

### **Annual report September 18<sup>th</sup> 2023 to September 17<sup>th</sup> 2024**

Much has happened within the county to keep it moving forward to the next level. Adventures and experiences have taken place both locally and as a county to encourage the growth of our membership.

Our membership numbers have stayed constant with over 4000 young members and 1000 volunteers.

The county team have worked tirelessly within their designated roles and encouraged many new initiatives within their areas of expertise.

1<sup>st</sup> response training has been delivered to over 120 volunteers and finance training delivered to units and districts.

The county was sorry to learn of the passing of Sir Jack Petchey. The county continues to be grateful to The Jack Petchey Foundation for its support in recognising our young members and leaders with certificates and very generous grants. The awards evening at The Charter Hall was very well attended by recipients and their families.

The county has organised a variety of opportunities and adventurous experiences for its members. This includes:

- 750 members from all sections attending the pantomime at the Prince's Theatre, Clacton-on-Sea to watch Aladdin
- Over 40 girls took part in an online Kawaii workshop
- 250 Guides, Brownies & leaders attended an exclusive takeover of Ninja Warrior UK, Chelmsford
- 1200 members attended an exclusive Wyvernwood theme park takeover
- 3 Canoeing/kayaking sessions
- Archery
- Inspire members took part in the Monopoly run in London

- 21 girls attended the International selection day, 6 of whom were referred further to Anglia Region selection
- A volunteer lunch
- Safe Space
- 1st response

#### Qualifications

- Leadership
- Going away with

#### Awards

- Queen's Guide Award
- Two volunteers have been awarded Coronation medals.
- DofE

The county is pleased to see the number of Queen's Guide candidates has risen considerably. The candidates completing the award have helped at various events in the county.

Within the county there have been numerous long service awards presented at all levels including a 60 year award.

New Girlguiding branded PR equipment was purchased and has been used extensively throughout the year.

The county supported The Essex International Jamboree, Boyton Cross near Chelmsford. The event welcomed over 8,500 volunteers and young members from over 42 different countries. Many of our members volunteered as staff or took their groups of young people for a spectacular "Celebration of Girlguiding and Scouting".

Over 1500 of our members took part in the Winter Challenge for a second year, enabling over a tonne of food to be donated to local food banks.

Girlguiding had a presence at Essex Pride which enabled us to reinforce the message that we are for all girls – and gives us the opportunity to engage with a diverse range of people to ensure Girlguiding is as inclusive as possible.

The county continues to seek partnerships with organisations and businesses, we are pleased to continue our "Smashing Boundaries" cricket challenge with Essex Cricket in the Community. Members have benefited from our partnerships with Ninja Warrior UK and Wyvernwood.

GENE, our county's very own radio show, celebrated 15 years of "Giving girls a voice" it continues to be broadcast on the first Sunday of each month and welcomes members of all ages to get involved and take part in shows.

We would like to thank our unit treasurers for paying membership fees on time, our accounts can be viewed on the county website and our finances continue to be managed to benefit our members.

Centrally located, the county office provides a focal point and "home". It continues to offer support and guidance to our members and volunteers and as well as being an excellent venue for meetings provides printing and storage.

Girlguiding in Essex North East is popular and spaces are in demand, we have waiting lists in most areas for girls wanting to join Rainbow and Brownie units. We continue to welcome new volunteers and appreciate our dedicated volunteers who give girls the opportunity to experience guiding.

I give my heartfelt thanks to my county team and all our amazing volunteers.

Sue Sutton

Girlguiding  
Essex North East  
county



Winter Good Turn



Girlguiding Essex North East

Energy



Burst

Power up at summer camp 2025  
18th–20th July