



County Commissioner's Report

I hope you are all keeping safe and well and enjoyed a lovely Easter break. It's lovely to see blue skies and beautiful flowers again, then maybe not so great to see the snow on the other side of the garden!

It is great to see so many units take up the offer of outdoor and now indoor guiding. I know this is still a very diverse situation and some unit teams are ready to meet, but venues are not. In other cases, brand new leaders are taking on existing units, or leaders have moved units to keep it going and it's great to see the continued passion for Guiding. It's a privilege to mention that Judith Smith has agreed to remain as County President for a further year, and Nicola Cox has agreed to work alongside me as Assistant County Commissioner to help with the return to guiding and the year ahead as we look to strengthen our county post Covid.

Congratulations and thank you to Christine Brooks, Marketing and Communication Advisor, who was announced as one of 50 "Radio Tees Make a Difference Stars" for all she has done for her units during Covid, and over the last 40 years. Christine thought she was on the radio to do an interview – SURPRISE!! Christine was speechless, and even in her initial reply was promoting Guiding!! This opportunity was very quickly followed up and Christine did get a radio slot the following Saturday morning to promote Guiding and did an excellent job too!

You may have been told that the role description for your role changed over the Easter holidays. We appreciate the below changes may take some getting used to, it's new to commissioner too. HQ are changing some roles, and others are down to commissioners so please bear with us!

These are the roles where the role description has been developed by HQ to ensure clarity within units:

Unit Supporting Members will be division/district supporting members.

Unit Treasurers will be known as unit administrators and along with unit administrators will require a DBS check.

Unit Occasional Helpers and **Unit Residential Occasional Helpers** will become Unit Helpers, will need to pay subscriptions, and complete Safe Space L2 and DBS.

Leaders, Assistant Leaders and **Leaders in Training** will hold the same role description. It is also advised that each member with this role description completes L3 at some point so that there will always be a leader available with L3 Safe Space. At the moment, it is mandatory that only one leader holds L3 Safe Space, however this leader must be present at the meeting.

It's certainly been a year of change!! From 16th March 2020, no-one could have anticipated the changes that the entire world would undertake – or the changes that meant for us in Guiding too – and for some of us that has meant a whole year of not seeing out units. As we slowly return to some form of normality, I want to again say a massive thank you for all working as a team to get Cleveland through this pandemic. I've seen division and district events on zoom, unit meetings, adult socials, meetings in an envelope, lots of challenges and lots of Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards earned by our young members – and that is all down to your weekly commitment whatever the circumstances! THANK YOU!

Best wishes

Val

Say hello to our Assistant County Commissioner

I just wanted to introduce myself and say hello as I take on the exciting role of Assistant County Commissioner. I have been involved in Guiding since I was seven years old and currently run a Brownie and Guide unit in Thornaby and have just finished a 3-year term as Division Commissioner for Tees West Division.

My role within the County will be supporting Val, the County team, and all the excellent work they have done/planned with also looking at growth and retention within the county and how we move forward after a very difficult year.

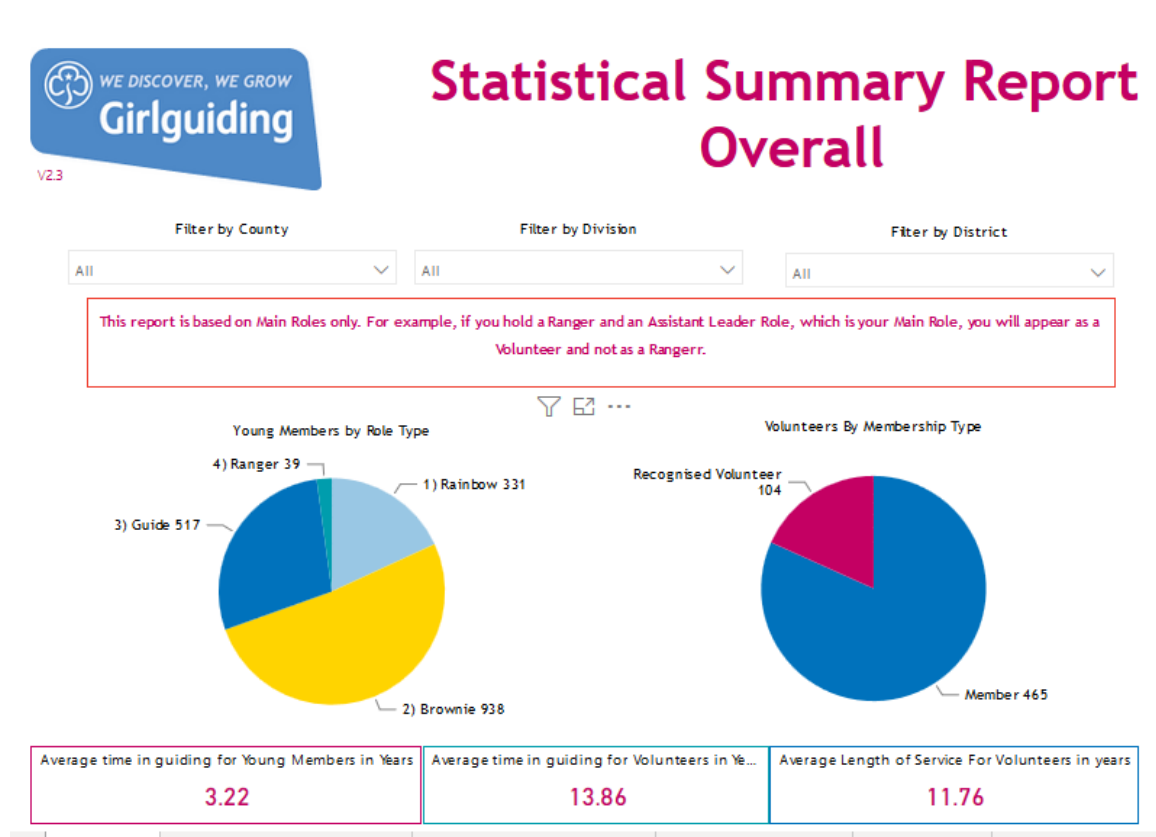
This will also include training, events, supporting and working with the County advisors and Co-ordinators and how we give thanks and recognition to all of our amazing volunteers within the County.

I look forward to meeting you either via Zoom or face to face.

Nicola

Latest Data from GO

Despite Covid, Girlguiding has remained strong in its foundations. This is the latest data from GO, and it is great to see our younger membership begin to grow as we slowly return back to face to face meetings.



Training

Safe Space Training

Safe space is renewable every 3 years. Please check your GO record to see when each part of your safe space is due to renew. Levels 1 and 2 are available online whilst level 3 is still currently being offered at region level. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-safe-space-level-3-tickets-133863995815>

First Aid Training

A further online training is available on 27th, 28th and 29th April 6-8pm (all 3 sessions must be attended), these are open to anyone needing to complete first aid training. You must also complete the online section on GO. The face to face element will be organised once Girlguiding allows face to face training to commence.

Save the Date

County training weekend at Waddow Hall 19th - 21st November. If anyone has any requests for training at this event please let me know.

Karen Lee
Training and Events Coordinator
karen.lee6950@gmail.com

Trefoil

Here we are at Easter time and still looking forward to meeting up again, but this time it looks as if we may be able to meet up again soon. With this in mind the County TG will be looking to what can be organised later in the year so we can see each other again and have a good old catch up!

NEE Trefoil Guild have continued to be busy and the Air Ambulance Challenge we launched in January has been popular with units. If you haven't looked at it to use with your unit it is on the NEE website and also Val sent it to you in January. Please see if you can use it with your units, especially if you are now meeting outdoors, it lends itself to a number of outdoor activities. As part of the fundraising Guilds have been taking part in a virtual balloon race, beginning on 4th April we can follow our balloons on a website and hope one of us wins the prizes that are on offer!

On a sad note we are upset to hear of the deaths of Dorothy Wheatley and Joan Bennison, our thoughts are with their families and we remember their commitment to Guiding and Trefoil Guild.

Sue Thompson
Cleveland County Trefoil Guild Chair

Training & Events

Application forms can be downloaded from our website

www.girlguiding-cleveland.co.uk

Please note it is usual to wear guide wear when attending a training event

1st Response Training

Virtual Training 27th, 28th, 29th April
Face-to-face – to be arranged

1st Response Training
Virtual, face-to-face and online
e-learning must all be completed

Online – suitable for all leaders

Safe Space Training

To complete the online Safe Space Level 1 and Level 2 please use the following links, and remember to fill in the questionnaire at the end and add in your membership number to add the record to your GO profile.

Level 1

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/making-guiding-happen/learning-and-development/a-safe-space-training/a-safe-space-level-1--an-introduction/>

Level 2

<https://training.girlguiding.org.uk/a-safe-space-module-2/#/menu/5c1b88888f2971c5fe4d881>

Level 3 – Region online training

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-safe-space-level-3-tickets-133863995815>

Save the Date

19th – 21st November 2021

Waddow Training Weekend



<https://www.facebook.com/GirlguidingCleveland>

Please like our page and encourage parents to do the same. We need local items to go on this page to show what Girlguiding Cleveland has been doing. This page is open to anyone to view, so please be mindful as to what photos you send to it. If you wish you can email your write up to me and I will put it onto the page: karen.lee6950@gmail.com.

