



County Update October 2023



Welcome from the County Commissioner

It was lovely to meet with many of you at the County day in September, held this year at Faurefold. Well done to Lorna and the team for providing the opportunity to develop map reading skills, campfires and whittling, also a session on how to promote units on social media. If there is a topic you would like covered in training or at County day – please do get in touch.

Earlier this month, we welcomed the county team and commissioners around the county to our annual County Leadership day. We shared the current organisation structure, progress on our county plan developed last year and spent time exploring county opportunities and aspirations. These will be included in our county plan too. After an enjoyable lunch relaxing in the garden at Empire Hall, we also looked at recruitment best practice. Thank you to everyone who took part.

Please see below lots of exciting things – our Leadership away event, Brownie Revels and many training and volunteering opportunities in the next few months.

Beverly Heywood-Jones
Surrey East County Commissioner
Surreyeastcc@btinternet.com



County annual subscription

As you are aware the annual subscription fee set by HQ and Region for 2024 will be £42. The Surrey East county levy in 2024 will be zero again this year to minimise this cost for all our members. Please be aware that we will need annual subscriptions to cover our costs at all levels so will re-introduce this fee in future years.

Division and districts will need to set their own amounts, based on their own budgetary requirements.

Sad news

We are sad to hear that Janet Willett has passed away 2nd October aged 81. Our condolences to her friends and family at this sad time.

Janet was a really lovely lady who volunteered with Kingswood district where she was treasurer for 23 years. She was a brownie leader of 1st Tadworth brownies for 14 years and continued as unit helper for a further 7 years. She is fondly remembered by all who knew her.

Upcoming Training

Leadership Development

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

Thursday 23rd November – Lets Get Mentoring – 7.30 to 9pm (zoom online)

Training for anyone who is interested in mentoring other leaders in Surrey East county to find out more.



First Response:

Please book your place here [First Response | Girl Guiding Surrey East](#)

Tuesday 24th October – Blended learning session 1 at Redhill Methodist church 7pm to 9pm.

Saturday 18th November – Blended learning session 1 at Fetcham Guide hall 12.30 to 2.30– face to face blended learning.

Blended learning session 2 – Tuesday 21st November via zoom 7.30-9.30pm

Blended learning session 3 – Tuesday 28th November via zoom 7.30-9.30pm

Or complete your first response qualification in one go:

Saturday 2nd December – Full one day course face to face 9am-3pm – Empire Hall, Horley.

Safe Space 3:

[Training | Girl Guiding Surrey East](#)

Sat 18th Nov 9-12 Face to Face – Fetcham Guide hall.

A leader with safe space 3 is required at all meetings, events and activities. Please do sign up above if you haven't done one before. A renewal e-learning is now available on the learning development platform for anyone who has a current safe space 3 due for renewal. It is recommended that all leaders complete safe space 3.

Volunteering Opportunities

County Young Leader Coordinator

Next year guiding will introduce a new young leader development programme.

This will ultimately replace the current young leader qualification. We will have a year to transition.

Could you become our county young leader coordinator and support this transition for the young leaders in Surrey East?

To be successful in the role you would need to gain a good understanding of the current and new scheme, engage with young leaders currently working on the scheme (or with commissioner/division young leader coordinators where we have them), and support them to complete before the deadline in Spring 2025 or register to the new scheme.

The full role description is [here](#).

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

You do not have to be a current leader/commissioner to do this role – just enthusiasm to support and develop young leaders. Support and guidance will be provided.

Division/District Commissioner

We currently have vacancies for Division Commissioners in Leatherhead, Leith Hill and Downs Heath. 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 Kate Fowles or contact surreyeastcc@btinternet.com directly to find out more.

Mentors

Do you have a little time to support guiding?

We need mentors in all Divisions to support new leaders.

You would need to complete the mentor training and then agree to support individuals as they progress through the leadership development qualification.

You can opt to support local units, or just one section if you would prefer too.

Interested in any of the roles above? Please contact surreyeastcc@btinternet.com directly to find out more.

County Newsletter

The deadline for guaranteed inclusion in our next county newsletter is Friday 15th December. We welcome all contributions from units, districts, divisions, or county – please email them to newslettersurreyeast@gmail.com.

Leader's weekend away Friday 18th October to Sunday 20th October 2024



We are very excited to announce our Leaders weekend, open to all volunteers in Surrey East county will be held at Pax Lodge – our Guiding World Centre based in London.

The dates are Friday 18th October – Sunday 20th October 2024.

The accommodation cost is £38 per person per night plus £3 per head badge pinning ceremony (a unique opportunity to receive this badge only given in the World Centres). There may be additional costs for activities we choose to do.

The event will run from Friday evening through till Sunday lunch time, and we are planning a full day's activity on Saturday.

Please email katefowles@outlook.com **by the end of November 2023** if you would like to come to this event. If you are 17 now and will be 18 by the 18th October you are welcome to come too. If funding this trip is a problem for you, please mention when you email your interest as grants may be available to help with this trip.

This event is for female leaders but if any male unit helpers want to come, we will need to know as soon as possible as Pax Lodge need to know re room allocations as rooms are multi-occupancy.

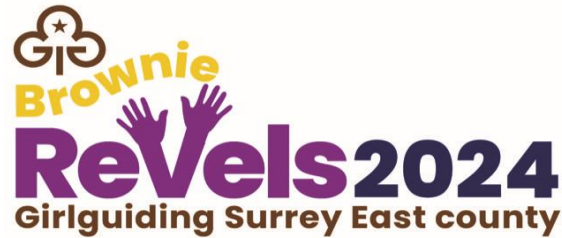


Scoutabout 2024 has launched!

The triennial event for over 6000 Surrey Scouts and Guides will be held at Ardingly Showground **28 – 30 June 2024**. If your Guide unit has been before you will know what good things are in store and if you are new to Girlguiding or have never been, prepare to be amazed! It really is a weekend to remember.

The Scoutabout 2024 website is now open at www.surrey-scouts.org.uk/events/scoutabout which will give you lots of information and more will be added in the coming months. Units should register by 31st January 2024.

Every Guide main unit leader has been emailed these details already but if you have any questions please contact Mary Zoeller (Surrey East Scoutabout representative) at: Mary.Zoeller@scoutabout.org.uk



We were delighted by the positive feedback we received regarding the idea of holding a county-wide brownie event and we can now confirm that Brownie Revels 2024 will be held at Walton Firs Activity Centre in Cobham on Saturday 21 September 2024!

Activities that will be offered will include high ropes, crate stacking, climbing wall, archery, caving, bows & arrows, bouldering, frisbee golf, skittle alley, adventure course, maze, nightline, giant games, pushball, bushcraft, campfire cooking and craft activities to make things to take home.

Numbers are limited and bookings will be taken on a first come, first served basis. Brownie units can register by sending a non-refundable deposit of £100 by the end of the year. Full details have been emailed to each Brownie unit leader registered on GO and to your division and district commissioners.

We would also be delighted if any other leaders would like to come along and join the fun. We need lots of volunteers on the day to help with the activities so if that sounds like something you'd enjoy please contact the Brownie Revels team on the email below.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your support!

Brownie Revels Team

Epsom: Mary Zoeller mary@maryzoeller.co.uk

Leatherhead: Christine Moss christine.maymoss@gmail.com

Leatherhead: Wendy Amer wendyamer@btinternet.com

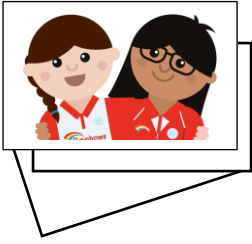
Leith Hill: George Ede george@nightlesscopse.co.uk

Reigate: Rosemarie Belcher rosebelcher27@yahoo.co.uk

Reigate: Roo Harmer hjharmer@aol.com

Downs Heath: Beverly Heywood Jones surreyeastcc@btinternet.com

Godstone: Sue Corrance dragonflycorrance@gmail.com



County photo competition

Please do take part in our Surrey East county photo competition. It will have 4 categories for you to enter:

- The best of unit guiding
- Adventurous young members
- Fun in volunteering
- Including all.



*Its aim is to increase our stock of quality images to use in social media.
To encourage all to consider the new girlguiding photography principles
To have fun.*

Why not have a photography evening and select the best photos for the competition?

Rules:

- Open to units and all members and recognised volunteers in girlguiding Surrey East.
- Photos must be originals that you have taken.
- Young members (under 18) must submit their photos via their leaders or local commissioner to ensure appropriate written consent has been obtained. It is recommended that units select their favourite images to enter one or more of the categories.
- When photographing children and young people under the age of 18, leaders need to get written consent from their parent or carer. This should be noted on their membership record on Go – 'Photos/videos can be shared and published and used for marketing'. Ask the girls as well for their permission when taking photos of them.
- For adult members (18+) obtain their permission too, and ensure they update their membership record on Go as above to given permission for the photo to be shared and published and used for marketing.
- Images should comply with the [girlguiding photography principles](#). They should feel colourful and bright as we're a vibrant youth brand.

Please submit your entries via the [Photography submission form](#). The closing date has been extended to **Friday 15th December 2023**. The winning photos will be used to promote guiding in Surrey East.

If you have any questions, please email me - surreyeastcc@btinternet.com.

Beverly Heywood-Jones
Surrey East County Commissioner