

March 2023



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## Building our Skills

It's remarkable, isn't it? The speed with which we consider a skill that we have learned to be the simplest thing that anyone could understand. When that spark of understanding kicks in and we move from, perhaps, confused, or unsure, to seeing that thing which makes it obvious to us. Regardless of the activity,

from navigating with a map to building a fire that lights at the first go or to getting a tent to go up exactly where you want it to go, there is a moment where the thing that makes it work snaps in to place in our mind.

This may have happened long ago, maybe when you were a Scout yourself, or on a recent weekend camp with your section. It may be that you are still wondering, just how is it that Aaron knows exactly where we are on the map or why it is that Ramesh can make that tripod of pioneering poles so easily when my version falls over. Fear not, help is at hand. I'll tell you about it in a moment.

The next step with each of these skills we learn is when we figure out how to pass them on to someone else. It is that shared knowledge of skills and adventurous activities which make Scouting a truly wonderful place to be. As we each learn and share our knowledge of these things, we open a wider world of adventure to more young people and adults. And, for ourselves, there is that moment of joy when we see another person succeed. We appreciate when there is that moment where the light comes on for each of us and it isn't always at the same point. For some, we can show what we do and they see it immediately. For others, there is a gentle step by step process of helping, maybe repeating one key step many times with encouraging words that gets them over the line. Whatever the process, our patient, friendly encouragement and helpful explanation are a key ingredient.

So, if you are setting out with us on this journey, or you are helping someone that is joining in and learning new things, that help that I mentioned is right here this month. Our New Leader Skills weekend is a two-day taster for many of the practical skills that we use in Scouting. It is one of the most enjoyable shared experiences for leaders in GLMW and will be happening on the weekend of 25<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> March. There are more details listed below. I look forward to seeing you there.

Richard Williams

GLMW County Commissioner





# Events & Opportunities



## GLMW Coronation Challenge

Beavers and Cubs across the County are invited to complete some exciting challenges to be completed during May 2023. These all relate to the Coronation Celebrations of HM King Charles III.



Find out more about the Coronation

- Watch some of the old television footage of the event. Discuss in your colony/pack about what may be different at King Charles III's Coronation?
- Ask friends and family if they have any coronation memorabilia. Books and china cups were given to schoolchildren at previous coronations. Friends and family may have other items connected with the coronation which you may be able to borrow for a show and tell session.
- Look at local maps, or take a walk in your local area to see if you can find any street names or landmarks relating to royalty or a coronation (e.g. Crown Street, George V Avenue etc.)

Team Challenge

- Have a competition in Lodges or Sixes, to see how many words, of 3 letters or more, you can make from the word 'CORONATION'. No foreign words or names allowed. Set a time limit, and see who finds the longest/most interesting/unusual words.

Get Creative

- Design and make a Crown. Use your imagination to create a masterpiece with beads or buttons for gems. Or you could use flowers, feathers, and leaves etc. to create a 'green' and sustainable crown.
- Cubs could make their own shield and design their own coat of arms, or you could do some pioneering to make your own throne.

Get ready to party

- Have a log chew/ pack forum to agree with your leaders on a date, time and place for your coronation party. It could be at your meeting place or somewhere else.
- Decide which guests to invite (parents, friends, leaders?) and design and write invitations
- Decide on what party food you will make. Cubs should make a banquet fit for a king. Beavers should ice some biscuits or cakes with a coronation design.
- Decorate your venue with homemade bunting and table decorations
- Decide what games you will play (musical thrones?!)

- Provide entertainment for your guests (play an instrument, perform a sketch, sing, dance)
- Create a play list of music for your party ('I just can't wait to be king', from the Lion King Movie?)
- Take photos or make videos (check you have permission) of your day to remember. Send these to GLMW social media team, we'd love to see what you've been doing.
- Meet someone who watched the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953, and invite them to tell your colony/pack all about it.

A big thank you to Sarah Appleby & Sandra Burke for working on this! We can't wait to see what you all get up to!



## Water Sports 2023

All Leaders planning on running their own water activities this season at BLYM (Rickmansworth Aquadrome) need to attend one of the Group Leader events on Sunday 16th April or Saturday 22nd April.

The day will cover updates on procedures, opening, closing, risk assessments, bookings and new equipment.

The afternoon will be an optional practical session to either upskill or try a new activity. If you'd like to find out more please see the flyer [here](#)

To book on either date email

[Duncan.Wakeling@HarrowScouts.org.uk](mailto:Duncan.Wakeling@HarrowScouts.org.uk)

## DofE Funding Opportunity

Great News fro the Scouts DofE team! DofE have confirmed that individual units and counties can apply for some funding.

The application deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023 but we recommend getting your applications in as soon as possible. Please [get in contact](#) if you need any support.



There's £370,000 available and we want to help Scouts access as much of this as possible.

Please note that it is a condition of the funding that a report is completed by 1st June 2023. All details relating to the funding including the timescales for reporting can be found on [DofE's website](#) and also in the attached guidance notes.

Funding that you can apply for is summarised below, [apply by completing this form](#). Please can you drop us, at [dofe@scouts.org.uk](mailto:dofe@scouts.org.uk), a quick email when you have applied.

### Funding Available

#### 1. Expedition Equipment Top-up.

Request up to £2,000 to support with the purchase of expedition equipment needed by your young people to undertake their expeditions. The funding will only support the purchase of reusable items such as tents, stoves, rucksacks and so on. We have attached a document with some ideas and suggestions for kit, we have used Go Outdoors as they are one of our partners and offer 15% discount for Scout volunteers.

#### 1. Leader expedition support

Request payment of up to £100 to support an individual DofE Leader within your unit or county. This will be capped at a maximum of two DofE Leaders per unit.

#### 1. External Adult training support

The funding will support 50% of the total cost for up to two adults to complete one qualification each to a maximum cost of £500. The funding should ensure that the DofE is sustainable within the LO/County.

We have also attached an [Application Support](#) pack which will take you through all of the questions asked in the form and how to answer them.



### [Are you the next Jack Petchey coordinator for GLMW?](#)

Each year, more than £20,000 is distributed to Groups around GLMW The Grant Scheme under which this money is distributed operates across all of our districts and is coordinated by a team of dedicated volunteer administrators in the districts and the County.

We are looking to add a new central coordinator for the County to this team. In this role, you will be coordinating the nominations collected from each of our districts, making sure that they are passed to the Jack Petchey Foundation, delivering the successful Awards

back to the districts and ensuring that the funding reaches the Groups where the young people are based. Each year, you will help to arrange a celebration event for all of the successful recipients from around the County.

If you have a passion for helping our young people and leaders to be recognised with Jack Petchey Awards please get in touch by sending an email to

[richard.williams@glmwscouts.org.uk](mailto:richard.williams@glmwscouts.org.uk)



Unit 29 Talent Show - Tickets Available now!!!!

[WSJ Unit 29 Baden's Pals Talent Show](#)

As we mentioned last month, the fantastic Unit 29 are in the final weeks of prep for their two talent shows!

Date & location:

Saturday 11th March at Questors Theatre, Ealing.

The show will have a Korean theme, whilst showcasing the various talents of the Unit members going!

You can book your tickets here: <http://www.questors.org.uk/eve...>

Unit 28 in Brighton!

After working really hard at their unit fundraising, Unit 28 went on a day trip last weekend to help dust the cobwebs off of those mock exams blues!

Together we did a Scavenger Hunt around the local area, and had an afternoon at the pier, making sure we made the most out of our unlimited ride tickets!

We had planned to link it back into the Sustainability portion of the WSJ experience, however the beach was too clean for us to pick up any rubbish!





## GLMW Hillwalking

In January we held a weekend GLMW trip to Dartmoor. Fortunately, despite some very cold conditions, the weather remained dry and the group enjoyed some great walks on both Saturday and Sunday. It is also pleasing to report that two people passed assessment for new permits and a further person passed assessment to renew their permit.

Our next trip is in May, camping in Snowdonia and adult leaders from across GLMW are very welcome to join. We cater for all levels from the experienced to first timers.

More information and bookings can be found at:

<https://www.glmwscouts.org.uk/events>

Geoff Vanderplank [geoff.vanderplank@glmwscouts.org.uk](mailto:geoff.vanderplank@glmwscouts.org.uk)



**The County  
Calendar**



### Practical Skills Development for GLMW Leaders

Are you looking to run adventurous programmes for your sections? Do you need to learn or brush up on some practical scouting skills? We've arranged some Countywide events to help you develop these practical skills.

Click on the links below for more information or to register for any of the events we are running in 2023.

## GLMW Climbing Training and Assessment

March 25-27 Training / Refresher

May 27-28 Assessment / Refresher /  
Additional Training

### Climbing - Artificial Top Rope Leader Course

This is for leaders wishing to take groups climbing on artificial surfaces like indoor/ outdoor climbing walls. The course covers the syllabus outlined for Artificial Top rope Leaders on the Scout website for Climbing and Abseiling (FS120452) <https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/running-your-section/programme-guidance/general-activity-guidance/roped-activities/climbing-and-abseiling/>



The full course consists of two days practical Leader Training, followed by a consolidation period following which participants can attend a one or two-day Assessment. The training will cover group management, risk and safety, belaying, abseiling, instructing, warm-up, climbing games and movement, emergencies, equipment and leader responsibilities. Sufficiently experienced candidates may receive a full or restricted permit at the end of the training course. At the end of the assessment course, successful participants will receive a full or restricted permit, depending on their level of skills and experience.

### March 25-27 Training / Refresher:

- Day 1: Brunel University Climbing Wall, Uxbridge (TBC)
- Day 2: PACCAR Scout Camp, Chalfont St Peter.

The cost is £29 for a full weekend course or £20 for a one day refresher or for abseiling only.

Booking form for the training course March 25-27:

<https://forms.office.com/r/VD2xG8zVRP>

For further enquiries please contact the County Assessor:

Alison Stockwell [alison.stockwell@glmwscouts.org.uk](mailto:alison.stockwell@glmwscouts.org.uk)

## Paddlesports Course

GLMW is running a Paddlesports training weekend for adult volunteers in May.

The event will now be held at Longridge Activity Centre situated on the banks of the River Thames at Marlow and run over the weekend of 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> May 2023.



The course will include the British Canoeing Foundation Safety Rescue Training ("FSRT") award. The weekend is very



participative and candidates will spend most of their time either on, or in the water, paddling in a variety of craft (kayak, canoe and SUP) and practicing rescue techniques. Please come prepared to get wet and have loads of fun!

The course is not intended for complete beginners and whilst participants don't need a formal qualification, they should be confident being on the water in a kayak or canoe, paddling at, or above, the level of the British Canoeing Discover Award. Please see [Paddle Awards - British Canoeing Awarding Body](#).

On successful completion of the course to a suitable standard, candidates can apply for Scout adventurous activity permits. The permits will be restricted based on the ability of the candidate.

The cost of the course is £140 per person. Unfortunately we have encountered some problems with people pulling out of courses at the last minute and we will need a deposit of £40 to reserve a place. The balance is due by the end of March 2023.

Course numbers are limited and so if you would like to reserve a place would please let me know as soon as possible and I will send you payment details.

Please do contact me if you would like any further information.

Thanks,

Geoff Vanderplank

[geoff.vanderplank@glmwscouts.org.uk](mailto:geoff.vanderplank@glmwscouts.org.uk)

## New Leaders Skills Weekend

Date: 25th-26th March 2023.

Location: Paccar Scout Camp

If you are a leader who is fairly new to Scouting or just want to brush up on some practical Scouting skills then this residential weekend is for you.

The fee for the weekend (including food) is £15.

Over the weekend you will practice skills such as:

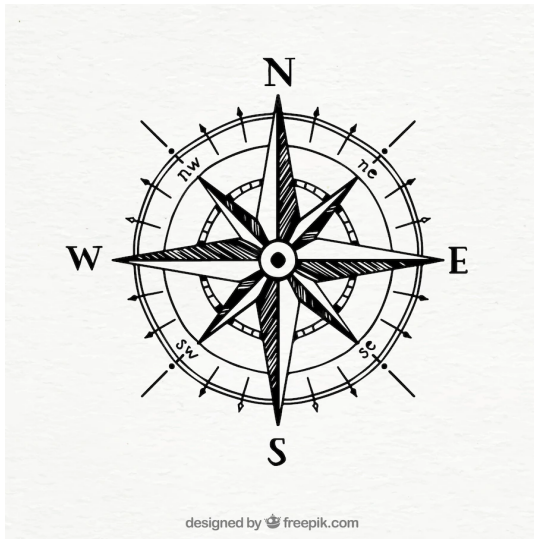
- Lighting wood fires
- Map reading
- Running a campfire
- Pitching tents
- Using axes, knives and saws safely
- And much, much more.

This is a great opportunity to meet fellow leaders and pick up new skills at our County campsite - PACCAR.

Places are limited so please register here as soon as you can :

<https://forms.office.com/r/RaL5LJRC1E>





## Map Skills Day

Date: April 30th

Location: Gerrards Cross Station

Ever wanted to take your Beavers, Cubs, Scouts or Explorers on an adventure in the countryside but didn't feel confident about finding your way? Do you need to brush up on your navigation skills? Well, this is the day for you.

With other leaders from GLMW county, we will spend the day walking through the Chilterns, learning about map reading,

using a compass and looking after your group.

Please complete the form below to reserve a place on the course.

<https://forms.office.com/e/FAf3Ny1Z4n>

## Pioneering Skills

Date: 4th June 2023

Location: Paccar Scout Camp

This one day event is open to all Leaders in Scouting whether you have little or no experience or if you wish to upgrade your Pioneering skills. The day is suitable for leaders from all Sections.



You will learn how to build stable structures using knots, lashings, pulleys and poles.

Please complete the form below to reserve a place.

<https://forms.office.com/e/CJZAxNDRx8>



## Residential Skills Weekend

Date: 24th – 25th June 2023

Location: Paccar Scout Camp

This weekend is for Leaders who may organise or support residential experiences

for young people as part of their role in Scouting. It introduces to the skills related to running residential experiences and linked to the skills needed to gain a Nights Away Permit.

Please complete the form below to reserve a place.

## Bushcrafting Skills

Date: Saturday 16th September 2023

Location: Paccar Scout Camp

This is a practical, hands-on day delivered entirely outdoors in the woodlands at Paccar Scout Camp.



You will learn bushcraft skills in a safe and supportive environment which will increase your general confidence in the outdoors. The day includes all participants learning to use knives and axes safely, building shelters, cooking meals over open fires.

Please complete the form below to reserve a place.

<https://forms.office.com/e/3SAj6bnf8Z>



Looking ahead to summer camp, make sure you are using the updated NAN Form. There are some small changes to the form and this is the one that DCs will be signing off, older forms will not be accepted!

You can access the latest version of the form here:

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/volu...>



Adult Training Dates : March 2023

Be sure to check the [GLMW Training Calendar](#) and sign up early.

Contact with the GLMW Community

Here are some handy shortcuts if you want to contact people within the GLMW community.

[District Commissioners](#)      [Local Training managers](#)  
[County Team page](#)

To share your news and events with the GLMW community, get in touch !

We'd love to hear from you

[media@glmwscouts.org.uk](mailto:media@glmwscouts.org.uk)

[Georgia](#) & [Nisha](#)

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