

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.

Charter Hall, Colchester is booked for this year's celebration evening - Thursday 13 November 2025 when we expect all 54 girls who have been given an award in the last 12 months to attend to receive their medallion. Invitations for the girls, their families and their units have been sent out with a return date of 30 September.

Please ensure all the girls in your unit have replied. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The next round of the awards has a closing date of noon on Thursday 23 October when all nomination paperwork must have been received by the county office.

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

The Jack Petchey Youth Survey

The mission of the Jack Petchey Foundation is to provide opportunities for young people to build their skills, their confidence and their voice, so they can fulfil their potential and have a positive impact on society. This survey is their chance to use their voice to positively impact society and shape the conversation around how young people are perceived. They want to amplify the voices of young people. They will present the data to key decision makers in governments and local councils to

illustrate the importance of listening to young people's voices. The survey takes 15 minutes to complete and is open to everyone aged 11-25 in the London and Essex area. The survey closes 11:59pm on Sunday 2nd November 2025. Each young person who fills out the [survey](#) will be entered into a prize draw for the chance to win £200! If 12 or more young people from your school or youth group complete the survey, you could also win a £500 grant for your organisation.

County awards

No county awards, either for adults or young person, have been given since our last county exec. The closing date for any nomination you would like to put forward for the next round is noon Thursday 23 October.

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

Long Service awards

Our awards tea will be taking place on 11 October at Coggeshall and invitations have gone out to the relevant people whose long service award falls due in 2025. It is not intended to present these awards at the tea and some, because they fall due in October, November or December will not have had them presented yet but the invitation to the event still stands.

We have also invited Division commissioners, VPs, Patrons and Ambassadors and all county award and Jack Petchey Leader award winners given in this calendar year. Totalling approximately 140 people.

Anglia Awards

Anglia is in the process of changing how the regional awards are decided upon. 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. The region 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@girlguidingessexne.org.uk

No report

Outdoors Report

Julie Craven, Outdoor Activities Adviser

ooo@girlguidingsexne.org.uk

- DofE are running Bronze next year please contact Natalie on dofe@girlguidingsexne.org.uk if you have girls interested. The Gold and Silver qualifier expedition is October half term in Peak District.
- GAW scheme is going online training is available for advisers and mentors, will update when I know more.
- A few leaders completed GAW over the summer but have yet to submit books
- My time as OAA will be coming to an end at some stage so I'm looking for someone to train up and take over, if anyone would like some info on role I'm happy to talk to them.
- Canoeing 2026 dates will be released asap.

International Report

Lorraine Pemberton, International Adviser

international@girlguidingsexne.org.uk

After a successful selection event in June 7 young members were put forward to attend the Anglia International trip selection in October. One Young member has applied directly to Anglia for the event that did not attend County selection. One selected young member has declined the offer.

Following the selection event a booking has been made with Our Chalet for County trip in August 2026. Offers have been sent out to the other young members who attended 2025 selection. Those who attended 2024 selection, who were not put forward to Anglia or attended 2025 event are being contacted for interest and will be met with again.

We are looking at trip options for 2027. Ideas were gathered at County Camp on the International display in the leader area. 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.

During the summer 2 adults and 3 young members had an amazing experience as part of the Anglia trip to Marrakech, Morocco. 3 Young members travelled with Anglia for a great trip to Azores. 1 leader will be attending Anglia trip to Canada in 2026 and

1 young member will be heading to Mexico in 2026.

Anglia leader selection for 2027/28 trips will be advertised shortly.

International module may be amended as part of the Going away with update. More details available from October.

EU are updating border controls from October, checks will likely include digital fingerprinting. Concerns are that this may cause delays for large groups. Upcoming ETIAS visa system may affect trips to the 29 Schengen countries plus Cyprus. Will update when I know anything more.

Looking to restart international fun days/ afternoons. Let me know if interested.

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 displays were in demand 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!

Share your stories with the press!

Many of you are giving your units some wonderful opportunities over the new term, don't forget to take photos and use them to promote stories to the press.

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>

If you need specific recruitment adverts, please contact the county office so we can tailor them to your requirements.

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!

Publicity opportunities

Do let us know if there are any opportunities for Girlguiding to take part in council run/local events, they are often a good opportunity to "piggy back" off to gain publicity. A good example of this is the Heritage open day in Chelmsford – we ran the rock painting stand for an afternoon, were able to have a banner on display, girls & leaders in uniform and we had some guiding themed rocks on display! They supplied the gazebo and all equipment.

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@girlguidingessexne.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@girlguidingessexne.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

Girlguiding Inspire Report
Rosina Rennie, Inspire Co-ordinator
inspire@girlguidingessexne.org.uk

No report

Trefoil Guild Report

Mavis Burton & Vanessa Reed, County Chair

In May the county hosted a lunch at a local golf club, with 73 members attending.

Our annual residential weekend was held at Skreens Park in June, and we were lucky with beautiful weather. On the Saturday evening, we celebrated the summer solstice with a campfire and of course Smores! 40 members attended, and tried crate stacking, climbing, abseiling, zip wire, puzzle solving to name a few!

In August we held a Sausage Sizzle evening at a local camp site with lots of lovely food and ending with campfire songs and taps.

As joint County chair, we have been invited to many garden parties in beautiful weather enjoying great food and many games and entertainments, and we have also attended events at our adjoining county, Essex South East and unfortunately lost the 3 Counties Challenge to them.

The Guilds have been very active, indoors they have tried chair yoga, Tai Chi, jewellery making, quizzes and many interesting talks including health care, first aid and the Kindertransport.

Outdoors with the glorious weather, croquet, mini and crazy golf, geocaching, cook outs, litter picking, trips to Mersea Island, Brightlingsea by bus and glamping at Blacklands Farm.

One Guild also celebrated a 90th Birthday of one of their members, what a milestone!

The next county event will be our annual review in November, and we will end the year with a Carol service in December.