



County Update June 2026



Welcome from the County Commissioner

It's great to see so many units enjoying being outdoors and planning summer residentials. Thank you for making these amazing memories for our members and may your efforts be rewarded in the fun and adventure that you have.

We had a county exec meeting this month and would like to confirm that the annual subscription for Surrey East will remain as **£1.75 for 2027**. This will be in addition to the levy set by other levels ahead of the deadline, which is 30 June, and payable by young members only in February next year.

A massive **thank you to Jane and Mary who represented Surrey East on the committee for Scram 2026** and thank you to everyone who supported this activity day held in Apps Court Farm. What an amazing experience for all the Brownies who went and great to be able to catchup with all the volunteers there! Thank you to Surrey Scouts and congratulations on celebrating 25 years of this event.

Enjoy the final few weeks of the summer term.

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



County Newsletter – Spring/Summer 2026

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. Please ensure that you have permission for any pictures to be used before sharing them. We would love to hear from you – no story is too small to be included. The deadline for guaranteed inclusion is 3 July 2026.

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

Upcoming Training

Leadership Development

We have one day face to face training for leaders in training, which includes the mandatory modules (plus risky business) and the opportunity to meet other Surrey volunteers. The next one is planned for 14 March 2026 at Faurefold – please [register here](#) if you would like to attend. Modules are available on the learning platform, and you can choose one in another area as they are webinars. If you would like to [become a qualified leader](#), logon to the learning platform and complete Becoming a Leader.



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

Please book yourself onto the next available course. All events/meetings must have at least one person with a current first response qualification. Next course is [First Response Full Day – Beare Green 12 July](#) or [First Response Full Day – Faurefold 20 September](#). Any questions, please refer to our first response training coordinator, Maria Young, surreyeastggfirstresponse@gmail.com.

If you have an external, non-guiding first aid qualification based on a recognised course that is a minimum of 6-hours, you can ask region to verify this via this process – [Approving non Girlguiding 1st Response courses | Girlguiding LaSER](#).

Residential training

Planning to take your unit on a residential? Interested in learning what's involved in the Going Away with scheme? Are you a leader who needs to refresh your knowledge? 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.

Surrey East Young Leaders' Weekend 2026

We are excited to offer an activity weekend **exclusively for young leaders**

From 7.30pm on Friday 11 Sept to 3.30pm on Sunday 13 Sept 2026

At Bentley Copse, Guildford

[Young Leaders' weekend 2026 – Girl Guiding Surrey East](#)

[Sign up now!](#)

Leaders, please
encourage your young
leaders to consider this

County Mentors

We would love to recruit some more county mentors to support new volunteers in completing the Leadership Development programme. If you are actively volunteering and are interested in helping others as a mentor – please do take a look at this [Become a leader in training mentor | Girlguiding](#) and/or contact Janet Coninx directly on lqsurreyeast@gmail.com to find out more.

For more information about the leadership development programme, please take a look at the website [Become a Girlguiding leader | Girlguiding](#)

Did you know?

Budgetting for 2027

We know that in 2027 the annual subscription is changing and there will no longer be a fee charged for volunteers. [Read more about it here](#). You will only pay for young members in 2027, and we know that annual subs for February 2027 will be **£64.75 per young member plus any amounts your division/district charge**.

There is guidance for [unit budgeting](#) here. There is a tab to help with this on the [unit account pack](#). If your unit does not claim [gift aid](#), this is certainly worth exploring as it's a good way to boost your income. There will be no longer be a charge for volunteers at any level.

Compliance for young members turning 18

If you are a young leader, when you turn 18 your role will automatically change to unit helper on GO and you will need to complete a DBS and safer guiding within 40 days as an adult. There is a [turning-18-checklist](#) to help you to discuss this with your unit leader.

If you are not actively volunteering as a unit helper, however, it is important that you ask your local commissioner to end this role promptly to avoid becoming non-compliant in this role.

If you are a Ranger are not volunteering in a unit, you can of course continue as a ranger until your 19th birthday.

Managing girl enquiries

If you are responsible for managing girl enquiries for your unit – here are some tips for keeping it up to date. Use the 321 method.....

Make **3** attempts to contact

Use **2** different contact methods

If no response say **1** goodbye.

Use template emails available on the Girlguiding website to help with this process. Once you have made contact, remember to move the young member enquirer to 'contacted' 'meeting arranged' or onto your waiting list.

The go helpfile '[manage a unit's young member enquiries](#)' has a step-by-step guide to help you.

Potential International Trip for Surrey East Leaders to Our Chalet in 2028

Our Chalet is first World Centre owned by WAGGs based near Adelboden in the Swiss Alps. We are planning a leader's trip from 17 Sept 2028 to 23 Sept 2028 flying to Geneva and staying at the nearby Alpina Hotel and are keen to understand the level of interest.

In addition to visiting to Our Chalet and the pinning ceremony, we are considering a boat trip from Spiez on Lake Thun to Interlaken, visit to the Maison Callier chocolate factory, visit to Maison du Gruyere cheese factory and a trip to Oeschinensee with walk to the lake.

Interested? Fill in the form below to let us know.

[International trip to Our Chalet 2028](#)

PGL Opportunity for Brownie units – 16-18 October 2026



Surrey West are looking to takeover PGL at Marchants Hill in October for Brownies if they can fill all the spaces so would like to extend the invite to any Surrey East brownie units that might be interested.

Please do signup here - [Brownie PGL weekend 2026](#)

Save the Date – Saturday 11 March 2028



Girlguiding Surrey East are now in the process of planning Musicals 2028, a musical extravaganza to be held at Dorking Halls for units to get involved in.

Right now - we are looking for volunteers to join this amazing, event planning team.

Interested? Please click the link below for more details.

[Get involved](#)