

The Trefoil

www.trefoilguild.co.uk | March 2017 | Issue No 244



Memories are
made of this



GUIDING FOR ADULTS
Trefoil Guild

In this issue

First look at our
75th Anniversary
'Trefoil Rose'

One member tells
us about her life
in a workhouse

Practical help for
grants, archives
and much more

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Cover story
Support for each other
can come in many forms,
as these craft-loving
members reveal



The official journal of the Trefoil Guild
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September and December

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The Chairman writes...

Hello everyone,



A belated happy New Year to you all, and I hope it will be full of fun and friendship for you in Trefoil Guild.

One of my New Year's resolutions

is to improve communication between the national Executive Committee and our members. Communication is said to be 'the act of transferring information from one place to another'. It sounds simple, but it can be hard to achieve.

Your national Executive Committee consists of members who have agreed to take on extra roles – for example, Chairman of a Country or Region, Adviser or financial responsibilities. We meet four times a year in January, April, June and September.

Minutes from the meetings can be seen on www.trefoilguild.org.uk for all to read, and a short report is prepared with bullet points of the main decisions made. This is sent to your Country/Region Chairmen for distribution to every guild member via your County and

guild Chairman. If don't get this report, you could help me keep my resolution by asking for it and then discussing the content with your guild. The report is also posted on our website.

The Trefoil magazine is another way of communicating with you and, if you have registered to receive them in the future, e-newsletters as well. If you get an e-newsletter you could print it and take it to a guild meeting for discussion.

We all like to be kept informed, so if have any questions please ask your Chairman, who should contact your County or Country/Region Chairman if she is unsure of anything, or if you want to know more about how and why decisions are made at national level. We have two wonderful staff members in the Trefoil Guild office, Marie and Charlotte, who may also be able to answer your questions, particularly about administration issues.

Let's all try to make 2017 a year of communicating and keep everyone involved in the running of Trefoil Guild.

Some really good news for 2017 is that Charlotte is expecting her second child in the summer, so we all wish her well and

look forward to some happy photos of the new arrival.

With best wishes,

Pat.

Pat Downer



The 'Trefoil Rose'

As part of our 75th birthday celebrations in 2018, we have commissioned a beautiful rose as a reminder of our special year

The 'Trefoil Rose' is a dark red floribunda rose suitable for beds, borders or pots, and will be available from Harkness Roses. It will be launched in June at our Annual Meeting in Brighton with details of prices and how to place your orders. These details will also be available on our website and in *The Trefoil* magazine.

The rose will be a lovely way to remember our special birthday year, either for your own garden, or as a gift to a friend, or perhaps even in a display at a Guide house, campsite or local park.

The Harkness nursery was founded in 1879 in Yorkshire and soon became known as a grower of top quality roses. It was 80 years later that Jack Harkness began breeding new varieties in Hitchin, Hertfordshire, determined to create new and even more beautiful roses. Today, Harkness Roses are known and grown worldwide.

Harkness breeds new varieties of roses every year and at any one time up to 50,000 roses are being trialled. It can take eight years from hybridising through to exhibiting and commercial sale of a new

variety. During this period, at least five years of field trials are monitored at Hitchin.

Harkness was among the first to sell roses for charitable purposes with 'Compassion' being the first UK charity rose. This was launched in 1971 to raise funds for the rehabilitation of prisoners. It became a worldwide bestseller and is still popular today. Others include 'Samaritan', 'Princess of Wales' for the British Lung Foundation and The Royal

Society of Medicine's 'Chandos Beauty'. In this way Harkness has raised well over £250,000 for various charitable causes.

The firm is run by Philip Harkness. Sadly, his brother and joint owner Robert died in 2012, but they come from a long line of distinguished rose breeders and growers, starting with their great grandfather Robert Harkness in 1860. His grandson Bill took over the nursery in Hitchin and so impressed Queen Mary with his display baskets that she asked to have some for herself.

Bill won the Royal National Rose Society's championship trophy 21 times. His nephew, Jack, started breeding new strains of roses in 1961. Later, Peter Harkness took control and then Philip and Robert took over when Peter retired.

For Girlguiding, Harkness have produced 'Guiding Spirit' (1989), 'Brownie Rose' (2004), 'Girlguiding UK Centenary Rose' (2009) and, for

2018, 'Trefoil Rose' will celebrate 75 years of support work by Trefoil Guild. With this red floribunda rose, expect displays of dark red blooms borne in clusters of up to seven

per stem. The darkest shade occupies the outer petals while ruby takes centre stage. Plants are short and bushy. We are sure that you will find a special place for your 'Trefoil Rose'.



Harkness Roses

01462 420402, www.roses.co.uk

Noticeboard

Bulletins and information for all our members compiled by Frances Parrett



Cruise the Danube to celebrate our 75th

75th Birthday celebrations

The first river cruise boat is fully booked. However, a second boat is now available for booking. Contact Venture Abroad (01332 342 050, www.ventureabroad.co.uk/danube) if you are interested in joining the party.

Special souvenirs for our 75th year will be on sale at the annual meeting in Brighton, and then via Girlguiding Trading Service. These include a metal badge, a cloth badge, a lightweight shopping bag, a red mug, a vase, a new pen and the new Trefoil Guild scarf, which is a long modern style scarf, made of a sheer fabric. There will also be a 'Trefoil Rose' available to buy directly from Harkness. Read all about it on pages 4 and 5, and get your order forms at the Brighton meeting. Meanwhile, in the autumn, a 75th Birthday challenge, with its badge, will be available.

Subscriptions

We have listened to our members and are putting online payments on hold for this year. All guild Chairmen have been sent details of how to pay by cheque. During the year, we will provide training for our members, so they will be prepared for online payment next year *if* they choose this method.

Database

Thank you to all those members who have already registered online. Please encourage all your guild members to register, and ask them to double-check that their details are correct, so all correspondence reaches them. Sadly, we have lots of returned magazines due to inaccuracies with the present system.

Website

When you have registered, take a look at the rest of the website:

- Visit the different region web pages in **MY TREFOIL**;
- Look at the 75th Anniversary information under **RESOURCES**.

Do the stories of all the fun things happening across the UK and in TGIFC make you think you could contribute some photos and a story for your region? If so, send them to the Trefoil Guild office. Contact details on page 2.



Please note

The address sheet on your magazine is important. This time it is about our annual meeting at Brighton, so please don't throw it away without reading it!

Growing Trefoil Guild

Every Country/Region is being given a grant to encourage more people to join Trefoil Guild, especially younger people.

How do you persuade County Commissioners that to have more Leaders joining Trefoil Guild leads to better networking in the Districts – and more opportunities for Leaders to drum up support from members who are lively ex-Leaders? County trainings and social events may provide opportunities. How are you getting the word out about Trefoil Guild?

Magazine content

Do tell us which articles you have enjoyed reading recently in The Trefoil, and help us to know the kinds of things you like.

Have you found yourself saying "That's just like us!" when you read the Meet a guild page? We need more guilds who would be happy to liaise with us to put an article together. We are currently especially interested in small rural guilds who have managed to provide a really interesting programme for members.

Contact the Trefoil Guild office and start taking photos of your Guild having fun! Check the Photo Tips on the website for how to take good quality images.



One way to get the word out about Trefoil Guild

News round-up

Governance Work continues on this and the outcome will be announced at the annual meeting in Brighton.

Home hospitality We hope to reintroduce this for members who are travelling. If you are interested, please contact your County/Region chairman.

Voyage Award A leaflet on this is being prepared that may help you, and the publicity leaflet is being updated.

TOPAZ The 2017 team are preparing for their trip to Russia while new ideas are being explored for trips to other countries.

Submissions to the magazine and website

We welcome all items submitted using the appropriate pro forma. These can be downloaded from the website and sent to the corresponding email address. If submitting items for the



magazine please state whether you are happy for them to be considered for the website if there is too little space in the magazine. Submission date for the June 2017 issue is 2 April 2017.

Your snapshots

We take a look at what guilds around the country have been up to recently



Monopoly winners

Members of Burwell Trefoil Guild, known as the Mad Hatters, joined in the Girlguiding Bedfordshire Monopoly Challenge held in London as part of The Senior Section Spectacular 2016. A long and tiring day resulted in them winning the Sunday competition and coming second overall. Photo: Joanna Turvey
Linda Lerner, Burwell Trefoil Guild, Cambridgeshire East

Well dressed

Sue and Jennifer from Matlock Trefoil Guild made an epic journey around the Peak District in search of well dressings for the Explore My World section of the Silver Voyage Award. They discovered more than 280 including this one, which was produced by Guides and members of Dore Trefoil Guild. The duo feel that they now know more about the area in which they live.
Sue Baranek, Matlock Trefoil Guild, Derbyshire



Careful descent

Members of St Helens Trefoil Guild enjoyed abseiling at Waddow Hall during the Games For All outdoor day. Photo: Linda Price
Catrina Williams, St Helens Trefoil Guild, Merseyside

Harvest fun

Members of Carmarthenshire Trefoil Guild helped Brownies enjoy harvest crafts.

Wendy Moore, Wales PRA



Good job, Jake

Neath Trefoil Guild enjoyed meeting Jake, a 14-month-old guide dog in training, and his trainer. Jake will one day provide independence to a person with sight loss and be their eyes and best friend 24 hours a day in the home and while out in the community. Jake was moving on for more advanced training within a few days of this photo.

Mary Roberts, Neath Trefoil Guild, West Glamorgan



Czech mates

Off we go! Nine members from Surrey East Trefoil Guild spent seven days with old Scouts and Guides from Tabor in the Czech Republic to explore its Bohemia region and experience home hospitality in Tabor. With fun, kindness and generosity throughout, all too soon it was over, but another link in the chain of friendship had been forged.

Janice Posner, Surrey East Trefoil Guild



Activities day

More than 50 members from throughout West Glamorgan enjoyed a busy day of activities including walking, flower arranging, crafts, bulb planting, sweet making, painting for complete beginners, sharing a book or poem and, to complete the day, a singalong. Photo: Pam Abbott.

Mary Roberts, West Glamorgan County Trefoil Guilds

Quilting tribute

Mid Kent Trefoil Guild craft/quilting group were asked by Patricia Judd (centre) if they would make a cushion using the shirts of her late husband, Mike. The group, led by Pam Bowles (to the right of Patricia) managed to produce a quilt and two cushions from the shirts, much to Patricia's surprise and delight.

Janet Dowsell, Mid Kent Trefoil Guild, Kent Weald



Brownie memories

Kenilworth & Warwick Trefoil Guild members held a 'When I was a Brownie' evening, singing Brownie six songs and looking at various Brownie badges. Doreen Bennett (above) was pleased to find she could still tie a Brownie tie 68 years later!

Brenda Newman, Kenilworth and Warwick Trefoil Guild

What a hoot!

While on a woodland walk in West Sussex where the 2nd Bath Trefoil Guild were camping, these three retired Brown Owls were delighted to find a magnificent bench on which six brown owls were beautifully carved.

Jean Eburne, 2nd Bath Trefoil Guild



Temple trip

Margaret and Sheila from Ellesmere Port and Deeside Trefoil Guilds visited Vietnam and Cambodia last November. Their stay included a trip to the ruins of Ta Prohm temple in Cambodia, which are enveloped by trees the roots of which are the only things holding up the ruins. You may recognise the place this photo was taken, as the ruins feature heavily in the film *Lara Croft: Tomb Raider*.

Margaret Thornley, Ellesmere Port and Deeside Trefoil Guilds, Wirral



Friendship chain

Trefoil Guild members form a chain of friends at West Yorkshire North's annual Friendship Service in October 2016

Chris Scruton, North East England PRA



African odyssey

Several Trefoil Guild members were part of a group of 15 Girlguiding members from South West England who spent three weeks repairing and painting the community building of the Edward Garoeb School in Namibia in a mixture of community work and exploring the country. The group camped in two-man tents, with scorching heat during the day and sub-zero temperatures at night.

Sheila Leete, South West England Trefoil Guilds



Sangam support

Victoria Bagshaw, Chairman of Friends of Sangam UK (FOS), was responsible for getting together a team to arrange the annual Gathering in Whitby. It included a candle-lighting opening ceremony, an afternoon spent in Whitby and folk singers during a happy weekend at Sneaton Castle. More than three-quarters of the 40 members attending belong to Trefoil Guilds throughout the country. Victoria is using the experience as the Teamwork section for her Gold Voyage award.

Chris Scruton,
Durham South Trefoil Guild



Walk this way

North Wolds West Trefoil Guild is a relatively new guild in East Yorkshire. Each month, one of the guilds in the county takes it in turn to organise a walk plus another activity for those who don't want to walk. Our successful walk was followed by a narrowboat cruise on the Pocklington Canal. Photo: Doreen Skiven

Chris Scruton,
North East
England PRA

Turning a page

As part of the development of Wirral County Campsite at Hadlow Fields, a new building called the Gatehouse was erected. Members from all guilds in the county attended the official opening, and here we see Barbara, Doreen and Margaret manning the bookstall.

Sue Dutton,
Wirral County Trefoil Guilds



Fun-filled day

Members from Skipton, Harrogate and Ripon Trefoil Guilds met members from Bridlington to enjoy a fun-filled day out in glorious sunshine. We took the tourist train up to the clifftop by Sewerby Hall where a new member of Ripon Guild made her promise, prompting everyone else to renew their promise too. After a lovely fish and chips lunch we split up to visit the harbour or museum, paddle in the sea, or for shopping and browsing. We will next all meet up in Skipton. Photo: Jill Webster

**Lesley Haworth, Chairman, North
Yorkshire West Trefoil Guilds**



Visit to The Trefoil publishers

In November, 12 members of Ainsdale Trefoil Guild visited Newhall Publishing Ltd in Hoylake on the Wirral to see where and how *The Trefoil* magazine is created. We were made very welcome and were shown around the different departments involved in the compiling of information and pictures that go into our magazine. We will certainly read our next copy with even more interest!

Marie Hyland, Ainsdale Trefoil Guild, Sefton



Sweet treats

Cardigan Trefoil Guild watched truffles being made by chocolatier, Mrs Mandy Wilcox, and afterwards members were asked to have a go at making their own. It was a fun-filled, noisy afternoon, and we all went home with some delicious handmade goodies.

Wendy Moore,
Wales PRA



Tribute to the Queen

A poem penned to celebrate Her Majesty's 90th birthday received Royal approval...

As the Queen celebrated her 90th birthday last summer, Ann Denton (above) of Jersey Western Trefoil Guild sent her a poetic tribute, and received a card and thank-you note in return signed by lady-in-waiting Dame Annabel Whitehead on behalf of Her Majesty.

Tribute to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on her 90th birthday

By Ann Denton,
Jersey Western Trefoil Guild

*A little old lady in a pink hat,
barely visible in the crowd.*

*Three paces behind, an elderly
gentleman walks erect.*

*A carefree childhood with dogs, horses
and a beloved younger sister,*

*Running and jumping, no clue
as to what the future holds.*

*A king abdicates, everything
changes, unfamiliar houses,
frowns on parent's faces.*

*Dark clouds gather, a world at war,
cities bombed, people killed,*

*Uniform. A truck to mend, new people
to meet, happiness amid the chaos.*

*Peace at last, but food shortages,
rationing, buildings in ruins all around.*

*A handsome prince, love and a fairy
tale wedding to lighten the grey days.*

*A wife and a mother, a naval officer's
wife, happiness, a life much like others.*



A tribute for the Queen's 90th birthday

*A king dies. Three women in black,
heavily veiled, their grief hidden.*

*Great pomp and ceremony, a heavy crown
on her head, a life of duty to come.*

*Her subjects come to swear allegiance,
but first to kneel in fealty, her prince,*

*Destined to walk forever behind her,
but unwavering in his loyalty.*

*Years pass. Tours abroad, red boxes to
read, ribbons to cut, speeches to make.*

*Prime Ministers to meet, Parliament
to open, troops to review;*

smiling, always smiling.

*Alone in the hills on a horse with
little dogs running behind. Peace.*

*More children, marriages,
grandchildren, great-grandchildren,
scandals and more scandals,*

*Domestic crises, great sadnesses, but
always duty to the nation must come first.*

*The aches and pains of old age borne
without complaint, doggedly carrying on.*

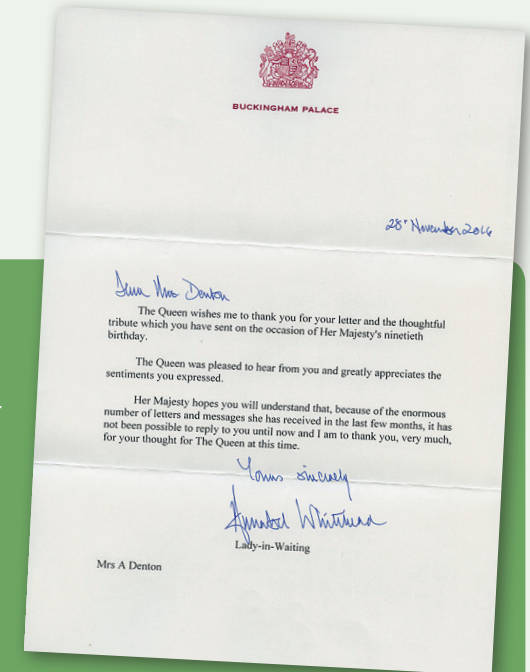
*Still working at 90 years of
age; no retirement for this
great lady and her prince.*

*Oldest ruler of them all, longest to reign,
most beloved monarch of all time,*

*Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, ruler of
Great Britain and the Commonwealth.*

*A little old lady in a pink hat,
barely visible in the crowd.*

*Three paces behind, an elderly
gentleman walks erect.*



ROYAL 'THANK YOU'

Dear Mrs Denton

The Queen wishes me to thank you for your letter and the thoughtful tribute which you have sent on the occasion of Her Majesty's ninetieth birthday.

The Queen was pleased to hear from you and greatly appreciates the sentiments you expressed.

Her Majesty hopes you will understand that, because of the enormous number of letters and messages she has received in the last few months, it has not been possible to reply to you until now and I am to thank you, very much, for your thought for The Queen at this time.

Yours sincerely

Annabel Whitehead, Lady-in Waiting

GOLD report 2017

Guiding Overseas Linked with Development (GOLD) enables young women aged 18 to 30 to develop their potential and make a difference in the world

GOLD in Estonia 2016

Last year saw a new GOLD project in Estonia working with Eesti Gaidide Liit (EGL). The team consisted of Charlotte Mellor, Alyson Wright, Emily Stone, Katie Webb, Margaret Duff and Tamara Ham. The aim of GOLD in Estonia is to update the national training scheme, retain more Rovers so that they become Leaders and to recruit new Leaders. This year's priorities were to update the training scheme and to run engagement and empowerment workshops with the Rovers.

The team first met the Estonian Guides at their national summer camp where they ran daily sessions for small groups of Leaders. The data they collected informed the Leader training update while providing Leaders with valuable training. They organised leadership and international guiding training for small groups of older Guides.

After camp, the team headed to the capital, Tallinn, to update the existing scheme and develop a new leadership



Hands across the world for GOLD in Estonia

qualification covering the basic skills required of all Leaders. Over three nights they worked with the training board to develop a qualification that would meet the needs and expectations of the national organisation, assist Leaders to perform their roles and help support the recruitment of new Leaders.

During the day they worked in cafes, writing new sections of the qualification; during the evening they debated them with the training board and developed it further. Although reaching a consensus on what to include/exclude was challenging, they were able to show an approved draft

to Leaders in different cities who clearly felt that their opinions had been valued in creating the new qualification.

During the project, the team consulted with



Leader training at summer camp in Estonia



Still time for fun!

more than half of the Leaders in Estonia before finalising the draft Estonian Guide Leader Qualification, following WAGGGS principles and meeting the needs of the Estonian leaders. One of the training board's greatest sceptics commented that GOLD had kick-started this process in Estonia and achieved massive progress towards not only initiating a better training scheme, but also developing and even implementing it.



Training in the Maldives gets back on track

GOLD in the Maldives 2016

Another GOLD first took place when a team flew to the Maldives for a three-week training project with Trainers and Leaders. Unfortunately, the day after they arrived the country's president granted a two-day holiday celebrating Independence Day, throwing their schedule into disarray.

Their first training session in the capital Malé was for a group of 35 Leaders about the history of Girlguiding and WAGGGS and was a great success. It was followed by an unscheduled session with 150 Stars – the Maldivian equivalent of Rainbows. Leadership and decision-making training with Guides from three different schools saw the programme back on schedule.

In the second week, the team flew to Fuvahmulah, another island in the



Visiting the Chief Commissioner in hospital

archipelago, where they ran sessions for 600 Stars, Little Maids and Guides over two days, plus a day of Leader training. They'd not expected to work with younger sections, but this shows the flexibility needed by GOLD participants. One of the most successful sessions with Leaders was in PR and communications training, resulting in an immediate press release.

A three-hour speed boat ride took them to the final island, where a day-and-a-half-long session with young Leaders was spent discussing and developing their programme to prepare the ground for the 2017 team.

Back in Malé, the team adapted session plans to work with Trainers, facilitating discussion on developing their training programme. Participants came up with good ideas to streamline the journey to becoming a Trainer amid lots of fun with balloons! Some of the evaluation took place at the hospital where the Chief Commissioner was being treated after a moped accident while the rest was done at Headquarters. Everyone was honest about what went well, what could be improved and the things they felt should be the focus of the project next year.



Pat Downer

Many of you have met Pat at annual meetings, and despite her heavy workload as national Chairman, she still has time to enjoy a good book

Pat's favourite books

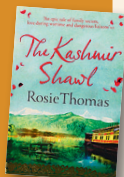


Black Beauty

Anna Sewell
Ladybird
ISBN:
9781409311249

The Kashmir Shawl

Rosie Thomas
HarperCollins
ISBN:
9780007285976

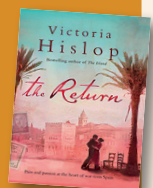


Toast: The Story of a Boy's Hunger

Nigel Slater
HarperCollins
ISBN:
9781841154718

The Return

Victoria Hislop
Headline
ISBN:
9780755
332953



As a child, Pat didn't enjoy reading, because she was always rushing home from school and going outside to play – and her school teachers didn't inspire her either! Although she never rode a horse of her own, her favourite book was *Black Beauty* by Anna Sewell.

When Pat started work, she needed to read technical and reference books and there was not a lot of time for 'fun' reading, so it wasn't until she was married with children that her love of reading really developed.

The books she enjoys most are those that have some connection to places that she has visited. The most recent of these is *The Kashmir Shawl* by Rosie Thomas. Set in 1940 Srinagar, a lakeside city in Kashmir, the book follows newlywed Nerys Watkins as she leaves Wales and starts a new life in India. It all changes with the outbreak of war and she finds a different circle of friends. The book has wonderful descriptive pieces about the wooden houseboats and life in Kashmir.

The Return by Victoria Hislop is set in Granada in 1936 when the army coup led by Franco shattered the country's fragile peace. A family witnesses the worst atrocities of the conflict and, divided by politics and tragedy, everyone must take a side, fighting a personal battle as Spain rips itself apart. Pat is now reading *Cartes Postales* by the same author, set in Greece.

Nigel Slater's *Toast: The Story of a Boy's Hunger* is the TV chef's autobiography told through food. Remember Arctic rolls, Smash (instead of real potato) and grilled grapefruit? The book will bring a smile to anyone who recalls the food we all enjoyed in the 1960s.

Pat spoke to Gillian Spriggs

Programme ideas

Compiled by Ann Medcalf, Programme Adviser, Midlands,
and Mairi Duff, Programme Adviser, Scotland

As easy as ABC

Programme planning for your Trefoil Guild meetings for the coming year can be 'as easy as ABC' if you use some of the ideas suggested in our A-Z of Activities

This issue looks at L-R and includes ideas suitable for spring meetings. Look out for S-Z in the next issue with our suggestions for summer meetings and events.



Land sailing

Leap into...

- Lacemaking
- Lavender bags – make to sell or take home
- Leaf pressings or rubbings
- Learn (or re-learn) the Maori Stick Game
- Line dancing
- Llama trek
- London visit – real or virtual
- Local customs – explore and try



Lemonade making

- Local history – walks, talks or buildings
- Local hospice – gifts, help or fundraising
- Local Leaders' meet 'n' greet
- Luncheon club



Lego challenge – build a tower or specific structure

M

Macramé

Meander on...

- Magic – learn some tricks or ask a magician to visit
- Make-up – swap or share tips
- Map-making
- Meet with District / Division / Unit Leaders
- Mexican-themed meeting
- Mini Olympics
- Mobiles – design and make
- Movie evening
- Murder mystery meeting
- Museum visit
- Mystery tour, virtual or real – if virtual try geoguessr.com/world/play

N

Nature watch

Nurture...

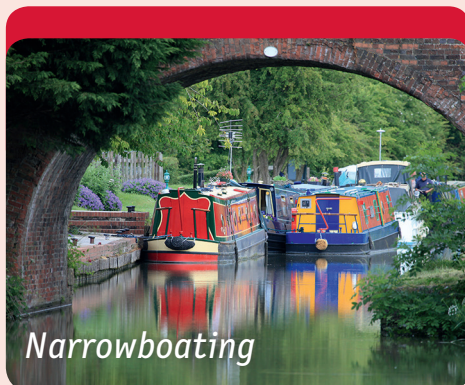
- New skills – it can be absolutely anything...



Monopoly



Musical evening



Narrowboating

- Nail art
- Newsletters – tell everyone about your guild!
- Newspaper night – debate, fashion, games, paper hats...
- Night hike to study the night sky
- Nordic walking
- 'Now Get Out of That'

O

Open-air cookery

Over to you...

- 'O' – bring along an activity beginning with the letter 'O'
- Old Time Music Hall
- Omelettes
- Orienteering
- Out and about

Ordnance map-reading



P

Pasta making



Plant something

Pot luck...

- Pancakes... make them on a tin can
- Pamper yourselves
- Papier mâché
- Party time...
- Picnics
- Plan and plot a trip to somewhere new
- Play softball
- Pond dipping
- Postcodes – what are they for? How do they work? 'Where are they?' quiz
- Puddings – because who doesn't like pudding?
- Pyjama party



Photography



Questioning...

- Quick-fire quizzes to test knowledge
- Quiz nights
- Quotes galore – who said them?



Ready for...

- Raffia tie-dyeing
- Raft building
- Rainbow Trust (Children's Hospice)
- Rambling
- Reading – discuss your favourite book
- Ready, Steady, Cook
- Recipes – swap and share
- Recycling
- Residential – organise a trip away together
- Riverboat trip
- Rope courses
- Roving lunch or supper



Gold standard

Congratulations go to Christine Buffrey of Dorsetwide Trefoil Guild, South West England, and Ann Elliott (pictured) from Tynemouth Trefoil Guild, North East England, who have achieved the Gold Voyage Award. Ann Elliott was presented with her award by her Trefoil Guild Chairman Judy Taylor. She is the first in North Tyneside to complete the Gold Voyage Award.



Good citizen

Janet Pierce, who is a member of Llandudno Trefoil Guild in Caernarfonshire, Wales, has been awarded the British Citizen Award for her work in the community in Llanrwst, North Wales, and for her work in Girlguiding. She was County Commissioner of Girlguiding Caernarfonshire and she is currently a Division Commissioner. These awards are made twice a year as recognition for individuals doing extraordinary things in the local community.

Congratulations

The following Trefoil Guild members received awards in the 2017 New Year's Honours List: The British Empire Medal went to Ann Malling, who has been Chairman of Yeovil Trefoil Guild and Somerset County Trefoil Guilds; and to Margaret Shaw (pictured below) of Huddersfield, who has been Leader of the same Brownie Unit for 45 years! Sue Kitchener, who is Chairman of Newbury Trefoil Guild, and Gillian Smith from Great Glemham, Suffolk, were both awarded the MBE.



Photo: Huddersfield Daily Examiner

Have you received an award, or know someone who has? Why not shout about it? Send the details and a photo to The Trefoil. Contact details on page 2.

Meet a guild

Busy Forest Hall Trefoil Guild has all parts of the key messages addressed

A Tyneside Trefoil Guild

Heidi was getting married, so Forest Hall Trefoil Guild had their own hen night, taking the form of a murder mystery during which – horror of horrors – the best man was ‘murdered’! Everyone dressed as a character in the story and a great time was had by all. This was just one meeting in a programme that is action packed and full of fun.

The original Forest Hall Trefoil Guild had closed because of dwindling numbers, but a group of active Leaders from Benton Division in Newcastle decided to re-open it in November 2013. Most of the Leaders were already good friends and ranged in age from 20 to 50 years. Since its opening, the guild has grown and new members from outside the division have joined.

All members have one thing in common – they are very busy women and so over time they have developed the strategy of



Members ‘enjoying’ a New Year’s Day swim

taking turns to organise meetings. There is a grand planning meeting at the beginning of each year when everyone’s ideas get thrown into the mix before the most popular are put into the coming year’s programme. Joanna McHugh, the current Chairman, says they share their skills and knowledge that way, but also, since they are active Leaders, they include activities that are part of the framework of a challenge badge, like the Big Brownie Birthday, or their County President’s Challenge.

It seems to me that this guild has Trefoil Guild’s key messages addressed too. Members have been ‘getting active’ doing crazy golf, aquafit and swimming; they have ‘given support’ to local Guide units by helping them plant bluebells at Killingworth Lake, as well as organising



Exploring the Waggonways network



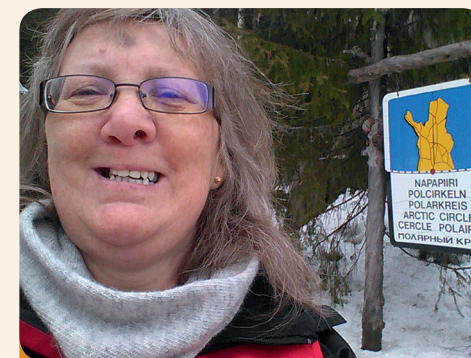
Teresa’s Promise at Tynemouth Priory

events that raised funds for several charities; they ‘get involved’ by enjoying crafts galore and fun games evenings; and they are ‘finding friendship’ by welcoming new members and holding all manner of social get-togethers where they explore a wide variety of foods – and wine!

Younger guilds can have problems meeting up with other guilds in their county, but Forest Hall’s Chairman attends Executive Committee meetings where she is pleased to find that everyone is very aware that her members work all day – and a variety of meeting timings is always included during the year.

Chairman Joanna is an adventurous leader. She joined the Girlguiding Lancashire Border’s visit to the Arctic Circle and had a great time. She was then able to use her experiences for her Gold

Voyage Award. Joanna has a challenge for other guilds – during the last three years, have any had three babies and a wedding, as Forest Hall Trefoil Guild has? Let us know if your guild can top that in any way.



Joanna during a visit to the Arctic Circle...



Visiting Tynemouth Castle is a breeze!



...where they had a unique mode of transport



Let’s twist again during a social get-together



Getting creative



Special fundraiser



International outlook

from Judy Ellis,
National International Adviser

Australia's National Gathering



Five members of South West England Trefoil Guild enjoy the Australian sunshine

The National Gathering of the Trefoil Guild of Australia took place at Adelaide in October 2016. Five members from South West England represented the UK's Trefoil Guild at the event. Here are the edited highlights of Patricia Clarkson's report:

"From the moment we and three members from New Zealand registered on the Friday, we were made to feel most welcome. At the opening ceremony that evening we were invited to go up on the stage, so everyone could see us. We had been feeling the effects of jet lag but this soon woke us up! Some campfire singing closed the evening.

Saturday was bright and sunny and the day started with the Annual Meeting at

gam – reports, thanks, awards etc, much the same as our own national Annual Meeting. At the official photo session we overseas visitors had our photos taken with the Chief Commissioners, as well as with the whole Gathering. Our red tops stood out among the white blouses of the Australians. Then followed an afternoon of activities; I attended a talk on travel followed by campfire singing, and I should have joined a walk in the nearby park but jet lag overcame me. Others in our group did go on a walk and attended craft, photography and spirituality sessions. The day ended with a Gala Dinner.

Sunday was 'outing' day and we chose to visit Victor Harbour and Granite Island.

Unfortunately, it rained on and off most of the day. We travelled across to Granite Island by horse-drawn rail carriage – a new experience! Three of our group managed to stay dry inside the carriage but two of us had to ride on top, which made us rather damp. When we returned, we attended a most moving Guides' Own in the chapel – beautiful music, poems, readings etc. The closing ceremony followed where we were mentioned and thanked for attending. We were given gifts from the

International Adviser, as well as a wine glass engraved with butterflies related to the Gathering's theme – and a challenge for us to bring it home safely! We said farewell to our home hospitality hosts. We all enjoyed our experience and have exchanged addresses and emails, so we hope to be able to repay the hospitality we were shown.

Isn't Guiding, and being a Trefoil Guild member, great?"

LAST CHANCE TO TAKE PART IN THE FIRST TOPAZ PROJECT

Plans for the TOPAZ 17 team to visit the Russian Association of Girl Scouts (RADS) are well under way. The group, whose members are pictured below, has three Trainers, Leaders from all sections, singers, campers, pioneers and crafters among its numbers. It includes both primary and secondary school teachers, a doctor, a practice manager, a banker and an archivist, so seems to have all practical and organisational fields covered among its eight members. They will travel to Russia for three weeks in the autumn to continue the work to expand Girl

Scouting that was begun last year. They held their first planning meeting in January and are now developing their ideas via Facebook and email.

All the details of the skills and qualities that members of the team require, as well as estimated costs, are on the Trefoil Guild website. If you would like to take part in the final project with RADS in autumn 2018, complete the online form and send it to your Country/Region Chairman for countersigning. The deadline for applications to be received at the Trefoil Guild office is 30 June 2017.



Pictured from left to right is the TOPAZ 17 team: Audrey MacNaughton, Eleanor Bird, Helen Johnson, Jenny Hunt, Pam Daniels, Susan Hogg, Wendy Clegg and Sheila Leete



Life in the workhouse

Mary Linder, of Madeley Trefoil Guild in Telford, spent her early life in not just one workhouse but several! Judy Ellis spoke to her about her experiences

Why did you grow up in a workhouse?

Because I was born there! My parents met and married at Norwich Workhouse, Norfolk, where Mum was an attendant and Dad was the porter, but moved to Sleaford, Lincolnshire, before I was born. Their working hours were long – from 6.30am to 10pm with two hours off, and one day off a week – and physically tiring. One day, my pregnant mother – who was holding a very disturbed inmate until she calmed down – went into labour six weeks early. Weighing just 4lb, I was laid on a chair in front of the fire and visiting staff kept saying, “She’s bonny, but she’ll not do” – 78 years on I’ve proved them wrong!

Later, we moved to Woodstock, Oxfordshire. The Master and Matron there

referred to people in the workhouse as ‘inmates’ and treated them very badly, but my parents believed that everyone deserved compassion and respect.

When they were appointed Assistant Matron and Assistant Master at Lancaster, they found a much more pleasant atmosphere, although men, women and children were still separated and wore uniform clothes, which were held in common. Everyone who was able to do so worked – women in the laundry, sewing room, or kitchen while the men grew vegetables, reared animals, chopped wood, or mended shoes. The workhouse was self-sufficient, with fresh fruit and veg, and had dedicated medical wards.

Here, I was lucky to have a friend of the same age – the Matron’s daughter, Elizabeth. We played house together beneath the long cloth on the kitchen table. There was a bombing raid one day and, in the rush to get everyone to the shelters, we weren’t missed until the ‘all clear’ when there was panic until we emerged, wondering what all the fuss was about.

What was the best thing about living there?

Spending time in the women’s section where there was always something new to learn. They taught me knitting, crochet,

sewing and embroidery. In the men’s day room I learned card games, whittling and dominos. One of the younger men, Jimmy, who was well educated and had been in the RAF, often looked after me. He loved wild things and showed me how to recognise flowers and birdsong on long moorland walks. Sometimes he left the workhouse to walk the roads for months at a time, but he always turned up again and even followed us to my parents’ next job at High Hall, Bainbridge in Wensleydale. I owe him a lot for instilling in me a love of nature.

What did you find most difficult?

The sad stories of transient residents. Tramps would include us on their regular circuit to get a hot meal and bed with breakfast in return for a day’s work. One day, a woman with four children knocked on the door, carrying a bundle of rags on

her shoulder. When my mother answered she discovered the rags covered a dead baby, delivered by the woman’s 15-year-old son on the moors two days earlier.

In 1943 my parents became Master and Matron at Richmond House,

Yorkshire, where they changed ‘inmates’ to residents and set up a Comfort Fund for treats and day trips. They bought everyone eiderdowns and individual clothing, and Christmas became a real celebration with decorations and turkey with all the trimmings. One of the residents, Mrs Heslop (pictured left) even celebrated her 100th birthday there – and lived to be 103.

One Christmas, the Guides and Brownies came

to entertain and I asked what they were. My mother, who joined Guides in 1912, explained and I decided I wanted to join. I’ve been in the movement ever since.



“One Christmas, the Guides and Brownies came to entertain and I asked what they were. My mother, who joined Guides in 1912, explained and I decided I wanted to join. I’ve been in the movement ever since”



Staff at Richmond House in Yorkshire




Mary when she was aged about two

Your letters

Find out what other Trefoil Guild members have on their minds

The science behind accidents

 Woburn District Trefoil Guild had a most informative afternoon at the Cranfield University Accident and Investigation Unit, headed by Professor Graham Braithwaite who greeted us and explained the work and practices that are carried out at this special site.

The scene was set with a train carriage, fishing boat, helicopters and light aircraft that had all been involved in incidents. It is for the Accident and Investigation Unit to draw conclusions as to the cause of accidents by assessing the broken and twisted steel and metal while taking into account influences such as weather conditions, speed and the human factor.

Students from all over the world attend courses at the university, which vary from one to six weeks to a PhD over six years. They learn to liaise with all manner of people and events through participation in mock incidents enacted by staff. They are expected to attend actual incidents to gain invaluable first-hand experience that will enhance their future in this industry.

Gillian Conlan,

Chairman, Woburn District Trefoil Guild




Accident investigation is a fascinating subject



Girlguiding takes us across the generations

Guiding life poem

 *Girlguiding at 5 you are all dressed in red,*

Girlguiding at 7 you have fun and games ahead,

Girlguiding at 9 you have many badges on view,

Girlguiding at 10 you are all dressed in blue,

Girlguiding at 12 you have challenges to meet,

Girlguiding at 15 the world's at your feet,

Girlguiding at 17 you have a decision to make,


A Young Leader or Ranger – which path you will take?

Girlguiding at 20 you have a unit to run,

Girlguiding at... you are still having fun.

Val Laverty, Tynemouth Trefoil Guild

Guiding connection

 When reading the September issue of *The Trefoil*, I really liked the idea that Barbara Wing put forward that maybe we should have 'Guiding' somehow in our name, as I agree that not many people make the connection. I brought the subject up at our meeting and the others of Sompting and Lancing Trefoil Guild agreed that it was a very good idea.


Hilary Searle,

Sompting and Lancing Trefoil Guild



Mont Orgueil Castle at Gorey, Jersey, has many stories

Trip to Jersey

 It was three in the morning and tired but merry,

We drove down to Poole and we boarded the ferry

To travel to Jersey for our summer trip,
Joined the line-up and got on the ship!

Well, the crossing was great and the sun it did shine,

We ate scrambled eggs with a nice glass of wine,

And soon we arrived to camp in the Guide Hall,

At St Clement, in Jersey, no trouble at all!

The camp beds were ready, we laid out our kit,

Eleven fat ladies, we struggled to fit!

But did we have fun? You don't need to guess;

Was the scenery lovely? Of course it was, Yes!

We hired some bikes and we cycled to Gorey,

And toured round the castle, enjoying the stories.

We went to see orchids and lavender and pearls,

At Samares Manor met real Jersey girls.

We were joined by Trefoils who live on the Isle,
Shared coffee and cake and many a smile.
In St Matthew's Church we were stunned by the glass.

The War Tunnels gave us a view of the past,
When times were much harder and rations were lean,

(We shed a few tears as we licked our ice cream).

On Wednesday we went to the Battle of Flowers

To cover those lorries must have taken hours,

For each one was themed and dressed in fresh blooms.

Then we saw them again by the light of the moon!

We had a great holiday, shared a few laughs,

Licked a few ice creams, swapped photographs,

Walked round the Island, loved it all here,
And now we are thinking, p'raps Guernsey next year!

Linda Laverty,

Worthing Highdown Alternative Trefoil Guild

Please send your letters to: Trefoil Guild Office, Girlguiding, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT, or Email: thetrefoilmagazine@girlguiding.org.uk

Grants available from Trefoil Guild funds

One of the main tasks of the Finance and General Purposes Committee is to make decisions about grant applications

We have four funds – two are restricted, one is not and one is at the discretion of the national Chairman and one other trustee. Here we discuss two of the funds.

A restricted fund is one where donors to a non-profit organisation such as Trefoil Guild restrict the use of their donations to a particular purpose or project.

KD Lee Bursary Fund

One of the restricted funds is the KD Lee Bursary Fund, which was established in 1998 after a generous legacy by Mrs KD Lee to be used:

- Towards training costs
- For attendance at a Trefoil Guild training, Gathering or conference
- For the direct benefit of members in connection with Trefoil Guild activities. This fund was invested and produced an income of £1,800 in 2016.

The Platinum Fund

The Platinum Fund is an unrestricted fund that can be used either for members with acute disabilities or a long-term condition to take part in Trefoil Guild meetings and activities, with their carers if required; or for members who are carers of someone in the above situation to help them provide alternative caring arrangements (respite) so that they are able take part in Trefoil Guild activities and meetings.

Guidelines and application forms for each of the above funds can be found at www.trefoilguild.co.uk/Funds. If you have any queries about any of Trefoil Guild's funds and bursaries please get in touch with the Trefoil Guild office.

Alternative assistance and funding

Alternative assistance for Trefoil Guild activities may be found locally and nationally. Due to the increasing cost of specialist transport, guilds may wish to consider approaching alternative providers in their local area, for example, the British Red Cross, St John Ambulance, health and social care providers, or schools and community groups. These groups often provide competitively priced transport adapted for disabled and able-bodied passengers, as well as drivers trained in first aid and the operation of specialist equipment.

Look out for details of the other two funds that are available to members in the next edition of *The Trefoil* magazine.



Towering ambition

Three friends took on a 174m-high challenge – two for their Silver Voyage Awards and all to raise charity funds



Lyn poses at the top



Sue bravely waves

In March 2016, three members of Southampton Windhover Trefoil Guild – Lyn Colman, Sue Groves and Leigh Dodds – abseiled down all 174 metres of the Spinnaker Tower at Gunwharf Quays in Portsmouth.

Having spent 26 years running a Guide unit, Lyn joined Trefoil Guild to keep in contact with her guiding friends, and to have the chance to take part in activities for her own enjoyment. The idea of abseiling down the Spinnaker Tower was one she had talked about frequently, but no one took the idea seriously until the day she announced that she was going to book it, and at that point Sue and Leigh committed to doing it too.

In a week of high winds and torrential rain, the day dawned clear and calm. On arrival at the tower, the ladies were given a safety briefing, kitted out with body harnesses, helmets and gloves, and then expected to step off a narrow platform into nothing but fresh air! No

amount of abseiling with Guides and Brownies down a climbing wall had prepared them for this. With hearts in their mouths, but without any hesitation whatsoever, they took that step off the platform, calmly posed for photographs and started the descent.

As it was Good Friday, Gunwharf Quays was packed with people enjoying the sun, and Lyn, Sue and Leigh's friends and family were all waiting at the bottom of the tower to cheer them on. Lyn remembers being told to put her feet down when she got to the bottom – easier said than done when your legs have turned to jelly!

Of course, the ladies didn't just abseil for fun – Lyn and Sue used it as part of their Silver Voyage Award and all of them raised funds for causes dear to them: Lyn's great-grandson has type 1 diabetes and she raised a magnificent £996 for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF); Sue raised £450 for Cancer Research UK in memory of her husband, brother and niece, who all died of cancer; Leigh raised £250 for the neonatal ward at Royal Hampshire County Hospital in Winchester in respect of her friend's



Leigh and William

gorgeous little boy, William, who was born three months early. He is now over a year old and doing well.

What an achievement!

The art of archiving

Keeping documents safe and accessible is important. Here, Monica and Owen Roberts, archivists of Staffordshire Trefoil Guild, show how to preserve the past for future generations



Do you have a lot of old Trefoil Guild, or Girlguiding documents stored in plastic bags and cardboard boxes, taking up a lot of room in a loft, garage or shed, that must be passed on when you finish your term of office? Why not think of having them archived by recording them on a computer, thereby making them accessible to everyone?

This is not a quick process – depending on the quantity of the documents to be archived it can take from six months to a couple of years and will, of course, continue on into the future.

“All this might seem a bit frightening, but it is not as bad as it sounds. It is time consuming, but can be done as and when the archivist has time to do so”

The first thing is to decide whether the documents need to be kept for posterity, or shredded after recording. If they need to be kept, a depository has to be found; Staffordshire Trefoil Guild have found that the Staffordshire County Archives were willing to take their

documents. Why not ask your local city or county archives, or your local library if they would do the same, or could put you in touch with an organisation that could?

The next step is to find someone willing to archive all these documents.

This person must:

- Decide what it is necessary to keep and weed out duplicate copies. Put the documents into some sort of order, e.g. by date.
- Scan the documents and save them to an external hard drive, so all of them can be viewed on a computer for future reference. Ensure that you name the documents consistently so that they can easily be recognised.
- Record all the documents in an index logbook detailing what is put on the computer. This is for reference in case of computer difficulties. You can cross reference them, for example, by date, event or location.
- Pack all items in acid-free covers (depending on the requirements of the depository).

All this might seem a bit frightening, but it is not as bad as it sounds. It is time consuming, but can be done as and when the archivist has time to do so. A logical and consistent approach

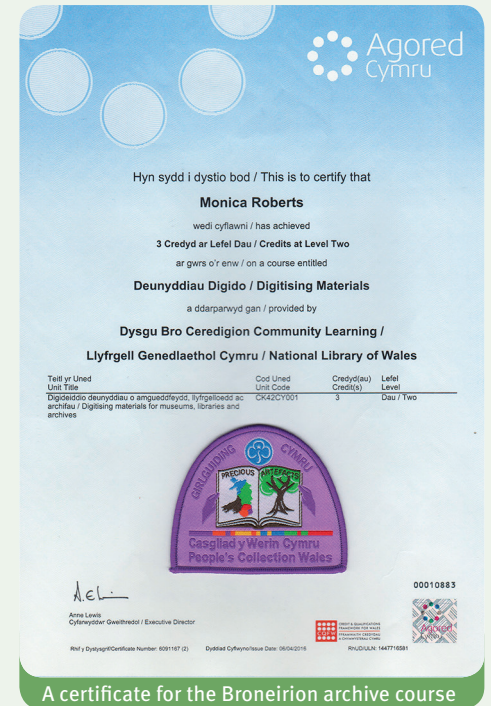
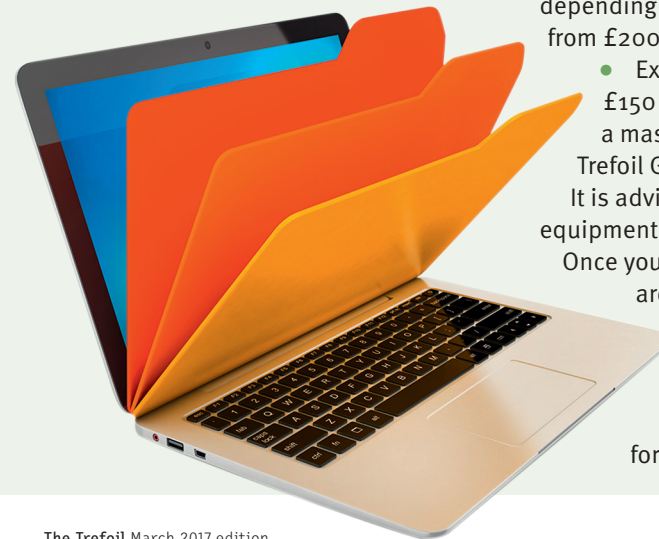
to the job is essential, and knowledge of cataloguing, packing and digitising would be extremely useful.

Girlguiding Cymru runs a course on archiving at Broneirion (search their website www.broneirion.com for details of the next course). It is usually two three-day sessions, for which a small charge is made for the course, food and accommodation.

The course is not regular but run as required, with about six to eight students at any one time. On the completion of the course you will be awarded a certificate from the National Library of Wales to say you have achieved credits at Level Two / Digitising Materials. Check for similar courses near you.

The cost for this sort of project varies depending on how much you intend to archive. Usually, library archives will not make a charge provided documents are available to be viewed by researchers.

Most people these days have their own computer and, other than that, approximate expenses for equipment can be seen here in the next column:



A certificate for the Broneirion archive course

- Digitising requires an A3 scanner, which can cost about £300.
 - Packaging and folders for documents, depending on requirements, can cost from £200 to £500.
 - External hard drives cost about £150 for two; one to be used as a master and one for viewing by Trefoil Guild or Girlguiding members. It is advisable to buy good quality equipment for better results.
- Once you have completed the job of archiving, you will be delighted with the amount of space that has become free, and you will also have recorded guiding history for future generations!

How to... use the calendar on www.trefoilguild.co.uk

An easy way to see what's going on



A useful feature on the Trefoil Guild website is the calendar. It shows events going on in the Counties, Countries and Regions, and those happening nationally. The calendar is easy to find from the homepage using the link towards the top of the page. Once on the calendar page, you can view events month by month by using the arrows on the right-hand side of the page. When you click on the event,

if there is more information you will be taken to another page that has further details, including any application forms. The events are colour coded by Country/Region and can be filtered to only show events happening in your area.

We'd love to hear about your events in 2017 and 2018, so let the Trefoil Guild office know. Contact details on page 2.

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If you would like to advertise in *The Trefoil*, contact: Trefoil Guild, Editor – Advertisements, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT; or email: trefoilguild@girlguiding.org.uk

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ICANDO

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www.girlguiding.org.uk/activitycentres

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Registered charity number 306016.

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Monday 9th – Monday 16th July 2018



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