



News and Views for Scouting in Gloucestershire January 2021



Forest of Dean Remembrance





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020 8433 7100

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

Have you seen our new GScouts website yet? Go to www.gscouts.org.uk

If you want to print this magazine, it can be presented in A4 or as an A5 booklet.



Editorial

For obvious reasons, this has been a quiet quarter from the point of view of face-to-face activities. However, I know that our Leaders have worked hard to maintain the interest of their Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers. All the more reason to encourage your young people to take part in Shirehike (see page 17).

In an attempt to make the magazine more interesting, I have included five articles of my own. One of them tells about Hanukkah, the Jewish Festival of Lights, which occurs close to Christmas.

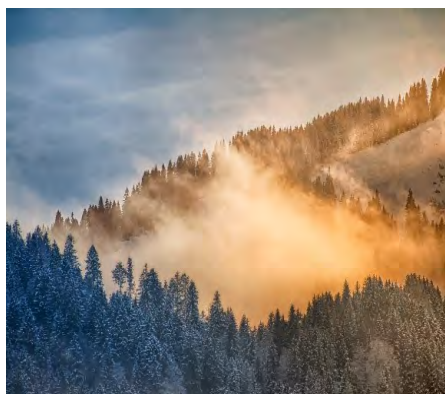
My copy date for the next edition will be Monday April 12., which this year coincides with Ramadan. Is there amongst us a Moslem who would write an article for the April edition explaining Ramadan, its origins and how and why it is celebrated?

I really would like to have articles from any of you, to tell the County what you have been up to or about anything connected with Scouting in the broadest sense.

Congratulations to the latest Leaders to receive the **Inspiring Programme Award:** and thank you for being Amazing Adults who are delivering Inspiring programmes!

- **Anne Green** (2nd Twynning, Tewkesbury)
- **Freya Williams** (22nd Gloucester, Gloucester)
- **Georgina Blagden** (45th Gloucester, Gloucester)
- **Louise Little** (Randwick, Stroud & Tetbury)





From the CC.

January 2021 Happy New Year!

It's cold, it's wet, the days seem to be dark for so long and now we are back in a national Lockdown. January 2021 will not go down as the one remembered for the best reasons.

Or will it?

As I reflect on the past 10 months, whilst we as a nation have been struggling to come to terms with and adapt to the pandemic, it fills me personally with many feelings.

The first feeling was of loss, when we had to announce we could not undertake Face-to-Face Scouting anymore. I recognised that for so many of you reading this, it would bring isolation from something that you enjoy doing so much.

I am filled with sadness to know that so many of our volunteers have been made unwell or in some cases they have 'Gone Home'.

Right now, with Census coming up, I empathise that you may be sensing that things are not going to be easy. I do recognise this, but as I have just written in a County email, there is going to be support. It doesn't help when you are accurately inputting the Census though.

There has been frustration, felt on your behalf for the work that you have had to do to demonstrate that your section meetings are Covid-Safe with Risk Assessments.

But on the other side;

We have learned so much about ourselves and what is important. I will never ever complain about having to travel to a Face-to-Face meeting again! Being with people is so important, not just to me but instrumental to all that we do in Scouting.

We now have people who can deliver Scouting online. This has so many benefits, not just now, but for the long-term future, when buildings are not useable or Leaders are unwell or maybe the weather is just too bad.

We have demonstrated through a number of activities, like The Water Activities Weekend and The VE Celebration Camp, that we don't all need to come together to do a County Activity.

We have been pushed into evolving our offering of Training. A slow start admittedly but we are now getting to a position where we can make more training available to more volunteers without asking them to travel huge distances or give up a whole day. This was always going to happen; we have just brought it around more quickly.

I have seen the happiness and joy on the faces of Young People and adults in those times that they have been able to meet Face-to-Face. It seems to make it all worth it.

We have cared for one another, like never before. The number of you who have regularly checked in with each other has been so encouraging.



Your DCs and District teams have applied for so many Good Service awards between them, there were 80 in the last batch sent through! This year's County Roll of Honour is going to be a bumper edition. There are too many to list here, but we will make a full list available very soon. I would like to congratulate **David Middlemiss** and **Mikey Jaynes** for being awarded the Silver Acorn. Thank you so much for all that you have done for Scouting for so very long.

We have been able to provide more communication and support like Carole's blogs around Mental Health and Wellbeing (all on our Gscouts.org.uk website) and the Coronavirus support pages on our website which have seen ideas and information shared more than ever.

We have successfully identified and appointed a DC Team in Cotswold and North Cotswold Districts. Congratulations to **Paul Gowen**, **Josh Foye** and **Ricky Campbell** who jointly will make up the DC team in both of these Districts.



But right now, I am filled with **hope**. Hope for a future where we value everything that Scouting has to offer young people and to each other. Scouting has never been more important and I am optimistic that young people and their parents will recognise this and make the very most of what we can do for them. We have had a huge impact on the mental wellbeing of Young People, wherever we have been able to maintain some form Scouting, whether it be online, via email, or in the few times we have been able to, face-to-face.

What else is different, this January from January 2020?

Well we now have a huge number of people that have demonstrated they can adapt Scouting in many different ways. We have seen volunteers demonstrate that we can handle anything that life throws at us and we are able to write Risk Assessments, which will be important for evermore.

I know none of this has been easy, but I am positive that we are a better group of volunteers; we will be in a longer term, in a better position in managing costs and resources.

So overall it has been a very tough, heart-breaking and difficult year. I honestly do think that, thanks to all of the commitment of all of you, we are going to see 2021 through and begin to thrive like never before.

Thanks for reading, and thanks for all that you do.

Mark

Act of Remembrance - Gloucestershire County Scouts



The County Commissioner leads the short Act of Remembrance on Sunday, November 8th

It was watched by 203 viewers across the County.



They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.



At the going down
of the sun
and in the morning
We will remember them.





1st Woodmancote Remembrance Pebbles



Sandy Campbell laid Cheltenham District's wreath

Remembrance

They won't care if your necker's not ironed.
They won't care if your shoes are grubby.
They won't care if you're two minutes late
And they won't care if you stand near your mate.

All they want is for you to remember
And to wear your poppy and say you know.
All they want is a future of peace
And a chance for the children to grow.

So wear your poppy, your uniform, your necker.
Say your thanks as a Scout and be proud,
For the lives that were changed, were lost or altered.
Were destroyed so that you can be there and be allowed.

They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun
And in the morning,
We will remember them.



Alex Jenkins ► 1st Dursley Scouts Facebook Group



21 h •

So the time has come to say goodbye to these four amazing scouts. As they move on to explorers. Good luck Olly, Sebastian, Callum, and Will with the next part of your scouting journey, we will hopefully see you back as young leaders one day. Hope you enjoy these photos of your scouting days of 1st Dursley gone by.



I was a little bored the other night, having not so many people to speak to, so I wandered into the bathroom, where I found a beautiful big spider. I struck up a conversation with him.

He was a very intelligent spider, and I enjoyed our discussion.

It turns out that he was a web designer.

Bob's Dinosaurs look after the inner man:



QSA/Gold DofE Expedition 31/10/2020 - 3/11/2020

We can't even attempt to detail the work that went into both the practice Expedition a week ago and the actual one completed yesterday, which included a PowerPoint (on a mobile) presentation prepared by Idalia but involving all the participants' input each evening, and shared with us, the Assessor, Chris Lodwig, and two parents.

It included individual "Impact of Covid 19 on themselves".

It was amazing.

So five touring kayaks, duo canoe, plus sit-on-top kayak for the team member suffering with severe rheumatoid arthritis.

This team had intended to travel down the River Severn in July with 16.5 daylight hours, with reasonable start times and evenings after their 8 hours out on the river, chilling out together 😊, as well as a nice flowing river and maybe warm weather 🌞😊.

What they got was no walk in the park! 9.5 daylight hours with 8 activity hours out on the river.

Day 1 & 2 were forecast as all rain & high winds. A lot of rain but some fabulous sunshine as well.

Increased gusting head winds on day 3 became a nuisance, and the minus chill factor day 4 until late mid-morning not V nice. As Josh said, "even breaking ice in January was not that cold."

🍵 We think pumpkin soup was made on day one 🍵, but they make a miniature birthday cake for my 65th, so hmmm ❤️.

Day 2's cookies were impressive, made from scratch.

Day 3 sausage penne Philadelphia pasta well enjoyed.

Recipe for fried pizza went missing day 4 but Ryan & Idalia made a rather tasty short-crust crispy pizza 😊. Their assessor even ate a large quantity of the slightly overcooked one!

Not a perfect day today, as all, including us, now tired and cold.

To be expected though. That's reality.

This expedition completed Gold DofE for Josh & Ryan, so a huge congratulation in advance of receiving approval from HQ.

This expedition could not have worked without teamwork. You can see (sorry, Josh) the exhaustion on Joshua's face at the end, yet 10 mins later, warmed up a little, is loading, then taking part in the presentation.

We are so so proud of you all.

Shelley Wright

Pas d'elle yeux Rhône que nous (French for "Do it yourself")



QSA/Gold DofE Expedition 31/10/2020 - 3/11/2020

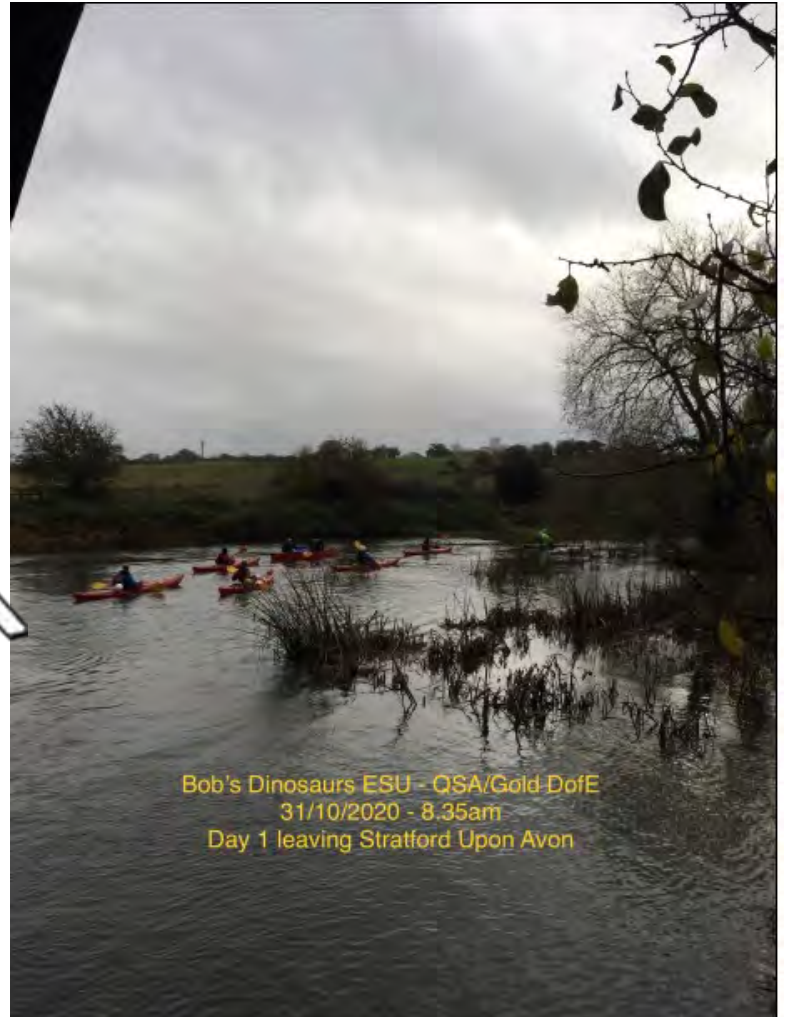
Bob's Dinosaurs Explorers -

Idalia, Ben, Ethan, Jonah, Will & Aidan
with Cheltenham District Team
members Ryan Hawkins & Josh Piper.

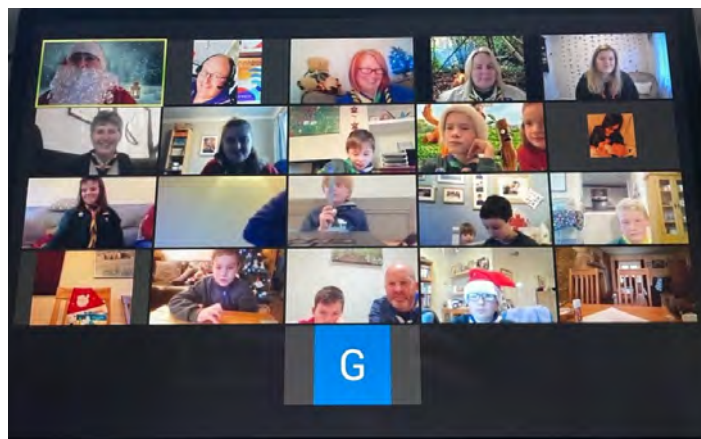
Stratford-upon-Avon to Abbey Mill
Tewkesbury

4 Days - 68km - 15 Locks to portage -
with some very harsh weather
conditions, even when the ☀ was out.

5/5.30am starts to 6.00pm finishes, if
lucky. 7pm 1st day. ☀



County Virtual Cub Meeting



Throughout the various COVID restrictions in face-to-face Scouting, we all have encouraged young people to continue their Scouting activities at home through virtual meetings.

In December, fully understanding that some Leaders have been unable to offer virtual Scouting for several varied reasons, we decided at County level to offer to support you, our adults and young people, by providing County-wide virtual Scouting sessions.



Our tester session took place on 13 December — a virtual Cub Christmas Pack meeting. Five awesome Cub Leaders (our thanks to Kat, Kat, Ruthie, Louise and Ang) provided a one-hour virtual session for 13 Cubs and a few parents who could not resist getting involved.

The Pack meeting included a getting-to-know-you session, a themed treasure hunt, Christmas tinfoil craft and concluded with a story that inspired a visit from Santa to help close the meeting.

We targeted our messaging promoting this session at Groups where it was known that some form of programme had not been able to be provided and we hope that 13 young people went away feeling engaged with Scouting.

As we continue under the current restriction in face-to-face Scouting, we will carry on looking at widening the County virtual offering and hope to provide virtual support for all sections.

For more information, have a look at our page on the website <https://gscouts.org.uk/programme/virtual-meetings>



Randwick Cubs, who were incredibly lucky to take part in a climbing session at Cheltenham Ladies College in December. Many thanks go to the County Climbing Team for arranging the event. It proved to be an exciting and challenging evening.

Louise Little



DCC-People update for GScouts mag

Happy New Year to everyone.

Well we have been Scouting in so many different ways since March last year and I am so proud of what we as a County have achieved and how we have pulled together.

We have continued to provide training across the County using imaginative ways that have meant you and me brushing up on our IT skills. The new training programme for 2021 is ready and bookings will be open on the website as the courses are uploaded. Please ensure that you take a look and book on where there is a requirement to complete.

Manager and Supporter training courses are still being explored and once confirmed will also be uploaded onto the website.

Mandatory training is now all online and validation is easier with the production of the eLearning certificate to your LTM, DC, GSL or even me. Just remember to print the certificate before you leave the page!

May I thank those who have already ensured that their mandatory training has been completed, and encourage those who still have to do it to please log in and complete. It takes no more than 20 mins and that is it for three years.

I am currently bringing together a team of County Advisers for Inclusion under a new management structure. Our aim is to ensure inclusivity across the County for both adults and young people. Looking at where training may be required in Districts to help educate us all in all the different areas of Inclusion and Diversity. Watch out for information as we bring together our thoughts and vision for the County.

There will also be a focus on Mental Health this year. We will be arranging more training for Mental Health First Aiders and also some awareness training.

My agenda for 2021 will hopefully be more fruitful than 2020, when the circumstances changed everything that was planned.

I will keep you all updated as to what is going on, but note that I welcome input from you all on any subject to do with 'people or adult support'.

Carole O'Donnell

DCC - People, Gloucestershire County

#Skills for Life

Shirehike

Registration opened on 5th December and will need to be completed by each young person/parent/carer. With walks all over four counties there's plenty to see and do and walks can be done on a section night (as and when we are back to face-to-face Scouting and as long as risk assessment is in place) or as a family. This allows members that are not currently meeting face-to-face to take part. Evidence of completion can be uploaded to the website and special Shirehike badges will be posted directly to the young person as soon as their evidence is approved.



The walks will be ranked one to three stars and we'd love youth members or Leaders to propose routes between 4 and 10 miles. Please submit your suggested routes to Adam Griffiths at acc.topawards@gloucestershire-scouts.org.uk including a map and description of what walkers will see on the way round.

Please visit the event website shirehike.shirejam.org.uk to register and to find out further information. If you have any specific questions, please email info@shirehike.shirejam.org.uk. We look forward to seeing as many members on this as possible over the coming months, taking in some of the best sights and walks across Gloucestershire and our neighbouring Scouting Counties!

January 2021

We are pleased that we have registrations from all Districts in the County, but it would be great to have as many young people and adult volunteers take part as possible.

As a reminder, **Shirehike** is a walking festival which ends on 14th March, hosted by Hereford and Worcester Scouts, in partnership with neighbouring Counties, including Gloucestershire. There are pre-planned hikes ranging from 3-10 miles for participants to choose from, complete and upload evidence for. Each hike is assigned a star rating and stars mean badges! Badges are automatically sent out once evidence is uploaded. There is no cost to the individual for these. We encourage families to take part, as well as sections, who have the correct risk assessments to meet face-to-face to complete the routes with their young people.

Want to sign up or find out more? Please go to <https://shirehike.shirejam.org.uk/>

Happy hiking!





Virtual Cotswold Marathon 2021

Due to the on going COVID-19 pandemic the 2021 Cotswold Marathon will be a different event from previous years. Anticipated restrictions in the first part of 2021 mean that the annual winter night hike around the Cotswolds cannot proceed as intended.

The 2021 Cotswold Marathon will be an individual event held between Saturday, January 30th 2021 and Sunday 7th February 2021.

Walkers can select a 10, 20 or 30 mile target and have nine days to complete it.

Activities such as walking, cycling or swimming can be recorded and counted towards the selected distance.





Virtual Cotswold Marathon 2021

How do I enter?

Each walker under 18 can enter via their leader. Leaders will enter participant details into the Cotswold Marathon website. Members of the Scout and Guide Associations over the age of 18 can register online directly via the Cotswold Marathon website.

How Much Will it Cost?

The event is free to enter. Certificates will be distributed via email. A 2021 Cotswold Marathon badge and Necker can be purchased when registering.

What Activities Count Towards my Target?

Routine walks e.g. walking or cycling to school can be counted towards the total or a swim in your local pool.

Do I have to Walk the Cotswold Marathon Route?

No- everyday journeys and sport activities can count towards your total.

Can my unit/ troop organise hikes?

Local leaders would be responsible for organising any hikes for groups, troops or units.

Who can enter?

Members of the Scout and Guide Associations can enter from Rainbows, Beavers, through to Rangers and Network. Even older adult can enter.

I am Over 18?

Members of the Scout and Guide Associations over the age of 18 can register online directly via the Cotswold Marathon website.

Where Do I Record My Activity?

Once registered, all walkers will be sent a record sheet via their leader, for you to complete during the event.

Over 18s will be emailed the record sheet directly

**BOOKINGS
OPEN FROM
6TH JAN**

What About COVID Restrictions?

The COVID-19 restrictions that will be in place in February 2021 cannot be predicted.

Participants will need to follow the guidance (Government, Scout and Guide associations) at the time of the event.

Any leaders organising an activity towards the Cotswold Marathon must follow the Scout and Guide guidance.

Global Programme

- tips on adding the International element to your everyday Scouting.



Scouting around the World has been affected by the Coronavirus pandemic, but despite this, Scouts have continued to respond to this and other disasters in amazing and inspiring ways.

Here are some highlights from the WOSM (World Organisation of Scout Movements) website:

Lebanese Scouts among first responders to Beirut crisis



In August, Scouts everywhere were in awe of the nearly 5,000 Lebanese Scouts who were among the first responders after a devastating explosion hit Beirut. As Scouts do, they took on whatever tasks they could to help their country through a painful experience - from providing food, shelter and water, to administering first aid and cleaning up debris, to helping search for missing persons, and more.

Syrian Scouts actively engaged in Scouting despite hardships



Scouting is offered all over the world, including in countries with conflict. We were constantly inspired by photos of Scouting in Syria, where Scout Leaders are helping children and youth find peace through fun activities, adventure, friendship and learning. We were excited to meet Syrian Scouts live during JOTA-JOTI, too!

Kenyan Scouts provide essential COVID-19 relief services across the country

Scouts in different parts of Kenya mobilized since the start of the pandemic, to ensure their communities were informed and had everything they needed to be safe. The Kenya Scouts Association first launched the #ScoutsStoppingCoronavirus



awareness campaign to prevent the spread of the virus. In some cities, Kenyan Scouts partnered with government initiatives in packaging and distributing sanitizers, masks and essential food items. Groups of Scouts led awareness campaigns in their communities, including Dadaab Refugee Camp where Scouts also installed hand washing stations to prevent the spread in refugee camps.

Sudan Scouts Association performs its duty during severe flooding



Sudanese Scouts responded promptly to combat the floods that hit the country in September. The Sudanese Scouts formed a number of emergency rooms and early warning teams for rapid intervention, in addition to field survey groups. These are called the emergency Scouting and support teams who determine direct damage by specialized methods to provide salvage for the harmed

people and deliver food and first aid, according to the available Scout leaders, with the presence of trained medical professionals for such emergency cases.

The goal of the team is to reflect the principles, values, and preparedness of the Scout Movement in fulfilment of the duty towards God, the duty towards the country, and the duty towards others at all times, in application of the Rovers' slogan “community service and development”.

Czech scouts partner with their national hotline crisis service to offer help to the elderly

Over 700 Scouts nationwide have signed up through a dedicated application to volunteer, in support of the most vulnerable among their communities. From delivering books and medications to food and essential groceries, Scouts have been doing their best to respond to the daily incoming requests among seniors.



Scouts in Greece maximize efforts towards the SDGs



Greek Scouts have made great commitments to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in their communities, with particular attention to environmental initiatives. Their #Scouts4SDGs video set the tone for success, and initiatives around the country, such as beach cleanups and recycling programmes, have us feeling inspired to take action!

Rover Scouts in India offer non-formal education to stranded families in Delhi



When workers became stranded in India's urban centres due to COVID-19 lockdowns, Scouts stepped in to help keep workers and their children happy and healthy. They quickly created a programme of education, exercise and games, which was then replicated at shelters across the country.

If you would like any more information or support, please drop me a line:

Chris Langham, acc.international.programme@gscouts.org.uk

Haarlem Jamborette Unit Leader



Do you think you have the skills to lead and support one of two major international events taking place in 2023?

2023 will be a big international year for Young People in Gloucestershire and here is your chance to play a key role.

We are currently searching for the next Unit Leader for the County Unit attending the Haarlem Jamborette

For all the details <https://gscouts.org.uk/international-2023>

WSJ Korea Jamboree Unit Leader



Do you think you have the skills to lead and support one of two major international events taking place in 2023?

2023 will be a big international year for Young People in Gloucestershire and here is your chance to play a key role.

We are currently searching for the next Unit Leader for the County Unit attending the World Scout Jamboree in Korea.

Are you ready to help young people Draw their Dream?

For all the details <https://gscouts.org.uk/international-2023>

חנוכה

Hanukkah



You will know that the Jews do not celebrate Christmas, because in their religion Jesus is merely a prophet. However they do have a festival, Hanukkah (or the Festival of Lights), which occurs at any time from late November into December, according to when the 25th day of *Kislev* in the Hebrew calendar falls in the Christian one. In 2020, this was between the 10th and 18th December.

In the second century BCE, the Holy Land was ruled by the Seleucids (Syrian-Greeks), who tried to force the people of Israel to accept Greek culture and beliefs instead of *mitzvah* (commandment from God) observance and belief in God. Against all odds, a small band of faithful but poorly-armed Jews, led by Judah the Maccabee, defeated one of the mightiest armies on earth, drove the Greeks from the land, reclaimed the Holy Temple in Jerusalem and rededicated it to the service of God.

When they sought to light the Temple's *Menorah* (candelabrum), they found only a single cruse of olive oil that had escaped contamination by the Greeks. Miraculously, they lit the *menorah* and the one-day supply of oil lasted for eight days, until new oil could be prepared under conditions of ritual purity.

To commemorate and publicise these miracles, the sages instituted the festival of Hanukkah.

Hanukkah is observed for eight days by lighting the candles of a candelabrum with nine branches called a *menorah*. One branch is typically placed above or below the others and its candle used to light the other eight. This unique candle is called the *shamash* (attendant). Each night, one candle is lit by the *shamash* until all eight candles are lit together on the final night of the festival. Two blessings are said before or after the candles are lit, depending on tradition, and a special hymn is sung. The *menorah* should be placed in the window nearest the street, to publicise the miracle. Some Jews light lamps near an inside doorway, not necessarily in public view.



According to this tradition, the lamps are placed on the opposite side from the *mezuzah* (a decorative case holding specific Hebrew verses from the *Torah* (Hebrew Bible), so that when one passes through the door one is surrounded by the holiness of the *mitzvot* (commandments).



Celebrations include singing Hanukkah songs, eating foods fried or baked in oil (preferably olive oil) to commemorate the miracle of a small flask of oil keeping the Second Temple's *menorah* alight for eight days. Often a game is played called *dreidel* (with a four-sided spinning top, each side bearing a letter of the Hebrew alphabet).

The picture under the title of this article of a projection of nine lights into the sky was taken this year in North London, which has a sizeable Jewish community.

Hanukkah is not a "Sabbath-like" holiday and there is no obligation to refrain from activities that are forbidden on the Sabbath. Adherents go to work as usual but may leave early, in order to be home to kindle the lights at nightfall. Many families exchange gifts each night, such as books or games, and "Hanukkah Gelt" (usually in small coins) is often given to children.

The lights can be candles or oil lamps. Electric lights are sometimes used and are acceptable in places where open flame is not permitted, such as a hospital ward, or for the very elderly and infirm. A blessing may not be recited over a plug-in *menorah* or lamp.

Some years ago, I happened to be in Tel Aviv at the time of Hanukkah and, in anticipation of it, had taken my Scout uniform with me. Some Israeli friends had told me of a parade of Jewish Scouts celebrating the festival and I was able to join them.

John Morton

Holocaust Memorial Day - online event has been organised in Gloucestershire

An online Act of Remembrance on Holocaust Memorial Day, 27th January, has been organised in the county and is to be led by former Lord Lieutenant of Gloucestershire, Dame Janet Trotter.

This is a time to remember the millions of people murdered during the Holocaust, under Nazi Persecution and in the genocides which followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur,” said a spokesperson for the event organisers.

Members of Cheltenham Hebrew Congregation, Three Counties Liberal Jewish Community, Cheltenham Borough Council and Stroud District Council invite you to join them online for the 2021 Act of Remembrance. The evening will be led by Dame Janet Trotter and will include prayers and readings (both in English and Hebrew), poems, music, and reflections.

The theme is 'Be the light in the darkness'. It encourages everyone to reflect on the depths humanity can sink to, but also the ways individuals and communities resisted that darkness to 'be the light' before, during and after genocide. We can all stand in solidarity. We can choose to be the light in the darkness in a variety of ways and places – at home, in public, and online.

To register for the event and reserve your space please visit [Eventbrite](#). Log in details for the online remembrance will be sent out closer to the date.

Jennifer Silverston, from the Cheltenham Hebrew Congregation, said: 'During this challenging time of COVID 19 may our Act of Remembrance bring us together, in mutual respect, to remember, reflect and learn. May we always challenge and reject prejudice, hate and victimisation.'

Natalie Towle, Chair of Three Counties Liberal Jewish Community, added: 'This event will be different in one way, in that we will be meeting virtually, but in every other way it remains the same - a time to reflect on the atrocities of the past and to renew our endeavours to challenge stereotyping, reject discrimination and encourage diversity.'

Rowena Hay, Leader of Cheltenham Borough Council said: 'We are pleased to be able to bring this remembrance event online this year in order that we can continue working together with the Cheltenham Hebrew Congregation and Three Counties Liberal Jewish Community to mark Holocaust Memorial Day in Cheltenham and to remember all of the genocides that have impacted on our communities.'

Doina Cornell, Leader of Stroud District Council, said: 'I am pleased this year that we are joining with the Cheltenham community in this act of remembrance. Sadly there is still hatred and intolerance in our world, so it is up to all of us to take a stand and remember the atrocities of the past, so these crimes never happen again.'

The event spokesperson added 'Everyone is welcome to attend but please reserve your space on [Eventbrite](#) by 10am, Wednesday 27 January.'

Scouting in Australia

Scouting started in Australia with some informal Troops in Western Australia and Victoria in 1907. It was fully established in Australia in 1908 and developed in each individual state as branches of the United Kingdom's Boy Scouts Association.

The Australian Scout Association was formed in 1958, linking the states but still tied to the UK B.S.A. Until 1976, they admitted only British subjects to membership and programs and other nationalities only on special conditions and approval. However numerous Scouts in Exile formed their own Associations, including Hungarians, Russians, Assyrians, Vietnamese



and Israelis. In 1997, the organisation adopted the trading name Scouts Australia. Their logo features the country's colours of green and yellow, with the Southern Cross.



Membership has declined in recent years. Presently there are 56,000 youth members and 15,600 adults. Young people can join at age five as Joey Scouts and progress through Cubs, Scouts, Venturers to Rover Scouts (the equivalent of our Network). The Chief Scout is David Hurley, the Governor-General.

The Association took the Papua New Guinea branch under its wing until their independence in 1976.

The Lone Scout Group is for young people unable to attend or find a local Scout Group. Lones include people with disabilities and are therefore unable to attend regular Group meetings, people who are constant travellers or go to places at which they are unable to attend a Group, i.e. boarding school or isolated communities. They hold annual week-long camps for members and their families.



The Association operates in Christmas Island and the Cocos Islands. Two Troops in Singapore are affiliated.

From 1986 to 1992 a twinning project with Bangladesh Scouts made a dramatic impact on child health in project villages and a Nature Project involved reforestation in Nepal.



In 1988, some 15000 Scouts from 94 countries attended the 16th World Scout Jamboree at Cataract Park near Sydney. Rover Moots and Australian Ventures are held every three years.



We are looking for your Help

As a County we are looking to support young people who currently don't have access to virtual programme.

We are looking for a Leader who would be keen to support monthly virtual Beaver, Cub, Scout and Explorer meetings.

If you have a some spare time, or are willing to share a session you may already have delivered to your own Colony, Pack, Troop or Unit, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact Chris Meadows.

Chris.meadows@gscouts.org.uk



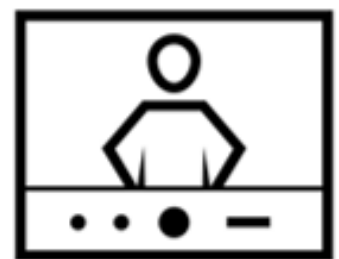
Virtual Cub Pack Meeting

We would like to invite you to join the Gloucestershire County Virtual Cub Pack for our January Pack meeting.

This meeting will be run by some awesome Cub Leaders from across the County and look to provide around an hour of programme that can be completed by a young person in their home.

Details of how to sign up can be found on the County website -

<https://gscouts.org.uk/programme/virtual-meetings>



WE NEED YOU

The County Programme Team is looking for people to help with the support of inspiring programmes across the County.



These programme support roles are not specific to any section.

You could be:

- a Beaver Leader who is keen to inspire Scout Network Members to achieve their Explorer Belt.
- an Explorer Leader who thinks that a County-wide dam-building completion is on the cards for Beavers.
- A Cub Leader who has an idea for a cardboard box canoe competition for Network Members.

As a County we are looking for anyone with inspiring programme ideas for single projects or longer generic support to provide for young people who currently don't have access to virtual programme.

Activities SASU Manager

We are looking for a Manager for the County Activities SASU – could this be you or someone you know?

We would like someone who has the capacity to focus on establishing the SASU. Applications are open to anyone over the age of 18.

The Manager is responsible for the management, leadership and day-to-day running of the SASU. They will work under the leadership of the ACC Activities, alongside the County MAPS, to support the provision of permit assessments and provide Line Management of the Skills Instructors. The Manager will ensure the SASU agreement is reviewed annually, to ensure that the targets set are being accomplished.

Should you wish to apply for the role or to gain further details, please contact Adam acc.activities@gscouts.org.uk





December 2020

Module A

We hope to run courses, once social distancing allows us to do so. We cannot, of course, give definitive dates yet but will contact you when the alert level allows.

Meetings will take place at Cranham on Tuesdays or Thursdays. They will run under tight social distancing guidelines which have been approved by the County and with much smaller numbers.

Please complete the attached [application form](#)

2021

Once it is safe to do so, we hope to run many courses next year:

- ***Steerers' Course: February AND March*** Leaders only
- ***Badge Weekend: 5th/7th March*** Naturalist, Electronics or Geocaching badges
- ***Expedition Weekends: 26th/28th March AND 16th/18th April***
- ***Climbing Course: Easter OR October***
- ***Survival Skills:***
- ***Nautical Skills Weekend: July***
- ***Canal Weekend: October***
- ***Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) Weekend: October***
- ***Caving Weekend: December***
- ***Module A:*** Once each term (or more often if required)
- ***Scuba events*** (Discover Scuba, Try Dives and much more)
- ***Mechanics Badge***

Challenges

Complete any two of the challenges set in [July](#) and [August](#) to win a £5 discount off your next badge course.

July Challenges

- Build a catapult
- Do the Map Grid game
- Read 'Scouting for Boys'

Make a Survival Skills kit

August Challenges: 3 codes

Semaphore

Morse

Flags

Paddy Langham

Gloucestershire Scouts Badge Course Coordinator

THINGS SCOUT LEADERS SAY		
Your other left	Do you think that is clean?	That's too much noise
You can do that	That looks burnt	Your too close to the fire
Stop doing that	That very sharp	It's going out
I am not a maid	How did you cut yourself?	What did you forget?
I am not a servant	I can hear you	Congratulation
Pick that up	I can still hear you	Where is your form?
Put that down	Go to sleep	Turn your phone off
Well who did do that?	It's not time to get up yet	What were you thinking?
You lost what?	Well done	Where is your Necker?
Go and look for it	We will play a game later	Fold it up
No we are not there	Keep up with the rest	It's not stolen it's lost
No we are still not there	Peg it down	Don't climb that
Put it away	It's just a graze	Don't Burn that
Get it out	Did you do that?	Don't eat that
It's not far now	Time for bed	Don't break that
Find something else to do	Time to get up	Don't lose that
Is that cooked?	Tidy that mess up	Don't drop that
Wash your hands	Are you listening?	Don't swing on that
That won't work	Where's your torch?	Put a plaster on it
Stop that	What you name?	Does this belong to you?
Whose are these?	Where's your coat?	Are they waterproof?

Know your County

Tewkesbury is an important market town, where the River Avon joins the River Severn. Because of this confluence, the town is liable to flooding. The Abbey was founded in 1087 and the present building was started in 1102. Following the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1540, the Abbey Church was sold to the parishioners for £453, the equivalent of £294,000 today. It is famous for its seven medieval (14th-century) stained glass windows.

The Battle of Tewkesbury was a decisive event in the Wars of the Roses.

Odda's Chapel, 2½ miles to the south-west of the town, was an 11th-century Anglo-Saxon building. Earl Odda had it constructed "for the benefit of the soul" of his brother, Ælfric, who died in 1053. In the 17th century it became part of a farmhouse, the nave was turned into a kitchen and the chapel effectively disappeared. It was rediscovered in the late 19th century and is now a listed building.

There is a large military depot to the east of Tewkesbury.

From the map opposite:

1. In what year was the Battle of Tewkesbury?
2. What does the dotted line with red diamonds indicate?
3. Where would you find a picnic site?

Note: the exact position of a feature is normally at the centre of the base of the symbol representing it. In this case the symbol would obscure other features on the map, so a line and arrow indicate where the picnic site is actually found.

4. What does the black line with v's along it indicate?
5. What is the meaning of the criss-cross lines on the A 38 between Shuthonger and Putrup?
6. What does the thin black line between Tewkesbury station and the north side of the Depot indicate?
7. What do the letters CH between Tredington and Fiddington mean?
8. A tump is a mound with a clump of trees, shrubs or grass on it. What else was there on the tump north of Bushley Green.?
9. What recreational feature benefits the camping and caravan park at MR 908355?
10. How many Crosses in gothic print are shown on this section of map?

Answers on page 39.



Electric Brae



If you take the A 719 southwards from Ayr along the coast towards Turnberry, after about nine miles you come to Croy Brae. It was called the Electric Brae by Victorians, who thought that it was affected by the “pull” of the offshore Isle of Arran. Some mysterious “electric force” caused you to think the road was going up, when in fact it was going down. A roadside marker reads:

The ELECTRIC BRAE”, known locally as ‘CROY BRAE’.

This runs the quarter mile from the bend overlooking Croy railway viaduct in the west (286 feet above Ordnance Datum) to the wooded Craigencroy Glen (303 feet A.O.D.) to the east.

Whilst there is this slope of 1 in 86 upwards from the bend to the Glen, the configuration of the land on either side of the road provides an optical illusion



making it look as if the slope is going the other way. Therefore, a stationary car on the road with the brakes off will appear to move slowly uphill. Metal road signs that used to mark the location have tended to be taken by visitors and have been replaced by the stone inscribed with an explanation of the phenomenon.

Croy Brae view going up hill

Looks down hill to me



The term 'Electric' dates from a time when it was incorrectly thought to be a phenomenon caused by electric or magnetic attraction within the Brae.

Known as a "gravity hill", it is actually a natural optical illusion. The curve of the vergeside of the road gives the impression of the elevation but it is opposite to what it actually is. The road is one of the more famous gravity hills and during World War II General Eisenhower, who had a flat in the nearby Culzean (pronounced *Cullain*) Castle, would bring guests to marvel at it.

Today, locals still have to beware of people stopped in the road, amazed at their cars seemingly freewheeling uphill. Others will stop and put a ball in the middle of the road and watch it roll uphill.

John Morton

Cadbury's Chocolate Factory at Frampton

During the First World War there was a need to supply the Troops with condensed milk. In 1915, land was bought at Frampton under the Defence of the Realm Act and Cadbury's opened a factory there a year later. It was supplied with milk from the numerous small farms in Berkeley Vale.

After the war the factory was used to make "chocolate crumb", a compound for making dairy milk chocolate and other chocolate-flavoured products. It's a blend of sugar, milk and cocoa liquor, vacuum cooked, dried and milled to form a powdered "crumb", which is easily incorporated in the manufacture of chocolate bars.



The Frampton Community website says:

'Milk chocolate, a blend of milk and cocoa, had been invented in the late 19th century. It was probably growing demand as well as the need to minimise the distance which liquid milk had to be transported in the days before refrigerated bulk tankers which led Cadburys to look for a site for a factory in Gloucestershire. The Severn Vale was, in the early 20th century, prime dairy country with rich pasture and numerous small farms.'

'Frampton was well located centrally in the vale, but its crucial advantage was the canal. The cocoa beans arrived at the ports of the Bristol Channel where they were unloaded onto lighters or barges and brought up the river and canal to Frampton.'



combined with the prepared cocoa to make what was known as 'chocolate crumb'. The crumb was then loaded into narrow boats to be taken up the canal, onto the River Severn, then via the Staffs and Worcs Canal to the Cadbury Bournville factory, which was of course also on a canal bank.'

'The new factory was obviously very significant socially for Frampton because of the jobs it provided as an alternative to the only other major local employment – farm work, and is possibly one of the reasons why the first local authority housing was built in the village in the 1930s. It remained a significant local employer (indeed the only significant local employer) until its final closure in 1982.

'Cadburys is well known as a paternalist employer, and this was soon shown in Frampton, where sports facilities were provided on the spare ground off Lake Lane – the Bowling Green in 1922, and later tennis courts and the first class cricket field. In addition, there was a small pavilion which was rebuilt in 1936 to mark the Silver Jubilee of George V. This created the existing main hall and stage, with a range of changing rooms and kitchen, etc., alongside.

'When the factory closed, the whole sports area was offered to the parish council, but sadly it rejected taking on the responsibility, and instead, some land was bought by the County Council for the new school; some was sold for housing; and the northern section was bought by the Community Association for the recreation ground. The County Council's area included the sports pavilion, which was then leased by the Community Association in 1987, and with two major redevelopment projects in the late 1980s and early 1990s, it was turned into the present community centre.'

The community centre, Cadbury Hall, has five rooms for hire and provides an important social benefit for the residents of Frampton and beyond.

John Morton

(Idea cribbed from an article by Andrew Perrin in the *Vale of Berkeley Railway News*).



Make food matter

Know your County — Answers

1. 1471.
2. European Long Distant Path, National Trail or Recreational Route.
3. Lower Lode (880317).
4. Electricity Transmission Line.
5. Glass Structure
6. (Railway) Siding,
7. Clubhouse.
8. A Windmill.
9. Water Park.
10. 3.

How fast was the ostrich running
when it hit the tree?



gscouts

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