

October Newsletter 2025

Message from the County Commissioner

What an eventful few weeks it has been in the Guiding calendar. It's been nonstop from local unit meetings to attending Girlguiding Celebrates in Manchester. More on that in the newsletter.

Its time to congratulate and thank our Deputy Chief Commissioners for Wales – both from Central Glamorgan. Congratulations Caryn Parker on your appointment, we look forward to continuing the journey of Girlguiding with you and the opportunities it provides us. Exciting times ahead! A massive thank you to Sarah Jane Burns for all you have done for Girlguiding Cymru, your dedication and commitment. You have been an inspiration to us all! Your support has been much appreciated and all Girlguiding Cymru events you have attended you have lightened up the place.

Five years have just flown by as your County Commissioner. It's been an honour and privilege to have been given the opportunity to guide Central Glamorgan forward and continue its journey as an organisation. I have been blessed to have such fantastic support from Jayne and Donna; it's really been a team effort. Also to have supportive Commissioners, treasurers, secretaries and PR. You have all contributed and made this past 5 years a success.

Central Glamorgan when I took over it was uncertain times, with COVID. Yet you stepped up and kept Girlguiding going. Who would have considered virtual meetings or trainings up until that point. Also, watching a pantomime virtually and our virtual sleepover. We did it! As restrictions lapsed, we started to get back together. Meetings were strange with social distancing, but you wrote those risk assessments and planned your meetings to facilitate the girls meeting up. Later we got back to what would be the new norm, all of us having missed out on meeting up for what seemed like an entity. Our first face to face event was at Gorwelion. How fantastic it was to see the place thriving again, full of fun and laughter – which is what Girlguiding is all about.

From here we have had many an event and activity pack. Yes, I like a badge and an event!!! Giving girls opportunities, gaining recognition for the work you do as leaders, girls gaining awards both in guiding and outside; you have made it happen. I have been so proud of what Central Glamorgan has achieved over what started as a hard and difficult term of office and time for all of us.

Its time for you now to choose a new County Commissioner. Please consider who will lead this fantastic county forward. Look around you there is a wealth of talent and knowledge which could be used to lead Central Glamorgan forward. I along with the current team will be over seeing the county for a short period. As someone said, "all roles are time specific and there is a reason for this". Guiding is an evolving organisation, its need new fresh ideas for it to continue to grow and develop. Members should have received an email about nominating a new county commissioner – think about it and lets get these nominations in...

As 2026 approaches World Thinking Day is 100 years old. What this space for our own special edition badge and activity pack. Told you I like a badge and activity pack Ha! Ha!

Julie
County Commissioner
Julie.girlguidingcgc@gmail.com



County news

Girlguiding Subscriptions 2026

February will soon be upon us so please plan for Subscriptions. 2026 all unit members will be charged Subscriptions. The costs are:-

UK = £36.00 increase £3.00
Cymru = £21.00 increase £1.00
County = £9 Stayed the same
TOTAL = £66.00

Remember in 2027, Leaders will not be charged subscriptions, but our young members will. Therefore, please expect a significant change in amount per person. This is to encourage more adult members to support the work of Girlguiding and encourage flexible guiding.

Newsletter editor role

Nia, our newsletter editor has done a fantastic job! Due to changes in circumstances Nia feels its time to hand this role over. Nia now lives in London but is a member of Central Glamorgan. She is now settled in her workplace and wants to pursue going back to face-to-face Girlguiding in London in the new year.

The main part of this role is editing the newsletter for publication. All information is sent to the editor in advance. The commitment at present is monthly to produce and send out. Do you or anyone you know have these skills? If so please contact Julie.girlguidingcgc@gmail.com to get find out more about getting involved.



International opportunities

Volunteering at Sangam

Sangam Volunteers assist the programme, guest services, and operations teams in the implementation of events and the day-to-day running of Sangam all while working with an international team and experiencing the incredible Pune and India.

If you seek an incredible leadership journey at Sangam, this opportunity may be exactly what you're looking for!

Find out more and to apply here

<https://worldcentres.waggs.org/.../2026-2027-volunteer.../>

Application deadline: 31st December 2025 at 23:59 IST (UTC+5:30)



What an opportunity. We have already had a member volunteer at Our Chalet this year and the feedback has been she is thoroughly enjoying the experience. Let's see if Central Glamorgan can be volunteering at another World Centre.

Celebrating our members

Girlguiding Celebrates 2025

WOW Girlguiding Celebrates at Odeon Manchester!

A room full of inspirational people with entertainment from the National Scout and Guide Big Band and Congleton Gang Show, and inspirational talks from our ambassadors – Anna McNuff and Laura Young and all compered by our Chief Guide Team.

Fantastic to celebrate members achievements which included Queens Guide Award, Laurel Award and Silver Fish Award. Also, leaders who had been nominated by fellow members, parents or our younger members. Well Done All !!!

Ruth Prunell and Donna Jacka hope you enjoyed the afternoon, had fun and celebrated.

Nominations for 2026 are now open – forms on the Girlguiding UK web site.



Celebrating our members

Girlguiding Cymru – End of Term celebration

On Saturday 25 October 2025, members from across Girlguiding Cymru gathered in Newtown for a special End of Chief term Thanks Event and handing over to the new Chief Team. An opportunity to celebrate the dedication, leadership, and commitment of those who have helped guide and inspire our community.

It was great to see so many from Central Glamorgan there in one capacity or another.

Chief Guide Awards were presented to Sarah Lee for her support to the county as our Go coordinator and monitoring DBS, plus her support at divisional level and Dean Thomas for his support to Gorwelion, being the treasurer and supporting Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme in the county. Congratulations both!



Upcoming events

Christmas craft evening



Girlguiding
Morgannwg Ganol
Central Glamorgan

Christmas

CRAFT EVENING

7th November, 7.30pm
Newtown Llantwit Scout Hall
Crown Hill, Llantwit Fardre, Pontypridd CF38 2NB

£10 per person, Young Leaders welcome too
Light refreshments provided

Book today!
<https://tinyurl.com/Christmascraft2025>



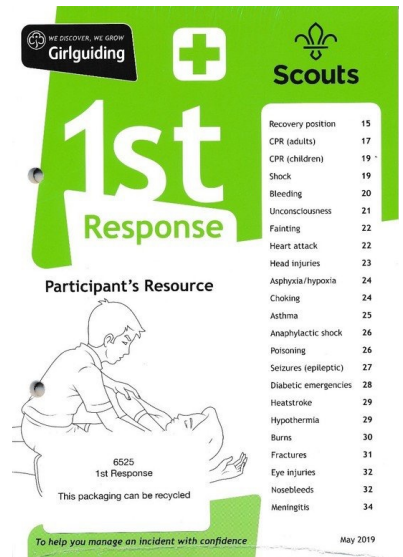
Upcoming events

1st response training

Our next First Response training is 16th November at Llandow Village Hall CF71 7NT.

Please email Bethan316@btinternet.com to express your interest so Beth can send you a form – once you have submitted your form your space is secured.

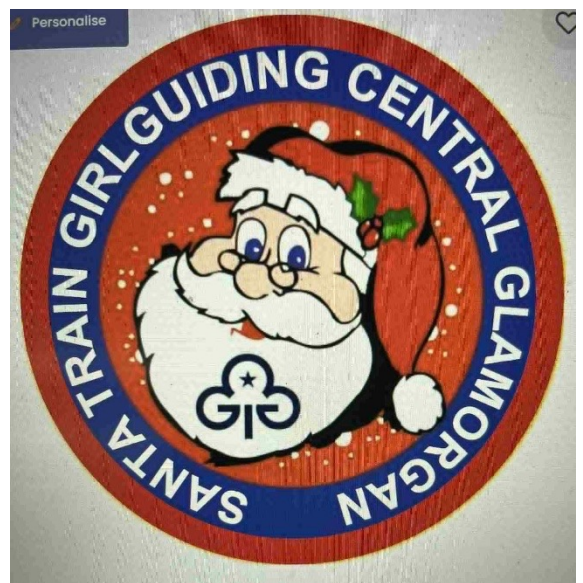
Remember you also need to do the online training for First Response before attending the course. All units should have at least one member with this training.



Santa Train – 30th November

Is your unit attending? Have you paid your final balance?

The county are so looking forward to meeting you at this event. Let's fill the train with Song, Fun and Laughter!



What have our members been up to?

Rainbow and Brownies funday – STEM event

An action-packed day. What a fantastic day to launch STEM in the unit. So much to choose from and so much variety. From Bash it and Build it to Space, Our Body to Coding, the Environment to Music and Movement. There was something for all!

It was great to work in partnership with external organisations on this event. Thank you to those on the planning committee and helped organise this event with out you it would not happen. Also, thanks to the leaders who brought their units. Yes, there some tired young members at the end of the day, but very happy at what they had achieved.

If you were unable to come but would like the resource or a badge. The cost is £4.00 for the resource and £1.00 a badge plus postage. If you are a badge collector and would like one, please email Julie on Julie.girlguidingcgc@gmail.com.



What have our members been up to?

Rainbow and Brownies funday – STEM event



We hope those of you who came along had a fantastic day and that the event gave you ideas and resources to take back to our Units too. We were given a grant by Interlink to help subsidise the funday and we are required to report back to them and collect some feedback.

We'd be grateful if you could take 5 minutes to complete this form with your feedback. Hopefully Interlink will be willing to support similar events in the future – <https://tinyurl.com/fundayEVALUATION>

LOST PROPERTY– Jayne still has one sixer badge and a flowery Boden coat. Please let her know if any of your girls are missing them

divcom.garthmaelwg@gmail.com



What have our members been up to?

Night under the stars

Units joined together for a night under the stars – although they were few stars, it was warm and dry. Bonus!! The 18 hours together were jam packed. First night was pitching tents, supper (thanks to our QM's), campfire songs, toasting marshmallows. Followed by a morning of packed breakfast, craft – nut and bolt people, friendship bracelets, paracord people, learning to tie a bedding roll and striking tents ready for home.

All had a great time! Thank you to all the leaders who supported this event – without you the girls would not get these opportunities! Also, thank you to all who helped at the event !



Upcoming...

Cityscapes Adventure

Ow, what's occurin! – Cityscapes Adventure 2026 is coming to Cardiff!

Get ready for an unforgettable weekend, bookings are still open for Girlguiding's Cityscapes. On both days, Cardiff will be buzzing with Girlguiding members from all over the UK as we come together for a day packed with fun, friendship and discovery.

What's it all about?

Cityscapes Adventure is an urban scavenger hunt like no other, testing your creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. You'll take on exciting missions and challenges across the city, with a mix of volunteer-led and self-guided activities to keep the energy high all day long. Who can join?

This adventure is open to all Girlguiding members nationwide, Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers, and leaders, for just £10 per person!

Find out more and grab your tickets now:

girlguidingcymru.org.uk/cityscapes-adventure-2026



Upcoming...

Big Gig is back!



The Big Gig will return for two shows on Saturday 10 October 2026!

Girlguiding will be taking over OVO Wembley Arena in London

Here's everything you need to know:

Tickets on Sale: Tuesday 9 December 2025 at 6:30pm

Price: £40 per person

Where: OVO Wembley Arena, London

Who: Guides, Rangers and their leaders

Don't miss out on the fun! Find out more via visiting the Girlguiding HQ website



Contact us

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