

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATE	EVENT	LINK
Monday 27 November 7.30–8.30pm Zoom	Leader Development Programme Training– Effective communication for leaders	<a href="#">Link</a>
Tuesday 12 December 7.30–8.30pm Zoom	Leader Development Programme Training – Celebrating every member	<a href="#">Link</a>
Saturday 24– Sunday 25 February (All members)	A virtual event with sleepover to celebrate Thinking Day. Join in the fun for just the Saturday or the complete event, the choice is yours! 	TBA
Friday 26 – Sunday 28 April (Brownies)	Pirate Themed Brownie Camp @ Robin Hole An opportunity for units to give camping a try, without the need for a camp licence. 	TBA
Week commencing Monday 10 June 2024 (All members)	Out & About Week 	TBA
Saturday 29 June 2024 (All members)	“Grand Day Out” – all County Activity Day 	<a href="#">Expression of interest</a>

## OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

Most county projects are delivered by a task and finish group. These groups are made up of unit leaders, unit helpers, local commissioners, county advisors and any other volunteers who wish to be involved. They get together to deliver a one off specific project with a start and finish rather than hold a role for a period of time. The projects range from a Brownie weekend camp to a Rainbow adventure day, to a thinking day service, to a virtual sleepover. These groups are some of the most rewarding and fun ways to engage with other volunteers and deliver larger scale projects not normally available at unit level.

Meetings are held face to face and on Zoom. You don't have to have had any experience to be in a task and finish group, enthusiasm and reliability is all you need and we love to have a mix of Queen's Guide participants, new and experienced volunteers in each team, to get new ideas blended with those that have worked well at previous events.

Why not think about joining us for one of the County events planned for 2024. See above for some options.

**New Ranger Adviser** – we are looking for a new Ranger adviser. It is your chance to be involved with Girlguiding at a county level and to not only have your say but also support Rangers and their leaders to have theirs. It's a great way to get to know other Ranger leaders in the county and you will develop transferable skills which look good on your CV! Rangers have some of the most exciting opportunities and you get to be part of their journey.

As an adviser you will advise and communicate information about Rangers to the Leeds County team and other Leeds Girlguiding members, giving more Rangers ways to access opportunities for development, challenge and adventure.

You don't need to have experience of a county or division role before, all you need is enthusiasm and willingness to learn on the job. The role can be flexible, and volunteering can be arranged to fit around a busy lifestyle.

For more information about the role, click [here](#).

## **NOMINATE AN OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER FOR A POINTS OF LIGHT AWARD**

Did you know that anyone can nominate an individual for a Points of Light award, the daily award, given by the prime minister, to outstanding volunteers in the UK? DCMS welcomes nominations for inspirational individuals who've made a real difference to their communities, and is looking to award people of all ages and backgrounds. You can find out more on their [website](#).

## **ARE YOU AN ASSISTANT LEADER? – NEW TRAININGS FOR THOSE WHO'VE DONE THE LEADERSHIP QUALIFICATION**

If you're an assistant leader who has done modules 1-3 of the Leadership qualification, and you want to move to a leader role, there is now a 'top-up' training you can do. You can also do this if you're an existing leader and want to refresh your Girlguiding knowledge. If you have the Leadership qualification and want to move section, you can complete the 'moving sections' course. Both courses can be found in the leader development programme area on the [learning platform](#).

## **ARE YOU UNDERTAKING THE LEADER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME?**

If you are, please keep in touch with your mentor regarding Check-in visits and check for messages on GO from the LD co-ordinators, in case there is an issue with a check-in form. If a module doesn't go green shortly after a check-in form is uploaded there may be an issue with the form, so please contact [LinT@girlguidingleeds.org.uk](mailto:LinT@girlguidingleeds.org.uk)

If a mentor is not allocated and you need a visit please contact [mentors@girlguidingleeds.org.uk](mailto:mentors@girlguidingleeds.org.uk).

## A SAFE SPACE TRAINING REMINDER

The Girlguiding safeguarding and safety training ensures that all volunteers offer girls a safe space where they can have fun, learn and grow. It is imperative that all members complete the appropriate level of a safe space training for their role and ensure that the training is kept up to date and renewed every 3 years. For levels 1 to 3, you can complete your training anytime within the 180 days before your current course expires. By doing so, you'll keep your original expiry date. This means that when you next come to renew, it will be 3 years from your original expiry date. When you receive notice from Girlguiding, complete the course, and then you'll have over 3 years until you need to renew again. For level 4 you can complete your training anytime within the 120 days before your current course expires. There isn't an option to keep the original expiry date. Please be aware that you may have your membership withdrawn if you do not complete or renew on time the levels you need for your role. If you don't know which level of training you need to do, speak to your commissioner. Full details can be found on the Girlguiding [website](#).

## PROPERTIES

**Date for your diary:** We are changing the Robin Hole spring cleaning from the usual Saturday to **Monday 18 March**.

If you are free on a Monday and would like to come and help then please put the date in your diary. We would love to see you there.

**Do you work for a company that offers team building activity days?** Spending valuable time together away from the normal routine. Working together to complete a shared goal or just have fun together can have a profound effect on a team in many ways.

Are you looking for somewhere to carry out a volunteer day? Then look no further than our very own Robin Hole. There are always lots of jobs that can be undertaken both inside and out.

The benefits of an outdoor team building event will last long after your day has finished.

If you have a team and would like to get involved please email [robinhole@girlguidingleeds.org.uk](mailto:robinhole@girlguidingleeds.org.uk) and we can arrange a date.

## ADVENTURE BADGES FOR ALL SECTIONS

These badges are about ADVENTURE. Adventure is about taking girls outside their comfort zone by trying something new. To achieve an adventure badge girls need to achieve 3 out of the following:

- Did the activity or challenge take them out of their comfort zone?
- Was the activity or challenge new to them?
- Did they go somewhere new?
- Did they discover something new about themselves.

There are 5 adventure badges:

**Snow:** where you get chilly. **Water:** where you get a bit wet on or in water. **Sport:** where you play sports activities that involve equipment, a game and some rules. **Height:** where you go a few feet or soar into the air. **Land:** where you explore the land around you either above or below ground.

Look at the Adventure for Girls Finder on the Girlguiding website to show which activities count for each badge.

## MOVING ON UP

### HOW CAN WE ENCOURAGE GUIDES TO JOIN RANGERS?

For many girls, the prospect of moving to a new unit and a new section can be scary. Working together with other units, such as holding joint meetings, activities, or events, can help make the step up to Rangers more manageable for all and less of a jump. Working together in this way will offer the girls the chance to meet in advance the girls and leaders they will join when they move up. There's lots that you can do as a leader to support girls in the transition from Guides to Rangers. Here are some ideas to get you thinking.

## UNIT MEETING PLACE & RISK ASSESSMENTS

If you are looking for a new venue for your unit meetings, there is now a pre-filled risk assessment template available on the Girlguiding website which you can use to decide whether a venue is suitable.

## GIFT AID

If your unit funds are a bit lower than you would like them to be then claiming gift aid might be a good way to increase your income. Once your unit is registered, gift aid can be claimed on membership subscriptions paid by any parents or carers who pay enough tax and complete a gift aid declaration. The steps you need to follow are set out on the Girlguiding website (link below). If you need any help with the process, then please email [development@girlguidingleeds.org.uk](mailto:development@girlguidingleeds.org.uk) and we can guide you through each step. [Gift Aid | Girlguiding](#)