



## News and Views for Scouting in Gloucestershire

### January 2019



1st Hardwicke Group on Remembrance Day





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1.00 pm-4.00 pm      01452 812309

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[info.centre@scouts.org.uk](mailto:info.centre@scouts.org.uk)

Monday to Friday 8.00 am—7.00 pm

0345 300 1818

Saturday 9.00 am –12 noon

020 8433 7100

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

I trust all of you had a peaceful Christmas. Spare a thought for the people of Sumatra and Java whose lives, their homes, their livelihoods and all their possessions were destroyed by the tsunami which overwhelmed them following the eruption of Anak Krakatoa. The volcano, which was 1100 feet high, lost 60% of its north-east flank and is now only some 325 feet above the sea. An estimated 150 to 180 million tons of material collapsed into the surrounding sea. You can escape from bad weather but not from an erupting volcano nor a tsunami!

We start a new year of Scouting with an exciting programme of County events. Featured in this edition are numerous opportunities for badge courses arranged by Paddy Langham. Don't forget that Leaders can attend these courses as well as Scouts and Explorers.

My copy dates for future editions will be 8th April, 8th July and 7th October. It is a great help if I receive articles and photographs as early as possible, so that I can plan the layout of the magazine.

## New Facebook Group

Happy New Year! To get things off to a cracking start we have created a new Facebook Group for all Activities across Gloucestershire Scouts. Comments from our membership as far back as the 2017 AGM repeatedly said Leaders wanted one place to go to get info, ask advice and see what was going on - well we listened and here it is!

Link (depending on your email client either click on the link or copy and paste it in to your browser): [https://www.facebook.com/groups/406415906563322/?hc\\_location=group](https://www.facebook.com/groups/406415906563322/?hc_location=group)

Or search Facebook for "Gloucestershire County Scouts - Activities" **See P.24.**

Important changes have been made to the requirements detailed in POR regarding First Aid coverage for Groups undertaking adventurous activities. **See P.23.**

YIS,

Adam Griffiths & Ron Shell (ACC Activities).

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According to *2,024 QI Facts* Palmerston Atoll in the South Pacific has a population of 60,  
all of whom speak with a Gloucestershire accent.

## From the CC:

### 2019 – A year of progress

We hope you all had a fantastic Christmas and New Year Period. For some you may have had the opportunity to take a short break from Scouting, for some, less of a chance to do so with planning and coordinating this term's programme.

It is the start of a new calendar year, and you will all be getting back into the running of Sections, Groups, Units and Districts.

In September 2017, I launched our Vision for 2020 and I am really proud of the progress that we have made so far. In 2018 we worked hard as a team to grow and make sure we have all the roles filled to be able to support all areas. 2019 is going to be the year of delivery and to support this there are three key workstreams that have been formed to start making sure we make real progress against our aims.

These workstreams are:

**Youth Involvement** – Growing the opportunities for Young People to shape Scouting through Sections, Groups, Units, Districts and the County. The team supporting this are our Deputy County Youth Commissioners; Kat Holter and Callum Johnston, Chris Lodwig (DC -Tewkesbury and Lauren Greening (DCC – Perception).

**Amazing Adults** – Going everything we can to recruit more adults, give adults the best start, the best training and best support that we can. This team is being led by Tony Dale (DC at North Cotswold) and Liz Hodge (DCC – Projects).

**Inspiring Programmes** – Helping all sections deliver high quality and engaging programmes that help Young People develop more Skills for life and achieve their Top Awards. This team is being headed up by Steve Jackson (DC at Stroud & Tetbury) and Chris Meadows (DCC – Programme)

All three workstreams will be looking to support us as a County, deliver more of our Vision for 2020 and create practical, useful and accessible tools and resources that enable all of us to do more and be more.

If you want to get involved, the teams are looking for support, please do get in contact.

## Census

It is nearly that time of year again when we complete Census. You will have received your usernames and passwords in order to input your Census data. The data is counted as at the **31<sup>st</sup> January 2019**. We had a really successful year last year in regards to getting Census complete in time, for which I thank everyone's efforts. I look forward to seeing the progress we have made this year.

This year, we would really appreciate if Group and Unit returns could be completed by 14<sup>th</sup> February. So that we can complete any enquiries and submit District and the County returns by 28<sup>th</sup> February.

Remember:

**Every young person who is involved in Scouting MUST be counted.** There is no period that they are not a member from the time that they join until they leave Scouting altogether. So for example, when transitioning from Beavers to Cubs or Cubs to Scouts or from Scouts to Explorers, they do not leave the

movement and therefore must be counted.

**Waiting lists** – only count those who are of the correct age to join the section

**Young Leaders** – Make sure these get recorded in your section Census where supporting.

Please make sure that you complete all information – we are going to use the data you input on the **meeting day** and **meeting place postcode** to help us refresh the Gloucestershire Scouts website during 2019. This also helps new members find your groups more easily.

*If your meeting place does not have a postcode, please use the nearest location that does.*

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## Farriers Challenge – Cub Challenge Hike

Saturday 9th March 2019  
Cranham Scout Centre

The highly successful Farriers Challenge that is held in Stroud & Tetbury District every year is being taken on tour in Spring 2019 by the Gloucestershire World Scout Jamboree Unit.



The Farriers Challenge is a fun and challenging hike for Cubs. The three-mile route takes teams into the woods and area surrounding the Cranham Scout Centre along the way there are various challenges and activities for teams to take part in. Working together as a team and demonstrating great Scouting Skills earns points and the team with the highest points will be declared the Farriers Challenge Champion.

Teams of 3 - 6 Cubs must be accompanied by a leader/adult. All adults must have Scout Association DBS clearance.

The cost of the event is just £10 per Cub and includes all activities, refreshments and The Farriers Challenge Limited Edition Badge. Accompanying Leaders/Adults do not pay.

To find out more and register your team visit:

[www.glosjam.org.uk/farriers](http://www.glosjam.org.uk/farriers)

If you have questions email us at [farrierschallenge@glosjam.org.uk](mailto:farrierschallenge@glosjam.org.uk)

We'd love to see Cubs from all over the County take part and hope you can make it.

## Cotswold Marathon

**9th February.** A challenging winter night hike. A test of TEAMWORK, ENDURANCE and ORIENTEERING in the dark!

Click [HERE](#) for details.



## Shooting in Gloucestershire

When I started in the post of County Shooting Advisor five years ago, shooting in Gloucestershire was a very fragmented and insular activity. Some troops and units shot, some didn't. If they did, it was generally as a fun taster session activity with no formal coaching.

After forty-five years of involvement in shooting in many but not all its forms, I wanted to bring the enjoyment, companionship and self-improvement to the young people in Scouting. Having no information as to who shot, who and where the instructors were, let alone what facilities were available, the first two years were frustrating to say the least. Over time, a network of contacts grew and I was able to start to gauge the state of play. Wherever I went, the story was the same, the Young People loved it, and they wanted to do more of it but Leaders found it difficult to organise as a structured activity.

**How to move on?** Gloucestershire is a strange county, Cheltenham and Gloucester are one urban county. The Forest is another county (if not another country) being the other side of the water. And the east of the county seems it doesn't exist as far as the others are concerned. I exaggerate but I'm sure you get my meaning. The county is geographically too big to centralise development and I felt that I had to form what I called 'Centres of Excellence', but how?

I found that the Forest of Dean, being such a rural area, were already mostly shooting on a regular basis. I then got the opportunity to help them build a mobile range.

At much the same time I found that money had been put aside to fund activities in the Cheltenham District. With the significant help of Ron Shell, our ACC Activities and former shooting man, with his extensive network of contacts both local and nationally in the sport, I then put together a successful proposal, with costings following our joint research, to set up a Specialist activity unit, PiPs Lamas, for shooting, much the same as Octopus specialises in SCUBA.

You will appreciate that many things were happening at the same time and interest was growing.

Stroud and Tetbury had been forced to stop shooting when their range was closed, as it had no fire exit. Using the research that Ron and I had done to make a dismountable and transportable low cost target stand and backstop, they are now able to restart.

At the same time plans to improve the facilities at Cranham were coming together and now are completed. But there are still plans for further improvements to bring it up to a place to be proud of that could hold even regional events.

By now the frustration of the early days was turning into hard work as the snowball of interest was gaining momentum.

**How to keep it going?** Instructors from all over the County needed to start to talk to each other, so, supported by our new Scout Centre management team, I arranged an 'Instructors' Forum' at Cranham, to display the new improvements, where we discussed how County- wide shooting should develop.

Following that, I set up a closed Facebook page for YPS instructors and announced the PiPs Lamas First Annual Open Invitation Competition based around District teams for Scouts and Explorers. This was a cunning plan just to get the District units doing a joint activity, as we couldn't cope with the number of entrants, if it was completely open to all-comers. I am pleased to say that the final of this was held in Cheltenham on January 6th.

Tewksbury won the Explorer competition and Gloucester won the Scout competition. The highest score was 86. The two top-scoring Scouts were both girls. I was particularly pleased to have short notice competitors from North Cotswold, at the moment a 'non-shooting District' that made a scratch team with the help of Cheltenham District.



If Cirencester and North Cotswold feel left out, beware. My sights are on you to bring you into the fold soon...

Now you could read this as someone 'blowing their own trumpet'. It's not. It's how one of your County activity advisors is trying to promote the sport they are extremely passionate about. We have all spent time enjoying something and want to pass that on to the next generation.

The problem is my sport is one of the most misunderstood. It's the safest sport in the country if not the world, more Footballers are injured on any one Saturday afternoon than in a year of Target shooting. It is a martial art just like Archery or Judo, but not a dynamic sport it's suited to those that are less active. An Olympic sport that shows no bias as to gender, age or disability. Even the blind can shoot.

All who take part, follow the very strict safety rules. To some young people this can be the first time strict discipline is imposed on them, it becomes something they trust to give stability in their lives. Like all Martial arts, taught correctly it promotes self-discipline and fine muscle control and concentration to the point that outside worries must be forgotten which can relieve stress.

In my own case, during long periods of ill health the weekly visit to the Rifle club even when I couldn't shoot, gave me the social comradeship that helped my recovery.

Bring Shooting into your program. Not suited to the youngest of our members as they may not be sufficiently developed – but for Scouts and older, it calms things down from what can be, the riotous behaviour of Dodge Ball and is a tool that promotes all the things that Scouting promotes.

If you want to know more or have any questions about Shooting in Scouting please contact me [shooting@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk](mailto:shooting@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk)

**Neil Hatton – County Shooting Advisor**



We are excited to announce:

2019 Bookings are open! You can now make your booking for 2019 at [s-e.org.uk/booking](https://s-e.org.uk/booking).

We've made a few changes to the process for 2019 and summarised these below for you.

- **2019 Information**

User accounts have been maintained from previous years - upon logging in all you need to do is add a new event

Prices before 30th April 2019 - Participant £50, Leader £20, YL (Strategy Only) £20, Child £10.

Prices will go up by £5 per person after the 30th April 2019

- **2019 Changes**

- To benefit from the lower price, full payment for bookings needs to be received before the 30th April. After that, all bookings will automatically have the prices increased to the higher rate. This allows us to plan better, and gives us more confidence in the numbers that have booked.

Following feedback the pricing structure has been reviewed. Participant prices have increased slightly, allowing for a reduction for Leaders and accompanying children. This recognises that both events are for the participants and that without the Leaders help we couldn't do anywhere near as much as we do. Book now.

**Book Now**

## St Georges Day Awards.

It is with my great pleasure that I am able to announce the recognition of three of our Amazing Adults in the 2019 St. Georges Day Awards Roll of Honour.

My thanks for many years of dedicated service goes to:

**Ricky Campbell** (ADC Scouts – North Cotswold District)

who has been awarded **the Bar to the Silver Acorn** for his exemplary service to Scouting for over 40 years. We were very lucky when Ricky decided that he wanted to move to the area from South London almost two years ago. Since then he has been an inspiration to those who he supports across North Cotswold District with his easy-going, fun-loving and smiling attitude.

Congratulations and Thanks, Ricky, for all of your service.

**Carol O'Donnell** (DC – Cotswold Vale) has been awarded the **Silver Acorn** for her outstanding service to Scouting for nearly 40 years (She doesn't look old enough!). Carole has undertaken many different roles over the years, but it is in her role as DC that I had so many requests to ensure she is recognised. Not satisfied with being a DC for one district, in 2014 she agreed to support a second district for almost three years too!

Congratulations and Thanks, Carole, for all of your service.

**Stephen Lake** (Chairman – County Executive Committee) has been awarded the **Silver Acorn** for his outstanding service to Scouting for over 35 years. In that time Stephen has been a section Leader for every section, Group Scout Leader, a member of the HQ Executive Committee and more recently the Chair of our County Executive Committee. Stephen has been a huge support to the Executive and to me personally. As many of you will know, his style of chairing an AGM is unique, getting through business in a professional manner, whilst having a chuckle along the way.

Congratulations and Thanks, Stephen, for all of your service.

**Thank you all three of you and Congratulations!**

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St. George is the Patron Saint of the following countries:

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, England, Georgia, Greece, the Republic of Macedonia, Portugal, Romania and Serbia.





## Poppy Badge



Thank you for participating in this year's Gloucestershire Poppy badge project. As a result, we have distributed nearly 1,500 poppy badges. All profits from the sale of the badges will be donated to the Royal British Legion – we will let you know the total in the near future.

We would like to put together a display and report about the project. We'd appreciate further information about what you did as part of your fundraising efforts and, if possible, how much you raised.

Photographs would be much appreciated.

Many thanks in anticipation.

**Liz Hodge, DCC Projects and Louise Little, County Administrator**



Throughout the length and breadth of Scouting Gloucestershire, Colonies, Packs, Troops and even Units have been earning their Poppy Badge.

Between collecting, crafting and Remembrance Day attendances, it seems to be our biggest event of any year.

At the last minute our Unit has sent Leaders and Explorers to the Cheltenham Town Hall event this Sunday to represent our District.

Many will be part of the parade on the morning or at the many other services in Churches.

Shelley Wright





These “phantoms”, the work of local artist, Jackie Lantelli, stood in front of the grave of every one of the fallen in Slimbridge churchyard





Remembrance Day, Bishop's Cleeve



1st Cam

## Halloween



1st Nailsworth & Forest Green Scouts,  
1st Cam Cubs and Beavers have fun .

Slimbridge Beavers too.



Farriers, Hardwicke Group ,  
Stomp





## 2018 was another fully booked year

as, despite a threateningly wet weekend, over 500 Scouts and their Leaders from all corners of Hereford & Worcester and Gloucestershire descended on Rhydd Covert Campsite for our Annual **Operation Bald Eagle Scout Camp**.

During Friday evening, Scouts arrived and raced to find and complete the challenge for the **Friday Night Trophy**.

Early Saturday morning saw 60 leaders putting the final touches to 30 bases, ready for the **Day Base Challenge**. A quick flag-break, then the 500 Scouts set out to visit as many bases as possible. The weather proved kind, with only leaky pipes and water pistols getting the Scouts wet!

A quick break for a meal, then the biggest challenge for the organisers – getting all the Scouts and Leaders to the correct starting point for the circular **Night Incident Hike**. A couple of coaches and a lot of communication saw all the teams and base staff in place, all ready to start at the same time.

Night bases included the ever popular Wall, provided and run as ever by Smurf and his team from North Cotswold.

Midnight, and it's 'times up!' for the Night Challenge, and a ride back in the coaches for those not in the site area. Then it rained! ... and continued all night!

Sunday morning, and after a much needed lie-in, campsites were packed away in time for flag down and the last excitement of the weekend – who had won the trophies?

**Chris Langham**, on behalf of the OBE organising team

2018's overall winners were 9th Kidderminster, with Gloucestershire Troops Amberley, Minchinhampton, Sevenhampton, Slimbridge, Selsley, Swindon Village and 41<sup>st</sup> Cheltenham all being awarded certificates for winning individual challenges



**Don't miss out next year!**  
**Bookings open on 1<sup>st</sup> June**

**2019 Dates** 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> October

Cost £25 Scouts, Leaders free if helping.

## Explorer and Network Ball 2018

On Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December, Explorer Scouts and Network members from all Districts across the County made their way to Wheatpieces Community Centre in Tewkesbury to join in an evening of dancing, singing and festive fun! There were impressive outfits all round and it was great to see old friends re-unite and new friendships form. Formal dress and photographs proved very popular, as did the annual visit from Santa, who gave each individual a badge for the event.

Thank you to all of those who attended the event as well as those adult volunteers who made the event run smoothly! Special thanks to Ashley Freeman for DJ-ing, Emma Spiller for the food, Mark Spiller for MC-ing and providing general entertainment and to Kat Turner and Alex Bingle who headed up the organising team for the ball.



Research has already begun ahead of this year's ball, so keep your eyes peeled!

If anyone (young people and adults alike) would like to be involved in this year's ball, or have any ideas for venues etc, please email [ball@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk](mailto:ball@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk).

Lauren Greening

On behalf of the ball team

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## Badge Course News

Leaders: Please pass on this newsletter to your Scouts.

Parents: Please pass on this newsletter to other Scouts.

\*For the following courses use this [application form](#)



**NEW \*Badge Weekend 8<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> March Cranham** indoors, catering provided.

Choose **ONE** badge:

### 1. Geocaching Badge: £40

- Use GPS and learn about this exciting new sport:
- Complete a hike using a Map and GPS
- Find and solve the clues found in a night-time “glow stick” multi-cache
- Locate two local geocaches from geocaching.com
- Create geocaches for each other to find. Set off this year’s Scout Geocoin.



### 2. Electronics Badge: £45

- Create clever systems and circuits that support our modern lives
- Make three working projects
- Gain an insight into a fascinating hobby and career!
- Learn how to solder safely

It is very exciting when the buzzer sounds and LEDs flash in circuits that you build.



**3. Naturalist:** We rely on the natural world for our very survival. This badge will demonstrate your impact and role in preserving it. **£40.**

Learn about man's impact on the environment

- Walk around the area and choose where they would be surveying, Cranham has a good choice of areas, with grassland, woods and a river among the choices
- Use a bat detector to pick up on the bats

Investigate how the river is being used as a water resource.

Read [HERE](#) what we did last year.

**We are very keen on also running a Scout Mechanics Badge over this weekend. Is there anyone who would like to help with this? Please contact [Paddy](#)**



**NEW \*Cub Pioneer Badge Day: Saturday 16th March. 1st Prestbury Scout HQ, Cheltenham.** A fun day for Cubs to learn new knots and lashings and build exciting structures and gain the Cub Pioneer badge. **Just £5.**



**NEW \*Expedition Challenge Weekends (Scouts) 22<sup>nd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> March (W1) AND 5<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> April (W2) £55 covers both weekends**

**W1:** Training\*\* based at Eastcombe HQ.

**W2:** Expedition hiking with day kit and camping at Cranham.

*\*\*Training will include map reading, compass work, route planning, first aid, hike camping, cooking, kit check, Highway & County Codes, emergency procedures etc.*

**Bonus!** Your walking during both weekends will also count towards the Hikes Away and Nights Away Staged Activity Badges

**All this for just £55!** Read [HERE](#) what we did last year.



**NEW \*Climbing Course Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April** 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**

**NEW \*Survival Skills Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>/ Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May £40** Held at Miserden Park. We will be 'surviving' in an area of outstanding natural beauty. We aim to live up to the description of the badge as 'the ultimate challenge for Scouts' We are NOT based on a campsite, you will NOT be sleeping in tents (even during the training), there is NO running water, and NO flushing toilets! For these reasons, the minimum age is 12, and it is highly recommended that all applicants have camped under canvas with Scouts and had some experience of open fires before attending this weekend.

Read [HERE](#) what we did last year.

### ***SURVIVAL SKILLS COURSES***



**1. Survival Skills Badge** A challenging weekend including cooking natural food over open fires without pots and pans; building and sleeping in a bivouac; learning all about surviving in the great outdoors. Scouts must have camped under canvas with the Scout section previously. **Minimum age 12**

**2. Survival Skills (Activity +)** - For Scouts who have done our first course but are not yet 14. This is a stage between the standard Scout and Explorer badges, giving you the chance to complete a few projects during your survival exercise.

**3. Bushcraft & Survival** (more experienced) – for Explorers (or Scouts over 14) who have already done our basic survival course. Learn new survival skills, including setting up 'home' in the bush. **Minimum age 14.**



**4. Advanced Survival** (Explorer Survival Skills Badge) This time you will have reduced resources and need to take more initiative than for course 1 or 2. Participants will work with minimal equipment and will have the chance to practise previously-learned skills and gain new ones. **Minimum age 14.**

**Courses 3 and 4 can be completed in any order, as long as you have already completed course 1 and 2 and are over 14.**



**5. NABO** This is a really advanced course on which you 'survive' with just the basics. If you have already completed the advanced courses and believe you can complete this ultimate challenge, please apply, stating when you attended the courses and why

you feel you are a suitable candidate. **NB** not every applicant is accepted - the course leaders have the final decision, bearing in mind the need for safety as well as adventure.

Look at our survival skills website for lots more info: <http://scoutsurvival.co.uk/>

Show clearly which course you are applying for

We are keen to add new Leaders and Network members to our teams. Particularly for **Expedition & Survival Skills weekends**. If you feel you would like to join our teams then please contact [Paddy](#).

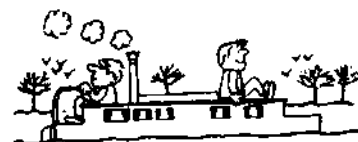
### **Narrowboat Steerers Course 2019**

**Dates: Friday 1st to Sunday 3rd March, AND Friday 15 to**

**Sunday 17 March 2019.**

**Course Fee: £185.**

This two-weekend course is for adults and will cover narrowboat steering, operation of locks, basic maintenance and safety requirements, and crew management.



The course on both weekends will start on the Friday evening from Harefield, returning there on the Sunday afternoon.

The course fee will include boat hire and food (assistance with the catering will be required), and Certification.

The boats used will be "Pisces", "Hillingdon Star", and "Merlin" run by Hillingdon Narrowboats Association - HNA.

The course should enable the candidate to reach the Technical Standard for the Scout Association Water Authorisation for canal boating, with the BHC (the Boat Handling Certificate from the National Community Boat Association, the N-CBA) and sufficient and appropriate experience.

Click [HERE](#) for full details and [application form](#).

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## Discover Scuba Diving



9th March @ 5.30pm - 6.30pm

Thinking....I want to do something different, but what? Ever tried scuba diving? Do you get enthralled watching Blue Planet and other underwater exploration programmes? Do you want to be like the teams producing these shows? You NEED to be a scuba diver!

Come along and give it a try. Our one-hour session in the safety of a swimming pool is an ideal way to decide if scuba diving is something you would like to do – and our professional instructors make sure it's a fun event too. Cost is £27, including kit hire.

Oh – and you earn the Water Sports Activities Badge too.

You can find the application form [HERE](#)

## PADI Open Water Scuba Diver Weekends

26th April - 28th April and 10th - 12th May 2019



There was a lot of enthusiasm out there for scuba diving last year. Is it the blue sea, crystal clear water, beautiful multi-coloured fish swimming happily just inches away from you? No? Well it must be the fun and sheer delight of making the leader team struggle to crow-bar you into the wet-suits. For whatever reason, this year's Open Water course in April / May is sure to be fully booked!

Our close relationship with the JCScuba Dive School means that the Octopus Scuba Explorer Unit will again be running the PADI Open Water Scuba Diver course for those Scouts and Explorer Scouts wanting to gain this lifelong qualification and embark on thrilling holiday adventures well into the future.

Our course set-up consists of two Scout weekends. Prior to the course, you will be sent the training manuals. During the first weekend, the friendly instructor team from JCScuba will then take you through a review of the manuals and also give you training time in the pool, before heading off to some Open Water dives at a local site. Weekend 2 is similar but has the added bonus (?) of two theory exams leading to the full qualification on completion of the second weekend. (Don't worry, nobody has failed the exams on our courses.....yet).

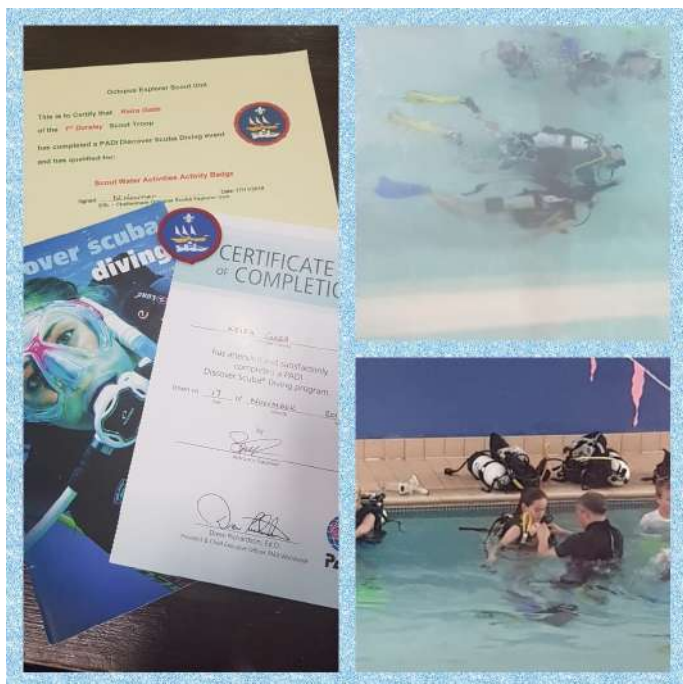
The course also has the potential to deliver various Scout activity badges and these will be agreed with Scouts and their Leaders. For Explorers, gaining the qualification is listed as one possible route for completion of the DoE Physical Activity section.

The course is residential, based at a Scout HQ in Gloucestershire over both weekends, with training manuals, PADI registration, equipment hire, accommodation, food, transport and entrance fees to the training and dive locations all included. The cost for 2019 is held at £450 for the whole course but it can be paid in instalments by arrangement with the Course Director (see booking form for contact details).

The two weekend dates are: 26 – 28 April AND 10 – 12 May, 2019

Booking Form available here: [2019 Scuba OW Application form](#)





Keira (and Tom) had a great time doing Scuba Diving with the County Scouts! There's another Taster Session in January if anyone else fancies giving it a try.

## Challenger Yacht Voyage

19th — 24th August 2019



I am excited to announce that in Summer 2019 we will take a group of Scouts sailing on a 72ft (22m) Challenger Yacht. The yachts are operated by the Tall Ships Youth Trust and the voyage is led by their experienced professional and volunteer crew. Scout Leaders will be on board to join in the fun. ***Just two places left!***

Click [HERE](#) for full details

## Eurojam 2020

For the first time in 15 years there will be a European Jamboree! The jamboree will be held between 27th July and 6th August 2020 in Gdansk, Poland. Over the last four years the Polish Scouting and Guiding Association has had a concept of “Be the Spark”, which alongside the main one is a theme of “ACT” for this jamboree.



As a County we have the opportunity to take 36 young people, four Leaders and five IST members.

Click [HERE](#) for full details and application forms.

## Development Team Assistant

The Scout Association are looking for people to join their development team. This paid role will work as part of a team to support and deliver the creation of more Scouting places in every community.

You will be a fundamental part of taking Scouting to new and under represented communities and will involve working directly with both adults and young people.

[Job Description](#) (link)

# Nights Away

## A quick guide to getting your Nights Away Permit

Chris Langham, County NAA

### We run residential experiences so Young people can:

Enjoy being outdoors  
Have fun  
Sleep in a museum  
Learn new skills  
Take responsibility  
Camp  
Build teams  
Strengthen section links  
Be more self-sufficient  
Gain confidence  
Visit new places  
Run a radio station  
Sleep with sharks  
Meet new people  
Have adventures

### #SkillsForLife

Decide what you want to do – run a sleepover in your hut, attend a fully catered camp such as Strategy, run a lightweight expedition or go all out for the full Greenfield type event

**Find someone to guide you through the process – Nights Away Advisers are ideal for this – it's part of our role to encourage and support leaders to get their permits.**

If you think you need some more experience and skills, you might want a formal training course – we try and run a Practical skills module every year. Another way to get experience is to join up with another Colony, Pack or troop and become part of their leadership team for an event.

**NAAAs can often help you make some contacts to do this.**

If you already know what you want to do, and would like to be assessed, there is a handy form for this: [napermitapplication](#)

**It is not about how much camping experience you have, it is about your current ability. In fact, you don't need to camp at all – Indoor Nights Away can meet a lot of needs.**

The NAA will then start to assess your skills against the National Standards (form AC120990) - this is not as bad as it sounds! Much of the assessment may be verbal, asking questions about how you do things and why.

**It is usual for you to organise your own residential event so the NAA can confirm you have the necessary skills to run an event in practice, not just theory. You will need to recruit an existing permit holder onto your team for this.**

After the event, complete the financial paperwork and have a discussion with the NAA on how the event went.

**The NAA will then recommend a permit on Compass but the DC/CC is responsible for issuing it.**

**Enjoy the exciting programme you can now run!**

**How to find a NAA:**  
Compass search  
Ask your GSL, DC or Training Adviser

**If you only want to run certain types of nights away, e.g. attending fully catered events, you can have a permit limited to exactly that.**



## The County Activities Team is Recruiting – are you a future Skills Instructor or Assessor?



To ensure that the number and frequency of activities taking place within Scouting in Gloucestershire continues to grow we have adopted Mark's "upside down triangle" model of roles within the County Activities Team.

**Skills Instructors:** help run sessions for the Young People as well as facilitate Adult Training sessions (including those for Permits) to enable you to run the sessions yourself..

**Assessors:** Assessors complete Permit Assessments for those Activities that require it, such assessments may include a practical element, a review of your logbook, other qualifications and previous permits as well as theoretical scenario questions (they include Nights Away).

**Advisors:** working with the ACC Activities they provide advice to Commissioners and Leaders relating to activities including TSA POR.

What we have realised as a team is that Advisors and Assessors (often the same person) were being overloaded by requests to undertake training and lead activity sessions on top of their primary role – as a result we were unable to meet the demands being asked of us. We realised that we were missing a team of Skills Instructors... who could work collaboratively with the Assessors and Advisors to undertake these two important roles.

**So are you the next County Skills Instructor?** Do you have a particular Activity Skill (that may or may not need a Permit) and would like to help others - Young People and Adults alike - learn that skill? If you do, then the County Skills Instructor role might be for you...

**Or are you the next County Activity Permit Assessor?** Do you have a particular Activity Skill and an associated National Governing Body (NGB) qualification and would like to help others - Young People and Adults alike - gain Activity Permits? If you do, then the County Activity Permit Assessor role might be for you... (check this list to see if your NGB is listed <https://members.scouts.org.uk/documents/activities/County%20Assessor%20Qualifications%20-%20Jan%202019.docx.pdf>)

If you are keen to become a County Skills Instructor or County Assessor or have more questions, please get in touch.

**Adam Griffiths & Ron Shell, ACC Activities** [acc.activities@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk](mailto:acc.activities@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk)

## Duke of Edinburgh Award Training

We are planning on running DofE Training 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> February; this will cover the Introduction to DofE Course, Expedition Supervisor Course and Expedition Assessor Course. The various courses are aimed at Explorer Scout Leaders plus DESCs, DSNs, Skills Instructors and anyone else who supports the Explorer and Network Programmes.

Please register your interest here: <https://goo.gl/forms/SKzi5nl35dg1ASTs1>

**Adam Griffiths, DofE Advisor,** [dofe@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk](mailto:dofe@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk)

**Access to First Aid Training:**

The strategy going forward is centrally to manage, as part of the "Training Provision", all First Aid Training at a County level to maximise on economies of scale. Shell Vaughan will lead this team, supported by ACC Activities. The team can be contacted by email:

[firstaid@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk](mailto:firstaid@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk).

**Delivering First Response (up to 6hr-Courses):**

First Response courses (including Levels 1-4 and Module K) can be run by any externally qualified First Aid trainer, or by Adults in Scouting who hold a Full First Aid Certificate(14-16hrs / 2days) and completed or working towards The Scout Association's Presenting (29) and Facilitating (28) Modules – speak to your Training Advisor if you would like these two modules adding to your Training Plan. Please also contact Shell Vaughan if you want to be a part of the County Training Delivery Team.

**Next full First Aid Certificate (16 hours) is in planning** – we run a waiting list system and once the minimum viable number of participants has been reached the course is then run; this enables the costs to be kept very low at £60 per person, by ensuring the course is filled each time. Please get in touch if you would like your name added to the waiting list.

**Adam Griffiths & Ron Shell, ACC Activities, [acc.activities@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk](mailto:acc.activities@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk)**

**For Young Leaders/DofE/Top Awards:**

Irrespective of the DofE/Top Award Level, e.g. Bronze/Silver/Gold/Queen's Scout Award, First Aid requirements for Young People are Level 4 / Young Leader Module K (3-6hrs) as a minimum (which happens to be the same as Module 10 First Response for Adult Leaders). Wild Country Expeditions will likely require Level 5 (6-8hrs) and potentially Expeditions in Terrain 2 the full First Aid certificate (14-16hrs / 2 days). Plus ensuring any additional elements are covered for specific modes of transport (Canoeing/Kayaking/Horse Riding).



## Duke of Edinburgh Award Gold Residential Opportunity

Are you currently (or planning to be) enrolled in the Gold Duke of Edinburgh or QSA Scheme, need to do your residential, have an interest in Scuba Diving and like travel? If so read on...An opportunity has arisen to spend a week in Egypt learning to Dive in the famous Red Sea <http://pharaohdiveclub.co.uk/pdc-home-%40-roots.html>. This can take place either during May 2019 half term or October 2019 half term. There is the option to complete the BSAC Ocean Diver Course (20m) or the PADI Open Water Course (18m).

Priority will be given to those doing their DofE or QSA Residential, however, if there are spaces available you may still be able to attend, even if you are not doing your Gold DofE or QSA, as long as you are 16 or older. To make the trip viable, we will need a minimum of 10 participants.

As it stands we have seven people interested from five different Counties, which means we need three more Young People to make this trip viable. Please pass on to all of your Young People who are age 16+ and ask them to register their interest here: <https://goo.gl/forms/ihzQrXddhCh91Pi82>

Adam Griffiths, DofE Advisor, [dofe@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk](mailto:dofe@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk)

## First Aid Myth Buster Article - Reminder

**For Leaders, Managers & Supporters:**

**Module 10** First Response (6hr- or 2hr-refresher) - Leaders, Managers and Supporters in Scouting must hold a current First Aid qualification at the time of gaining their Wood Badge and at their Appointment Renewal. However, they are encouraged to keep their qualification up to date at all times. The minimum standard for this qualification is First Response. You may already hold a certificate that meets the requirements of Module 10; factsheet FS120052 will be able to provide you with those that fulfil the requirement.

**POR 9.56d** - All groups undertaking a nights away event must have immediate access to someone who has a current First Aid qualification, minimum First Response (6hr- or 2hr-refresher). The level of First Aid competence required for each event will be determined by the event risk assessment. The permit holder is not required to hold a First Aid qualification.

**POR 9.7i (Updated January 2019)** - All groups undertaking adventurous activities must have immediate access to someone holding a relevant and current first aid qualification. This need not be the permit holder. The detail of the first aid skills required will be identified by the risk assessment, but the minimum qualifications (or equivalents) are:

A full first aid certificate as defined at FS120052 (14-16hrs / 2 days) is required for all remote activities, where travelling time is three hours or more (in the method of travel being used) to a point of refuge including: a road which carries a normal road-going ambulance; a building which is occupied (such as a farm or harbour); or another means of calling help (such as a telephone box).

First Response is required for all other adventurous activities.

*NOTE: Rule 9.7 is now for implementation by Counties by 31 December 2020. During this time, where the revised processes have not been implemented locally, reference should be made to Rule 9.7 October 2018 version of POR.*

## Facebook Group: “Gloucestershire County Scouts – Activities”

Comments from our membership as far back as the 2017 AGM repeatedly said Leaders wanted one place to go to get info, ask advice and see what was going on in relation to Activities - well we listened and here it is!

Outdoor & Adventure Activities are an integral part of Scouting. Activities are not just those that require Permits, they include all those listed here: <https://members.scouts.org.uk/activities>

This Group is intended to support our #amazingadults (you) in Gloucestershire deliver #inspiringprogrammes that include Outdoor & Adventure Activities, Nights Away, Challenges & Experiences, including Duke of Edinburgh and Top Awards, across all Sections that will ultimately provide our Young People with #skillsforlife.

It would be fantastic if this Group enables you and other Leaders across Gloucestershire to access future events, share experiences, transfer knowledge and learn lessons from others enabling you all to try out new Outdoor & Adventure Activities.

We are in an era where "Youth Shaped" is the new mantra, the flipside of this is that we often go home wondering how to deliver the #inspiringprogramme that our Youth have just Shaped! Well, why not use this forum to ask for help and come up with the answers.

Please click on the link or search “[Gloucestershire County Scouts – Activities](#)” on Facebook and ask to join. Rest assured details of events will still go out through the [gscouts](#) publication and Badge Course Newsletter and be published on the County Website.

The different elements of the County Activities Team can be contacted via these email addresses. For activities that do not naturally sit in one of the sub-teams you should contact [acc.activities@gscouts.org.uk](mailto:acc.activities@gscouts.org.uk). Please contact these teams if you want help running an activity or training for a permit, e.g. access to a Skills Instructor or looking to complete a Permit/Nights Away Assessment ,e.g. access to an Assessor:

[air@gscouts.org.uk](mailto:air@gscouts.org.uk)

[archery@gscouts.org.uk](mailto:archery@gscouts.org.uk)

[caving@gscouts.org.uk](mailto:caving@gscouts.org.uk)

[climbing@gscouts.org.uk](mailto:climbing@gscouts.org.uk)

[dofe@gscouts.org.uk](mailto:dofe@gscouts.org.uk)

[firstaid@gscouts.org.uk](mailto:firstaid@gscouts.org.uk)

[hillwalking@gscouts.org.uk](mailto:hillwalking@gscouts.org.uk)

[mtb@gscouts.org.uk](mailto:mtb@gscouts.org.uk)

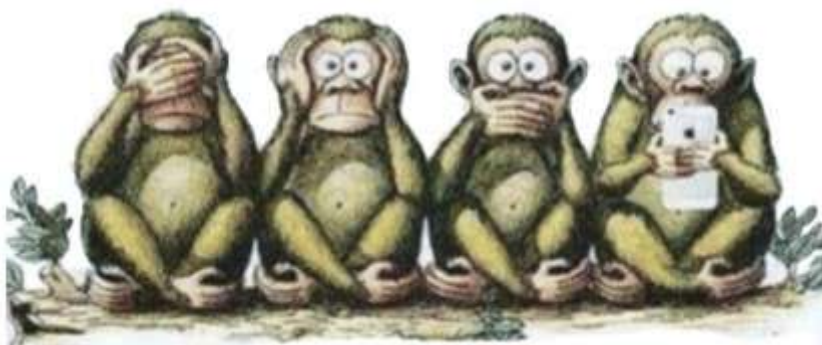
[nightsaway@gscouts.org.uk](mailto:nightsaway@gscouts.org.uk)

[qsa@gscouts.org.uk](mailto:qsa@gscouts.org.uk)

[shooting@gscouts.org.uk](mailto:shooting@gscouts.org.uk)

[snowsports@gscouts.org.uk](mailto:snowsports@gscouts.org.uk)

[water@gscouts.org.uk](mailto:water@gscouts.org.uk)





## New Explorer Scout Unit at Blakeney

Severn Steel Explorer Scout Unit was founded to provide additional Explorer Scouting opportunities for girls and boys, aged 14 to 18, from across the Forest of Dean District. Following a preliminary meeting in July 2018, the Unit officially opened its doors on 14th September and has progressed over the ensuing eight weeks from being little groups from different Scout Troops, to being a single, cohesive Unit of Explorer Scouts.



On Friday 9th November, the Explorers and their Leaders were invested by District Commissioner for Forest of Dean, Gary Law, and County Commissioner for Gloucestershire, Mark Spiller, and were presented with their Unit neckers.



Explorer Leader, Pat Healy, said 'It was a fabulous evening; we are all excited to have received our new neckers. The Explorers chose the name and the colours for the necker. The logo was designed by one of the Explorers but approved by all. It is great to see things all come together.

The name was chosen to reflect the local heritage. Severn, as we meet in Blakeney, on the banks of the River Severn, and Steel to reflect the proud history of steel making in the area. Our logo depicts the steel being poured and transforming from the orange of the molten metal to a stylised wave representing the Severn Bore.

There are two other Explorer Scout Units in the Forest of Dean District: Freeminer E.S.U., which meets in Coalway and Inferno E.S.U. which meets at Aston Ingham.

Angela Healy [prscouts.forestofdean@gmail.com](mailto:prscouts.forestofdean@gmail.com)

## Cub Scouts' record badge haul highlights century of change

The following article by Robert Booth, Social Affairs Correspondent, appeared in *The Guardian* in December 2018. (The name of the village in West Sussex is pronounced Hoathleye – Ed.)

In 1916 a Cub Scout keen for an armful of badges would need to show “pluck” in team sports, run a furlong in 50 seconds, know how to get to the nearest blacksmith’s forge and tell a mushroom from a toadstool.

Today the requirements for full honours involve aboriginal art, bake-offs, ukulele-strumming and visits to mosques. These were just some of the activities undertaken by eight Cubs at the 1st West Hoathly Cub Scout Pack in West Sussex, who have stitched a full house of badges on to their sleeves - **472** badges between them - in what is thought to



The original Wolf Cubs, as they were known when Robert Baden-Powell founded the Scouting scheme for younger boys in 1916, were a product of the end days of British empire, but their badges made little reference to the rest of the world. In contrast, the West Hoathly Cubs secured their Artist badges by making Diwali lanterns and Indian rangoli floor patterns, and bagged the International Awareness badge by marking the 400th anniversary of the Dutch explorer Dirk Hartog landing in Australia in 1616.

The requirement for the Cub signaller to know semaphore or morse code has long been overtaken by computer programming, and the West Hoathly Cubs did computer coding for the Digital Citizen and Digital Awareness badge. The House Orderly badge, as it was known, required being able to “make a good cup of tea” and light a fire with no more than two matches, whereas today’s Home Help requires a working knowledge of unloading a dishwasher.

“Disability was hard,” said Samantha, 10, referring to the Disability Awareness badge. “We had to think about being without sight or hearing. You had to rely on someone else. It was quite weird. I felt quite relieved I didn’t have this disability but I felt very sorry for people



who have this every day.”

She added: “I thought I might not get the map one. To be honest, I am rubbish at maps.” For Katie the Equestrian badge was the hardest, because she had never ridden a horse.

Interaction with the natural world has also changed for today’s Cubs. The Environment Conservation activity badge - which suggests using a smart meter and separating recycling - differs markedly from the 1916 Observer badge, which required knowing the names and appearance of 20 British flowers and trees and the history and habits of five British wild animals.

Meanwhile, today’s Naturalist Activity badge requires making four visits to a piece of outdoor space and recording the changes.

Other things have remained consistent. Today’s Physical Recreation badge requires the display of “a good sporting attitude” - a rather more pedestrian description than the 1916 exhortation that the bearer’s “play should be up to the mark and scrupulously fair” and that “good temper, pluck and honest, unselfish play shall count as much as skill”.

But gone altogether is the requirement in the Swimming badge for the applicant to “be able to take off a pair of socks in the water”, while the old Weaver badge requiring the Cub to be able to “make a kettle holder in cross-stitch” is a thing of the past.

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## **New World Scout Ambassador Bear Grylls Launches the Largest Global Youth Mobilisation for the Sustainable Development Goals**

by *World Scouting* from Malaysia. Publication date: 16th Nov 2018



**16 November 2018, New York:** Millions of young people around the world know Bear Grylls as a Global adventurer, TV host, and best-selling author with a passion for Scouting. Now, as the new Chief Ambassador for the entire global Scout Movement, Bear is getting behind an unprecedented mobilisation of 50 million Scouts to improve the sustainability of our planet.

Today, the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) announced Bear as its new Chief Ambassador, making him the first public figure to be named for the role. Bear has been the youngest ever Chief Scout in the United Kingdom for nearly a decade, leading the way during a period of sustained growth. In his new role as Chief Ambassador, Bear will continue that effort on the world stage by acting as a global voice for youth education and inspiring Scouts to create positive change in their communities.

“I’m very proud and humbled to take on this new role as Chief Ambassador of World Scouting and continue to promote the great work Scouting is doing across the globe. Scouting is a worldwide force for good that unites young people with positive values and an adventurous spirit,” says Bear. “We aim to make a difference in our communities, help young people learn

new skills, and be kind to all people.”

As one of his first acts as Chief Ambassador, Bear was on hand for an event at the United Nations headquarters today to launch *Scouts for SDGs* – a mobilisation of 50 million Scouts to make the world’s largest coordinated youth contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). “Never before have so many Scouts come together around an engagement of this scale and I’m excited to launch this global activation of young people to contribute to the SDGs,” added Bear.

Since 2013, Scouts have given more than one billion hours of service towards sustainable development through local projects under World Scouting’s programmes, including the flagship *Messengers of Peace* initiative. Among these projects are grassroots activities led by Scouts to provide access to clean drinking water for schoolchildren in South Sudan and promote peace in Colombian communities affected by gang violence and conflict.

*Scouts for SDGs* builds on these efforts with an aim to engage 50 million young people in a coordinated effort to deliver two million local projects and an additional three billion hours of service for the SDGs by 2030.

“Scouts everywhere instinctively take action to make right what they see as being wrong in the world,” says Craig Turpie, Chairperson of the World Scout Committee. “*Scouts for SDGs* is all about the youth of today thinking globally and acting locally – being the change that they want to see in the world.”

*Scouts for SDGs* features a digital campaign and online SDG hub, as well as new tools and resources for National Scout Organizations to raise awareness and take action for the SDGs. The initiative will also provide financial contributions to local actions by Scouts thanks to support from Alwaleed Philanthropies, United Nations agencies and a wide network of partners and volunteers that will help expand the effort.

“Scouts have already made an extraordinary contribution to the SDGs through more than one billion hours of service and millions of local projects to promote peace, reduce inequalities, tackle climate change, and more,” says Ahmad Alhendawi, Secretary General of WOSM. “With *Scouts for SDGs* we are intensifying our efforts to unleash the power of millions more young people and tackle some of the most pressing social, environmental and economic challenges facing our world.”

Several guests of honour including Their Majesties King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden and heads of international organizations joined the *Scouts for SDGs* launch event which was co-hosted by WOSM and the World Scout Foundation in partnership with the Office of the UN Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth. The new initiative was warmly received by the UN and other delegates who recognise the unique role that Scouts can play to achieve the SDGs.

### **About World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM)**

Scouting is the world’s leading educational youth movement, engaging millions of young people to be active citizens and create positive change in their communities. The World Scout Movement is made up of more than 50 million Scouts connected together through a membership network of 169 National Scout Organizations.

# International Update



## News from the World!

This month we are highlighting some of the resources available to help run a truly Global programme for your section.

## Have you looked at the WOSM page on Facebook?

Whilst their main website is also full of interesting articles, the World Organisation of Scout Movements also has a very active Facebook page. Here you can find inspiring personal stories, as well as 'headline news' about how Scouting is working towards a better World.

## So, with thanks to WOSM, some Global news:



On 10th January 2019 WOSM announced **Pathfinder Scouts Vietnam** as WOSM's newest member, joining over 50 million Scouts in 170 National Scout Organizations.



Sir Robert Swan is the first person to walk to both the North and South poles.

Take action for a better world today  
[sdgs.scout.org](https://sdgs.scout.org)

Some of the most interesting items are videos – you might like to watch this review of 2018 from WOSM.

[2018 in Scouting:  
A Year in Review](#)



If you're viewing this in print, the link is:

<https://www.scout.org/2018inscouting?fbclid=IwAR1AThHzHcXuE3WuXpsefj5A1kSiTrFHHxpwrR4nHUoL6njdW/kecWAvkWF4E>



## Scouts for Sustainable Development Goals

You may have noticed the [sdgs.scout.org](https://sdgs.scout.org) link on the last page. It's an inspiring video, and some of our Activity Badges are designed to help your Scouts put the theory into practice.

You can find out full badge details, plus a Leader's resource guide for many of the badges, on the UK website, [Scouts.org.uk](https://Scouts.org.uk). For example, as part of their Global Issues Activity badge, Cub Scouts could take part in World Water Day (March), Refugee Week (June), World Environment Day (June) or World Toilet Day (October).



### Don't Forget about Programmes Online

It's been around for a while, but it's now much easier to log into, and can save you a lot of time in preparing resources for your section. A quick search for 'world' activities gave over 100 results – here are a few.

104 matching activities were found. Showing 51 to 60

#### 51. Working children quiz

*An easy activity to introduce young people to the issues of child labour in India in an easy way.*



#### 52. Onion Bhajis

*A simple recipe to try from India.*



#### 53. People's Trust for Endangered Species: Living with Mammals

*Take part in a national survey to record what mammals are found in a particular area.*



#### 54. Plant the Seed

*Planting seeds is a great way for your young people to get their hands dirty, and learn about the process of sowing, growing and cooking vegetables. This activity explains how to get started.*



## Changes to POR Rule 9.64 (Visits Abroad)

If you are planning a Visit Abroad, or hosting a Group from overseas (both really great activities to do with all sections!), you need to be aware of this additional requirement.

**"f. UK Members including Members of the British Scouting Overseas under the age of 18 may only take part in group-based hosted hospitality experiences (i.e. using group accommodation not private homes), they must not participate in home-based hospitality experiences."**

Details in the new factsheet [FS120821 Home and Hosted Hospitality](#)

## Thinking about Going Abroad? Need ideas for the Global Programme? Look out for the International Roadshow!

Benk and Chris would like the chance to meet more of you to face to face, so will be visiting the four corners of the County this year, giving Leaders (and Young Leaders) the opportunity to ask specific questions, as well as being inspired by some of the resources we have available in Gloucestershire. Details will be on the County Events pages.

See you there!

**Chris Langham** ACC international (Global Programme), **Ben Klinkenberg**, ACC International (Adventure). Contact us both on [acc.international@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk](mailto:acc.international@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk)

## The Story of the Gang Show

(taken from the programme for the *Churchdown Gang Show* 2018)

In 1931, Ralph Reader, a Rover Scout trying to make his mark in theatre in the USA and London, was asked to write a Scout-based variety show to raise money for a swimming pool at Downe Scout Camp (now a Scout Association National Activity Centre). Rehearsals began under Reader's direction on 25 May 1932.

Initially the show did not have a title, but during a rehearsal break, Reader asked a cast member if everyone was ready, to which the response was "Aye, aye, Skip, the gang's all here." The first production, *The Gang's All Here*, ran between 30 October and 1 November 1932 at the Scala Theatre in London.

Robert Baden-Powell, persuaded Reader to produce another show in 1933. This was *The Gang Comes Back* and ran for a week. Reader continued to write and produce the London Show. In 1934 the show became *The Gang Show* and *Crest of a Wave* was performed for the first time, becoming over the years the anthem.

Reader organised the cast of *The Gang Show* as a Scout Troop, an arrangement which persists only in a few shows now. Members of the first Troop wanted an identifying feature, deciding on a red scarf or necker. The red necker has become a world-wide symbol, with an insignia in gold thread embroidered on the point. Show members in the UK are only allowed to wear the red necker, if they are nationally recognised, i.e. they come up to prescribed minimum standards of performance and production. It is now worn by almost all Gang Shows but shows still need to apply for National Recognition every five years to maintain standards. Churchdown obtained Gang Show status in 2012. It is one of only a few Scout Groups to hold this recognition.

Before this the show existed but was known as *Churchdown Scout and Guide Show*, first taking place in 1983. Many Cubs, Scouts, Ventures, Explorers, Rangers, Guides and Brownies have 'trod the boards' for the first time in these shows. It takes a lot of courage to get up on stage in front of an audience and perform, especially when many of the audience know you! Those who do so find they gain confidence and skills in life which help them in ways they do not realise at the time. How many of you have perhaps had to give a presentation in an interview or to a group of colleagues?

Of course, the *Churchdown Gang Show* would not happen without the dedicated team of Leaders and helpers, many of whom were in the show when they were young. They come together every two years and work tirelessly to put on a brilliant show, which plays to the strengths of the young people who are in it. Leading into the show there are four weeks of scenery construction and six weeks of intense cast rehearsals, not to mention the hours of costume-sewing and preparation. My personal thanks go to them.

Debbie Auld, GSL.





The Gang



Jelly Babies



# MONSTERS ARE REAL

On Monday, Billy didn't have his homework and when the teacher asked him why, He said, "Because a monster ripped it up, after I told him a lie."

"You know monsters don't exist,  
And if you don't turn in your homework  
No recess you will get

On Tuesday, Billy had a stomach ache  
And when the teacher asked him why,  
He said, "A monster took away my dinner, even my cherry pie."

"Billy, I've told you once before,  
Monsters are not real.  
You'll have to wait till lunchtime  
Before you get a meal."



On Wednesday, Billy had a bandage,  
Which covered his left eye.  
When the teacher asked him how it happened, this was his reply:  
"A monster was running after me  
When I ran into the door:"  
"Billy, please," the teacher said,  
"I don't want to hear any more."

On Thursday, Billy refused to sit down,  
And when the teacher asked him why,  
Billy said, "A monster whipped my bottom, because I started to cry,"  
"Billy," said the teacher,  
" this is getting out of hand,  
And if you continue with these stories,  
In the corner you will stand."



On Friday, Billy didn't come to school,  
And when the teacher found out why,  
She said a little prayer to God  
In hopes Billy would survive.  
For a monster had beaten Billy  
And threatened him with a knife.  
Now Billy lay in a hospital bed,  
Fighting for his life.

So teachers please remember,  
That monsters are for real.  
Listen closely to kids' stories,  
A wounded heart you may heal.

*Author Unknown...*

The Pain To Children is All Too Real: I found this and felt I had to share it!  
*Remember to listen....not every young person can say exactly what is happening  
to them in a way we expect.*



## British Scouting Abroad

British Scouts Western Europe, far and away the largest Scout County in terms of area, was created in 1952, but its roots go back to D-Day in 1944. At the time Rover Crews in the services on the continent were formed. By 1947, British Scouts Germany had come into existence. In 1952 the responsibility of British Scouts Germany was extended to Austria, France, Holland and Belgium. Hence the name was changed to British Scouts Western Europe. Later developments include the recognition of BSWE as a normal English County.

The design of the badge, the blue cross on a red shield, is based on the formation design of H.Q. British Army of the Rhine. The British Scouts Western Europe (BSWE) was an organisation affiliated with the British Scout Association. They provided Scouting for British youth who lived on the European continent and wanted to stay involved in Scouting.



The British Scouts Western Europe worked closely with British Groups Abroad (BGA) to help in the formation of British Scouting Overseas (BSO).

The members are children of British parents who work for British companies and live for a few months/years outside the United Kingdom or emigrate to the European mainland. The BSWE has Groups in Belgium, The Netherlands, Luxembourg, France, Germany and Italy.



British Scouting Overseas was formed on 1st April 2012 from an amalgamation of British Groups in Western Europe Scout "Areas". At that point there were five Districts in France and Iberia, Middle East, Benelux and Scandinavia and Rest of the World. Since that point Benelux and Scandinavia has merged with Germany to create Northern Europe District.

The UK programme is also offered to British citizens living outside of the United Kingdom via the British Scouting Overseas Area. BSO has four Scout "Districts" in France and Iberia, Middle East, Northern Europe and Rest of the World and a total of 55 Scout Groups in 26 countries.

Mike Gosling (*Historian of the International Badgers Club*)



We can all learn an invaluable Leadership Lesson from this pack of wolves:

The 3 in front are old and sick. They walk in front to set the pace.

The next 5 are the strongest. They protect the front side from an attack.

The middle group is fully protected.

The 5 behind them are also among the strongest. They protect the back side.

The last wolf is the LEADER. He ensures no one is left behind. He keeps the pack tight and on the same path. He is ready to run in any direction to protect his pack.

Being a leader is not about being in front.

It's about taking care of your team.

PIC-COLLAGE



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