



Some ways you can say 'Thank You'

AWARDS IN GIRLGUIDING BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY

The aim of this leaflet is to bring together information on the Awards within Girlguiding Buckinghamshire County (or higher if appropriate) that can be made/recommended for service within the County, so that there can be greater clarity and understanding generally as to which Award might be appropriate when considering a nomination for recognition of service given or fortitude shown.

It should be remembered that Nominations for all the following Outstanding Service Awards should be made without the knowledge of the nominee or her relatives.

The County Awards group consists of:

County Commissioner

Assistant County Commissioner(s)

County Awards Chairman

County Awards Secretary

Any member as identified by the County Commissioner.

The Awards group meets prior to each meeting of the County Executive - usually 3 times per year. Nominations can be submitted at any time during a year and will be considered at the next scheduled meeting (unless there is good reason to seek an early decision). Once the nomination has been considered, the proposer (not the candidate) will be advised of the outcome, in confidence, by the Awards Secretary.

Successful nominations will result in the Award being passed to the appropriate Commissioner for award at the earliest opportunity at a suitable occasion.

Forms to make nominations are available on the County website or from the County Office.

For consistency of information, please use the forms provided on the county website or on request from the county office.

LONG SERVICE AWARDS

Long service - Girlguiding wishes to recognise everyone's contribution to guiding.

Any adult member who volunteers regularly, irrespective of role, gender or age, is eligible for a Long Service Award. Service will be counted from the date the individual becomes a member, aged 16 or over, and actively carries out a role for 5, 10, 20, 30, 40 or 50 years (not necessarily consecutively).

A Recognised Volunteer Certificate can be presented to individuals who volunteer regularly in guiding but have chosen not to be a full adult member.

The Long Service award brooches are all of similar design with different finishes and metals signifying the years. All the brooches are accompanied by a certificate. The 5-year certificate is signed by the County Commissioner, the 10 and 20-year certificates are signed by the Country or Region Chief Commissioner and the 30, 40 and 50-year certificates are signed by the Chief Guide.



The brooches may be worn on the badge tab or on non-guiding clothing.

It is the responsibility of the County Commissioner to establish when active members in her County are due to receive their awards and to ensure that the awards are presented at an appropriate time and in an appropriate manner. This task has been delegated to the County Awards Team who maintain a small stock of these awards and prepare the awards several times a year to coincide with County Executive meetings when the awards can be passed to Division and District Commissioners (or their representatives) for presentation to the recipient.

If there is any query about length of service, the decision of the County Commissioner is final.

Cloth versions of long service awards



Cloth versions of the brooches are available via the County Awards team. These can be worn out of uniform or used to decorate camp blankets.

For all queries regarding long service awards please contact the County Awards Chairman (contact detail from the County Office).

GOOD SERVICE BROOCH AND CERTIFICATE



The Good Service brooch and its accompanying certificate may be given to an adult who is a member of Girlguiding for excellent service in Guiding by a County Commissioner for service in the county.

To be eligible for a Good Service brooch the nominee must either:
Hold a current member & recognised volunteer card, or
Have finished a role no more than 6 months before the application is made.

Use the award nomination form available on the County website or from the County Office.

COUNTY GOOD SERVICE CERTIFICATE



The County Good Service Certificate can be awarded to any adult member of Girlguiding Buckinghamshire County.

This can be awarded to a person whom the County Awards group Committee considers merits this award for their dedication and devotion to duty, and to have demonstrated a commitment and level of service, which has been over and above 'the call of duty'.

Use the award nomination form available on the County website or from the County Office

COUNTY THANK YOU CERTIFICATE



The County Thank You Certificate can be awarded to any person who has contributed to Girlguiding Buckinghamshire County a commitment and action, which has or will be a benefit to our members, either for a specific event or over a period of time. This certificate may be given to an adult member or non-member of the Association.

Use the award nomination form available on the County website or from the County Office

COUNTY CERTIFICATE OF MERIT



The County Certificate of Merit can be awarded to any person who has contributed to Girlguiding Buckinghamshire County a commitment which has or will be benefit to our members whilst at the same time coping with personal difficulties, (e.g. adverse situations with close family). This certificate may be given when the nominee does not warrant a County Good Service Certificate but has shown courage, selflessness and devotion to duty in circumstances when it would have been easier to give up his or her commitment to Guiding.

Applications for the Certificate of Merit can be submitted at any time, and when life expectancy is poor, will be considered outside the Award Group meetings.

Use the award nomination form available on the County website or from the County Office

ANGLIA REGION AWARDS

THE ANGLIA BROOCH AND CERTIFICATE



This Award can be awarded to a person whom the Anglia Awards Sub-Committee considers merits this award, who will be:

- (i) A member of Girlguiding Anglia Region, or
- (ii) A member of The Trefoil Guild in Anglia Region, or
- (iii) A non-member who by virtue of an appointment fulfils the criteria.

This award is made for:

- (a) Commitment and level of service which has been over and above 'the call of duty' in respect of one or more appointment/event within or to guiding or the Trefoil Guild, or
 - (b) A notable display of mental or physical courage in pain or adversity
 - (c) A notable display of bravery
 - (d) A demonstration of initiative and devotion to duty (without risk to their own life).
- The award is for exceptional quality of service given, not just the length, and is for service within Anglia Region, not to Anglia Region.
 - Nominations for this award can be made by any Guider, Commissioner or Chairman of a Trefoil Guild (where applicable).
 - They should be submitted to the County Awards Committee for consideration in the first instance.
 - Letters of support should state clearly the position in guiding of the signatory.

If you need any further information or a copy of the appropriate form to nominate someone for this award, please do not hesitate to contact the Chairman of the County Awards Committee (via the County Office).

SUPPORTING INFORMATION - for all Awards

Nominations for all the above awards are to be forwarded using the appropriate nomination form, to the County Awards Chairman (via the County Office), and will be considered at the next scheduled meeting of the Awards group.

With so many adults giving good service to the Girlguiding, the Awards Committee has the difficult task of maintaining a high standard of Award Holders whilst at the same time ensuring no deserving nominee goes unrecognised. The supporting evidence is therefore of the utmost importance.

- The relevant section of the Nomination Form must be completed with a list of all appointments held and the dates. A copy of the candidates Go! Record should be used for this purpose and can be obtained from the County Office if necessary.

- Members of the Association, in addition to giving their personal assessment of the nominee, should give their reasons for considering the service given to be outstanding.

- It is helpful if information is given regarding the conditions under which the nominee has or is giving her service, the type of area or community in which she does her Guiding, her influence on other members of the Movement - girls and adults - her involvement with specific projects or events, other commitments, any special achievements which have benefited Girlguiding Buckinghamshire.

- Nominations should be clearly written so that they are easily read, and all required information on the form completed as fully as possible.

PLEASE NOTE: Should a nomination be received from within County which the County Awards group considers worthy of a National Award, the Chairman will contact the proposer to discuss this further with a view to changing the nomination accordingly.

If you need any further information, please contact:

Chairman of County Awards Committee:
c/o Girlguiding Buckinghamshire County Office
Unit 11, Pembroke Road
Stocklake Industrial Area
Aylesbury
Bucks HP20 1DB

THE THANKS BADGE



The Thanks badge (either a brooch or a lapel pin) is given to either a member or non-member of Girlguiding as a sign of appreciation for their support.

Any member of Girlguiding may present a Thanks badge after discussion with a Leader or Commissioner.

A Thanks badge may only be given to a member of the Trefoil Guild if they have given service specifically to Girlguiding .

PLEASE NOTE NATIONAL AWARDS

All nominations for National Awards must be sent in using the current and appropriate nomination forms to the County Awards Committee (via the County Office) in the first instance. If you need any further information or guidance on nominating someone for this award, please do not hesitate to contact the Chairman of the County Awards Committee (via the County Office). Please see the Girlguiding website and Guiding Manual for details of the criteria for these awards. The website also offers advice on guidelines for making an application and the letters of support. (The keywords to look for when searching for this information are “Thanks and Recognition”)

THE LAUREL AWARD



The Laurel Award is a Girlguiding award given in recognition of outstanding service to guiding. This award may be given to an active adult member of Girlguiding or one of the Branch Associations

THE SILVER FISH



The Silver Fish is Girlguiding's highest award. It is given in recognition of outstanding and distinguished service and an exceptional contribution to a wide section of Girlguiding, including international guiding either in the United Kingdom or abroad. This award may be given to an active adult member of Girlguiding or one of the Branch Associations.

NATIONAL HONOURS

National Honours (including CBE, OBE and MBE) are awarded in recognition of exceptional merit and service to the nation. Nominations for National Honours can be made for, or include, outstanding services to guiding.