



# Girlguiding Hertfordshire

## Walking team

### Newsletter – Spring 2024

email [walking@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk](mailto:walking@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk)  
[facebook.com/hertsguideswalkingteam](https://facebook.com/hertsguideswalkingteam)

Girls of all ages have taken Spring in their stride; so much so that I couldn't just choose one photo. We've seen girls enjoying Mountain Experience in the Peak District, where they learned to use tricky navigational tools. We've seen girls on the muddiest Bronze DofE practice weekend ever, where they really got 'stuck in' and mastered their map reading. And we've seen girls on a fun Easter egg hunt in Welwyn Garden City, where laminated eggs around the town magically became a chocolate reward for solving the clues. In addition, some Guides participated in a Monopoly Run competition in London and others have started personal walking challenges. What a fabulous start to the year – well done to all!



And that's just the girls! In addition we've seen leaders enjoying our monthly social walks and signing up for walking weekends and training. See the dates below and come and join us to learn new skills so you can take your girls on more adventures.

Another option might be to ask us to come to you and run a geocaching session? Julia and Kerry would be delighted to visit you on any weekday evening except Tuesdays, or a half day on a weekend by arrangement. For more information click [geocaching](#)

Whatever you choose, enjoy your walking!

Alison Tuch, Anglia walking lead volunteer (joint)  
[walking@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk](mailto:walking@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk)

# Events diary

**Sunday 19 May – [Watton at Stone social walk](#)** 9.30am start, 10.4km, walking for approximately 3 hours in fields and woodland, this walk finishes in Watton village where there are two pubs so walkers can choose to have lunch if they wish. For adults, Rangers and young leaders. To book email: [walking@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk](mailto:walking@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk)

**\*Changed\* 11 May and 29 June – [16 hour outdoor first aid course](#)** 11 May based at Windy Sayles, Whipsnade and 29 June based at Aston Rowant Nature Reserve. Much of the teaching and all of the scenarios will be outside in open country, some of it on steep ground. Participants must be aged 16+ and **must attend on both days** 9am–6pm. This is essential training for those with outdoor qualifications but useful for anyone leading outdoor activities. The cost is £149 but assistance can be given if you are using this as part of an outdoor activity qualification. To book [click here](#).

## **30 May – 2 June – [Social walking from Kirknewton, Northumberland \(Anglia region event\)](#)**

This long walking weekend is suitable for experienced and inexperienced navigators alike, looking for some relaxed social hillwalking and logbook walks. Walks will last for about 5 hours a day and will be organised by qualified leaders. For those that want it, level 2 navigation practice will also be possible. The cost for this trip will be £60 per person. This includes 3 nights in a Girlguiding bunkhouse and full catering aside from the Saturday night when you will have the choice of a pub dinner or self-catering. Adults only. To book click [Anglia walking events](#)

**7 – 9 June – [South Downs social walking weekend](#)** Organised by Kerry from the walking team, walks will be at a relaxed easy pace and last 4-5 hours each day. These are level 1 (Lowland) walks. Accommodation will be in the YHA South Downs in Beddingham, Lewes and will cost £60 in shared bunk rooms with ensuite facilities. Meals can be ordered at the hostel or guests can choose to self-cater. There are also nearby pub options. Adults only. For more information or to book email: [walking@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk](mailto:walking@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk)

## **22 – 27 August – [Social walking from Rydal, Lake District \(Anglia region event\)](#)**

This is a social event suitable for those with some navigation experience, who love mountains and are happy walking for 5 hours minimum. We will be aiming to support those completing level 3 and mountain leader logbooks. Easier lakeside or level 2 walks may also be possible but will need to be self-lead. The cost for this trip will be £120-150 (depending on numbers) per person. This includes 5 nights in Rydal Hall bunkhouse and full catering, aside from 1-2 nights when you will have the choice of a pub dinner or self-catering. Adults only. To book click: [Anglia walking events](#)

**Sunday 29 September – [Level 1 walking scheme training](#).** If you'd like to gain more confidence in taking your girls out to explore nature reserves, local woodland, canal walks, orienteering or night hikes, this training will give you the skills you need and a support network to assist you. You'll learn about kit, route planning, risks & hazards, Girlguiding rules and easy navigation. Cost £15 which can be reclaimed from your unit. Bookings via email: [walking@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk](mailto:walking@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk)

**11-13 October – [Peak Assault 2024](#),** a upland orienteering event run by Hertfordshire Scouts. Rangers, young leaders and adults with prior experience of remote terrain walking are invited to enter teams, so those who've done Mountain Experience, Gold DofE or lots of personal walking. If you're interested, get in touch and we can put people together to make up teams. Its super fun, but tough. Full kit must be carried including tents and stoves for overnight camping. For more information contact: [walking@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk](mailto:walking@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk)

**1-3 November – [Social walking, water safety training, and Level 2 training & assessment \(Anglia region event\)](#)** Based at Whiteley Woods Outdoor Activity Centre, near Sheffield. Night navigation practice might also be possible depending on demand. Social walks in level 2 terrain will be led by qualified leaders or those doing supported walks, providing a great opportunity to build up logbooks. Approximately £130 for training or assessment and £70 for social, to include bunk bed accommodation and all meals. For more information contact: [walking@girlguiding-anglia.org.uk](mailto:walking@girlguiding-anglia.org.uk)

## Other external events

If you enter these events, please let us know how they go, as whilst they aren't events run directly by the Walking Team, they do sound great fun.

**Saturday 14 September – [Monopoly Run](#)** The March event was thoroughly enjoyed by those who tried it. Participants use a Travelcard to visit as many sites as possible and answer quiz questions and mini challenges as they go around. See the website for details [Monopoly Run "Live" 2024](#)

**Saturday 16 November – [CUSAGC Marathon](#)** This is an incident hike for Girlguiding, Scouting and SSAGO members aged 14+, based south or west of Cambridge, (it varies). So Inspire members and leaders can also enter teams of 4-7 people. The aim is to try to plot the grid references and visit as many of the 26 checkpoints as possible in 9 hours. There are challenges to do at the manned checkpoints. See the website for more information. [Marathon – CUSAGC](#)