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# February Newsletter 2025

#### Message from the County Commissioner

February has been one full of fun and friendship. It was fantastic to see and hear about all the events happening for World Thinking Day. I really enjoyed spending time with my own unit and division, Cynon Valley, and some visiting units for our Thinking Day Fun Day. More to follow.

It was a first for me at a silent disco! Over 100 guides and rangers joined together for a night of dancing and singing along to the music. New friendships were made and all had a fabulous time.

I also attended a unit 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday party where past and present leaders joined the unit to celebrate and supported the Duke of Edinburgh training for our Bronze group.

Trainings are being offered in the county which include First Response which is well attended – Thank you to our trainers. Also, county training days, evenings trainings are being organised these are opportunities not only to formally learn but to network.

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#### Message from the County Commissioner

This month I received information from CHQ with reference to compliance on Safer Guiding eLearning. This is mandatory for all members of Girlguiding and I would appreciate your support in ensuring you are compliant. Check your Go record for more information re compliance, also you are informed through My Communications and email.

Thank You to all units who have paid subscriptions we do however have a few stragglers. Please can we complete this year's payment ASAP it would be appreciated. On 22 February we had 1545 members. To date 1577 can we break the barrier of 1600 this year and sustain it? We can break the 1600 barrier, on Nov 2024 we had 1673 members. I know it sounds very premature but please start budgeting for next years subscriptions.

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#### Julie

Julie.girlguidingcg@gmail.com



## **County Calendar**

### March – June 2025

- Wednesday 12th March Duke of Edinburgh Zoom Catch Up
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March Singing Circle
- Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March Queen's Guide Zoom session
- Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March Welsh Trefoil AGM (Herenstone Hotel)
- 10<sup>th</sup> April Fun, Songs and laughter (<u>annettestoneham@yahoo.com</u>)
- 26<sup>th</sup> April Going Away Information Day
- 10<sup>th</sup> May VE Celebration Llanharan
- 14<sup>th</sup> May Sing at Sunset Gorwelion
- 7<sup>th</sup> June International Opportunities for Selection
- 14<sup>th</sup> June County training day (Litchard)



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# **County information**

### New International advisor

Welcome Jolene Howells as our new International Adviser. Jolene is from Upper Rhondda and I am sure we will hear more from her soon.

We are excited to offer Central Glamorgan International Opportunities 2026 where Guides aged 12 to 16 and leaders have an opportunity to come forward and learn more about Girlguiding Cymru International Selection and potentially have an opportunity to represent Central Glamorgan at this event.

As a county our selection date is 6 June 10:00 to 4:00 at Gorwelion. The Divisional/ District Commissioners will have the information and forms as to what is required for this event.



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Exciting news!!! Our brand-new VE day activity pack will be launched soon to celebrate 80 years since VE day!! With a fantastic limited-edition badge! Keep your eye out!!

We're also taking part in this VE day celebration in Llanharan, where we'll have a County stall with activities too. We're looking for volunteers on the day to help on the stall and also to help as stewards during the event. Please complete the form below if you can come along for a couple of hours.

https://tinyurl.com/VEdayEvent



# World Thinking Day

### Pyjama Party









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# World Thinking Day

### Hirwuan Rainbows and Brownies Pyjama Party



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# Having fun!

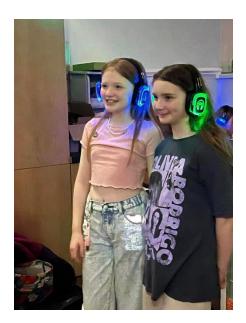
### Silent Disco











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### **Get involved**

Duke of Edinburgh

Training was held for the Bronze Group 8-9 February. This included learning about appropriate Kit, weather, map reading, route planning, menu planning, cooking and walking a route. The weather was kind and the group which was made of 2 units worked together.

If you have guides aged 13 plus are interested, please contact Nadine Thomas – <u>Nadine.thomas@hotmail.co.uk</u>





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# **Girlguiding Cymru Activity Pack**

# Central Glamorgan Guide Unit involved in developing challenge pack

Girlguiding Cymru is proud to launch the WeCare.wales challenge pack, designed to introduce you to the rewarding world of social care.

The pack was developed by the Introduction to social care team with support from Julie Thomas and Jen Denham from Girlguiding Central Glamorgan, this pack is your gateway to exploring the rewarding world of social care.

Plus, you'll earn a free badge! WeCare.wales is an initiative from Social Care Wales, helping to recruit and retain dedicated individuals in this vital sector.

Download yours today! https://girlguidingcymru.org.uk/wecarewaleschallenge



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## **Local news**

#### Having a train named after you!



Gill Clay granddaughter of Baden Powell, has been honoured with a GWR train named after her. Celebrating 100 years of Scouting in Wales and ahead of Founders Day / World Thinking Day. Gill Supports both Scouts, Guides and Trefoil within the Vale area.

#### BAVO



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Do you know a volunteer who's gone above and beyond!? Nominate them for the Bridgend Unsung Heroes Awards 2025 today!

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The awards celebrate the very best of volunteering in Bridgend County, giving thanks to those individual volunteers who go above and beyond for our community. Find out more information & make your nomination in the link below

https://www.bavo.org.uk/volunteering/volunteerawards/

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Please note: nominations close on the 28th of March at 5pm!

# **Calling all Girlguiding Cymru bakers**

#### Apply for Junior Bake Off!

Love Productions, the team behind The Great British Bake Off, is looking for talented young bakers aged 9-15 for the 11th series of Junior Bake Off on Channel 4!

If you love whipping up delicious treats, this is your chance to shine!

Filming takes place from July 2025, but applications close on Sunday, 23rd March 2025, so don't delay!

Apply online now at:

www.applyforjuniorbakeoff.co.uk

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### **Contact us**

ALQ coordinators – Bethan Hicks, Jayne Rodgers bethalq.girlguidingcg@gmail.com divcom.garthmaelwg@gmail.com

Booking secretary Gorwelion – Sharon Lima bookings.gorwelion22@gmail.com

Brownie Adviser – Stephanie Horsley <u>steph.horsley@outlook.com</u>

County badge secretary – Sharon Lima lima.sharon@gmail.com

Duke of Edinburgh Adviser – Nadine Thomas Nadine.thomas@hotmail.co.uk

First response coordinator – Beth Williams <u>Firstaid.girlguidingcg@gmail.com</u>

International Adviser – Jolene Howells Jolene.girlguiding@gmail.com

Newsletter – Nia Evans <u>Newsletter.girlguidingcg@gmail.com</u>

Outdoor Qualification Verifier – Jen Denham <u>lstvaleguidesandrangers@gmail.com</u>

Program and training – Clare Jones <u>discom.upperrhondda@gmail.com</u>

Property adviser – Donna Jacka <u>donnajacka@hotmail.co.uk</u>

PR adviser – Emily-Jo Davey pr.girlguidingcg@gmail.com

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Queen's Guide Adviser – Sophie Gregory qga.girlguidingcg@gmail.com

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Young leaders' adviser – Elli Bufton <u>YLadviser.cynonvalley@outlook.com</u>