

July Newsletter 2025

Message from the County Commissioner

I hope you all have a lovely summer break and recharge the batteries for an exciting autumn term in Central Glamorgan. Thank you all for your dedication to Girlguiding you provide opportunities and impact on many young girls lives in our community. But wouldn't it be great if we could reach out to more and give more girls the opportunities Girlguiding has to offer...

At our annual review it was lovely to celebrate our achievements as a county and individual awards. I was so pleased that Central Glamorgan played a part in awarding Sarah-Jane Burns (Deputy Chief Commissioner for Wales) her Laurel Award, well deserved!

Girlguiding Central Glamorgan has been flying the flag at local events, and our new PR material has been well worth the investment. You looked fantastic and a massive thanks to all who made these events happen. Next event is the Big Bite at Ynysanghard Park Pontypridd 2-3 August. Pop along and say hello.



Growing Guiding is on the agenda. We are fantastic, we are a safe girl only space, we provide opportunities for girls to develop and believe in themselves so let's shout about it in your local community and ensure our voice is heard. Talk about what guiding has to offer and let's increase not only our younger membership but leadership team. To date we have 1662 young members and 373 volunteers. I am sure we can improve on this with over 1000 young people on our waiting lists and 80 adults waiting to join (figures according to GO). Leaders who are looking after GO in units and areas please can you spend some time looking and cleaning up the system- these statistics are used by CHQ to strategy plan for the organisation.

Next term will be my last term as county commissioner. It has been a honour and privilege to hold this role and steer Girlguiding Central Glamorgan over the past 5 years. Members of Central Glamorgan you have received an email with reference to finding a new county commissioner please take time to consider who will lead your county for the next 5 years and reply to this email. It's a rewarding role and one which I have enjoyed.

I am looking forward to the next term which is full of opportunities.

Julie



Growing Guiding – Central Glamorgan

Young Members

	Rainbows	Brownies	Guides	Rangers	Total
Jan	373	807	315	70	1565
Feb	369	790	329	69	1557
Mar	377	824	344	72	1617
April	365	837	348	73	1623
May	377	849	351	75	1652
June	394	846	354	76	1670

Volunteers

	Volunteer Members	Recognised Volunteers	Total
January	295	15	310
February	293	16	309
March	297	17	314
April	307	14	321
May	310	17	327
June	311	18	329

Please keep you recording up to date. I appreciate the time this takes but is it important and as you can see there are trends in our figures. Let's see if we can keep increasing and no dips.



In memoriam

Linda Edwards

Some very sad news. Linda Edwards passed away on Sunday. She fought bravely for 2 years and remained so positive throughout, making the most of every opportunity that came her way.

Linda was a huge part of Girlguiding Garth Maelwg for years. She was a dedicated, committed and enthusiastic leader. She started in Llantrisant Brownies and then became Division Commissioner. She then set up 2nd Pontyclun Guide Unit in 2010 and over the years she has influenced so many girls and inspired them to be the very best and always seen the positives in them. She will be missed by so many.

We send love and strength to her daughter Rhian, her son Luke and the rest of her family at this terribly sad time.



Celebrating our members

Annual Review 2025

What an honour and privilege for Central Glamorgan as part of their annual review and celebration to be able to witness Sarah-Jane being awarded her Laurel Award. Congratulations and very well done!



News from around the County

Duke of Edinburgh Awards

Well done to Carys Reed for her volunteering at Bridgend show, and congratulations to Sofia Pucella and Elin Jones on their Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award, you worked so hard and we are all proud of you at 2nd Bridgend Rangers!



Porthcawl Rangers



Porthcawl Rangers supporting the bag drop area of the Porthcawl 10K- look who popped in and ran.

News from around the County

Kenfig Hill Guides

Jayne Rodgers Deputy Commissioner visits Kenfig Hill Guides to be part of their Welsh language promise ceremony. Da iawn ferched a chroeso i Guides Mynydd Cynffig.



Abercynon Rangers – Silver D of E Award

Congratulations to Rhia of 1st Abercynon Rangers on gaining your DofE Silver award – we are proud of you.



News from around the County

1st Mountain Ash, Cynon Valley Brownies

Mair and Lynne of 1st Mountain Ash, Cynon Valley Brownies retire after 45 and 25 years respectively. Thank you for your commitment and dedication to Girlguiding.



Upper Rhondda and Porth

'Friendship day' with Upper Rhondda district units and units from Porth.



International News

Our Chalet



Rebekah, a leader in training and ranger in Llantwit Fardre Division, has been offered an amazing opportunity with a 3-month volunteering position at Our Chalet. She is really looking forward to meeting members from around the world, learning new skills and exploring the local area. We hope you have an amazing time!

Rotterdam

Wishing safe travels to everyone going to Rotterdam. Hope you have a fantastic time and looking forward to your return to hear all about your adventures!



News from around the County

County Funday 2025

COUNTY FUNDAY
SAT 20TH SEPT
AT BRYNCELYNOG SCHOOL

Girlguiding
Morgannwg Ganol
Central Glamorgan

FOR RAINBOWS AND BROWNIES

HERE ARE THE STEM THEMED ACTIVITY ZONES

- Bash it and build it
- Stars and space
- Science of us
- Environmental
- IT and coding
- Patterns and sequences
- Sound and movement

£5 per girl, if leaders would like a badge they will be available to buy for £1 on the day.

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/SEPTEMBERFUNDAY2025](https://tinyurl.com/septemberfunday2025)

<https://tinyurl.com/septemberfunday2025>





Venue to be confirmed in the Rhondda.
Come and enjoy an evening of good food, fun and friendship.



Night Under the Stars

Camp out under the stars in Gorwelion



Overnight camp for Guides and Rangers

October 17th

Arrive @ 6pm October 17th

Leave @ 12pm October 18th

£15

This will include food, camp craft activities and a badge too.

Leader's do not need a licence to bring girls along and catering will be provided. Girls will need a tent and their kit.

Booking link:

<https://tinyurl.com/nightunderthestars2025>



An overnight for Guides, Rangers and Young leaders at Gorwelion. Cost £15 include camp fees, food and activities. Come and give camping a try, meet new friends and learn a new skill. Date 17 October to 18 October start 6:00 to 12:00.



Santa Train

Sold out!

BRECON MOUNTAIN RAILWAY TRIP 2025



SUNDAY NOVEMBER 30TH, 3PM

£20 FOR GIRLS AND LEADERS

Jump aboard this exclusive Central Glamorgan train to visit Santa in his magical grotto! The trip includes the train ride through the scenic mountains of Brecon, a fantastic gift from the man himself and a special badge too!

Places are limited and bookings are open now! Payment will be due end of September.



This event sold out in record time, thank you for supporting County events! We can't wait for you to join us. We have a reserve list and are hoping to add some more tickets...but we can't really take anymore unit names.



Young Leaders

One year of the young leader development programme



Since the launch of the young leader development programme in June last year, you've downloaded over 100,000 discovery and task sheets, and watched the introduction video over 9,000 times. It's great seeing how many young leaders have completed the modules and earned their leadership badges.

As the new programme has been available for over a year, **we're retiring the previous young leader qualification.** Any young leader still working on it, needs to finish it by the **end of the summer term.** Commissioners will have until **September** to add any final completed qualifications to GO. After that, completed young leader qualifications can be added by contacting the membership systems team. Please ensure up GO is up to date for our Young Leaders.

New County badge

I am please to launch our new county badge.
Girlguiding Central Glamorgan stretches from the
valleys to the sea therefore our strap line and logo.



County Camp 2026

Save the date

Calling all adventurous Girlguides (aged 14-17)!

We are thrilled to announce our exclusive spring County camp with International opportunities.

Limited spaces available so watch out for future updates – you won't want to miss this!



County Christmas and Craft night

Save the date

Christmas

CRAFT EVENING

7TH NOVEMBER


Girlguiding
Morgannwg Ganol
Central Glamorgan



Girlguiding UK

Launch of new interest badges

Girlguiding has launched 72 new interest badges. Among the new badges, Rainbows (age 4-7) can giggle their way towards completing the Laughter badge; Brownies (age 7-10) might share the love for the Kindness badge; Guides (age 10-14) can creepy crawl their way closer to the Entomology badge; and Rangers (age 14-18) will be waxing lyrical about their favourite things with the Fandoms badge.

The 72 new badges were co-designed by more than 20,000 people including over 15,000 girls. Over 4,000 badge design ideas were submitted by girls and volunteers, and 11,000 girls from 753 Girlguiding units across the UK helped to test out the badge activities. The badge activities were developed with Girlguiding's youth panel Amplify, which is made up of 30 girls aged 12-18, and seven expert partners:

- The Royal Horticultural Society (Rangers – Gardening)
- Children's Book Project (Guides – Bookworm)
- University of Reading (Rainbows – Laughter and Courage; Guides – Journalling)
- Wildwood Trust (Guides – Biodiversity)
- Bletchley Park (Codebreaking – Guides)
- the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (Rangers – Guiding world)
- Wellbeing of Women (Rangers – My health).

You can find all Girlguiding interest badges on their website badge finder page



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