



QUARTERLY UPDATES FROM AROUND THE COUNTY

JULY 2023

Rosemary Writes ...

What should I wear? The mini training day called for uniform but it was hot—so out came the shorts. Then Crowning Glory was nowhere near as warm and sunny as expected—so notice the welly boots and warm hoodie.

Our Jack Petchey presentation evening is a very formal event—so court shoes or more comfy dark sketchers?? Then 'normal' meetings—avoid that white polo shirt because it will not stay that way for long—decisions, decisions.

But whatever we wear we give our girls and young women such amazing opportunities so thank you again for all you do.



From L to R: Jenny Wolff (Assistant County Commissioner, Rosemary Jeffery (County Commissioner) and Susan Wiseman (Assistant County Commissioner) posing with the new branding frame at the Mini-County Training Day at Harold Wood in June.

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 22 July	Brownies Go Explore 3 – Hautbois House Sleepover	p3
Saturday 23 September	Brownie and Rainbow Day– Chigwell Row – LOB	
Saturday 23 September	Brownies Go Explore 4 – London	p3
6–8 October 2023	Peer Education weekend, Suffolk	
October 2023	Mini County Day—Thurrock	p4
27 July 2024	Essex international Jamboree	

Delve into a Division: Epping Forest South

The third of a series of article about the Divisions of Essex West County, continuing alphabetically with Epping Forest South:

A busy term is drawing to a close in Epping Forest South with Units taking advantage of good weather and light evenings to get the girls outdoors. We are all delighted to be able to use Chigwell Row again. Almost every Unit participated in Crowning Glory which they enjoyed. There have been nature walks and treasure hunts, chip walks and pizza walks and forest walks. New activities have been tried and enjoyed particularly body zorbing, caving, angel wing throwing in addition to old favourites of climbing, archery and water sports.

Several Units have been on camps and pack holidays - often giving girls their first experiences as there has been little opportunity since lock-down.

We are very proud of our Jack Petchey Achievement Award winners; most of them were joined by their families at the Awards evening in Hornchurch to receive their medallions. Units have enjoyed being able to use the money for some exciting activities.

It has been a delight to go into Units and present several Long Service Awards. Congratulations to the following:

20years – Katy Jones, Margaret Pinagli, Sarah Straub, Toni Daly, Philippa Soyka, Lisa Hansen,

10years - Michelle Thompson, Nicola Leach, Claire Gilbert, Ros Sonderscof

Unfortunately we have had to take the decision to close 2 Loughton Units due lack of members. The 11th Loughton Guides and 8th Loughton Brownies will close at the end of term. A huge thank you to Shirley Utting and Alex Pinagli at the Guides and Maria Oakhill and Unit Helpers Lisa Hansen and Phillipa Soyka at the Brownies for all that they have done over many years and we hope that they will all remain in Girlguiding.

To end on a happy note there will be 2 new Units opening in Chigwell in September. The 1st Chigwell Rainbows and the 1st Chigwell Rangers are all set and we wish them well.

Susan



Roles and Vacancies Available

- County Advisor Responsible for Training (CART)
- Division Commissioner Epping Forest South
- District Commissioners – 5 County wide
- Additional helpers for the County Archivist
- Peer Educators
- Commissioner Mentors
- Growth and Retention Team
- International Adviser (Job Share)

Please contact Rosemary to discuss these roles: ewcc2021@gmail.com

Programme & Adventure



Crowning Glory our event to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III took place on 13 May at Chigwell Row



Coronation Challenge Badge

The new Girlguiding Essex West Challenge Badge is available for all Sections, covering animals, coins and stamps, countries, flags, flowers, food, King Charles III, Princes and Princesses, and Royal Residences.



- Summer of Adventure from Girlguiding—new activity badges for snow, water, sport, height and land for each section
- Anglia Feel Good in Nature Challenge badge in partnership with the RSPB.
- Anglia also has been running a number of Brownies Go Explore events across the region. The deadline for the London event has been extended to 31 July, so you can still sign up. .

Marketing and Communications

The Essex West Website is currently being rebranded to match the new styling. It will go live at the end of August, ready for the start of September and the new term.

Following on from the article about the new trefoil in the last Essex West News Fest, this time we look at the new identities for the different units— the [online marketing toolbox](#) gives these logos and lots of posters and publicity materials. These logos cannot be used without the addition of a coloured background, (I use GIMP, but Photoshop, Publisher and Canva would all work). The details for the colours are found in the [brand guidelines](#) (a 90 page pdf).



Rainbows
are playful
and carefree



Guides
are supportive
and imaginative



Brownies
are energetic
and excitable



Rangers
are proactive
and optimistic

Training Updates

Becoming a Leader in Girlguiding

From this September, the main route to becoming a Leader is the [Leadership Development Programme](#). This is an new online training, based on the [Learning Platform](#). It will normally take around a year to complete. When you sign up, you will be allocated a mentor who will visit you three times during your training. Some of the training is offered as online webinars giving opportunities to ask questions.



Renewal of Safe Space Qualification

You can complete your training anytime within the 180 days (120 days for level 4) before your current course expires. By doing so, you'll keep your original expiry date. This means that when you next come to renew, it's three years from your original expiry date.

There is also the [online condensed course](#) for renewal.

County Training Days

The photo above is from the Harold Wood Training day in June. There is still time to sign up for the Thurrock training day in October.

Girlguiding in Action

Two of our Rangers (Holly and Grace) from Waltham Abbey and Upshire Rangers collected bras to send to Africa for their Volunteering Badge. They managed to collect nearly 300 and are shown here taking them to the collection point for them to be sent on.

Girlguiding Anglia's autumn challenge is the Community Social Action challenge, encouraging girls to make a difference. Here Waltham Abbey and Upshire Rangers and 1st South Weald Brownies are demonstrating the ways they have become change-makers in their community.

Badges will be made available for you to buy in the autumn term from our region retail shop.



[Girlguiding Anglia Community Action Challenge](#)



Victoria with the Brownies and their odd socks

1st South Weald Brownies, celebrated World Down Syndrome Awareness Day on 21st March by wearing ODD SOCKS!

Victoria is our assistant Guider; she wanted to share with the girls her experiences of living with Downs. This led to a great debate about how having a disability doesn't have to hold you back.

We played a game to explain about Chromosomes, made sock puppets, held an odd sock colouring competition. Everyone received a pin badge kindly donated by Victoria and her mum Sue, who came along to support Victoria.

We were able to donate £66 to the charity from donations on the evening.

If you want to find out more about inclusion, the Learning Platform course [Celebrating Every Member](#) is a good place to start.

Jack Petchey Awards



The Jack Petchey Achievement Award Scheme recognises outstanding young people aged 11–25 across London and Essex. Girlguiding is one of the groups on the scheme, as are other youth groups and schools, and each year has the opportunity to nominate Guides and Rangers to celebrate their achievements. Each award winner receives a certificate, pin badge and a book from Sir Jack himself. They also choose how to spend a £300 grant to benefit their organisation. As well as this, organisations on the scheme get to apply for a package of other small grants throughout the year (see previous newsletters).

Girls were asked to perform at the celebration evening—and they can be seen below.



Epping Forest North Division winners with Sue Copsey



< Hornchurch winners with Kate Ridgeon

Jack Petchey Awards, continued



Rosemary Jeffery, County Commissioner, at the Awards



North-West Division winners and Clare Birkbeck



Thurrock West Division winners with Bev Garnham



Romford Division winners and Coral Dunning-Gosling



Upminster Division winners with Jenny Aspinall



Thurrock East Division winners with Jill Osborne



🏆 Congratulations to: 🎉

3rd Hornchurch (Methodist) Guides who celebrated 80 years with a celebration fundraiser where they ate lots of cake and raised just over £600. The photo shows our newly qualified leader Harbir Davies and her daughter Darcy. Harbir was presented with her leadership qualification and Darcy with her Brownie gold award after she delivered a speech.



Photos Wanted

Essex West GirlGuiding County always needs photographs to show what we have been doing. Please can you send in your autumn activity pictures for the next newsletter to

comms.ggew@gmail.com

Trefoil Guild Essex West County

There is still time to join in the Trefoil Guild's 80th Anniversary celebrations by taking part in the [Trefoil Challenge](#), which runs all this year, with lots of activities for all ages to take part in.

Trefoil Guild 80th Anniversary 2023 From small acorns to giant oaks

To earn your badge, choose 4 from 80s challenges and 4 from community/activities challenges
Challenge is running from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023



Staying in Contact

🌐 [Website](#)

New [Compliments Section](#)—awaiting your compliments. Currently being rebranded, in common with all Girlguiding, so subject to change. Please be patient when you sign up to the members' area as we authorise individually to ensure only Girlguiding Essex West leaders are given access. This section of the site has:

- a contact directory for the County Team and Advisors,
- a page for vacant County Roles and application details,
- all the newsletters will be available to download.

www.girlguidingsexsexwest.org.uk/account-registration/

We have created a community Facebook group for leaders as a space for sharing ideas, asking for help and for the County team to share what's happening. Follow [the link](#)



Girlguiding Essex West also has a Twitter account— [@GGEssexWest](#), which is kept updated with current news and information



✉️ office@girlguidingsexsexwest.org.uk

Next Essex West Fest due out Autumn 2023