



County Update April 2023



Welcome from the County Commissioner

Happy holidays! The summer term is my favourite, with lighter evenings and more opportunities for outdoor adventures. I know you will have seen the new branding and I hope you like the new look county update too.

Last month I attended the Trefoil AGM and shared with them all the amazing things you have been doing through the year. I thanked them for the support that they give to units and for the service that they have given to guiding movement over the years, a legacy that our members carry today for future generations. Do reach out to your local Guild if there are opportunities where they can support you.

I'm sure many are now looking forward to things that have been planned: Brownies to Scram 2023 and international trips. This term we will also have the coronation and for most of us, this will be our first. King Charles is promoting the Big Help Out – and I really hope that units will be getting involved with the local community during this time – promoting Guiding and encouraging people to volunteer with us. I know this is a challenge. Thank you to everyone who volunteers in Girlguiding Surrey East and makes this all possible.

Beverly Heywood-Jones
Surrey East County Commissioner



STOP PRESS.....

Did you see that the Queen's Guide award is now open to members aged 16-30. This is the highest award that you can work towards within guiding and has had a refresh. Changes have been made to provide more choice and flexibility for participants. Please do contact our Queens Guide Adviser [Kate Roberts](#) if you have any questions or to find out more for yourself or members of your unit. Here are the details of the refreshed [Queen's Guide award](#). If you are currently doing the award, you can either continue the old programme or switch to the new programme.

Share your guiding stories in the County Newsletter

We are starting to collect submissions for the next County Newsletter, which will be published in July 2023. The County Newsletter is issued twice a year. Here is the [Autumn/Winter 2022 edition](#). All contributions are welcome, from Units, Districts, Divisions or County – please email them to newslettersurreyeast@gmail.com.

Any article is always better if it is accompanied by photos, but please ensure that you have permission for them to be used before sharing them (if you state this in your initial email, it makes our job a lot easier!). For guidance on what makes good photos, look at the [guiding website](#). We would love to hear from you – no story is too small to be included. It is fantastic to see what everyone has been up to and see how vibrant the Surrey East County is.

The deadline for guaranteed inclusion is **23rd June**. I look forward to hearing from you!

Alexia Beale

County newsletter coordinator

Surrey Girlguiding Hedgerow Badge - NEW



Did you know that native hedgerows can support at least 2000 species? Hedgerows are such an important part of our ecosystems, so we have created a badge in partnership with Surrey Hills Society to help you explore and appreciate hedgerows with your groups. By participating in the [Hedgerow badge](#), girls will learn about the wonderful world of hedgerows and the magical effect they can have on nature, both in the countryside but also in our towns and cities.

Thank you to Stella Cantor and Kate Fowles who worked with Surrey West to develop this badge.

Cricket for Brownies with Surrey Cricket Foundation

Surrey West is happy to extend their invite to any Brownies to take part in a day of cricket in conjunction with Surrey Cricket foundation. The event is taking place on Saturday 13 May at Esher High school. The cost is £40 for a full day of cricket coaching plus a kit bag with personalised t-shirt, cricket bat and ball, exclusive badge for the day. The girls will be completing the whole of the All Stars or Dynamo cricket programme in a single day (this is usually an 8-week course). Girls can sign up here, they don't need to attend with their unit: [Exclusive Cricket Day with Surrey Cricket – Girlguiding Surrey West County \(ggsww.org.uk\)](#)



Volunteering Opportunities

Division Commissioner

We are looking to appoint new Division Commissioners in Leatherhead and Leith Hill.

Dax Patel is relocating out of the area and Kate Fowles has completed her 5-year term in August. This is an exciting opportunity for people within these areas to join the county team and to support leaders in their local area.

Interested? Please speak directly to Dax or Kate or contact surreyeastcc@btinternet.com directly to find out more.

Digital Marketing and Events Volunteers

Have a passion for digital communications?

Love writing snappy news posts?

Girlguiding Surrey East needs a new enthusiastic budding digital marketer to create news and posts for their social and digital platforms. The role involves a keen eye for a story; love of words and offers the opportunity to be a roving reporter at Guiding events.

This is a brilliant development opportunity for anyone interested in marketing media or communications and who is keen to promote all the adventures our units get up to.

Interested? Please contact surreyeastcc@btinternet.com directly to find out more.

This role is flexible and just a few hours a week, could be done by an individual or a team.

International Opportunities

Do you know a Guide, Ranger or young leader who is ready for an adventure? Taking part in an international trip with Girlguiding London and South East England includes making and travelling with new friends from across the region, meeting local Guides or Scouts, visiting places of cultural and natural interest and trying new and exciting activities.

[Find out more and apply here.](#)

The application closing date has been extended to midnight on 12 May.

Upcoming Training

Leadership Development – Mentor Training

Could you support other leaders through their leadership development?

Attend a training to find out more on 16th May or 18th May – Mentoring via Zoom 7.30pm to 9pm .

Click here to register your place - [Upcoming Events › Training › Leadership Development Programme › – Girl Guiding Surrey East](#)

County Day

24th September 9am to 4pm – training for all volunteers across Surrey East with an outdoor theme.

Firelighting, whittling, nature craft. Register here [Upcoming Events › Training › County Day › – Girl Guiding Surrey East](#)



First Response:

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

Sun 14th May First response full course face to face. Faurefold 9am to 3.30pm

[First Response | Girl Guiding Surrey East](#)

Safe Space 3: Sat 13th May Safe 9–12 Space 3 Face to Face

[Training | Girl Guiding Surrey East](#)

Did you know?

Online REN

The residential event notification (REN) should now be completed on Go. The event coordinator should choose the Events option provided on the main menu bar and then use the drop down to Administer Event. For International events this should be 9 - 18 months before the event, and all other residential events, this should be 12 weeks. There is guidance on the system to support you. The request will automatically be passed to the next level commissioner for approval and each member will need to confirm their attendance. It will also help to verify that mandatory qualifications are up to date for the event. There is also a new video walkthrough on completing a REN form as an event organizer **[available on YouTube here.](#)**

For a residential adviser to view the online REN, then need to go into 'Adviser/Coordinator' area, select the correct level and go to the Residential Events tab. Here she will see the REN in the bottom table and can use the action arrow to make herself the authorising adviser. It cannot be 'pushed' onto her by someone else.

The Big Help Out: Lend-a-Hand for Faurefold Monday May 8th

Looking for an opportunity to Help Out as part of the coronation weekend?

Can you help the Faurefold team with our fundraising stall at WestFest? Westcott's annual village fair.



We are looking for additional volunteers to help run the stall selling tea and cakes at the ever popular Westfest. Whether you are happy to come along all day or only able to give an hour of your time we'd love to hear from you.

Please email mail@faurefold.co.uk if you'd like to know more.



Want to get more involved in Guiding in Surrey East? Are you ready for a new challenge?

If you are a unit helper – could you help more by attending a training or sharing a skill you have? If you are a young leader – could you become a peer educator and be trained to run an evening on a key topic for other units in your area or could you do your Queen's Guide? If you are parent helper – could you take on more responsibility and help your leadership team more? Could you take an active role in a county-wide event? If so, please discuss directly with your local leader or commissioner about opportunities or enquire about the roles advertised in the County Update. Alternatively contact surreyeastcc@btinternet.com