

The Trefoil

www.trefoilguild.co.uk | December 2021 | Issue No 263

 GUIDING FOR ADULTS
Trefoil Guild



**Have a fun-filled
winter celebration**



**Book your Annual Meeting
tickets for Llandudno**



**Find out what happens at
a National Conference**



**Get plenty of ideas for
World Thinking Day**



In this issue

Regular features

- 03 Welcome
- 06 Noticeboard
- 19 An away day in... Llandudno
- 23 International – World Thinking Day
- 37 The last laugh

Features

- 04 Inspiration for the future
- 16 Christmas crafts and a winter quiz
- 20 Annual Meeting ticket order form
- 22 Fun, friendship and adventure
- 28 Subscriptions 2022
- 32 Wonderful Walking Festival
- 34 Listen, learn, lead



Your pages

- 09 Your snapshots
- 18 Achievements
- 30 Your letters
- 36 Meet a guild – The Acorn Guild

Advertorial

- 14 Horses for health and happiness

The official journal of the Trefoil Guild

Published each March, June, September and December

National President Liz Burnley

National Chair Eileen Martin

Editorial Board Judy Ellis (Editor), Jane Smart (Deputy Editor), Tasha Best, Eileen Martin, Sheran Oke, Sheila Leete, Frances Parrett, Margaret Froome, Jane Webster

The Trefoil is issued subject to the following conditions, namely that it shall not be lent, resold, hired out or otherwise disposed of in mutilated cover or in any unauthorised cover by way of trade or affixed to or as part of any publication or advertising, literary or pictorial matter whatsoever.

The Trefoil Guild takes no responsibility for statements made in any advertisements or from any matter arising whatsoever. Readers should be aware that *The Trefoil* is not in a position to investigate goods or services advertised in inserts included in the magazine, and the inclusion of the inserts is not to be taken as an indication that the goods or services concerned have been investigated or approved.

Responsibility for the failure of any advertiser to fulfil his or her obligations to customers gained from an advertisement or insert in *The Trefoil* cannot, and will not, be accepted by the Trefoil Guild or *The Trefoil*.

The Trefoil Guild

17-19 Buckingham Palace Road
London SW1W 0PT

Tel: 020 7834 6242 EXT 3010

Email:
trefoilguild@girlguiding.org.uk

Website: www.trefoilguild.co.uk

© The Trefoil Guild 2021.
Registered charity number
1075232.



If you would like to advertise in *The Trefoil*, please write to Trefoil Guild, Advertisements, at the postal or email addresses above

Design and Production

Newhall
newhallpublishing.com

Newhall Publishing Ltd, New Hall Lane,
Hoylake, Wirral CH47 4BQ

Tel: 0844 545 8102

Email: hello@newhallpublishing.com

Senior Managing Editor Fergus McShane

Managing Editor Gill Hook

Senior Designer Owen Moran

Picture Editor Tracey Pocock

Managing Director Richard Woolliams

Print Swallowtail Print Ltd



Become a fan
[facebook.com/
TrefoilGuildUK](https://www.facebook.com/TrefoilGuildUK)



Follow @TrefoilGuild
on Twitter

Please send all items for inclusion in *The Trefoil* direct to Trefoil Guild, Editorial Board at the address above. We regret we cannot guarantee publication of all items sent in. MARCH 2022 EDITION COPY DATE: 19 DECEMBER 2021



Hello everyone



Here we are in December 2021, another year behind us and a new year to look forward to. After 18 months of meeting virtually, the Board of Trustees finally met for their first face-to-face meeting, a residential at High Leigh in September.

Like all of you who have managed to meet up, we really enjoyed being able to have all those catch-ups over coffee. Even the fire alarm before 6am didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the group, and it was a good way to test our Risk Assessment procedures. Early cups of tea and coffee and many of us were working before breakfast. It was certainly one way to remember our first meeting back together.

Ten days later, 140 members met up at Swanwick for the National Conference to Listen, Learn and Lead with our two amazing facilitators, Libby and Denise. What a duo! The enthusiasm was incredible, as we all looked to the future of Trefoil Guild. Every Country and Region

went home full of plans, new ideas and a fresh sense of moving forward. The National team alongside your Country and Region teams have all been given new challenges to address, so watch this space.

Look out for our recruitment campaign in January – please help us grow Trefoil Guild and share the fun and friendship we all enjoy. Please remember to use the correct branding and identity guidelines, all of which are available on our website. Just click Info and Resources, then Logos, Templates and Branding.

Our members' area is now available using your membership number and password.

As we move towards the festive season, I send you all my very best wishes and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in 2022.

Eileen

Eileen Martin

Silver brooches

Trefoil Guild Silver brooches have been presented to Jean Kelly, who has just finished her role as Anglia region chair; Doreen King, for her dedication to her work on *Talking Trefoil*; and Linda Hill-Tout, for her work as National PR Adviser.



Inspiration for the future

From planning to brainstorming to a quiz night, **Kat Bowett** reports back on attending her first National Trefoil Conference

Hello, I'm Katherine Bowett – or Kat, as I'm better known. I am a member of Stockport Hatters Internet Guild and I am the Stockport County PR adviser.

I was invited to the National Trefoil Conference at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, on 1-3 October. I happily accepted, and I am really

pleased that I did. I am quite a shy person, so felt quite nervous as I didn't know anyone else going along. I needn't have worried because I met some amazing Trefoil members and had a fantastic time.

We did several sessions throughout the weekend. Firstly, we got together within our regions for a brainstorming session. We came up with really great ideas to present to our region chairs for some fun events in the future. Planning meetings in place, the weekend has made me feel reinvigorated about being a Trefoil member.

Libby and Denise, our trainers for the weekend, held some fantastic sessions. One session we had was on leadership

styles, which was really interesting. We learnt how to get the best out of each type of leader and how it is best to value the differences in each other. I was a Kanga – someone who values traditions, is trustworthy, likes working in a team, has good intuition and is caring. However, it would make me feel vulnerable

having to work on something alone, with just the hard facts of the project. I'd need reassurance, to know others from my team would support me. It's given me more confidence that it's ok to all be different. We all have strengths and weaknesses.

We had an open

microphone session, where we were invited to stand up and say what we'd like to discuss about Trefoil, around the theme of Trefoil's ethos – make new friends, travel, explore and serve our communities. At the open mic I asked to speak about international travels (on a budget). The thought of international travel was very daunting to me and seemed far beyond my budget. After an





“The weekend has made me feel reinvigorated about being a Trefoil member”

hour or so of Trefoil members coming to share their international experiences and giving me tips, I felt so much better about it. I've lots of ideas to research, including working within a service team at an international camp, and how the TOPAZ scheme works. I'm thankful to every member who came and spoke with me and offered me support. You're all very inspiring ladies. Definitely keep your eyes on this space for an international debrief in the future...

Saturday night came along with an Easy-Peasy Quiz Night. My team came fifth, with lots of laughs – I even answered a question! An all-round fabulous weekend with lots of networking.

I met Gillian Rees, our Voyage/ Programme Adviser, who signed off my

Bronze Voyage. I really like the Voyage award scheme as a member with a non-guiding history. I didn't have guiding experience as a child, not being a Brownie or a Guide, so it's nice that I can work towards my own badge whilst developing myself as a person and I felt such a sense of achievement having the Bronze award signed off. I'm now looking forward to starting work on my Silver.

Sunday afternoon was our final goodbyes (for now), looking forward to our future plans in the North West Region and Trefoil as a whole. If you ever get the opportunity to attend a National Conference I highly recommend going along, The Hayes Centre was within beautiful grounds and had fantastic facilities – I still miss the amazing coffee machine!

See page 34 for a full report on the National Conference by Eileen Martin



Noticeboard

Bulletins and information for all our members

Delivery dilemma

At the National Conference there was a discussion of considerable differences in delivery times of *The Trefoil*, sometimes within the same guild. We have followed up with Newhall, our publishers, who have told us that all magazines are sent out in one batch, so should arrive at around the same time. Any differences are likely to be caused by problems within the postal service, and late delivery should be taken up with Royal Mail.

Social media gurus wanted!

Our nationwide team of social media enthusiasts is beginning to grow, but we still need you. We aim to meet on Zoom every month at the moment, to plan and explore ideas. The new Trefoil Social Media Team are looking forward to welcoming you. Please contact Frances Parrett at trefoilpr@outlook.com for further details.



November Remember

If you are looking for an activity for your guild meeting, why not try Ulster's November Remember Environmental Challenge (trefoilguild.co.uk/Revised-November-Remember-Challenge), or Say NO To Plastic board game (trefoilguild.co.uk/Say-NO-to-Plastic-Game)?

Branding guidelines

When choosing photos to submit for publication in *The Trefoil* please be mindful of our branding guidelines and try to include members wearing the new scarf or neckerchief as well as the older scarf.

Inca trail

We have been asked to make it clear that the Trefoil member who appears in the photo on p18 of the September issue is Anne McGregor. Anne completed the Inca trail featured in that issue. Please accept our apologies for the confusion.

Readers wanted

Would you like to be a proofreader or member of the Readership Panel? Contact trefoilmagazine.editor@gmail.com to find out more.



“I love being in Trefoil”

Meet **Jean Kelly**, the new Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee

I am thrilled to have been appointed as the new Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee. It isn't a committee that many members know much about, but in a nutshell, it works closely with the National Chair, Treasurer and office team to support the financial governance of the Trefoil Guild as well as monitoring and keeping our policies and procedures up to date.

I have been involved in Girlguiding since I was a toddler going to camp with my mum. On one occasion, as I was getting under everyone's feet, I was asked to “go and catch a rabbit” for tea and, being quite resourceful, took a dixie and promptly returned with one!

It wasn't until 1989, though, that I became a Guide leader in Windermere and then continued as a volunteer when I moved to Buckinghamshire, where I am still a Guide leader.

I love being in Trefoil and enjoy friendship, fun, and activities in a way that you cannot do when you are

running a unit. I became Buckinghamshire County Trefoil Chair in 2013, and then in 2016 was appointed as Anglia Chair, and, as such, also became part of the national team. I particularly enjoyed my role in rewriting the *Trefoil Handbook*, which resulted in the e-copy we have today.

I have worked most of my life in the health sector in various guises, from clinical roles to IT programme management, but at the end of June I took early retirement allowing me more time to help in the running of Trefoil. In my spare time I love being out and about, walking and taking photographs but also enjoy calligraphy and am a member of the Northumbrian Scribes.

Thankfully, I have a very supportive husband who doesn't mind me being out and about with Trefoil, and a tolerant cat, who has learned to sit on my computer keyboard to remind me when it's feeding time!



Meet the new Ulster Chair overleaf on p8



Meet the new Ulster Chair

Karen Cochrane pledges to move Trefoil forward while continuing to embrace the spirit of guiding

It has been said if you want something done, ask a busy person. For me, this is definitely true. I enjoy having a project to plan, evolve and enthuse about – sometimes several.

I have a lifelong relationship with guiding starting from my own attendance as a Brownie right through to county commissioner, and even with my advancing years I am still an active guide leader – albeit less active than I once was – and I am a member of my local Trefoil Guild in Londonderry in the west of Ulster.

I've been married for almost 40 years and have two grown-up daughters and three young grandsons. Both my daughters are active in the Guide unit, so I can now move on and enjoy Guiding through Trefoil, leaving my unit in good hands.

I work as a part-time receptionist for a local charity, generating links within the community with involvement in local

events and projects, including the food bank, baby bank and cooking classes.

When allowed, planning and partaking in trips, both local and afar, is a big part of my calendar. These range from day trips to local sights incorporating a scone or two to a Guide camp or a city break with fellow leaders! I love to travel and to socialise, so I'm a party girl at heart.



As I undertake the role of Ulster Chair, I am very aware of the need to move our Trefoil forward to meet the demands of the future while continuing to embrace the spirit of guiding. I hope that, as I work with a new executive team in Ulster, we can build on what has gone

before and contribute to both the organisation and the members in it. I do hope that we will all have the opportunity in the coming year to rebuild Trefoil bigger and brighter and I will do my best to play my part wherever I can.

“I do hope we will all have the opportunity in the coming year to rebuild Trefoil bigger and brighter”



Your snapshots

We take a look at what guilds have been up to



Virtual Competition Hike

For 20 years, Girlguiding Buckinghamshire has held a Competition Hike. Covid stopped last year's events. This year girls, leaders, parents and Trefoil members were challenged to walk in their own area, and the collective mileage is over 2,750km. Members of our guild are pictured hiking in the Colne Valley.

Jane Graham, Gerrards Cross & Denham Trefoil Guild

Narrowboat trip

Burwell Trefoil Guild sailed on the River Nene on a narrowboat. Although the weather was chilly and breezy, we had all come prepared and enjoyed a peaceful trip from March to Outwell, where we had lunch, and back again. We each had a go, under guidance, at steering the boat too.

Linda Larner, Burwell Trefoil Guild



Isle of Man visit

Four members from Witham Trefoil Guild ventured to the Isle of Man and explored the island using local electric trains and trams. The weather was glorious, from Peel Castle and Tynwald Hill to the Laxey Wheel and Port Erin. We learnt a lot about the history of the island. Our photo shows us at the statue of the Bee Gees in Douglas. As the photo was taken, smoke was rising behind us and a small vessel burst into flames! Our Trefoil jackets caused a great deal of interest and we explained numerous times who we were and what we did. Several people said they would follow it up when they got home – we hope they do.

Christine Tanner, Witham Trefoil Guild





Out and about again

Allsorts e-Guild were delighted to be able to go out and about together after a year and a half of meeting online. On the first outing we played crazy golf (top picture) in crazy weather – hot and sunny one minute, raining heavily the next. This was followed up by a trip to Arundel lido, where we swam (without the masks!), talked and splashed around. It was lovely to swim with the majestic Arundel Castle in the background. Next we are off to Dorking to visit a vineyard. Thank goodness the lockdown is over – we've missed our little adventures!

Sue Shepherd, Allsorts Trefoil e-Guild

Tribute to Olive

During Matlock Trefoil Guild's day at Pax Hoh, the Girlguiding Derbyshire campsite, a plaque was unveiled commemorating Olive Robinson (County Commissioner 1981-1986 and a member of Matlock Trefoil Guild) who envisioned Pax Hoh. Her legacy provided a campfire circle and new mower, pictured here with Olive's two daughters, named in Olive's memory.

Beryl Miller, Matlock Trefoil Guild



High-speed fun

I challenged myself, booked the event and my husband took me to North Wales to have a go on the world's fastest zip wire, the Velocity 2. I was on my own, but I was well looked after. To calm my nerves, I sang 'Happy Birthday to me' as I was released and zoomed down at 90mph! It was an amazing experience.

**Gillian Johnson,
Kidderminster Trefoil Guild**



Sculpture walk

Members of Todmorden Trefoil Guild enjoyed a walk to the Singing Ringing Tree, a wind-powered 'sound sculpture' that resembles a tree, high in the hills of the Pennines overlooking Burnley in Lancashire.

Chris Bulmer,
PRA, North East England



Litter picking

One sunny afternoon in June four of us met up in Glossop armed with litter pickers, gloves, and bin bags to clean up our local town centre. We started at the Central Methodist Church, which is where we have our meetings. After tidying the church gardens and car park, we continued to the streets and the path by the river. Whilst 'doing our bit', several passers-by commented on our efforts at tidying up the town. We filled five bags with litter and, just over an hour later, we rewarded ourselves with coffee and cake.

Jean Garside, Pennine Division Trefoil Guild



Games challenge

Our County Challenges to celebrate 70 years of Trefoil on the Isle of Man included 'Play a card game', 'Play a board game' and 'Play Jenga'. We spent a very pleasant evening enjoying the games members brought and completing the challenges.

Heather Bellinger,
Eastern District Trefoil Guild



Climbing The O2

Whilst on a trip to London we fulfilled our ambition to climb the 50m-high O2 arena. The weather conditions were horrendous, with dark sky and torrential rain, but with determination we succeeded and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

Jean Garside, Pennine Division Trefoil Guild





Giant murals

As part of the Trefoil Guild Scotland Walking Festival, members from guilds all over Scotland met with Liz Howie to enjoy a walk around Glasgow, looking at many of the interesting murals for which the city has become famous. Pictured is one favourite called 'Honey... I Shrunk The Kids'.

Liz Howie, Kilwinning Trefoil Guild



Hug a tree

A group of four Trefoil Guild members who often walk together with Trefoil Ramblers, enjoyed a walk from Dalry to Blair as part of the Trefoil Guild Scotland Walking Festival – including a tree hug!

Mar Rae, Bishopton Trefoil Guild



Admiring the scenery

The first walk of our Scottish Walking Festival was a four-mile walk to Moulin, Perthshire. We added a bit further so that we could also view the Black Spout waterfall, and this detour was well worth the extra time needed. This was a beautiful walk with many scenic viewpoints – a great way to start the weekend!

Patrice Graham, PR Adviser Scotland



Making a splash

A warm summer's day saw members of Tenby Trefoil Guild paddling in the sea at the resort in Pembrokeshire, Wales.

Nicole Evans, Lower Landsker Trefoil Guild



Autumn ramble

We met up at Macaroni Wood in Cirencester, using Campwood House as our base, and went for a woodland walk.

Val Smith,
Corinium Trefoil Guild



A special gift

At a recent outdoor meeting, Londonderry City Trefoil Guild presented the county commissioner with the 'gift for all seasons' – a fast-pitch event shelter. The purpose of this gift is to assist leaders and encourage local units to enjoy the pleasures of outdoor guiding. The shelter is easily erected, quickly dismantled, sturdy and compact for easy storage. The guild members hope that those who use it enjoy many hours of fun under it! In order to raise the funds necessary for this gift, guild members collected clothes and textiles and received money for them through the local 'Cash for Clobber' clothes recycling scheme.

Rae McGowan,
Londonderry City
Trefoil Guild

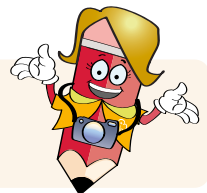


Croquet game

Members of Arfon Trefoil Guild and Llandudno Trefoil Guild enjoyed a game of croquet at Llanfairfechan & North Wales Croquet Club.

Wendy Moore,
Llandudno
and District
Trefoil Guild

Please email your photographs to thetrefoilmagazine@girlguiding.org.uk. All photographs of members throughout this issue were taken in accordance with Covid-19 guidance.





Horses for health and happiness

Focus on Riding for the Disabled Association

For more than 50 years, RDA (Riding for the Disabled Association) has been providing life-changing therapy, activity and fun to disabled children and adults through spending time with horses.

Across a UK-wide network of volunteer groups, the charity supports over 25,000 people each year.

RDA's activities include horse riding and carriage driving, holidays and education programmes, Hippotherapy (a specialist type of physiotherapy on horseback) and even Tea with a Pony, a new initiative to support adults living with dementia.

RDA groups provide a vital frontline service in their communities: tackling social isolation and creating a fun and welcoming environment to make friends and connect with others over the shared

love of horses. The impact of RDA's work is far-reaching. Riding and driving are great for improving core strength and stability – particularly important for those with mobility problems or muscle weakness.

Growing numbers of children with conditions such as autism are finding the confidence and space to thrive at their local RDA group. Connecting with animals encourages communication, empathy and relationship-building in an environment that is supportive, structured and fun.

Trefoil support

For the past two years, RDA has benefited from the support of Trefoil Guild. As part of RDA's 50th anniversary, Trefoil enabled the opening of the first



ever National Training Centre, which support's RDA's National and Regional Volunteers and Coaches. The Centre, opened in 2019 by RDA President, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, is now a thriving hub for learning and the sharing of expertise across the organisation.

Trefoil also sponsors one of the biggest classes at RDA's National Championships. The Countryside Challenge is hugely popular and encourages riders of all abilities to take part and compete. Styled on a walk in the countryside and the more traditional 'handy pony' competition, riders must overcome a series of fun obstacles and barriers while showing off their riding skills at the same time.

This year, The Championships were held virtually, and Trefoil's continued support has enabled the Countryside Challenge to be included, with riders filming their tests and entering online.

Adapting post-COVID

RDA and its member groups have embraced the need to adapt and innovate, to find new ways to bring the benefits of horses to communities, even when riding isn't possible. New initiatives such as Quiet Corners (which offers



New initiatives for well-being at RDA centres

quality time with a favourite pony to boost well-being) and Tea with a Pony are bringing new beneficiaries to centres and allowing existing participants to return to RDA at their own pace.

Looking to the future

None of RDA's life-enriching activities would be able to happen without the support of dedicated teams of volunteers and coaches – and more are always needed. With around 500 groups all over the UK, RDA offers a great opportunity for people with a bit of free time to do something that really makes a difference – and make friends and learn new skills along the way. Volunteering with RDA has been shown to boost confidence, help people stay active and improve mental health.

As RDA looks ahead to the next 10 years of enriching lives through horses, the support of organisations such as Trefoil – and the dedication of volunteers – will be vital to help more disabled people to benefit from the magical partnership of humans and horses.



Many find confidence and a space to thrive at RDA

For information about Riding for the Disabled Association visit rda.org.uk



Festive fun

Get in the Christmas spirit with some crafty makes from **Jenny Davies** to brighten up your home

Baubles decoration

Materials: A length of wood 2in wide by 1/4in thick. Sandpaper and glue. White acrylic paint. Permanent Sharpie pens in black, green and a colour of your choice for the baubles. Biodegradable glitter for your colour baubles. Ribbon to 'hang' baubles and decoration.

Instructions: Cut a 6in piece of wood, sand and give two coats of white acrylic paint to both sides and edges. Drill a hanging hole.

Draw branches as shown with black Sharpie, decide on the size of your baubles and draw them on. Fill these in with your coloured Sharpie and, when dry, cover in glue and fill with glitter. When dry, shake off surplus glitter and check the bauble is covered. Mark the top hanger on the baubles and make a straight line of glue to stick a thin piece of ribbon from bauble to branches. Do the same on the other side and enjoy!



Knitted snowman

Materials: White dk wool, 4ply for hat and scarf in your colour choice. 2.75 needles, stuffing, black thread for face markings. Small pompom for nose, larger pompom for hat.

Snowman body and head:

Cast on 10

stitches with white wool.

Row 1: Purl. Row 2: Knit into front and

back of all stitches (20). Row 3-11:

Stocking st. Row 12: Knit 2 tog to end

(10). Neck shape. Row 13: Purl. Row 14:

Knit front and back of st to the end (20).

Row 15-23: Stocking st. Row 24: Knit 2 tog

to end (10). Break off wool thread through stitches, pull up tight and fasten off.

Hat: Cast on 22 stitches. Row 1-8:

Stocking st. Row 9: K1 (k2 tog k1) to end (15). Row 10-12: Stocking st. Row 13: K2

tog to last st, k1. Break off wool, thread through stitches, pull tight and fasten off.

Scarf: Cast on 3 sts, knit for 4in, fasten off.

To make up snowman: Sew up body leaving space to stuff. Stuff head and body and complete sewing up. Using double wool, stitch and gather at neck fasten off tightly. Sew hat seam, attach to head. Mark face details. Tie scarf around neck.





Winter celebrations quiz

You may need to research some of the answers to this quiz. When you've worked out the answer enter the first letter in the grid below.

1. This East Sussex town holds the largest 5 November celebrations in the world.
2. Peru celebrates its winter solstice on 22 June. What is the festival called?
3. A modern festival celebrating African-American culture uses seven candles of green, black and red. What is it called?
4. This tradition in cider-producing counties of England blesses the orchards with songs and libations. Name it.
5. From 22 to 25 February, the largest cattle fair takes place in Rajasthan, India. What is it called?
6. Name the Festival of Lights for Hindus.
7. In this East Devon town, residents carry flaming barrels through the streets on 5 November.
8. New Year in Lerwick on the Shetland Isles sees the Festival of Up-Helly-___. Which short word completes the phrase?
9. The Christmas or Easter folk play in England is performed by mummers or ___ers?
10. What is the name of the month of daylight fasting undertaken by Muslims in the 9th month of their calendar?
11. In China, the winter solstice celebrates the return of balance of light and dark (yin and yang). People eat tangyuan – rice balls cooked in syrup or deep fried. What do they call the festival?
12. This traditional Persian festival marks the winter solstice in Iran. Families gather to eat and read poetry. Pomegranates and watermelons signify the red of dawn. What is its name?
13. This Swiss festival takes place over 21 to 23 February in the Lötschental, where fur-covered monsters roam the land.
14. In Catemaco, Mexico, powerful shaman offer spells and incantations on Noche de Brujas, but what does it mean?
15. What is the name of the Jewish Festival of light which celebrates the recovery of Jerusalem from the Seleucid Empire?
16. Eid al-Fitr – which religion celebrates this holiday?

4	7	10	1	6	13	15	2	14	3	16	5	9	11	8	12

Answers will be in the March 2022 issue of *The Trefoil* and on the website from 7 January 2022



Achievements

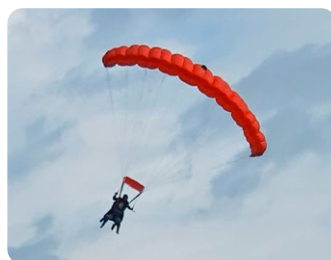


Medal for Pam

Dr Pamela Fisher of Rhee Trefoil Guild was presented with a British Empire Medal (BEM) by the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, Julie Spence, in recognition of the service Pam has given to the community, including to guiding. Pam began as a Brownie and went on to become a leader, held a camper's licence, founded a Ranger unit, was district and division commissioner, joined Trefoil Guild, was appointed county chair and then Anglia Trefoil Guild chair.

Mighty hikers

Judy Jones of Chepstow Trefoil Guild together with three friends whose lives had all been touched by cancer, decided to fundraise for Macmillan by doing the Gower Peninsula's Mighty Hike. She and her friends are 'four women of a certain age' – three with a 70th birthday this year and Judy with a 79th. They all enjoy walking, but this was a half marathon, so they did plenty of training. On the day, two of them had to contend with dodgy feet and needed plenty of padding and a change of socks halfway through and another had problems with the sun and felt sick and faint towards the end. But they did it – in a very creditable six hours – and as a team they have raised almost £3,000.



Charity skydive

Sandy Plowright of Cowes Trefoil Guild and her whole family literally took the plunge and did a skydive to raise funds for a charity-run school on the Isle of Wight. They raised more than £1,800. Afterwards, Sandy said, "Never did I think I would throw myself out of a plane 10,000 feet in the air at the age of 71!"



Have you received an award, or do you know someone who has?
Send the details and a photo to *The Trefoil*. Contact details on page 2.



An away day in... Llandudno

We have the lowdown on how to spend your free time in Llandudno, North Wales, the location of next year's Annual Meeting

Known as the Queen of Welsh Resorts, you could easily spend at least two weeks here and not do anything twice. The **Pier** is the longest in Wales and you will find many small shops to view on an enjoyable stroll along its 2,295ft length.

Amongst the cliffs above are the **Happy Valley Gardens**, and, if you feel energetic, you may want to try the dry ski slope and the toboggan run at the **Snowsports Centre** that can be accessed from there.

Also from Happy Valley you can take the cable car to the complex on top of the **Great Orme Country Park**. The **Great Orme Tramway** from Victoria Station will also take you to the complex, or you can visit the **Great Orme Bronze Age Copper Mines** halfway up. You may even see the goats that became famous for wandering around the town during lockdown.

For those who don't want, or are unable, to walk, a hop on, hop off bus will take you along the Promenade and to Conwy along an interesting route.

In the town there are coffee shops and numerous restaurants serving a variety of food. You might want to try the **Llandudno**



There's plenty to see and do in Llandudno

Chocolate Experience (where you get free samples!) and the **Home Front Museum**, dedicated to World War II. You could 'follow the White Rabbit' on the **Alice in Wonderland Town Trail**, which starts at the Tourist Information Centre.

Walking along the front at **West Shore** is very enjoyable – and you could even go for a chilly but invigorating dip!

If you want to go further afield, there is the **RSPB sanctuary** at Llandudno Junction, or travel to **Conwy** where you can visit the castle, walk around the walls and go to the harbour where you can see the smallest house in Great Britain, also known as the **Quay House**.

There is a huge variety to keep you entertained in Llandudno.

Order your Annual Meeting 2022 tickets overleaf



Annual Meeting

Trefoil Guild Annual Meeting

Saturday 25 June 2022 in Llandudno
– order your tickets today!

**Join us on Saturday 25 June 2022 at
Venue Cymru in Llandudno for the
2022 Annual Meeting.**

**Venue Cymru, Promenade, Llandudno,
LL30 1BB / Venue Cymru, Y Promenad,
Llandudno, LL30 1BB**

The doors will open at 11.30am for you
to view stalls and meet with Trefoil
friends. The Annual Meeting will
commence at 2pm.

The ticket price includes a badge, which
will be provided at the event.

Family and friends who are not Trefoil
members are welcome to join us for the
evening entertainment.

Please order your tickets directly from
Trefoil Guild either online via the website
trefoilguild.co.uk/Events OR by using the
form opposite.

**Tickets are £7 per person and are
non-refundable.**

If you have booked travel with Greatdays,
please book your tickets directly through
Trefoil Guild.

**Saturday evening entertainment –
A Taste of Wales**

**Venue Cymru, Promenade,
Llandudno, LL30 1BB / Venue Cymru,
Y Promenad, Llandudno, LL30 1BB**

You are invited to the evening
entertainment: A Taste of Wales.

Doors open at 6.30pm and the
entertainment will commence at
7pm ending at 9.30pm.

**Tickets are £12 per person and are
non-refundable.**

Admittance to both events is strictly
by ticket only.

Please order directly from Trefoil by
visiting trefoilguild.co.uk/Events, or
using the application form on the
opposite page.





Ticket order form

TREFOIL GUILD ANNUAL MEETING JUNE 2022

RETURN TO: Trefoil Guild 17-19 Buckingham
Palace Road, London, SW1W 0PT

EMAIL ADDRESS FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

NAME: _____

MEMBERSHIP NUMBER: TO _____

GUILD: _____

If you are travelling with Greatdays, please tick to say you consent to us sharing your contact information with Greatdays so that they are able to organise travel to and from the Annual Meeting: I consent ☐

Which hotel are you staying at?

Let us know below if you have any health issues, dietary or disability requirements regarding your booking. Please let us know if you or anyone in your group will need wheelchair access during the event.

If you are ordering tickets for a group, please include payment for postage as detailed and attach a full list of names of all members in the group.

ANNUAL MEETING – SATURDAY 25 JUNE 2022

I would like _____ non-refundable tickets
at £7. **TOTAL: £** _____

EVENING ENTERTAINMENT – SATURDAY 25 JUNE 2022

I would like _____ non-refundable tickets
at £12. **TOTAL: £** _____

POSTAGE AND PACKAGING FOR TICKETS

Please add the amounts shown below to your total payable. Packaging will be provided:

Orders of 1-10 tickets: add £1

Orders of 11-20 tickets: add £2

Orders of 21 tickets or more: add £3

TOTAL AMOUNT payable (tickets and p&p):
£ _____

I HAVE MADE PAYMENT BY:

☐ **BANK TRANSFER:** THE TREFOIL GUILD, ACCOUNT
NO 20344898 SORT CODE 608301. PLEASE USE YOUR
MEMBERSHIP NUMBER FOLLOWED BY AM AS A
REFERENCE WHEN MAKING THE PAYMENT.

☐ **CHEQUE:** PAYABLE TO TREFOIL GUILD AND SENT
TO: TREFOIL GUILD 17-19 BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD,
LONDON, SW1W 0PT

WHO ARE YOU BOOKING FOR?

If booking for more than one person, please include a list of who they are with their name, guild, and – if possible – their membership number, on a separate sheet if necessary.



Fun, friendship and adventure

National Chair **Eileen Martin** invites members to help increase our numbers

When I was appointed as National Chair in 2019, my challenge to those at the Annual Meeting in Southport was to grow their guilds by one member every year. A number of guilds achieved this in the first year, and during lockdown, when we were holding our meetings virtually, this has continued.

A great question when we are trying to recruit is, "How did I come to join?" There are so many answers ranging from "I finished active guiding, a friend asked me to come along to a meeting, I saw your website and realised I could do something for me" to "There was a local recruitment campaign".

At the National Conference, I asked members how they had become involved. One told me that she had started as a division commissioner for Girlguiding but

wanted to do something for herself. Many of her fellow leaders enjoyed activities without the responsibility of the girls. She set up an initial meeting and

invited Rangers and leaders over 18, parents of Guides and Rangers, family and friends. From an initial 28 people numbers settled at 20.

Their first activity was sand art, because they had helped the girls do this and wanted the opportunity to try it. All sorts of activities followed and membership rose to

26 before Covid. Moving to online meetings, they adopted members until their own guilds began to meet again.

She suggests that we encourage new members with comments like, "Doing something for you", "Fun, friendship and adventure" and "Time to be the real you". She has certainly risen to my challenge.



Get involved and help to increase our numbers?

Our recruitment campaign begins in January 2022. This is a fresh start, so why not share the fun, friendship and activities with new people? There will be a recruitment video, leaflets and postcards, so contact your PR adviser who will be happy to help. We have a lovely new scarf to share our identity, and anyone 18 and over is welcome to join us.



World Thinking Day – reaching out our Trefoil hand

Maybe we should look closer to home as well as overseas for our next World Thinking Day, says
Sheran Oke, National International Adviser

Thinking Day has traditionally had an international focus, where we consider our guiding family across the world, re-ignite friendships and remember that we are part of a special family. I can still remember the shiny Thinking Day pennies my unit would collect and donate to WAGGGS' Thinking Day fund.

The past year has, for us all, been different – we have not been able to travel, our meetings with friends and loved ones have meant embracing new technology with Teams and Zoom meetings and we have been challenged to think and behave differently. For some, this has also highlighted and reinforced personal values and beliefs.

Being in lockdown has also given us the opportunity to consider things closer to home – the homeless in our town or city, the increased mental health issues that may affect our children and grandchildren who have not been able to attend school or meet up with their friends, as well as the neighbour who has become isolated

because they have not been able to meet with friends or get out as much as usual.

Recognising and reflecting on the above, we have seen an utter catastrophe evolve in Afghanistan, families having to leave their homes and loved ones for

a possible place on a plane with an unknown destination but,

hopefully, a better and safer future.

Even when these families do arrive in our towns and cities ready to start a new life in the UK, we cannot underestimate the

challenges they will face,

with our culture, our weather, a new language – just to name a few.

So that's why for World Thinking Day 2022, yes, we can still remember our international guiding family, but I ask that we consider 'reaching out our Trefoil hands' to our communities and see what we can do to support, help and demonstrate the power of Trefoil Guild.

So, how can we reach out our Trefoil hands? Overleaf are some ideas for action...





World Thinking Day 2022

Trefoil – Reach out!
Here are some ideas for you to consider...

Help refugees to
improve their English

Support
food banks

Organise a party
for refugee
children

Buy goats for a
school in Africa



Provide gloves
and hats for
the homeless

Give a gift to a local
Chinese family on
their New Year

Include women from
ethnic minorities in
your Thinking Day
celebration



Ask young people to come to talk to your guild about the urgent environmental issues in the world

Invite a speaker from a homeless/ refugee charity. How can you help?

Find out about grocery gift cards

Support the Thinking Day Fund

Send virtual Thinking Day greetings to a WAGGGS member organisation or World Centre

£3 buys the contents of a basic care package for the homeless. How many can your guild make and distribute?

Contact and support a WAGGGS member organisation that has suffered a national disaster



Turn over to meet 'Scary' Mary and her friends around the world



Friends around the world

Despite her nickname, ‘Scary’ Mary does all she can to help people from across the globe and encourages fellow guild members to do the same, says **Frances Parrett**

Affectionately called Scary Mary by friends and family, Mary Grey of Chew Valley Trefoil Guild is far from scary! She is a people-person who loves to talk to others and to help them if she can. She is also passionate about finding out about their customs, culture and food. Many years ago she learned how to teach English as a foreign language and the links she formed then have led to her love of getting to know people from other lands. She makes

friends and then keeps them. She is ‘grandma’ to Turkish, Syrian, Polish and Ukrainian women living in the UK.

Mary attributes her outward-looking way of life to her own history – she was

adopted and went on to be an orthopaedic nurse and a school assistant, and has several disabled family members, including her husband, her daughter and now a grandson. She is insistent that everything she organises has to be fully inclusive.

As a recent addition to

Trefoil, Mary says becoming a member felt like she had come home; she re-found the sisterhood of guiding that she remembered so fondly from her childhood. In her new role as Trefoil county International Adviser, she is pro-active! First she encouraged guilds to start linking up across the world – and within the UK. She herself has friends all over the world (like the Russian lady she writes to nearly every day), and many of





her friends were delighted to become pen pals with Trefoil friends in the UK.

Mary's next challenge for the county was to encourage Trefoil members to make wallets (pictured far left) that could be given to refugees and homeless people; they contain small vital and pretty objects that every person would find useful – sticky tape, scissors, screwdriver, nail file and varnish, pen and notebook, ribbons and tissues etc. They are for people who have just run away to safety without packing anything to take with them.

Currently, she is asking county members to find their old, no longer worn glasses, because they can go to Africa and be adapted to help. She believes that each new project needs to be time-limited so it stays fresh, and people who kindly donate are being given a fresh challenge.

I asked her what kind of project she would suggest for Afghans coming to England right now, and she immediately said, "These people are well educated and intelligent and they could be bringing bright children who will be missing their toys and other possessions." She

suggested that a small home-made drawstring Christmas sack could be filled with things for the children to do and play – but no food, because they will be Muslims and so cannot eat lots of things we would eat, but everyone in the world celebrates a winter festival of some sort.

I asked her how she would communicate with Afghans whose knowledge of English could be small. "I always carry a photo of my family with me – and even though I cannot speak a word of their language, I can find out about their families. Taking an interest in who they are is a starting point to grow from."

Mary says she is 'under the radar' but she has a lot of respect for the many charities who do wonderful work to help homeless people, refugees and vulnerable people. She mentioned particularly Womankind Bristol and her volunteer work for them, befriending a young Chinese woman who was brought to England 'as a wife', but then found herself in an unspeakable situation.

I learnt a lot from talking to Mary – what an inspiration she is to us all!



Subscriptions 2022

Here's a quick refresher on how and when to pay your subscriptions for next year

We know that, by now, lots of members will be used to the annual subscriptions process and the different ways to renew your membership, but it's always helpful to have a refresher as we come to the renewal period for 2022. And to all new guilds and new members that started this year – welcome! Whether a continuing or new member, please read on for more information on how to renew your membership for the forthcoming year.

The procedure remains the same as in previous years and if you need step by step instructions (with handy images) these are available on the Trefoil website trefoilguild.co.uk/subscriptions. As well as the timetable opposite, we will be publishing reminders on our website and social media, so make sure you're following us on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook for updates. To see how your subscriptions contribute to Trefoil income, you can check out the Financial Report in the September issue of The Trefoil.

In November, your guild treasurer (or relevant guild contact) received an email which included the following info:

- the national rate for the 2022 annual subscription fees is £16
- your country or region and county levy information (also available from your executive team)
- a list of members due to renew and

their membership numbers ready for the payment window. Remember, the payment window is every year from 3 January and closes on 22 February (World Thinking Day).

If you are a treasurer and have not received this email, please email the office at trefoilguild@girlguiding.org.uk to request a replacement subscriptions email.

How to pay:

As agreed by the Trustees, there are two ways of paying subscriptions, online or by cheque. For those able to pay online using a credit or debit card, you can pay securely via the Trefoil Guild website. The whole guild must pay the same way:





A: either each member logs into their account and pays individually,

B: or one member (such as the guild treasurer) collects the subscriptions for all members and then logs into their account and pays for all the members in the guild.

This way of paying is straightforward and stress-free, with more members choosing to pay this way each year. Just like going shopping you add the membership(s) to your virtual basket and go through an online checkout. The payments are secure; when the transaction is successful your membership is instantly renewed and a receipt is emailed to you. This



2022 SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYMENT TIMELINE

November	3 January	22 February	May
			
Guild treasurers received email with a membership list, rates and information.	Payment window opens. Guilds can pay in two ways: online (as a guild or individually), or by guild cheque and form in the post.	Payment window closes. All guilds must pay by this time.	Guild treasurers receive follow-up email confirming who has paid.

is the fastest and safest way to pay and avoids having to rely on postal services or unexpected disruptions in our day-to-day lives.

For members or guilds who are unable to pay online, you can instead pay by one cheque for the whole guild, for the full amount, accompanied by a Guild Bulk Subscription Payment Form. This form is updated annually, so please ensure you are using the 2022 version. It can be downloaded from our website and was included as an attachment to the email sent to guild treasurers in November.

Please ensure you fill in the form fully

and read all the information carefully – particularly regarding sending in cheques. Incorrectly filled out cheques can incur costs charged by the bank. Time spent following up with guilds causes delays to the repayments for your regions, countries, and counties.

We know there may be membership changes over the year. You can keep us up to date with transfers or deaths by emailing trefoilguild@girlguiding.org.uk. To update your own contact details or obtain your membership number, you can call the dedicated membership helpline on **0151 668 0493**.

If in doubt about how your guild is paying subscriptions for 2022, please check with your treasurer, chair, or secretary. Please check the website for more information and answers to FAQs: trefoilguild.co.uk/subscriptions.

Your letters

Find out what other Trefoil members have on their minds

Cows around Cambridge

Members of Burwell Trefoil Guild recently followed the Cows about Cambridge trail. We visited over 60 cows and 'mini moos'. The cows were designed by artists and sponsored by businesses, and they were auctioned in September in aid of 'Break', a local children's charity. The mini moos were created by schools and community groups around Cambridgeshire and will be returned to those organisations. The cows and mini moos were exhibited along the streets of Cambridge.

All the cows and mini moos were different, and some were very spectacular, with views of Cambridge.

Girlguiding Cambridgeshire East also created a mini moo called 'Girls can do anything!' which was displayed in the Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences.

We finished our walk with a well-deserved gelato ice cream.

Linda Larner, Burwell Trefoil Guild



Discovering Alcester

Members of the George Elliot Trefoil Guild, based in Nuneaton, Warwickshire, took advantage of the good weather and collaborated in an organised Town Trail within the heart of Alcester, around 37 miles from Nuneaton – a place that was completely new for some members and a lovely reminder of the beautiful town for others.

The Town Trail introduced members to some of the many points of interest the town had to offer. As facts and knowledge of the town were found, members recorded the information and got to know some interesting information about the history and heritage of Alcester. Along

the way the members were exposed to some beautiful gardens and buildings that stood out with their unique castle-like architecture and pretty pastel colours. One member even commented that, "I would never have come here if it wasn't for coming with the Trefoil group."

After completing the town trail and enjoying being back outdoors again, guild members headed off to enjoy a well-earned, socially distanced afternoon tea, where they continued chatting and shared the answers collected. There was only one question we could not agree on and that is, what goes on the scone first – the jam or the cream?

Rachel Yorke, George Elliot Trefoil Guild



Forever friends

My friendship with Eunice Jones started in 1999.

I travelled to Canada on the first overseas trip organised for Trefoil Guild by Venture Abroad. Due to a flight delay I arrived five hours late, went up to my room, opened the door and was met by this nice lady, who said, "Hello, the kettle is on if you want

a cup of tea, we will talk in the morning." And we have been talking ever since!

A firm friendship was formed, but as Eunice lives in Cheadle Hume and I am in Chepstow, South Wales we are unable to meet often, but we keep in touch regularly by telephone. She has been to stay with me in Chepstow and I have visited her in my caravan

when I have been up in her area. Eunice was a brownie leader and is now a member of Bramhall Trefoil Guild whilst I am a member of Chepstow Trefoil Guild in Gwent.

Through the Trefoil Guild we have been friends for 22 years. Long may our friendship continue.

Grace Birbeck,
Chepstow Trefoil Guild

Sensory garden

Inspired by May's 'Rise to the Challenge' shared by Trefoil Guild Scotland, Kelvin Trefoil Guild approached Kelvinbank Resource Centre (KRC) with an offer to create a sensory garden for them.

The centre caters for disabled service users (their term) in East Dunbartonshire. Their grounds are huge, and with lockdown and having been closed for most of that time, it was very overgrown. We chose a small area to the side of the main building.

Based on the visitors' needs,

everything was placed in pots. We weeded and prepared the area with advice from a local garden centre, which also donated damaged bags of bark and compost to aid in our project. We used pallets to add a bit of height to make it easier to get to the plants to touch and feel them, with lots of tactile and fragrant plants and a water feature.

Our guild spent many Friday afternoons working together to achieve our goal. We also intend to visit once a month for general maintenance, and to plant bulbs soon.

We are quite proud of what we have accomplished and it's been a while since we did anything so adventurous, as we are a small group with only about 12 members. All activities were done under the Covid rules at the time.

Maxine Gow,
Kelvin Trefoil Guild



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





Wonderful Walking Festival

From waterfalls and wildlife to Olympic rings and cream teas, members trekked over hill and dale and had a great time in Shropshire

They came from across the United Kingdom, gathering at Coalport Youth Hostel. More than 80 members walked the hills and valleys of Shropshire in golden autumn weather as part of the second National Trefoil Guild Walking Festival. Here are some photographs and feedback from those enjoyable few days...



Coalport Youth Hostel. Photo: Andrew Philipson

Challenging achievement

Three days walking = 64,403 steps. Perfect weather = no need for coat or waterproofs. Amazing scenery = best walk up the Long Mynd from Carding Mill Valley to Pole Bank and the Lightspout Waterfall in Shropshire. Challenging at times, but what an achievement. Great company, as expected being with Trefoil members. When is the next one?

Hilary Thompson, London Walkers and Talkers Guild



Lightspout Waterfall track, Long Mynd. Photo: Hilary Thompson



Walking over hill, dale and... bridge!



One group clearly having a marvellous time

Glorious mud!

Much Wenlock to Ironbridge, Tuesday, 12 October 2021. Walk 6. A pleasant walk from Much Wenlock, the birthplace of the modern Olympics, through muddy fields (right) and tree-lined paths to Ironbridge, the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution. Lunch with a randy ram and ewes behind us, and placid cows relaxing in the field before us. Finished with a lovely cream tea in Ironbridge.



Ploughing through bracken

Carding Mill and Lightspout Waterfall, Wednesday, 13 October 2021. A walk of varied scenery, from lush green valleys to wide open moorland. On our return from Pole Bank, we were a bit 'off-piste' and ploughed through bracken, over boggy ground, down a slippery slope to rest among the stony outcrop at the top of the Lightspout Waterfall. The descent to the foot of the falls was challenging, but team spirit saw us all safely down. The walk finished with gorgeous views.

Crossing the Olympic trail

Thursday, 14 October 2021. We crossed bits of the Olympic trail as we started the climb to the Edge through fields and along tree-lined paths. We passed an old kiln and an old quarry as we headed back to Much Wenlock along the Jack Mytton Way before heading for the nearest tea room and a look around the museum and town. Another great Trefoil Guild walking holiday nearly at its end... but not before the wonderful after-dinner Murder Mystery entertainment from the hard-working leaders – a big thanks to them all.



Words by Karen Macintyre, Appleton and District Trefoil Guild Photos by Beryl Paddison



Listen, learn, lead

Exciting ideas and forward thinking came out of this year's National Conference, reveals national Chair **Eileen Martin**

After lots of planning and preparation, 140 members and our staff from all over the UK gathered at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, for our Trefoil Guild National Conference in October. Our programme for the weekend was based on 'Listen, Learn, Lead' and our amazing facilitators were Denise and Libby Spence.

After dinner on Friday we gathered for a welcome and introduction to Denise and Libby, followed by our first session, Listen, a great opportunity for country and region teams to get to know one another.

After breakfast on Saturday, we moved on to Learn, using a mix of small groups and country and region teams. During an Open Space session, members could pitch ideas important to them that they would like to discuss. These were grouped and discussed after lunch, with people

free to attend whichever session appealed to them. Great discussions were held and lots of ideas shared. Saturday evening was a relaxing dinner followed by the Easy-Peasy Quiz.

Following breakfast on Sunday, a crossword challenge highlighted words that are important to Trefoil. They were completed individually, but used to form new groups for further discussions.

Following coffee, our magazine editor, PR adviser, programme adviser, international adviser were given their 'Soapbox Moment'. Each told what they can offer, how they can support us all and, most importantly, how we can all 'Help Trefoil Grow'. Four great PowerPoint presentations highlighted each offer.

The Trefoil magazine belongs to all of us. It is our method of communicating with all



our members and we can all play our part, whether it is submitting articles, letters or photographs, being part of the readership panel, proofreading articles. We found out who is involved in the production of each magazine and who does what to ensure that it goes to print on time.

PR also belongs to all of us, and there were tips on how to write news articles, using the correct branding for flyers and leaflets and hints about how to take good quality, interesting photographs. Support is also provided for recruitment to gain new members. There are advisers in each country and region.

Programme and development works closely with country and region advisers to organise events such as the National Conference, The Gathering and annual meetings for advisers. They seek out exciting programme ideas to share that are diverse and support all members. They are responsible for the smooth running of the Voyage Awards and STARS Challenge.

International is not just about trips abroad. They have been promoting international at home, including the virtual activities at all the World Centres, encouraging members to take part. They organise TRIO events and TOPAZ trips

and are looking forward to being able to reintroduce these whenever it is safe to do so. We were reminded that International ‘Energises, empowers and influences’, securing our future.

Our morning finished with a reflection on ‘Why I belong’, a thought-provoking time. Before leaving, we were all asked to write down on postcards something that we would do as a result of the conference and we are all looking forward to receiving these through the post later on to make sure we have done what we have said.

There was a great buzz throughout the conference, the first time so many

of us had been able to get together for more than

18 months, and we

are looking forward to moving Trefoil forward together.

Look out for new ideas and initiatives both nationally and in your countries and regions.



The Conference Task and Finish group

“There was a great buzz throughout the conference and we are looking forward to moving Trefoil forward together”



Meet a guild

From little Acorns has grown a thriving, busy, fun-loving guild, finds **Frances Parrett**

Eleven years ago, a new Trefoil group told us that their Ranger unit was now a Trefoil Guild, had linked with Guide leaders in Gibraltar, and were enjoying many new opportunities. Now, The Acorn Guild (TAG), mostly in their thirties, are still having brilliant adventures.

TAG members are a real mix of Brownie, Guide and Ranger leaders and one district commissioner. They also hold down responsible jobs like police sergeant, sexual health nurse, burns unit nurse, teacher and engineer – to name a few; they *need* Trefoil for relaxation!

Trips to Gibraltar, Lapland, Peru, Canada and Uganda have kept them busy and together they took on the role of Trefoil County International Adviser, provided an international pack for each guild... and organised visits to Christmas markets.

Eleven years ago they told of their mission to explore different restaurants in

the county, and food continues to be a 'thing' for them, holding 'Bake-Offs' as well as pancake evenings.

Members have enjoyed scuba diving, escape rooms, Topgolf, geocaching, nuclear races, cocktail nights, a formal ball, pottery painting, boozy bingo and a Peaky Blinders detective day. They also raise money for charities and support local Girlguiding events – the firework display and beer festival involves their face painting skills.

Josie told me, "TAG allows us to regularly meet with friends and like-minded people and do something for ourselves – we all do lots for other people. Our WhatsApp group is a great support where we can chat about work, guiding, family, important issues or exciting news. We are there for one another to celebrate, commiserate or simply agree that yes, that is a *HUGE* spider invading your house!"



TAG members enjoying a Christmas decoration



At a *Friends*-fest in the park



The last laugh

Just when you least expect us, Trefoil Guild is there...

After receiving entries which varied from intricate doodles to detailed cartoons, we are delighted to announce that the winner of the inaugural Trefoil Guild cartoon competition is Glenys Samson of Ynys Môn Trefoil Guild. Glenys's prize is to have her cartoon published in *The Trefoil*, and you can see it here.



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 2022 issue is 19 December 2021

Cine-Slides-Video 2 DVD



Have all your treasured memories transferred to disc

- VHS & camcorder tapes copied to DVD
- 35mm slides, negatives & prints scanned and saved on DVD
- 8mm & 16mm cine films converted to DVD

Contact **Michael** on: **01708 735810**

Email: michael@slides2disk.co.uk

web: www.slides2disk.co.uk

Thank YOU...to The Trefoil Guild



GUIDING FOR ADULTS
Trefoil Guild

RDA



Riding for the Disabled Association
Incorporating Carriage Driving

Classified

Blackland Farm, Sussex • Foxlease, New Forest • Glenbrook, Peak District
• ICANDO, central London • Waddow Hall, Lancashire

Spend quality time with your guild at our centres in 2022.

- Comfy accommodation
- A variety of dining options
- Stunning scenery
- Meeting room and marquee hire
- Adventurous activities
- Venues steeped in guiding history.



girlguidingactivitycentres.org.uk
activitycentres@girlguiding.org.uk

Activity Centres



WE DISCOVER, WE GROW

Girlguiding

Registered charity number 306016

If you are attending the AGM in June 2022 then we have Pre and Post tour options to add to your trip

SOUTH WALES

4 DAY PRE TOUR - 21 JUNE 2022



FROM
£395
PER
PERSON

ABTA bonding • 3 nights dinner, bed & breakfast • Portage • Cardiff • Wales Millennium Centre • Cardiff Bay • St Fagans National History Museum • The Royal Mint Experience • Caerphilly Castle • Ludlow

Price based on minimum 40 persons. Single room supplement £90.

MID WALES

5 DAY POST TOUR - 27 JUNE 2022



FROM
£520
PER
PERSON

ABTA bonding • 4 nights dinner, bed & breakfast • Portage • Hay-on-Wye • Brecon Canal Cruise • Brecon Cathedral • Victorian Cliff Railway • Vale of Rheidol Railway • Aberystwyth • Elan Valley • Judges Lodging

Price based on minimum 40 persons. Single room supplement £80.



Book online at www.greatdays.co.uk/trefoil-guild or contact Claire for an information pack on 0161 928 3242 or email sales@greatdays.co.uk
(please leave details if out of office hours)

greatdays
HOLIDAYS

Foxlease 100

In 2022 Foxlease is celebrating its centenary year - an amazing 100 years since the site was donated to Girlguiding. To commemorate, we're putting on a number of exciting events and we'd love for you to join us.

Centenary Camp Celebrations

30 May - 4 June 2022

Enjoy lots of adventurous and special centenary activities to celebrate our history. Volunteering opportunities available.

£199

Centenary Picnic

17 - 18 September 2022

Join us at Foxlease for a big celebratory 100th birthday picnic! Meet friends old and new and mark this very special occasion. If you can't be with us in person, why not join with members in other parts of the country and around the world?

Hosted at all Girlguiding Activity Centres
Free event

Heritage Week

12 - 18 November 2022

A week for adults looking into the heritage of Foxlease and celebrating our rich history. Enjoy a centenary celebration meal at the same time.

Single £420
Shared £378

About Foxlease Activity Centre

Set in 65 acres of beautiful land near Lyndhurst in Hampshire, we have everything from a beautiful Georgian manor house to a range of adventurous activities. If you want to stay for a weekend or longer, we have great accommodation options. There's self-catering lodges, beautiful campsites, or spend your nights in the manor house.

More info and how to book:
girlguidingactivitycentres.org.uk/foxlease/100years

All events will be run according to the latest Covid-19 guidelines. We guarantee a transfer or your money back if we have to cancel.



Registered charity number 306016.