



UPDATE
March 2023



Welcome from the County Commissioner



Happy Thinking Day to you all! It's been fantastic to see members celebrating across the county and to hear about those who proudly wore their uniform at school. Epsom Division celebrated with a sleepover at Epsom Grandstand. It was magnificent to see them all having such fun together with many Rainbows sleeping away from home for the first time. It was a great opportunity to be able present new Rainbow leaders with their leadership qualification too and some well-deserved long service awards. Congratulations to all.

I am pleased to see that over 80% of the county have paid the [annual membership subscriptions](#). Please can the remaining leaders/unit administrators arrange payment promptly now to avoid unnecessary admin for volunteers having to chase people. If you have issues with paying the invoice, please refer to your local commissioner. The deadline for all payments to be received and processed by HQ is 31st March.

I am delighted to hear that 21 Brownie units from Surrey East have signed up to Scram 2023. This is the first year that Brownies have been invited to this event, organised by Surrey Scouts. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

You will see in our Upcoming Training that we are now offering the modules to support the new Leadership Development Programme. If you are an existing leader, who would like to further develop your skills, please do sign up too.

Thank you to everyone who volunteers in Girlguiding Surrey East and makes this all possible. Enjoy 2023.

Beverly Heywood-Jones
Surrey East County Commissioner

County Role Volunteering Opportunities

Are you interested in Marketing and Comms? Surrey East is looking to appoint a new **County Communications & PR Adviser**. This is a key County role requiring someone experienced in marketing/social media who can work with volunteers across the County to support our website and social media presence in line with Guiding policy and brand guidelines. Megan, the current role holder is willing to provide support to the new appointment holder to ensure continuity. Interested to find out more, please contact surreyeastcc@btinternet.com.

Volunteering Opportunities

Breakaway to Belgium - 21-22 October 2023 - County Event Coordinator (s) - URGENTLY required

We have registered a Surrey East county group to attend [Breakaway to Belgium](#). A one-day wide game exploring the beautiful city of Brussels. We urgently need an event coordinator and adult volunteers to lead this for Surrey East - ideally one with an International residential license.



If you are interested in representing Surrey East at this event, or are a leader of a Guide or Ranger Unit and would like to participate - please contact surreyeastcc@btconnect.com directly.

**Cricket for Brownies in conjunction with Surrey Cricket Foundation
13th May - Esher High School**



We are working on a partnership with Surrey Cricket to offer a day of cricket exclusively for Brownies. We are looking for a couple keen volunteers to liaise with Surrey Cricket Foundation and coordinate this event for enthusiastic Brownies in Surrey East. Interested? Please contact surreyeastcc@btconnect.com directly.

Upcoming Training

Leadership Development Programme Training

14th March 7:30-8:30pm: A Risky Business (webinar)

30th March 7:30-8:30pm: Introduction to Managing Unit Accounts (webinar)

[Upcoming Events](#) › [Training](#) › [Leadership Development Programme](#) › – [Girl Guiding Surrey East](#)

Air and Share

21st March 7.30-8.30 Support for Commissioners registering new leaders in training (webinar)

[Support for Commissioners registering new leaders in training](#) | [Girl Guiding Surrey East](#)



First Response:

Tuesday 4th April 7:30-9:30pm Virtual Sessions 2 and 3 (Zoom)

Sat 13th May First Response 12.30-2.30 Session One - Blended learning: Face to Face - Epsom

Safe Space 3:

Sat 13th May Safe 9-12 Space 3 Face to Face

[Training](#) | [Girl Guiding Surrey East](#)

Did you know?

DofE Volunteers

Did you know that if a Guide would like to use 'helping at Rainbows or Brownies' for volunteering as part of the Duke of Edinburgh scheme, she does not need to register as a new volunteer? As active members already, she can simply be added by the unit leader to the relevant unit as a Rainbow or Brownie Helper using her membership number.

There is a [new starter form \(14-17\)](#) that needs to be completed by the parents of anyone starting a new role at 14 such as Rangers, Young leader, Peer Educator, Advocates and DofE volunteer. Anyone who is new to Guiding will need to register either as a [young member](#) or an [adult member](#).

Safe Space for Under 18s

There is safe space training for young volunteers in leadership roles - [A Safe Space for under 18s | Girlguiding](#) with an activity pack for Rainbow/Brownie Helpers or Guiding doing their Camp Permit and a Safe Space e-learning for 14-17 year olds.

Unit Capacity

We have updated the unit capacity on GO for several units that had nothing shown. The Unit information is used by prospective parents when they apply to the waiting list so they can see when you meet, how many places are available and if you have a waiting list, how long is it.

Information and Consent

It is important that you use current forms as they are frequently updated, so please download the latest [Information and Consent form](#) the website dated 2022. To make it easier for you and your parents, please remember that you can put multiple events onto the same form simply by showing the detail in the Additional Information box. You may also like to ask parents to simply cross out any events listed that they do not consent to or add a checkbox for them to tick to show their support. If it's a more adventurous event, you may choose to have a separate form.

Unit Accounts

At the end of each financial year, unit accounts must be independently reviewed and there is a [checklist](#) to support this. Girlguiding need accounts to be sent to your commissioner within 3 months of the end of the financial year. For more information refer to the website [End of year accounts | Girlguiding](#)

Sad news

We offer our condolences to Ken Goatley, who has advised us that sadly Vera Goatley passed away in December.

She was previously Vera Winter and was active with 4th Bookham Brownies/Rainbow for many years.

Have you been watching this Space?

We've been working hard all winter to bring more adventure to Faurefold



A massive Thank-you to our hard working Committee members, especially Jane Luff and Kate Fowles that have made this happen and all the volunteers that turned up for our working party day. It made a massive difference.

We are still fundraising to pay the final instalment so if you have any fundraising ideas or can get your unit involved in some fundraising we'd love wait to hear from you.



The course will be open for bookings from March 20th 2023 (subject to the helmets arriving!).

- At least one leader per course must have completed an onsite training orientation.
- The course is suitable for all - the 8 different elements which can be adapted for different age groups and abilities
- Bookings will be made through the Faurefold session booking calendar and charged at £35 per session. (details available soon)

Like our facebook [FB](#) page or bookmark [News - Faurefold Girlguiding Surrey East](#) to get up to date information about opening dates and training courses.

Our first set of briefing sessions was successfully run on Sunday 5th March; lots of fun was had as everyone learned the “ropes” and had a go at the course themselves. The next session is on Sunday May 14th and can be booked directly through GGSE training.

[Leaders Briefing Session: 4pm May 14th 2023](#)

Further Courses will be appearing shortly, meanwhile if you have questions please contact our Outdoor Advisor: [Jane Luff](#)



International Opportunities



Are you ready for an international adventure?

Would you like to travel and explore the world with Girlguiding?

Do you want to be part of a team who in the summer 2024 take their passports and go?

Opportunities for members of Girlguiding in London and South East England Region (LaSER) which includes Surrey East are open now – find out more [here](#)

- Leaders who are interested in being part of a leadership team for a region international trip;
- Young people who will be 14-18 in the summer of 2024 to make up the teams on these region trips;
- Young adults, aged 18-22 in the summer of 2024, to take part in Roverway 2024.

Being part of any international Girlguiding trip is an amazing experience. It is chance to meet new people, be involved in the planning of your adventure, explore one or more countries, learn new skills and create memories that will last forever.

Leaders please do share this information with your young people who will be the right age (including all young leaders) and encourage them to consider applying if it of interest to them.

There is an online application form for each and once these close, people will be contacted about the next stage of the recruitment process. As an international Girlguiding experience you will be able to carry out fundraising activities to help cover the cost of a trip and as a county we are here to help and support you.

More information about all these opportunities is available on the LaSER region website [here](#)

'If you ever have the opportunity to take part in a LaSER expedition or a similar opportunity, our advice is to never turn it down: it may seem challenging, but you don't know what you can do until you try! We learned and developed amazing skills that will help us throughout life, from independence and confidence, to communication and teamwork' Team Mongolia 2019