



9 January 2026

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

Janet and I would like to wish you a very Happy New Year. I am very excited to be messaging you in my new role as assistant county commissioner and look forward to all that 2026 brings.

Hopefully, you haven't been too disrupted by the cold weather and you are busy planning some exciting activities with your units for the spring term. If you're organising anything special for Thinking Day, please remember to share photos of these on our Girlguiding Buckinghamshire Facebook page.

Best Wishes,
Jane Solloway
assistant county commissioner

Volunteer information

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Volunteer Information

Ellesborough Guide Centre Open Days

Following the success of last year's Open Days, we are once again opening our doors to show you what an amazing place Ellesborough Guide Centre is.

- **Wednesday 18 February** – 10AM–12NOON
- **Sunday 22 March** – 1PM–3PM

No need to book — just turn up!

We are also looking for a couple of people to join the Ellesborough Committee. If you are interested in playing a part in the future of Ellesborough Guide Centre, please contact Sheila: sheila.beales@girlguidingbucks.org.uk

2027 County International Selection

Just a reminder that the deadline for applications for the 2027 County International Selection is **Tuesday, 27 January**.

Please visit our [website](#) for further details and to access the application form. If you have any questions that are not covered in the information pack, please contact:

international@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.

Competition Hike Training Day - Sunday, 8 March 2026

This training is for anyone who is planning to take part in the Competition Hikes in May. Brownies must come with a leader, but Guides and Rangers may come on their own or with their Guiding friends. Leaders and Trefoil Guild members are also welcome. Come and learn map-reading and compass skills, or build on what you already know. You'll also find out everything you need to know about the Competition Hikes and put your learning into practice by taking part in a practice walk. Visit our [website](#) or book your place [HERE](#).

Trainings

Upcoming 1st response trainings - 2026

- **7 March** - Princes Risborough - **Fully Booked**
- **25 April** - [Beaconsfield](#) - **Book Now**
- **6 June** - [Herons Lodge](#) - **Book Now**
- **27 June** - [Princes Risborough](#) - **Book Now**

Please click on the links above to book your place on a training course.

For further details about First Response Training, please visit our [website](#).

County calendar

Celebrate Word Down Syndrome Day 2026 by taking part in DSUK's Sunflower Challenge!

Children plant their sunflowers at the start of March and watch their sunflowers grow as we count down to World Down Syndrome Day on 21st March. The challenge serves as a beautiful metaphor for the diversity and individuality that makes each and every child special, and is a great way for children to learn about inclusion, kindness and responsibility.

Taking part in DSUK'S [Sunflower Challenge](#) can help to fulfil requirements for various badges including Make Change, Charities, Gardening, Biodiversity and Grow Your Own. What's in the pack?

- Sunflower seeds ready for planting
- A bright A4 poster to inspire and remind children of the challenge
- Growing instructions
- Colourful stickers to reward participation
- Access to downloadable resources so you can make the most of the challenge

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.

- Update your **GO** settings and opt in to marketing so you don't miss future mailings.
- Follow **Girlguiding Buckinghamshire** on **Facebook** and **Instagram**.
- Join our **members-only Buckinghamshire Facebook group** using the button below.

Join members group

Follow the Facebook page

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.



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