



10 July 2025

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

What lovely weather we have been having and many units have been taking the opportunity to get out and about. Units have tried paddle boarding, visited the local fire station, explored their local town, made bug hotels and cooked meals outside on fires. Water games have also been a popular activity! Some units have also been working on the new eco badges that were launched recently.

Congratulations to those who attended the Amazing Anglia event from Bucks to celebrate members who have recently been awarded their Queen's Guide, gold DofE award or the Commonwealth award.

I enjoyed visiting Milton Keynes Division for their summer festival, an event for all sections and to be able to present four of their leaders with awards. The Trefoil Guild camp at Ellesborough was a great success and we hope many units will use our county home and campsite in the future for their unit residentials.

At the end of August I will be handing over the County Commissioner role to Janet so this will be my last Whizz as Interim County Commissioner. Thank you all for your support during the last year. I have enjoyed having the opportunity to hold the role again and to meet many of you during this year. Bucks is a great Guiding county and I know you will all support Janet as our new CC.

Best wishes,

Sue Berry

Interim county commissioner

countycomm@girlguidingbucks.org.uk

Volunteer information

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Interest badges and booklet

The new interest badges and the little badge books to go with them will be available from trading on Monday 21 July. The number of badges for each section will double so there will now be 24 for Rainbows, 32 for Brownies, 48 for Guides and 32 for Rangers for the girls to choose from.

County enquiries

Currently there are over 450 new enquiries listed on GO from potential new members across our county. Some date back as far as 2022. Remember, if a leader has tried to make contact 3 times over a period of 3 weeks via at least two different methods (eg email, phone call, text, letter) and there has been no response, please remove the girl from your waiting list by choosing the 'Decided not to Join > No response' option. Let's have a real push to tidy up those waiting lists.

Gift Aid

Did you know your unit could boost donations by 25% at no extra cost? As part of a registered charity you can claim Gift Aid on eligible donations from UK taxpayers. It's one of the simplest ways to increase your income—every £1 donated becomes £1.25 with Gift Aid! [click here to learn more](#) or contact our [county treasurer](#) if you need further help.

County Equipment

Did you know the county office has a range of equipment that units can borrow? Items include promotional materials like sails and bunting, as well as practical tools such as a glass engraving kit, badge-making machine, and whittling knives. Some items may incur a small charge to cover maintenance. For a full list of available equipment or to make a booking, please contact: ggbucks@girlguidingbucks.org.uk

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 4 October 2025

Don't forget to book your tickets for this fun county event for all sections. At the end of the booking form there is a section for leaders to complete in order to apply for their transport subsidy from county. There is now a FAQs sheet on our county website which will be added to over the coming weeks as questions arise. If you have any questions please do contact the team by emailing countycomm@girlguidingbucks.org.uk

New Look county day - Saturday 8 November

We're excited to announce our **NEW LOOK county day** will be on **Saturday 8 November 2025**. Come along to:

- Meet the county team
- Learn how our Advisors can support you
- Try out some exciting activities
- Take part in training sessions
- Get help with GO system challenges and more!

We're shaping the day with you in mind — so if there's anything you'd like to see included, please let us know: ggbucks@girlguidingbucks.org.uk

Can't make the whole day? No problem! Whether you're able to join us for the full day or just part of it, we'd love to see you there!

Further details will follow soon, but for now, please save the date.

Trainings

Upcoming 1st response trainings with availability 2025

20 September - Herons Lodge - **FULLY BOOKED**

11 October - Beaconsfield - **ONE SPACE AVAILABLE**

22 November - Princes Risborough

29 November - Herons Lodge

Please visit the [county calendar](#) where you can book to attend one of the above mentioned trainings.

County calendar

Peer education training weekend

A training weekend for new peer educators, suitable for young members and volunteers aged 14-25 years old. You'll cover the Think Resilient topic and take part in an outdoor activity. Attending is free and travel costs can be reimbursed from your county.

When? Friday 26 September to Sunday 28 September 2025

Where? Hautbois Activity Centre, 5 Great Hautbois Rd, Coltishall, Norwich NR12 7JN.

Details on Anglia [website](#) and [Facebook page](#)

COSMIC, an event for Brownies, 11–13 September 2026

In September 2026, Brownies across the region will come together for **Cosmic**, a fun-filled weekend of challenges, creativity, and confidence-building adventures — all designed to help girls aim for the stars. This event will take place at different activity centres across Anglia region, aiming to be accessible to as many girls as possible, all on the same weekend.

Messages from HQ

Learning Platform update

The learning platform will be unavailable to all users on **29 July, 9am - 12 noon**. You won't be able to login or complete any online learning during this time.

This is while the safer guiding course is updated to improve volunteers' learning experience and address feedback given by leaders.

If you've completed or need to complete safer guiding training for your role, please read the information on the Girlguiding website about how these changes will affect you. Please ensure you've completed any quizzes or safeguarding topics you're working through before 29 July to avoid losing progress. The changes do not affect the safer guiding basics course.

County office

The [county office](#) will be closed from Tuesday 29 July to Monday 11 August.

Bucks Waste Busters

Buckinghamshire Waste Busters is a Bucks Council campaign coordinated by Garden Organic, aiming to help communities reduce household waste. Our trained volunteers promote waste reduction, reuse, recycling, composting, and sustainable local schemes—from real nappies to repair cafés.

Volunteers engage with the public at local events and support schools and community groups with talks and workshops on composting and recycling.

Calling all Girlguiding leaders!

We'd love to collaborate with Girlguide groups across the county. We can offer resource packs for DIY Waste Buster sessions—or potentially arrange for a trained volunteer to visit your group for a talk or workshop.

For more information on the campaign and reducing waste go to

<https://www.recycleforbuckinghamshire.co.uk/volunteers/>.

You can see more about the volunteer programme at [Garden Organic | Waste Busters - Buckinghamshire](#), and on [Facebook](#).

County connections

We would like all our members to feel connected through our communications. There are a few things that you can do to keep in touch with all that is going on across the county.

- You can change your settings on Go and **opt in** to marketing so that the county team can include you in future mailings.
- You can join or follow Girlguiding Buckinghamshire on Facebook and Instagram.

We have a special Facebook group just for Girlguiding Buckinghamshire members which you can join using the button below.

[Join members group](#)

We also have a public facing page called **GirlguidingBuckinghamshire** which replaces our old public page. This page can be viewed by anyone. You can follow us using the button below.

Follow the Facebook page

Use the button below to check out and follow us on Instagram.

Follow us on Instagram

Thank you for taking the time to read the whizz. If you have anything you would like us to consider for future mailings, please contact the county office :

ggbucks@girlguidingbucks.org.uk

If you no longer want to receive these emails, please log on to GO and update your marketing preferences.



Email: ggbucks@girlguidingbucks.org.uk

Website: www.girlguidingbucks.org.uk



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