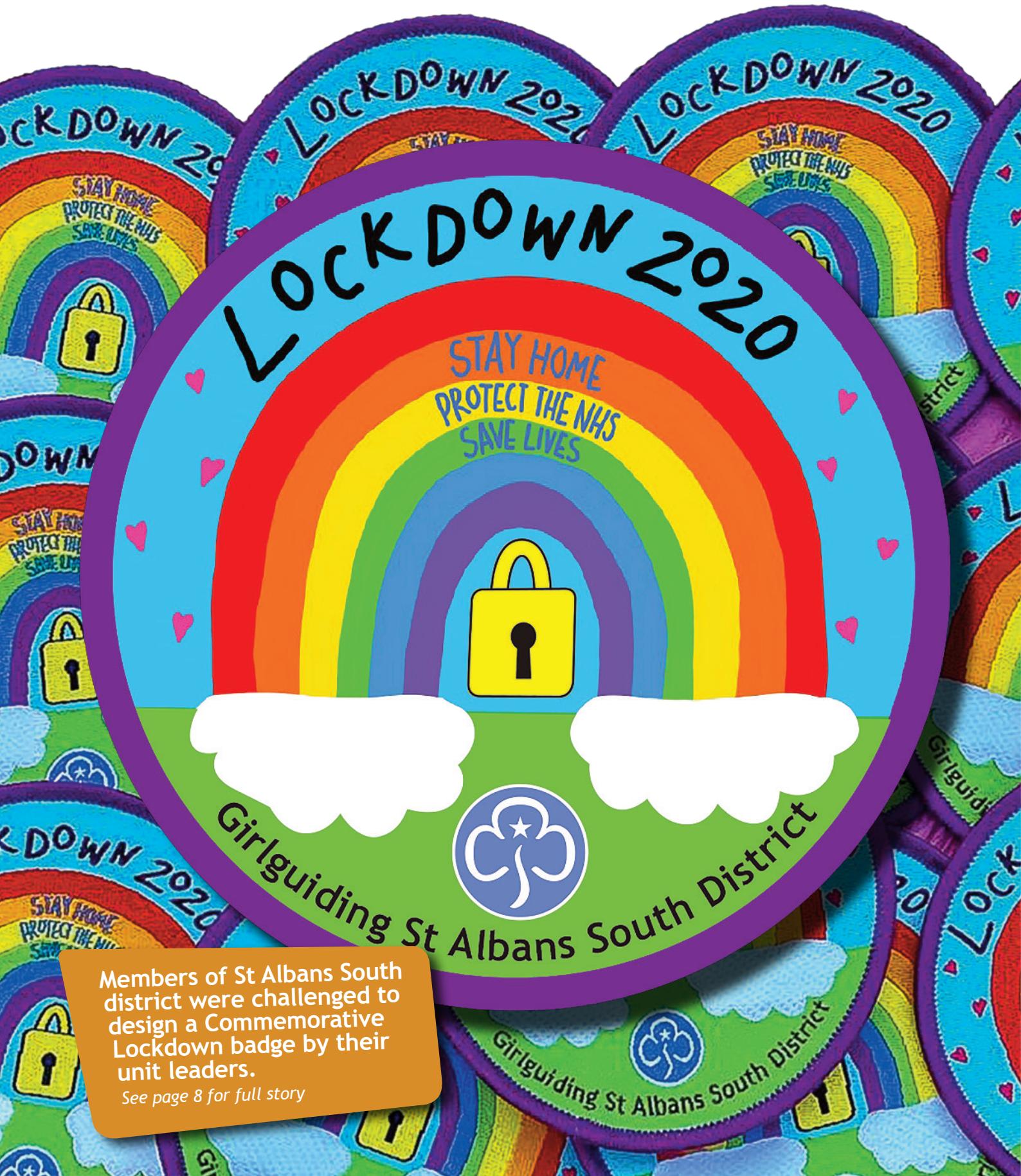




Hertfordshire County

# share



Members of St Albans South district were challenged to design a Commemorative Lockdown badge by their unit leaders.

See page 8 for full story

# A message from the County Commissioner



Guiding across the county continues in many ways during this challenging time and our volunteers' commitment is amazing.



We have managed to offer some exciting and diverse activities despite the restrictions we have faced, through a combination of online, face to face and Adventures at Home. Many have been pushed out of their comfort zone but have embraced the technology and have enjoyed staying in touch with their girls in this way. Zoom has become the new normal for meetings, with many units being gifted a Zoom licence by Girlguiding UK. Leaders have been sharing ideas for online activities which are being collated on the Girlguiding Hertfordshire website and there are more inspiring stories in this issue of Share.

Adult training and meetings have also moved to virtual platforms, which has proved to be very productive and has enabled the county team to stay in touch regularly and for development to continue. A special thank you to our training team who have all taken the additional steps to become recognised online trainers and who have spent hours delivering sessions.

Many leaders remain in a difficult position where they might be shielding, working extra hard in their jobs or unable to master or access the technology and it is at times like this where we need to demonstrate the strength of the guiding family. Units could come together in a virtual world, share programmes, pool leaders and support one another. The wellbeing of our members is of upmost importance, whether that be the young people who benefit from the opportunity to take part in unit meetings or those volunteers who are struggling with the change in circumstances. We value every single one and look forward to seeing each other again soon.

To quote Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, “*We should take comfort that while we may have more still to endure, better days will return: we will be with our friends again; we will be with our families again; we will meet again*”.

Thank you to everyone for your commitment and take care.

**Jenny Maskrey**  
County Commissioner



From Girlguiding UK, regarding Coronavirus (Covid-19)

[Read The Latest Guidance](#)



## Have you visited the Girlguiding Hertfordshire website?

[www.girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk](http://www.girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk)

The county website has lots of information which you may find useful:

### Latest News

<https://www.girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk/news/>

### Events

<https://www.girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk/events/>

All events and trainings currently taking place in the county and beyond

### Resources

<https://www.girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk/about-us/resources/>

Provides links for monthly Membership Systems (GO) updates, various forms and recent challenge badges

### County Team

<https://www.girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk/aboutus/county-team/>

Here you will find details of county team members

### Youth Opportunities

<https://www.girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk/youth-opportunities/>

## VIRTUAL

Do you have the perfect mug cake recipe or have you found an exciting escape room? Perhaps you've had a great guest join your Zoom call?

With many units still meeting virtually, it would be wonderful to build up a bank of ideas, contacts and resources that have been tried and tested by local leaders.

## IDEAS

We would love to share your ideas and success stories on the County website activities page <https://www.girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk/get-involved/activities/> to inspire others, so please email [virtualideas@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk](mailto:virtualideas@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk) with details of what has gone well online in your units.

Tina Cornish Assistant County Commissioner

# 1st Watton-at-Stone Guides



## Bronze Awards in Lockdown

### 7th Chorleywood Brownies

5 of our Brownies received their Brownie Bronze awards at the end of summer.

Their parents brought them to a car park one weekend afternoon where we could all socially distance and hand them out. None of them knew and the parents managed to keep it a secret (hence no uniforms!). These were our first awards as none had qualified under the transitional route. Two have moved up to Guides now and the others are motivated to go for their Silver and Gold.

Janet Pilborough-Skinner  
Leader



# VIRTUAL AWARD PRESENTATIONS

## Laurel Award Congratulations

We are delighted that Verity MacLachlan was awarded a Laurel in September.

Verity has been involved in Girlguiding and Girl Scouts for many years and has committed over 24 years to 1st Radlett Guides and Radlett district. We are also very fortunate to have her on the county team.

As a trained nurse, she has used her skills and training qualification to teach hundreds of leaders and girls First Response and Heartstart courses. She works in collaboration with St John Ambulance and British Heart Foundation and not only teaches others but is frequently the designated first aider at events all over the county and even at events abroad.

Verity and her family have travelled a lot with Scott's work

and they have a love of the outdoors, enjoying walking and skiing. These are passions that Verity has inspired others to enjoy by joining international teams to Sweden, Switzerland, Uganda and Scotland and getting involved in the walking teams at county and region, as well as events such as Three Peaks and Great Patrol Hunt.

Verity has devoted so much of her life to others, through her work, her family and her guiding. But she has also fundraised for and joined service projects in Uganda and she and Scott have supported a Ugandan man and his family and now treat them as an extension of their own family.

Verity demonstrates everything that the Laurel award stands for and more. She is selfless and inspiring and we, in Girlguiding Hertfordshire, are so pleased that she has been recognised by Girlguiding at a national level



and awarded with the very prestigious and very much deserved Laurel award.

Well done Verity!

Jenny Maskrey  
County Commissioner



## Anglia Youth Award Congratulations

We are delighted to announce that Perdi has been awarded an Anglia Youth award.

Many of you will know that Girlguiding has made a commitment to the environment, in particular through our 'Plastic Promise'. Perdi has embraced this commitment by creating activities using natural resources at a camp she supported. She has a passion for making a change and has been involved in many projects to make a change, such as a trip to Uganda and a Toilet Twinning scheme with her school.

Perdi is the making of an amazing leader as she involves everyone, even the most shy; shows enthusiasm at every opportunity and inspires so many young people and leaders alike with her infectious passion and commitment.

I personally would like to thank Perdi for the amazing work she has done already and look forward to seeing what else she chooses to get involved in! Well done Perdi.

Jenny Maskrey County Commissioner

Continued on next page

# VIRTUAL AWARD PRESENTATIONS

*continued*

## Anglia Award Congratulations

Nicola Day runs a combined Rainbow and Brownie unit in Radlett, has the role as district secretary and is heavily involved in the district headquarters.

She is involved in the running of many district events and is instrumental in the hugely successful Great Patrol Hunt. These roles are amazing enough in their own right but Nic was nominated as she goes above and beyond by doing so much more.

Sadly, the risk of closure of units can be all too common due to the lack of leaders. When this was the situation that Radlett faced in 2019, Nic refused to let the Rainbow unit close. She took it upon herself to recruit new

leaders who she then mentored through their leadership qualification. She supported them by running their meetings while they built confidence and handled all of the administration, finances and programming. The unit is now flourishing and the leaders have fully integrated with all elements of the district including residential events.

Nic doesn't only support new members, she actively seeks others to see where they need help. Nic stops at nothing to give others an amazing and supported guiding experience.

For this outstanding mentoring, we are delighted that Nic has been awarded the Anglia Brooch.



Thank you Nic for all that you do and congratulations on the award.

Jenny Maskrey  
County Commissioner



## Anglia Award Congratulations

We are delighted to announce that Sue Thornton has been awarded an Anglia award.

The criteria for the Anglia award is "*Awarded in recognition for exceptional quality of service given within the Region showing commitment and a level of service that has been over and above 'the call of duty'*"

What could be more apt for going above the call of duty than saving someone's life?

Sue is a trained first aider and leapt to the aid of a gentleman who became very unwell in the theatre. By staying calm and following everything she had been taught in first aid, Sue saved the man's life.

Sue has been thanked and recognised for this amazing act but we wanted to add our recognition by presenting Sue with the Anglia Brooch and say how proud we are that she is part of Girlguiding Hertfordshire.

Well done Sue!

Jenny Maskrey County Commissioner

# World Thinking Day 2020



## A Centenary Celebration

On Sunday 23rd February, Royston district held a very special service to mark World Thinking Day 2020 as part of our Centenary year celebrations.

The Church was packed out with Girlguiding members and their families. It was a wonderful opportunity to renew our Promises and to celebrate the many ways in which we are all connected through Guiding. Joyce Goodall, one of our leaders who led the service, gave an inspirational talk about how we are all threads

that, while unique on their own, can be woven together to make a beautiful tapestry.

After the service, there was a fantastic display of the history of Girlguiding, both at home in Royston and as part of Girlguiding internationally. We were honoured to have some VIPs, including the Town Mayor Councillor Robert Inwood, in attendance to present some very special awards. Elise received her Brownie Gold

award for completing ALL the interest badges under the old programme, Hannah was awarded her Guide Gold award, and Rebecca Abrams (our District Commissioner) was presented with her Queen's Guide award.

Anna Bond Royston District Assistant



## Online Promise Making

Twins Chloe and Abi from 1st Great Ashby Guides, made their Promise on the 6th May during our weekly Zoom meeting.

The girls took part in various parts of a Promise Challenge alongside the other girls and leaders and then finished the meeting by taking their Promise.

We managed to safely get the girls' certificates and badges to Mum and Dad who presented them with these after they had made their Promise.

Karin Hunter Leader



# Commemorative Lockdown Badge

Members of St Albans South district were challenged to design a Commemorative Lockdown badge by their unit leaders.

Out of 29 entries from members of Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers, three finalists were selected by adult leaders from the district during a virtual meeting.

The overall winner was 14-year-old Gracie, who is a member of 1st St Albans South district Rangers and her design was chosen by Detective Inspector Alex Warwick. She said: "I think that all three finalists are absolutely brilliant and would all make wonderful badges. They are all rightful winners and it has been a difficult decision to choose an overall winner, but the one that I am particularly drawn to is Gracie's."

She said: "My reason is that the design is bright and cheerful and makes me smile. I like the symbolism of the padlock, rainbow and hearts." She added: "I hope that I can meet the winners and congratulate them in person in the near future."

Detective Constable Zoe, who volunteers with Girlguiding and helped organise the competition, explained: "Leaders within the district have been sending out activities supplied

by Girlguiding for girls to do at home and some are running virtual sessions for girls in their units to take part in. We organised the Commemorative badge competition to remind us of this period of lockdown. Some of the girls have family members who work for the NHS and this is a great way of giving all young members the opportunity of supporting their community."

The badges were initially sold to members from St Albans South district, however word spread and the badges were sold across Girlguiding Hertfordshire. The district sold 1,050 badges which raised £1,365 of profit which was donated in full to NHS Charities Together.

St Albans South district are deeply thankful to everyone for their generous support and positivity this initiative received.

Zoe & Pauline Levy  
Girlguiding St Albans  
South District



## Daffodil Challenge

### 8th Rickmansworth Brownies

Just before lockdown the 8th Rickmansworth Brownies were raising funds for the charity Marie Curie as part of the Daffodil Challenge badge.

The Brownies learned about Marie Curie, who invented X-rays and was the first woman to be awarded a Nobel Prize. She is a wonderful role model for the girls. Over 100 years ago she was living out the modern-day Guiding slogan 'Girls Can Do Anything'.

The Brownies enjoyed trying out simple experiments, and really loved making volcanoes and rockets with baking soda and vinegar! The girls learned to name the parts of a daffodil... and they will always remember that the centre of a daffodil flower is called a corona, given the current health crisis.

We invited a speaker to talk about the work done by the Marie Curie charity. The final part of the Challenge was to organise a fundraising event. The Brownies chose to have a cake sale, and baked a wonderful array of cakes, biscuits and scones. They ran a stall after Church Parade, and eagerly counted the takings when everything was sold. We are delighted to be sending £152.34 to Marie Curie, to help support those with a terminal illness.

Hazel Carmichael Leader





## Thinking Day Celebrations

South East Herts Trefoil Guild Thinking Day celebrations were held at our meeting hall on 25th February this year.

We decided to celebrate with a very British theme where we had a traditional fish and chips supper delivered to

the hall, followed by a 'Who is the Baby' photo quiz. At the end we lit tea lights and placed them into the shape of the Trefoil Badge, singing Campfire Songs, and ending the meeting with Taps.

It was a very pleasant meaningful evening.  
Sandie Robson Treasurer

## South East Hertfordshire Trefoil Guild

### Reunion

On 31st July 2020 the South East Herts Trefoil Guild finally held a reunion meeting under the old leafy oak tree on a beautiful warm sunny day in the local park.

We all sat, with social distancing in place, having a hearty chin-wag catch-up since our last meeting in February! During this get-together Elspeth Ellis was also presented with her Herts 100 Walking Challenge badge, the first Trefoil member

of Hertfordshire to gain this badge – well done Elspeth! We also welcomed a new Trefoil member!

Several members have also gained their Midsummer Sleepover and the Big Bounce Challenge (Broneirion) badges and some are working towards their STARS Challenge – all keeping active and like everyone else attending Zoom meetings when they can.

Sandie Robson Treasurer



# SOUTH WEST DIVISION

Young members and leaders across South West Herts division enjoyed all the fun of the Midsummer Sleepover – from the comfort of their own homes.

Whilst some girls camped outside... others made dens under desks, in pop up tents in the living room, and one Brownie even slept in the bath!

We tried a variety of challenges, like creating a Midsummer sun-inspired lunch, making sun medallions out of recycled cardboard and decorative paper lanterns.

It was also good to do the more traditional Guiding activities such as making campfire treats and singing round a virtual campfire. A brave few were up at 4am to watch the sun rise!

The event brought smiles to all those taking part. Rickmansworth Brownies enthused:

*'Making a den in my front room was super cool, it actually felt like I was camping', and 'I enjoyed the sleepover even more because my brother could join in too!'*

A Watford Brownie added '*I liked making s'mores and daisy garlands.*'

And a leader commented '*One Brownie overcame her initial apprehension and struck a match safely with adult help, and lit a tealight so she could toast marshmallows.*'

Hazel Carmichael  
South West Herts Division PR



## 3rd Rickmansworth Brownies

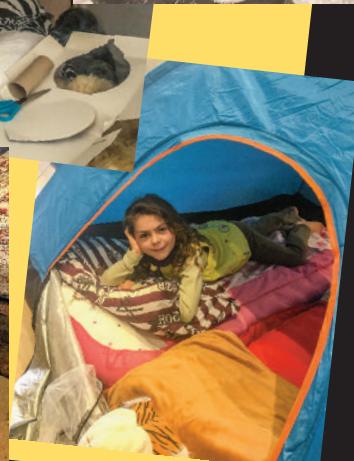
Sisters Martha and Leila from 3rd Rickmansworth Brownies and 3rd Rickmansworth Guides who took part in the sleepover with their mum Jodi who is a leader with 3rd Rickmansworth Brownies.

## 8th Rickmansworth Brownies

Sixteen girls from 8th Rickmansworth Brownies took part in the Midsummer Sleepover... all from the comfort of their own homes. Our Brownies loved the challenge of creating a sleepover space anywhere apart from their own bed. Dens were made between chairs and under desks, some in pop up tents indoors and even one in the bathroom in the bath!

We met with the Brownies on Zoom at intervals during the event, to share activities and complete a variety of challenges. These included making lanterns to decorate their sleeping space, turning recycled cardboard into sun medallions for a family treasure hunt, and creating a Midsummer sun inspired lunch.

Hazel Carmichael Leader



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## 9th and 17th Watford Brownies

9th & 17th Watford Brownies enjoyed taking part in the Midsummer Sleepover. One girl slept in a pop up tent in the living room so she could watch the sunset and sunrise at Stonehenge on TV!

The girls loved making flower head garlands, turning recycled cardboard into sun medallions for a family treasure hunt, and a campfire sing-along. A younger Brownie was thrilled to overcome her apprehension about striking a match... and with adult help lit a tealight so she could toast a marshmallow and make s'mores. She also decorated biscuits with a campfire made out of chocolate sticks, mini marshmallows and smarties.

A happy Brownie said *"I liked sleeping in a different bed, and the activities – especially making s'mores and daisy garlands."*



## Three generations take part in Midsummer Sleepover



Three generations of one Guiding family took part in the Midsummer Sleepover. Sisters-in-law, Suzanne and Alison Robson, camped out with their daughters. Activities were organised by mum Carole, who has been a Brown Owl for 43 years. Leader Suzanne explained "Nine Guiding friends with their children came together 'virtually' to enjoy the sleepover. My mum prepared everyone a bag full of goodies including a badge quiz, hot chocolate powder, marshmallows, ingredients to make edible campfires, toasting sticks and a tea light to toast on. She also organised everyone to write a

special message for each other inside a flower! We had a Zoom meeting together where we opened our lovely friendship flowers then had another Zoom meeting where we all met at midnight for hot chocolate fun! Some people were up for the 4am sunrise after this but we didn't all make it! We had a fantastic time and the event really brought us together in our Guiding friendship during lockdown."



## 1st Leverstock Rainbows

Alison's daughter Laura, age 6, who attends 1st Leverstock Green Rainbows said *"I liked having a campfire and sleeping in a tent in the garden."*

# SENDING US YOUR PICTURES/IMAGES

Share wouldn't be the magazine it is without all your fantastic photos.

We know most photos are now taken using mobile phone cameras, which have improved greatly over the last few years. For photos to be reproduced well in the magazine, ideally they need to be **1MB - 3MB per photo**. When sending photographs (the more the merrier), please email them separately to avoid them being condensed in size **and if prompted, please ask for the photo to be sent in its original/actual size** – anything around 1-3MB would be perfect.



## DEADLINE for the next edition of *Share Magazine*

Please send your submissions for *Share 45* to [share@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk](mailto:share@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk) by Friday 29 January 2021.

When emailing submissions, please provide the article wording, the author's full name and role together with photographs and relevant photo permissions.

### Social Media

Please follow Girlguiding Hertfordshire on social media to ensure you are up to date on news and opportunities.

- Facebook: [@GirlguidingHertfordshire](#)
- Twitter: [@gguidingherts](#)
- Instagram: [@gguidingherts](#)

### Photographs

For photos submitted where individuals featured are identifiable, please complete, sign and return a photo permission form which can be requested by emailing [share@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk](mailto:share@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk) or visiting [www.girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk/get-involved/share/](http://www.girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk/get-involved/share/)

*Please note photos may be cropped/edited/deleted where permissions are not provided.*

Photos submitted may be used for Girlguiding Hertfordshire publicity.

# SHOUT OUT!

A special “shout out” to:

commissioners who have had added pressures due to signing off risk assessments to help leaders return to face to face guiding

the team of volunteers who are preparing a flexible guiding offering enabling us to reach more young members

first response and safe space trainers who are working their socks off

the PR team who have massively increased our social media presence with daily posts, weekly features and have grown our followers hugely

to all property management committees who have been working hard to get our buildings COVID secure

all those who have completed their A Safe Space training

## DATES for your Diary

See E-newsletter or website events page for details.

<b>2020</b>	16 November <i>Virtual 1st Response Refresher Course</i>
	16 November <i>Virtual Gift Aid Session 1</i>
	21 November <i>Anglia Facebook Interactive for Mentors and Leaders in Training</i>
	23 November <i>Virtual Gift Aid Session 2</i>
	28 November <i>Virtual Monopoly Challenge (run by Herts Scouts)</i>
	30 November <i>Virtual 1st Response Refresher Course</i>
	December (date to be confirmed) <i>Virtual Christmas Wreath Making Event</i>
	3 December <i>Virtual 1st Response Refresher Course</i>
	5 December <i>Social Walk (subject to lockdown restrictions)</i>
	7 December <i>Virtual 1st Response Refresher Course</i>
	11 December <i>Virtual Seasonal Social Quiz</i>
<b>2021</b>	20 March <i>Great Patrol Hunt 2020/2021 Round 2</i>

*Due to current Government advice, please check the county website events page [www.girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk/events/](http://www.girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk/events/) and monthly newsletters for up-to-date information as to whether event/course is taking place.*