

Introducing County Newsletter - Spring 2009

County Calendar

28	March 2009	- County Training and County Review
1-8	August 2009	- WINGS 2009, Windsor
5-6	September 2009	- Centenary Launch Parties
31	October 2009	- Senior Section Cup
1	November 2009	- Senior Section Cup
15	November 2009	- Centenary Service

Vision: to be recognised as the leading organisation for girls and young women and to widen and increase its membership.



Queens Guide Award - Jacqueline Cass

Completing my Queens Guide award has really changed my life. I have met many new people, and have learnt new skills. For my community Action I founded a wheelchair basketball club, for which I won the BBC South Community Champion under 25 Award in 2007. Shortly afterwards I was invited to apply to become a volunteer on the BBC South Regional Audience Council - representing Berkshire, with a link to BBC Radio Berkshire. My role is to represent the license fee payer and reflect the views of the license fee payer in the regular meeting. There are 12 Regional Audience Council in England and I belong to the South Region. I am one of sixteen members of the public who meet to review selected regional and national programmes which are broadcast on Television and Radio; we review the BBC Website and do outreach events to find out what people think about BBC services. At the meetings I have the opportunity to give my views and also the views of other people who have given me feedback and these views go on to the BBC Trust <http://www.bbc.co.uk/bbctrust/>.

The BBC Trust has produced Six Public Purposes that we review programmes under:
1. Sustaining Citizenship and Civil Society, 2. Promoting Education and Learning, 3. Stimulating Creativity and Cultural Excellence, 4. Reflecting the UK, its Nations, regions and communities, 5. Bringing the UK to the world and the world to the UK, 6. Emerging Communications (digital technology)

These public purposes enable the Councils to advise the BBC how well it is serving license fee payers in different parts of the UK. If anyone has any comments on BBC programmes then either visit their website <http://www.bbc.co.uk/feedback/> or email me (jac_duck@hotmail.com) and I will pass your comments on. Comments you give me about Radio Berkshire are also passed on to the Council and the manager of the station. Any comments good or bad are welcome! It's amazing where guiding can take you!

Contributors

We would like to thank all of the Girlguiding Royal Berkshire Members who have provided content for this newsletter. If you would like to contribute please email newsletter@berkshireguiding.org.uk.

PR Team

If you would like to be an active part of the County PR Team, please contact Tracey Gillingham, Media and PR Advisor.

Sue's Scribbles

Happy New Year to you all! Thank you to all who invited me to attend Carol Concerts and Christmas celebrations - I had a lovely time joining in your festivities! As I write this for the newsletter, January is nearly over already! Where does the time go?

Did you Do Something Great in 2008? It would be good to hear from you some of the things you did to achieve this Challenge. Why not send some pictures and a write up to Sarah Temlett our Webmaster to put on the County Website? Speaking of which have you been on to the website recently? It is looking good thanks to Sarah and Jo!

2009 will be quite action packed! Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Senior Section and the Trefoil Guild are busy Changing the World. The resources which have been produced to support this are proving to be very good and some Units have told me that they are having lots of fun while doing something worthwhile to make the world a better place. Charlotte Bailey, Community Action Adviser and Tracey Gillingham, Media & PR Adviser are waiting to hear from you!

WINGS2009 is almost here. August 1st - 8th won't be long in coming. Have you registered your Unit or signed on to help at this very special International experience right on our doorstep? This will be an amazing opportunity for you and your girls to make new friends and to have fun and to enjoy the great outdoors. And what better way to get ready for the Centenary?

Speaking of which, make sure you have the Centenary Launch dates in your diary, 5th & 6th September. What sort of launch party will your Unit or District have? This is certainly the year to make the local Community sit up and take notice of all the good things each and every one of you do in Guiding that makes a difference to you, the community and world!

I hope you all have a good year of guiding and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible at the many exciting events taking place this year.

Sue Kidd - County Commissioner

'We give girls
and young
women a voice!'

'We provide a
unique girl-only
space!'

'We promote
equality and
diversity!'

'We're
relevant to
today's girls!'

What are you doing on September 5th & 6th this year?

You and all the Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Senior Section, Leaders and Trefoil Guild members will be celebrating our National Girlguiding UK Centenary Launch parties in your Divisions or Districts in the Royal County.

Have Fun, invite "Old" Guiding members and ex leaders, Girls mothers and grandmothers, Local Press, Local guiding friends- Mayors, Clergy, Head Teachers, MPs. Support your Division Commissioners and her team in organising, helping and taking part with your Unit. Don't forget to invite Sue, Margaret and Jill, and even your two Centenary Champions, Jane and Jo, to your Celebrations.

Have you or your girls submitted a Centenary design for our County Cloth Badge? If not, why not? They have to be in by February 22nd 2009.

Hopefully, you and the girls in your units have read your January Guiding Booklet "Ways to Celebrate", please don't ignore it, please discuss it with your Fellow Unit Leaders and also with your girls. Even 5 year old Rainbows can help with decision making, especially for parties! Use your Senior Section members and also your local Trefoil Guild friends, they want to help you. I am sending any CHQ Centenary monthly mailings to your Division Commissioners, so please ask them for any up to date information.

Make sure your local Press and Media (with the help of Tracey Gillingham and her team) know that we are celebrating our Centenary. We all want to be central in our local Area /Council/Carnival plans for 2009 and 2010, don't forget You are our best PR, make friends with your local press and media!! All of us (5 years to 100 years) only get 1 chance to Celebrate our Centenary. Lets Celebrate well, and give thanks for all who have inspired and led us and our members so far along the road.

Let's look forward to the 2nd Century!

Jane Bingham and Jo Lovell - Centenary Champions



Swan Division News

Division events

- Brownies had a Division fun day and attended pantomimes and Guides had a late Christmas party in January.
- 3rd Slough Units had a very successful Bazaar and the Guides also did bag packing to raise funds for their project in Nepal.
- Britwell Guides also did bag packing.

What does remembrance day really mean?

Friday morning and the big box of poppies was being passed around, I watched as my friends mechanically put in their money and got given a poppy. I wondered if they knew what they were giving their money to. I guessed not. So what really is "remembrance day", why is it such a important day and what does it really mean to you, to me and to all of us.

Rev. Alexander Battey commented on the point that , remembrance day is more important now than it has ever been because in Afghanistan and Iraq people just like us-like our brothers and sisters, our friends and relatives our still suffering and dying in our name, we should remember and be grateful.

Remembrance Day also known as Poppy Day, Armistice Day or Veterans Day is a day to think deeply about the sacrifices of members of the armed forces and of the normal people who suffered in times of war, specifically since the First World War. It is observed on 11 November to recall the end of World War I on that date in 1918.

At the parade at All souls Church in South Ascot I was expecting to be bored, to be uncomfortable with the subject of warfare but surprisingly me, a 12 year old girl who has not lost anyone due to war and has no special interest to the subject was transfixed with the words that were said, with the songs that were sung and the prayers that were chanted. To me the meaning of the word has changed from "pretty flowers you wear on your chest" to "a day to remember when people who I have never met have died for me and my friends and for the rights of my country".

I rarely ever get a chance to think quietly but the two minutes silence was my chance to reflect on my life, the Soldiers lives, and the world, and for once I was utterly speechless. Coming out of that ceremony I was a changed girl and after observing my fellow guides, I think they were too.

At the service 1st South Ascot Guides, 2nd South Ascot Brownies and an array of Scouts and Cubs gave poppies to the war memorial and lay down their flags for the cause. A few war veterans and passers by also paid their respects. During the service the church was packed with many different types of people and a collection was taken for Help the Hero's which I imagine got a lot of money! After the service we all gathered together to lay the wreaths and have two minutes silence. After that some people stayed for Holy Communion.

By Eloise Speight

Rainbows go to the summit and rise to the Challenge!!

Mrs. Jane Bingham, Royal Berkshire's Centenary Champion who attended the event said, "All in all the evening was a tremendous success and was enjoyed by all, the girls worked really hard to learn all the songs and seemed to really enjoy singing them."

Tracey Gillingham Guider in Charge said, "Personally Russell has raised £5120 including a donation from the Rainbows by way of thank you for such an interesting and entertaining evening. The evening ended with Russell presenting the whole Unit with their Sherpa Challenge Badges and in turn the Rainbows presenting one to Russell, because after all those bridges he deserved it!!"

Pads and Pants Appeal

The County Senior Section Team would like to thank all their many Guiding Friends for their exceedingly generous donations to the "Pads and Pants" appeal for our "Do Something Great in 2008" appeal. Various carrier bags and boxes of supplies have been left at my front door - my husband has given up asking what they are!!!!

All donations have been transported to the "Feed the Children" Depot in Ruscombe, and I have been helping with the packaging and despatching of these items to Uganda.

Although the need and supply of Pads and Pants is still ongoing for Uganda, the SS Team are now doing closure on this supply for 2008. A Challenge Badge has been awarded to Feed the Children Depot and is proudly on display in their Offices.

However the team are moving on to "Socks for Crisis" as in the "Changing the World" challenge for our Guiding Centenary. Any new adult men's socks can be donated to a member of the County SS Team for use by Crisis - for Homeless and Destitute Men.

We shall ensure the socks are sent to the Appeal. Thank you once more for all your help with our request over the last year and again for our next appeal.

Marion Heath - QG Adviser (on behalf of Berkshire SS Team)

Owlsmore Brownies take one small step towards "Changing the World"

With the Girlguiding Centenary in 2010 approaching fast, Girlguiding UK are already embarking on their attempt to "Change the World". 19 different charities are taking part and each unit across the UK will choose at least one charity to support by raising awareness and funds.

1st Owlsmore Brownies that meet in St George's Church on a Tuesday between 5.30 - 7.00 p.m. chose to support Water Aid and "Sing the Change". Learning five water themed songs with the actions, to perform to their family and friends. Alongside the singing they also had various stalls to raise money and awareness of the plight of people in Nepal. This was close to the Brownies hearts as there is a large Nepalese community in Owlsmore and Sandhurst because the Gurkha regiment is at the RMA, and the children attend local schools.

Mrs. Jane Bingham, Royal Berkshire's Centenary Champion who attended the event said, "All in all the evening was a tremendous success and was enjoyed by all, the girls worked really hard to learn all the songs and seemed to really enjoy singing them."

Tracey Gillingham - Media and PR Advisor

Since September 2nd Kennet Vale Rainbows have been working towards the Everest 100 South West England Girlguiding Sherpa Challenge. The Challenge was devised in conjunction with The Everest 100 Treks and Macmillan Cancer Support's World's Biggest Coffee Morning.

To gain the badge you needed to complete 10 Challenges. The Rainbows took part in Rainbow High! Berkshire Guiding's Biggest Coffee Morning Event at Beale Park and raised approximately £800 for Macmillan Cancer Support.



They also went climbing for the first time, sampled energy bars, made Tibetan Costumes, made waterproof clothes from bin bags and numerous other activities culminating with a visit from Mr. Russell Kennerley who has recently returned from Everest Base Camp and Kala Patthar (5545m).

Russell said "I had always had a yearning to visit the Himalayas and to see Mount Everest, the opportunity arose by a chance meeting with someone who was going to Trek to Base Camp for Charity. Within a few days I had signed up to go!" The Trek took 14 days in total, 10 to get to Base Camp as we had a few days to acclimatise and only 4 to get back!" Denise Richardson Rainbow Guider said, "The Rainbows were fascinated by all the stories Russell told them and asked lots of questions. They were particularly fascinated by the numerous and rather precarious looking bridges he had to cross and of course like all 5-7 year olds the toilets or rather the lack of them!!"

To date the team that Russell went with have raised in excess of £52,000 for Dreams Come True Charity. *Dreams Come True* is a UK children's charity whose sole purpose is to fulfill the dreams of terminally and seriously ill children and young people aged 2 to 21.

Tracey Gillingham - Media and PR Advisor



Certificates...

Congratulations to all who have put in so much effort to complete their Leadership Qualifications

Name	Modules	Section	Division	District
Emily Gleed	1-3	RB	Bulmershe	Woodley Lakeside
Charlotte Hadley	1-4	RB	Bulmershe	Woodley Lakeside
Sarah Mason	1-4	RB	Bulmershe	Woodley Green
Kirsty McEwen	1-4	G	Bulmershe	Loddon
Karen Burrows	1	RB	Bulmershe	Woodley Lakeside
Lucy Birch	1-4	B	Donnington	Newbury
Lisa Burch	4	RB	Forest	Shinfield
Katharine Pyke	1-4	B	Forest	Crowthorne
Joy Boys	1-4	B	Forest	Crowthorne
Ellie Barnes	1 & 4	SS	Forest	Shinfield
Alex Snell	1-4	B	Maidenhead	Cookham & Maidenhead Central
Sam Sheppard	1-3	B	Maidenhead	Foxley
Vikki Greenway	1-3	B	Maidenhead	Cookham & Maidenhead Central
Rebecca Attwood	1-4	B	Maidenhead	Maidenhead West
Lucy Guest	1-4	B	Maidenhead	Maidenhead West
Jill Pocket	1-4	G	Maidenhead	Cookham & Maidenhead Central
Joy Saunders	1-4	B	Maidenhead	Ashley
Catherine Roberts	1	B	Reading Abbey	Caversham
Martha Rafferty	1-4	G	Reading Abbey	Eastgate
Jayne Hounsome	1-4	B	Reading Abbey	Caversham
Caroline Smith	1	RB	Reading Abbey	Caversham
Claire Pawley	1	RB	Reading Abbey	Caversham
Heather Crisp	1-3	B	Reading Abbey	W'knights
Megan Coakeley	1-4	B	Reading Abbey	Caver
Karen Stark	1-3	G	Reading Riverside	Saltney Mead
Kirsty Jones	4	G	Reading Riverside	Tilehurst
Sarah Fagg	1-3	G	Reading Riverside	Tilehurst
Lisa Clark	1-3	G	Reading Riverside	Tilehurst
Michelle Spence	1-4	B	Reading Riverside	Tilehurst
Sandra Timney	1-4	B	Reading Riverside	Warenes Wood
Amy Brunson	1-3	RB	Reading Riverside	Saltney Mead
Rachel Pithers	1-4	B	Reading Riverside	Reading SW
Emily Horne	1-4	B	Reading Riverside	Saltney Mead
(Deborah) Jane White	4	B	Reading Riverside	Saltney Mead
Katherine Durham	1-4	B	Reading Riverside	Cookham
Imogen Lewis	1-4	RB	Reading Riverside	Saltney Mead
Hannah Williams	1-3	RB	South East	Bracknell West
Jenny Matthews	1-3	B	South East	Bracknell West
Caroline Burdon	1-4	B	South East	Bracknell North
Kari-Anne Fruin	1-4	B	South East	Downshire

Name	Modules	Section	Division	District
Gemma Hawksworth	1-3	RB	South East	Bracknell West
Hannah Williams	1-3	RB	South East	Bracknell West
Jane Brown	1-4	RB	South East	Bracknell S&E
Elisabeth Brown	1-4	RB	South East	Bracknell S&E
Sam Creber	1	G	South East	Bracknell West
Jacquie Fielding	1-3	B	South East	Bracknell North
Ruth Bannerman	4	B	South East	Ascot South
Theresa Hobbs	4	B	South East	Downshire
Ann Walters	1	B	Swan	
Zainab Ansari	1-4	B	Swan	
Emma Noel	1-3	G	Swan	
Rebecca Boswell	1-4	RB	Valley	Ridgeway
Sue Schoepe	1-4	B	Valley	Pang Valley
Samantha Davidson	1-4	B	Valley	Pang Valley
Mary Brandwood	1-4	B	Valley	Ridgeway
Antonia Quinton	1-4	B	Valley	Ridgeway
Antonia Quinton	1	G	Valley	Ridgeway
Mary Brandwood	1-4	B	Valley	Ridgeway
Sam Taylor	1-4	B	Windsor	Dedworth
Sam Taylor	1	RB	Windsor	Dedworth
Mhairi Lipski	1-4	G	Wokingham	
Ellisha Reece-Smith	1-4	B	Wokingham	
Emily Lungley	1-4	B	Wokingham	
Rachel Paterson	1-4	B	Wokingham	
Nicky Hopkins	1-4	B	Wokingham	
Gemma Hicks	1-4	B	Wokingham	
Stephanie Darby	1-4	RB	Wokingham	

