



County Update November 2023



Welcome from the County Commissioner

It's clear from everything our girls are doing with their units across the county, that the festive season is underway. Thank you to everyone who volunteers in Surrey East bringing guiding to all the girls and young women in your area.

I'm delighted to tell you I have appointed Queens guide coordinator, Alex Lorenz and Peer education coordinator, Chloe Pascovitch and most recently Young Leader coordinator Nicola Brett. I wish them all every success in their new roles.

With only a few weeks until the end of the year, we would like to celebrate all that we have achieved in our bi-annual County Newsletter – please do share articles to showcase things you have done. The deadline for inclusion is Friday 15th December.

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



County Newsletter – Autumn/Winter 2023

We love to celebrate the fun we have been having during the second half of the 2023 in our Autumn/Winter county newsletter. We welcome contributions from units, districts, divisions, or county – please email them directly to newslettersurreyeast@gmail.com. The deadline for guaranteed inclusion in our next county newsletter is Friday 15th December.

Articles are always better if accompanied by photos but please ensure that you have permission for them to be used before sharing them. Please give a contact name, email and telephone no. with every contribution (even if you wish it to be published anonymously), and mention that it is for the County Newsletter.

We would love to hear from you – no story is too small to be included.
Alexia Beale, County Newsletter coordinator

Upcoming Training

Leadership Development

The five mandated webinars, available for **leaders in training** on the [learning development platform](#) - now booking Jan to March 2024. These are very popular so please book early and if they are full, please put your name on the waiting list as places may be offered when someone cancels. As they are webinars, you can choose any across the country.

Look out for details of our in-person training '**Leadership Development day**', for leaders in training to complete some of the modules. It will be held on **Sunday 3rd March** at Faurefold. Low Ropes course training may also be offered.

Do you have a little time to support new volunteers in guiding?

We need mentors in all Divisions to support new leaders.

We would love to welcome some more **leadership mentors** across the county. These are important roles to support the leaders in training. Interested? Please do contact Janet Coninx lqsurreyeast@gmail.com to find out more.



First Response:

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

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

Safe Space:

[Training | Girl Guiding Surrey East](#) Please check the national website [here](#), to see what level of safe space you need for your role. Safe space training is available on the learning development platform.

A leader with safe space 3 is required at all meetings, events and activities. It is recommended that all leaders complete safe space 3. **A renewal e-learning is now available on the learning development platform for anyone who has a current safe space 3 due for renewal.** Once it has expired, you will need to sign up for the webinar or a face-to-face safe space 3 training.

Need help with the Safe space e-learning quiz?

If you are trying to complete your safe space 1 or safe space 2 e-learning, and have failed to pass the quiz - please make a note of any specific questions that you got wrong and contact our safe space trainer - Lorna Smith lornasmith99@sky.com. Lorna is happy to support anyone in Surrey East who needs help to complete their mandatory training before it expires.

New Appointments

Congratulations to **Alex Lorenz** who has been appointed **County Queen's guide coordinator**. Alex was a Brownie, Guide and Ranger in Staffordshire and attained my Queen's Guide Award there, and was presented with the award from Princess Margaret at Kensington Palace in 1995. I moved to Surrey and have been helping with Guides in Epsom since 2013 and I opened Epsom Division Ranger Unit in 2015. Please get in touch if you would like any information about the Queen's Guide Award by emailing Alex me at queensguidesurreyeast@gmail.com.

Chloe says - it's a privilege to be your new **County Peer Education coordinator**. I am passionate about peer education, and empowering young members to deliver sessions on important issues effecting young people. I have been a peer educator and I am also a peer education trainer. If you are an existing peer educator, interested in becoming one, want a [peer education session](#) for your unit, or just want to find out more information please contact me on peeredsurreyeast@outlook.com.

Volunteering Opportunities

We have several areas who do not have commissioners. This is not ideal.

A commissioner is a team leader supporting volunteers in the local area.

This role can also be shared.

If you would like to nominate someone in your area to fill a vacancy for a District Commissioner or Division commissioner, please contact county commissioner surreyeastcc@btinternet.com
Or assistant county commissioner (volunteers) katefowles@outlook.com.

[Click here](#) to find out more about roles supporting volunteers.

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.

In all areas there are already division role holders in place willing to support the new appointment holder.

Interested?

Please speak directly Kate Fowles or contact surreyeastcc@btinternet.com to find out more.

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



Plans are underway now and over 40 volunteers across the county have registered and **the non-returnable deposit of £38 is now payable by 20th December**. Details provided via email from katefowles@outlook.com. Places are limited, so please sign up now if you would like to attend. 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 which will include an all-day treasure hunt.

If you are 17 now and will be 18 by the 18th October 24 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.

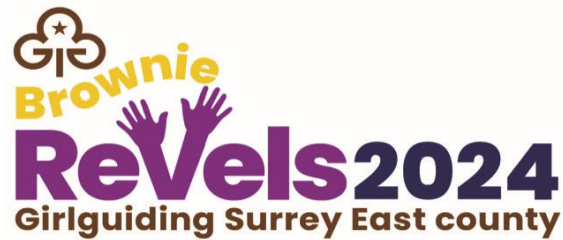


Scoutabout 2024 – Units to register by 31st Jan 24!

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

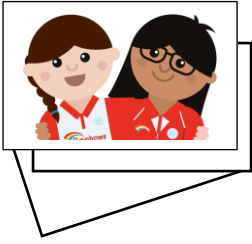
Leith Hill: George Ede george@nightlesscopse.co.uk

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 final closing date will be **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