

**WEST MERCIA GUIDE ASSOCIATION
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

31 March 2023

West Mercia Guide Association

**Year Ending 31 March 2023
General Information**

County Commissioner	Mrs Karen Belcher
Assistant County Commissioner	Miss Rebecca Hughes
Charity Trustees	Mrs Karen Belcher Miss Hannah Bleakley Ms Jane Burrell from January 2023 Mrs Elaine Bolton Miss Helen Cartwright Mrs Andrene Clarke Mrs Justine Clarke to December 2022 Mrs Jane Collett to December 2022 Mrs Wendy Cowdrey to December 2022 Mrs Deborah Drohan Miss Johanne Harrison Ms Alison Hughes from January 2023 Miss Rebecca Hughes Miss Fiona Lucas Mrs Kristie Mander to December 2022 Ms Joanne Mason from January 2023 Ms Becky Powell Miss Freya Wenman
Charity Number	1017729
County Headquarters	Mercia Point Hordern Road Wolverhampton WV6 0HT
Bankers	HSBC Bank plc The Bridge Walsall West Midlands WS1 1LN
Accountants	Neal & Co Business Services Ltd Shakespeare Buildings 26 Cradley Road Cradley Heath West Midlands B64 6AG

West Mercia Guide Association

Year Ending 31 March 2023 Annual Report

The trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ending March 2023.

Status

West Mercia County Guides which also operates under the name of Girlguiding West Mercia is a part of the Association of the United Kingdom (also operating as Girlguiding UK) which is incorporated by Royal Charter as a Registered Charity (No 306016)

Organisation Structure.

The governance and organisational structure of the Association is administered through an Executive Committee under the leadership of the County Commissioner who is appointed by the Midland Region Guide Executive Committee. There are 13 divisions within West Mercia each having a Division Commissioner who is appointed by the County Commissioner of Girl Guiding-West Mercia, and as such they are responsible for the overseeing of the administration in the county. The Trustees of the County are the appointed Division Commissioners, The County Commissioner and the Assistant County Commissioner(s) of Girl Guiding West Mercia, who are also voting members of the Girl Guiding West Mercia Executive Committee. A full list can be found on page 1 of this report.

Guiding – Our Vision, Mission and Values

Girlguiding West Mercia is a leading charity for girls and young women. We are open to girls of all faiths and whatever their background, circumstances and abilities

Our vision - For an equal world where all girls can make a positive difference, be happy, safe and fulfil their potential

Our mission - Whoever they are, wherever they're from, girls and young women can do amazing things - we give them the chance through fun, friendship, challenge and adventure. We empower girls to find their voice, inspire them to discover the best in themselves and to make a positive difference in their community.

Our values - We are caring, challenging, empowering, fun, inclusive and inspiring.

As part of Girlguiding, members of Girlguiding West Mercia are encouraged to 'learn by doing' with the five elements known as 'The Five Essentials'

- Working together in small groups
- Encouraging self-government and decision making
- A balanced and varied programme which is girl led
- Caring for the individual
- Sharing a commitment to a common standard

Activities

Through adult volunteers we provide a weekly programme of activities, training and opportunities to the girls and young women across the county. The Guiding programme allows members of Girlguiding West Mercia to engage in activities suited to the abilities and needs of each individual, the structure of the sections and age grouping where possible

Rainbows	5-7 years
Brownies	7-10 years
Guides	10-14 years
Rangers	14-18 years
18-30 offer	18-30 years
Leaders	18+

Public Benefit

GirlGuiding West Mercia is a branch of GirlGuiding UK, which with its branches forms the United Kingdom's voluntary organisation for girls and young women.

West Mercia Guide Association

Year Ending 31 March 2023 Annual Report (continued)

County Commissioner's Report

Our membership in Girlguiding West Mercia continues to grow. In February 2023 the numbers showed the membership stood at 4719 and by May 2023 our membership stood at 4969 an increase of 250 in three months.

Girlguiding West Mercia want all girls to know that they can do anything. Through weekly unit meetings, district division and county events, our young members have been given a variety of opportunities from learning new skills to attending days out to UK and international residential events to destinations such as Disney Land and Canada.

Many of our young members have gained badges and awards through the Girlguiding Programme. Members of our Guide and Ranger sections have enjoyed the experience of working together with members from across the county to work towards gaining their Bronze, silver and Gold D of E. A number of our young members have been presented with their Bronze, Silver and Gold D of E awards.

As a County we ran outdoor days for each of our sections. In May at County level, we ran a day for our Guide and Rangers where they took part in activities that encouraged them to step out of their comfort zone and know they can achieve whatever they want to. All our Guides and Rangers and their leaders had a fabulous day.

In June 900 Rainbows and Brownies, along with their leaders attended a County international day at Beauport where they took part in crafts, games, bhanga dancing and the sacker. Although the weather wasn't kind it was a fabulous time and lots of happy memories were made.

Throughout the year Girlguiding West Mercia has continued to offer their volunteers a variety of training opportunities including A Safe Space, 1st Response, Risk Assessment and Programme.

In May over 100 of our adult volunteers spent the day at Blackwell Adventure. They enjoyed developing and learning new skills that they could use with the young members in their units. The sun shone and everyone had a good time and felt the investment of their time was well worth it.

In June we celebrated with our adult volunteers who received long service awards. Volunteers received long service awards ranging from 20 years up to 50 years long service.

In November we ran our strategic planning weekend. A cross section of adult volunteers from across the county came together to discuss and decide what our priorities and objectives as a county would be from 2022 – 2027. We had to have an outline plan of events and how we would continue to move the county forward. By the end of the weekend we had our five-year plan and a clear set of priorities/objectives. Girlguiding West Mercia's mission statement is "Through fun, friendship, challenge and adventure we empower girls to find their voice, inspiring them to do their best in themselves and to make a positive difference in their community." We will do this by:

- Diversity & Inclusion
- Celebrating diversity across the County.
- Ensure that we are inclusive to all.
- Grow our membership across all sections by providing new opportunities.
- Support all our volunteers.
- Offer new adventures & experiences to our girls and young women.
- Increase our visibility to the public, by being more involved in our local communities.
- Educate our members that they are part of a larger organisation and family – WAGGS.

2023/2024 will continue to offer our members adventure and fun. We look forward to celebrating our 50th Anniversary with 50FEST! A residential festival that all our members will be able to join together and celebrate and know they can do anything.

Karen Belcher
County Commissioner
Girlguiding West Mercia

West Mercia Guide Association

**Income and Expenditure Account
For the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
INCOME			
Subscriptions	18,183	-	18,183
Camps/Holidays/Outings	-	5,788	5,788
Training	-	253	253
D of E, Baden Powell and Queens Guide	-	46	46
Vice Presidents	-	-	-
Badges & County merchandise	937	-	937
Bank interest received	3,189	-	3,189
Promotions/Advertisements	-	-	-
Grants	4,322	-	4,322
Donations	100	-	100
Room hire	3,104	-	3,104
Special events	-	-	-
The Beaudesert Park Camp Site Committee	-	-	-
Other income	1,431	-	1,431
Transfers	-	-	-
Total Income	31,266	6,086	37,352
EXPENDITURE			
Camps/Holidays/Outings	-	6,541	6,541
Training	-	313	313
D of E, Baden Powell and Queens Guide	-	47	47
Long Service/Awards	5,599	-	5,599
Mileage	6,517	403	6,920
Printing and stationery	3,621	-	3,621
Telephone & Postage	1,064	-	1,064
County Office costs	1,065	-	1,065
R&R/Capital Expenditure	3,260	-	3,260
Grants	300	-	300
Insurance	788	-	788
Headquarters maintenance/running costs	11,068	-	11,068
County events	5,771	-	5,771
Independent examiners fee	1,200	-	1,200
AGM and PR Costs	1,556	-	1,556
Bank charges	197	226	423
Website/Computer costs	2,827	-	2,827
Other expenses	1,754	-	1,754
Transfers	-	-	-
Total Expenses	46,586	7,530	54,117
Surplus/(Deficit)of income over expenditure	(15,320)	(1,444)	(16,764)
Funds brought forward	364,674	47,559	412,233

(15,320)	(1,444)	(16,764)	(17,497)
<u>349,354</u>	<u>46,115</u>	<u>395,469</u>	<u>412,233</u>

West Mercia Guide Association

Balance Sheet
at 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	1		144,129		144,129
Current Assets					
Debtors			-		-
Cash at Bank and in Hand	2	252,540		269,304	
		<u>252,540</u>		<u>269,304</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	3	(1,200)		(1,200)	
Net Current Assets			251,340		268,104
Total Assets less Current Liabilities			<u>395,469</u>		<u>412,233</u>
Accumulated Funds					
Designated Funds	4		46,115		47,559
Unrestricted Funds			349,354		364,674
			<u>395,469</u>		<u>412,233</u>

Signed

Trustee

[Signature]

Trustee

[Signature]

West Mercia Guide Association

Accounting Policies

1) DEPRECIATION

No depreciation has been charged this period in respect of the freehold property as it is that the property will not have reduced in value since the purchase.
Other income includes donations received.

West Mercia Guide Association

Notes to the accounts

1. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Mercia Point £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2011	144,129	144,129
Additions		-
At 31 March 2014	<u>144,129</u>	<u>144,129</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2015	-	-
Charge for Year	-	-
At 31 March 2016	-	-
Net Book Value		
At 1 April 2021	144,129	144,129
At 31 March 2022	<u>144,129</u>	<u>144,129</u>

2. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

		2023	2022
Main bank account		37,575	53,468
High interest account	General	132,024	131,503
	Special events	-	-
Natwest Pooled account		75,015	75,015
Headquarters account		1,812	1,760
Special Events account		-	-
Training account		2,516	2,752
Outdoor account		3,598	4,807
		<u>252,540</u>	<u>269,304</u>

3. CREDITORS

	2023	2022
Independent examiners fee	(1,200)	(1,200)
	<u>(1,200)</u>	<u>(1,200)</u>

West Mercia Guide Association

Notes to the accounts (continued)

4. DESIGNATED FUNDS

	<u>Balance</u> <u>B/Fwd</u>	<u>Movement</u> <u>In funds</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>C/Fwd</u>
Special Events	-	-	-	-
Training	2,751	(234)	-	2,517
Outdoors	4,808	(1,210)	-	3,598
Reserves	40,000	-	-	40,000
	<u>47,559</u>	<u>(1,444)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46,115</u>