



Adviser Reports February 2026

Awards Committee Report

Sheila Everitt, Awards Committee Chair

Via office@girlguidingsexne.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

Please note the Jack Petchey leaders award is, unfortunately, only open to those of our leaders who are actively working with the 11 to 25 age range i.e. with guide, ranger or young leader units.

We received 25 nominations for the November round of the awards and the 18 girls have all had £300 transferred to their unit accounts to be spent on their chosen activity or equipment by the 31st May 2026. It is important that units stick to the "use by times" as set by the JPF or we could risk losing our funding.

2 leaders were put forward to the JPF to be considered for an award and I am pleased to say they accepted our nominations for both Heather Jones and Kate Jennings and they have been presented with an interim certificate and now have the chance of obtaining a grant of up to £1000 to spend on their units.

Our celebration event for award winners was held last November when 51 girls and 4 leaders received their medallion.

It was again voted a great success with all who attended thoroughly enjoying themselves.

Our thanks go to the 2 girls from Chelmsford City Rangers who both sang for us and to Myland Guides and Braiswick Rangers who gave a very interesting presentation of their time at Norjam in the summer.

The next round of the awards has a closing date of noon on Tuesday 24 February when all nomination paperwork must have been received by the county office, please encourage leaders to put girls forward. By nominating someone you have the chance to have £300 to spend on equipment for your unit or to take the girls on an extra special outing.

Please note no late applications will be considered, any received after the deadline will be held over until the May 2026 round.

Please ensure the correct spelling of the nominee's name as this is what is printed on the certificate if they are successful.

Please 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

20 County awards have been presented since our last meeting. These recognised leaders who helped at Clue Dun It and Energy Burst along with others who had been nominated by their peers. A young person's award was also given. The closing date for any nomination you would like to put forward for the next round is noon Tuesday 24 February.

The up-to-date nomination form is available on the ENE web and you should obtain a seconder for the application.

Long Service awards

90 people who had a long service award either presented or due in 2025 were invited to our awards tea held at Coggeshall in October. It was rather disappointing that 25 people did not bother to reply. With the other invited guests (V/P's, Patrons, Ambassadors, Division Commissioners and county award recipients) there were 69 attending what was a very enjoyable after noon. Our thanks go to Caroline Humphreys and her team who provided the tea and Maxine Jones who did a rolling display of all our award recipients along with photos of our units enjoying various activities.

The planning for our 2026 event is underway so if you have a long service award due in 2026 keep a look out for your invitation.

Anglia Awards

A new panel has been appointed to decide upon regional awards but the method of nominating someone remains the same. All information regarding which awards are available and the form to complete is on the region website.

Any nominations should, in the first place, be sent to the county awards committee for consideration.

Learning & Development Report

Gill Hillman-Crouch, Guiding Development Chair

gd@girlguidingsexne.org.uk

Training Diary 2026

Monday 9th February

Online accounts training 7.30pm

Thursday 26th February 2026

Online accounts training 7.30pm

28th February 2026

1st Response, Sandon Village Hall

Wednesday 4th March 2026

Online accounts training 7.30pm

28th March 2026

1st Response, Witham

25th April 2026

1st Response, Alresford

2nd May 2026

1st Response, Woodham Walter
(near Maldon and Danbury)

6th June 2026

1st Response, Colchester

4th July 2026

1st Response, Little Waltham

5th September 2026

1st Response, Tendring

3rd October 2026

1st Response, Rayne

7th November 2026

1st Response, tbc

5th December 2026

1st Response, tbc

Outdoors Report

Julie Craven, Outdoor Activities Adviser

aaa@girlguidingessexne.org.uk

International Report

Lorraine Pemberton, International Adviser

international@girlguidingessexne.org.uk

7 young members attended the Anglia International selection event at Ely in October. 3 were offered Interrailing, plus 1 on reserve list. 2 offered Malta and 1 is on reserve list for India.

County trip to Our Chalet 2026 is going ahead. Low uptake of places from selection event and open to County. I am in conversation with Our Chalet to reduce our booked places for young members.

We are looking at trip options for 2027 ready for the next County International event in summer term. Please let me know any further ideas.

We will be looking for leaders for the 2027 trip, either to lead or be part of team. To lead and either have international module or keen to earn it; you must have the relevant age going away license. There is a Girlguiding UK grant available to the leader taking their international module.

Anglia leader selection for 2027/28 trips is 17-19 April 2026, at Jarman Centre, Newmarket. More information and to apply <https://www.girlguiding-anglia.org.uk/events/adult-events/international>

We are planning international fun days/afternoons starting with Guide and Ranger event. More details will be circulated.

We now have an easyfundraising account for International trips Girlguiding Essex NE https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=415040&invite=lbasv6&referral-campaign=c2s&utm_campaign=web-referral

Marketing & Communications Report

Maxine Jones, PR Adviser

pr@girlguidingessexne.org.uk

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

Kawaii workshop

We held a successful Kawaii online workshop last weekend. It generated lots of

online posts from parents and was a good promotion for us. We still had some spaces so please do share these opportunities with your girls. We clearly state when leaders are not required to attend.

Display materials

We will be purchasing a new gazebo before the summer term, refreshing some of our pull up banners and replenishing our sticker supply.

Please contact the office to book the displays, do give plenty of time where possible as they are in demand in the springtime.

Photos/publicity

Thank you for sharing your County Commissioner good turn activities with us, don't stop sending in pictures of fun activities you are doing with your girls.

As I have said previously, 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!

Do take time to look through this publication to give you some tips on how to get stories in the local press. <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/globalassets/docs-and-resources/growing-and-promoting-guiding/girlguiding-pr-guide-for-recruitment.pdf>

Recruitment

If you need specific recruitment adverts, please contact the county office so we can tailor them to your requirements. Do make sure your unit has its recruitment requirement up to date on the new recruitment tool.

Anyone wanting help to add opportunities to the new recruitment tool, please contact County Office.

Essex Cricket partnership

We still have a great relationship with Essex Cricket, please do contact their Girls Participation Manager: Lauren Onojaife Lauren@essexcricket.org.uk

Download our Smashing Boundaries cricket challenge here:

<https://girlguidingessexne.org.uk/member-support/resources-2/partnership-challenges/> Badges are available to buy via the county office.

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

We are currently recruiting for more members -

Girlguiding members aged 14–18... we want YOU!

Love podcasts, TikTok, or being on the mic? Join the GENE Radio Show Team! 🎧🎤

- ✅ Be on a real radio show
- ✅ Learn media + content creation skills
- ✅ Have your voice heard!
- 📅 Must be free 1st Sunday each month (9:30–12:15)
- 🌟 Must also be a Ranger or Young Leader
- 📧 Apply now: pr@girlguidingsexne.org.uk

Tell us why you'd love to join! 💬

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@girlguidingsexne.org.uk

Upcoming events

Bowling at Hollywood Bowl Colchester – Sunday 22nd March at 7pm

London Theatre Trip – Show TBC – Saturday 18th April

Join us in our facebook group or on our whatsapp group for more information

Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/679520670365194>

Inspire Events – WhatsApp Community

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/GkVA2wd2cZF44Kx1AaVGJE>

Trefoil Guild Report

Mavis Burton & Vanessa Reed, County Chair

All guilds have been very active leading up to Christmas with tree decoration, strange sandwich filling and Halloween lunch. When the weather was fine, they competed in crazy golf, fish and chip walks and food bank visits with donation. Invited speakers have resulted in talks from police and guide dogs, bee keeping RNLI and the Fire service. The evening has been very varied with Pamper hands, horse racing, quizzes, murder mystery, ukulele playing and line dancing.

Members have attended the Anglia Holiday, Walking week and Switzerland trip, the National Conference in Swanwick and PR zoom meeting.

As a county our annual review and social was a ploughman's lunch followed by a talk from Amanda Sutherland on her Creative Journey working on films and how to re-use discarded items. Harwich Guild was our host for our carol service, and our singing and bell ringers have been busy. Voyage Award is going strong with 4 bronze awards being completed.

Unfortunately, one of our guilds had to close due to low numbers and increasing venue cost but we are pleased to say several of the ladies have joined other nearby guilds