



7 June 2024

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

Happy Volunteers' Week!

When I first joined Girlguiding as a volunteer, I didn't quite know what to expect. I imagined it would be fun, of course, but I had no idea just how much of a difference it would make—not just for the girls, but for me as well. Seeing their eyes light up when they learn something new or conquer a challenge is priceless. It's these little moments that remind me why I started volunteering in the first place.

One of the best parts about volunteering with Girlguiding is the community. The friendships and connections you build with both the girls and fellow volunteers are incredibly rewarding. There's a real sense of teamwork, shared purpose, and fun.

But beyond the fun and camaraderie, there's a deeper impact - Girlguiding helps young girls grow into confident, capable young women. We're teaching them valuable life skills, encouraging them to explore their interests, and empowering them to be themselves.

A huge thank you to all Girlguiding volunteers. Your dedication, passion, and countless hours of hard work don't go unnoticed. You are making a significant difference in the lives of so many. Every meeting, every badge earned, every smile—you are the heart and soul of Girlguiding.

The joy of volunteering with Girlguiding is something truly special. Here's to many more adventures, memories, and milestones together. Thank you for being amazing!

Yours in guiding

Sam

Girlguiding Bucks county commissioner

[cc@girlguidingbucks.org.uk](mailto:cc@girlguidingbucks.org.uk)

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## Contents

- Volunteer information
- Leader information
- Vacancies
- Messages from Anglia
- Training
- Events
- Dates of interest

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## Volunteer information



## It's volunteers week

We're sharing our **love**  
for all our volunteers  
across Buckinghamshire.  
Thanks for all you do!

**You're amazing → Pass it on**

### Ellesborough toilet opening ceremony

Ellesborough's toilet block is now officially opened. A sunny event on with lots of food and cake took place on Sunday 2 June.

Thank you to all who came to share this amazing achievement in our county guide centre's history and the committee members for your dedication to making this possible. More refurbishment is planned so any spare pennies or pounds will be gratefully received.

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### Leader information

#### Changes to GO

We've made some improvements to programme recording which will make it easier when someone moves to a new unit in the same section (e.g. from one Brownie unit to another). Any theme awards that a girl started in their old unit will now automatically move across to the new unit. This means you don't need to manually add any UMAs, skills builders or interest badges they completed in their old unit - yay!

If you have any questions about this then please contact [go@girlguidingbucks.org.uk](mailto:go@girlguidingbucks.org.uk)

#### First aid area on the learning platform

The first aid area on the learning platform has been launched. Anyone wishing to use an external course or professional training to be a first aider in Girlguiding can upload their evidence on the learning platform. This will then be reviewed by national's first aid verifiers. This fully removes the admin process from commissioners. If you need to find out more then please email [learning@girlguiding.org.uk](mailto:learning@girlguiding.org.uk)

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### 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.

Our focused role this edition is:

#### Walking adviser

We are looking for a walking adviser who can support other volunteers to confidently include walking experiences for girls across Buckinghamshire. You will need to be a good communicator who is well organised and happy to discuss guiding principles around organised walks with others who may be less confident in this area. Knowledge

and experience of organising walks for groups is advantageous but you will be part of the wider county team and can be supported in developing in this role. As with all our roles, there is flexibility built in, and plenty of opportunities to further develop your skills and experiences. We would really like to discuss suitability of this role for anyone who thinks this might be of interest. To find out more email [ggbucks@girlguiding.org.uk](mailto:ggbucks@girlguiding.org.uk)

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## Messages from Anglia

### Second all members' call of 2024

The second all members' call of this year will be held on **Wednesday 12 June at 7:30 pm**. The theme of this call is "Cuppa and a chat with the chief's team". Karen and her team would like to encourage members to send any questions they may have to [hello@girlguiding-anglia.org.uk](mailto:hello@girlguiding-anglia.org.uk) to be answered during the call. The link to sign up can be found [here](#).

### Girlguiding Anglia's showcase video

Have you seen the new showcase video? It's been launched as part of volunteers week but it captures the spirit of guiding, friendship, activity and connection across our region. Check out the full video [here](#).

### GO monthly backlog review

The volunteer experience board have asked for a unit-based volunteer and a commissioner to join HQ's monthly meeting to prioritise changes made to GO. The meeting is led by the senior product owner of GO and attended by staff heads of departments from areas that have requested development work for GO. The volunteers will need to:

- Have lots of current experience using GO to carry out their volunteer role/s.
- Have the ability to take a strategic view of what changes will make the biggest difference to volunteers, given finite resources for change.
- Be available for daytime meetings, 1 hr per month, with a small amount of pre-reading.

If you are interested, please email [KarenJ@girlguiding-anglia.org.uk](mailto:KarenJ@girlguiding-anglia.org.uk)

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## Training

### Upcoming 1st response trainings

29 June - Princes Risborough

28 Sept - Heron's Lodge

19 Oct - Beaconsfield

16 Nov - Princes Risborough

30 Nov - Herons Lodge

To find out more, or to book a place on the training please email [training@girlguidingbucks.org.uk](mailto:training@girlguidingbucks.org.uk)

### Leader development programme 'air and share'

20 June - Ellesborough

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## 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.

### Save the date - competition hikes 2025

The 30th anniversary competition hikes and Rainbow ramble will take place on **Saturday 10 May 2025**.

Look out for more information to follow - we hope that you will join us!

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## Dates of interest

### June

7 - 9 - The big help out

8 - Bucks summer social BBQ

12 - Anglia all members call

16 - Fathers day

- Eid-Al-Adha

20 - LDP air and share (Ellesborough)

22 & 23 - Exclusive Girlguiding Inside Out 2 screenings (nationwide)  
29 - First response training

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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, then let us know:

[pr\\_and\\_comms@girlguidingbucks.org.uk](mailto:pr_and_comms@girlguidingbucks.org.uk)

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