



Girlguiding

MIDDLESEX NORTH WEST

COUNTY NEWS SHEET

June '06

Issue No.25

Available to Guiders, Senior Section and Trefoil Guild members and Unit Helpers

Hello everyone,

This summer Amanda will have completed five years as our County Commissioner. During that time all Sections of Girlguiding UK have witnessed a number of changes, and Amanda has ensured that Guiders have the full support needed to take up the new challenges. She has also initiated many improvements within the County not least in the area of communication, such as the launch of the County Newsheet. The readership is increasing all the time but still there are Guiders who do not get to see it, so please pass it on. The good news is that Amanda has agreed to stay on for at least another year, but in the meantime we say thank you to her for all that she has done for the County

COUNTY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This successful evening was held a few weeks ago at Willow Tree. 90 leaders attended and the atmosphere was great!

Amanda thanked everyone for all that they do in Girlguiding Middlesex North West. Amanda gave a speech highlighting the many Guiding events held in 2005 including the Walks for the World series of events, the Rainbow Jigsaw day and the spectacular Treasure Island weekend. Amanda then outlined the priorities for the County as we move forward. These are to involve more people, to improve our administration, and to retain and recruit more members. If you would like to become more involved – perhaps helping with an event, providing admin. support to a Committee, or working with others to support new Guiders as a mentor, please get in touch with Amanda.

county.comm@girlguidingmiddxnw.org.uk

County Awards are given for the impact an individual has on Guiding in a District, Division or County, and their exceptional service to Guiding in MNW. Three awards were presented to Christine Mills, Karen Harrison and Brenda Tilbury. Pat Downer gave an entertaining speech containing many anecdotes from her appointment as Chief Commissioner for LaSER. A small gift was presented to Pat in thanks for the support she has given our County during her appointment. Refreshments and social time followed with the 2005 Annual Review being distributed to everyone. Please be sure to obtain a copy from your District Commissioner.

TRAINING SESSIONS/EVENTS

2006 July

9th – Guide and Senior Section Water Activity Day
9am at Hillingdon Outdoor Activities Centre

September

15th/16th – Patrol Leaders Training at Willow Tree
17th – International Selection
28th – Commissioner Support Group

PATROL LEADERS TRAINING

Please would Guide Guiders tell their girls about this exciting event and apply now using the form in the current Programme and Adult Support Training Folder.

Any further details required, contact Karen Harrison on

asstcounty.comm@girlguidingmiddxnw.org.uk

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

JOIN THE TEAM – If you are interested in coming to meet the County Training Team, let me know (email address above). We will offer a ‘no strings’ informal evening. We are a friendly and welcoming group and would love to hear from you. Contact June Jones via countynews.ed@girlguidingmiddxnw.org.uk

COUNTY WEBSITE

Thanks to Alun Seymour and Nikky Evans, the County website is now up and running.

If you would like to see the progress and development of this log go into

www.girlguidingmiddxnw.org.uk

OPENING OF THE TRANQUIL GARDEN

The Tranquil Garden was officially opened on Wednesday 21st June by the Mayor of Hillingdon, Cllr David Routledge. Liz Burnley, Chief Guide of Girl Guiding UK provided the welcome address to the guests with Amanda our County Commissioner.

Liz Burney said "The Willow Tree Centre is a testament to all the tremendous work and effort that everyone has put in from guiding and local community. The Tranquil Garden is a very special place in a very special space and its name says a lot about what we all need to-day and will act as an oasis of calm in our busy lives".

The Tranquil garden centrepiece was built with donations from friends and families of Mary Kinnersley and BAA Colne Valley Environmental Awards. Mature Trees were donated by friends and families of Pat Coe and Stan Justice. Paradigm funded the remaining shrubs with Awards for All financing the paving which will form a walkway with Willow Arches. Many Guests were invited but we should particularly like to thank the nine units who came at short notice to give the Guests and Chief Guide an insight into the activities and enjoyment at Willow Tree. They were brilliant with Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Senior Section all represented.

The evening did not just happen, many people worked very hard including The Willow Tree Trefoil Guild who prepared all the food and acted as Hostesses and the Service Team who were on car park duty.

It was indeed a successful and memorable evening leaving everyone impressed with Guiding in Middlesex North West and the Tranquil Garden looked fabulous!

It goes without saying our grateful thanks to Mark who worked so hard to get the Garden and the Centre looking fantastic!

The Garden will need maintaining and any Guide or Senior Section Member wishing to carry out service for D of E, Queen's Guide or Baden Powell Challenge would be welcome to take on some of this responsibility.

Dawn Palmer
Chairman of Willow Tree Management.

WILLOW TREE NEWS

FAMILY WORKING EVENING

The Family Working Evening held on 16th June was extremely successful and a great deal of work was carried out including the clearing of thatch in the reed bed, strimming and weeding including the car park. Everyone worked very hard and it was nice to see so many Dads giving a hand. We really need and rely on their help twice a year.

It was also great that several Units came and gave service as their Unit meeting. Please continue to encourage your parents and units to attend the autumn meeting when pruning takes priority!

NEW PLANTS

Thank you to 2nd Ruislip Manor Guides who held a fund raising event and purchased and planted a variety of lavender plants outside the house. It is nice to see Units taking pride and ownership of Willow Tree.

Dawn Palmer

Chairman of Willow Tree Management

RECRUITMENT BANNERS

We now have two Recruitment Banners which can be used by Units, Districts or Divisions.

If you would like to borrow them please contact Denise Tew via

countynews.ed@girlguidingmiddxnw.org.uk.

They are weather proof PVC and show an email address. They are ideal to hang outside on fences but please ensure they cannot be vandalised.

FOR HIRE

Harrow and Pinner Division have the following available for hire:

1 generator with fuel - £20 per day

3 maypoles - £20 per day per maypole

2 gazebos (9m x 3m) - £25 per day per gazebo

Please contact Hilary West via

countynews.ed@girlguidingmiddxnw.org.uk

FUTURE COPIES

To receive the County Newsheet for 2006 please forward 3 S.A.E.s via your DC or send your email address to me:

countynews.ed@girlguidingmiddxnw.org.uk

Deadline for next issue is 28th August 2006