Sally Illsley

Born in Nottinghamshire, Sally attended Carlton-le-Willows Grammar School.

Married to Richard in 1977, his career took them around the country, moving house four times in ten years, finally settling in Leicestershire in 1987.

Following the birth of their learning-disabled daughter, Sally chose to be a 'stay at home mum' and full-time carer.

What started as a break from home, running the local Guide unit, led to forty years of voluntary service to Girlguiding. Holding senior County, Region and National appointments; County Commissioner for Leicestershire, Chief Commissioner for the Midlands and Deputy Chief Guide for Girlguiding UK. Sally has worked on joint projects with the Scouts including a management role at the 2007 World Scout Jamboree.



As part of the Girlguiding Centenary management committee, Sally led a team to deliver adventures in the UK and overseas for 500,000 young members.

In the past, Sally has been a school governor and trustee of Melton Mencap. In 2015, alongside her second daughter, she was a founding trustee of their local community library, where she also volunteered for seven years.

She is currently a Vice President of Girlguiding UK, President of Girlguiding Leicestershire and Chairs the County Campsite and Activity Centre Management Committee. She has been a trustee of The Leicestershire and Rutland County Nursing Association for twenty years.

Sally is an enthusiastic granny, a keen gardener, enjoys the theatre and loves nothing more than the challenge of cooking breakfast for twenty-five guides on an open fire in all weathers!