

# Welcome to South West England Christmas 2022 e-news



**We wish all our Trefoil members, and Girlguiding friends and supporters,  
a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy & Happy 2023**

A message from Hilary, our Region Chair.

The year is drawing to an end and my goodness it has been a fantastic one as Trefoil in South West England truly got back on its feet. The pandemic and lockdowns did not stop us but once freedom came so did all those gatherings, outings and activities.

I have travelled around the region meeting so many of you at your Annual Meetings or county or island events and it has been wonderful to hear that chatter again and see all the smiling faces. Finally Trefari took place and the regions, zoos and wildlife parks didn't know quite what had happened as we turned up on their doorsteps to have a fabulous time. After our Annual Meeting in Reading our speaker, Barry Stringer, commented on how impressed he was with the day and our amazing organization.

So we look forward to another great year in 2023 with so much on offer from 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations to our WOW dabbles and much more in between. Keep having fun, getting active and involved whilst looking after established friendships and encouraging new friends to join us.

A very happy and peaceful Christmas to you all and see you in the New Year.

**Hilary**



## News from around the region

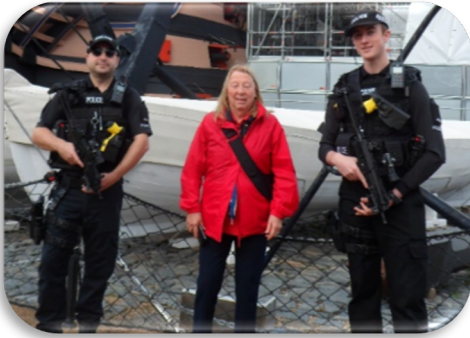
**Dorset** Trefoil has just spent 4 nights at Foxlease Guiding Activity Centre to celebrate the centre's centenary. 14 members from across the county plus 3 from Devon took part and what fun was had!

The 65 acres of lovely grounds provided many opportunities to stroll and the New Forest is just through several gates for people wanting to go further afield. Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, which was visited, has Nelson's ship, The Victory, and Henry VIII's Mary Rose,.

Sarah, County Chair, provided several interesting crafts for those wishing to do them, including printing bags, clay work, marbling, making crackers, & decoupage - covering notebooks and plastic glasses.

The food was excellent and everyone must have arrived home several pounds heavier. It was great staying at Foxlease again with happy past memories of camps, pack holidays, and trainings. Dorset members just enjoyed relaxing with Trefoil members from other parts of the County.





above left: Girlguiding's much-loved Training & Activity Centre, Foxlease, in the New Forest.

above right: Jenny, Angela, Benny, Sue, Heather, Brenda & Sarah at Portsmouth Historic Dockyard

above left: 'Whoops, I wasn't really in trouble', says Marjorie.

above right: After lunch - or was it dinner?



As part of a Jubilee Challenge, Portsmouth South Guild,

**Hampshire East**, sent a Jubilee Birthday card to the Queen. After some discussion on which places in Portsmouth they considered important, both to them and to the City, photos were taken and used to decorate the front and back of the card.

Inside, along with the guild members' signatures, was a semaphore message in recognition of Her Majesty's time as a Sea Ranger.

*Can you work out what the message said?*





**Bristol and South Gloucestershire TG** held a very successful craft morning followed after lunch by the AGM. It was great to meet and catch up with old friends.



Bristol West had a go at Christmas table arrangements at one of their recent meetings. They were all beautiful in their own way.



**Somerset North** held a 'Soup & Pud' lunch which raised £115 in a raffle for Ukraine. Tasty soup and yummy puddings were enjoyed by 60 members and they had a quiz as well. No time for photos as the photographer was too busy eating and chatting!



Ammonites enjoyed visiting Whitehall Garden Centre near Bristol. It was GORGEOUS! Garden centres are looking so sparkly at the moment and they make a lovely meeting place for Trefoil members as you can tell from the photo!



In **Cornwall**, Gribbin Trefoil member Ros Adams had a challenge when she taught the other Guild members everyone produced a wonderful display of Poinsettias and Christmas Roses.



St Austell members try their hand at willow weaving



## News from **Gloucestershire:**

Trefoil members from around the County came together for their Annual Meeting in July at Deer Park, the County Girlguiding Activity Centre. After the business part of the afternoon meeting, we took the opportunity to thank our Previous County Chair, Linda Raggett, for all her effort and support, holding the county together. Linda was presented with a garden voucher and a photograph album of her five years as Chair. Then the fun began. The county had renovated the Boules pitch and this was the first chance since the pandemic that they had a chance to use it. Nine guilds competed against each other for the County Cup! Nailsworth and Minchinhampton won!

We challenged two of our Trefoil guests, Hilary and Sarah, to play Boules against our Girlguiding Gloucestershire guests, Emma and Viv. Girlguiding had a slight advantage as they had played boules before so they won 2-1.



One sunny Autumn day county members enjoyed a lovely ramble around the town of Lechlade and along the River Thames on the edge of Gloucestershire



Corinium Guild enjoyed a weekend away in Devon



Double Gloucester  
Members try their  
hand at Floristry



For our October meeting our floristry skills (some nonexistent) were put to the test.

Ann Field, one of our members, with considerable experience in flower arranging, guided us through the intricacies of producing a small table decoration. She provided the oasis and containers plus cuttings from her garden together with chrysanthemums and gypsophila.

Although small the results showed us that with some patience and good guidance, we could actually produce a table decoration – a skill we can use for all occasions – maybe this Christmas!

The evening was a great success, and we went home proudly holding our “masterpieces”.



The guilds on the **Isle of Wight** have been moving towards indoor activities as the weather becomes cooler, but, over the past few months, we have been out and about enjoying the sunshine on our

beautiful Island. We have been exploring with the help of our free bus passes, and when this is not possible we make sure we travel by car sharing.

The photos show:

The whole Island Trefoil Garden Party in July. Island Trefoil Chairman, Carol Firth, on the right, on the left Guiding's Island commissioner, Linda Stone.

Also in July, Newport Guild members in the walled garden at Osborne House, Victoria and Albert's 'little cottage by the sea'.

A September visit by Newport Guild to the model village in Godshill.



Carol and Janice from Cowes Guild judging the Annual Guides cooking competition in July.



The sun shone for **Hampshire West**'s Skills Day this year in Princess Margaret Lodge at Foxlease. Members enjoyed a variety of activities - Outdoor Cooking -homemade soup, chocolate bananas with cream and sauce and fried butternut squash for starters- it all smelt heavenly! Cake decorating - cakes were delicious. Needle felting and sparkly Christmas Trees -pumpkins, owls, robins and snowmen, to name just a few of the creations. Tile pictures are very effective and not what you expect! Button Snowman, Christmas Trees and Father Christmas - fabulous tree decorations. Card making with Geraldine -beautiful designs. Christmas decorations -stunning Jigsaw Wreath and Jam jar lantern. STARS challenge with fires in colanders and S'mores, board games, friendship knot in a neckerchief, semaphore and a sing-song. Plus,



we had a birthday girl Joan, and Kezia was presented with a County award. Lots of laughter and chatting throughout the day. The day was a huge success!



Shepton Mallet, **Somerset**, met up with Glynis Wilson from Bangor, Northern Ireland, for coffee in Shepton Mallet with her sister who lives in Bruton. Glynis gets in touch whenever she is visiting her sister Jenny.



Sugar Craft with Cadbury Trefoil Guild



Maidenhead Trefoil, **Royal Berkshire**, enjoying a weekend on the Falcon Adam.





Jane & Hazel renewed their Promise to King Charles with our Chief Guide on Zoom. It was a very special few minutes with UK and World Guiding for them.

Beaminster Trefoil Guild let Jane join them at Beer Quarry Caves, East Devon. Jane says it was an amazing visit and experience.



# Congratulations

on the following achievements and successes

## VOYAGE AWARD RECIPIENTS 15<sup>th</sup> JULY to 19<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2022

### BRONZE

Dee Wynne-Morter	Bude	Cornwall
Lorna Miller	Clutton	Somerset North
Lena Richards	Liskeard	Cornwall
Nicola Durman	Exmouth	Devon
Victoria Burr	Bere Forest	Hampshire East



## **SILVER**

Rosalind Abbott	Dyrham	Bristol & South Gloucestershire
Gill Clare	Hayling Island	Hampshire East

## **GOLD**

Julie Ottley	2 <sup>nd</sup> Bath	Somerset North
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To mark the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee, hundreds of amazing volunteers across the UK were recognised for their awe-inspiring achievements. A call inviting the UK to nominate hero volunteers in their communities saw thousands of individuals aged from 16 to 101, who supported a range of causes, put forward.

From the nominations, 490 volunteers were hand-picked by a judging panel, presided over by Camilla, then The Duchess of Cornwall, and crowned Platinum Champions.



Huge congratulations to Jane Bingham and Sarah France who each received 1 of the only 490 Royal Voluntary Platinum Champion Awards. Each recipient gets a badge and certificate signed by Camilla, now Queen Consort.





Are you ready for **WOW**? Just a reminder that it starts in January.



We all have such fun in Trefoil so please share this e-news with your friends and other non-members so they too can -

get **active**, find **friendship**,  
give **support** and get **involved**

**Merry Christmas**