



Jubilee Celebrations

What a Platinum Jubilee we had in the South West! Leading up to the grand weekend lots of units, districts and divisions held their own celebrations with glitz and glamour. Events ranged from afternoon teas, street parties and challenge days. Activities included making crowns, pin the tail on the corgi, decorating biscuits and making bunting.

Some highlights from around the Region:

Cornwall loved having Platinum Jubilee parties with food, dressing up and even a silent disco! Some groups even got to meet the Queen! 👑

Several Counties/Islands took the opportunity to hold some PR stands, with pop up stands at Tesco's and several local fetes. One included a commemorative Jubilee Doors trail. One was brave and tried armpit fudge.

Guernsey had fun with bubbles at one of their events. Jersey and the Isle of Wight took part in local community parades.

The three Hampshire Counties came together to attend a service of celebration at Winchester Cathedral.



Beacon Lighting

The Bank Holiday weekend started with beacon's being lit across the Region. Guernsey started their day by talking on the BBC Guernsey Breakfast show.

10 Counties around the Region hosted a beacon lighting event.



Cornwall



Guernsey



Berkshire



Devon



Gloucestershire



Hampshire North



Wiltshire North



Somerset



Isle of Wight



Dorset

It was great to see how each County interpreted how to host their event differently. The only guidelines to follow was that our Girlguiding beacons had to be lit at 9.50pm. Only those beacons on Hadrian followed us at 10pm.

Some hosted an overnight event, while others held an evening event. Some Counties opened up to the public whilst others kept their event to Guiding members only. Gloucestershire had their girls sleeping under the star to mark the occasion!

The Chief's Team, all attended events; Laura at Foxlease, Racheal in Dorset, Liv went to Somerset and Ruth went to Gloucestershire.



Bristol & South Gloucestershire



Why Jubilee beacons?

The ceremony, part of a long tradition of celebrating jubilees, weddings and coronations with the lighting of beacons, dates back hundreds of years when beacon chains were used as communication tools. Today, they symbolise togetherness at key moments of national significance. In 1897 they were lit to celebrate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, while the Queen has had them for her Silver, Gold and Diamond Jubilees in 1977, 2002 and 2012, as well as her 90th birthday in 2016.

Jubilee Pageant

20 lucky volunteers from across the Region were selected to attend the Platinum Jubilee Pageant on Sunday 5th June in London. These volunteers were put forward by their Counties and Islands to recognise them for their dedication and commitment to Guiding locally.

The Pageant brought the iconic life moments from The Queen's reign as well as showcasing our changing society over the past 70 years. The pageant was broken into four parts: 'For Queen and Country', 'The Time of Our Lives', 'Let's Celebrate' and 'Happy and Glorious'.



The Platinum Champions

We are very proud that 2 of our adult members have been named as Platinum Champions. Congratulations to Jane Bingham & Sarah France, both previous County Commissioners for Royal Berkshire. Thank you to both for everything you have & continue to do for Girlguiding.

The Platinum Champions Awards recognise the outstanding contribution of volunteers across the UK and from a range of causes.

Nominations for Platinum Champions Awards were made in the following categories:

Older people and dementia support
Young people and children
Crisis and welfare
Community
Mental health and companionship
Physical health and disability
NHS and social care



There were 70 nominations from each category

To finish off our Jubilee weekend, Laura and volunteers from Girlguiding Wiltshire and Girlguiding Cornwall were interviewed on two radio stations; BBC Radio Wiltshire & BBC Radio Cornwall to shout out about Guiding.

Well done all for a wonderful celebration weekend.

