



County Update June 2025



Welcome from the County Commissioner

It's great to see so many units enjoying the outdoors this term. Thank you to those who attended Bazzaz and to Mary Zoeller and Jane Luff for representing our county on the organising committee. It was amazing to see the Rainbows having a go at the wide range of activities on offer to them.

We have lots of residentials being held this term and a few people being assessed for their going away with qualification. Thank you for creating such incredible opportunities for your units, creating fun memories for them and for the volunteers too!

I hope that you will have seen some of the social media posts led by HQ, encouraging more volunteers. We know that some people are running multiple units and would really benefit from more help on a regular basis either at the meeting or in a supporting role. Do share these Guiding ads on your own social media to encourage others to come and join us.

Thank you for everything you do.

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



County Newsletter – Spring/Summer 2025

If you would like your activity or event included in our next edition of the County Newsletter to be published in July, please submit your article to newslettersurreyeast@gmail.com.

Any article is 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. The **deadline for guaranteed inclusion is 4th July 2025**

I look forward to hearing from you!
Alexia Beale County newsletter coordinator

Upcoming Training

Leadership Development

Surrey East and West organise one day face to face training for leaders in training, which includes the mandatory modules. We have dates available through 2025 – so [please register now](#) to attend.

Modules are available on the learning platform, and you can choose one in another area as they are webinars. If you have a training query, please refer to county training led by Lorna Smith surreyeasttraining@gmail.com.



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

Please book yourself onto the next available course before your current qualification expires. New dates available for [28 September](#) and [4 October](#). Any questions please refer to our first response training coordinator, Maria Young, surreyeastggfirstresponse@gmail.com.

Residential training

Planning to take your unit on a residential? Interested in learning what involved in the Going Away with scheme? Are you a leader who needs to refresh your knowledge? Please register for the next residential training day in March 2026 – [Residential Qualification Training Day – Girl Guiding Surrey East](#).

Looking for assessment? [Going Away with Scheme | Girl Guiding Surrey East](#). If you need any additional support, please [contact Jane Luff](#), our county outdoor/residential adviser.

TOPAZ 2026



8 members of the Trefoil Guild have been selected to go to Thailand in partnership with Guiding in Thailand, known as Trefoil Overseas Partnership: Adventure with Zest (TOPAZ).

Through extensive fundraising the participants based across the UK, will be able to visit next January and support projects identified by Guiding in Thailand and take 350 gifts from the UK.

A [challenge pack](#) is available for all ages from Rainbows to Trefoil. By completing the challenge and buying the badge, you are supporting the fundraising for this trip.

Read more about their adventure [here](#).

Did you know?

Transporting your unit

If you are out and about with your units, please consider the [transport guidance on the website](#). Please ensure that the associated risks are included in your event risk assessment clarifying who is responsible for what.

If more than one unit is travelling on a coach, it is recommended that you

- agree a nominated coach leader to liaise with the driver and the unit leaders,
- consider the number of leaders and their seating position to ensure appropriate supervision throughout the journey, and
- unit leaders and the coach leader ensure any relevant individual adjustments are met eg where girls with travel sickness may need to sit near the front or volunteers need to be seated near to individuals to support their needs.

Health and safety guidelines

All guiding volunteers have a responsibility to comply with the code of conduct including being responsible for keeping your training up to date. This is detailed more fully on the [guiding website](#).

Please ensure units have at least 1 adult leader at the meeting who holds a safe space level 3 or safer guiding completed post Dec 2024. There must be also be a leader at every unit meeting or activity or event with a current first response qualification on Go.

You can see on GO when your mandatory training is due to expire by looking at the options under your name and reviewing '**My safe practice summary**'. You will receive reminders via email when they are due, but please do ensure you take the time to complete it ahead of the deadline.

Faurefold Activity days



Guides Activity Day Saturday 20 September 2025

[Book places](#) for your guide unit now.

We have a fabulous day planned, just what guides need to kick off the autumn term.

Activities will be willow-weaving, bottle top tree, campfire pizza's, rope worms, giant games and a low ropes team challenge.

Get active in the woods. Max 75 guides.