



Welcome from the County Commissioner

It's a month since I was appointed County Commissioner for Surrey East and my focus has been getting to know all the County role holders and all that they do to support Guiding in Surrey East. I visited the London and South East Region (LASER) HQ in Wandsworth, met the team there and our Region Chief - Amanda Teasel.

We celebrated and said thank you to Lesley Bailey and Jennifer Sibley who led Surrey East for the past 5 years with an event at Little Acres campsite in Epsom and I helped at the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall, which was supported by Sussex West County this year. I have also attended the reception where Katie Lawton was appointed Lord Lieutenant's Cadet at Losely House by Michael More-Molyneux, the Surrey Lord Lieutenant, and look forward to hearing about some of the events she gets involved in during the year. Please do take a moment to look at our [county website](#) and participate in our Christmas Competition - the winner will have their annual subscription paid by the County in February, when its due.

It's great to see so many of our units getting back to Guiding as we know it this term with covid safeguards in place and to hear about all that people have been doing. I'm pleased to see that our overall membership numbers are growing, thanks to the time and effort given by you all. Enjoy it and keep safe.

Beverly



Christmas Competition!



In celebration of our new website the training team have arranged a Christmas competition.

Hidden on the Surrey East website are ten images of leaders wearing Santa hats. Simply find all ten images and complete the entry form stating where you saw the leader/ what they were doing/ holding, where they were standing etc. All correct entries will be entered into a draw and the lucky winner will receive the star prize...their annual subscription in February paid for by Girlguiding Surrey East.

Entries are only open to leaders and volunteers registered as members in Girlguiding Surrey East.

Competition runs from 1st December and the closing date is 31st December 2021

<https://www.girlguidingsurreyeast.org.uk>

Good luck!

Children in Need

Well done to all units who took part and raised money for Girlguiding and Children in Need. Region are putting together a press release, so are keen to hear about all the interesting activities our units are doing. Please share it with them by completing this form [here](#).

**VACANCY****VACANCY**

Volunteering Opportunities

We are seeking a **Lead Volunteer for Bazzaz**, the triennial activity day for Surrey Beaver Scouts and Rainbows being held at Merrist Wood in Guildford on the 21st May 2022. You can find out more about the event [here](#). Booking is now open for this event and some units from Surrey East have registered. We need someone from our County to attend the monthly steering meetings and share the detail with the units that are attending. Jane Luff, our County Outdoor Activity Adviser (who is leading on Scoutabout) has offered her support to the lead volunteer. Interested? Please contact surreyeastcc@btinternet.com.

We also have a vacancy for **Division Commissioner for Downs Heath**. This Division has three Districts (Banstead, Kingswood and How Hills) and covers the area north of the M25 above Reigate - including Banstead, Kingswood and the surrounding areas. Please see the [role description](#), to find out more or contact me directly to discuss further as I am the previous role holder- Beverly Heywood-Jones (surreyeastcc@btinternet.com).

Finally, sadly Charity will be ending her term as the **County Communications & PR Adviser** in February 2022. This is a key County role requiring someone with marketing/social media experience who can work with volunteers across the County to support our website and social media presence in line with Guiding policy and brand guidelines. Charity is happy to provide support to the new appointment holder. Interested to find out more, please contact surreyeastcc@btinternet.com.

Final reminder-Historic roles or qualifications

If you have a historic volunteer role or qualification missing from your GO record, please let us know. For missing or incorrect roles, please email memberships@girlguiding.org.uk, giving us your membership number, role held, name of unit/district/division, level number (if known) and start and end date. For historic qualifications please email in your membership number, name of qualification and start and completion dates. Please copy in your county commissioner surreyeastcc@btinternet.com so that she is aware.

This needs to be done by 30th November.

Upcoming Trainings



RSPB Nature Training for Leaders- Sunday 27th February, Faurefold

The RSPB wants to create stronger connections between people and nature, including giving experiences to children that engage and inspire them to take action for nature.

<https://www.girlguidingsurreyeast.org.uk/event/running-outdoor-nature-sessions/>

A risky Business (via Zoom) Wednesday 12th January 7.30

A virtual session to provide support to all volunteers to create and use risk assessments in order to provide safe spaces for all Girlguiding activities and be able to recognise unsafe situations and plans. Demystify the process and get great advice for managing risk.

<https://www.girlguidingsurreyeast.org.uk/event/risky-business-virtual-training/>

A Safe Space Level 3 (All sessions are open to everyone in the county)

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| 5 th February (Reigate) | 9:00am- 12:00pm | Empire Hall, Horley, RH6 7AW |
| 6 th March (Leith Hill) | 9:00-12:00pm | Faurefold |

First Response Face to Face

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|---------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|
| 26 th February | 9.00am to 3pm | Faurefold |
| 26 th February - Practical | 3pm to 4pm | Faurefold |

For more information and to book, please go to: [Training | Girl Guiding Surrey East](#)

Dear friends in Guiding,

Sally Dart (1st Fetcham Brownies and Fetcham Guides) has asked me to pass on the sad news to anyone who knew her mother.

"Doreen Dart passed away at home on the 30th October. She had run 3rd A Reigate Brownies for over 25 years and took them away on many Pack Holidays. She was an active member of Reigate Trefoil and was their chairman and on the committee. We will miss her."

Wendy Amer
Fetcham and Leatherhead District Commissioner



Bazzaz- 22nd May 2022

The triennial activity day for Surrey Beaver Scouts and Rainbows will be held at Merrist Wood on the 21st May 2022. If your unit has been before, you will know what good things are in store! If you are new to Guiding or have never been, prepare to be amazed! It really is a day to remember! This year, we are asking all units to bring an activity so even if you are not with the Rainbows, please do offer your support to the Rainbow leaders!

The event site for Bazzaz 2022 is now open at <http://www.surrey-scouts.org.uk/bazzaz> which will give you lots of information and more will be added in the coming months.

We encourage all Rainbow Units to join us for what promises to be an incredible day of activities!

You can follow Bazzaz on social media too:

Facebook: [@bazzazlive](#)

Intsagram: [@bazzazlive](#)

Scoutabout 1st-3rd July 2022

Scoutabout is back! The triennial event for over 6000 Surrey Scouts and Guides will be held at Ardingly Showground 1st-3rd July 2022.

The event website for Scoutabout 2022 is now open at <http://www.surrey-scouts.org.uk/events/scoutabout-2022> which will give you lots of information and more will be added in the coming months.

Scoutabout is a huge success because of the way that it is supported by other leaders too. Visit the website to see what service team options are available.

You can follow Scoutabout on Social media too:

Twitter: www.twitter.com/scoutaboutlive

Facebook: www.fb.com/scoutaboutlive

Instagram: www.instagram.com/scoutaboutlive



We encourage all Guide units to join us for what promises to be an incredible weekend of activities!

Reflecting on the Last 5 Years -

Lesley Bailey was Surrey East County Commissioner from September 2016 to December 2020 and reflects on the changes that took place during her tenure: the new programme and badges, new ways of thinking, new policies, GDPR, new recruitment ideas and tools in Go, changes to risk assessments, new uniform for many and new gifts branded for Guiding, changes to First Response, the Safe Space and more recently the introduction of Zoom and virtual Guiding.

Below is her speech from the Thank You event held earlier this month:

To all of you here and absent today, thank you for everything each and every one of you has done to support Surrey East Guiding since I became County Commissioner. The support has been fantastic throughout a period of change that none of us could foresee - and I have to say not even Beverly anticipated the global pandemic when she rose to the challenge of writing the County's first risk assessment in all its great detail! To Jennifer, who was always there at the end of the phone at a time when travelling on trains proved a great time to talk tunnels allowing! To her detailed mind which complimented my practical hands-on approach and to her trust at the beginning when we really, to be honest, didn't know each other. But I trusted my gut instinct and it worked. To Laura, who was an ear for Jennifer and I behind the scenes and who took up the task as County President for the younger generation!

When I took over this role, we all knew change was on the horizon in the programme but none of us could have foreseen the volume of change we have had these past years. New ideas brought new ventures and new twists to established ones. We moved the training to a new venue, we developed the training team and worked with other counties over ventures like the Night hike and recruitment. We developed a social media team to raise our profile electronically, and the newsletter just grew amazingly as instead of a few pages we welcomed our bumper edition of 60 pages! The releasing of all that publicity and growth was in our hands, thanks to Charlotte in her editing role - she was amazing. Then there were awards to recognise the qualities of many, the Lord Lieutenant's cadet who shone like a bright star. To Eileen, who developed and shaped so many members and who dances the night away at many a unit Christmas Dinner to Dexys Midnight Runners. That lady has and will teach us so much, it cannot go unrecognised.

So many positives that the Division commissioners and Trustees of the County can be proud of and it's all down to your support of fellow members at tough times, engagement in the cause and hard work, because that is what it is. I can't recognise you all by name as I am bound to forget someone! So rather than forgetting anyone, I would like to say thank you to each and every one of you. Each one of you know what you have done, how you have helped Jennifer and I over these last years and we certainly couldn't have done these roles without all your assistance.

Thank you seems to be too small a phrase but as we look forward to Beverly's next five years, I would like to say a huge heartfelt Thank You to you all.

Lesley Bailey