

Trefoil Guild invade the Bay

MORE THAN 500 members of the South West of England Trefoil Guild were at the Riviera International Conference Centre on Saturday for the organisation's regional AGM.

The Trefoil Guild, otherwise known as Guiding for Adults, is the social side of Girlguiding. Past and present leaders meet up regularly to enjoy each other's company and network so they can support the Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Senior Sections throughout the UK.

In the South West there are 3,000-plus members, while nationally there are more than 22,000 members linked by their magazine *The Trefoil*.

Both men and women, whose ages span from 18 to 100, enjoy a wide variety of interests – and basically, have a great time.

At the RICC, there were presentations from the regional chairman Val Sewell, who talked about the successes of 2016 and plans for 2018 when the Trefoil Guild will celebrate its 75th Anniversary. There was a talk by Nick Powe of Kents Cavern and the meeting was finished off with a cream tea.

Frances Parrett, PR for the South West region, said: "It was a huge success, but it didn't stop there – the next day, groups of Trefoil Guild members, with their easily recognisable scarves and red jumpers, could be seen in every corner of Torquay, enjoying the sunshine,



frequenting the coffee shops, and taking in a show at the Princess Theatre.

"Trefoil Guild members have a keen interest, not only in the well-being of other members, but also in the diverse areas we visit to attend our huge meetings each year. Many of these ladies and gentlemen will soon be attending the National Annual Meeting in Brighton.

"As either current or past leaders of Girlguiding, these women help to ensure that the movement continues to offer the girls of today a vibrant and relevant programme – but since

Trefoil Guild is also the social side of guiding, they enjoy each other's company, and travel widely to keep in touch with friends and associates.

"We welcome anyone, not just those who have had an interest in Girlguiding in the past – as a leader, Guide, parent of a Brownie – to join our excellent organisation.

"Some guilds comprise mostly younger members who love to do extreme sports, while others are comfortable craft-loving guilds who love to meet up for a coffee."

Cllr Ann Brooks, was also an

IN CONFERENCE : Left to right – Tina Caunter, Chris Tozer, Jenny Taylor, Chris Foster, Rosie Gitsham and Val Sewell

invited guest, and more than £500 was raised for the Trefoil Guild South West charity for 2017 Riding for the Disabled.

For more information, visit the Trefoil Guild website at www.trefoilguild.co.uk.

South West England Trefoil Guild members are already looking forward to returning to Devon for part of a huge steam train event in 2018.