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6 February 2025

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

Whizz has a competition theme this week as we need your help with two competitions!

As part of your plans for celebrating Thinking Day, please don't forget to enter our competition. Just take a picture of your Division/District banner with as many of your members as possible at a local landmark.

We have the opportunity of being selected to promote Girlguiding Buckinghamshire around the county on the side of buses. Think how many people would see the information and may consider joining us! All you need to do is to vote yourself and pass on the details to the parents of girls in your unit, family and friends. Please help us to try and be chosen for this great marketing opportunity, the link for voting is below.

I am looking forward to seeing how you will be celebrating Thinking Day - are you taking part in the region pyjama party or celebrating with your Division/District or unit? Please let me know what you are doing and send us some photos we can use on our social media groups.

We've unfortunately had to cancel our GAW skills day due to lack of support. Our advisers put a lot of work into planning these opportunities which benefit all our members so please can we ask for your support, or suggestions on what you'd prefer. The Competition Hikes All you need to know training day details below needs your support if it is to go ahead, thanks

Thank you for making Guiding in Bucks so special,

Best wishes,
Sue Berry
Interim county commissioner
countycomm@girlguidingbucks.org.uk

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Volunteer information

CANCELLATION of GAW Skills Day

The GAW Skills Day which was due to be held on 9 February in Wendover has been cancelled due to lack of attendees. If you are interested in this qualification please get in touch with the adventure team

Subscriptions 2025

The subscription for volunteers should be paid for by the unit they are linked with even if they have a county role. Please do not change the main role of a member to their county role before first contacting Sue or the county office. Our county invoice currently keeps changing due to roles being changed! Thank you for your help with this.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **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.

Volunteer Enquiries

Please can Commissioners ensure that volunteer enquiries are contacted within 21days. I am currently getting a lot of emails notifying me that new enquiries have not been contacted after more than 30days (we currently have 30 on our list). These people could be the new leader you are looking for! Thank you for your help.

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

We are looking to recruit an Office Administrator in our busy County office based in the centre of Aylesbury. The job will be to cover all aspects of daily administration, clerical and marketing support to the voluntary leadership teams.

This position will require high levels of organisational competence, IT literacy and people skills. Knowledge of Girlguiding would be an advantage. The ability to work alone unsupervised, and to work with a team is essential.

The position is for 5 mornings per week, from 0900 to 1300 hours daily. More flexible arrangements by negotiation may be possible.

Some weekend and evening work will be required.

Salary will depend on existing experience and qualifications.

For further information please visit our website **https://girlguidingbucks.org.uk/about-us/role-vacancies/**

or contact the interim County Commissioner by email at countycomm@girlguidingbucks.org.uk

Closing date for applications 21 February 2025

We welcome applicants from all backgrounds.

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.

Banner Photo Competition deadline extended until 17 February 2025

Last call for the next Banner Photo Competition in readiness for Thinking Day this year. .Remember the challenge this year is to take a photo of your Banner with as many people as possible at a local landmark. We have set up a folder to upload your photos to, please follow the link Banner Photos 2025 by the 17th February.

Please contact Lisa or Alison if you have any issues *Please name your photos for easier identification* Happy Shooting Good Luck Everyone.

Brand the Bus Competition

Please vote for a bus to be branded with Girlguiding Buckinghamshire. Your vote can be registered here and the more votes we receive the more opportunity we have of this happening. Please share this opportunity as widely as possible with parents and friends.

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.

Bucks Big Day Out - Saturday, 4th October 2025

Could you be part of the team organising our next day out? No experience is necessary just enthusiasm to give our members the best day out possible. The role does not take a large amount of time and will end in October! All are welcome to join the team - leaders, unit helpers, YLs, Queens Guide candidates etc Please contact Sue.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE INTERNATIONAL **OP**PORTUNITIE**S** (INTOPS) for County trips in 2026/2027

We are delighted to open up for applications from adults and young members in the County to be part of trips in 2026 and 2027. Currently we are looking at international trips to Gibraltar, Sweden, UK, European inter-railing, and Switzerland. Obviously, these are all dependant on whether we have enough adults to lead and girls to attend these exciting opportunities.

- Applications from adults who would either like to lead or be part of a leadership team, need to arrive NO LATER THAN **28 FEBRUARY 2025.**
- Applications from Guides, Rangers and Young Leaders should arrive NO LATER THAN **14 MARCH 2025.**
- Anyone applying for a trip (either adults or girls) will need to attend the INTOPS selection day, which will be held on: **Saturday 29 March 2025** at Herons Lodge, Milton Keynes.
- More details of the day can be found on the consent form. Unfortunately, there will be no alternative date if you cannot attend on 29 March, and we cannot accept applications on the day.

Trip details, costs, and application forms can be found on the County Website

Region Ranger Hiking trip to Switzerland 2026

Join the Region walking team for a hike in the Swiss alps to celebrate 110 years of Rangers. This adventure is open to Rangers and Young Leaders (14-18) at time of departure, 8 August 2026. Flights depart from London and arrive in Geneva with indoor accommodation at KISC (Kandersteg International Scout Centre) and returning 15 August 2026. Visit the Girlguiding Anglia website for more details.

Trainings

Upcoming 1st response trainings with availability

2025

8 March - Princes Risborough
26 April - Beaconsfield
7 June - Herons Lodge
28 June - Princes Risborough
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

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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