



April 2021

## Girlguiding Hertfordshire Youth Opportunities



**Adult leaders and coordinators:** Please read this newsletter and share this with members aged 13+, including leaders, Rangers, Young Leaders and older Guides. This will help us ensure that everyone understands the opportunities available and knows who to contact to find out more.

The Girlguiding Hertfordshire Youth Opportunities team is here to support those members aged 13+ but in addition we also support the leaders of these girls. This, the fourth edition of this newsletter, is focusing on some outdoor areas, as the summer comes and may allow for more opportunities in Guiding where we have been restricted in the last year. It also, at the county commissioner's specific request, includes specific articles on the Queen's Guide and Inspire.



The county Walking Team is excited about the Summer ahead. With lockdown easing and the weather getting better we are starting to organise more trips and activities. Perhaps the most exciting event is **Mountain Experience**; a weekend in the Peak District where you can explore the edge of Kinder Scout and across Bamford Moor whilst learning to navigate with a map & compass, in small groups. Saturday night is yours to chillout, chat, play games, watch a film, or have a pamper session. We usually have separate groups for Rangers/YLs and adults but could also have a special group for Inspire members too. Some people just come for the joy of being in the hills, others use it as training for DofE or preparation for Peak Assault.

Closer to home we run monthly **social walks**, also for those aged 14+. At the moment they are local and just a couple of hours long, but as restrictions ease we will head over to the Chilterns for longer day walks and as soon as we are able to stay away overnight we'll be organising **social hill/mountain walking weekends**. There's a list below of events already organised, but keep an eye on our Facebook page to find out about others as they are launched.

[www.facebook.com/hertsguideswalkingteam](http://www.facebook.com/hertsguideswalkingteam)

Whichever events you choose, everyone can do the **Marathon Challenge**. Just add up how many km you do every time you go out for a walk and build up to 42km, to earn the first badge (red). You can do this with friends and family as the badge is open to non-members too. You can then carry on if you want to and earn another badge for subsequent marathons. You might want to use this [colour-in footpath](#) or a traditional [log book](#) (both optional). There is one available in each of the 5 Olympic colours to represent the Olympic rings. You can order badges online <http://bit.ly/hertswalkingchallenge>  
For further information about any events, or for help organising your own, please email [walking@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk](mailto:walking@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk) Alison Tuch, County Walking Adviser



### Walking Team Events

**Saturday 15 May – Social Walk from Tewin.** 2 hour walk in fields & woodland. For those aged 14+. Small groups of 6 setting off from 10am, 15 mins apart and to remain socially distant. (event subject to expected government relaxation of restrictions)

**Saturday 19 June – Social Walk, Whipsnade Tree Cathedral & Dunstable Downs.** For those aged 14+. Group size depending on government advice. From 10.30am, 2-3 hours plus picnic. Toilets available at NT information centre.

**3-4 July – 16 hour Outdoor First Aid Course** – for members of Girlguiding or Scouting aged 16+, in Little Gaddesden, Herts (Chilterns). All scenarios & much of the teaching outdoors in open country. £120.

**16-18 July - Mountain Experience** – navigation training weekend in the Peak District for those aged 14+. This event cannot be confirmed until government and Girlguiding regulations allow it, but you can register your interest.

## Queen's Guide award – Joy Grahame



I expect a lot of you have heard of this award, but I wonder how many of you have looked up the syllabus to see

what it entails! This is the highest award you can achieve in Girlguiding and is open for members aged 16-25 years. It must be completed within 3 years from the starting date.

There are 5 sections to complete; Service in Guiding, Outdoor Challenge, Personal Skill Development, Community Action and Residential. You will need a Mentor to support you whilst working on this award.



I am more than happy to chat with you or meet with you and discuss any aspect of this Award. Contact me through the county office: [countysec@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk](mailto:countysec@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk)



### **CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

Beth Slater, Rachel Staples, Sophie Do, Marcy Pateman, Alice King, Kelsey Shaw, Jenna Shaw, Amy Kemp, Gemma Stapleton, Katie Stapleton, Ellie Batchelor, Coco Own and Emily Gibson

Who have all completed their Young Leader Qualification

## Peer Education - Tricia Botten

Peer Education is a Girlguiding-wide initiative which trains members aged 14-25 to lead interactive, empowering sessions on the issues girls told us they want to talk about. Our Peer Educators develop wonderful tools for leadership and discussion so they can share experiences, pass on skills and make a real difference for younger members.

### **Why it works:**

Peer Educators are relatable to the girls because they share similar life experiences. Peer Educators create a safe environment for girls to discuss important issues through a fun range of activities. Girls learn through these activities and take this knowledge out into their local communities. Brownies, Guides and Rangers leave our sessions feeling empowered to make change.

### **The Sessions:**

Peer Educators deliver engaging, age-specific sessions, each developed with expert partners. These sessions usually take place face-to-face with Peer Educators running sessions within the unit. The ongoing Coronavirus pandemic is having a negative effect on our young people's mental health and wellbeing so our team of Peer Educators are now working hard to deliver sessions virtually, with a particular focus on Think Resilient.



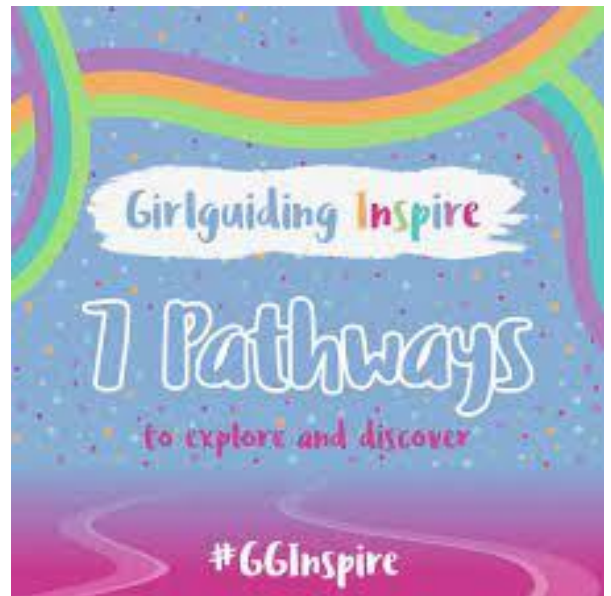
### **Interested in becoming a Peer Educator?**

Try the [e-learning on the Girlguiding website](#) or get in touch with our county guiding development adviser: [peereducators@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk](mailto:peereducators@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk)

We're Girlguiding Inspire Hertfordshire! We are a platform of opportunities for all Girlguiding members aged 18-30 in the county. Whether you're a unit helper, completing your Duke of Edinburgh or Queen's Guide award or unit leader we are here for you.

As a member of Girlguiding Inspire, there are many options open to you. These include completing Girlguiding qualifications and awards, volunteering at events in the future, making your voice heard as a Girlguiding advocate, developing new skills or helping to train other members and share your knowledge and experience.

As a county, we run events for Inspire members approximately three times per year. Latest ones have included a quiz and virtual escape room. If you want to join us, please email the address below.



In June or July, Covid-19 restrictions permitting, we are hoping to hold a walk for Inspire members. Further details will follow closer to the time. The county Walking Team are also hoping to host a Mountain Experience weekend from the 16-18 of July which is open to Inspire members. Alison has explained this more earlier on in the newsletter.

If there are any events you would like us to look at running, or opportunities you want to know more about please don't hesitate to get in touch. Want to find out more? Check out the links below or drop us an email [inspire@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk](mailto:inspire@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk)

Girlguiding Hertfordshire Inspire Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/Girlguiding-Inspire-Hertfordshire-County-102150821734797>

Girlguiding Inspire Anglia region Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/anglia18to30>

Girlguiding Inspire Website: <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/what-we-do/inspire/>

## Rebecca and Lizzie, Girlguiding Inspire Hertfordshire County Champions

Welcome to **Girlguiding Inspire!**

A community for young women to choose their own path.

Choose from **7 Pathways** to explore and get involved with

Voice and Action	Beyond the UK	Developing Others	
Sharing Skills	Events Experience	Leading the Way	Adventure and Challenge

### Just for me

Girlguiding is a space you can socialise with peers - at a time and place that works for you. We're putting the power in your hands! Join in Girlguiding Inspire events at Region, within Counties, or start organising your own meet ups with help from our Coordinators.

### Learning and Awards

Girlguiding Inspire is a chance to develop your skills, but you can also challenge yourself further working towards a structured course, qualification or award.

Our next edition, will be in the Autumn Term where we hope to have a STEM theme. Please send your ideas and articles to Catherine Farman, County Youth Opportunities Adviser via email: [youthops@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk](mailto:youthops@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk)