

Members of Girlguiding Cambridgeshire East have achieved a number of county, regional and national awards in 2021.

Pam Fisher - BEM



On Tuesday 25 May Pam Fisher was presented with her BEM by the Lord Lieutenant, Julie Spence OBE QPM, at Comberton Village Hall. Accompanying the Lord Lieutenant were Jack Badcock, her cadet making his first appearance in that role, Lily Bacon, the Deputy Lieutenant who had made it all possible by getting the recommendation through to the Palace, the master of ceremonies, another Deputy Lieutenant Col. Roger Herriot and the High Sheriff, Mrs C.L.E.M. Bewes. Pam was awarded her BEM for volunteer service to the community in Cambridgeshire.

Maisie Skinner - The Guiding Star



Maisie Skinner from 18th/25th Cambridge Brownies has been presented with Girlguiding's highest award for young members, the Guiding Star.

Maisie was presented with the award in recognition of her exceptional resilience and being an amazing role model to other Brownies. Maisie, who has cystic fibrosis, has been shielding for much of the last 18 months due to the risks of COVID-19 and she has regular hospital appointments and fortnight-long hospital admissions every 12 weeks. But despite this, she has continued to join in her with Brownie unit's virtual meetings and programme activities, even from her hospital bed and is now back with the unit at their outdoor meetings. Maisie has also been keeping her Brownie promise to serve her community and inspired by the Charities interest badge, she has raised over £1000 for a charity called Starlight Children's Foundation, which has supported her and many other children.

Shirley Wardrop - Anglia brooch



Shirley, a Brownie leader in Bassingbourn, received the prestigious Anglia Brooch from Girlguiding Anglia in a virtual ceremony. She has held a variety of roles in over 30 years of faithful service to Girlguiding, from including as a Brownie and Guide leader, District Commissioner, mentor to new leaders and supporting girls and young women from all over the county through their Duke of Edinburgh's Award through a unit for girls working on their award and as an Accredited Assessor for DofE.

Hilda Hardy - Anglia brooch



Hilda, who was a Guide leader in Dullingham, received her Anglia brooch for outstanding service to guiding for over forty years and her ongoing dedication to the Jarman Centre. Hilda has held a variety of roles in Girlguiding, from including district and division commissioner, local Residential Adviser for Guide and Ranger holidays and camps, supporting leaders to take their girls away on trips, and as part of the Jarman Centre Management Committee, running the Girlguiding Cambridgeshire East residential centre in Newmarket.

Sue Howell - County brooch



Sue has held a variety of roles in over 23 years of faithful service to Girlguiding, from including leading Rainbow and Guide units, which switched to virtual meetings while face-to-face meetings couldn't take place, and coordinating and leading the local volunteers in Harston. Sue has given girls so many adventures, taking a group of Guides to Switzerland and leading another trip for girls from all over East Anglia to Mexico. In fact this photo was taken in Mexico at the top of one of the pyramids!

Claire Hagger - County brooch

Clare, a leader with Brownies, Guides and Rangers in Swavesey, is celebrating after receiving her Lily, the County brooch for her outstanding contributions to guiding in Swavesey, her commitment to providing inspiring opportunities to girls in her units and her enthusiasm, sense of fun and the care she shows towards girls and adults alike.

Fellow leader, Gabriela Cruz De Matos, said, "Claire's passion for Girlguiding has been highlighted during exceptional leadership demonstrated during lockdown. Claire quickly understood that the girls in the unit needed to continue with Guides and that having their usual meetings, even if virtually, were a lifeline to normality for both them and their families. Despite feeling nervous about this new way of running meetings, Claire showed the courage to give it a try to huge success."

Lynn McGoff - County brooch



Lynn, leader of Willingham Guides and Rangers, received her County brooch for many years of dedicated service to guiding in Cambridgeshire East, especially going above and beyond in her role as County Camp Adviser, and for her commitment to Guides and Rangers in Willingham.

Last year she was presented with the Anglia brooch award from Andrea Oughton, Deputy Chief Commissioner for Girlguiding Anglia,

in recognition of commitment and service over and above 'the call of duty' to guiding. Lynn has held a variety of roles in over 35 years of faithful service to Girlguiding, from achieving the Queen's Guide award as a teenager to running a number of Guide and Rangers units and as county Residential Adviser for Guide and Ranger holidays and camps, supporting leaders to take their girls away on trips.

Suzanne Hemingway - County brooch



Suzanne, a Guide leader in Milton, was awarded the Lily, the County brooch, recognition of Suzanne's excellent service to guiding in Cambridgeshire East in a wide range of roles, especially for her dedication, hard work and energy which has enabled so many girls across the county to participate in amazing outdoor adventures, and water activities in particular.

Local leader, Chris Turnbull, said, "The County has been very fortunate to have such an enthusiastic, energetic and knowledgeable skilled leader to take us forward in the out of doors. It is to be hoped that the ripples she has made will spread further amongst our Guides and young women as they make their way in the world."

Lisa MacGregor - County brooch



Lisa, a leader with Shelford Guides, Stapleford Brownies, Shelford Brownies and Trumpington Rainbows, received her Lily, the County brooch for outstanding service to and within Shelford District, her commitment to providing fantastic opportunities to girls and young women and her calm and supportive leadership and support of fellow leaders.

Local leader, Clare George, said, "Lisa is very passionate about Girlguiding. She carries many hats around with her in the Guiding world and manages to manage every single one. She is a remarkable lady, and deserves an award to honour and show her how much we appreciate everything she does."

Sarah Stone - County brooch

Sarah Stone, a leader with the Shelford and Stapleford Rainbows was awarded a County Brooch for dedicated service to guiding across Cambridge City division and in Shelford district, including many years of offering fun and adventure to girls as a unit leader, and outstanding commitment in a range of crucial supporting roles, including as division treasurer and division holiday adviser.

Di Gunton - County brooch

Di Gunton, a Rainbow and Brownie leader in Bar Hill, received the County brooch faithful service to Girlguiding, from including leading Rainbow and Brownie units, which switched to virtual meetings while face-to-face meetings couldn't take place, and as district commissioner, heading up the local volunteers in Over.

Local leader, Debbie Lienau, said, "Di is prepared to go the extra mile for her district. She always has the girls' interests at heart. She is keen to try new ideas and is very welcoming of new ideas when they are put forward to her."

Margaret Bird - County brooch



Margaret Bird, from Fenland division, was awarded the County brooch for many year's service to Fenland division as a leader and lately as joint Fenland division commissioner.

Special long service awards

The Chief Guide, Amanda Medler, presented Ann Mitchell (Rhee division) with a long service award for 60 years of exceptional service at in our county and beyond.

She also presented 40 year long service awards to two fabulous volunteers, Toni-ann Hammond (Granta division) and Chris Turnbull (Isle of Ely division).

Later in the year a 60 year long service award was presented to Sheila Otter (Wisbech district) by Claire Course at the County Commissioners Garden Party.

Trainer qualification

Robyn Moates (Rhee division) was presented with her Trainer Qualification badge and certificate by Amanda Medler at the county annual awards event.

Gold Duke of Edinburgh's award

Huge congratulations to Sophie Littlewood (City division), who has achieved her Gold Duke of Edinburgh's.