

The Trefoil

www.trefoilguild.co.uk | December 2018 | Issue No 251



Stepping out
for our 75th
birthday



GUIDING FOR ADULTS
Trefoil Guild

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Danube for our
special birthday

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celebrated our
anniversary year

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Members wandered over hill and dale for the 75k Celebration Walk. See pages 34 and 35



The official journal of the Trefoil Guild
Published each March, June, September and December

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© The Trefoil Guild 2018.
Registered charity number 1075232.



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Design and Production
Newhall Publishing Ltd
New Hall Lane
Hoylake
Wirral CH47 4BQ

Tel: 0844 545 8102

Email: hello@newhallpublishing.com

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Welcome
Hello everyone,

Welcome to this special edition of your magazine as we come to the end of our 75th birthday celebrations. What a wonderful year it has been, with so many ingenious ways of celebrating. I hope that every one of you joined in wherever possible. This edition gives us just an overview of the activities from around the countries and regions, which might give some of you ideas for new programme activities. Just because this year is coming to an end doesn't mean we have to stop having great fun and enjoying all our friendships.

I have been very lucky in being able to visit every country and region, including Trefoil Guilds in Foreign Countries, and I would like to say a special thank you to each one of you who organised all the special events.

I would also like to thank every one of you for all the money you have raised for the Riding for the Disabled

Association (RDA), our charity for the year. Money is still coming in and I am delighted to tell you that we have enough to sponsor the Countryside Challenge for the next three years and are working towards fitting out a tea room at the RDA's new training centre, which will be called The Trefoil Tea Room. Everyone who visits will see our name there. What a fantastic legacy you have all given to those people who are disabled and can enjoy the excitement of riding and taking part in their very own challenge. Thank you so very much.

When you read this edition of *The Trefoil*, many of you will be preparing to celebrate Christmas. However you choose to celebrate, I wish you, your families and friends a very happy Christmas time.

Pat.

Pat Downer

No blues on the Danube

A week of friendship and fun was had by all on a cruise to celebrate Trefoil's 75th anniversary year, as Margaret Froome and Judy Ellis report



We visited some beautiful places along the Danube, including the city of Passau

A cruise on the river Danube to celebrate 75 years of Trefoil? What a splendid idea! Around 320 Trefoil ladies, with a few intrepid partners, filled MS Serenity and MS Belvedere for a week of friendship and fun – chatting to each other from the sun decks, in the locks (we went through eight twice on our journey) and when moored.

"Time to spin the wheels," said one cruise director, and so off we went on coaches (some double-deckers) to visit Melk, Vienna, Budapest, Bratislava and more. We marvelled at palaces, churches, musicians, dancers, horsemanship, raised money for RDA, ate, drank and were merry.

Melk Abbey was impressive – high above the river, decorated in baroque style with frescoes, gilded statues and terraced gardens, accessed by a lift from the coach park. A spectacular thunderstorm made the Wachau valley



Venture Abroad's lovely celebration cake



Our Trefoil scarves travelled with us on board...

even more picturesque en route to Vienna, where Venture Abroad hosted a reception. Noise levels rose as this first gathering of both ships echoed the discovery of friends also aboard. Taking advantage of the joint occasion, we held a raffle for the RDA, which raised around £300.

The next morning we toured Vienna and Schönbrunn Palace in bright sunshine, then sailed overnight for Budapest. We moored almost in front of the Hungarian Parliament Building in Pest, with superb views of Buda on the opposite bank.

An afternoon tour of Buda showed panoramic views of the river and Pest. A young lad celebrating his 18th birthday with friends had been challenged to be photographed with a large group, which happened to be us, at Fisherman's Bastion in Budapest. Was the photo tweeted a few moments later? Later that evening, after watching a gypsy dance show, we saw the city at night from a hill.

Hungarian horsemanship is well known and visiting a horse farm on the Puszta – the Great Plain – showed why. Welcomed with a traditional piece of salted bread or scones and a glass of apricot brandy, we saw demonstrations of archery on horseback and old military tricks taught to make horses smaller targets by sitting

and playing dead. Lipizzan horses and Welsh ponies pulled carriages, with the Lipizzans reaching speeds of 40mph. A short dressage demonstration came next before a horse-drawn buggy tour. Mares and foals grazed the fields while the stallions were in cool stables.

We set sail for Bratislava, on our way back up the river, arriving early the next morning. Land train and walking tours took us up to the castle with its formal gardens. The contrast between the vibrant city of 2018 and the run-down city some of us had visited in 1993 was enormous. The then-ruinous castle is now renovated and used as a Government office; the old city, which in 1993 was a slum, is now brightly painted with shops and restaurants.

Another overnight sailing took us from Bratislava to Krems and then by coach to the picturesque village of Dürnstein, where Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned. This town stands on a wide bend of the Danube, and we were fortunate to see it without the crowds that later filled the main streets.

We saw lovely scenery as we cruised along, passing vineyards, castles, churches, forests and villages, but sadly the Danube was never really 'blue'!



...and made an appearance on the dockside



Views of Budapest from Fisherman's Bastion

Noticeboard

Bulletins and information for all our members compiled by Frances Parrett

TOPAZ Challenge

The TOPAZ Challenge, with its badge, is open to all and is on the national Trefoil Guild website now. See pages 28 and 29 in this issue for the latest TOPAZ news.



New handbook

A new version of the Trefoil Guild Handbook is now available on the website at www.trefoilguild.co.uk/Handbook. It is in the form of a downloadable PDF and is not editable. There are links within the document to information held on the Trefoil Guild website, as well as within the document from the index section to make navigating the Handbook as user friendly as possible.

Social media help

We've been asked what the difference is between a Facebook page and a Facebook group – here's our answer:

PAGE: Anyone can see this and follow the posts published, for example, by the national Trefoil office.

GROUP: A forum for members to be able to discuss activities, seek advice and help.

Only current members can access the Trefoil Guild group, because it is a closed group. Posts in an open group may be seen by anybody.



We need your photos!

Permission for photo use

We really do need your lovely, lively photos, but we also need permission to use them – this is a challenge for us all, but please do try! Here are some top tips:

- Photographs of people or groups may be used as part of our business without express consent (eg a group picture of a guild in a newspaper with no names or means of identification).
- Where a member has indicated they do not want to appear in any photographs, that request must be strictly adhered to.
- Individual photographs sent into the office for the magazine, where the member is named, must be accompanied by a membership number. This is to enable us, nationally, to manage requests by members in the future for information on them to be removed from our records.
- It is good practice for regions/countries, counties and guilds to keep a database of pictures used – with the associated membership numbers.

Celebrations in pictures



Please don't forget to take good quality photos!

Dates for your diary

8 June 2019

– Annual Meeting, Southport
Apply today!

Application forms are on the carrier sheet of this magazine, so please don't throw it away!

4-7 October 2019 – Trefoil Gathering, Swanwick

Have you applied yet? The application form was on the address sheet of the September issue of The Trefoil.



Discovery and Voyage Awards support (unofficial)

If you are undertaking your Voyage or Discovery Award, you may like to know that a group of members has created a closed Facebook group to offer support for those doing these challenges. They also organise get-togethers and opportunities to get ideas. This group and the get-togethers are not monitored or supported by Trefoil headquarters in terms of admin etc; the programmes for these events are decided by the members organising the group, so if you need specific advice please contact your country/region programme adviser for Voyage Award.

Seeing stars

The Voyage Award will continue as long as there are members who wish to undertake it but look out for the March 2019 issue of The Trefoil magazine, which will outline a new challenge called Trefoil Stars.

Camping and Caravanning Group

6-10 June. A site eight miles from Southport has been booked for the 2019 Annual Meeting Rally. 5-10 September. The group's Autumn Rally will be held in Thorpe St Peter, near Skegness. Look for the link on the Trefoil Guild website calendar to find an application form.



Submissions to the magazine and website

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

please state whether you're happy for them to be considered for the website if there is too little space in the magazine. Submission date for the March 2019 issue is 2 January 2019.



Trefoil 75th Birthday

We take a look at the fun you all have had celebrating this very special anniversary year of Trefoil Guild

Anglia



Scarf cake

This 75th birthday cake by Kingswood Trefoil Guild in Buckinghamshire, with a distinctive scarf design, was one of many made by guilds from the region.



On song

A 75th birthday service held at Dorchester Abbey included a choir made up of (from left) Ross Wing, Pandora Huntingford, Gillian Martin, Margaret Fleetwood, Maureen Stone, Lyn Goddard, Conny Ziekemeijer and Jane Robinson.



Fun and friendship

Norfolk Trefoil Guilds celebrated the 75th birthday with a weekend stay at Potters Resort holiday camp. Fun, friendship and laughter was had by

all throughout the weekend, and they were blessed with wonderful weather too. Members are looking forward to the next anniversary to go again!



Boat trip

Members from Essex North East county enjoyed a boat trip on the Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation complete with cake as shown by Vanessa Read of Wyvenford Trefoil Guild.

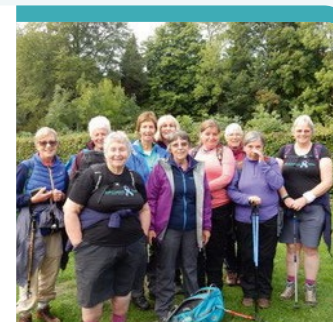


Beautiful banners

A selection of 75th birthday banners made by guilds throughout the Anglia region were displayed at the region AGM held in Ware, Hertfordshire.

Best foot forward

Setting out from Glenbrook Activity Centre are walkers (back) Lorraine Maidment (Essex NE) and Pat Andrews (Essex SE). Middle, Rosanagh Colquhoun (Essex NE), Angela Prior (Essex SE), Pat Muller (Essex SE), Emma Foulds, Rosemary Foulds (both Cambs W) and Julia Winstanley (Lincs S). Front, Julia Pollard (Lincs S) and Jean Mullane (Essex NE).



All aboard!

Suffolk Trefoil Guild took a double-decker bus ride to the River Orwell in June followed by afternoon tea.



Pleasant punting

Burwell Trefoil Guild members enjoyed an evening punting on the River Cam complete with strawberries and Prosecco followed by a picnic on Jesus Green.

London and South East Region



RDA demonstration

Sussex East celebrated Trefoil Guild's 75th birthday at Firle Place. We had a demonstration by the local Riding for the Disabled Association group, with two young riders demonstrating their skills by tackling the Countryside Challenge. A spokesperson from the RDA spoke about its activities within the region. The afternoon finished with tea and cakes and singing led by the county singing circle.



Fabulous Forties

Members from Kent East, Kent West and Greater London Kent held a joint celebration at Chatham Dockyard. The 'Salute to the 40s' day was open to the public and included entertainment, displays and 40s-style clothing.



Capital Ring Walk

Some 103 Trefoil members from three regions weren't deterred by the record temperatures in July when they joined LaSER's London Walkers and Talkers Trefoil Guild for the final leg of the 75-mile Capital Ring Walk around London, finishing at Girlguiding's maze in Crystal Palace Park.



Danube delight

Five members from Kent Weald Trefoil Guild joined a group of 311 other Trefoil members from across the UK on a River Danube cruise.



Campsite fun

Members from Middlesex East and Middlesex South West met at the county's campsite, for a day of fun, friendship and food, including this wonderful celebratory cake. Activities ranged from walking in the woods to giant chess and Jenga plus a barbecue.



Looking back

Members of Littlehampton Trefoil Guild had an outing to South Lodge Hotel for afternoon tea. Before South Lodge became a hotel, it was the home of Dame Alice Godman and her daughters, Eva and Enid, who had been county commissioners in Sussex and had opened the house to guiding. It was lovely to see their photographs on display, especially when some of the members remembered going there as young leaders.



Tree-mendous effort

Members of Prestonville Trefoil Guild visited a tree planted in Preston Park, Brighton, by the same guild in 1984 to commemorate 40 years of Trefoil Guild. Judy Stanger, a member who helped plant the tree, was among our group and we were amazed at the size of the tree!



Service celebration

Members from across LaSER converged on Southwark Cathedral for a memorable 75th birthday thanksgiving service during which we were reminded of the framework provided by our key messages. There were readings and reflections, rousing hymns and prayers of thanksgiving. We all renewed our Promise and were also treated to wonderful performances from units and groups from around the region.

Midlands



Royal tribute

Members of Shropshire guild were invited to tea to celebrate our 75 years and Her Majesty The Queen's birthday. Shropshire chairman Chris Jones (above) was presented with her Gold Voyage award by 'The Queen' herself.



Make a date

To celebrate our 75th year, Midlands guilds devised a calendar showing off the places of interest within the region. Each of the 11 counties designed a page with the 12th depicting the region and individual county badges. These were sold around the region and raised over £500 for the Riding for the Disabled Association.



High fliers

Members of Kington Trefoil Guild were delighted that the kites they had made to celebrate Trefoil Guild's 75th birthday took flight on a beautiful sunny afternoon with a strong breeze.



Tree planting

Members of Malvern Trefoil Guild took part in tree-planting at Girlguiding's Blackmore campsite in Worcestershire. Guiding units in the region had been invited to plant a tree to replace old ones that were unsafe. Guild members used the occasion to commemorate Trefoil Guild's 75th birthday.



Silver gilt award

Months of planning and hard work was rewarded with a silver gilt award for our show garden at Shrewsbury Flower show. The garden was inspired by the original Trefoil scarf, incorporating blocks of colour in red, gold, yellow with a blue border.



Camping and cake

Midlands guilds took over the walled garden at Beaudesert campsite and enjoyed party food. In a marquee, members could do crafts, quizzes and challenges. For the more energetic, there were interesting walks. Old favourites were sung at the campfire, and the Midlands celebration badge had been superimposed on the top of a magnificent cake which was cut by three prominent Midlands members.



We'll meet again...

Perry Barr Trefoil Guild took a trip down memory lane to Pigeon's Parlour, a 1940s-style tearoom in Birmingham. Decorated with wartime memorabilia, the menu included jam sandwiches and dripping on toast. Guild members opted for a traditional afternoon tea while "I remember those" and "My Mum had one of them" conversations echoed around the room.



Sail away

Midland members joined the national celebrations on the Danube cruise aboard MS Serenity. They are pictured after enjoying their evening meal near Budapest.

North East England region



Weekend celebration

West Yorkshire North had a leisure-break at Waddow Hall where the programme was geared around the 75th Birthday Challenge. Activities included Teamwork: making a county banner; Remember: a talk by archivist Liz Rothwell; Explore: a tour of 'Hidden Waddow' with Graham Geldard; Fun: a dominoes evening; Outdoors: a photo trail in the grounds; International: a sing-song, quiz and food; Learning: pyrography, making an autograph book and decorating a glass votive.



Fundraisers

Rotherham South Trefoil Guild raised £600 for the RDA. Members catered for afternoon tea and invited friends. A total of 87 people attended and four members visited their local RDA to see riders in action. Picture: The Rotherham Advertiser.



Sunny days

Members from North East England region, including former president Brenda Parke, enjoyed the 75th birthday Danube Cruise during the summer.



Garden party

Members of Sheffield Trefoil Guild along with members of Girlguiding Sheffield were joined by the Lord Mayor and the Deputy Lieutenant at a garden party to celebrate our 75th birthday. Fun and games were also included with music provided by ceilidh band Big Stuffed Fish.



Great work

The great work done by the Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA) is something that has been experienced first-hand by one member of Blyth Trefoil Guild whose grandson attends the charity's Morpeth centre. Nine-year-old James has severe learning disabilities, no speech and a mental age of about 18 months. He also has rheumatoid arthritis in his ankles and wrists and therefore reduced mobility. He attends riding every other week at the RDA centre and thoroughly enjoys it, especially when they go outside. It would not be possible for him to have these experiences without the RDA.



History trip

Members of Whitwood Trefoil Guild enjoyed a trip to the historic St Mary's Church at Towton in North Yorkshire followed by a meal. The church stands alone in a field and dates to 11th century. It is close to the site of the War of the Roses battle that is believed to be the bloodiest in English history and the church is where many of the injured were taken.

Glorious colour

Harrogate Borough Council created a flower bed on Montpelier Hill to celebrate the 75th birthday of Trefoil Guild. Pictured are guild members with the Mayor of Harrogate, Cllr Bernard Bateman, and Cabinet Member Cllr Andrew Paraskos. Picture courtesy of Harrogate Borough Council.



North West England region



Fabulous Forties

Wirral County Trefoil Guild held a 1940s afternoon tea in May to celebrate 75 years of Trefoil Guild. Many members dressed accordingly. Deeside Trefoil Guild held an old-fashioned tea party with jelly, cakes and party games.



Exploring recycling

For a very different Explore challenge, Formby Trefoil Guild visited Liverpool and Halton's recycling centre. They were shown what we should and should not put into bins for recycling. Although this is a fairly new site, the centre admitted they could not deal with all the different types of plastic that are used today. We were also introduced to a recycled elephant!



Brewery visit

There were 75 members and special guests celebrating the 75th birthday with afternoon tea at Robinsons Brewery Visitor Centre, Stockport. Live music was provided by a string quartet of students from Chetham's School of Music, Manchester. The very able craft group decorated the tables with fresh flowers, and table mats had been designed for this very special occasion. A very enjoyable event at an interesting venue and a fitting way to celebrate 75 years of Trefoil.



Afternoon tea

His Excellency Sir Richard Gozney (Lieutenant Governor of the Isle of Man) and Lady Diana Gozney invited Trefoil Guild to afternoon tea to mark 75 years of Trefoil Guild.



Wartime memories

In June, Lancashire Border Trefoil Guild members celebrated with a 1940s-themed boiled ham tea held at the county HQ. Members also enjoyed bingo, a singalong, a quiz and just chatting and reminiscing. A wonderful afternoon enjoyed by all.



Challenging sleepover

Members of the Stockport Hatters Trefoil Guild took part in a sleepover at Childrens Inn, Rowarth, where 17 members made their Promise. They also took part in the 75th Birthday Challenge by doing the following: T (teamwork): organised a party. R (remember): each member brought a memory from their guiding history and shared it. E (explore): members cleared overgrown brambles in the garden and planted a guiding spirit rose and bulbs. F (fun, food & friendship): they made cocktails and mocktails. O (outdoors): they went for a walk. I (international): they each took an international dish for a Thinking Day pot luck supper. L (learn): one member taught the rest how to make sugar paste roses, which were used to decorate the birthday cake.



Puppy power

More than £1,000 was raised for RDA at a Fun Dog Show and Spring Fair held in Worthington Park, Sale, organised by Greater Manchester West Trefoil Guild. Attractions included face painting, cakes, dog groomers and dog portrait painters.



Church service

Members of the Isle of Man Eastern and Northern Districts enjoyed a service for members and friends at Union Mills Methodist Church followed by tea and cake.

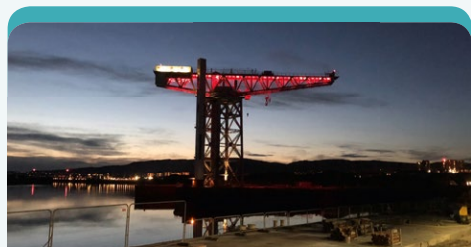
Scotland

*Dinner for friends*

Around 380 members and invited guests travelled to Aviemore for our Annual Meeting and 75th celebration afternoon tea, followed by a 'Dinner for friends' with more than 100 guests in the evening.

*Island celebration*

Members of Motherwell Trefoil Guild made a 75th birthday celebration visit to the Western Isles where they were able to meet up with members from the Western Isles Trefoil Guild on Harris. Western Isles is one of Scotland's most rural guilds and covers the islands of Lewis, Harris, North and South Uist, Benbecula and Barra.

*All in red*

The historic Titan Clydebank crane in Glasgow was lit up in red to mark West of Scotland's 75th birthday lunch in April. The crane was used to construct some of the largest ships in the 20th century, including the Queen Mary, Queen Elizabeth and QEII. Now a listed historic structure, it is part of the shipbuilding museum.

Picture: Emma and Robert Jennings

*Dance steps*

Members demonstrate the 75th birthday celebration dance, written by Liz Howie (centre left) and which can be danced at two tempos.

*Cutting cake*

The first of our four-day Netherurd residential events included sharing a beautiful 75th birthday celebration cake. During our second Netherurd event, Scottish President, Betty Findlater, cut another cake with long-standing members Ella and Lillian.

*Special service*

Ayrshire North were one of the first counties to hold their 75th birthday celebration event, a lovely service for a large number of members and friends in Largs.

*What a surprise!*

Isobel Irving, our PRA, didn't see that coming! She was presented with the Trefoil Guild Silver Brooch by Eileen Martin, our Chair, at the Annual Meeting in Aviemore. Congratulations Isobel.

*Spread the light*

Dumfries Trefoil Guild spread the Trefoil Light with others in their region, one of several Trefoil Lights to travel from guild to guild in regions throughout Scotland as part of the Scottish 75th challenge to raise money for RDA.

*Wonder wings*

Members had fun finding the Butterfly Trail as part of an outdoor challenge at our second four-day Netherurd residential event of the year.

South West England region

*Gold-winning gardens*

We are very grateful to the Seigneur of Samarès Manor, Mr Vincent Obbard, for allowing Trefoil Guilds in Jersey to have a floral display planted in the grounds of the manor house. The design was based on our Celebrate Together badge and was admired by visitors from Asia, Germany, Austria, France and the UK. The display was entered into the Best Parish in Bloom competition together with other gardens there, and Samarès Manor was delighted to receive a Gold award.

*Damper delight*

Guilds from across Cornwall enjoyed Condurro Day held at Condurro Campsite, Truro, which this year was themed around guiding and Trefoil activities from the last 75 years. Pictured are Irene Andrews and Chris Howarth of Truro Spires Trefoil Guild having fun with the dampers they made.

*What a hoot!*

Members of three guilds visited Bath to see the owl sculpture trail called Minerva's Owls – Clutton Trefoil Guild and 2nd Bath Trefoil Guild (above) and Gert Lush Trefoil Guild. All enjoyed a pleasant stroll around the city.

*Great canal adventure*

Over summer, a three-week holiday on the Kennet and Avon Canal was enjoyed by 150 girls and 50 adults, taking in 174 miles and 206 locks. 2nd Bath Trefoil Guild joined in and had a fun day working the locks.

*New adventure at 93*

Shepton Mallet Trefoil Guild's Meryl Stephenson, who is 93 and confined to a wheelchair, has embarked on a new activity – carriage driving with the Somerset Levels RDA. Fitted with a riding hat, pushed up a ramp (in her wheelchair) onto the carriage and pulled by an experienced and patient pony, off she went down the lanes accompanied by a trained member of the RDA and two 'outriders' on bicycles. Her introductory 'drive' has encouraged her to sign up for more sessions.

*Dressed in style*

Members of Trefs on Tour Trefoil Guild dressed up in style for a World War Two day. Pictured are Jaime Scott with Jennifer Scott and Paula Postlethwaite.

*We'll meet again...*

2011 Sangam dorm-buddies had a 'splashing' time when they met up at Weymouth during the South West England Annual Meeting and 75th birthday celebration. Each year, the group meet for a Christmas lunch plus a weekend reunion and stay in touch by email.

*Beach life*

Somerset North guilds held a sandcastle competition as part of the celebrations. Chew Valley Trefoil Guild members rediscovered their building skills.

*French evening*

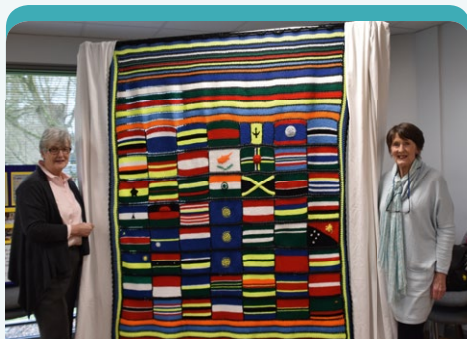
Truro Spires Trefoil Guild held a French evening for the fun, food and friendship part of the 75th Birthday Challenge. Guests from Gribbin Trefoil Guild arrived dressed for the part, and the evening included a boules competition.

Ulster



The write stuff

Sue Hogg, Chair of Fermanagh Trefoil Guild, launched her book *An Ulster Miscellany*, an anthology of readings and quotations that she has used at guiding events, at the Ulster Trefoil Guild's celebration at the Guildhall in Londonderry in September. Hilary Richardson, the Ulster Chair, has written the foreword to the book.



Knitted wonder

Ulster Chair Hilary Richardson set a challenge to increase membership by 75 people, so Fermanagh Trefoil Guild held a 'bring a friend' evening. After a delicious supper, the ladies heard about making of the Commonwealth Quilt from Norma Heap. The flags of the Commonwealth countries were knitted by members of local Women's Institutes. Norma, a member of both the WI and Fermanagh Trefoil Guild, was the coordinator of the project.



Celebration walk

Ulster Trefoil Guild held a celebration walk through the beautiful Drum Manor Forest Park in Co Tyrone. Around 116 members from guilds all over Northern Ireland took part. The sun shone as the ladies enjoyed renewing friendships.



Social evening

Guilds in Co Tyrone held a joint evening for the 75th birthday celebrations. Each guild prepared something and the programme was made up of sketches, a campfire singing marathon and quiz followed by supper and taps.



International trip

The Ulster Trefoil Executive Committee organised an international trip that was close to home. Dublin was the obvious choice; an international destination that could be reached by public transport and where, at the moment, passports aren't required. Over four fun, sun-packed days, the ladies visited the world-famous gardens at Powerscourt, went to the theatre and did some sightseeing. The highlight of the trip was an evening with members of the Dublin branch of the Irish Girl Guides Trefoil Guild.



Thanksgiving and tea

The finale of the Northern Ireland 75th birthday celebrations was held in Londonderry over a weekend in September. Members from across Northern Ireland plus Pat Downer, the national Chair, enjoyed a special event in the Guildhall that included a thanksgiving service, a talk by the Rt Rev Ken Good, the Bishop of Derry and Raphoe, on the theme of friendship, singing by the Ulster Singing Circle, an interactive talk on wartime memories and a tea dance.



A Royal review

The 19 May date for the 75th Birthday Review had been in the diaries of Ulster Trefoil Guild members for a long time before the date of the Royal wedding was announced. So that members could enjoy the wedding, they were asked to come to the venue in the morning to watch the event on the big screen in the Marion Greeves Centre at Lorne, which had been decorated on the theme of the Royal wedding by North Down Guilds. In the afternoon, a very successful birthday-themed Annual Review took place, where the guest speaker gave an interesting talk on the work of street pastors.

Wales

*Coastline walk*

Wales Trefoil Guild's main focus for the 75th birthday celebration has been to walk the coastline of Wales – 870 miles from Chester in the north to Chepstow in the south. This has had a great response; so many members have put their best foot forward, distances walked have varied from 75 steps to 75+ miles. Pictured here are members walking from Llangennith to Rhossili who stopped to watch the hang-gliders taking off from the downs.

*Learning curve*

Members of Swansea and Neath Guilds walked from the Scout & Guide Headquarters in Brynmill to the new 'Bay' campus of Swansea University in January. Others walked to the campus from Baglan over the Briton Ferry Bridge, crossing the River



Neath. Before leaving for home, some members had a well-deserved rest with coffee and a light lunch.

*Guilds' Eisteddfod*

Members of Bishopston, Glantawe, Neath, Port Talbot and Swansea guilds held a county Eisteddfod. They had a choice of 30 categories, from arts and crafts, cookery, flower arranging, literature and music. Guide log books and badges were exhibited, and performances were held during the afternoon followed by a celebratory afternoon tea and cake.



Trefoil Guilds in Foreign Countries and Branch Associations



Party time!

TGIFC held an international tea party via Skype. Sherry from Pinoso Trefoil Guild said, very early on, “We join hands around the world. Although we can’t be together physically, we can all be together spiritually on this special day.”

Parties were organised in Cyprus, Gibraltar, Benelux and France, and individuals from other countries prepared to connect with us. In Belgium, we were thrilled that Pat Downer, the national Chair, came to spend the day.

The first contact in Belgium was on Facebook from Angela, a Brownie leader wishing us happy birthday. Throughout the day phones and tablets were ringing and in the Benelux and France Trefoil Guild party, they were passed around so everyone could say hello. We had lovely Skype chats with the Cyprus Trefoil Guild and Gibraltar Trefoil Guild. Photos were sent by members in the UAE, Boulogne, the UK, Toulouse, Paris and the guild in the Emirates.

Messages were received from members on holiday in Australia; we received other messages from the



Netherlands and Spain and a member in the USA had a chat with several ‘new’ people and was thrilled to be part of this party, having been a lone Trefoil Guild member for 50 years.

Members Skyped from Malta, and Normandy, and the ladies of the guild in Bermuda sent us birthday greetings in advance of the party, as they were unable to join us.

We were also thinking of the guild in St Helena, so far out in the Atlantic, and Nancy in Australia, aged 97, in a nursing home and with no internet access.



Treasure hunt

In April, eight members of the Cyprus Trefoil Guild met near the ancient Curium archaeological site to undertake another 75th Birthday Challenge – E for Explore. Our aim was to find a geocaching ‘treasure’ led by our two expert members Gwyneth Green and Amanda Berry.

Using a geocaching app on their smartphones, we set off to find George’s Taverna, which led us up a steep track to an old deserted bar. This, however, was not George’s Taverna. Further clues on the app led us inside to discover a small model taverna nailed to the wall.

Opening the door on the model, we found our cache – a selection of pencils and a logbook. We signed and dated the logbook with our new code name.

Geocaching is an outdoor activity in which people use a GPS or mobile device to hide and seek containers, called geocaches or caches, at locations marked by coordinates all around the

world. Not all caches have a ‘treasure’ to trade, but as ours did we took a pencil and replaced it with our own ‘treasure’ – a crocheted angel made by Gwyneth, with a Trefoil Guild Celebrate Together badge and a trackable device plus the message ‘Left by Cyprus Trefoil Guild’.

Via the tracking device, we know our angel was found by The Platonas Two, who took it to seven other caches before being left at a cache on Table Top Mountain Travel Bug Hotel South Africa. Our angel is still there waiting to continue her journey to another cache. The trackable device is: Trefoil Guild Birthday Angel ID: TB7FJEM.

On the same day, our members, spurred on by our first geocache, enthusiastically went on to discover two further treasures nearby. Our treasure-hunting day ended with a lovely lunch at our favourite beach restaurant to celebrate another successful activity for Trefoil Guild’s 75th birthday.

What did you do to celebrate our 75th birthday year?

We are still happy to receive your photos and stories. Email them to thetrefoilmagazine@girlguiding.org.uk or upload them to

Twitter @TrefoilGuild and Facebook TrefoilGuildUK





International outlook

from Judy Ellis,
National International Adviser

TOPAZ 18

While we were enjoying ourselves on the Danube cruise, the TOPAZ 18 team were hard at work preparing for their visit to Russia in October.

They travelled first to Kaliningrad, a Russian exclave on the Baltic Sea, where Girl Scouting wants to expand out of the city into more rural areas.

Then they took the train to Moscow, crossing Belarus, before travelling to Ukhta, a city 1,000 miles north east of Moscow where there is no Girl Scouting.

The Ukhta contact was so excited about their coming that she talked

about it to a group of women from Moscow who were fellow passengers on a train, and they want to start Girl Scouting in their district! The team planned an extra day in Moscow, visiting the district and introducing Girl Scouting, with a programme of activities to explain the ideas and methods of guiding and even learned Morris dancing so that they could pass on some British culture!

Below are pictures from the TOPAZ team before their trip to Russia and during their time there.



TOPAZ Challenge

I hope you've all seen the TOPAZ Challenge that has been launched on the website. This has been written by the TOPAZ Scheme team to support the partnership project by selling the TOPAZ badges. The elements of the badge were the inspiration for the four sections – Travel the World, Reach for the Stars, Our Guiding Life and Precious Things – and give ideas for activities you can use with your guild.

TOPAZ future

Next year's TOPAZ project will be in India and will work within a community rather than with guiding. Jill Stott, who has been working with the project for several years, will be the leader of the team.

So that we can give teams more time to raise the money for a project, we have decided, from 2020, to select teams two years in advance. We hope that the 2020 project will be with an African Guide Association – by the time you read this we might have confirmation, but many Associations plan only a year ahead, so asking them to consider something two years ahead is often a low priority.

Now that TOPAZ is an established part of the Trefoil programme, we have changed the method of selection. The TOPAZ teams for both 2019 and 2020 were selected in October at a weekend in Abney Scout and Guide Centre in Cheshire. The residential element gives applicants time to get to know each other by working in different groupings on varied activities, indoors and out. There were opportunities to demonstrate and present activities, as well as to learn new

skills. Briefings on the projects explained their aims and gave information on the background and culture of the countries.

A team needs more than leaders; it needs money handlers, organisers, supporters, carers and instructors if it is to be successful. One person may fulfil several of these roles, but everyone in a TOPAZ team of six will carry out at least one. Throughout the weekend, the three selectors observed and talked to the participants, so that at the end they could put together teams that will work well together.

World Thinking Day

Have you made your plans for Thinking Day yet? Last year, guilds around the UK raised more than £4,000 for the World Thinking Day fund. WAGGGS is dedicating World Thinking Day 2019 to the girls who gatecrashed the Crystal Palace Rally in 1909 and asked for 'something for the girls'. There is a card game in the activity pack you can download from wagggs.org that you could use with a local unit to show them what Thinking Day means. Try it with your guild first!

Danube delight

It was good to see so many of you on the Danube cruise – didn't we have a good time? We certainly lived up to the fun, food and friendship idea of Trefoil! You can read about it on pages 4 and 5 of this edition of *The Trefoil*.

Your letters

Find out what other Trefoil members have on their minds

Historic reflections

As an occasional reader and contributor to your excellent magazine, my attention was drawn to the feature 'A journey back in time with *The Trefoil*' in the March issue. I regret to admit that the Scout equivalent, *The Guildsman*, disappeared decades ago. However, as the historian for Hertfordshire Scouting, I was able to draw from this publication many aspects of Scout (and Guide) history over several decades.

In the days when Scout and Guide co-operation was much closer, Hertfordshire enthusiastically held several joint activities, including County Ranger/Rover Conferences.

As a historian, I was also impressed with the article 'A memorial for Agnes Baden-Powell – founder of Girlguiding'. I propose to make a contribution to the restoration of the family monument and look forward to hearing more about the project.

I am fortunate to have met all the surviving close relatives of Baden-Powell and recently became invested as a member of the Thane Rover Crew (Michael Baden-Powell's Own). I met with Michael and his wife Joan recently when they were visiting the UK. The investiture ceremony took place at Gilwell Park activity centre.

Your September survey results article also made good reading.

Frank Brittain,
Archivist & Historian, Hertfordshire Scouts

The Editor says: I'm glad you enjoy reading our magazine

Making connections

As the Trefoil Guild Photography Group's break in Malvern this year coincided with the Annual Meeting in Birmingham, I decided to attend the meeting for the first time. Jane, with whom I was staying, obtained my ticket. Her friend was seated in a different part of the hall, so I offered to swap with her. I found my seat and started chatting to the lady next to me, only to find out that she was with others from a Carlisle guild, which is only about 50 miles from my home, over the border in Castle Douglas. She invited my guild to lunch in a local restaurant and farm shop, which three of us attended together with 15 members from Dumfries and Carlisle. By the end of lunch, in true Trefoil fashion, we had made new friends and decided to meet up again in the future. If I hadn't been a member of the Photo Group, had not decided to attend the Annual Meeting and if I hadn't swapped my ticket with Anne, this would never have happened. Do you believe in coincidences?

Jenny Armstrong, Scotland region

Belarus link

Girlguiding Hampshire North have had a link with Belarus Guides since 1999 and I have been privileged to be able to continue to be the 'link' person for the county. In order to help promote the link within the county, Belarus Guides produced a Belarus Challenge last year and all sections



Lucky wool doll

– including Trefoil – have taken up some of the challenges. Badges to go with it have been sold to boost the financial support given by Hampshire North, and 970 badges have been earned by Hampshire North youngsters.

At a Rainbow unit, while getting ready to play a game called 'Mixed Salad', one young lady responded confidently, "I can't do that, I'm allergic!" We sat quietly, making a lucky charm wool doll, and I tried teaching them a Belarusian dance. We finished up with a very exclusive, albeit energetic version, but we managed to keep going until the end of the music! They also avoided eating cucumber and cream cheese on mini blinis, opting for honey instead. Aren't Rainbows fun!

Robbie Hill,
Hampshire North
Trefoil Guild



A Belarus badge

Geocaching adventure

Members of Penwith Trefoil Guild in the far west of Cornwall went geocaching along the coast near the historic town of Marazion. Led by Mary Eddy, we walked about a mile following clues on electronic devices. We found secret boxes hidden along the path and we registered each find. It was a damp, cloudy day but we thoroughly enjoyed the experience, which was new to most of us.

Polly Bailey, Penwith, Cornwall, South West England

Have you something to share? Please send your letters to: Trefoil Office, Girlguiding, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT, or email: thetrefoilmagazine@girlguiding.org.uk

RDA champions!

In March, you kindly published my article about my experience of riding with the Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA). I just thought you might like to know that this summer I again competed in the RDA National Championships. This time Willow and I came third in the Championship test, where everyone rides the same course, and we scored 75%, 10.66% more than last year, which was a massive improvement. Then we rode the Freestyle to Music test (music by Genesis, as Willow is a very cool horse). We scored 72.25% and, incredibly, we won! So we are now RDA Grade 1 National Freestyle Champions.

Dr Claire Tregaskis

The Editor says: Congratulations Claire!



Dr Claire Tregaskis won with Willow

An away day in... Southport

With the 2019 Annual Meeting set to be held at this elegant Edwardian resort, Julie Gudgeon, Chair of Sefton County Trefoil Guild, reveals its hidden attractions



Southport's Grade II-listed pier

Southport is situated in the North West England region on a coastline that is more than 22 miles long. It is officially in Merseyside but was originally part of Lancashire – and some still say it is! An Edwardian borough with elegant gardens and parks, it enjoys a mild if breezy climate and attracts many holidaymakers for a 'staycation' as well as day trippers.

The Grade II-listed pier was opened in 1860. It is the oldest iron pier in the country and at 3,635ft, the second longest. A walk along it, according to TripAdvisor, will 'blow away your cobwebs', but if walking is not your thing, you can catch the pier tram to the end, see the penny arcade and small museum of Southport's history.

Nearby are the **King's Gardens**, which is a popular spot for a stroll around the boating lake and a walk across the **Millennium Bridge**. If you visit in a caravan or bring your motorhome, the campsite operated by the Scout Association at the

West Lancs Yacht Club is central to the promenade and Ocean Plaza complex with multiple restaurants, cinema and bowling alley. A second campsite at Victoria Park is part of the Caravan Club and can be accessed easily – the Park and Ride facility is only yards away from the site.

At the centre of the town is Lord Street, an elegant shopping area with wrought



Elegant shopping on Lord Street

iron canopies over the shops and arcades to visit and browse. **The Atkinson Arts Centre** on Lord Street is a theatre and also holds a variety of art exhibitions.

Southport offers a multitude of restaurants and other eateries plus places to stay. Fish and chips, the staple seaside meal, can be enjoyed on personal recommendation at **The Swan Restaurant** (and takeaway) in Stanley Street.

These are just some of the attractions you could see at next year's Annual Meeting, so do pay Southport a visit – a warm welcome awaits!

Anniversary anagrams

Have a go at solving these anagrams that show what Trefoil members have enjoyed during our 75th birthday year

RTUDIEFLOGIL	_ _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ _
TEBRACILNOE	_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
YADOEVGWRAA	_ _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ _
HTAIBRYD	_ _ _ _ _ _ _
OZTPA	_ _ _ _ _
SEMROPI	_ _ _ _ _ _ _
FARCS	_ _ _ _ _
WTRAEOKM	_ _ _ _ _ _ _
NGMIBRHIMA	_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
MMRREEEB	_ _ _ _ _ _ _
BCDUESIANRUE	_ _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ _
PEXOLER	_ _ _ _ _ _ _
IFRNDFIHIPESDN	_ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
OOOUTSDR	_ _ _ _ _ _ _
VEGTIPPUSOR	_ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ _ _
LANNINRATTEOI	_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
ALENR	_ _ _ _ _
KCEERN	_ _ _ _ _ _ _
KCAE	_ _ _ _
VSIVEETNFYE	_ _ _ _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _
TRIPESA	_ _ _ _ _ _ _
SDFEIEGMTINERN	_ _ _ _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ _ _ _
GROTEECLEBTATHERE	_ _ _ _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
DLVGTENIOVE	_ _ _ / _ _ _ _ _ _ _
VEALTR	_ _ _ _ _ _
GTAETCEIV	_ _ _ / _ _ _ _ _ _

The answers will be published on www.trefoilguild.co.uk on 15 January.

The hills were alive with...Trefoil!

They came, they walked, they conquered – Ann Hall discovers what the 75k Celebration Walk meant to the members who headed to the Peaks to take part

Glenbrook, Girlguiding Derbyshire's outdoor activity centre in the Peak District, was invaded for ten days in September by more than 90 Trefoil members who came from all corners of the UK to be part of the 75k Celebration Walk.

We filled both Glenbrook buildings and also had members in local B&Bs, in motorhomes and even some hardy souls in tents, plus a clutch of day visitors for the walks held between 7-16 September.

The eight walks that made up the 75k trail went to places with strange names – Froggatt Edge, Hagg Farm, Win Hill, Snake Pass, Great Shacklow Wood, Wardlow Mires and Cutthroat Bridge as well as the better-known Chatsworth House and 'plague village' of Eyam.

Each day the walkers returned perhaps a bit foot sore and occasionally muddy and wet, but after a meal they went on to enjoy evenings filled with activity – games, speakers, crafts and a ceilidh. Liz Burnley, Trefoil president, was our final speaker together with a compilation of pictures taken during the week.

We asked members to jot down a few words about their experiences:

- Great fellowship and new friendships. Amazing variety of scenery – something different every day. A wonderful week.
- Wet walks, dry walks, river walks, woodland walks, moorland walks, edge walks – what a variety and each and every one was a fun walk – thank you!



Members enjoy the walk come rain...

- An amazing event! The circular walk should be made into a book.
- Amazing views. Bountiful different fungi.
- Fun and friendship. Satisfaction in completing a challenge.
- We met as strangers and left as friends. What fantastic memories we will have.
- It just got better every day... different views, different leaders and lots of new skills to learn; uphill and down dale took on a whole new meaning.
- Wonderful 'roomies' who kept us laughing all week. Fantastic walks with great leaders.
- Thank you for helping me challenge myself well beyond what I thought I could do. Three months ago I wondered why I had been mad enough to sign up for this – thank goodness I didn't back out. Life begins again from here!



...come shine, as the Peak District hills stretch out before them

"Walked and walked, laughed and laughed. A motley collection of women became a band of sisters"

- Didn't think I was capable of anything like this – but I was!
- Enjoyed discovering the Peak District.
- My first large Trefoil event. I had an amazing time, well organised and great company.
- Walk leaders were marvellous.
- What an amazing way to meet so many Trefoil members – walking the 75km was a challenge, but it was an experience that will be treasured forever.
- Look, that cow's got short legs – oh, it's a sheep!
- On being told that I had walked to Cutthroat Bridge, my grandchildren said, "Sounds like Grandma is on a *Famous Five* adventure"!
- My husband suggested I should cancel back in March as I was awaiting an operation to remove my gall bladder, but

I said, "No, my goal is to get fit." I am so glad I did, as although it has been a challenge, I have enjoyed the scenery, the landscape and the fellowship.

- Challenging walks – beautiful views. Mossy green stones, fab fungi, too much cake!
 - Walked and walked, laughed and laughed. A motley collection of women became a band of sisters. Friends forever.
 - And one of the slips just said 'Elation'.
- Thank you to everyone who made this a time to remember.

Hitting the right note

One walking group – the Hilljillies – wrote their own song...

<p><i>"On the ten days at Glenbrook the Hilljillies found: 10 geocaches 9 roaming rambles 8 days of walking 7 slippery stiles 6 drivers driving</i></p>	<p><i>5 cups of tea 4 sunny days 3 goo-oosanders 2 dippers dipping And a farrier shoeing a horse So the Hilljillies had such fun!"</i></p>
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Maundy money honour

Brenda Barwick, a member of 5th Edgware Trefoil Guild, received Maundy money from Her Majesty The Queen at St George's Chapel, Windsor. Brenda says, "It was a wonderful occasion. The pageantry, the music, the service itself and the lunch – and, of course, having the Queen smile as she handed me the two purses containing the Maundy money will remain with me for ever." Maundy money is handed out to pensioners by the monarch every year, the number of recipients being the same number as the age of the monarch. So, in 2018, there were 92 men and 92 women nominated for their Christian and community work. The giving of Maundy money by the British sovereign has been a grand tradition for centuries.



Hospital care idea recognised

Congratulations to Pat Mayle from North West England region who has been awarded the Trefoil Guild Silver Brooch. Pat received the award for her work in initiating and then widening the idea of a comfort bag, which contains small toiletries and care items for patients who go into hospital unexpectedly and their relatives. She started the scheme in Greater Manchester West county and then took her idea to the region where it was taken up by guilds in North West England. To date, 10,000 bags have been delivered to hospitals, hospices, refuges and other organisations.

Congratulations must also go to Isobel Irving from Scotland, who has also been awarded the Silver Brooch, see page 19 for details.



Silver Brooch for Frances

Congratulations to Frances Parrett, deputy editor of *The Trefoil* magazine, who was awarded the Trefoil Guild Silver Brooch at the end of South West England's Train Trek to celebrate our 75th birthday. Frances organised the trek, which was a great success, and her enthusiasm for all things Trefoil has been evident for many years. It was obvious that Frances was totally surprised to receive the award!

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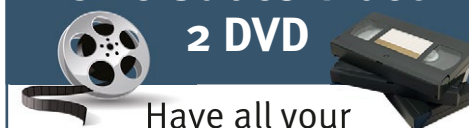
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Have you received an award, or know someone who has? Why not shout about it? Send the details and a photo to The Trefoil. Contact details on page 2.

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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