

# Essex West News Fest

QUARTERLY UPDATES FROM AROUND THE COUNTY



Jenny Wolff and Rosemary Jeffrey awarding Sheila Healey her 60 years service award, with Susan Wiseman presenting flowers

## *Rosemary Writes .....*

The role of County Commissioner comes with many challenges, but also with some wonderful opportunities. An absolute highlight has to be presenting a volunteer with her 60 year long service award - yes 60 years!! Even at only an hour a week that is some service and we all know it takes slightly more than 60 minutes.....

Our County Thinking Day event also gave us the opportunity to present two 50 year service awards along with several 40 year ones and a thirty year service whilst we enjoyed a wonderful brunch at Barnards Farm prepared by Gillian Chapman and her team of willing helpers

10 Commissioners from Essex West attended a Region commissioners training Day which was a huge success and very informative- so good to speak to others from across the region

## **New Office**

The move to a slightly larger office has allowed us to move all our county archives to a much more accessible place and we plan to encourage Leaders to borrow resources so that girls can explore our history at unit meetings. The archive team is only small and is looking for more volunteers to help with this.

The larger office also allows us to keep more of the county arts and craft resources in one place and to make them available for Leaders to borrow. As an example if a district decided to explore pyrography then only one Leader need to visit the office and then arrange for it to be used at several meetings over the course of a few weeks. We are also thinking of opening the office on occasional evenings or Saturday mornings to increase opportunities to collect and/or return resources. Don't forget we have four boxes of circus skills gizmos!!

Again the small craft team is always looking for new members and we'd love to have some folk knowledgeable about drama, dance or music widen the range of opportunities to explore the Arts.

If you wish volunteer or find out more about the craft library  
[email\\_comms.ggew@gmail.com](mailto:email_comms.ggew@gmail.com)



A pyrography tool in action—it decorates by burning wood or MDF blanks

## *Dates for your Diary*

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Saturday 18 June      | <a href="#">Rainbow 35th Birthday</a> , Brentwood  |
| Fri 15- Sun 17 July   | <a href="#">Generation Green Residential Event</a> - for leaders to learn outdoor skills   |
| 10/11th September     | <a href="#">County capers</a> at Hargreaves campsite - an event for Brownies and Guides with a sleep-over opportunity for Guides |
| Saturday 17 September | <a href="#">Barn Dance</a> (for Adults)  |
| Saturday 15 October   | <a href="#">County Mini-Training Day and Catch-up</a>  |



# What we have been doing!



## Mud Run

On 10th April 2022 Essex West ran a successful Mud Run at Kelvedon Hatch. The photographs here give a flavour of the day



## PHOTOS WANTED

Essex West always needs photographs to show what we have been doing and to stop me filling the page with mine. Please can you send in your Platinum Jubilee, summer outdoor camps and activities pictures for the next newsletter.

There will be a voucher given for any photos used on the website or in the Essex West News Fest.

Please send to  
[comms.ggew@gmail.com](mailto:comms.ggew@gmail.com)



# What we have been doing 2

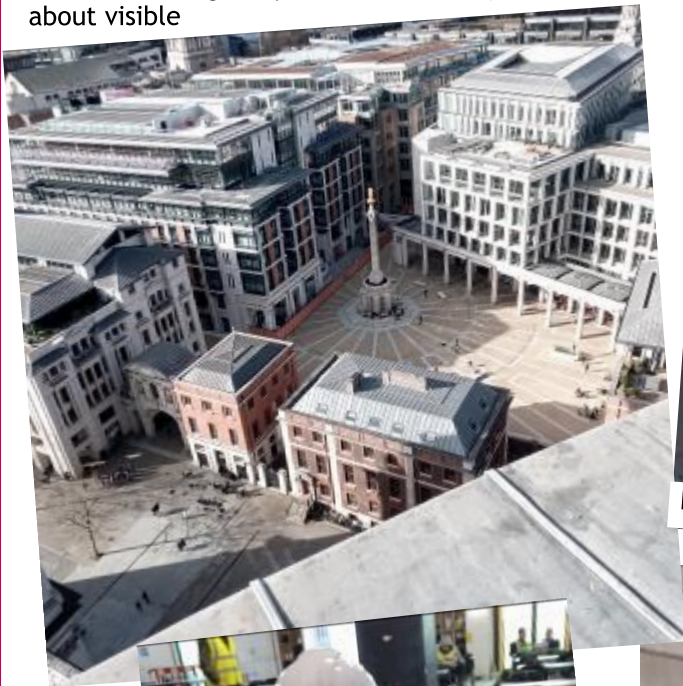
## THINKING DAY BRUNCH

Not only were all the awards (featured elsewhere in the newsletter) given at the Thinking Day Brunch, but the newly appointed Division Commissioners also made their promises and received certificates.



## Theydon Bois Rainbows Construction Badge March 2022

View from the gallery with the other group just about visible



Part way up St Paul's in the Stone Gallery



Theydon Bois Rainbows (and some Brownies) in Paternoster Square for a treasure hunt



## The War in Ukraine

Thank you to all the groups supporting Ukraine: to the groups who have new Ukrainian members and for all the fundraising efforts—we know of sunflowers being grown and sold by 1st Epping Guides to raise funds (£306 with the 4th Epping Brownies crowns) and are sure that there have been many more across the County. If you need support helping your girls handle the news there are tips on the website for talking about war—[link](#)

<- 1st Epping Guides fundraising for Ukraine.

## Awards, Awards, Awards

Chris Hewes being presented with the Anglia Brooch at the Thinking Day Brunch. This is one of a number of awards that Girl Guiding Anglia award, this is for

“commitment and level of service above 'the call of duty', notable display of courage, bravery or initiative. “



## 🏆 Awards Committee 🏆

There are a lot of Leaders and young members around the County deserving recognition for all that they offer to Guiding. Think about those in your Unit or District, who go the extra mile for either the girls in their own Unit or those around them - I am sure that you will be able to name at least one! After the time of lockdown and restrictions, now is the time to reward those who kept Guiding Going.

Any member may make a nomination; however the District or Division Commissioner must support it. Nomination forms can be found on the Essex West Website.

All nominations for awards must be made without the knowledge of the nominee or their family. Please take the time to nominate these Leaders, they are often the ones who just 'get on' with running their unit week in week out, and unless we know who they are we can't reward them!

There are also other awards available from County, Region and Nationally. These are detailed on the County website under 'Members Support - Awards'. If you are not sure which award is suitable or relevant, please just get in touch.

The next committee meeting is on 10<sup>th</sup> October. Please give us a lot of nominations to keep us busy!

[Sylvia Partridge](#)

Awards Committee Chairman



# Training and Other Opportunities

## 1st Response

To qualify for the First Aid qualification, leaders must complete the online course on the Learning Platform\* and either a 3 x 2 hour or a 6 hour First Aid course, New face-to-face course available Saturday 9th July 9:30am-4:00pm At Harold Wood

See flyer or contact the [office](#) to apply for this course or for more information.

Girl Guiding requires all components are to be completed within 3 months.

\* The [Learning Platform](#) is where training is now found and requires a sign up.

## Level 3

### Safe Space Training

Saturday 11 June 9.30am-12.30pm

Sunday 19 June 9.30am-12.30pm

Thursday 23 June 6.30pm-9.30pm

Saturday 25 June 9.30am-12.30pm

Monday 27 June 6.30pm-9.30pm

Please can all leaders who have not yet completed Level 3 apply, as everyone will eventually have to have level 3. It is also good practice for more than one person in each unit to be qualified.

All courses on Zoom and booked via the [Anglia Website](#).

## So what is a Commissioner?

Would you like a great opportunity to work with, and get to know the volunteers and girls in your area? If so, have you thought about becoming a Commissioner?

As you know we have some Division & District Commissioner vacancies within the County which we would like to fill and we hope some of you might be interested in these roles. Being a Commissioner is a unique opportunity to work with teams across your area, and you will help take Girlguiding forward, providing amazing opportunities for girls, young women and our volunteers.

You do not need any specific qualifications, and you will be giving training and support in your role. Two or more people can share both roles of Division and District Commissioner and you will be encouraged to create a team to help share responsibilities.

If you are interested, and would like to know more about either role, please contact [Rosemary Jeffery](#) who can give you more information.

## Leadership Qualification

New six week course on Zoom starts June 13th, each 1h 15m sessions. Sign up is through the [Anglia site](#)

1. 5 essentials & the promise
2. The programme overview
3. Evaluation & guiding family
4. Membership management systems
5. Safety: you, your girls & your unit
6. Budgets, communication & next steps

## Roles and Vacancies

- Additional helpers for the County Archivist
- Growth and Retention Lead
- County Leadership Co-ordinator Duke of Edinburgh Scheme Adviser
- Additional INSPIRE representatives
- Peer Educators
- County Advisor Responsible for Training (CART)
- Division Commissioners: Epping Forest South and Upminster
- District Commissioner - 9 county wide

Please contact Rosemary to discuss these roles:  
[ewcc2021@gmail.com](mailto:ewcc2021@gmail.com)

## Glossary

[INSPIRE](#)—the community of young women aged 18-30

[Peer Educators](#) — are 14-25 year olds who help Brownies, Guides and Rangers explore important topics. As young people they bring subjects to life.

[1st Response](#) is Girl Guiding's first aid qualification. One person at every meeting must have a valid qualification.

[Safe Space](#) training for Levels 1 and 2 is available on the Learning Platform. A group cannot run without a leader with the Safe Space 3 qualification present.



## 🏆 Congratulations to: 🎉

60 years service award	Shella Healey
50 years service award	Liz Hannibal, Avril Brampton
40 years service awards	Susan Meurs, Carol Nunn, Mary Roder
30 years service award	Sharon Franklin

## Thank you to the following units:

Brentwood -	3 <sup>rd</sup> Hutton Rainbows	Romford	10 <sup>th</sup> Romford Brownies
Epping Forest North	1 <sup>st</sup> Fyfield Rainbows	Thurrock East	4 <sup>th</sup> Stanford le Hope Rainbows & Brownies
Epping Forest South	3 <sup>rd</sup> Loughton Brownies	Thurrock West	2 <sup>nd</sup> West Thurrock Guides
Harlow	2 <sup>nd</sup> Harlow Common Brownies	Upminster	—
Hornchurch	—		
North West -	Manuden Brownies & Guides		for paying census early and first in their division and will be receiving a prize shortly

# Staying in Contact

## 📧 Website

Don't forget that the 'Members Area' of the website is live. 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.

More pages will be added as they are required. Please be patient when you sign up as everyone has to be authorised individually to ensure only Essex West leaders are given access.

To register

[www.girlguidingsexsexwest.org.uk/account-registration/](http://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 below to join us  
[www.facebook.com/groups/1411607022540910/?ref=share](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1411607022540910/?ref=share)



Essex West also has a Twitter account – @GGEssexWest, which is regularly updated with current news and information



[office@girlguidingsexsexwest.org.uk](mailto:office@girlguidingsexsexwest.org.uk)