



Trefoil Talk

October 2025 48

News from the Trefoil Guilds

Ludlow

February's meeting, we all brought an unusual item in for us to work out what it was, and what it was used for. We also celebrated St David's Day with Bara Brith and Welsh cakes.



March meeting was singing songs from our youth, the refreshments for the afternoon were all based around St Patrick's Day, ending with a quiz. In April, Ruth Jones joined us to talk about her trip to Thailand. In May, we held our meeting at Burford House and Gardens, Tenbury Wells. We had a lovely lunch and a stroll around the

gardens and the wild flower meadow.



Belfast from Julie On June the 5th, one South Shropshire and four

Ludlow members plus our chaperone, Ruth's husband Raymond, flew from Birmingham Airport to Belfast, ready for the National AGM. A busy next four days had been planned. Friday we met up with Barbara Peart and Janet Steele from Shrewsbury for a coffee and a look around the Market Hall, you could do all your shopping under one roof, while listening to a live group playing music from our era.

Saturday, AGM which we all enjoyed. Very well organised, we were made very welcome, afterwards we had booked a meal ready to return for the evening entertainment, The restaurant we had chosen was above a night club, and of course the ladies had to take a look.

Sunday we took a 'hop on hop off' bus tour around Belfast. On the way around we visited the Titanic Experience, we spent quite a long time in there, we even got to re-enact the famous scene from the film.



Birmingham after a very enjoyable few days." Well done Belfast"

Monday, returned back to



Newport A member of Newport Trefoil has received an award from Girl Guiding. Bev is the Newport District Commissioner and has been awarded the Chief Commissioner's Award by Girl Guiding Midlands at a ceremony at Sandon Hall. This is to recognise her work in getting parents and new leaders on board and supporting Guiding in Newport.



Fourteen members of Newport Trefoil held an afternoon tea to celebrate Marion



becoming GG Shropshire's president, last Autumn.

Oswestry

The VE Day afternoon went well - Muriel told all those present about how the Guides won the war. Couldn't get any skirt to fit her!



Shrewsbury Trefoil Guild made rag wreaths for their April meeting. There was lots of shredded material and concentration for the meeting. But they all turned out well and all exclusive.

August was lunch at The Green Dragon after a talk on The Calendar from Mike Bourke.



September meeting. Cooking out in the rain at Copthorne guide hut. Our promise meeting in October. Guest speaker Nyda Ough. Some thought provoking discussions were had. Mary Howard and Sue Herepath made their Trefoil Promises.



Shropshire East In March, Pam, one of our members gave us an illustrated talk about a holiday she had had in Sri Lanka. She visited a lot of different places and we saw photos of flora and fauna and historic sites. It was a very interesting and informative evening.

In April we celebrated our birthday at The Summerhouse pub near Albrighton. It was a lovely venue. The menu was very varied and we enjoyed chatting to each other.

In May we had a visiting speaker, Carrie de Silva, from Harper Adams University. She talked to us about her project, 'Women in Street Names'. She is collecting names of streets from over the UK where women's names have been used. She has quite an interesting list already.

Our June meeting was a visit to the Midlands air ambulance HQ at Cosford.. It has only been opened for 2 years and is a spectacular building with the two helipads outside. We were very fortunate to have a lady to tell us about the service and give us a tour of several areas, but she was also joined by a doctor and pilot. So, we were able to look inside the helicopter, see the cars and view the equipment carried and learn what their jobs entailed.



July meeting was a Strawberry supper organised by one of our members. At the beginning of the meeting a new member was enrolled and we all renewed our promise. Then, Jenny had organised a wildflower trail round her lovely garden. We had a delicious buffet which was finished off with strawberries and cream, cakes, scones and shortbread.



Our August meeting was something different. Eleven of us (members and friends) visited the Anchor Inn at Woodseaves to watch a play performed outside in the grounds. The theatre group was Mikron Theatre. The play was called 'Hush! Hush!' It portrayed a world of secrets, songs and cyphers as we got to know the heroes of Hut 3. Bletchley Park in 1940. There were



only four actors but they were amazingly talented musicians, singers and actors and each played a myriad of parts.



In June we also helped one of our members with a Macmillan afternoon tea. It was a hot sunny day in her garden. There were lots of cakes! The event raised £900.

South Shropshire

In March we had a talk from a local young man. He had lived with kidney failure from a young age and received a transplant as a teenager. He shared his very personal story, promoting the importance and appreciating of organ donors.

In April we had an interesting and informative presentation by Charlie Bell from the National Trust who are leading the Stepping Stones project. It is a conservation programme in The Shropshire Hills which involves working with farmers, landowners, community groups and volunteers to create and connect heathland, flower-rich grassland, woodland and wetland.



In May, on the recommendation of one of our members we visited The Derwen Garden Centre at Guilsfield near

Welshpool. We were not disappointed: there was an excellent selection of healthy looking plants that were well displayed, small themed gardens to wander through and all in a peaceful, countryside setting. We had a delicious lunch in the cafe to compliment the jaunt.



In June we invited local guiders to join us. We shared our adventures from the AGM week end in Belfast, talked about our experiences of Guiding and how we could support the units for the benefit of the girls.

In July we had a relaxing Summer's evening, beginning with a picnic tea. We then perused and tried out a selection of quizzes and games that had been on offer from the Regions during the morning of The AGM in Belfast. Some members have already reserved accommodation for the 2026 AGM in Scarborough!

In August seven members enjoyed a leisurely but informative trip on the river on board The Sabrina. Followed by lunch at The Armoury.



Severn



Whitchurch Whitchurch Trefoil hosted the Annual Meeting in February. The ladies in the kitchen are Brenda, Jean and Mary (L to r.

Shropshire County News

Luminate Midlands Region Camp

This summer 3 members from Shropshire rekindled their camping bug and joined 77 other members from across our region to embrace the first "Luminate" camp and all it had to offer. The camp began on Friday afternoon and finished on the Monday.

For me, I had forgotten just how close Beaudesert camp site was, and how interesting the site with its ice house, lake, wood and walled garden. Two of us embraced our tents, whilst a third member took the sensible option and had a room with a proper bed in it!

There was so much choice and lots to do for all abilities. We began with a mini Olympics. We did very well and had to go head-to-head on the tie breaker, "beer ping pong" for the top spot. Alas we lost, however proud with second place. That evening we embraced Bhangra dancing with its engaging rhythms and drumming.

Saturday and Monday we choose which activities you wanted to take part in. For me, I was able to enjoy, Kayaking, Zip Wire and Boulderling, whilst others opted for the historic walk, fencing, axe throwing, circus skills the aqua box challenges. There was a variety of crafts and some music sessions too. If you didn't fancy any of the set activities, some campers enjoyed the time to knit and natter over a cuppa. That reminds me, the catering was fantastic, with choices at every meal time, always drinks on hand and even an afternoon treats of ice creams that suddenly appeared for us all. Saturday evening, we were put to the test with the "escape room challenges". Our team did manage to escape from our 3 rooms however I think it was more luck than judgement in the one room. We did have lots of laughs along the way.

On Sunday we were joined by the day visitors. We had lots of different activities which captured all the themes of the STAR challenge badge. I was very impressed with my microwave pizza in a mug, which I ate whilst soaking my feet and having a foot pampering session! That evening we had our campfire and skits.

Monday saw the camp come to a close. My tent was packed away, my memories of camps gone by rekindled and goodbyes to old and new friends. It was a lovely long weekend and I hope region might continue with another region camp, "Luminate round 2"?

Introducing Joanne Eyles, the new county chair for Shropshire

We had a lovely chat, and she recalls her time as a Brownie, Guide and Venture Scout, where she achieved the Queens Scout Award and Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award. Joanne returned to Guides as leader of Shifnal Guides and Rangers before moving overseas. Upon her return to the UK, she joined Shropshire East Trefoil Guild. Joanne has continued to embrace all that Trefoil offers us: Joanne was part of the Trefoil team who created the award winning (RHS Silver- Gilt) garden at the Shrewsbury Flower Show. She led the third TOPAZ team Russia and is a Gold Voyage Award holder.



Away from Trefoil Joanne works full time helping people live independently in their own homes. When she has a little free time, she likes to take part in flower arranging competitions and regularly enters her designs at local shows.

Joanne said, “I am excited and nervous about taking on this position, whilst at the same time feeling very honored to be asked.”

She looks forward to meeting with everyone as we find friendship, get active, give support, and get involved.

The County Singing Circle.

Shropshire Singing Circle is a group of Trefoil and Girlguiding members from all parts of the county. We meet once a month on the third Tuesday from 1.45 to 3.45 at The Church of the Holy Spirit in Shrewsbury.

So far this year two new members have joined us bringing our numbers up to 18 meaning we can extend our choice of songs. We sing many of the old favourites and learn some of the newer songs sung by the larger, (old TAC) singing circles.



In March we had a visit from Glen Aston and her husband Ron who live in Brussels. Glen joined us during the pandemic when we sang on zoom twice a month and is considered an honorary member. It was a super day as we all got together for lunch before singing (any excuse!).

Contact Barbara Peart for details. diheime72@gmail.com

Shropshire Trefoil Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/shropshiretrefoilguild>

Girlguiding Shropshire

www.girlguidingshropshire.org.uk

Midlands Trefoil Facebook : www.facebook.com/trefoilguildmidlands

Midlands region <http://www.girlguiding-midlands.org.uk/>

Please send any information and/or photos to Mandy McCartney