

Spring/Summer 2012

# County News

Your news on the Wirral



## Sporty Guides!

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Happy 25th Birthday Rainbows

Olympic Torch Relay

Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

Up High!



**Girlguiding**

Wirral

*girls in the lead*

## ON THE COVER

In the spirit of the 2012 Olympics theme (well wrong year for the winter Olympics but the thought was there)

- 7th Eastham guides attended a curling event hosted by the Welsh Northwest curling team at Deeside Leisure Centre.



The guides had a great time, gliding across the ice and brushing ferociously to maximise their points.

The girls stayed on their feet except those that took to lying on the ice in true guide style when the excitement got too much !

The night ended with a hot chocolate, sweets and watching the professionals during their practice tournaments.

We definitely have some potential future Olympic candidates in the unit and will be going back again once we have all warmed up !



# OUR COMMISSIONER

Dear all,

well I'm 3 months into the CC role and it's go go go! Since the AGM I've been busy getting to grips with all things Girlguiding Wirral and with our Region North West England too.

We've been selected as one of the Mayors Charities so will be getting some money to spend at Hadlow which is fantastic news - The new Mayor Gerry Ellis had daughters in Guiding who had stayed at Hadlow and wanted to give a little back.

I was successful getting a letter into the local papers on the letters page at the end of volunteers week to thank leaders for their contribution to Guiding in Wirral County. We've reproduced it on the county website at <http://girlguidingwirral.org.uk/latest-news-2012/1478> I know lots of you have seen it as you've sent me some lovely messages. I've written to the Queen to tell her what a fabulous Jubilee year we're all having, I'm hopeful of a reply and will share it with you if we receive one.

Speaking of the Queen I've managed to attend a lovely Trefoil Guild Jubilee afternoon Tea at Caldy Rugby & Cricket Club on a sunny and hot afternoon where I found out about Sheelagh Weir who is so proud to have been asked to be an Olympic Torch Bearer - see Sheelagh's nomination story! Well done Sheelagh and Good Luck from all in Girlguiding Wirral!

I'm looking forward to meeting with all the Division Teams across the next month and we'll be considering how we best take the County forward ensuring we have vibrant Guiding throughout the County.

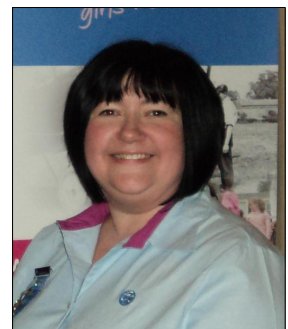
Thanks to those who so far have volunteered to be part of the CAST County Adult Support Team - adults who are willing to be called on to take minutes, or stuff envelopes or deliver things - thanks to all of you, I'll be in touch!!

Hopefully you're all keeping up with the County blog <http://blog.girlguidingwirral.org.uk/> Any of you can write something for the blog, all the better if there is a picture! Hopefully you'll email me with your piece [commissioner@girlguidingwirral.org.uk](mailto:commissioner@girlguidingwirral.org.uk)

Have wonderful camps and holidays if you're attending one (or more), stay safe and enjoy the Summer break, there will be much to do come September!

Yours in Guiding

Linda



# DIAMOND JUBILEE

The photo is of a time line made by 1st Thurstaston Guides and displayed in St Chad's Church Irby (our meeting place). It was much admired by the Church congregation and we hope that all users of the Hall during the Jubilee weekend and afterwards will enjoy being reminded of events which have taken place during the reign of Queen Elizabeth II



Ten leaders from Wirral attended the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebration at both Cathedrals in Liverpool on 27th May. They started at the Catholic Cathedral and then moved on to the Anglican. There was a procession between the two cathedrals and a service was held in each.

*Above, in the Anglican Cathedral*

There were many tributes to the Queen and memories from local people who had met her.



# Girlguiding

Wirral

*girls in the lead*

Linda sent this letter to the Queen to congratulate her on her Diamond Jubilee

9 June 2012

Your Royal Highness,

## DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

I am writing to you as our Patron on behalf of Girlguiding Wirral in order to offer you our congratulations on your Diamond Jubilee and to let you know how much we have enjoyed the celebrations.

Our Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Senior Section and volunteer leaders have celebrated in different ways; Jubilee parties, completing their Diamond Jubilee Badge, attending the Liverpool Cathedrals for a special Diamond Jubilee Service, lining the road when you came to Liverpool and enjoying watching the Jubilee weekend's festivities together.

The festivities have certainly provided Guiding and it appears wider communities the opportunity to join together in the name of celebration and patriotism.

We hope that you, the Duke of Edinburgh and the Royal Family have enjoyed a wonderful Jubilee weekend and year so far and continue to enjoy the rest of the year to come.

We are glad to hear that the Duke of Edinburgh is making a swift return to good health.

Yours in Guiding

## Linda

Linda Smallthwaite (Miss)

Jubilee cakes from Ness Guides cake competition in May and biscuits by Birkenhead Guides





Rainbows across Wirral celebrated by wearing their uniform to school on 30th May

# Happy 25th Birthday Rainbows!



Cath Naylor and her team organised a trip to Gulliver's World on 12th May to celebrate the Rainbow's Birthday.

The girls all had a wonderful time and the weather was sunny!

The bakery in Claughton baked 330 special birthday biscuits for all of the Rainbows who attended the event.

All of the Rainbows were given a commemorative badge for the occasion too.

Below is a photo of a worn out Rainbow on the bus home!



Fifty four members of Girlguiding Wirral from Guides to leaders got up at 3am on 17th June to see the sunrise on Thurstaston Common.

Having heard the rain at 2am, we were prepared for wet weather but luckily it was dry for the whole walk. We were fortified by Danish pastries and juice before setting off for the mile or so walk up to the common.

It was worth the walk to be able to see the landmarks as they came into view. The only thing that was missing was the sun but we did see it get light before we walked back to the campsite.

There was then time for some more sleep before the sausage and bacon breakfast.



## Sheelagh Weir—Olympic Torch Bearer!

Sheelagh is a real inspiration in the community, providing nearly 60 years of service to GirlGuiding, starting as a leader with guides and sea rangers in Birkenhead in 1953, later as local Commissioner, Duke of Edinburgh and camping trainer, Chair/trustee of the local Headquarters (raising over £50,000 for improvements to the HQ and County Campsite to enable young people to stay). She is a volunteer gardener for 2 local community parks, co-edited a tree trail booklet and helped to raise money for new playground and garden facilities. Each year she spends hours making crafts and packing "Christmas Shoe Boxes" for under privileged children. She helps with coffee mornings, church sales, and activities to raise money for charities including abseiling down a lighthouse for Marie Curie organisation (aged 72). Volunteer for over 30 years at West Kirby Sailing Club, managing accounts and encouraging people to get involved in sailing. She carried the torch through Trusthorpe on 27th June.



It is with sadness that we report the death of Kay McLeod from Bebington. Her funeral was on 9th July at Christchurch Higher Bebington. Our thoughts are with her family and friends.



Have or do you know someone who has a skill that the girls would enjoy. Would you be willing to share it with Rainbows, Brownies, Guides or Senior Section? We would love to hear from you. We are looking to extend the variety of activities we can offer to the girls in Wirral and would love to hear from you.

Please contact [raggs@girlguidingwirral.org.uk](mailto:raggs@girlguidingwirral.org.uk) or ring 677 3329

RAGS are still out there to support the unit leader if you would like us to come and do an activity for you, please use the contact above. If you are not sure if we can do what you would like ask.

Please send your news and photos to:

County News  
25 Chester Road  
Neston  
CH64 9PA

Cathhild@aol.com  
It may be put on the Wirral Website too!



### Three easy ways to shop at Girlguiding Wirral Essentials



**In person:**  
Opening Times  
Saturdays 10.00 - 16.00 (all year)  
Wednesdays 18.00 - 20.00 (April-September)

**FOR ALL ORDERS**  
Phone our dedicated lines:  
08448 126856  
08448 126857



**By email:**  
[ggwirralessentials@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ggwirralessentials@yahoo.co.uk)

**SPECIAL EVENT BADGE ORDERS:**  
08448 126858

Early bird orders in by 21st July for 5% discount!

## A challenge for you!

The Queen's Jubilee Challenge 2012 is a challenge for all sections. All profits from this badge will go to Hadlow, so please support your local campsite! Full details on County Website.

