



Adviser Reports October 2024

Awards Committee Report

Sheila Everitt, Awards Committee Chair

Via office@girlguidingsexsexne.org.uk

Please make sure everyone is aware that all nominations (Jack Petchey or county) MUST be made without the knowledge of the nominee or her family.

Jack Petchey

After our May committee meeting, we put forward a leader to be considered for an award and I am pleased to say the JPF accepted our nomination for Jo Strzelecki of Little Waltham Guide unit and she has been presented with an interim certificate and now have the chance of obtaining a grant of up to £1000 to spend on her unit.

The planning for this year's celebration evening on **Thursday 7 November 2024 at** Charter Hall, Colchester is well under way. All winners, who are expected to attend, have been sent an invitation for themselves, their family and unit. We are hoping for another wonderful evening as we have had in the past.

The closing date for the next round of the awards is **noon on Thursday 17 October 2024** when all nomination paperwork should be with the county office.

Please also note that if your member is successful, it is important that you adhere to the 3 stipulations below

1. the return form must be back to Carol Clarke by the agreed date
2. the money must be spent by the agreed date, on what was asked for on the nomination paperwork (or you must contact Carol Clarke to get approval to change it)
3. the receipts must be in by the agreed date

If you do not stick to these 3 things, then unfortunately further nominations will not be accepted from your unit for the next round of the award.

County awards

We did have 3 nominations for the May round of county awards and those who were successful will have their badges and certificated presented at an opportune occasion. I have had no adult nominations for the next round of awards, the closing date of which is

noon on Thursday 17 October and all paperwork should be received by the county office by this date.

There are still many dedicated leaders who have been working with units for considerable lengths of time who have never been put forward for an award. Have you someone in your unit/district/division you could nominate? Please give it some thought. The up-to-date nomination form is available on the ENE web and you should obtain a seconder for the application.

Long Service awards

Each division commissioner has been given a list of those adults whose award is either overdue or due between now and the end of December 2024. Many, but not all, of these have been ordered from Janet Paul, if your division/district is one of the ones that has not, please order them as soon as possible as all 2024 recipients are being invited to our awards afternoon tea on 23 November and we would like them to have their badges by then.

Janet has asked me to remind everyone that when ordering long service awards (and in fact all badges through her) that payment should accompany the request.

Anglia Awards

The criteria and the nomination form for the Buddy award has been updated so please look on the Anglia website to see if maybe you could put forward an individual or the whole of your unit.

There is also on this web all the information regarding regional awards. The committee is especially interested in receiving nominations for the Anglia Youth award. If you have any girl you think might be deserving of being recognized please get in touch with me (sheila_everitt@yahoo.co.uk) and I will be pleased to help you through the nomination process.

Learning & Development Report

Gill Hillman-Crouch, Guiding Development Chair

gd@girlguidingsexne.org.uk

First Response

Courses in October and November are now fully booked, spaces go fast, please book early.

Courses in 2025:

Saturday 18th January – Feering Community Centre

* Sunday 16th of February – Great Bromley Village Hall

Saturday 15th of March – venue tbc

Please remind volunteers that there are 2 parts to the qualification: e-learning that should take approx. 10 to 15 minutes, plus the 6 hour face to face session. The qualification is valid for 3 years and only becomes valid once both parts have been completed.

The external first aid process has changed again. All recognised prior learning or external courses will need to be verified through the [external first aid area of the learning platform](#). This will be verified by your region first aid verifier team. You'll be asked to complete your 1st response e-learning (if you haven't already done so) before you're able to upload your external course for verification. You'll be asked to provide your certificate as well as information regarding how your external course has covered the [1st response syllabus](#).

One person at every unit meeting must have a valid first aid qualification, however, Girlguiding encourage every volunteer to undertake the training if possible, so that weekly unit meetings, trips and residentials are fully covered.

The First Response course is a legitimate unit expense and should be budgeted for when planning unit spending, the current cost through County is £30 per person.

Safe Space Level 3

Level 3 is be completed by attending a webinar, all sessions can be found and booked on the Learning Platform. Those renewing level 3 can do so by completing an e-learning before the expiry date, after this a webinar must be completed.

Level 3 must be completed by at least 1 leader per unit (ie leader, assistant leader, leader in training) however the recommendation is that all leaders complete it. Level 3 must also be completed by mentors, advisers, coordinators (except GO coordinators), licence holders on residentials, trainers, tutors, anyone leading a team of adults, and those doing level 4. Please remember that Safe Space 1 & 2 must also be completed, these are e-learning sessions and are available on the Learning Platform.

County Outdoor Training Day – September's training day was postponed due to lack of bookings, hoping to rearrange for a new date in late Spring/early Summer.

Finance Training & Gift Aid Training

If any district or division is in need of training please contact us.

Outdoors Report

Julie Craven, Outdoor Activities Adviser

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Canoeing – we held 3 sessions, bookings could have been better, but those that came they had fun. For next year we are looking to do a session for more competent paddler's,

and adjust the times as the early session was the least popular.

Any feedback from leaders or participants would be good, could we do anything differently?

Archery- we held one session which was well attended, the second session we had to cancel due to lack of numbers.

Residential assessments - we have had a number of leaders who are going through the assessment process, they can only receive accreditation for this if their GAW folder has been signed off by their mentor and verified.

We have had a few requests for venues to be approved.

County walking adviser is looking into some dates for social walks. These will be posted on the walking FB page

DofE Silver - practice went well and the group of 5 are completing the qualifying expedition in 2 weeks time. For any leaders who have DofE girls please continue to support them through the volunteering, physical and skill sections so the award can be completed.

Girlguiding Essex North East Duke of Edinburgh Award - 2024/5

We are looking for girls to join us at Bronze level this year to take on this highly rewarding challenge. This includes training for a two-day expedition where participants are self-sufficient and cook, navigate and camp as a small group.

Participants also complete physical, skill and volunteering elements and can choose from a while list of activities for each, ensuring they do something of interest to them.

The award is open to any Guiding member who is currently in Year 9 or above, and must be completed before the age of 25.

Expedition dates for 2025 are:

March 23 - Training day - Braintree area

May 17-18 - Training weekend - Great Leighs area

June 28-29 - Qualifying weekend - South West Chelmsford area

Email dofe@girlguidingsexsexne.org.uk for further information or visit [the website](#)

International Report

Lorraine Pemberton, International Adviser

international@girlguidingsexsexne.org.uk

21 Guides and Rangers attended the County international opportunities/ selection day in Wivenhoe on Saturday 14 September. After icebreaker games the girls took part in activities to show where they have visited internationally, played sand / ice hockey on grass (national sports in Morocco and Canada), cooked a Mexican vegetarian lunch,

worked in small groups to create a game with limited resources, tried tying a sari and Bollywood dancing and creating a Swiss chalet from biscuits and icing. We also discussed fundraising opportunities if successful.

We selected 9 girls and an adult to go forward to Anglia Selection on 19 October in Ely. Anglia trips are: 2025 Azores or Morocco, 2026 – Canada or Our Cabana, Mexico. I have no details of the trips yet until leadership team is assigned, but believe 2025 trips would be through Venture Abroad.

I have looked at Venture Abroad trips for County 2026. I am waiting for rough plan from them for preferred trip. Will discuss with County Commissioner and hopefully put forward for permission to plan, this is 12–18 months ahead of trip. We have 12 girls already from the selection with others interested.

If anyone would like to be part of County International team please contact me on international@girlguidingsexne.org.uk

Marketing & Communications Report

Maxine Jones, PR Adviser

pr@girlguidingsexne.org.uk

Thanks you to everyone who has been promoting guiding around the county, either online or at events.

Display materials

The new displays have been regularly booked over the summer, if you have any winter events where you require the displays, please contact the office to book them out. There are often lots of events on the same weekends!

Girlguiding Paid adverts

HQ are running a paid campaign to recruit girls, and we are currently putting out unpaid posts promoting volunteering. Please do share these on your personal profiles and unit pages. Every share helps spread the word!

Photos/publicity

Please do send in photos and stories about your unit activities/events, without you sending these in we can't celebrate what fantastic opportunities you give our young members. Please go through your photo permissions and ask parents to consent, whilst there are some valid reasons why a few children can't be photographed, many parents just don't consider it. Please ask them to check out our social media to assure them how the images are used. We need exciting photos!

Wyvernwood Partnership

We are very pleased to have negotiated a partnership with Wyvernwood and to offer reduced cost entry. Please see website for further details.

<https://girlguidingsexne.org.uk/member-support/resources-2/wyvernwood-partnership/>

GENE radio show

The GENE (genie) show is our very own guiding radio show produced and presented by myself and my team of three rangers/young leaders.

We want to shout out about everything guiding in Essex North East and beyond. Please do contact us if you have a story or would like to take part in one of our shows. We are happy to visit units and talk about the show and record your unit.

Please contact Maxine on pr@girlguidingsexne.org.uk

It would also be great if we had some more followers on social media and take time to listen to our show. Find out how to listen and follow us here

<https://girlguidingsexne.org.uk/about-us/gene-our-county-radio-show/>

Girlguiding Inspire Report

Rosina Rennie, Inspire Co-ordinator
inspire@girlguiding Essexne.org.uk

Future dates

16 November - CUSAGC marathon challenge

Instagram - @gginspireene

Facebook Page - Girlguiding Inspire Essex North East -

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61550592881982>

Facebook Group for members age 18-30 -

https://www.facebook.com/groups/girlguidingeneinspire/?ref=share_group_link

Trefoil Guild Report

Mavis Burton & Vanessa Reed, County Chair

Our Guilds have continued to be very active with a wide variety of interesting programmes.

Many have had garden parties which we were kindly invited to, the food was always outstanding, we were blessed with great weather and entertained with games, puzzles and activities which included building a life size potting shed out of cardboard! Other programmes include, walks, cookouts, blue badge tour, guide dog talks, ascot evening, indoor curling (using the counties set), ukulele playing, evening at a beach hut, murder mystery, a visit to Grenn Island gardens, ten pin bowling, metal detecting and of course crafts of various skills.

Many of our Guilds attended Thetford Anglia National Review and really enjoyed the town, Dad's Army Museum and the activities laid on, finishing off with a most informative talk. Some went to Portsmouth for the National review reporting back that we should all try to get to one of these if you can as it is really incredible.

As a county we have started our year with the annual 3 counties Day in Essex West at Chigwell Row camp site celebrating the world centres. It was damp and cold, but cuppas helped, there were various activities from the centres to try out. After a picnic lunch the completion between our 3 counties took place, our brief was to dress a Barbie doll in an outfit depicting her country of origin. After much hilarity we presented our Mexican Senorita, complete with donkey and we won!

July saw our annual weekend at Skreens park Scout Camp site in beautiful weather we celebrated a very early Christmas with fitting crafts, tree, lights, full Christmas dinner and a secret Santa for everyone. 36 members had a great time doing archery, rifle shooting puzzle solving, kayaking, frisbee golf and a sponsored zip wire for a cancer charity. We have booked for next year already.

August found us at Thorrington camp site for a sausage sizzle evening, we supplied the BBQ's, drinks, rolls and salad and everyone came with burgers, sausages, fish in foil etc. It was a lovely evening with guilds who don't normally venture out joining in.

September and many of Essex North- East members joined other members from the region for a fun filled week at Hautbois House on the region holiday.

Finally, we showed off our new county sail and sold out of TG lanyards. We are now planning out October Annual review come ploughman's lunch afternoon and a Carol service in December.