

February 2024



GLMW
GREATER LONDON MIDDLESEX WEST



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County Community

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Welcome to our February Newsletter,

Whether you were getting muddy at Feb Freezer, smashing the Southern 50 hike in the Chilterns or flipping pancakes for Shrove Tuesday, February always has a lot to offer.

February Freezer was as ever an outstanding event run by our very talented Paccar Team and Crew. Thank you to all involved! If you're interested in joining the crew, it is very rewarding- contact the Paccar Office to find out more.

Thank you to those who completed the census, it has highlighted some gaps in our records and it's a time to tidy up as well as clarify who is in what role ready for our transformation to the Scouting Culture and Team approach. Although the Scouts database for adults is still a little way off, we are still on track to make the change with role titles and welcome everyone with a 'warm welcome'. If you aren't feeling up to date with the changes, you can speak to your District Team. We are working on a page for the county website where you will be able to read the latest updates and how these will work in GLMW soon.

I joined our Regional Lead Volunteer (Richard Williams), fellow London County Lead Volunteers, UK Transformation Team Members and UK Chief Volunteer, Carl Hankinson for a relaxed dinner last week where we discussed our concerns and shared our praise directly with the people at the top who can steer needed change in the right way. We clarified a few points including the need for mental health first aid training, the Jamboree review and the frustrations with the again moved date for the transformation. It was clear that the HQ team are also disappointed but equally in agreement that the system should turn on working well, rather than rush and have something not fit for purpose.

The county team is looking into Mental Health first aid training and we hope to have more details in the coming months. The Jamboree review reminds us that running safe events often starts with great planning, clear communication and prepared teams; working to people's skills, checklists and following POR. We do this well in GLMW and should continue to share best practices at District meetings and Volunteer Training sessions. Whether you are ready for a refresh or have great examples to share, please check the County Training Calendar for upcoming dates.



It's wonderful to see our young people achieve and I have the great pleasure to be presenting some of our first Chief Scout Acorn Awards to our Squirrels in GLMW. Claire (County Youth Lead) visited 3rd Kenton to award Chief Scout Bronze and Chief Scout Gold awards. Please remember to reach out to our programme team if you need any advice or support to complete top awards in your section.

Cathy Muxlow
County Lead Volunteer - GLMW

COUNTY COMMUNITY

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GLMW Hillwalking - Snowdonia (Eryri)

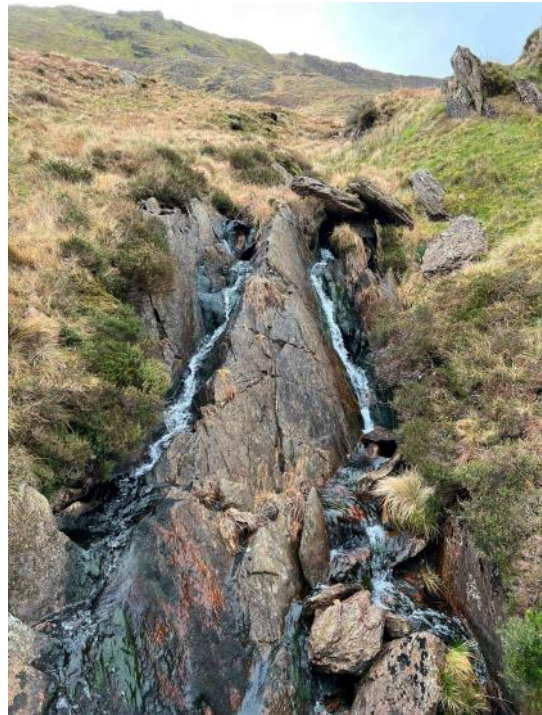
It was a great weekend with over 20 participants. Thanks to Felin Bach Brownie camp for a super base. The weather was dry but challenging in the 40mph winds which drove temperatures down to -4, especially in the high hills. Three groups went out, two training and one assessment. All those on the assessment passed!

The 1st training group had a successful hike and got back before sunset to cook dinner for the second training group who had to deal with some issues on their hike such as quarrying destroying their intended paths, climbing 700-metre ascending paths in said violent winds, descending a seemingly vertical rockface and using ingenuity to cross rivers with nothing but walking poles and anchoring rucksacks.

However, they did meet a former member of the US national rugby team now living in London who was impressed to find Brits drinking tea at the top of a windy hill! Which I'm sure you'll agree was the icing on a very delicious cake!

Thank you Eryri/Snowdonia!

David Stevens



February Freezer 2025

Last weekend, Paccar held their annual February Freezer Camp which was attended by many participants from across GLMW and surrounding Counties. Despite the wet weather and lots of mud, the event was great fun. As usual, there were a range of spectacular activities on offer including the 3G swing, the new caving system and many more! On Saturday evening, there was a silent disco and a screening of the new Wonka

movie. The weekend was incredible, however none of it would have been possible without the amazing Crew at Paccar working hard to make it all happen! A massive thank you to everyone who helped out with the event for ensuring such a wonderful experience for everyone attending

Claire Muxlow
County Youth Lead

[Check out the pictures on our Instagram](#)

SAFETY

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CPR Manikins



Does your group or district have a CPR manikin?

Cleaning is an essential part of their use to prevent cross-infection.

For full CPR you should use CPR face shields and clean the surfaces of the manikin using an alcohol surface wipe after each person and at the end of the session the lungs should be removed and the cleaning routine should be followed as below.

A recommendation is to leave new lungs out of the manikin, so the next user knows it's been cleaned.

If you have any questions regarding First Aid training, please get in touch with the County first aid team or your LTMs.

[CPR Manikin Guidance](#)

Fire safety guidance for e-scooters and e-bikes

The popularity of e-scooters and e-bikes is increasing and with it comes a corresponding fire safety concern associated with their charging and storage. What are your arrangements for these do you allow them in your HQs?

Lithium-ion batteries, similar to the technology in our mobile phones, are used to power many of these new modes of urban transport. If these, and associated charging equipment are substandard, damaged or misused then there is a risk of the batteries overheating. This may lead to an unusually intense fire that can give off toxic gases and large amounts of smoke with very little prior warning.

It is important when storing them, you do so safely to avoid the risk of a fire starting and putting your HQs at risk. Think about them being stored or parked

outside away from your HQ buildings to further reduce any potential fire risk.

In the event of an e-bike, e-scooter or lithium-ion battery fire, do not attempt to put it out. Get out, stay out and call 999.

If you need any assistance or further guidance, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Roger Rixon
County Safety Advisor
roger.rixon@glmwscouts.org.uk



EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

GREATER LONDON MIDDLESEX WEST

The 14-24 team need you!

Scouts HQ are looking for Scout Troops, Explorer Units and Networks to help re-imagine what Explorers and 18+ provision should look like in the future, test these ideas, and then pilot them. There are lots of opportunities for ways to get involved over the next 9 months.

- Scouts and explorer groups to take part in workshops, or run self-led sessions. Find out more information and sign up here: [Get involved with the 14-24 Co-Design!](#)
- Network and Network members can also additionally help by running this [short activity](#) with the group, or by themselves as a Network member. It only takes 10 minutes and will help the design team understand what kind of experience you are looking for from an 18+ Scout provision.

What We Wear – Community of Interest

The uniform update project has been paused until later on in the year. If you are interested in this work and would like to be kept up to date, and be invited to consult, you can still register to be part of the Community of Interest so that when it starts up again you can remain updated. <https://www.scouts.org.uk/about-us/strategy/our-programmes-of-work/looking-at-what-we-wear/>

WANTED: Scouts attending the Thanksgiving Service in GLMW

Are you going to Westminster Abbey on the 23rd Feb for the Thanksgiving Service? If so – take some pictures and send them to us with a few lines about your experience so we can share it with our county in the next Newsletter! (media@glmwscouts.org.uk)

Kandersteg - opportunities to volunteer

GLMW is going to Kandersteg on the 12th
August 2025!!



To make this trip unforgettable for our Young People, we are currently recruiting team members to help with organisation.

If you have an eye for logistics and are keen to help at an International Expedition, take a look at the vacancies page. Get in touch with Terry Kingham if you have any questions on:

terry.kingham@glmwscouts.org.uk

If you would like to learn more about the GLMW Kandersteg expedition click [here](#)

Kandersteg 2025 Vacancies

The Poppy Factory in Richmond upon Thames

The Poppy Factory are encouraging more young people to discover their new visitor centre and they'd love to welcome your groups in 2024.

Our visitor centre is the latest chapter in our 100-year-old story, offering your young people an exciting and modern learning journey. Hosted visits are tailored to inspire all ages, featuring hands-on activities, interactive presentations, with first-hand insight into our unique community of veterans and our special role in the history of Remembrance.

Highlights:

- Live presentation by an expert host
- Try wreath and poppy making, led by a member of our factory team
- Interactive exhibition with video content
- School-age treasure hunt
- Poppy cupcakes and refreshments



As a national charity helping members of the Armed Forces community to overcome barriers to employment, your visit will help veterans and their families change their lives.

For more info, email visit@poppyfactory.org

Interested in booking? [Click here](#)



Harrow Scouts Activities Club invites you to join our next Skiing Trip – Italy 2025



Open to Scouts, Explorers and Young Leaders
Cost £1650 (£200 deposit and 10 x £145) includes travel by air, full board in a hotel and all activities. Financial assistance may be available – please email or call for a confidential conversation about this
Limited number of places for Adult Volunteers at discounted fee

To find out more about the trip, join us on 3 March 2024 at 7pm at the Harrow Scouts District Activities Centre, 1A Walton Road, Harrow HA1 4UX

Or contact: Gillan Barnard (07720 412519)
Ian Parkinson (07757 257644)
Email: PureSki2024@harrowscouts.org.uk



To register for a place, please complete this sign-up form:
<https://forms.office.com/e/9XEtApYZIw> or QR Code:
and pay the deposit of £200



Harrow Scouts Ski Trip Update

Only 9 weeks to go until the next exciting trip! On 5th April, 78 Scouts and Explorers and 24 adult volunteers will be heading off to France ready for a week of snow and adventure in the Alps. Our forthcoming trip is called Pure Ski 2024 and, as the name implies, will be a week focused on improving skiing skills in the fantastic high-altitude resort of Les 2 Alpes.

We have already been practising on ski slopes in the UK (indoor or dry ski) so almost everyone has some idea of what to expect, but being in the mountains adds a whole new dimension and it is just beautiful!

If you fancy joining the 2025 Trip, we are always looking out for additional adult team members, whether you can ski already or are interested in learning. We even have space for 2 non-skiing adults in our pastoral care team. Please contact Pureski2024@harrowscouts.org.uk for more information. We would also be very happy to see you at our Information Meeting on 3rd March (see below).

Of course, we also need to fill all the places for our Young People for 2025, so whether or not you want to join yourself, please publicise our next Ski Trip to your Scouts & Explorers – Ski, Fly and Have Fun!

Thanks a lot
Gillan Barnard

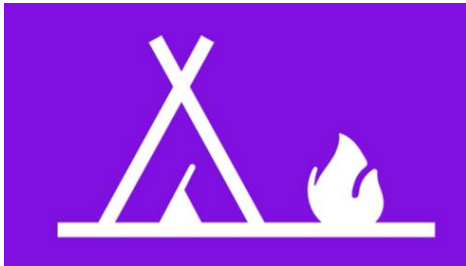
COUNTY CALENDAR

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Practical Skills Development for GLMW Leaders – 2024

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 running in 2024.



Residential Skills Weekend : Paccar Scout Camp

22nd – 23rd June 2024

This weekend is for Leaders who may organise or support residential experiences for young people as part of their role in Scouting. It introduces the skills related to running residential experiences and links them to the skills needed to gain a Nights Away Permit.

Please complete the form below to reserve a place.



Map Skills Day : Gerrards Cross Station

Sunday 28th April 2024

Ever wanted to take your Young People 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.

[Register here](#)

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

[Register here](#)



New Leaders Skills Weekend: Paccar Scout Camp

Pioneering Skills Day : Paccar Scout Camp

13th – 14th April 2024

23rd June 2024

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.

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.

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

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

Over the weekend you will practice skills such as:

Please complete the form below to reserve a place.

- 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 as soon as you can:

[Register here](#)

[Register here](#)

TRAINING CALENDAR

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Managers and Supporters training opportunities

Everyone who holds a Manager or Supporter appointment is required to complete the Manager and Supporter training scheme in order to gain their Wood Badge. There are three skills courses which form part of this scheme, which are running in the spring of 2024:

- [Skills of Management](#): 2nd and 3rd March 2024 at PACCAR
- [Meeting the Challenges](#): 14th April 2024 at Greenford District HQ

Book your place online

GLMW Climbing and Abseiling Training and Assessment Calendar 2024

April 13-14 Training / Assessment / Refresher

Climbing - Artificial Top Rope Leader Course

This program is for leaders wishing to take groups climbing on artificial surfaces such as indoor or outdoor climbing walls. The course covers the syllabus outlined for Artificial Top Rope Leaders on the Scout website for Climbing and Abseiling ([FS120452](#))

The full course consists of two days practical Leader Training, followed by a consolidation period following which participants can attend a one-day or two-day Assessment depending on personal competence and log book experience.

The course will cover group management, risk and safety, belaying, abseiling, instructing, warm-up, climbing games and movement, emergencies, equipment and leader responsibilities. At the end of the course, successful participants will receive a full or restricted permit, depending on their level of skills and experience.



This weekend will accommodate training, assessments, and refreshers for anyone who feels rusty.

- Day 1: Brunel University Climbing Wall, Uxbridge
- Day 2: PACCAR climbing wall, Chalfont St Peter

The cost is £30 for a full weekend course or £21 for a one-day refresher or assessment.

For further enquiries please contact the County Assessor: [Alison Stockwell](#)

If you can't make this one, we are expecting to run another course in the Autumn. Please let Alison know if you are interested in that.

Book your place online

Paddlesports Course

May 4-5 2024

The event will be at Bury Lake in Rickmansworth and will include the British Canoeing Paddlesport Safety Rescue Training ("PSRT") 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 a 'Scout adventurous activity permit'. The permit will be restricted based on the ability of the candidate.

The cost is £150 per person, with a deposit of £50 payable now to reserve a place, with the balance due by the end of March 2024.



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.

To book a place or to contact with any questions, please email geoff.vanderplank@glmwscouts.org.uk

Geoff Vanderplank

Contact with the GLMW Community.

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

[District Lead Volunteers](#)

[County Team](#)

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

We'd love to hear from you at

media@glmwscouts.org.uk

Yours in Scouting,

[Chip](#), [Claire](#), Jocelyn & [Nisha](#)

GLMW Scouts



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