



Welcome from the County Commissioner

I love this time in Guiding. There are lots of fun things to do in our weekly meetings with autumn, bonfire night, Diwali, Hanukkah, Christmas and New Year. Thank you to everyone who has done such fabulous things and I look forward to seeing some pictures in the County Newsletter in January. It is important for us all to have a break from the weekly meetings and regular routines and to reflect on the outgoing year - what we have achieved, what we value and any new goals. What better time than New Year!

For leaders and administrators, this may also be a time to catch-up on some admin - checking that Go is up to date in readiness for the Annual Subscription invoice in February and for some it will be completing the end of year accounts (not all accounting year ends are in December). For everyone it's a good time to check on Go when your mandatory training expires so you can ensure it is renewed ahead of time. I also ask that you check your emergency contact details are up to date too as I see for many this vital data is missing.

Thank you for everything you do in Guiding. Merry Christmas to you and your families. Enjoy the holidays!

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 Surrey East Girlguiding.

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

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

Awards



Congratulations to Stella Cantor who was awarded a Region Chief Award to thank her for services to Guiding over 37 years - with roles including Guide and Ranger leader, County membership support, Division Commissioner, First Response adviser/Trainer and Rainbow leader. She supported many leaders over the years and welcomed the Surrey Associates into her home annually. Very well deserved.

'Stella was a constant support, setting a high standard to ensure things were being done properly.'

'Stella enabled me to develop into the confident leader that I am today, and for that I am forever grateful.'

VACANCY

Volunteering Opportunities

VACANCY

We are seeking a **Lead Volunteer for Bazzaz**. Planning is in progress for this 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 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.

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.

Are you 14-25? Interested in doing something else in Guiding?

Why not join the **Introduction to Peer Education** session hosted on Zoom by the Girlguiding LaSER Peer Education Coordinator, Vicky on Tuesday 25th January 6.30pm - 7.45pm to:

- Discover what Peer Education is
- Hear from current peer educators
- Meet the peer education trainers
- Sample a peer-led activity
- Find out how to get involved
- Ask questions

Find out more and book a place here - [Girlguiding LaSER](#)
The closing date for registrations is 10th January 2022.



Upcoming Trainings

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

Would you like to...

- Develop practical skills to build more nature-based sessions into regular programme planning.
- Understand the importance and value of deepening young people's love of nature through a combination of hands on experiences and taking actions to benefit the natural world so that girls become champions for nature and drive change.
- Increase your awareness of the threats to nature and the positive actions which Leaders can inspire girls to take, as part of the wider nature movement.
- Be inspired to build on the 'take action' and 'adventure' elements of the Girlguiding programme to create more meaningful experiences and a greater benefit for young people?

<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.

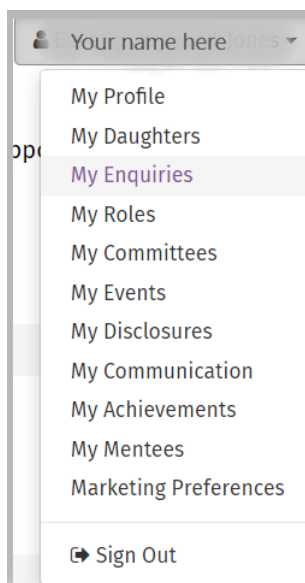
<https://www.girlguidingsurreyeast.org.uk/event/risky-business-virtual-training/>

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

5th February (Reigate) 9:00am- 12:00pm Empire Hall, Horley, RH6 7AW

6th March (Leith Hill) 9:00-12:00pm Faurefold, near Dorking

How to Check your own Record in Go



For those of you who are less familiar with Go (our membership system), you may not know how to check your own details. You will need to log in to the system using your own username and password. There is guidance on the first screen if you have forgotten your username or password. Once you have successfully logged in, you will see your name in the top right hand corner of the screen. If you move the cursor to your name and click, a drop down menu will show options.

To check when your Safe Space modules or First Response expires, select My Achievements. Scroll down to see the Courses and E-Learning. If you did an e-learning, these will expire 3 years after the date completed.

To check when your DBS expires, select My Disclosures. The Valid To date is shown on the screen. You should contact your commissioner or local id verifier to arrange for it to be renewed before it expires.

To check your Emergency Contacts, select My Profile. You can then scroll down to Additional Contacts, where there is an option to Edit your own Emergency Contacts.



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!

PGL update

As you may have seen in the media, four PGL sites have had services for non-accompanied children suspended following an Ofsted inspection. Girlguiding's official statement is as follows:

'We work with PGL to offer our young members exclusive adventure weekends at their UK centres. We have been made aware that the regulator Ofsted has suspended PGL programmes for unaccompanied children across four of its centres. Although this does not apply to its activities for accompanied children or uniformed groups, we can confirm that there are no planned Girlguiding visits to these sites for the rest of 2021. We take the safety and wellbeing of all our members seriously and, as with all services used by our members, we will continuously review these partnerships to ensure safeguarding measures are maintained.'

From a safe practice perspective, Girlguiding can't confirm that the sites are unsafe for the services and provision Girlguiding would engage with. Girlguiding are not recommending or asking leaders to cancel accompanied visits to PGL sites, as ever all activities should be risk assessed. If volunteers/parents/carers contact you and need support and guidance where residentials are already booked, rearranged or in plan please contact [Volunteer Support](#).



Planning an international trip?

As the Covid situation is changing regularly and quickly at the moment, please contact Amy Lovell for the most up to date guidance on:

surreyeastinternational@gmail.com

CELEBRATING THE REGION'S
50TH
ANNIVERSARY

