



News and Views for Scouting in Gloucestershire
October 2018





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Gloucestershire Scouting on the Water Website <http://activities.gscouts.org.uk>

If you want to print this magazine, it can

be presented in A4 or as an A5 booklet.

Of course hyperlinks are only available from the electronic version.



Editorial

This edition features the presentation of Queen's Scout Awards to a number of our young people. These represent an award, too, to the Leaders who helped to make them possible. Those leaders who have devoted so much of their time and effort to development of good

citizens are also recognised with good service awards and are duly celebrated.

There are several reports of exciting activities undertaken at Group and County level, in particular a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for Explorers to visit Australia. The magazine also includes notices of future events and, I hope, interesting articles about past and present Scouting activities. As Chairman of my local AAC, I have the opportunity to draw the attention of new Leaders to the existence of the magazine and I would appreciate its existence being more widely known. It is always available from the County website, under "News".

Of course, all contributions are gratefully received. The next copy date will be Monday, 14th January.

CC Highlights

My highlights over the past few months have included:

Thanking Amazing Adults

Getting to present a number of Awards to more Amazing Adults from around the County. I particularly enjoyed supporting presenting the Award for Merit to Lauren, our (now ex) County Youth Commissioner at our County AGM.

Also having the absolute pleasure of presenting the Award for Merit to Andrew Vincent ("Smurf") in a surprise presentation at the meeting of the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts at Sevenhampton Scout Group. It was clear from all the young people that I spoke with that Andrew is truly appreciated by everyone at the Group and works hard to inspire young people week after week.

Thank you to all of you who commit to supporting Scouting, whether you have recently received an award or not, you are all Amazing!

Brrr-illiant!!

I was also lucky enough to be invited to support the Forest of Dean District Cub Camp, which had 120 young people from every part of the District taking part in activities, including Caving, Hover-archery, Axe-throwing and RC car-racing. I was asked to join the (very cold) weekend to help run a Scouts Own on the Sunday morning, did so with great pleasure and had a lot of

fun too!! As part of the chance to reflect, we thought about how we are part of a movement that has over 48 million other people involved across the whole of the globe. We also considered how nature makes up a far greater part of our world than man-made and discussed how we should look after it all. Finally, we took a moment of peace to stop and think about whom we should say 'thank you' to. It was a really interactive and fun 20 minutes that I know made an impact on a great number of Cubs (and some of their Leaders). Thank you to Angela Healey, Carol Rushton and all of the team for inviting me and running such an amazing event.

Inspiring the managers of today ready for tomorrow

One other, very recent highlight was to support the delivery of the "Skills of Management" training to 26 managers and supporters who come from all across the South West. The course was attended by three managers from Gloucestershire and I had a really great time helping so many people learn and prepare to support adults in Sections and Districts around all of the Counties in the South West.

Godfrey Tarling, DC Cheltenham, very kindly wrote a short review on the training saying "Having done the equivalent course under the old scheme - this one, being practically orientated, was also a vast improvement - but that is pure testimony to the "#Skillsforlife strategy".

I agree, the course that I was privileged to support at the weekend was practical, relevant, inspiring and useful to all of the managers and supporters who attended.

If you want to know more about the new Manager and Supporters Training Scheme, you can find lots of [resources and learning here](#). Maybe, you are a manager who would benefit from a reminder of some useful techniques, like time-management or leading your team. Or maybe, you are a supporter (e.g. an ADC) who would like to develop your own skills further. There are lots of useful learning resources that can help you develop your skills and knowledge on the training pages at scouts.org.uk or speak to your Training Advisor or your Local Training Manager.

Mark



Celebrating the Queen's Scout Award

On September 5th nine Queen's Scouts from Gloucestershire and five from Avon gathered to celebrate their amazing achievements and accolades.

In the beautiful setting of the Lady Chapel at Gloucester Cathedral, we were joined by Tim Kidd (UK Chief Commissioner), Dame Janet Trotter (Lord Lieutenant of Gloucestershire) and Peaches Golding (Lord Lieutenant of Bristol) as we heard about the many and amazing stories that each young person had in the achievement of their Queen's Scout Award.

We heard how a huge range of #skillsforlife had been developed, including learning to play a range of musical instruments and maintaining bikes. Residential had taken place in Birmingham, Blackpool Zoo, Pembrokeshire and Pen Y Fan.

Overall, it was a very memorable evening and a real moment that everyone should be proud of in achieving their QSA.

Well done to: Carenza Atkins, Thomas Bowen, Angus Crick, Penny Dell-Smith, Andrew Green, Kat Holter, Ryan Keyte, Nathan Littlejohn and Liberty Travis.



My question to all of you out there is:

To how many will we be able to present the Queen's Scout Award in two years' time? 30? 50? 80?

Thanks to the team from Gloucestershire who co-ordinated and pulled this great evening together including Andrew Butcher, Chris Meadows, Lauren Greening, Liz Hodge, Rachel Corish, Callum Johnston and Stephen Lake.

Mark



Penny Dell-Smith, Cheltenham Leader, made her expedition to complete her QSA on the River Severn with a mixed County Team, Luke Packham, Ant Evans (Bethesda Scout Leader) and Alex Jenkins (Cotswold Vale Scout Leader and Youth Commissioner).

From the County Youth Commissioner

I am super-excited to announce that Kat Holter and Callum Johnston have been appointed as Deputy County Youth Commissioners!

Kat and Callum both have skills and qualities which we feel will help to shape the role and support adults and YP in the County further.

The three of us have met to discuss how to split the role and it was decided to split geographically.

From now on, Kat will be supporting Tewkesbury, Gloucester, Forest of Dean and North Cotswold. Callum will be supporting Cheltenham, Cotswold, Stroud & Tetbury and Cotswold Vale.

If you would like to get in touch with either of them, please do so using the contact details below:

kat.holter@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk

callum.johnston@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk



The split in areas does not mean that support will not come from the other DCYC if it is required. It is a starting point for us and one that we hope to develop. Any feedback on how this works over the upcoming year would be greatly appreciated.

Many thanks for all that you have done and continue to do so in Gloucestershire.

Lauren Greening

Autumn progress update

At the time of writing this, I have now been in my CC role for just 12 months and recently presented at our County AGM an update on our progress towards our Vision for 2020, where we want to work towards having a County where:

Young People influence and experience high quality, balanced programmes.

Adults feel supported, engaged and able to undertake their roles.

More Young People and Adults get to experience Scouting in Gloucestershire than ever before.

I presented a bit of a score card on how we feel we are progressing against our vision, and overall I am very proud of everything that together, you the amazing adults in our County, have helped to achieve throughout the past 12 months.

If you want to read more [click here](#) to access our webpage for the Review of the year 2017-18. Here you can find a full review of the year, the slides I used to support my presentation, as well as a video showing "What young people say". I hope you find all of it interesting.

Below is a summary of our score card... to see the full report, please read our Annual review on the County website.

Mark

| Vision 2020 | Aims | Progress |
|---|---|----------------------|
| "Young People influence and experience ..." | "Young people influence section, district & county activity" | Some progress made |
| | "All Districts have a YC" | |
| | "We enable Young People to engage others in public" | |
| "...experience, high quality, balanced programmes" | "Evidence of Quality programme is visible in every age group" | Some progress made |
| | "More nights away" | |
| | "More international experiences" | |
| | "More Top Awards (year on year)" | |
| Adults feel supported, engaged and able to undertake their roles | "Adults vetted & welcomed" | Activity not started |
| | "All Leaders get Getting started in 6 months" | |
| | "Year on year increase in Wood Badges" | |
| | "Recognition of training scheme" | |
| | "Adults recognised for contribution to Scouting" | |
| | "Adults receive at least 1 informal review / year" | |
| More Young People and Adults get to experience Scouting in Gloucestershire than ever before | "Linking is more effective" | Some progress made |
| | "There are 50% less sections with Waiting Lists" | |
| | "There are no 'Small' sections" | |
| | "Explorer and Network Sections grow above national average" | |
| | "More Young People and adults join & enjoy Scouting" | |

A time for thanks and goodbye

Many, many of you will have met and maybe even been inspired by Lauren, who was Gloucestershire's first ever County Youth Commissioner. Lauren started her role in July 2014 and was instrumental in shaping our youth-shaped Scouting at every level in Gloucestershire. Whether supporting Beavers, Cubs, Scouts & Explorers in running Youth-Shaped forums at section meetings, or standing in the cold and wet talking to Explorers and Network members about what they want from Scouting, Lauren has always had a passion and a heart for young people and their views.

In my short time as CC, I can honestly say that Lauren has been one of the most influential and inspiring people I have ever had the pleasure of working alongside in Scouting.

I am sure you will join me in saying a huge "THANK YOU" and well done to Lauren for her time, energy and commitment for the past four years.



I am pleased to say that we are not losing Lauren altogether. I am very, very pleased to announce that Lauren has agreed to be a part of the County team and will continue to help us make progress towards our vision for 2020 in her new role of Deputy County Commissioner (for Perception). This role will involve helping Gloucestershire Scouts create an even bigger impact and awareness in our local communities and across the County.

This of course does leave us with a vacancy for County Youth Commissioner and if you think you would like to be part of the team that will help us achieve our vision, especially working with us all to ensure Young People influence and experience high quality, balanced programmes, then please email admin@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk to apply. Alternatively, if you are not aged 18-25 years but know of someone who would make an outstanding County Youth Commissioner, please talk to them and encourage them to consider applying for this valuable and important role.

Mark

I've got a new job collecting all the jumpers left in the park at the weekends, but it's not easy.

They keep moving the goalposts.

Inspiring Programmes Award

At this year's AGM the County Commissioner announced that we want to recognise the achievements of amazing Leaders who stand out in their delivery of the programme.



The Aim of the Award

The County Team believe it is important to recognise those amazing Leaders and their teams who are providing inspiring programmes to young people across the County. This scarf was designed as a way of giving recognition and celebrating Leaders doing this as Inspiring Programme Champions.

How It will work

Each year in September the County will ask for nominations, from the Leaders' peers, young people, parents or via DCs, of Leaders who have demonstrated the award criteria.

Nominations can be made at any time via the form below and will be reviewed six monthly by a panel that will be made up of the:

- Deputy County Commissioner Programme
- A District Commissioner – not from the nominee's District
- County Youth Commissioner
- A Young Leader

The Criteria

Our aim is to keep the criteria simple; we ask those nominating to consider if the nominee:

- Is an Amazing Leader,
- Delivers inspiring programmes shaped by young people that make an impact in our communities,
- Is well recognised as delivering and driving a challenging, relevant and rewarding programme for every young person.

Leaders can be nominated as individuals or as part of a team. We will try to encourage nominations for a Leader for each section in each District every year. The scarf will then be awarded as part of the County annual presentation evening or AGM, with a follow-up presentation at their Group, if they want that to happen.

We have a nomination form online at

<https://gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk/inspiring-programmes-award>

The current round of nominations will close on 31st December 2018.



Twelve Inferno Explorer Scouts and 4 Leaders recently returned from a once in a lifetime trip to Queensland Australia. They were hosted by the "Goodna Scout Group" in Brisbane joining in activities with their Ventures Scouts and taking part in operation Night Hawk, an overnight hike and exercise in the bush around Toowoomba.

We flew to Cairns, snorkelled on the great barrier Reef and hiked around the rain forest. In Brisbane we enjoyed a day at the EKKA Queensland's regional show and spent a weekend Sea Kayaking around Bribie island with QLD Scout water activities team. We went to the zoo and cuddled Koala bears. We flew to Sydney, visited the Anzac memorial, toured the botanical gardens and the Opera House, had pancakes and CLIMBED to the top of Sydney Harbour Bridge.



Watch the Video

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1f7IkOME5dnbCgvJoBFC-Vs7Ib6Z5Ap5f/view?usp=drive_web

1st Dursley visit the Royal International Air Tattoo, July 16.



Richard King, SL Cedar Troop

Extreme ESU Gold D of E Team, 26th—29th August 2018



Day 1 — v. wet!!



Day 2 — wet!



On their way

End Day 4. Wearing t-shirts
of the journey designed
throughout the Expedition

“Fabulous QSA/Gold.”
Shelley Wright



Mountain Activities Team Events

23-25th November - cost depends on numbers but should be approx. **£120**.

The County Mountain Activities Team are pleased to be running a hillwalking training weekend, where leaders will be able to learn the skills required for a hillwalking permit. The goal of this weekend will be for instruction to be provided on the skills required for a T1/T2 Hillwalking Permit. It will be run in terrain suitable for candidates who want to pursue T1/T2 summer permits. The weekend will cover the following topics; navigation (including night navigation), group management, group equipment, personal equipment, planning, risk assessment process, weather, emergency procedures, crossing water hazards, steep ground use of confidence ropes and equipment.

Competency in all is required for successful recommendation for a permit. Each day will be a mixture of the instructor exploring what the candidate is already capable of and of providing initial training of best practice where required. Two instructors will be available throughout the weekend to help tailor training to candidates' requirements.

We will be staying in a Bunkhouse both nights. Accommodation, transport and all meals included in the cost.

If you are interested, please contact Glenn Hemsley glos.ma.team@gmail.com

Army reservist becomes 10th Briton to scale K2



Jake Meyer (Patron of Meyer ESU, Cotswold Vale) has made it to the summit of K2 - fantastic achievement.

John Thomson, ESL

Don't gossip about butter knives — you know how these things spread.

Croft Farm Water Weekend - 15th-16th September



12 Leaders,
27 Scouts,
26 Explorers
65 participants,
plus 25 Coach/
Helpers from all
Districts.

Tracy Lashford with 1st Royal Forest Wednesday Scouts litter-picking at Cannop Ponds in September

We were all surprised at the amount of litter we found, including three nappies.

Last week we enjoyed a visit from the trash converter and a litter-pick around Beaver Lodge.



Stroud and Tetbury District Watersports Day, Fairford, 22/9/2018

Thanks to Leaders from District and County, plus Bob's Dinosaurs, for all your help.

Theresa Mansbridge, Stroud & Tetbury ADC Activities



Rafting



Canoeing



Kayaking

Boat-making with Tetbury Leaders



Rained all day, but no matter. Great enjoyment by all. Fabulous seeing Districts working together with our young people.

Shelley Wright County Water Assessor/Advisor

Eastcombe Scouts sleep in Cardboard for Foodbank

(from Stroud News & Journal, 20 June 2018)



Scouts from Eastcombe slept overnight in cardboard boxes to give them insight into the life of those less fortunate whilst raising money for charity.

With just sleeping bags and a heap of spare boxes from their Leader's recent house move, Eastcombe Scouts weathered the elements overnight in their 'cardboard city', their efforts earning £350.



They watched a film before settling into bed at 11pm and, after withstanding a light drizzle, woke up at 6.30am.

"We wanted them – excuse the pun – to think outside the box and to open their eyes to those struggling in our community," explained Scout Leader Tigz O'Malley.

"They didn't find the night's sleep too bad, but all were glad for their own beds the following night!"

Funds raised will be split between the Troop and Stroud District Foodbank.

"Their efforts are absolutely fantastic," said foodbank manager Sue Beattie, who recently paid the Scouts a visit to explain her charity's work.

Tigz thanked Assistant Scout Leaders Ben Crane, Dan Powell and Guy O'Malley, as well as Section Assistant Jon Chiene, for their help.

Communicator Badge & Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI) Weekend:

Saturday 20th/Sunday 21st October, Cranham.

Option 3 of the Communicator Activity Badge. Learn about computers and the Internet with practical activities, make contact with Scouts from around the world on JOTI and develop important IT skills. Accommodation is indoors and catering is provided. There are only 20 spaces for this course. £40.

Read what we did last time: <https://gscouts.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=1bedfe0afe8ba618b8c1c2e8f&id=1d1119954d&e=7ab86b5573>

Climbing Course

Wednesday 24th & Thursday 25th October

Mid-week course at the Warehouse Climbing Centre in Gloucester: Climbing & bouldering using the extensive facilities and fully qualified instructors. Scouts gain the Climber badge. Explorers gain the Explorer Climber badge. All climbing equipment provided. Non-residential. £50.

Paddy Langham

Gloucestershire Scouts Badge Course Coordinator

Visit our website;

<https://gscouts.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=1bedfe0afe8ba618b8c1c2e8f&id=afd4fefbe9&e=7ab86b5573>

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Gloucestershire Scouts
Cranham Scout Centre,
Cranham GL4 8HP

You can't have everything — where would you put it?

A Short History of the Explorer Badge

(Due to an editorial error, this article was only partially included in the July edition of **gscouts** magazine. It will read better, if the first part is repeated.)

My first involvement with the Explorer Badge was in 1989, when Bryan Wright, Warden at Chalfont Heights, invited me to take over from David Hollier, who had run the course for several years previously. We inherited a very young Paul Huntley, who had helped David on previous courses.

Right from the start, Neil Roberts was involved, along with other Leaders from Middlesex. The course followed a similar format to that we still use. The first weekend was held at Chalfont Heights, with the Scouts sleeping in a bunkhouse or camping out. We used the old Rowallan, Maclean or even the Gladstone buildings. Catering was provided by Fred Webb, who always ended up with Scouts in the kitchen helping. During the first weekend, the Scouts all went out on a compass exercise taking them to the other side of the M25. They did this just using compasses and measured distances, no maps. They were also sent out to complete a survey of a local village. Denham, Gerrard's Cross and Chalfont St Peter were all used. They then needed to complete a project and display their findings. If there was an adult training course at Chalfont they would be invited to come and view the results.



Early Explorer Badge at Cranham.

Neil Roberts & Geoff Broadis (Warden before Ken Clapton) in background.

The second weekend had previously been held at Cranham and we continue to do so. This worked very well with Neil moving to Cheltenham. The course assembled at Chalfont and then travelled to Gloucestershire in one of the Feltham District coaches. The Friday night was

spent at the St. Mark's (now the District) HQ in St Mark's. Later courses moved to the Cheltenham District campsite at Ullenwood and Shurdington Social Centre before going to Eastcombe.

On Saturday morning patrols of four to eight Scouts were dropped off at their start points to the east of Cranham, mostly along the Cirencester/Charlton Kings road. Each patrol was named a colour: red, green, blue, yellow, white, orange or brown. In recent years they all wore a necker of their patrol colour – it makes it easier to identify them.

They then hiked to Cranham, with the Leaders check-pointing them at various points along their routes. Early courses were sometimes run in October and if patrols were slow or got lost they were losing daylight before reaching Cranham. The sight of Phil Hallett escorting them down the road into Cranham with yellow hazard lights flashing was very impressive! Once the Scouts had pitched camp and cooked their evening meal, the Leaders retired to the Black Horse for a meal. The pub was most helpful and continued catering for us, often past their normal time. For many years however, we have settled on running the weekends in the spring.

In later years with younger Scouts, and after a year when we were only fed at 10.30 at night, we decided to cater for ourselves on site. In the early years, we pitched a mess tent and camped but more recently we make use of the cabins at Cranham.

On Sunday the Scouts left Cranham and headed east, usually ending in the car park of the Green Dragon at Cowley. The first year we had gone west and ended at Wycliffe College but this was not repeated, as we needed to use a second map. The sight of Paul Huntley polishing his Land Rover in the grounds of the school was notable! Later courses ended at Deer Park Cowley Guide Camp or Upton St. Leonard's.



Green patrol completing their Bronze/Platinum hike at Cowley in 2017

After the first year Neil had asked if he could bring Scouts from Cheltenham on the course and we were joined by Scouts from St. Mark's and Bethesda Troops. The following year he asked if he could bring two Leaders as well: Chris and Phil. But that's another story! They were both an asset to the team. We were soon joined by other Leaders from Cheltenham such as Brendan Molony.

For many years Neil ran the courses but more recently has married and become a Dad and has had to hand over much of the running to Phil Hallett and Chris Langham.

Over the years the balance slowly moved away from Middlesex to Gloucestershire, particularly when I married Chris and moved to Cheltenham. In the end it was clear that we should move entirely to Gloucestershire. Other changes were also made. This was the time the new programme was launched and we found that the Explorer Badge had been dropped, probably because it sounded too much like a badge for the new Explorer section.

These factors resulted in several important changes to the course: we needed a new home for the first weekend and started with Leonard Stanley Scout HQ. Over the years we have also used Leckhampton and Prestbury, before finally settling (for the time being) on Eastcombe Scout HQ. One year we used Penn Wood Scout Camp but suffered from very strong winds.

Another big change was in the age ranges, with Scouts moving up to Explorers a year earlier. We could no longer run the Explorer Badge, so ran the Expedition Challenge course for Scouts and invited Explorers to join us for their Chief Scout's Platinum hike.

The Scout course was made easier with a shorter hike and just carrying day kit. The Explorers still did a longer hike with full kit. The DofE Bronze hike was soon incorporated as well.

Although the course is now run by Gloucestershire, we have always been joined by Scouts from Middlesex, mostly from the Stanmore and Kenton Districts. We even have Scouts from Eastleigh in Hampshire joining us. This is as a result of Leaders such as Phil Hallett and Paul Huntley still being involved in the team.

It's hard to say just how many young people we have seen on these courses. Our numbers are usually between thirty and forty. That means we have had well over a thousand boys and girls attending. Hopefully the Expedition Weekends, as we now call them, will continue for many more years.



Paddy Langham

Definition of a friend:

Someone who says nice things about you when you're not around.

Scouting in Italy

The first attempt at founding a Scout movement in Italy was in 1910, when Troops of the *Ragazzi Esploratori Italiani* were formed in the Tuscan cities of Lucca, Pisa and Florence, but these were disbanded in 1914. Meanwhile the *Corpo Nazionale Giovani Esploratori ed Esploratrici Italiani* (CNGEI) had been founded in 1912 and this date is usually listed as the birthdate of Scouting in Italy. The CNGEI is now the second largest association with 12,000 members.



In 1916 the *Associazione Scouts Cattolici Italiani* (ASCI) was launched but the *Associazione Guide Italiane* (AGI) was not founded until 1943. These last were merged in 1974 to form the *Associazione Guides e Scouts Cattolici Italiani* (AGESCI), currently numbering 177,000.



Some ASCI and AGI Leaders, who had disagreed with the merger (and, above all, opposed the principle of coeducation) refused to join AGESCI and formed the *Scouts d'Europa*, which presently have 20,000 members.

Italy was a founding member of the World Organisation of the Scout Movement but was suspended during the Fascist regime. It was readmitted in 1946. Although AGESCI and CNGEI are associated within the Italian Scout Federation (FIS), they operate as separate entities.



There are twelve other small associations active in Italy, including the *Sudtiroler Pfadfinderschaft* (SP) and the *Slovenska Zamejska Skavtska Organizacija* (SZSO), the *Federscout* and



Assoraider, *British Scouts Western Europe* and even *Huong Dao Vietnam*.

John Morton

Italian Scouts in
Egypt (long extinct)



Italian Scouts
in Somalia
(long extinct)



My early Scouting Career



I joined the Wolf Cubs in Guildford, Surrey, during the Second World War. Our Cubmaster was a young lady whose fiancé was serving in the Army somewhere overseas and she had not heard from him for some time. I earned my National Service badge doing the washing up in an army canteen, where tea was 1d (less than ½p!) and coffee was 2d. We spent an evening a week doing this and about every six weeks were given a Mars bar, a great treat, as, of course, sweets were severely rationed.



When the war ended we moved to Hatch End, a suburb of north-west London just beyond Harrow. I cannot express how lucky I was to be able to join the Scout Group associated with my new school. Our Scoutmaster was the Headmaster of the school and spent nearly every summer weekend camping at Chalfont Heights. He had the brilliant idea of making each Patrol Leader and Second members of an extra, privileged patrol called the Owls and directed special attention to helping us through our Progress badges. We could camp in adjacent sites and have extra tuition in practical Scouting. In winter months he would take us in his car (not widely owned at that time) bird-watching at Tring Reservoir. There was never the slightest suggestion of any impropriety involved in this special treatment, of which we seem to have to be wary these days.

When I first learned about map reading, the variation where I lived was about 11°W. The magnetic pole has moved so much since that it is now about 2½° W. Some years ago the designation of Heathrow's westerly runways needed to be changed from 28 to the present 27 and not far into the future will have to be changed again to 26 (runways are designated by their magnetic headings to the nearest ten degrees).

One Sunday evening, our SM and the County Commissioner (who was "something in the City"), having been camping at Chalfont, decided to stop for dinner on the way home at a rather snooty restaurant in Ruislip. They were, of course, in Scout uniform. The *maître d'* looked down his nose and said "You can't come in here dressed like that!" My SM replied "If it's good enough for Buckingham Palace, it's good enough for your suburban snobshop! Good night!"

In 1948 the Olympic Games were hosted by London and held at Wembley. These were known as the Austerity Games, because of the devastation caused by the war and continuing rationing of food and clothing. The opening ceremony was a far simpler affair than those of recent games. The banners identifying each country's athletes in the march-past were carried

by Scouts, in lemon-squeezer hats and shorts of course. Young Scouts, of which I was one, sat all round the stadium on the grass verges of the track. At the appropriate moment we released 7000 pigeons to fly out to tell the world that the Olympic Games were open. You can see this on the Internet (YouTube) — look for London 1948 Olympic Games — Olympic Flame and Opening Ceremony.

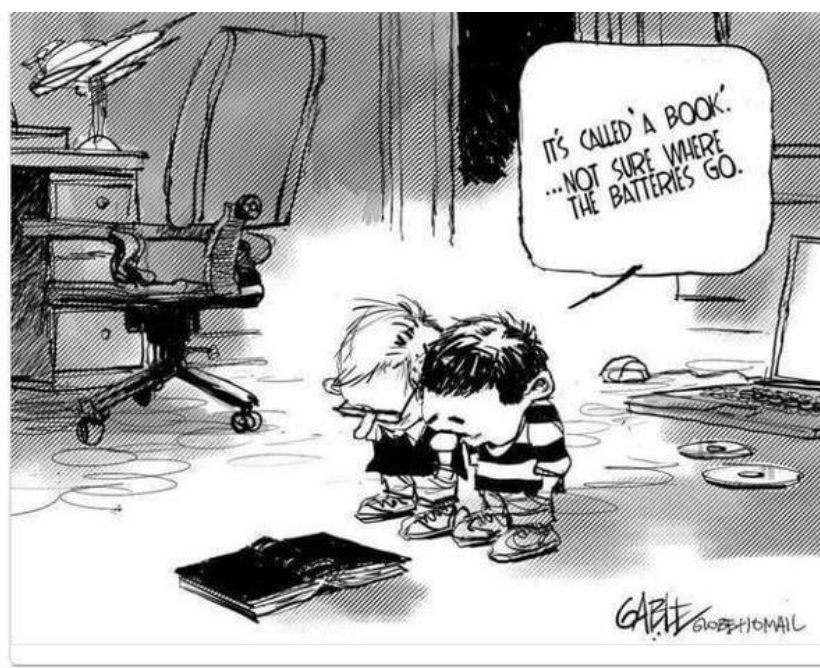
Our SM had a handful of summer campsites he could call on in different parts of the country — Yorkshire Moors, North Wales, Devon, so having once found them, he didn't have to search for somewhere new every year. By rotating these, any Scout never went to the same one during his years in the section.

As Senior Scouts, he took us hiking down the Loire Valley from Orléans to Tours, going ahead of us in his car to establish a camp site each evening, usually from landowners he had befriended before the war. We visited, among many other places, the chateaux of Chambord and Chenonceau and met a Troop of French Scouts. I corresponded with their Leader for many years afterwards, which was good for my schoolboy French, as he didn't speak a word of English!

I do appreciate that few Leaders these days have the time and opportunity to put so much into Scouting as our SM. He was one of only two people I have met in my life who devoted their lives totally to other people and I owe him a great deal. The other was a Dutch monk who worked amongst the natives in Lilongwe, Malawi, and was running a Scout Troop there (Scouting was not approved by the Government at the time!). I came across him through my hobby of collecting Scout badges.

My Scouting background was a major factor in my being selected for the training I wanted during my National Service, which led to a really rewarding career.

John Morton



IF

(with apologies to Rudyard Kipling)

If you can light a fire with soggy matches
While standing in a steady stream of rain,
And see it fizzle out before it catches,
And hold your tongue, and light the thing again;
If you can fix a brew for ail your friends,
When they are in their blankets, warm and dry,
And rather you get wet than ail the others,
And laugh when you are tired enough to cry;
If you can tie a knot that never fails you.
And trust it, if the worst comes to the worst,
To save your life when nothing else awaits you,
But put the other fellow's safety first;
If you can give first aid to those who need it,
And treat for shock when you are shaken too,
And though you suffer badly, never heed it,
Until you've done the best that you can do.
If you can go on working when you're weary,
And go on singing till your throat is dry;
If you can meet with sadness, and be cheery,
And when you fail, just have another try;
If you can trust your friends and those about you,
And yet forgive them if they should forget,
And though the whole world sometimes seems to doubt you,
Be loyal to the task which you are set;
If you don't put yourself before the others,
And never your Patrol before your Troop;
If you salute all races as your Friends,
In one united, universal group;
If you can see the aim, and help to win it,
And never falter till the job is done:
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And - what is more - you'll be a Scout, my son!

(Author unknown)

The Scout Hymn

Now as I start upon my chosen way,
In all I do, my thoughts, my work, my play;
Grant as I Promise, Courage, Lord for me
To be the best, the Best that I can be.

Help me to keep my Honour shining bright
May I be loyal in the hardest fight;
Let me be able for my task and then
To earn a place among my fellow men.

Open mine eyes to see things as I should,
That I may do my daily turn of good.
Let me be ready, waiting for each need
To keep me clean in thought and word and deed.

So as I journey on my chosen way,
In all I do, my thoughts, my work, my play,
Grant as I Promise, Courage, Lord for me
To be the best, the Best that I can be.

W. H. Ralph Reader



A vibrant poster for the Churchdown Gang Show 2018. The background features a stage with red curtains, silhouettes of performers with their arms raised, and floating musical notes. A red circular logo with the word 'CHURCHDOWN' and a stylized 'gg' is in the upper center. The main title 'Churchdown 2018 GANG SHOW' is written in a large, bold, white font with a yellow outline, slanted upwards. Below it, the dates 'OCTOBER 24-27' are also in a large, bold, white font with a yellow outline. To the right, a yellow star contains the text 'Family Ticket: £24' and '£1 Discount for Scouts & Guides'. At the bottom left, the venue 'Chosen Hill School 7:15pm' and box office information 'BOX OFFICE: 01452 531180' and '£8 adults £6 children/seniors' are listed. Social media icons for Twitter, Facebook, and Scouts are at the bottom center, and the Girlguiding logo is at the bottom right.

CHURCHDOWN

Churchdown 2018
GANG SHOW
OCTOBER 24-27

Family Ticket: £24
£1 Discount for
Scouts &
Guides

Chosen Hill School 7:15pm
BOX OFFICE: 01452 531180
£8 adults £6 children/seniors

 WE DISCOVER, WE GROW
Girlguiding



INTERNATIONAL UPDATE - IT'S MORE THAN JUST CAMPING ABROAD!

Welcome to what I hope will be a regular feature in the magazine, aiming to highlight activities and resources that can bring the Global aspects of Scouting into your regular programmes. As a bonus, this can help your young people to achieve their Top Awards, through the Global Challenge and other International based badges.

On the next page is a poster of a young person's awareness of the Global issues and International Opportunities that Scouting can provide. The original is available at

<https://scouts.org.uk/media/886148/Your-Global-Programme-timeline-interactive.pdf>

One of my aims as ACC International Programme is for all our members, from Beavers to Network, to be like Maya in knowing about the global nature of Scouting, taking up the opportunities that provides and being proud to be part of the world's biggest co-educational voluntary youth movement.



Global Programme

covers issues such as Recycling, Fair Trade, Endangered Animals, Disaster Relief, Sporting Events, Health Issues (Malaria, water supply), and the concept of the world as a Global Village, where we all work together to improve everyone's lives.

The **Global Challenge Awards** are a good way to introduce these ideas to your section, the badge requirements for these have just been revised (September 2018), and there is now a lot more support material online, making it easier for you to include these badges in your regular programmes.

This link <https://members.scouts.org.uk/supportresources/search/?cat=52,207>

gives links to all the new resources. These ready-made programme ideas range from Beavers making animal masks while talking about endangered species to Scouts learning how to prevent the spread of Ebola.

International trips

We still want you to actually meet Scouts from other countries, so if you are considering a Visit Abroad, your International team are here to help. Ben and I are here to support you through your visit abroad process, ensuring you have everything in place and making sure it gets approved by the relevant Commissioner. We can also notify Scouts in your host country that you'll be arriving and issue you with a letter of introduction.

Contact us on acc.international@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk



International Opportunities (you can also look on scouts.org.uk for new events)

Haarlem Jamborette 2019 – there are still spaces for individual Scouts and Explorers from Gloucestershire to take part in this exciting trip to an International camp in Holland.

Contact glos.haarlem@outlook.com for more information.

Other events in 2019

25th Australian Scout Jamboree - Tailem Bend, Australia 4 – 14 January 2019

Charnwood 2019 - Leicestershire, England 27 July – 3 August 20

CAMJam 2019 - Cambridgeshire, England 27 July – 3 August 2019

If you have any questions about International trips, or how to include the Global Programme in your everyday Scouting, please ask:

Chris Langham ACC international (Global Programme),

Ben Klinkenberg, ACC International Adventure

Contact us both on acc.international@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk

Meet Maya!
See how the Global Programme helps young people like Maya discover the world as they grow up through the Scouting sections.

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gscouts

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