



9 January 2025

Dear {{ contact.FIRSTNAME | default : "volunteer" }}

Happy New Year everyone! I hope you all had a Happy Christmas and enjoyed celebrating the New Year with your family and friends.

I am sure you are all pleased to hear that Janet Smith has agreed to be our next County Commissioner. We will be working together from now until the end of August when Janet will officially take over. Many of you will know Janet as a Guide leader and trainer and currently as the Chair of our Ellesborough Committee. I know the county will be in good hands and I am looking forward to working with Janet in the coming months.

As unit meetings start again, I am sure you are all busy planning what you will be doing this term and perhaps looking forward to going away with your unit this spring or in the summer. Don't forget REN forms for residentials should be submitted 12 weeks before the event to give plenty of time for our advisers to approve the event and provide support if needed. I am sure you are also thinking about paying subscriptions in February, don't forget we do have grants available if this is going to be a challenge for your unit. All the details and forms are on our county [website](#).

We are always looking for more volunteers to help us provide our fun and adventurous programme for the girls in our units and to support leaders with accounts and admin. Please can I encourage you to talk to anyone you know who may be interested in volunteering for Girlguiding. Our roles can be flexible and don't have to be a uniformed role.

Thank you for everything you continue to do for Girlguiding in Bucks,

Best wishes,

Sue Berry

Interim county commissioner

countycomm@girlguidingbucks.org.uk

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Volunteer information

Contacting our Interim county commissioner from 16 January to 3 February

Our Interim county commissioner Sue will be taking a well deserved break from 16 January until 3 February inclusively. If you have any queries/questions during this time please contact Karen, in the [county office](#). In cases of confidential matters please contact [Rikki](#) our county president.

Subscriptions 2025 - IMPORTANT DATES

- **Friday 10 January 2025:** Deadline for levy adding. All levies must be added by all levels by this date.
- **Tuesday 21 January 2025** from 12pm: We'll send an email when your trial invoices are ready to download. You'll need to check it's correct. Any changes you make on GO will be shown on your trial invoice the following day. If you're a commissioner make sure everyone in your area has checked their invoice.
- **Week beginning 3 February 2025:** We'll send you an email reminder if you haven't downloaded your trial invoice.
- **Monday 17 February 2025, 7pm:** No more changes can be made to trial invoices.
- **Tuesday 18 February 2025, from 12pm:** Official and final payable invoices will be available to download and pay by card or by cheque. We'll send you an email to let you know.
- **Friday 14 March 2025:** We'll send a reminder email to the main contact of any level that hasn't yet paid their official invoice.
- **Friday 28 March 2025, midday:** All subscription payments must be received in full by this date.
- **Friday 25 April 2025:** Districts, divisions, counties and countries or regions will receive their levy amounts, minus any deductions for unpaid invoices.

Public Liability Insurance 2025

A copy of this year's public liability insurance can be downloaded from the [Girlguiding Bucks website](#).

LDP support

To support both the new Leader in Training and their mentors 2 WhatsApp groups have been set up. So far, they have proved very useful with the members of the groups supporting each other.

If you are a LiT or a mentor and you would like to join either group, please contact [Sheila Beales - LiT coordinator](#)

Vacancies

Are you looking for a new challenge? Please visit our [website page listing all our role vacancies](#) to see if there is anything that interests you. Remember, our volunteer county roles are flexible and offer a great opportunity to extend and build skills in wide variety of subjects.

Events

We often have a number of exciting events running across the county. To find out what is happening, when and where, and to get further details please visit the [events page](#) of our website..

Trainings

Upcoming 1st response trainings 2025

18 Jan - Beaconsfield

8 February - Herons Lodge (Milton Keynes) - Fully Booked

8 March - Princes Risborough

26 April - Beaconsfield

7 June - Herons Lodge

Please click on the button below to see the [county calendar](#) for details. Click on your preferred date and follow the instructions to book.

Competition Hikes - All you need to know training day Sunday - 16 March 2025

Come and join us on Sunday 16 March 2025 to learn all you need to know ready to participate in our competition hikes on 10 May. [Click here](#) or visit the [county calendar](#) for your application form. Entries close 1st March 2025. Any question [email](#) the team. **The competition Hikes will take place on 10 May 2025**

County calendar

GAW Skills Day 9 February 2025, Wendover Guide Hall

Are you curious about taking your Rainbows, Brownies or Guides on a residential? Come along to the GAW skills day to find out what is involved and how to achieve the qualification. There are a series of talks by experienced leaders in the County who can help you understand how to plan and prepare to go away with your unit. Complete the application on the [County Website](#)



The cost of the skills day is, £15.00 for up to 2 leaders, it is a legitimate expense against your unit accounts. If you are going to work towards gaining the qualification, download the 'Going Away With Scheme' and the 'Going Away with Guiding' from the online shop.

Thank you for taking the time to read the whizz. If there's something you'd like us to consider including in future copies of the Whizz, email the [office](#)

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