



County Update October 2024



Welcome from the County Commissioner

We have had an incredible start to the Autumn term with so much going on. Last month over 700 Brownies from across Surrey East were excited to be at Brownie Revels and experienced the wide range of activities on offer such as climbing wall, caving, crate stacking, archery, high ropes, adventure course, maze, skittle alley, bouldering, night line, bridge building, STEM activities, crafts and giant games. It was great to see so many leaders and volunteers coming together at this one-day event held at Walton Firs.

Congratulations to the girls who applied to be the Surrey East representative for the next 12 months as a Lord Lieutenants' cadet. All were amazing. Our selected candidate will be officially appointed next month and we look forward to hearing about some of her experiences in our next Newsletter.

I also visited the Young Leader's weekend at Bentley Copse where 21 YL/Rangers came together and explored the new [Young Leader development programme](#) that was launched in June and received training in one of the modules. The new scheme is modular so young leaders can choose themselves what to do and when you do it. It looks fantastic and I really hope lots of young leaders will do it.

We had the rehearsals for the group of Guides and Rangers taking part in the [Lord Mayor's Show](#), the oldest and longest civic procession in the world, on Saturday 9th November. We are so proud to be representing Girlguiding UK at this event this year and hope that if any of our members are planning to watch the show, they will give us a big cheer as we go by.

My thanks to every volunteer who contributed to the success of these events and look forward to the term ahead. A massive thank you for all you do as a volunteer in girlguiding Surrey East – we can't do guiding without you. If you are reading this and are not a volunteer – please do [signup here](#) and join us. You don't need to have been involved in guiding before or have loads of time to make a big difference. Whatever your skills and interests, whether it's volunteering with girls directly or supporting behind the scenes, there's a role to suit you.

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



Upcoming Training

Leadership Development If you are doing the leader development programme and would like to meet others and do your training face to face, please sign up to our Leadership Development day on 2nd March 2025 – [book your place here](#).



First Response

If your first response is expiring soon, please book yourself onto the next available course:

Full course – 9am to 4pm on 23rd November at Empire Hall Horley. [First Response, full course in Horley | Girl Guiding Surrey East](#) More dates are being arranged for Jan/Feb.

Or alternatively you can book your place on the webinars for Mod 2 and 3 here - [First Response Modules two and three- Online webinars. | Girl Guiding Surrey East](#)

To attend a course, please register your interest by emailing surreyeastggfirstresponse@gmail.com.

Safe Space:

Please renew your safe space when you receive the first reminder. You can also look on Go or the Learning platform to see when they are due to expire. For most roles, a current safe space 1 and safe space 2 is mandatory. A leader with safe space 3 is required at all meetings, events, and activities. Safe space training is available on the learning development platform.

Did you know?

Safe Space renewals and compliance Safe space modules are mandatory, so if you do not renew the modules required for your role, you are not compliant with the code of conduct and risk having your membership withdrawn. You don't have to wait until the renewal date, simply renew via the Learning platform when you receive the first reminder, and your current renewal date will be extended by 3 years. If you don't renew safe space 3 before the renewal, you will be unable to do the renewal which takes 20 mins and will need signup for a webinar.

County Marketing and Communications. We have a WhatsApp group that we use to source items to publish on the County website, facebook and Instagram accounts. If you would like to represent your Division or District and collate/share images from units in your area, please confirm your name, membership number and mobile number to GGSNewsletter@gmail.co.uk. It is important that you consider guiding photo guidelines and check that you have consent for any photos before sharing them and that this is indicated on the individual's Go record.

Trustee liability insurance. We have a county trustee liability insurance to support our trustees including where separate charities exist because the District/Division leases or owns its own property.

Marketing preferences. If you haven't ticked the marketing preference in GO, you will miss out on guiding opportunities that may benefit your unit. We do not share your details outside of girlguiding so we will not bombard you with advertising.

Volunteering Opportunities

County First Response Administrator

Would you like to help leaders in Surrey East by organising the first response training?

We are looking for someone to coordinate our first response training. You will liaise with the trainers to arrange first response courses and support the registration and administration of volunteers attending the courses. No previous experience is required.

This is an essential role in supporting our county first response trainers.

Interested? Please contact surreyeastcc@btinternet.com

County LQ Mentors

We have a few leaders in training who need mentors. If you are interested in becoming a mentor to support new leaders, whether this is for one or more sections, please do contact Janet Coninx

lqsurreyeast@gmail.com to find out more.

Bazzaz 2025

Fun and Adventures for Rainbows and Beavers!



The triennial activity day for Surrey Beaver Scouts and Rainbows will be held at Merrist Wood on the Saturday 14th June 2025.

If your unit has been before, you will know what good things are in store! If you are new to Girlguiding or have never been, prepare to be amazed! It really is a day to remember. We ask all units to bring an activity so there are loads for the Rainbows and Beavers to choose from so even if you don't volunteer with a Rainbow unit please do offer your support to the Rainbow leaders, they will be delighted and very grateful and you'll have a great day!

The event site for Bazzaz 2025 is now open <https://www.surrey-scouts.org.uk/events/bazzaz> which will give you lots of information and more will be added in the coming months.

County Newsletter

The deadline for guaranteed inclusion in our next county newsletter is Friday 13th December. We welcome all contributions from units, districts, divisions, or county – please email them to newslettersurreyeast@gmail.com.



Musicals 2025 will be held on **Saturday 29th March 2025** at **Leatherhead Theatre**.

All units should now have received the information packs for Leaders and Parents. Please encourage your girls to take part—we would love a range of individual and group acts.

The deadline for submitting ideas for acts is Friday 25th October.

All cast rehearsals are on the afternoons of: **Sunday 19th January 2025**

Sunday 9th February 2025

Sunday 23rd March 2025 (All times tbc)

If you would like any more information or have any questions, please contact your Division Rep (see below)

Godstone – Julia Bennett – cjbennett7542@gmail.com

Leatherhead – Sarita Amin

sarital73@yahoo.com

Reigate – Karen Shepherd 7thRedhillbrownies@gmail.com

Leith Hill– Amelia Hulbert amelia.brockham.rainbows@gmail.com

Epsom– Elaine Edwards eledwards@talktalk.net

Downs Heath– no representative at present– please contact any member of the committee.

Other Committee members: Mandy Elliott, Hannah Chandler, Catherine Nicholson.

We are also looking for someone (or two people) to compere the show. If you are interested or know of anyone who might be able to do this, please get in touch. Please email:

musicalsinfo@gmail.com

[Musicals 2025 | Girl Guiding Surrey East](#)