



Awards 2023

Celebration booklet



Girlguiding
Hertfordshire
county

Introduction

**We present Girlguiding awards
to recognise and reward
our volunteers
for the valuable work they do
in ensuring a positive
guiding experience is had
by all girls**

**Awards presented by:
Janie Wentworth-Stanley,
Deputy Lieutenant of Hertfordshire**

Member service brooch

**Awarded to members
on the basis of roles held
in guiding since the age of 16**

50 years service

Awarded to:



Jean Bellis

Lynn O'Bryan

Nora Hitcham

Member service brooch

40 years service

Awarded to:



Member service brooch

40 years service

Awarded to:

Ann Dickinson

Chris Starr

Edna Scott

Joy Grahame

Julie Huntley

Karen Armstrong

Marie Orford

Penny Polins

Sarah Mulligan

Sue Rees

Sue Wright

Susan Chapman

Trish Hall

Yvonne Pettingill

Member service brooch

30 years service

Awarded to:

Elaine Simmonds

Heather Sayers

Julia Fryer

Ann Bergman

Maureen Fitzgibbons

Sue Latto

Susan Laverick

Wendy Biggerstaff

Wendy Millard



County awards

County awards recognising achievements of our members



County Thanks award



Awarded to volunteers
for their service to
Girlguiding Hertfordshire.

Nominated by their peers
and presented by the
county awards committee.

County Thanks award

Awarded to:

Andrew Settle

**'For outstanding support to
Hertfordshire county'**

County Thanks award

Awarded to:

Carol West



**'For outstanding commitment
and dedication to
East division and Ware district'**

Carol is in the leadership team for a Guide unit and a Ranger unit, but in addition she is both district and division treasurer.

She is a wonderful leader, giving her girls great opportunities. She is diligent and reliable and the perfect team member at district and division levels, removing all stresses around finances from the commissioners.

County Thanks award

Awarded to:

Charlotte Day

**'For hard work, dedication,
commitment and leadership'**

Charlotte has gone above and beyond to make Introduction to the Hills 2023 happen.

She has put in a considerable amount of work and managed to bring a new team of volunteers together to make the event a success.

Charlotte put in a lot of hours and dedication, and many Scouts and Guides had a great experience as a result of the team's efforts.

County Thanks award

Awarded to:

Helen Payne



'For showing inspirational leadership and recruitment skills in Ware district'

Helen is clearly very persuasive! Through being an excellent role model she successfully recruits others with whatever her latest challenge is.

She is dedicated, hardworking and inspirational, meaning others find it hard to say no to her requests!

Helen has recruited new leaders, saving a unit; she has pulled together teams, put on numerous amazing district events and has just completed her role as district commissioner, alongside Julie, for Ware district.

She even managed to recruit their successors, which is one less job for us!

County Thanks award

Awarded to:

The County Centre
shelter team

Bob Dingley

Brian Byrne

Chloe Smith

Jean Michel Rodrigues

Jerry Nott

John Cunnane

Lesley Townley

Richard Townley

Peter Taylor

County Thanks award

Each year we tend to recognise a team which has made a big impact on the county. This year that team is a group of people, mostly outside of guiding, who have come together to volunteer their time and energy to create something amazing.

This year, we want to say thank you to the shelter team.

We were very kindly left some money from 'Lady Jack', a former county commissioner. She wanted the money to be used to enhance the outdoor opportunities for our young members. It was decided that by erecting a camp shelter at the County Centre, we would be able to offer more facilities to our visitors and enable different groups to be able to camp (as some require the use of a shelter).

The previous county commissioner and her team worked hard to get planning permission and just as they did, COVID hit. We were starting to think the dream would never come to fruition when Richard Townley and his team came forward and gave up many hours of their time to build our shelter which we were pleased to officially open earlier this year.

The shelter will have a big impact on many and we therefore present the team with a county Thanks award to recognise their kindness and commitment.

County Youth award

Awarded to members under the age of 18 who have shown notable commitment or participation, made a notable difference to others, have empowered or influenced or demonstrated championing of the rights of young women.



Awarded to:

Eden McRobbie

"For demonstrating an inspirational
'can do' attitude"

County Good Guiding award



Awarded in recognition of being a role model for Girlguiding, and continually delivering exceptionally 'good guiding' experiences to members of Girlguiding Hertfordshire.

County Good Guiding award

Awarded to:

Claire Kemp



Claire is a very busy lady, running every section back to back in one night in a village.

She is a region trainer, mentor and recently became county young leader lead volunteer.

Claire dedicates her time to others, nurturing her Rangers, resulting in 4 of them moving into leadership. She puts on events, many camps and activities.

She is inspiring and supporting, she goes above and beyond to make everyone feel valued and respected.

County Good Guiding award

Awarded to:

Diane Penn



Diane has run a Guide unit for many years, providing an active programme with her team, giving the young people a great guiding experience.

When numbers became too high, she opened a second unit, mirroring the first.

In addition, Diane has been district commissioner more than once and provided fantastic support to units and leaders.

In 2021, Diane decided to step back from running the unit but continued to provide support on unit holidays, acting as QM, but has now decided it is time for her to take her well earned retirement.

The unit wanted to thank Diane for her wonderful food and long standing commitment.

County Good Guiding award

Awarded to:

Jacki Dix



Jacki has been an outstanding Brownie leader in Woolmer Green since 2008 and has recently completed an extended period as joint district commissioner in Knebworth.

Jacki was an inspiration and support to all members in the district during her role as district commissioner and continues to be a great role model through her enthusiasm to guiding.

As well as running her unit, Jacki supports other units at the drop of a hat, saving some from closure.

She is a mentor and ID verifier and a wonderfully welcoming face for all new volunteers.

County Good Guiding award

Awarded to:

Jane Banner



Jane started to help at Brownies when her daughter was in the unit. Right from the outset she was reliable and supportive.

Jane began her leadership qualification and took on a Rainbow unit. She then volunteered to help with the special needs unit at Goffs Oak and has helped with planning, fundraising and overnight stays.

Jane is attentive to the girls' individual needs and encourages them to challenge themselves on site or on days out.

She shows creativity, inspiration, positivity and great awareness for safety.

Jane is currently the district commissioner and continues to show amazing support and selflessness to her fellow volunteers and young members.

County Good Guiding award

Awarded to:

Sue Gould



Sue joined Brownies in the way that many do, helping a unit where their daughter is. When Sue's daughter moved up to Guides, Sue threw herself into her Brownie unit and she completed her leadership qualification.

Sue has become an essential part of the team. She is super organised and very creative with activities for the girls. She decided to work closely with the young leaders, ensuring they were getting the most out of volunteering and developing their own skills.

More recently, Sue, along with Trish, opened a new unit in St Albans to cater for girls with special educational needs. This was in response to one of their Brownies needing to move on to the next challenge but not being able to stay up late enough for Guides.

The unit is growing from strength to strength and Sue is on top of the admin, accounts and has managed to raise funds to enable the girls to take part in Bollywood dancing, glass workshops and a visit to the Gang Show.

County Good Guiding award

Awarded to:

Karen Dance



Karen is a unit leader for multiple units, a leadership mentor, a Queen's Guide mentor, a district commissioner and more.

She is described as reliable, inspirational, honest and wise.

She has a very demanding job but is always there for anyone, providing an unfaltering support to those around her.

I think it is quite telling that Karen received three nominations for an award.

County Good Guiding award

Awarded to:

Margery Gray



Margery is passionate about her Rainbows, ensuring they have an encouraging, welcoming and friendly face at all times.

Despite her own mobility issues, Margery does everything she can to support the girls and takes great pride when they complete badges and awards.

Margery re opened a unit that had to close due to the pandemic and then, knowing that she wouldn't be able to do so much herself, mentored new volunteers to enable them to take on the unit.

County Good Guiding award

Awarded to:

Marilyn Tozer

Marilyn is a very positive lady who is extremely thoughtful and kind. She is passionate about guiding and her motto is “to give back the opportunities that she had to the girls of today”.

Marilyn is very organised and reliable. She volunteers at the campsite and regularly supports units in the district where needed.

She is particularly supportive and encouraging of the Brownies with specific needs and has built a great rapport with them.

County Good Guiding award

Awarded to:

Nicola Day



Nic has been involved in Girlguiding in the county in a big way for many years. She has been recognised with previous awards for some of her great work and yet she continues to make such a positive impact on those around her that she is now being presented with the county Good Guiding award.

Nic runs Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers in Radlett, she mentors other volunteers and supports our young members to be the best they can be by encouraging them and giving them great opportunities.

She has more recently taken on the role as district commissioner in a neighbouring district and shown real dedication and commitment to helping them with their challenges and to grow their numbers and volunteers.

County Good Guiding award

Awarded to:

Natalie West



Natalie is another volunteer who runs a unit for all sections in her community.

She runs residential every year and when the role as district commissioner came up, she embraced the task, welcoming and training new recruits, demonstrating great skills of patience, adaptiveness and organisation.

She is highly regarded by many people in the district and is described by one of her nominators as their personal guiding light.

County Good Service award



Awarded to members of
Girlguiding Hertfordshire for
service over and above
that expected of their guiding roles.

Nominated by their peers
and presented by the
county awards committee.

County Good Service award

Awarded to:

Casey Faiers



'For effort, drive and dedication to Bishop's Stortford district'

Casey has been in guiding for 19 years, currently supporting 2nd Hockerill Brownies as a unit helper but previously as a guide leader.

As a paramedic, Casey has used her skills to run many first aid courses for the district and supported camps.

During the pandemic, Casey's demanding work meant that Casey had to step back from guiding for a while but she soon came back. She stepped forward to help guide and support a new leader until she felt confident to run her own unit, giving endless encouragement and ideas.

Through Casey's effort, drive and dedication, a new unit has been opened in the district and the pressure has been relieved on waiting lists.

County Good Service award

Awarded to:

Jacqui O'Connor



'For her enthusiasm and passionate guiding within Guessens district'

Jacqui moved to her district around five years ago. She was an experienced guiding volunteer but said that she would just be on hand to help occasionally with residential, singing and cooking. I was there, at the meeting, when she was introduced. Jacqui volunteered as district secretary and within six months was running a Brownie unit.

Jacqui is the first to volunteer to support other units on pack holiday, she has organised numerous district events, including a disco, trip to Pax Lodge, a leader bowling trip and district coronation celebration day packed with activities.

The district, which is made up of villages as well as the town, is now very well connected and sociable and Jacqui's fun and enthusiasm is infectious. She is also famous, featuring on HQ's recruitment video where she made slime on Zoom!

County Good Service award

Awarded to:

Jason Kingwell



**'For teaching whittling skills
to many young volunteers across
the whole county!'**

Having started with a night at a unit in Hertford, helping them on a regular night, Jason suggested he could teach them whittling. He returned to run the activity shortly after.

Word got round and now he travels all over the county teaching whittling skills to our young members. It is a great activity, enjoyed by everyone and one that our volunteers are not necessarily comfortable with on their own.

Jason provides all the equipment and gives excellent instruction ensuring the safety of everyone. He leaves the girls with newfound confidence and an item they can take home.

I think he is well known, particularly amongst the adult volunteers!

County Good Service award

Awarded to:

Jo Bushe

'For commitment, dedication and enthusiasm for West division'

Throughout her years in guiding, including her time as district commissioner and currently as division commissioner, Jo had been an inspirational leader, full of enthusiasm, patience and fantastic, creative ideas.

Jo volunteers herself for committees and events and is always a reliable member of the team.

County Good Service award

Awarded to:

Joanne Newton

**'For outstanding service to
Baldock district'**

Joanne has been treasurer of Baldock district for six years. Her support for the district has been outstanding during that time, not only with the finances but taking on a vast amount of administration for the district and running their headquarters.

She has undertaken fundraising, risk assessments, PAT testing, keeping on top of safety in general and general upkeep of the building.

County Good Service award

Awarded to:

Pamela Boughton



'For continued dedication to girlguiding throughout many roles'

In whichever role Pamela has held, she has always been dedicated and has strived to do the best for everyone else.

At the present time Pam holds both volunteer shop manager and district treasurer roles.

At the shop, Pamela enjoys making displays to share up to date information and to inspire others. Pam loves to help the young members to select their uniforms.

Pam is described as a supporting person who is a listener and will use her knowledge to pass on advice to those who ask her views and thoughts.

County Good Service award

Awarded to:

Rebecca Abrams

'For making Guiding happen through enthusiasm, drive and passionate commitment in Royston district'

Becky took on the role as district commissioner for Royston at the age of 22. She has organised many events and activities and organised fundraising opportunities.

The district celebrated their 100th birthday so Becky organised outings for each section and celebration badges for all. Unfortunately, only the Brownie event took place before the pandemic hit so Becky turned to Zoom to keep the district entertained and celebrating together.

Becky has shown a great deal of dedication and energy to her role. Since finishing her role, she has now taken on the role of county Queen's Guide award lead volunteer where she continues her great work.

County Good Service award

Awarded to:

Scott MacLachlan



'For commitment and support over many years at Radlett and county events'

For many years Scott has been a wonderful support to Verity and their three daughters in their roles within guiding but over time, he has gone much further, helping other units to learn various skills, accompanied them on trips, visits and camps, including hillwalking and other adventurous activities in Scotland and abroad.

Scott plays a key role in maintaining the district centre, doing whatever is needed.

The district are extremely grateful for Scott's support.

County Good Service award

Awarded to:

Stephen Williams

'To acknowledge the time, wisdom, patience and dedication given to Radlett district'

Stephen has volunteered as district treasurer since 2016. He has fulfilled this role conscientiously and diligently but has offered so much more by way of support to the leaders in the district.

He has helped with practical accounting advice and gift aid and been extremely helpful, patient and non-judgemental.

Stephen has helped with the district building in many ways, from sourcing insurance and utility suppliers to cleaning gutters, painting and applying for planning permission for a small extension to the patio area.

County Good Service award

Awarded to:

Suzanne
Nkonkomalimba



**'For passion and willingness to learn
and offer support throughout
Watford district'**

Suzanne grew up through guiding in Hertfordshire, she went to university but stayed in touch and volunteered on pack holiday and during her holidays.

Suzanne has always been passionate that all girls have the opportunity to attend events and supports them at these. This is further demonstrated by the role she holds as division residential lead volunteer.

She is very conscientious in her time keeping and is very organised with admin and finances.

Suzanne has a busy home life but has stepped forward to support her leadership team who have had to step back due to health issues, and is now completing her module 4 (finance module) to ensure the unit is compliant.

County Good Service award

Awarded to:

Yvonne Myall

**'For commitment and dedication
to the division depot'**

National awards

**National awards
recognising achievements
of our members**



Queen's Guide award



The highest award you can work towards in guiding.

It involves:

- Service in guiding
- Outdoor challenge
- Personal skill development
- Community action
- Residential

Queen's Guide award

Awarded to:

Rebecca Stevens



Lucy Park

National Good Service award



Awarded by the county commissioner
to an adult member of Girlguiding
for excellent service to guiding.

National Good Service award

Awarded to:

Jean Bellis



Jean has been a volunteer at the local shop since 1998. She took on the role as badge secretary and her dedication to this has been exceptional. As we know, we have experienced quite a few programme changes over the years and Jean's resilience and enthusiasm to embrace them has been noticeable.

Over the past few years, Jean's eyesight has deteriorated but her commitment to the depot has not wavered, and her knowledge of the badges and their availability is admirable.

Jean doesn't just give up her time to open the shop with the team but attends meetings and trainings to give support to others.

Jean has shown great dedication and we thank her for her amazing service.

National Good Service award

Awarded to:

Maureen Kell

Maureen is well known and very well respected throughout the county.

She has held many roles over the years: district commissioner, division commissioner, Queen's Guide adviser....I could go on but the tea will be cold!

The role most people know her for is one she has held for around the last 18 years, leadership qualification coordinator, and it is for this that I would like to give her special recognition.

Maureen has looked after our dedicated team of mentors and managed to persuade them collectively to support and encourage hundreds of volunteers through their qualification.

Maureen has great skills of persuasion, enthusiasm and encouragement and is completely committed to the cause.

National Good Service award

Awarded to:

Sally Settle



Sally is one of my assistant county commissioners. They are all amazing and give me huge support in my role. We have the second largest county in the Girlguiding league table and we are all kept very busy.

I wanted to give Sally a special mention and present her with the national Good Service award as Sally doesn't just support me but many others. As a volunteer she has made a huge impact in the growth of the county, running and supporting successful events across Hertfordshire, the key one being the County Show, where she worked her magic to get Girlguiding centre stage, quite literally.

Sally was part of the region team for the Super Rainbow initiative where she and others gave many hours of their time producing fantastic resources for thousands of Rainbows and prospective Rainbows.

Sally does so much and will do anything for anyone. I often try to encourage her to take a night off but fail miserably unless I literally turn up on her doorstep with a bottle of wine!

National Good Service award

Awarded to:

Lesley Somers



I would like to give Lesley this award to recognise her unwavering support for Tring district and 1st New Mill Brownies over the almost 30 years that she has been a member.

She has diligently run her Brownie unit and, even though she moved to Aylesbury many years ago, has continued to travel to Tring to keep her unit going, roping in her daughter along the way.

Lesley always provided a brilliant programme for the girls and joined in with every event possible. At district meetings she was always one of the first to get the ball rolling by volunteering to help organise district events.

About a year ago, Lesley was diagnosed with inoperable cancer.

She has remained stalwart throughout and although the Brownie unit has had to close, she is still attending district meetings and has been helping other units by standing in for leaders at meetings (often at short notice) or joining outings as an extra adult. She really is an inspiration and lives life with true guiding spirit.

Thank you

**to the county awards committee
for their commitment to
recognising our volunteers**

and

**to all our volunteers
for their contribution
to Girlguiding Hertfordshire**



Girlguiding
Hertfordshire
county