



## News and Views for Scouting in Gloucestershire

### April 2019



Ready to set off on the Cotswold Marathon





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

Monday to Friday 8.00 am—7.00 pm

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Saturday 9.00 am –12 noon

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



## Editorial

We hear talk of climate change but it seems to be so slow that we may think it is of little consequence. However I recently read that the Geological Society has cautioned that the Earth may take 100,000 years to reverse the changes that will be caused if humans burn all Earth's fossil fuels three million times faster than it can recycle them. If humanity

mass extinction in Earth's history, we have less than 12 years radically to change the way we generate power. Given that the rate of glacier melting has increased six-fold in the last 40 years, if we do nothing' they could be melting 36 times faster than they are today by the end of the century. Sir David Attenborough has warned that, unless we take action, the changes that will occur will lead to the extinction of the majority of species of life on Earth. We must each take the matter seriously and not just leave it to the other chap.



### 2019 marks 100 years of the Wood Badges.

The first Wood Badge training was organized by Francis "Skipper" Gidney and lectured at by Robert Baden-Powell and others at Gilwell Park in September 1919. Wood Badge training has since spread across the world with international variations. A badge has been produced to mark the anniversary.

Get yours at [https://www.karunabadges.com/store/p257/Wood\\_Badge\\_100th\\_Anniversary.html#/](https://www.karunabadges.com/store/p257/Wood_Badge_100th_Anniversary.html#/)

Proceeds will be donated to the Gilwell Park Fellowship.

**The copy date for the next edition of gscouts will be 8th July.**



The International Badgers Club will be holding a meeting over the Easter weekend (April 20-21) at Woodhouse Park Scout Camp, Fernhill, Almondsbury (on A 38, just north of Bristol).

Non-members welcome.

Thousands of Scout badges from all over the world for swop or sale.

## From the County Commissioner

### Work in progress...

Since I was lucky enough to be appointed your County Commissioner, I have regularly spoken of my desire to work with all of you to help achieve the vision that I set out for 2020 for our County.

This edition of the **gscouts** magazine is showing some of the initiatives and progress that we continue to make and it continually fills me with pride to see the great work that is going on across the three key areas of our vision:

Inspiring Programmes, shaped by Young People  
Amazing adults and,  
Growing Scouting

There are three teams working in the background to help find ways to bring our vision to life through resources, support and ideas that you can implement in your Section, Group and District.

#### Amazing adults

A team made up of **Tony Dale, Liz Hodge, Kat Holter, Kat Turner and Jordan Randall** are all working to find ways to help offer more support for you, our volunteer adults. Ideas being worked through and piloted at the moment include;

- a virtual pub, where you can come and ask questions or chat to someone else to seek advice.
- a new-Leader buddy programme where we can work alongside new Leaders to help them feel supported in their role and,
- skills development – identifying and delivering some of the common skills that new Leaders may need.

To support all of this we also recognise that we haven't yet published our training programme for 2019/20. The Training Team are working through this right now and you will see the programme launched in the next couple of weeks.

#### Inspiring programmes

The team is made up of **Steve Jackson, Chris Meadows, Ang Healey, Kat Holter and Callum Johnston** and their focus is on how we can support you in helping to deliver Inspiring programmes week on week. There are a number of areas that the team are working through and they include;

- Finding ways to promote and use the Quality Programme Checkers to further improve the Inspiring programmes you deliver

Enabling you to increase the number of top awards that your young people can achieve  
Looking at how we can deliver a roadshow local to you to help give you techniques, tools  
and ideas for inspiring programmes  
Recognising the champions of inspiring programmes award that we launched last  
September. You can read more about this later in the magazine.

## Youth involvement

This is the most recently started piece of work and recently the team of **Kat Holter, Callum Johnston and Lauren Greening** met for the first time to start to work through ideas of how we can help you help your young people shape even more of their Scouting experience at every level.

I look forward to being able to tell you more in the next edition. If you want to know more please do get in contact with any of the team members, they would be glad to talk to you about how we can help and help you get involved if you want to.

Finally from me, I know that you are all well underway with planning the residential experiences, camps and activities that you will be running during the summer months, please do think about sharing your stories with us so that we can share them with others. You can email your articles to [editor@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk](mailto:editor@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk)

## Another year of growth

As another Census year has come to a close, I want to say once again a huge thank you to all of for your efforts to make the wonderful thing that is Scouting available to more and more young people.

This year's Census is an interesting one as the picture of Scouting across the UK is one of decline. However I am very proud to be able to say that here in Gloucestershire we have continued to grow the number of young people who get to enjoy and experience Scouting.

We are a part of the South West Region which is one of only two regions in England to have grown.

By comparison to Census 2018 we have grown by a whopping 0.1% (3 young people aged 6-18)

Yes, it isn't a huge number, but I recognise that to keep numbers still in today's society is a huge challenge. We all recognise that the work that you are doing delivers Youth-shaped Inspiring Programmes that maintain the interest of young people in sections.

Cotswold Vale District saw the greatest increase in Young people with 46 (+12%) more enjoying Scouting than in 2018.



Scores on the doors (vs 2018)

Beavers are up by 34 (+2%)

Cubs have declined by 37 (-2%)

Scouts have declined by 35 (-2%) and

Explorers have grown by 41 (+8%)

Network members have decreased by 9 (-4%) and

Adults across the County have decreased by 82 (-4%)

### Top awards are flying!



One area in which I also want to thank you for your efforts in 2018 was that of helping your Young People achieve even more top awards. We saw significant increases (as a number and %) in **Bronze, Silver and Gold Chief Scout's awards** and also saw increases in **Bronze DofE and Queen's Scout Awards**. We know that Young People value these awards and are core to everything

we do in our quality programme.

We will shortly be sharing our plans for celebrating all of the Scouting top awards across the whole of the County, so keep your eyes peeled.

Thank you all again for your work and efforts in growing Scouting year after year and completing the Census.

*Mark*



## County Youth Commissioners

Former Deputy County Youth Commissioners, Kat Holter and Callum Johnston, have been appointed as County Youth Commissioners.

They will continue to support four districts each and are really looking forward to getting out to as many of you as possible.

If you want to get in contact, email them on

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

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



## County DofE Advisor

Andy Holter (Tewkesbury District) has been appointed County DofE Adviser. He is planning to continue in his AESL role with Extreme Explorer Scout Unit,

Andy is contactable via [dofe@gscouts.org.uk](mailto:dofe@gscouts.org.uk)

## ACC Top Awards

Liz Hodge (Tewkesbury District) is contactable via

[acc.topawards@gscouts.org.uk](mailto:acc.topawards@gscouts.org.uk)



"I couldn't be bothered hunting, so I just grabbed some 'McDonalds'..."

## Inspiring Programme Award - for GScouts

In 2018 we launched the Inspiring Programme Award as a way of recognising amazing adults who are providing programmes to young people that inspire and engage young people.



In order to recognise those adults, We have created a special County scarf that can be worn at anytime and recognised that the wearer is a true programme hero and is instrumental in delivering inspiring quality programme to young people.

Those Leaders who have been nominated by their peers are:

- Ang Healy - ADC Cubs and Cub Leader 1st Royal Forest Group - Forest of Dean
- Nicky Fendt - Cub Leader 3rd Tewkesbury Group - Tewkesbury
- Tracy Barrell - Beaver Leader 1st Woodmancote Group - Tewkesbury
- Selsley Scout Troop Leadership Team - Stroud and Tetbury
- Ruth Garner - Cub Leader 1st Fairford Group - Cotswold

I would encourage everyone to look out for Leaders wearing this necker and ask them what they did last week in their section meeting.

Congratulations to all who have been awarded in this round.

We look forward to receiving the next batch of nominations, you can find the form at <https://gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk/inspiring-programmes-award> and nomination will be collected until the 30th June 2019.





## Mental Health First Aid Training

Mental health is something that we all have and we all need to look after it. Mental health is also something that does not only affect adults. 1 in 10 young people in the UK has experienced a mental health issue at one time.

Did you know that in a group of 30 15-year-olds

- 7 are likely to have been bullied
- 1 could have experienced the death of a parent
- 10 are likely to have watched their parents separate
- 6 may be self-harming

These figures mean that young people involved in Scouting are likely at some point during their time in Scouting to require support and tools to manage their mental health.

We as a County have recognised this and have started a journey to support Leaders in this area.

On the weekend of the 9th and 10th February, 15 leaders from across the County completed two days of training to become Mental Health First Aiders.



The course was run for the County by Mental Health Building Blocks and covered a wide range of topics including self-harm, suicide, eating disorders and stress.

We hope as a County to provide more courses so that we can upskill more Leaders, however if you feel you would like some support, please contact Chris Meadows, our DCC Programme ([chris.meadows@gscouts.org.uk](mailto:chris.meadows@gscouts.org.uk)), who will hopefully be able to point you in the direction of someone who can assist.

## Name that Town!

The name *Gloucestershire* appears in an updated *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* of 1016 as “Gleawcestrescir”.

*Gloucester* (Roman “Colonia Nevum” and Old British “Glevum”) was called “Gleawecestre” in AD 804, according to the *Cartulorium saxonicum* (edited by Birch, 1885-93). In *The King’s Book* or *The Great Book of Winchester*, better known as *Domesday Book*, it is called “Glowecestre”. “Glevum” belongs to Old Welsh “gloiu”, meaning “bright, splendid place”. This was adopted early on as “gleaw”, to which was added the Old English “ceaster”, a Roman fort.

The *Domesday Book* spelling of the Forest of *Dean* is “Dene”, later “Dena” in *The Pipe Rolls*, a collection of financial records dating from 1130. “Dean” derives from the Old English “denu”, a valley. *Lydney*, “Lidaneg” in 972 according to the *Cartulorium saxonicum* and “Ledenei” in *Domesday Book*, comes from the Old English “lida”, a sailor, and “eg” (island), so *Lydney* (which lies between two streams) may be “sailor’s island”.

*Cheltenham* was called “Chinteneham” in *Domesday Book*. The situation of the town at the foot of a high massif of hills suggests that the first element is a hill-name. A hill-name “Celte” may be of British origin or possibly an old English word for hill related to the Norwegian “kult”, a lump or hillock. The second element, “ham”, means “village”, “manor” or “homestead”. *Cotswold* is “Cod’s” “wald” (German “forest”).

The River Churn flows through *Cirencester* (Roman “Corinium”), whose name means the “fort of the Cornovii”, whose territory was not far north of the Cirencester District. The first mention of the town was by Ptolemy in AD 150. The name *Fairford* dates from AD 872 and means “clear ford” from Old English “fæger”, meaning “untroubled”, “not disturbed” (of water).

*Dursley* (Cotswold Vale) was called “Dersilege” in *Domesday Book*, “Derseleie” in the *Pipe Rolls* of 1181 and “Dursleg” in the 1220 *Book of Fees*. Its name originated from Deorsige’s Leah. The word “leah” derives from the German “loh”, meaning a grove or thin wood, from the Latin “locus”, a grove. However, “leah” is also common in names denoting places for heathen worship, but judging by the number of very old churches in the region, it is doubtful if that meaning applies!

*Stroud* is first mentioned in the Assize Rolls in 1221. The name means “marshy land overgrown with brushwood”. *Tetbury* originated as “Tette’s burg” (fortified place). Tette, a sister of Ine, King of Wessex, was Abbess of Wimborne. There must once have been a monastery at Tetbury. *Tewkesbury*, “Teodekesberie” in *Domesday Book*, was Teodec’s fort.

The “chipping” in *Chipping Campden* derives from the Old English “cēping” (market place) and campden means “valley enclosure”. Moreton-in-Marsh (Mortun in a document of AD 714) was originally called Morton in Hennemersh, meaning “farm by a moor in a marsh where wild birds

are found”, while Stow-on-the-Wold means “a place in an upland wood”. The name was recorded as Edwardestowe in 1107, deriving from the dedication of the parish church of St. Edward.

John Morton

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## The Vale of Berkeley Railway

A group of enthusiastic volunteers has been working on the restoration of the Vale of Berkeley Railway for some years now. The track of the branch line from close to the Prince of Wales Hotel on the A38 to Sharpness is still in use for the removal of nuclear waste from the decommissioned power station on the banks of the Severn but there is much to do in restoring rolling stock and completely rebuilding Berkeley station. It may be possible to run trains in 2020.



A great deal of care is being taken in removing 50 years of undergrowth from the Oldminster sidings, for example delaying the felling of trees until the bird-nesting season is over. Removed undergrowth has not been burned but used to establish a substantial barrier around the site and provide nesting opportunities for birds and a haven for insects, frogs and toads. They have what they consider to be a narrow but four-mile-long nature reserve.

To quote an article by Paul Hale in their quarterly magazine “Before considering any work, it is vital that we carefully survey and record what stock of trees we have and ensure that the most important ones are identified. The sycamore, which is basically a 'weed' species, is fast-growing and supports 15 species of insect, compare this to one of our native oaks which is very slow-growing and supports 284 species! Hawthorn, often considered in the lower echelons, supports not only 249 species of insect but its berries provide a vital winter larder for the flocks of Redwings and Fieldfares that choose to overwinter in the Berkeley Vale.”

The site of Berkeley station at MR 686003 can be visited. There are plaques illustrating the progress of restoration and on Wednesdays in the summer months there is often a volunteer present to answer questions. It awaits a benefactor to rebuild the station as exactly as it was.

Visitors, including groups, are welcome at the Old Engine Shed, Dock Road (MR 669024), on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays between 10 and 4 o'clock. You can view progress on the rebuilding of rolling stock and the wide range of tools and machinery in use.

Website: <http://valeofberkeleyrailway.co.uk>

Contact: [valeofberkeleyrailway@gmail.com](mailto:valeofberkeleyrailway@gmail.com)

John Morton

## Blow Your Socks Off 2019

Blow Your Socks Off (BYSO) is a week-long summer camp with organised instructor-led activities every day. The camp is aimed primarily at Scouts and Explorers and their



equivalent Guide Sections but Cubs are welcome and would be able to take part in almost all activities. Running from Saturday 10th to Saturday 17th August the program includes five days of organised, instructor-led, activities (which include a Water Activities Day at HOAC, transport included) plus a Challenge Day (can be completed on site, locally or in Central London), and there's an option to join a Day Trip to the brilliant Paradise Wildlife Park (at an additional cost).

It's a jam-packed week for just £110 per participant, there's a fully catered option, so no cooking or washing up, and minimal kit required. This camp is as suited to new and inexperienced Leaders as it is to those who simply want an easy option or need to swap Leaders half way through the week, etc.

[Download booking form here](#)

## Elements Camp 2019 – A Camp for each section

### Elements Weekend 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> September 2019

On 27<sup>th</sup> September, PACCAR Scout Camp really will have it all! Bring your Group to our Elements weekend, where each section has their own challenges and competitions and then join together at the end to celebrate their successes.

This year, **Beavers** take on the challenge of Earth, as they become eco-warriors and set about making the world a better place. Beavers will explore animal habitats, go on bug hunts, investigate different power sources and teach fellow campers how to be more considerate to our environment. All warriors need to take a break though, and as a reward for all of their hard work, Beavers will also have time to try out some of the site activities and have some sporting excitement. A fully-programmed weekend packed full of exploration, discovery and fun!

**Cubs** will be taking on our Air Challenge in 2019 as they take to the skies and become super heroes. During the weekend there will be a whole host challenges that will see Cubs race, make and investigate, whilst not forgetting their main mission of saving the planet!

The **Scouts** will be in the depths of PACCAR woods ready to take on our Water Challenge as they embark on a bushcraft weekend. After a series of workshops, Scouts will put their new skills to the test and go back to basics as they prepare to sleep in their own shelters, cook on an open fire and live in the woods for the weekend.

SkyCamp is a well-established and very popular part of our Elements weekend for **Explorers and Network**, but this year you will be set the additional challenge of Fire. Your fire-lighting techniques will be judged and we will be setting some fire-related tasks to keep you on your toes. Whilst still camping in the trees, we would like to see you embracing the environment around you and be heard but not seen! There are now limits on equipment and we encourage you to use natural debris and natural foliage and to build your home in the branches, with the focus being on minimalist whilst still being functional, creative and inventive!

The weekend is just £50 per participant for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, which includes a supper on Friday and then all meals through until Sunday lunchtime. As part of the SkyCamp competition is to prepare your own menu, this is priced at £20, but teams will need to provide their own food. Non-competing Leaders are priced at £20 each, if they wish to be catered for.

Cliff Brooke, Paccar Scout Camp, Denham Lane, Chalfont St Peter , Bucks SL9 0QJ

01753 882640 ne-mail: [cliff@paccarscoutcamp.org](mailto:cliff@paccarscoutcamp.org)





## 1st Ruardean @ the Cotswold Marathon - February 9th 2019.

The team of four Scouts, with three Leaders, Pete, Josie and Tom, took part for the Scouts' first attempt. The only team from the FOD District Scouts to take part.

"We all thought the Cotswold Marathon was a bit difficult but it was great fun and we all enjoyed it very much. Next time we will be better and we'll be even faster! At the end of the night two of us were hyper and were laughing the whole way home."

Deacon S.



# The Farriers Challenge

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – Cranham Scout Centre

The Farriers Challenge is a hugely successful challenge hike for Cubs that has been held in Stroud & Tetbury District annually for over 10 years.



The Gloucestershire Jamboree Team decided to take the Farriers Challenge “On Tour” and were pleased to be able to open the event up to all Cubs in Gloucestershire and beyond!

## The Event:

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.

Teams of 3 – 6 Cubs, teams must be accompanied by a leader/adult.

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.

This year over 100 tired, muddy and smiling Cubs from all over Gloucestershire completed a 3½-mile walk and nine activity checkpoints in the Farrier’s Challenge.

Forest of Dean Cub Packs from 1st Royal Forest (T) and 1st Woolaston Groups had a brilliant afternoon taking part.



Cam Crashers pre-mud

Well done to all the participants and Leaders.



## Some challenges met by the Cubs





## Tree Planting at Oasis

by Andy\_Admin, March 4, 2019



With the support of local community members and the 41st Cheltenham Scouts, we planted five *Prunus sargentii* (cherry trees) adjacent to the new Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) at Oasis on Princess Elizabeth Way.

The trees were sponsored by former Hesters Way and St. Silas Vicar and Hesters Way Partnership Chair, Philip Smith, former Councillor and Mayor and HWP Director, Pat Thornton, Cheltenham Borough Homes and Hesters Way Partnership.





## County Cooking Competition

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2019 saw the County Competition take place at Shurdington Village Hall. We had seven teams take part, two from Cheltenham District, two from Cotswold Vale, two from the Forest of Dean and one from Gloucester.



The theme this year was Jamborees Past, Present and Future. The hall quickly filled with lovely aromas as the teams cooked a variety of three-course meals, including Tapas and Sushi Starters, main courses of Thai Green Curry and Campfire Stew, to name but a few, and delicious desserts including homemade doughnuts.

The standard of cooking was very high and the overall winners were 41<sup>st</sup> Cheltenham 'B' team with 1<sup>st</sup> Berkeley runners up. These two teams will be going forward to represent Gloucestershire in the Regional Competition on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019. We wish them the best of luck as they progress forward. *Jean Buxton*



**1st Ruardean Team** were very proud to represent the FOD District.

"The Cooking Competition was amazing and we gained so much knowledge and experience. We did the best our Scouts had ever done by coming 3rd. We made a French Onion soup for



the starter, a Thai Green Curry for the main and a delightful Sabayon for pudding. "

The Scouts' menu reflected the brief, 'World Jamboree, Past and Present', by making dishes from three countries that have hosted the World Jamboree in the past. *Angela Healy*

## Badge Course News

6SCOUTS.ORG.UK



Leaders: Please pass on this newsletter to your Scouts.

Parents: Please pass on this newsletter to other Scouts.

### **NEW** Young Leaders Module A - Prepare for Take-off!

**Thursday 6th June: Cranham** This is the mandatory course all Young Leaders need to do. The module has been revised and includes all essential information needed before starting as a Young Leader **Course is free but please book as numbers are limited.** Application form is [HERE](#) :



Young Leaders are welcome to attend any YLU. If you would like details of programmes then just let me know.

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

**\* 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 \* Outdoor Climbing in the Wye Valley - Saturday 11th May - Scouts and Explorers**  
A full day of outdoor climbing at Symonds Yat in the Wye Valley. Run by the Gloucestershire Scout Climbing Team, this event will cover many components of the Scout and Explorer climbing badges. Climbing equipment is provided, but young people will need to bring lunch and suitable clothing for spending the day outdoors (waterproofs, warm clothing, etc). In the event of very poor weather we will use The Warehouse climbing wall in Gloucester as an indoor backup venue. We'll meet there, but encourage lift-sharing and can share email addresses of anyone who wants to try and arrange it. **£20** per person.

**\* 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** *THE NOVICE COURSE IS NOW FULL*

**2. Survival Skills (Activity +)** - For Scouts who have done our Novice 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 learnt 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 or 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](#).



**Scout Mechanics Badge Sunday 16th June Cheltenham District Scout HQ**

Learn about servicing cars, changing wheels and looking at parts of engines.

**.Only £5. FULL - watch out for details of next course.**

## strategyevolution

We're excited to announce that...

## 2019 Bookings are open!

You can now make your booking for 2019 at [s-e.org.uk/booking](http://s-e.org.uk/booking)

## GLSW and Surrey Scout Paragliding club

catering for Scouts to start with and progression onto Parascending Wings. For more info, contact Richard Featherstone on [richard.featherstone@sky.com](mailto:richard.featherstone@sky.com). We are a Scout club with Scout insurance flying under POR and BHPA (controlling body for parascending) rules.



### 2019 dates:-

		13 <sup>th</sup> April	14 <sup>th</sup> April
11 <sup>th</sup> May	12 <sup>th</sup> May	1 <sup>st</sup> June	2 <sup>nd</sup> June
15 <sup>h</sup> June	16 <sup>th</sup> June	13 <sup>th</sup> July	14 <sup>th</sup> July
21 <sup>st</sup> September	22 <sup>nd</sup> September	12 <sup>th</sup> October	13 <sup>th</sup> October
26 <sup>th</sup> October	27 <sup>th</sup> October		

Click [HERE](#) for a report on last year's paragliding.

## **NEW Jamboree on the Air & Internet: 18th/20th October**

JOTA/JOTI is the largest Scouting event in the world with 1.8 million Scouts participating across 150+ countries. Scouts and Guides communicate with each other over the weekend using radio and internet technology.



During the course, you'll communicate over Amateur radio with Scouts and Guides across Europe, and as far afield as our antennas can manage, as well as learning about the different modes of radio communication available today. As well as radio we'll use Scoutlink, Skype, and the JOTI digital campfire to talk to Scouts much further afield.



At the end of the weekend you'll have completed your Communicator badge as well as gaining the JOTA/JOTA participant badge.

[Booking details are available here](#)

Click [HERE](#) for a report on last year's weekend.



[visit our website](#) | [follow on Twitter](#) | [like on Facebook](#)



#### **Our mailing address is:**

Gloucestershire Scouts  
Cranham Scout Centre,  
Cranham, Gloucestershire  
GL4 8HP

[Add us to your address book](#)



## 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](#)

## Nellie's Tree

Finalist European Tree of the Year 2019.

The most romantic tree in England.

Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*)

Age: 100 years

Leeds area



Nearly 100 years ago, Vic Stead would walk to the nearby village to visit Nellie, the young lady he was courting. One day, he came across three beech saplings on his route, and grafted one sapling between the other two to form the letter N, in an attempt to woo his sweetheart. Vic and Nellie would go on to marry and have a family,

and although they are both gone now, Nellie's tree, also known as the Love Tree, still remains. It is still popular with lovers today and is the site of proposals.

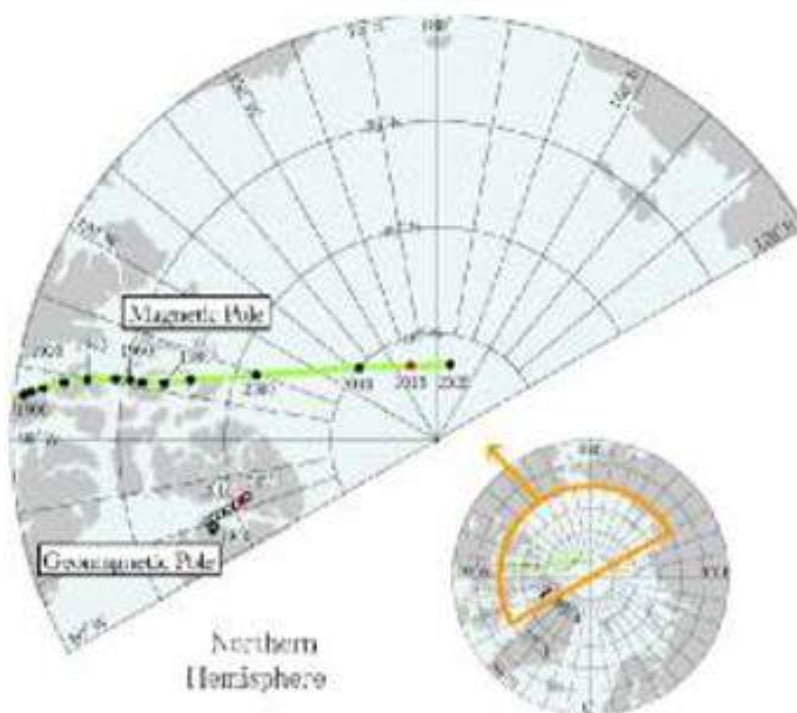


## The magnetic North Pole is heading for Siberia - fast!

from *Down to Earth* , March 2019

(The magazine of Geo Supplies Ltd., a reputable geological source)

No, this isn't another piece of fake news, the magnetic North Pole really is on the move! After several centuries when it drifted somewhat aimlessly around northern Canada, it now seems to be heading towards Siberia. It is now moving at a rate that's some ten times what it was 50 years ago, about 50 km a year. So fast has the movement been that it has forced the early release of new navigation charts.



***The shifting North Magnetic Pole.  
(Image: ZME Science)***

The shifting North Magnetic Pole. (Image: ZME Science)

The cause remains something of a mystery, but is thought to be due to a narrow stream somewhat like a jet stream that tracks back to the Earth's liquid outer core. This is not affecting the South Pole anywhere near as much. Meantime, the Earth's magnetic field continues to weaken, causing some to suggest that we may be heading towards a magnetic reversal event. Such reversals occur periodically and some say that we are overdue such an event. One newspaper article even carried the news that there's a part of the South Atlantic that has already reversed. That was news to me!

Chris Darmon

Editor



The Trust is organising a number of events to advertise the progress they have made in restoring the Stroudwater Canal between Stroud and Saul. The following is a brief selection which might be of interest:

**Canal Trail: Saturday 4 May, Sunday 5 May.** Grab a map at Stroud train station to find storytellers, boating, local history, wildlife and fun activities all the way to Stonehouse. Food stalls or picnic on route. 11am - 4pm.

**Visit a Mill:** Saturday 11 May, Sunday 12 May. See the waterwheels power textile machinery and historic looms at the Gigg Weaving Shed GL6 0JF, 10am - 12pm and Dunkirk Mill GL5 5HH 2pm - 4pm. More info: [www.stroud-textile.org.uk](http://www.stroud-textile.org.uk)

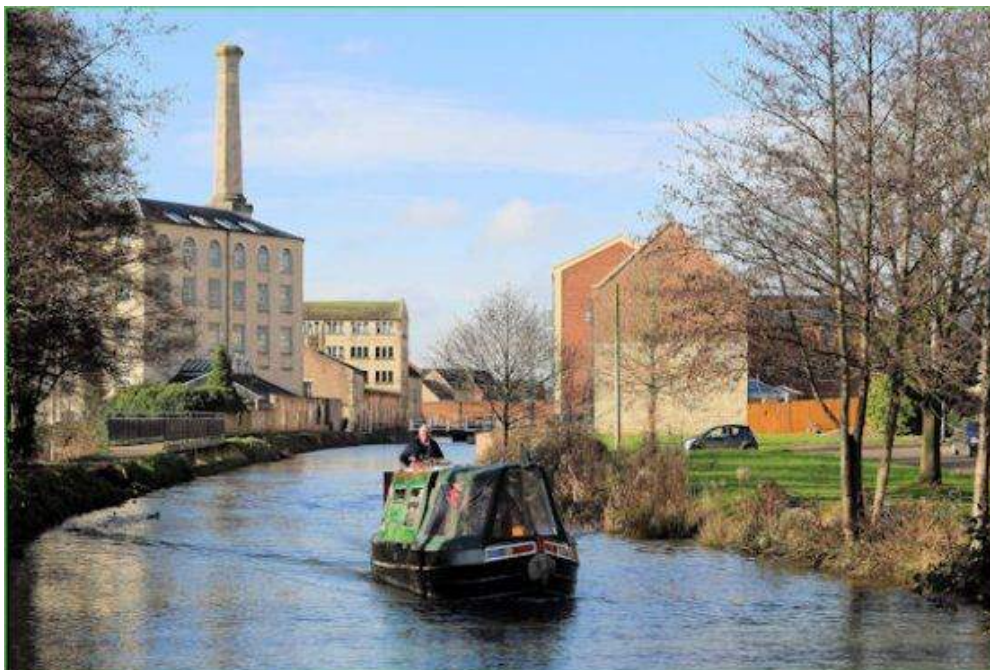
**Bug Bioblitz:** Thursday 30 May. Look for otters, dragonflies, kingfishers and mammals' tracks along the banks of the canal and River Frome. Meet at Fromebridge Mill, GL2 7PD. 10am - 1pm. Great for families. Unmade path.

**Museum in the Park:** Sunday 9 June. Find out why navvies tied up their trouser legs, share canal stories, dye wool and make a map. Lots to see, touch and hear. 11am - 4pm. Museum in the Park, Stroud GL5 4AF. Fully accessible.

**Places and Buildings:** Saturday 22 June: Locks, bridges and railways. Peter explains the built canal. Meet 9.30am at CCT Bookshop, Brimscombe Port GL5 2QG, arrive Wallbridge 12.30. Park at Brimscombe and return shuttle. Rough ground.

Website: [www.cotswoldcanalsconnected.org](http://www.cotswoldcanalsconnected.org)

Phone: 07394 666180







**The Royal Air Force** is delighted to be working in partnership with the Scouts and to sponsor the Air Researcher Badge as part of a strategy to inspire and enthuse young men and women about Science Technology, Engineering and Maths.

Operating at the leading edge of technology and with a workforce of 31,000 of which 50% are engineers, the RAF relies on a constant inflow of talented and motivated young people to help us undertake our role as part of the UK's Defence and as a force for good around the world. The UK is suffering from a shortfall of suitably qualified young people to fill the growing number of STEM vacancies in the Labour Market.

We are especially keen to encourage young women to consider non-traditional, technical career pathways and we are working hard to help as many young people as we can to be the best they can be, in whatever specialization they choose to follow.

Exclusive opportunity for 500 Scouts to go to the Royal International Air Tattoo the world's greatest airshow this July for free! Find out more [HERE](#).

**Take over days for 2019**      Save the dates!

This year we will be having take over days for up to 150 Scouts at each location (TBC) where the Scouts will be able to do their Air Researcher badge using the knowledge and skills of the staff and volunteers. The take over days are extremely fun and informative.

*Hendon Wednesday 17th April [BOOK NOW!](#)*

*Cosford 18th May 2019 [BOOK NOW!](#)*

*Yorkshire Air Museum 29th June 2019*

Watch this space for more news on the take over days including booking instructions soon.

'It was a really good day, Scouts had fun, and the RAF staff were very friendly. There were plenty of resources available and enough space for all'.

*Richard*, Scout Leader who attended a take over day in Cambridgeshire last summer.



The RAF Youth and STEM Team are the lead deliverer for all Youth, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Engagement throughout the entirety of the RAF. As such, the team are involved in a wide variety of different events, activities and programmes, which all aim to engage and inspire the young people to pursue careers in STEM subject areas. They can offer one hour STEM sessions, through to a full day programme. They conduct events such as museum takeover days, Lego robotics challenges, riveting to rockets and glider-building competitions. Together with their partners, they aspire to have young people thinking 'outside the box' while working as a team to overcome fun and curriculum based STEM challenges. Their STEM activities can cover numerous elements of Scouting Badges from Teamwork, Skills, Builder to Creative and so much more. For more information email [rafyouthandstem@outlook.com](mailto:rafyouthandstem@outlook.com)

Download the new resources!

[RAF Air Researcher Badge Resource Pack](#)

[Make Do Share Winter 16 - Lolly stick bi-plane activity download](#)

[Lancaster PDF](#)

[Red Arrows - cut out](#)

[Red arrows template - Make Do Share March 18](#)

[RAF Quiz Answers - Make Do Share July 2018](#)

[RAF Background Info - Make Do Share July 2018](#)

## **ROYAL AIR FORCE MUSEUMS**

<http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/london/>

<http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/cosford/>

## **IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUMS**

This Link takes you to all group bookings for all IWM within the UK.

<http://www.iwm.org.uk/visits/iwm-london/groups-schools>

Admission to **IWM London** is free.

Admission to **IWM Manchester** is free.

**IWM Duxford** offers a special group rate for any group of 10 or more.

Children aged 15 and under are charged £6.55 each. Over 16 are charged £12.25 each. With a pre-booked group we also offer free admission for one adult for every 10 children. All additional adults are charged £12.25 each. The visit must be booked by completing our on-line Visit Request form.

## **UK AERONAUTICAL UK BASED MUSEUMS**

This is the best site for all UK aeronautical UK based museums, it has links to every museum in the UK

<http://www.aviationmuseumguide.co.uk/>





**The Jet Age Museum**, at Gloucestershire Airport between Gloucester and Cheltenham, is an ideal place to start your research for Requirement 1 and achieve Requirement 2 for the Air Researcher badge. It has a wide range of

historic aircraft, with an emphasis on the Gloster Aircraft Company's designs, including five different marks of Meteor and two Javelins. There are also the cockpits or forward fuselages of a Hawker Hunter, Avro Vulcan and Hawker Siddeley Trident, also of a Vampire, XD 506, which your Editor actually flew during his National Service in 1955.



The collection also includes other Gloster-built aircraft, including a stunningly restored 1920's Gloster Gamecock biplane, a Hawker Hurricane replica - Gloster built almost 3000 of these famous Battle of Britain fighters for their parent company Hawker, employing more than 10,500 people at the height of production during the wartime years.

In its 10 000 sq. ft. purpose-built home, there are numerous exhibits of engines, including a Rolls Royce Merlin and a full-size replica of the Gloster E28/39, the experimental aircraft, powered by Sir Frank Whittle's revolutionary jet engine. Whittle's jet-powered aircraft was constructed amidst great secrecy here in Gloucestershire and first took to the skies during taxiing trials at Brockworth airfield on 8th April 1941, heralding the birth of the Jet Age and transforming the face of aviation as we know it.

The museum is open from 10am to 4pm on Saturdays, Sundays, the majority of UK Bank Holidays and selected Wednesdays during Schools' holiday periods. Entrance is free but, of course, donations are much appreciated.

John Morton

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Hoping to make it very difficult to become an Australian citizen, an immigration officer asked a candidate the name of the swagman in *Waltzing Matilda*?

The candidate replied "That's easy - it's Andy".

'How on earth did you arrive at THAT answer?' asked the official.

'Andy sat, Andy watched, Andy waited 'til his billy boiled' said the immigrant.

*And what's worse... You're now singing it to yourself.....*



## Rockall District



Below is a little history of this badge. The information has come from an article by Piet J. Kroonenberg, published in 2009 on [www.worldscoutingmuseum.org](http://www.worldscoutingmuseum.org)

In the April 1978 edition of *Scouting* magazine here in the UK, the introduction was announced of a new District badge for Rockall, which could be ordered for 25p. News soon reached collectors all over the world, who went looking on maps for the location of this new District. To UK collectors the name was familiar, being a regular name cropping up on the BBC shipping forecast. Mariners all across the North Atlantic area were familiar with the name, although in a Scouting context no one could quite work out where this new District could be, Northern Ireland and Scotland being the favourites. In the meantime the badge proved very popular and sales were brisk.

Some weeks later, *Scouting* magazine confessed that the badge had been an elaborate (or not) April Fool's joke. Proceeds from the sale of the badge had gone to a Scottish Third World Project (with HQ's approval), to promote and support Scouting in Ghana. To add to the joke Ted Hayden, a senior official at HQ, was made District Commissioner of Rockall. Ted was friends with the then Editor of *Scouting* magazine, David Easton, a renowned April Fool creator for the magazine during his time there.

To give some context, Rockall is an uninhabited rock (actually the summit of an undersea mountain) to the south of Iceland and about 240 miles west of Skye. In September 1955 the Royal Navy, by helicopter, landed men on the rock, and installed a plaque and the Union Flag, thus confirming it as British territory.

Mike Stennett,

International Badgers Club.

ADC Scouts Cotswold Vale

## Scouting in Vietnam



The Vietnamese Scout Association (*Hoi Huong Dao Viet Nam*) was founded in 1930. Scouting was brought to Vietnam from France and quickly gained popularity throughout the country. Although World War II and the First Indochina War did stop its activities, it successfully recovered afterwards.

Since 1954, Scouting was banned in North Vietnam after the Communist rule but continued to thrive in South Vietnam until 1975, when all activities were stopped due to the war. The Vietnamese Scout

Association had been recognized by the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) from 1957 to 1975. Scouting was revived in the refugee camps and subsequently in the countries where the refugees eventually settled down. The groups in diaspora were recognized as members of national associations in the countries of their residence.

Since 1975, outside Vietnam, the Vietnamese Girl Scout Association and the Vietnamese Scout Association have merged into a single group and operate under the International Central Committee of Vietnamese Scouting, which was founded in 1983.



Inside Vietnam, there were constant efforts by former Scouts, who were also members of the Communist Party, to revive the movement but with no success until the mid-1990s, when the first new Scout groups were founded. Since then, Scouting has been slowly growing, mostly in the southern part of the country, tolerated by the communist authorities.

Over the past 20 years, with continued support from the World Scout Bureau's Asia-Pacific Support Centre, Scouting in Vietnam has strengthened its training programme for a new generation of Scout Leaders with three consecutive advanced Wood Badge training courses held in the Philippines from 2010 to 2011. Pathfinder Scouts Vietnam also received technical and financial support from other National Scout Organizations and individuals. Today there are some 50 Groups in the country.



Following a formal postal ballot with all existing 169 Member Organizations over the past three months, Pathfinder Scouts Vietnam has become the 170th member of WOSM as of 10th January 2019.

John Morton

# THE WORLD SCOUT EMBLEM - ITS MEANING

## THE TWO FIVE POINT STARS

stand for truth and knowledge. The ten points represent the ten points of the original Scout Law

## SERVICE TO OTHERS

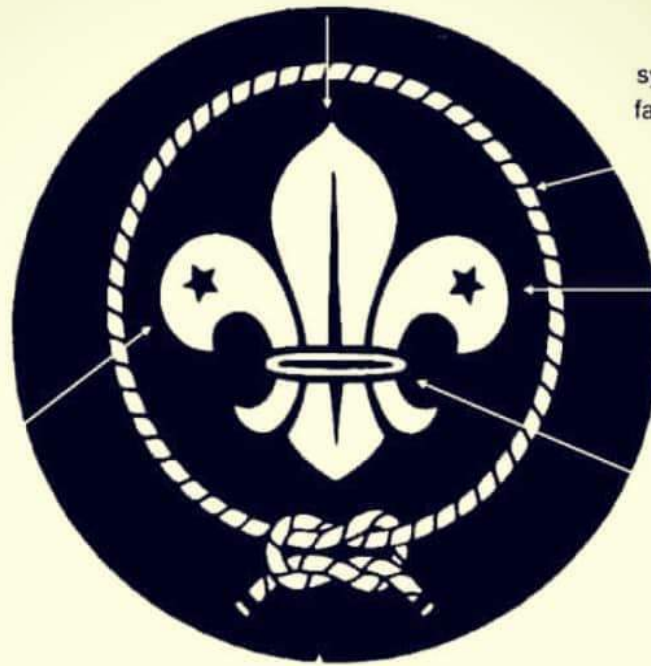
## DUTY TO GOD

## THE ENCIRCLING ROPE

symbolises the unity and family of the World Scout Movement

## OBEDIENCE TO THE SCOUT LAW

THE BOND, showing the family of Scouting



**THE REEF KNOT** which can't be undone no matter how hard it is pulled, is symbolic of the strength of world scouting's unity and family

THE WORLD EMBLEM IS WHITE, ON A ROYAL PURPLE BACKGROUND, IN HERALDRY, WHITE (OR SILVER) REPRESENTS PURITY, AND ROYAL PURPLE DENOTES LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE.



## THE ARROWHEAD:

Lord Baden Powell, Our Founder said:

"Our Badge we took from the 'Northpoint' used on maps....."

Lady Olave said later:

"It shows the true way to go"



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