

Girlguiding North Yorkshire South Annual Review 2017



Welcome



It is very encouraging to observe the excellent leadership skills being carried out in all the Units within the County, all voluntary, and all delivered with enthusiasm and dedication.

We are very fortunate to have so many leaders encouraging the children in the various activities they undertake within the unit.

My visit to the County Camp was a great example of this dedication and watching the girls learning life skills and enjoying the various activities on offer brought back many happy memories.

I was privileged to be swirling around the dance floor at last year's Ceilidh

with our youthful leaders and have to say, thoroughly enjoying it! What a great way to get to know each other.

Congratulations to Judith, our County Commissioner, who has led the County through another successful year with cheerfulness and hard work.

As we go into 2018 (the Year of Women) let us proceed with kindness and understanding, remembering that some people may not be as fortunate as ourselves and that everyone is doing their best.

Chris Bulmer
County President

There were three large scale events in 2017, our County Camp held at Bradley Wood in May, to celebrate the 30th Birthday of Rainbows we took a trip to see Santa on the North York Moors Railway in December. It was hard to decide who was enjoying themselves more on that occasion, the girls or the leaders. Then in the spring the whole County came together to raise funds for White Rose House with a sponsored walk around Escrick Park, a great opportunity for all the different sections from Rainbows to Trefoil Guild members to enjoy the outdoors together.

Aside from our big events, units are thriving, we have a regular flow of new volunteers. New units are starting and new volunteers are getting involved in their Districts. As we look forward to the new programme starting next year, a regular programme of training events are established to ensure leaders are upto date with the standard compliance trainings and with the sectional trainings which will evolve into the

preparation for the new programme.

We also need to celebrate the successes of individuals in their Guiding journeys. Joyce Green has achieved 50 years long service. Joyce has held many roles over the years including County Commissioner and currently is the Chairman of the White Rose House Committee. We also celebrate not just one but two Queen's Guide Awards. Emily Ducat achieved her Award after many challenges and adventures including an exploration and volunteering at Wellies & Wristbands, Lucy Mills faced different challenges in pursuit of her Award but she too learnt many life lessons and both are worthy recipients of the highest Award that can be earned in Girlguiding.

We have much to look forward to in 2018, a new programme and lots more adventures for Girlguiding North Yorkshire South, let the fun begin...

Judith Bellamy
County Commissioner

Tower Division



I took over from Helen in May 2017, and I have a fantastic role model to follow.

The last few months have been a huge learning curve for me. Tower Division has taken the decision to try things a little different and instead of Districts we have Division Advisors for Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers. We are learning as we go but so far things are going well and everyone is embracing the change.

As always we have been busy in Tower Division. We had a lovely Thinking Day event at St Aelred's school, organised by leaders from the Tanghall area. There have been a couple of New Leader events to help Leaders get to know each other in the Unit which have gone well. Helen handed over to me at our all section Campfire, which was held at Snowball. We had over 200

girls and leaders attend, it was a very enjoyable evening. Our new Rainbow Section advisor Janet Owston, organised a fabulous Christmas Party for the Rainbows. Even Father Christmas had a jolly time.

All this would not have been possible without the support from all the Leaders in the Division and of course the on going support the Division receives from York City Trefoil Guild. Thank You!

I would also like to thank Helen for her time as Tower Division Commissioner and all her on going support. I am very much looking forward to 2018 and the adventures we have in store.

Karen Taylor
Tower Division Commissioner

In 2017 there were a number of trainings for first response and safe space which were held in a variety of venues throughout the county. My thanks go to those who hosted these trainings in the Divisions and also to the trainers who gave up their time to make these trainings happen. There have also been sectional trainings and mentor trainings within the county which have been well attended and again, thank you all for taking time out of your busy lives whether to be trained or train others. It is very much appreciated.

I am always looking at ways to improve the organisation of trainings. If there are a group of leaders who would like specific training in their local area, I am happy to facilitate this by arranging a trainer and advertising to the rest of the County if there are any spaces to be filled. If you know of any suitable venues please let me know.

As we move into 2018, North East England as a Region are trying to introduce new ways for leaders to be trained. There will be a link in future newsletters for Team Up which shows trainings in other Counties that will be open to anyone in the Region to attend. Hopefully, this will be more convenient for many members and make it easier to attend trainings.

2018 will also see great changes to the programme for all sections and we look forward to the County weekend in September where the trainings will be focussed on the new programme. However, if you are not attending the County weekend, then there will be trainings on the new programme later in the year to support all Leaders.

Diane Harryman
Growing Guiding Co-Ordinator

Growing Guiding

Adventure

2017 saw several leaders gaining their residential and Camp Qualifications. Congratulations to all. In April 200 walkers from 13 units and two Trefoil Guilds from the county took part in a sponsored walk at Escrick Park for the car park at White Rose House.

In May, 210 leaders and girls attended "Camp Carousel" at Bradley Wood. The girls took part in Climbing, Archery, Team building, Craft and outdoor cooking activities. In June we held a Bivvy and outdoor skills event that eight girls attended, as part of their Baden Powell Award.

The event on the North Yorkshire Moors Railway for the rainbow 30th birthday took place in December. 126 Rainbows and 65 adults attended.

Sally Jackson
Adventure Co-Ordinator

Castle Division



Looking back at last year's report I ended with the words fun, friendship and opportunities for all in 2017. Castle Division encompassed all three in abundance.

All units in the Division have been extremely busy and have all had fun and exciting programmed including trips, sleepovers, camps and holidays delivered to them by our dedicated teams of volunteers in our units. We have seen our newer units grow from strength to strength and offer new adventures to the girls within those units such as the Empire Day at Beamish and the Rainbow Santa Express organised by Lesley Strathie.

This last year saw something new for Castle Division, something that has not happened for a while; we have a Queens Guide. Emily Ducat leader at 1st Tadcaster Guides, finished the award in August 2017 and was recently presented her badge and certificate at Pax Lodge

on a joint trip with 3rd Copmanthorpe Brownies and 1st Tadcaster Guides. Congratulations from the all the Division on this remarkable achievement. A second leader is well on her way to finishing hers and only last week a third has said that she would like to start her Queens Guide challenge too!

In a year that we have seen much change our leader's commitment to their units is incredible. Many of our units are quite rural and we struggle to get volunteers especially in the village locations. It would not be possible to run our units without these unsung heroes and I would like to say a big thank you to each and everyone of you who gives up their own time to provide adventures, development and friendship for all our members.

Here's looking forward to a good 2018

Bev Wise
Castle Division Commissioner

Sponsored Walk



The County sponsored walk was very successful with 184 walkers in 19 groups, representing every section plus the Trefoil Guild.

Huge thanks to everyone who turned out for the day, walking, setting up, marshalling and generally enjoying themselves. York Active Support did a sterling job with traffic management and the tea urn! The day went very smoothly and the walkers were all in good spirits when they returned from their walks to be suitably rewarded with badges and certificates.

The weather was kind to us too which was a bonus. Escrick Park have said they would be pleased to welcome us back in the future.

Liz Laming
Friends of White Rose House



Trooping of the colour



3rd Copmanthorpe Brownies were lucky to be allocated tickets from Girlguiding to watch the Trooping of the Colour in June 2017. We set off on a very warm Friday afternoon from York Station, on our adventure to see the Queen. Staying overnight at Pax Lodge we arrived very warm but excited.

Next morning we travelled by tube to Charing Cross coming up from the station into Trafalgar Square, one Brownie said "I've seen this on the television". Escorted by the police on to The Mall we found our place right by the barrier ready for the parade. The Brownies shared their jelly sweets with the policemen lining the route; they were really friendly and told us what was going to happen. We had a game to guess the colour of the outfit the Queen would be wearing.

As the parade started the Brownies were amazed to see members of the royal family go past right in front of them We

cheered and shouted along with everyone else as soon as the Queens carriage came into view. The Brownies couldn't believe it really was the Queen right there in front of them.

As the procession returned to Buckingham Palace the police formed a line behind it, and opening the gate to our area we were allowed to walk down The Mall (avoiding the horse poo) behind them to the front of the palace where we waited for the royal family to appear on the balcony.

When the Queen stepped out the noise was amazing; everyone cheering and waving flags. The Brownies particularly enjoyed seeing Prince George and Princess Charlotte. I am sure it's a weekend the Brownies and leaders from Copmanthorpe will remember for a long time.

Lesley Strathie
Brownie Leader

Trefoil Guild



Life in the Trefoil Guild is never boring and 2017 has been no exception. We continue to grow in numbers and maintain an active profile in the life of all five Divisions of the County, helping in many units in a variety of ways. The most popular this year seems to be instructing the girls how to knit or crochet.

We were contacted in March by a lone member from Hertfordshire who wanted to make her Promise in York Minster whilst on a visit to York as part of her Voyager Award. Members from the County met her and escorted her to the Minster where she made her Promise in All Saints Chapel. It was a lovely occasion.

Congratulations to Diana Bates who has gained her Silver Voyager Award and is now working on her Gold Award.

Several members went on the North East England cruise to Belgium in March and had an enjoyable weekend amidst the chocolate and canals! Two members actually made their Trefoil Promise in Bruges.

In October Chris Bulmer completed her term of office as County Chairman of Trefoil Guild and I would like to thank her for her hard work over the last five years. She will be greatly missed in this role.

Carole Wilson
County Trefoil Guild Chair



Abbey Division



Our Guiding year started with an ambitious Thinking Day event with a difference!

151 Rainbows, Brownie and Guides earned their Water Safety, Fire safety and Circus Skills badges with the help of a visiting Fire Engine, Rescue Boat, and mock bedroom complete with burnt curling tongs and smoke! The girls balanced and juggled, threw rescue lines and balls, talked emergency first aid and made waning flags and circus clowns. At the end of the day the Leaders were exhausted, but the girls were happy and the Regen Centre cleaner had nothing to do. Success!

Fast on the heels of Thinking Day came St George's Day where once again we were made to feel really welcome by the Selby Scout District. Even the fire breathing dragon that prowled the church looked friendly enough and after the service our very own Trefoil

Guild did us proud with delicious refreshments.

And we ended the year with a wonderful day on board Santa's special train in the company of very excited Rainbows. Magical!

Then there were the weekly unit meetings, the backbone of Guiding, where dedicated leaders provide a safe space for our members to be themselves, to experiment and experience and to spend time with role models providing a positive influence for the future. Leaders have provided outings, holidays and camps, have organised games, activities and community service projects and have given even more of their time to keep struggling units going. Thank you - you are amazing!

Alison Cunningham
Abbey Division Commissioner

Camp Carousel



As Leaders in Girlguiding we aim to give girls and young women new opportunities and to challenge themselves, in doing so we often find that we also have the opportunity to be challenged too. This is most definitely true when asked by the County Commissioner to get a team together and organise County Camp.

Camp Carousel was attended by 42 Brownies, 106 Guides, 4 members of the Senior Section and 55 Leaders - that's a total of 207 members, who spent an enjoyable weekend at Bradley Wood.

We had a carousel of activities for the weekend... Archery, Crate Stacking, Team Building, Backwoods Cooking, Arts & Crafts, Photography, Cresta Run, Low and High Ropes, Orienteering, Cave Bus, Climbing, Slack Lining, a campfire, disco and closing ceremony with giant inflatables. A huge thank you to all the volunteers who made such a varied programme possible.

We experienced the extremes of the Great British weather from arriving to glorious sunshine, which resulted in Judith and myself cooling off with our feet in a paddling pool, to ending the weekend with Bank Holiday Monday rain - but that just adds to the fun of camp - honestly!

I have many lasting memories of camp, too many to mention really, from seeing Brownies and Guides arriving with smiles of excitement and anticipation, to the great sandwich production line.

So as the tents and the fairground of activities were packed away, I hope everyone took some lasting memories away with them and an enthusiasm to challenge themselves with camp in the future.

Emma Chester
County Outdoor Residential Advisor

Manor Division



2017 has certainly been a busy year! Last February we celebrated Thinking Day with a gathering of all sections at Haxby and Wigginton Methodist Church enjoying crafts and seed planting which culminated in a Thinking Day tree being constructed.

'Margaret 's Challenge' in June saw all sections of Haxby Moor District coming together to remember Margaret Hutchinson, a long serving Brownie leader, who has sadly passed away. Units participated in various activities dear to Margaret's heart- Fireman, animals and birds!

During the summer we said Farewell and Bon voyage to Helen Wade, Brownie leader for 75th Brownies, as she left York to enjoy the warmer climates of the Cayman Islands, where she continues in Guiding.

Emma Field stepped down as Division Commissioner in the summer after many

years in office. A huge thank you to her for all she had organised for the Division.

There has also been lots of fun had by girls attending Camps, Pack Holidays, PGL trips, visits and of course the Santa Special. Many adult qualification awards have also been gained. Congratulations to all. A special mention to Marlynn Holroyd for receiving her 40 years service award.

In November I was privileged to join Guides from 74th York, representing the County at the City Of York Parade of Remembrance. On an exceptionally cold morning the girls were extremely smart and respectful and I was proud to march with them.

I look forward to getting to know the Division more during this year.

Helen Feetenby
Manor Division Commissioner

Santa Special



A chilly December Saturday morning saw Rainbows from across the county set off for a day of fun and adventure on the North Yorkshire Moors Railway Santa Special from Pickering.

If a ride on a coach with your friends wasn't exciting enough a journey on the steam train through the snow covered Yorkshire Moors was just magical. With our very own Father Christmas on board each girl took their turn to visit his grotto and receive a gift. On our return to the station the girls got to meet some of Santa's reindeer. The girls and their leaders had an amazing morning, lots of photographs, lots of excitement and lots of fun. As I walked down the train carriage one Rainbow from Tadcaster made my day as she told me "this is the best day ever of my whole life" That ladies, is why we do what we do! See you in December 2019 for our next North Yorkshire South Santa Special.

Lesley Strathie



Poacher



We decided to go to Poacher as we wanted our girls to experience a 'big camp'.

As a unit that only ever been on smaller camps, such as our own unit, weekend camp and more recently our County Camp as a taster of an adventurous, larger camp. 2 of our Leaders had been to Poacher previously, as Guides, and were excited to offer the opportunity to today's girls in our unit. We found out about Poacher by looking at the website and we knew that this camp is every 4 years.

The Leaders took care of all catering arrangements and the Guides tried out a range of activities and met new friends each day. It was fantastic to see scouting and guiding working together on such a large scale and supporting all groups who were there. The girls and Leaders particularly enjoyed the closing

ceremony and Diversity's performance! The girls asked us on the coach home "When is the next big camp?" and are so excited that they may be able to go again. The girls gained a huge amount of independence as they went off to their own activities, scheduled their own days and made their own unique friendships. Our youngest Guide, Amber, loved the trapeze and water slide. Everyone was impressed with the number of different Countries there (25!!) and really got a great sense of how guiding and scouting are truly global. It felt like we really were part of a huge family, offering amazing opportunities to the young people who were there, making memories that will last a lifetime.

Hazel Creaghan
50th York Guides

Priory Division



We have had a change over of District Commissioners and I would like to thank Vina, Monica, Andrea and Amanda for all they have done for the Division and their Districts, Ainsty, Knavesmire and South Bank and welcome Katie, Charlotte and Jackie in their place.

The sad news for the Division was the passing away of Jane Denner from 68th St James the Deacon Brownies and also the terrible tragedy that happened to Katie Rough a Brownie from 15th St Stephens Brownies. I would like to give my personal thanks to Zoe and Micki for their handling of this sensitive situation.

As a Division we have visited Beamish for Empire Day and also had a sleepover at The Deep in November.

Units have taken part in pack holidays and camps and have done challenges and badges from Clever Clogs challenge to science investigator badge.

There have been visitors to Units like Tropic demonstrating their moisturisers and trips out i.e. Fairburn Ings with the RSPB.

I would like to congratulate all those leaders who have completed an award in 2017.

I would also like to thank all the leaders in the Division for all they are doing for their local Units and looking forward to an exciting 2018.

Nicky Booth
Priory Division Commissioner

2017

Rainbows



651

Brownies



1362

Guides



661

Rangers & Young Leaders



153

Volunteers



626

Trainings

76

First Response

26

Safe Space

26

Leadership Qualification

Awards

50 Year Award
Joyce Green

40 Year Award
Frances Postlethwaite
Susan Taylor
Elaine Ulliott

30 Year Award
Nicola Booth
Rebecca Cook
Carole Long
Diann Loose
Karen Taylor

20 Year Award
Pam Arnold
Joanne Bainbridge
Lisa Brookman
Emma Field
Ines Gracias
Amanda Greenaway
Sue Laurence
Alison Pollitt
Max Richmond
Lisa Taylor
Phyllis Wilson
Mary Wood

10 Year Award
Holly Alcock
Diana Bates
Andrena Ellis
Emma Petty
Georgina Pike
Lisa Rhodes
Maureen Robinson
Sam Thorpe
Rachael Ware
Becky Westwood
Rachael Williams
Beverley Wise

5 year Award
Joanne Adams
Katherine Buckland
Jennifer Calvert
Claire Canavan
Sophie Ellis
Ros Fox
Catherine Gash
Melissa Harrison
Catherine Hodgson
Lars Kramm
Rosie Leaman
Angela Massey
Camilla Mitchell

Belinda Murphy
Kim Preston
Karen Robinson
Bea Ruston
Lauren Sheldrick
Sarah Sturdy
Katherine Watson
Sheila Webb
Millie Wilson

Queens Guide Award
Emily Ducat
Lucy Mills



North Yorkshire South would like to thank all the contributors to this review and those who continue to support us.

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