



Girlguiding

Clwyd

*merched ar y blaen
girls in the lead*

Annual Report

2012

Adroddiad Blynddol



Girlguiding CLWYD



Introduction

Girlguiding Clwyd is the operating name of The Guide Association in Clwyd. The association is part of Girlguiding Cymru and Girlguiding UK and is registered with the Charities Commission. The guiding County of Clwyd is overseen by the County Executive, the voting members of which are trustees of Girlguiding Clwyd. Members of the County Executive are appointed in relation to the requirements of the County Constitution.

The County Executive and relevant teams up-date and develop the County Operational plan on an annual basis. Objectives identified in the plan need to be regularly visited and up-dated as required by our different teams. Sub committees, Advisers and their teams meet to identify and implement their relevant team objectives, as laid down in their terms of reference and report back to the County Executive. These sub committees and teams use the County 'Forward Focus Form' (FFF) to agree their team's objectives and identify targets and possible future costs to ensure that there is further progress over the next year.

This year Girlguiding Clwyd reviewed its new structure, as required in its adoption, and changes were made at County level to ensure the continuance of an effective delivery of the Guiding Programme. These changes will ensure the continuance of a high level of training and support of our Adult Leaders while making the best use of committee members' time and facilitate a more flexible approach to Guiding.

Trustees of Girlguiding Clwyd are:

Position	Name
County President	Mary Steel
County Commissioner	Jane Bevan
Assistant County Commissioner	Megan Jones
Treasurer	Megan Jones
Chairman of Adult Support and Training Committee	Chris Wykes
Chairman Public Relations & Recruitment	<i>To be appointed</i>
Chairman of Ty Clwyd Management Committee	Mary Steel
Chairman of County Trefoil Guild	Brenda Trickett
Llais y Ddraig	Ashleigh Woodland
Berwyn Division Commissioner	Alison Roberts
Colwyn Division Commissioner	Ann Egan
East Flintshire Division Commissioner	Helene Wilce
North Denbighshire Division Commissioner	Debra Smith
South Denbighshire Division Commissioner	Lynn Denney
West Flintshire Division Commissioner	Donna Jones
Wrexham Division Commissioner	Isabel Blore
In attendance	
County Minutes Secretary	Karen Evans

Situated in the north east of Wales, Clwyd extends from the Welsh/ English Border running to the west along the north coast some 50 miles and extending as far south as the town of Corwen. The County is named after the River Clwyd that runs through the region and the beautiful Clwydian Range, the highest point of which is Moel Famau which is topped by the jubilee tower. The central region also features the Berwyn range in the south, and the rich agricultural Vale of Clwyd in the central north.

It operates over 4 local government unitary authorities in the North of Wales; namely Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham. Girlguiding Clwyd is divided into 7 Divisions, Berwyn, Colwyn, East Flintshire, North Denbighshire, South Denbighshire, West Flintshire and Wrexham. Each Division has a Division Commissioner who co-ordinates activities within those areas. Each



Division is divided into Districts with its own District Commissioner or a team who co-ordinate(s) the administration and ensures that Criminal Record Bureau (CRB) checks are carried out for all volunteers for that area. There are 18 districts in all.

Presidents

Our County constitution allows for one president and 20 Vice Presidents at any one time; during this year we have our President Mrs Mary Steel and 17 Vice Presidents, Mrs P Brookes Parry, Mrs B Clarke, Ms M Cook, Mrs S Davies, Miss J Dudley MBE, Mrs Ruth Griffiths DL, Mrs G Harvey, Mrs M Higgins, Mrs M Hipkin, Mr C Hogg, Mrs J Horsfall, Mr J James, Mrs A Jones, Miss D Roberts, Mrs J Thompson, Mrs E Waterfall and Mrs T Williams.

Ambassadors help and support Guiding across the county, they promote Girlguiding in their jobs and kindly attend at least one Girlguiding event a year. The County wishes to acknowledge the support and encouragement of all its Presidents and Ambassadors.

Vision and aims

Girlguiding Clwyd works to the mission, vision and ethos of its parent associations Girlguiding Cymru and Girlguiding UK. *Girlguiding UK enables girls and young women to develop their potential and to make a difference to the world.* The County has established 5 aims for its executive and supporting teams and now works to these objectives ensuring that the overall aims of the association and Girlguiding Cymru are adhered to. The aims of Girlguiding Clwyd are:-

- Provide flexible training and support to its members
- Provide effective communication across the County
- Find extra financial support
- Build on and expand the use of Ty Clwyd
- Tell everyone about Girlguiding.

Provide flexible training and support to its members

Training in County is important to the development of leaders and ensures for best practice in the delivery of the Guiding Programme. The Adult Support & Training Team has responded to requests of the members of Girlguiding Clwyd throughout the year with training events including:- First Aid, Food Hygiene, Adult Leader Qualification, Residential Licenses, Commissioner Training & County Training days.

The County tries to provide training around the County to meets the needs of its members ensuring ease of access to such events.

Many Adult Leaders, Young Leaders, County Advisers and Co-ordinators have attended trainings provided at Broneirion with regard to the section they work with or the specialism they advise on.

Mentoring continues to be an important means to development within the County for new leaders and commissioners alike and for Leaders wishing to gain Residential Licenses and Endorsements. Congratulation goes to all Adult Leaders and Commissioners for their commitment and determination to complete the training. County mentoring processes are now well embedded in the County and in general are working well; they are reviewed regularly to ensure effectiveness of the system. Each District has been asked to have at least 2 mentors available at any one time to enable the continuance of this system. We are continuing to hold Commissioner Training Events which prove very successful and popular.

Provide effective communication across the County

Effective communication is essential to the smooth running of the County. The Executive are very conscious of the need to communicate at all levels and across all areas of the organisation. To this end the County has developed and continues to use -

- *Talk back sheets* - talk back sheets remain to be a source of communication between Districts, Divisions, individuals and the County. Many suggestions have been submitted to the County through this opportunity and issues of concern have been raised and addressed, where possible. However email and district minutes have also become a means of providing feedback to County.
- *Email* - communication through this medium is encouraged. Members have been encouraged to save on postage by sending minutes, and information by this method and the County now receives and sends approximately 98% of its minutes by email. The majority of all information received from the Voluntary Services Councils and the Young People's Partnerships (YPPs) is by email.
- *GO!* Our Guiding Organizer (a UK wide database). Our County GO! Co-ordinator and her team of Division and District Key Users support Unit Leaders with maintaining their records. All Girlguiding UK members information is stored on the database. This database has streamlined a lot of paperwork and the process of keeping records and maintaining security and the safety of members has become more efficient.
- *Meetings* - are held at all levels, County, Division and District to disseminate information. County Executive meetings for all trustees and those mentioned in the Constitution are held at least 5 times a year. All Division and District Meetings are now programmed into the County calendar to follow the County Executive. Division meetings follow the County Executive and include members of the Division team. All Guiders are encouraged to attend District meetings following the Division meeting to ensure that they have the most up-to-date details from Wales, the County and the Division. Districts need to review their processes and identify ways to improve attendance and information dissemination.
- *Minutes* - are kept by all Divisions, Districts and County teams and should be sent out to all members of each team and the County Commissioner within 3 weeks of the meeting taking place.
- *Bulletin* - the County magazine is available to download from our County website; emailed notification goes to Division Commissioners to forward to their teams, YPPs, Ambassadors, Local Voluntary Councils and Chairs of County Trefoils. Postal delivery is still available by request. This method of communication is to reinforce information given at the County Executive and to reach those who do not manage to get to team meetings or who prefer to receive details in a less formal way.
- *Website* - the County continues to host its two websites www.girlguidingclwyd.org and www.tyclwydcentre.org to provide information about opportunities in the county. The County website, www.girlguidingclwyd.org, provides contact names, Division and District information and gives lists of events and trainings happening around the County. County minutes and associated flyers and reports, rising dates, the bulletin, and many other county resources are posted on the site. The County has placed many appropriate forms and guides onto the site over the past year and this process will continue.
- *County Directory* - this is a list of names and addresses of officers within the County. It is updated annually and is given out to all members of Girlguiding Clwyd. A list of County officers and their email address can also be viewed on our website
- *Letters* - headed note paper is used for all official letters. The County logo is available through the GGUK website and is used on all documents. Letters are sent to all Vice Presidents giving a brief overview of events within the county over the previous year.

- *Telephone/Mobiles and Text* - used for contacting members as and when appropriate - members of the Executive are available through this medium. The County appreciates that young people communicate using social networking - further work needs to be done to encourage greater use of this particular medium.
- *Photographs* - members are encouraged to take photographs of events that happen around the County. These photographs can then be used for use in marketing and in the press. A member of the PR Team provides PR coverage at County events and photographs taken at these events are available for members in Clwyd, for the Press and are retained for County Archives.
- *Leaflets* - produced by CHQ as a marketing tool, are regularly used at events around the County and are an effective means of raising the profile of guiding in the area. More marketing material in the Welsh Language is now becoming available. Leaflets are also produced in county for the benefit of our Leaders and as a marketing tool for Ty Clwyd.
- *Banners* - A Girlguiding UK banner with the County logo is used extensively at events around Clwyd.
- *Events Trailer* - the County now has a dedicated events trailer that can be used to promote Girlguiding in Clwyd which is looked after by the County PR Team.

It is essential that communication happens at all levels of the County. The Executive are very aware that, despite the many methods of communication, there are still problems with disseminating information between members and across Districts and every effort is being made to try and alleviate the issues surrounding this.

Find extra financial support

We have had donations towards Ty Clwyd and County funds, it is not possible to mention all those who have helped us however to you all we extend our heartfelt thanks. We continue to raise funds for Ty Clwyd and county events.

Build on and expand the use of Ty Clwyd

The Ty Clwyd management Committee continues to manage the maintenance and day to day use of the centre and grounds very successfully. Friends of Ty Clwyd continue to support the management team and provide resources for the house. The website continues to be a vital means of advertising the house and campsite, a task and Finish Group has been set up to design a new web site for Ty Clwyd that will be linked to our New County web site. Members of the Management Team are also looking into the diversification of the center's use and new ways to publicise this wonderful resource.

Tell everyone about Girlguiding

The Executive continues to develop links with other voluntary organisations within the area but is aware that more work needs to be done in breaking down barriers and identifying needs in local communities. The ethos of Guiding is 'Inclusion'. Guiding is for all girls and young women; the County is aware of ethnic and social minority groups and is networking with these groups to engage and encourage them to participate in Guiding.

The County continues, where possible, to participate in Networking with different organisations through the Local Voluntary Councils. Information on Guiding is now available at all Children's Information Services in the area and in local libraries. The local Voluntary Services - Volunteer Bureaus also hold information about the organization and have links to our websites.

This year sees the continued development of the *Dreigiau Ifanc - Young Dragons* initiative which brings together uniformed youth organizations together with Local Voluntary Councils to the benefit



of their young members by supporting each other and where possible sharing knowledge and resources. Girlguiding Clwyd is part of this initiative that aims to increase the number of young people involved in our uniformed youth organizations and also to increase the number of volunteers who help to run them. Their Vision is 'to promote citizenship to all the young people of Wales, through fun and adventure'.

Girlguiding Clwyd PR Team: PR teams are central to the success of all organizations, they keep the organisations profile high through links with local government, other local voluntary organisations, educational institutions, newspapers, radio & television. Clwyds PR Team also keep the county up to date with news and events via our County Web site and County Bulletin, they help with County events and support the with recruitment. They also create leaflets and information packs for the County and Ty Clwyd. All types of skills are required - front of house and in the background - marketing, recruitment, admin, technical, photography, presentations, event organization and editing. If you have a skill the PR Team can use it!

Events

The Pantomime

Girlguiding Clwyd took over the Rhyl Pavilion Theatre again this year for their annual trip to the Pantomime, Margaret Hillman has organized this event for us very successfully for a number of years and it is still a very popular event in our calendar. Actors kindly include items from Guiding in their performance to make the event relevant to the girls who support it. Girls from all sections and across the whole County are represented and involve themselves warmly and loudly in the audience participation.

Jubilee and Olympic Events

All sections enjoyed many events throughout the county related to the Jubilee and Olympics this year; Alice Frobisher from Clwyd took part in the Olympic Torch Relay

Residential Events

Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Senior Section girls enjoyed sleepovers, holidays and camps around Clwyd and also out of County. Girls are encouraged to organize their own event, guided by the leader and learn living skills and knowledge and team working through these experiences. For many girls these events are the first time a girl will have slept away from home with a group of other girls.

International Opportunities

After attending 'International Selection' girls were selected to represent Girlguiding Cymru at various International Events. These international opportunities build upon the skills and character the girls and young women have shown during the selection process. Without exception these girls arrive home changed by their experience, with their horizons broadened and with the knowledge they can cope outside their comfort zones. Members who have been given an international opportunity grow in some way at a personal level. Leaders are also being encouraged to take girls on International Adventures and the County supports those leaders. This year the following girls represented us Kathryn Lovatt and Emma Lloyd went to Belgium, Kitty Cartwright travelled to Italy and Ruth Hall to Malta. Our International Adviser led a group to Germany.

Awards

During 2011/12 many people within the County gained awards and it was particularly exciting to hear that Megan Hughes a Guide in Marford gained the Chief Commissioner for Wales Award. Several people gained their 40, 30, 20, 10 and 5 year long service brooches and many other Guiders were presented with certificates and Qualifications for work undertaken and qualifications gained.



It is wonderful that so many of our Guiders show such commitment to the Association. See Appendix 1.

Baden Powell Badges

It is always exciting to see our younger members gaining awards and in particular those who have worked so hard to gain prestigious awards such as the Baden Powell Badge. Girls have to complete 8 challenges and are then rewarded with a special adventure where they meet other girls who have completed the award. See Appendix 1.

Camp & Holiday Scheme & Licenses

Several licences were gained in County during the year; Leaders gaining qualifications to enable girls to be taken on residential events, holidays, camps and sleepovers. See appendix 1.

Community projects

Units around the County have participated in many ways within their Community. This is part of the Guiding programme and ethos and all girls are encouraged to work with and help others in their local communities and in the wider world.

Annual Census

Total numbers in County have increased by 106 this year. Whilst Adult Volunteer numbers have decreased by 76 Rainbow, Brownie, Guide and Senior Section numbers have all increased. The County is aware of the need to recruit new Adult volunteers so that we continue to support our young members and are in a position to give more girls an opportunity to be part of the Association.

The following chart shows overall numbers at the annual census on 22nd February each year

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	11/12 DIFFERENCE
Adult Volunteers	391	413	520	503	507	533	567	491	-76
Senior Section	80	118	116	144	138	129	79	112	33
Guides	792	793	791	807	756	674	653	668	15
Brownies	1581	1657	1611	1485	1440	1308	1387	1406	19
Rainbows	400	435	432	408	389	411	410	486	76
Totals	3244	3416	3470	3347	3230	3055	3057	3163	106

Programme

Rainbows

The girls continue to enjoy their programme with its theme of Look, Learn, Laugh and Love. Girls in Clwyd have been involved in, games, craft, sleepovers, fun out of doors, healthy eating & Rainbow Roundabouts.

Brownies

Brownies continue to have fun with their programme of 'You', the 'Community' and the 'Wider World'. Girls have taken part in a great variety of activities of which the following are but a few; Pack Holidays, Sleepovers, Thinking Day celebrations, Treasure Hunts, fundraising.



Guides

Girls have been working towards Baden Powell Awards and the Duke of Edinburgh Schemes. During the year guides have had fun and participated by Camping, Camp Fire singing, Cooking out of doors, Navigating, International Selection, Photography and the Big GIG.

Senior Section

This year members of the Senior Section have participated in many activities in the County, Wales, UK and Internationally. Members of the Senior Section continue to represent the County on Llais y Ddraig and two of these members sit on the County Executive to represent the young voice. Llais Y Ddraig is the Youth Council for Girlguiding Cymru. It has at least two representatives from all fourteen counties. The members are aged between 16 and 25 and serve for a term of three years. Llais Y Ddraig is a council where members discuss Association and non-Association issues. Recent topics that have been discussed are the Girlguiding uniform, rights of the child and SSAGS and Students moving to new areas when they go to university. The Youth Council has a direct link with Girlguiding Cymru and a member of Llais serves on the Welsh Executive Committee, through which she is able to express the views and opinions of the Llais members. At their meetings, each representative on Llais is given an opportunity to express opinions and have input into discussions. The members are also encouraged to bring discussions and topics from their own counties and councils to the meetings. This is important as it means that the views of the youth within Wales are heard.

Trefoil Guild

Clwyd Trefoil Guild hosted the National Trefoil Guild AGM this year; it was a very successful day. Brenda Trickett had only recently taken over as Chairman of the County Guild when it fell to her to organize the event which she did gracefully with the help of her County Team. Brenda continues to help and support Girlguiding Clwyd in its many ventures. We are greatly indebted to Trefoil members for the work they do for us.

Movers & Shakers

The Movers and Shakers team supports Adult members in the County. The team is always looking for new ways to reach more members and raise awareness of their purpose and aims.

Summary

Girlguiding Clwyd remains relevant to today's girls and young women, they are our future, and we continue to give them opportunities to gain new skills whilst having fun and making friends. The County Team is committed to training and supporting its Young and Adult Leaders, all of our Leaders and County Team members are unpaid volunteers without whom our young members would not have the opportunities they enjoy today. Girlguiding Clwyd will continue to work with the ethos of the Guide Association in mind, and support the aims and objectives of Girlguiding Cymru.

End.

APPENDIX 1 - Awards and Qualifications

<p>Chief Commissioner Award Megan Hughes</p> <p>Good Service Award Pat Finlay Kate Burgess Babs Smith Wendy Mayers</p>	<p>County Thanks Badge Rhiannon Allen Isabel Blore Sally Daly Laura Dreiling Ann Egan Hazel Fawcett Sally Goodwin Margaret Hillman Chris Jobson Margaret Lusted</p>	<p>County Thanks Badge Aletia Messham Dianne Powel Babs Smith Brianna Sutton Lynda Walmsley Hazel Webb Helene Wilce (Warren) Mr Chris Williams Alison Williams Alison Willington</p>
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<p>First Response Lorna McHugh, Linda McHugh, Jan Royle, Amy Robinson, Vicky Cracknell Diane Pierce, Sophie Greatbach Nicola Barlow</p>	<p>Young Leader Qualification Vannessa Malia Sophie Greatback Amy Robinson Vicky Young</p> <p>Baden Powell Award Megan Hughes - Allington Eleanor Taylor - Allington Eleanor Ferrari - Allington Sarah - 1st Summerhill Lorenza Lockyer - 2nd Chirk Elizabeth Bentley- 1st Marford Becki Jones - 1st Wepre Natalie May Jones</p>
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5 years Long Service Award	10 years Long Service Award	20 years Long Service Award
<p>Alison Jane Cargius Elaine Lesley Roberts Lesley Davies Victoria Alice Roberts Eirian Freeman Rachel Piggott Anne Thomas Shirley Ann McKenzie Karen Jane Shallcross Sarah Ann Myddleton Mellor Stephanie Diane Masters Amy Louise Chilver Terence Francis Jobson Christopher David Smith Janet Leese Louisa Greenly Clare Elizabeth Owen Charlotte Anne Pierce Catherine Frances Wallace Jessica Marie Pugh Emma Victoria Youd Heather Ellingham Sian Elisabeth Davies Carla Anne Smith Charmian Breese Emma Rimmer Nicola Hughes Vyktoria Suzanna Elleby Rhiannon Allen Steve Hunt Rebecca Davies Helena Davies Joanne Louise Breeze Katie Louise Bryan Brianna Sutton Catherine Helen Williams Katy Elizabeth Hellen</p>	<p>Sian Lancaster Christine Dwerryhouse Clare Woodland Sam Hayward-Baker Joy Ahern Nellie Grieta Goldsmith Sheryl Elizabeth Coppack Linda Ann Langton Ceri Jane Shirvington Carys Elizabeth Ruth Broadbent Janice Hooper-Williams Sarah Stanton Alison Roberts Jennifer Susan Lloyd Emma Mary Hatton KerryAnn Lawrence Beryl Glover Ray Price Jennifer Ruth Chadwick Kirsty Anne Edwards Vicky Briffa-Whitham Judith Gammon Lauren Kate McHugh Naomi Ruth Whitham</p>	<p>Janet Elizabeth Wintle Patricia Jane Bailey Elisabeth Mary Hicks Jennifer Margaret Gray Dawn Guest Lynda Madeley Janette Cocking Shirley Grace Boardman Audrey Jarvis Linda Roberts Susan Roberts Chris Hunt</p>
		<p>30 years Long Service Award Margaret Elizabeth Lusted Patricia Owen Babs Smith Mairwen Jones Sylvia Clara Owens Margaret Hipkin</p>
		<p>40 years Long Service Award Elaine Olga Simmons Helen Barham</p>

<p>Rainbow Overnight Licence Pam Sharp Isobel Blore Kim Savage</p> <p>Brownie Residential Licence Heather Quayle Phillipa Williams</p> <p>Guide Overnight Licence Cerys Brand</p> <p>Guide Residential Licence Danielle Griffiths Sian Charlton-Fleming</p> <p>Guide Camp Licence Charlotte McGuire Lauren McHugh Theresa Murphy</p>	<p>Senior Section Overnight Licence Catherine Murphy</p> <p>Senior Section Residential Licence Catherine Murphy</p> <p>Senior Section Camp Permit Teleri Williams - Llanasa Rangers Elena Charlton-Fleming - Llanasa Rangers</p> <p>International Endorsement Lynne Ingman - 1st Mynydd Isa Guides Beryl Blackmore - 1st Marford Guides</p>
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