



# “RAISING THE BAR”

## Girlguiding Essex North East’s 2017-18 County Challenge Badge



As a county we are keen to see all our members ‘Grow Guiding’; to promote the varied opportunities we give our girls and volunteers and to encourage girls, young women and adults to join our fantastic county.

At Girlguiding Essex North East, we are dedicated to celebrating the value of our existing volunteers and girls, and as such we have designed our ‘Raising The Bar’ challenge aimed at promoting guiding at its very best. We want to encourage our girls, leaders and other volunteers to get the most possible from their Guiding journey. The County aims to support our leaders to deliver a programme of activities and adventures for the girls, to help them to learn about themselves and gain the skills and confidence to realise their dreams. We want to showcase guiding in our county to potential new members, to enable them to see the adventures and opportunities Guiding has to offer.

There will be five badges, a new badge will be launched each academic year (Sept - August), we challenge you to earn as many of the ‘Raising The Bar’ badges as you can during the next five years. The criteria for the first badge (2017-2018) is shown below. To earn this badge girls and leaders must complete a minimum of 3 challenges.

Good luck and have fun! We would love to see what you have been up to, so please remember to take photographs whilst completing the challenges and send them to us at [office@girlguidingessexne.org.uk](mailto:office@girlguidingessexne.org.uk)

Please ensure full photo permissions are held for all girls featured in photos.



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Girls challenge - To earn this badge you must complete a minimum of 3 challenges.

### Go large

Attend a large-scale event - There must be at least 100 people attend so ask your leader to find out about any events that are happening in your division, county or nationwide. Perhaps your division could organise a trip to Kidzania, join in a national Guiding cinema takeover or a district trip to a theme park. The only limit is your imagination!

### Social Action

Support a local charity - Your unit could chose a charity together ensuring that every one of you have a voice in the decision making process. You could have a sponsored bounce at Jump Street, a community spirited litter pick in your local area or find out what support a local homeless charity require. (Support doesn't just have to mean financial support - think outside the box!)

### Go outdoors

Attend an event/meeting held outdoors - It's great to get outside! Give your leader an idea of what outdoor activities you would like to try. Perhaps a camp fire, chip walk where you award a certificate to the shop which sells the best chips, techno treasure hunt (geocaching) and discover treasure hunting using a hand-held GPS device, #kindnessrocks paint rocks you have found in your garden or bought at a garden centre, leave them around your local area for others to find. Why not write your unit name on the rocks to promote Guiding. For a real taste of ad venture, find out when the next county canoeing day is being held or even climb the 02!

### Friends

Bring a friend! - Check with your leader for a suitable meeting to invite along a non-guiding friend. Make sure it's an action-packed evening planned. It could be a Christmas party, a science workshop or an exotic fruit tasting and smoothie making session (check allergies of your guests beforehand). If your guests see what an exciting programme we are offering, they will want to join us and become Guiding members!



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Girls challenge continued...

### Join in

Take part in a unit meeting/activity with another section - you are on a guiding journey where you move on to the next section once you are older. Rainbows become Brownies, Brownies move up to Guides, Guides will now become Rangers and once you are 18 you can train to become a leader, take on new roles and many more exciting opportunities! Ask your leader to help you organise an activity for another section so you can share your guiding experiences and find out what girls do in the next section. Current Senior Section members can find out more about the changes to their section here <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/what-we-do/our-programme-and-activities/the-senior-section-programme/Transforming-the-senior-section/information-for-the-senior-section-about-changes/> you can also encourage Guides to move on to this fun and flexible section for 14 - 18 year olds. You will also be able to see leaders of other sections in action and start to consider which direction you will take on your guiding journey.

### Be adventurous

Try an adventurous activity - Tell your leader what activities you would like to try. Take a look at the activity finder on the Girlguiding website for information on all the activities you can do in guiding. (Rainbows and Brownies, ask an adult to help you) <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/what-we-do/our-programme-and-activities/activity-finder/> - Grass sledging, scrambling and zorbing are just a few of the many adventurous activities available!

### Zone out

Try something outside of your comfort zone! - This challenge can be done outside of Guiding, challenge your fears, and push your limits - this will be different for everyone so anything counts remember to share your experience with your unit.



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**Leaders challenge - To earn this badge you must complete a minimum of 3 challenges.**

### Skill up

Attend a training, there's always more to learn! - This could be a local fireside training, visiting a different unit for ideas or a more formal training. We're dedicated to giving you opportunities to build your skills as a volunteer. We know that the whole charity, especially the girls, benefit when you - the people who make guiding happen - are given chances to learn new things and grow. Check out our county updates for training opportunities in the County.

### Recruit

Run a recruitment stall/event - Perhaps you could organise a guiding display at your next school fayre, community fun day or church fete, remember to show guiding at its best with challenge and stem activities - you can call upon the Marketing & Communications team [pr@girguiding Essex ne.org.uk](mailto:pr@girguiding Essex ne.org.uk) for support with this and remember we have lots of promotional banners, sails etc that you can borrow for your event.

### Go public

Take your unit on a trip on public transport - you could opt to take the train to an event rather than asking parents to drop off girls, or take your unit on a bus tour of the area. See leaders notes for risk assessment info.

### Stay away

Provide your girls with an opportunity to attend a residential - You could try ideas like a sleepover at your local Guide hall, kipping on a ship or a trip to Disneyland Paris.  
Talk to your Division residential advisor for ideas/guidance. See leaders notes to find out more information about gaining your licence.



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Leaders challenge continued ...

### Be seen

Provide your unit with the opportunity to ‘be seen’ within their local community - i.e., carnivals, community days, or sharing your adventures via social media (remember to ensure correct permissions are in place before posting anything). When out and about encourage girls to wear correct uniform so that everyone can see what great activities Guiding offers.

### Share the fun

Bring an adult to a unit meeting/activity - this could be a potential new leader! Talk to friends and family about the fantastic opportunities you have through Guiding, about the skills you’ve gained and how rewarding volunteering can be. Share details of your next adult social event with them, encourage them to return to a second meeting, tap into their skills; could they perhaps be great with your unit accounts? Help them to navigate join us to sign up as a volunteer!

### Zone out

Try something outside of your comfort zone! - This could challenge your fears, encourage confidence or just push your limits - this will be different for everyone so anything counts.

#### Leaders notes:

Encourage your girls to discuss the various challenges and ensure that everyone gets a say.

- Check out the Girlguiding website for advice on running a recruitment stall <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/making-guiding-happen/growing-our-membership/recruitment-and-growth-toolkit/running-a-recruitment-drive/running-a-recruitment-stall/>
- Residential information: <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/making-guiding-happen/learning-and-development/training-for-travel-and-residentials/going-away-with-scheme/> If you don’t currently hold a license, why not join up with another leader and their group to see what’s involved in running a residential.
- Visit the Girlguiding website’s activity finder to check out the latest activities suitable for your unit. <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/what-we-do/our-programme-and-activities/activity-finder/>
- Information on managing risk: <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/making-guiding-happen/running-your-unit/safeguarding-and-risk/managing-risk/>
- Ensure you have the full photo permissions for girls in your unit. <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/globalassets/docs-and-resources/branding-and-resources/photo-and-video-faqs.pdf>



# “Raising The Bar”

## Girlguiding Essex North East’s 2017-18 County Challenge Badge Order Form



Please return the completed form below, together with your payment to receive your badges.

Unit Name \_\_\_\_\_

Leader’s Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number or e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Number of badges required at £1.00 each \_\_\_\_\_

Please add postage according to the number of badges you order:

1-25	£1.50
25+	£2.00
Collection from county office	Free of charge

Total amount enclosed (Cheques payable to: Girlguiding Essex North East):

£ \_\_\_\_\_

*Please send order form and payment to:*

*Girlguiding Essex North East County Office, 7 Park Farm, Kelvedon Road, Inworth, CO5 9SH*