Wokingham

Lisa Edwards- Owlsmoor

Hannah Shirley - Maidenhead

W.Purton - Kingsclere

L.Foster - Wokingham

The Draw was made at the Annual Review .

.....

Sues Scribbles

This year's Census shows that membership figures are holding steady. We have 8032 members - up by 19 from last year. We also have 504 non-members. Is there any potential here for new leaders? We have lots of girls on our waiting lists poised ready to join us! I would like to see our membership continue to grow as we approach the Centenary. Could we make 10,000 by 2010?

!

Cont:>>>>>>>>

September 2008 will see the start of the Centenary build up as the Changing the World Challenge is launched. What better way to begin a year of Community Action by joining in the Region's Challenge to hold the biggest coffee morning for Macmillan Nurses? The group going to Everest in September (we have representation from Berkshire in the group) will hold a sponsored coffee morning on Everest. All of South West is invited to join in the challenge. There will be details of how and when and where to get your coffee morning pack from MacMillan's and your free tea and coffee from Somerfields in the next Region Newsletter. I look forward to hearing about the unusual settings and places you find to hold your coffee morning for this very worthwhile cause! Lookout for all the news about the Centenary in Guiding magazine and from our very own Centenary Champion, Jane Bingham!

Thank you to all those who took part in the Grand Raffle. We have raised £9,000 which will help support a variety of projects including the Centenary.

It was great to see so many of you at the County Annual Review in March. A huge thank you to Bulmershe, Reading Abbey and Reading Riverside Divisions for hosting the event so superbly! Remember the four key messages and make sure you promote them at every opportunity!

- * We give girls and young woman a voice
- * We provide a unique girl-only space
- * We promote equality and diversity
- * We're relevant for today's girls

The camping and holiday season is upon us. I hope you all have a wonderful time - I know your girls will and they will take away many happy memories. Thank you for all you do to make Girlguiding Royal Berkshire special for all our members.

Sue



I do hope that you read all about the Centenary in April's copy of Guiding, there are some very exciting events and happenings around the country for ALL our members of all ages to participate in.

Your Division Commissioners will be able to tell you more, and Adult Support team are going to be very involved with you all on the Autumn Training day to inform you more. The County Committee are meeting late in June to firm up our plans and make more, so we will be back in touch in the next mailing.

We are planning to come around the County early next year to speak to our younger members, because after all we are a Youth Organisation, and we won't know what they think unless we ask them!

Watch out for your copy of "Changing the World" catalogue which should be in your September Guiding, you can start on this Community Action initiative straight away, your girls will be very involved in your decision making about which 19 charities they can be involved in.

The Centenary Adventures sound brilliant for all sections so it should be an exciting and memorable year for us all.

Jane Bingham and Jo Lovell

WOKINGHAM SHOWTIME 2008

Brownies and Guides from Wokingham Division entertained an audience of friends and family at Woosehill Scout Hut on May 18th when they took to the stage for Wokingham Showtime.

Showtime, a revue-type entertainment featuring song, dance and drama was performed by girls from nine different Brownie and Guide units across the Division aged 9-12. The programme of entertainment included a rendition of "Shine" by Take That with full choreography, a tribute to Girls Aloud and a dance medley where girls displayed their jazz and ballet skills.

Kerry Bacon

.....

Ellie Barnes (Shinfield District Senior Section Unit Guider) was on the front cover of Guiding in January running, No not away from Guiding, but running for her Charities. She ran the 2007 London Marathon in 23C and then the Dublin Marathon at the end of October, then this year she ran the London Marathon in 3hours 20 minutes, her personal best. She also raised £1,500 for Heart Research and came 8th in her age group! The Pepsi team she was coordinating (22 runners in total) raised £65,000.00.

Well Done, Ellie, you are a Guiding Star!! How about a County team running in the Centenary year !!!!! I met Ellie when she was working at Our Cabaña in 2004 , then again when she worked at CHQ, she now works for Pepsi in Theale.

Jane

Rainbow's turn into musical explorers!!

1st Kennet Vale Rainbows were very fortunate recently to experience a Tropical themed musical extravaganza, where they were all invited to become musical explorers! The workshop was provided by Mark T, of Circle of Sound. Mark has held several workshops now for Girlguiding Royal Berkshire, he said, "I really enjoy organising the workshops for the Rainbows and Brownies, and they are always so enthusiastic."

All the Rainbows got to play an instrument, many of them playing the drums of various shapes and sizes. Sue Prime, unit helper said, "The evening was absolutely fantastic, the girls really enjoyed it". Anne Eldred, Rainbow Guider said, "The girls got to mix a variety of sounds, play in sections and play together, they all joined in and sang along with Mark, Mark was excellent with the girls. It was a very enjoyable evening if not a bit loud at times!"

Tracey Gillingham
County PRA

.....

I am a Guide get me out of here!!!

10 Guides, 1 Ranger and 5 Leaders from Knowl Hill and Waltham Guides in Berkshire decided at their planning meeting way back last September that they definitely wanted to do a Winter Camp in February 2008. They had just returned from their summer holiday camping in the grounds of Lorne House in Northern Ireland.

Pauline Warren, Leader in Charge said, “What we had not expected was that we had chosen the coldest weekend of the year with temperatures dropping as low as -5!” The theme was “I am a celebrity get me out of here!” The girls spent a day in the woods building wood and leaf shelters and eating would you believe; woodlice, locusts and mealworms!!

Later they enjoyed a more traditional meal of Fish and Chips, followed by various challenges in accordance to the theme. The girls earned points in the form of spiders and prizes were awarded before heading home to the warm! Pauline said, “no one got cold during the day or night and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, no one shouted, “get me out of here!!”

.....
Something for your diary!



County Training Weekend at Foxlease, Lyndhurst

Friday 23rd - Sunday 25th Jan 09

Look out for further information in autumns
 Direct mailing and on the website!

Things to do, Places to go, People to see.....

* **Essex International Jamboree 2008—**
 26th July - 2nd August- if you are still interested please have a look at their website:
www.essexscouts.org.uk/jamboree

* **Community opportunities at Feed the Children-**
 Are you looking for community based opportunities for any of your girls?
 Children's charity Feed the Children would love to hear from young people aged 16+ to help with a variety of tasks, many of which can be arranged after school or during the school holidays. Office based opportunities include admin tasks such as Internet research, mail stuffing, Label sticking, & compiling of spreadsheets, outside help would be at a show or event, selling tombola or raffle tickets.
 Please call 0118 932 0095 for an informal discussion or email : info@feedthechildren.org.uk. Office is at Twyford.
 They are a registered charity and website is:
www.feedthechildren.org.uk

* **Black Swan Sailing Club is at Dinton Pastures, between Wokingham and Reading**
 We have missed their May 11th Open day but if any Guiders want to take their Guide/Senior Section girls for an evening , do please contact: Philip Rowley, Publicity Officer, on 07711 402664.
 Website is: www.bssc.co.uk

* **Blue Cross- Britain's Pet Charity**
 Are offering **Free talks** to Rainbows and Brownies, contact:
 Sue Malin- 01993 852 302
 Email: sue.malin@bluecross.org.uk
 Website: bluecross.org.uk/deucation

Not using polystyrene cups and plates at County events
 More effort to recycle when away from home
 Recycle more at Brownies
 More collection from home
 Encourage my neighbours to recycle more
 Plan to buy a water butt
 Recycle more tins, jars and batteries
 Glass container box for recycling
 Plastics
 Save energy and turn off lights
 Remember to take shopping bags and not leave in car
 Survey could have been printed on double sided paper
 Compost all food waste
 It's not always clear what packaging is recyclable and I should look it up
 Recycle all old papers

You may be interested to know that.....

It had been intended that we would provide recycling containers at the Annual review with a view to recycling rubbish, milk cartons, drinks cans etc. however, despite a number attempts by a Bulmershe Division Guider to arrange this neither SITA or Wokingham Borough Council were very helpful!

Results compiled by Cathy Fraser - Guider, Bulmershe Division

News from Swan Division

Swan Rainbows are going to ICANDO in London in May, have a great time, girls!

Thoughts

*Minds are like Parachutes
 They only function when open!*

.....
*Friendship is the only cement that will ever hold the
 world together*



Come and Join the County Singing Circle

Lots of us enjoy singing, so lets get the County Singing Group going again, (we apologise for not getting it right last time), we enjoyed our Singing session at the Annual Review training with Margaret , so any Commissioners, Guiders, Young Leaders, Unit helpers, are very welcome to come and have a good sing! We hope to meet around the County. So all you need is any song books and your voices, you don't have to be very musical, just come and have **FUN**.

Margaret can also come to your Unit , she has several ideas for singing so:

Contact Margaret Kerfoot 01344 775 369 for more details

Congratulations to all those Leaders who have achieved their Leadership Modules

Verity Jukes	1 -3	B	Loddon	Bulmershe
Kerry Marsh	1-4	G	Newbury	Donnington
Rebecca Hall	1	SS	Newbury	Donnington
Charlotte Mundy	1	SS	Newbury	Donnington
Caroline Pethick	1-3	G	Crowthorne	Forest
Louise Brogden	4	B	Crowthorne	Forest
Natasha Walton	1-4	G	Finchampstead	Forest
Jessica Kohl	1-4	G	Foxley	Maidenhead
Caroline Mercer	1-4	G	Foxley	Maidenhead
Helen Bates	1	G	Foxley	Maidenhead
Deborah Savage	1-4	B	Foxley	Maidenhead
Julie Rule	1-4	B	Whiteknights	Reading A
Claire Goodyer	4	R	Eastgate	Reading A
Helen Whitsed	1-4	G	Tilehurst	Reading R
Tracy Hayward	1-3	RB	Warenes Wood	Reading R
Hayley Ciepkiewicz	1-4	G	Saltney Mead	Reading R
Sarah Walton	1-3	G	Reading W	Reading R
Susan Dewe	1-4	G	Reading W	Reading R
Emily Joiner	1-3	B	Downshire	South East
Lizzie Jones	1-3	B	Ascot North	South East
Jennie Bouron	1	G	Bracknell W	South East
Karen Ghai	1-4	G	Ascot North	South East
Karen Connor	1-4	B	Bracknell W	South East
Dawn Oakes-Dean	1-3	B	Bracknell W	South East
Gillian Down	1-4	B	Kennet Vale	Valley
Jenny Peacock	1-4	RB	Ridgeway	Valley
Jo-Ann Low	1	G	Kennet Vale	Valley
Sarah Goode	1-4	B	Kennet Vale	Valley
Yvonne Bonney	1-4	B	Kennet Vale	Valley
Sarah Hibberd	1-4	B	Kennet Vale	Valley
Hannah Marsh	1	B	Kennet Vale	Valley
Charlotte Stringer	1-4	B	Kennet Vale	Valley
Debra Clayton	4	B	Ridgeway	Valley

Detailed below are the results from the 'GREEN SURVEY' conducted by Guides from Bulmershe Division at the Annual Review. *Thank you to all of the people who took part.*

All answers are out of the 40 people

1) Do you recycle at home?	Yes - 38	No - 2
----------------------------	----------	--------

2) Do you use plastic bags at the supermarket?	Yes - 2
	Yes but I re-use them - 18
	No I have renewable bags - 19
	No - 1

3) On average what percentage of your rubbish do you recycle?	Under 10% - 0
	10-40% - 7
	40-50% - 10
	50 - 70% - 14
	70-90% - 9
	90-100% - 0

4) Do you use a compost heap/ compost collection box at home?	Yes - 31	No - 9
---	----------	--------

5) Do you throw away old clothes with your rubbish?	Yes - 0	No - 40
---	---------	---------

6) Do recyclable things from your Guiding group meetings get recycled?	Yes I/another takes them home - 22
	Yes - facilities exist at our venue - 8
	No - 10

Cont.....

Bollywood Brownies

5th Thatcham Brownies had a treat recently, their Brownie Guider, Mrs. Denise Newport had arranged for them to experience India!

Miss Selina Jhalley who is herself from the Punjab region of India, put on an amazing evening for the Brownies. She explained about Indian culture, taught the girls some Punjabi, Punjabi being just one of 17 major languages in India.

The girls watched a clip from a Bollywood film and then learnt to dance as they did in the film, many of them mastering it very well. Selina with the help of her Mother had brought along a large selection of sari's and other Indian clothes, the girls learnt how to put on a sari and secure it correctly. Mrs. Denise Newport said, "the Brownies absolutely loved dressing up and they really looked the part with their jewellery and jewel on their foreheads."

The Brownies also got to taste several different varieties of Indian food kindly prepared by Selina's Mother and Grandmother. Most girls tried everything although some needed a glass of water at hand to put out the fire of some of the spicier food!

The final activity was the art of Mendhl patterns, usually drawn on the hands of Indian women. The Brownies however designed theirs on paper. The evening was an outstanding success and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Tracey Gillingham (County PR)

Tracey also wants to thank all of you who have been sending Press cuttings since her appeal in the last newsletter, please keep them coming!

Clare Cooper	1-3	G	Wokingham
Laura Keey	1-4	RB	Wokingham
Angela McMullen	1-4	G	Wokingham
Katy Tuck	1-3	B	Wokingham
Emma Wells	1-4	B	Wokingham

Meet " Women in the Lead"

2nd Cox Green Guides had an inspirational evening recently when their Guide Leader, Helen Bates, who also happens to be Foxley District Commissioner, brought them right up to the minute with Girlguiding UK's recent "Women in the Lead" document that quotes many famous and influential women who have felt that Guiding has helped them reach where they are today!

With this in mind they decided to find local inspirational women who could chat to the Guides about their lives and their life choices, what they love about it, what helped them when they were growing up etc.. Three speakers very kindly volunteered their time; Hilary Winter, Head teacher of The Piggott School, Wargrave, Sarah Maskell, Principal of Stage Coach drama, dance and singing) Maidenhead and Sally Kemp, Chairperson of Berkshire East Primary Care Trust. All of which had words of wisdom to share with the Guides.

The remainder of the evening the girls spent looking up inspirational women from History and took time out to think about who inspired them. The majority named their Mum's but others chose women that had raised money for charity, helped people and cared for others in someway.

Helen Bates said, "The evening definitely gave the Guides food for thought about what opportunities are available and to consider what their end goal would be. Several of the girls were interested in following in the footsteps of tonight's speakers and felt that Girlguiding and the opportunities it offers would help them on their way".

.....
Congratulations

Jo Lovell (Maidenhead) on receiving her Queens Guide award, also to Charlotte Mundy (Donnington) who will be married by the time you get this newsletter!