

March 2024



GLMW

GREATER LONDON MIDDLESEX WEST



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Lead Volunteer's Update

Hello all,

The spring is here!!!

I don't know about you, but I find the mornings a little easier seeing the flowers outside and knowing the sun will be out a little longer each day. Let's get outside and show our members the benefits of nature- even if 'outside' is bringing the plant pots inside while we get our hands (or gloves) dirty while re-planting.

Thank you to all those who have completed their grass routes/mandatory training, our compliance levels across the County are now within acceptable limits, but there is no reason for us not to be 99%- so please encourage and support your teams to complete their modules. Trustee Induction certificates still fall below safe levels, and the census data showed me that there are more than several Groups across the County who don't fully understand their responsibilities and aren't following our policies. Although we aren't here to 'police' everyone, it is our shared responsibility to ensure Scouting in our area is as safe as it can be. If we get the paperwork and finance right and follow the policies, the rest should be easy. As ever, please reach out to myself or the team if you aren't sure or want some guidance.

This month has been filled with fewer visits around sections for me, but I was privileged to be invited to help at Brent's Thames Take Over, Harrow's Riffle Shooting Competition and have been busy at The London Region's Team Meeting, meeting with the Growth & Development Teams to set new plans to help us develop and grow, and approved 2 King Scout Awards!

See you all soon,

Cathy Muxlow
County Lead Volunteer - GLMW



COUNTY COMMUNITY

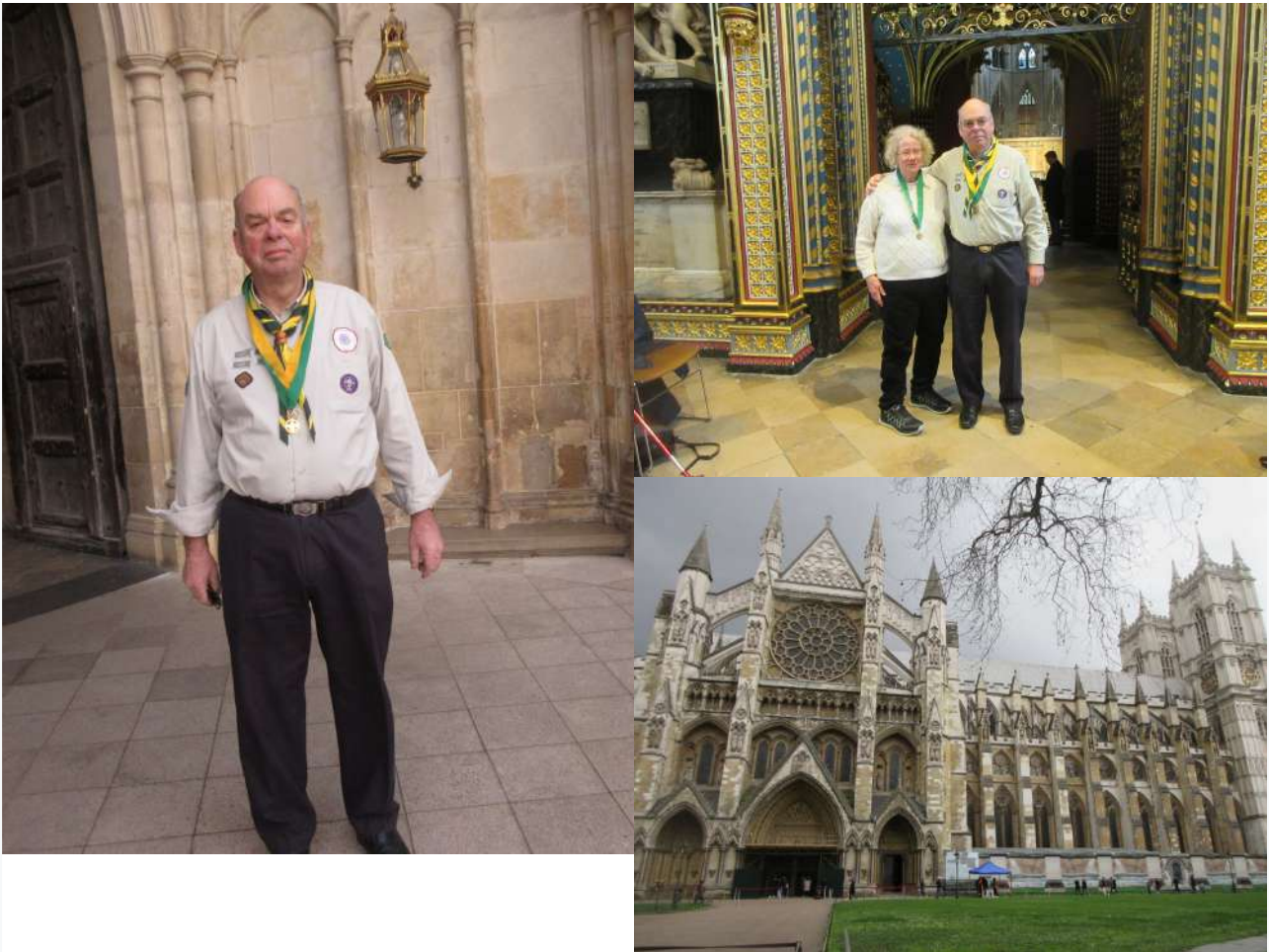
GREATER LONDON MIDDLESEX WEST

Thanksgiving service : Westminster Abbey

On the 23rd February, Central London was awash with Scouts from all of over the country – they were at Westminster Abbey for a Thanksgiving Service. Lots of people from GLMW were there – among them Stephen Leigh, Deputy Lead Volunteer for 2nd Uxbridge. He writes:

“I was lucky enough to be invited along with 1,799 others to the Thanksgiving service held at Westminster Abbey, almost continuously since the deaths of Robert and Olave Baden Powell. It was a very cold but mostly clear day apart from a little hail on the way back across Westminster Bridge afterwards. My wife treated me to a cream tea in the Abbey Cellarium cafe which was great.”

Regards,
Stephen Leighs
DGLV 2nd Uxbridge Scout Group



SAFETY

GREATER LONDON MIDDLESEX WEST

Great Orme

As you may know, the Inquest into the Great Orme incident has finished. You can read the official Scout response here

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/news/2024/february/scouts-response-to-inquest-outcome/>

and go to this page

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/information-for-parents/keeping-children-and-young-people-safe/how-we-do-things-safely/>

to understand how you can keep the young people in your care safe when running activities.

Safety first

Sometimes we are so busy – we forget to think about keeping safe. We need to remember to put safety at the forefront of everything we do! Here are some reminders of how we can keep safe while we scout.

Considering people's health and medical conditions.

When planning any Scouts activity, we should make sure it includes everyone. Sometimes health and medical conditions make it harder for people to do certain activities and it's important we consider this. There's plenty of guidance to help you. [support volunteers or young people with additional needs](#), or [with allergies](#). Also, find out how you can include members who might [experience a period on a Nights Away activity](#).

Lone working

As the days start to get longer, we may spend more time at our scout hut tidying up, or even just setting up for normal section meetings. Remember to think about lone working and how it affects so much of what we do in Scouting and may not consider it at the time.

[Lone working Guidance](#)

Asbestos

The HSE is running a campaign on asbestos, as the number of exposures has increased and the number of deaths has risen. Whether you own or rent your HQ, you should be aware of any area that could contain asbestos and monitor any decay or damage to the affected areas and understand what course of action needs to be taken to safeguard yourself and others. Here's a link to guidance for the safe management of asbestos within Scouting premises.

[Managing Asbestos Guidance](#)

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

Greater London Macmillan Fundraising 1-31st May

This May – London Scouts are being asked to help fundraise for Macmillan Cancer Support. You can get creative and hold a bake sale, or a talent show – or maybe

challenge your young people to come up with an idea! It could help towards some badges too!

There are some resources to help sections with planning – this is an optional extra aimed at raising awareness of all that Macmillan Cancer Support do.

If you would like your Section to get involved, find out more information and register your interest please email vwright@macmillan.org.uk

Once you've registered, you'll get some more fundraising ideas, Section Meeting Awareness Resources, (if requested) Sponsorship forms and a JustGiving campaign link.

Let's encourage our Scouts to be active members of their community and get stuck in!



The Scouts Manifesto

The Scouts Manifesto is launching on the 25th March – look out for all kinds of ways you can get involved, including earning a blanket badge!

If you are excited by politics and passionate about building Scouts advocacy to influence the political agenda so that more young people can gain skills for life – then Scouts HQ are looking for people like you for a brand new team of people looking after Public Affairs and Advocacy

[Check out the roles here!](#)

Duke of Edinburgh Award Welcome Packs

The cost of welcome packs to register places on the Duke of Edinburgh Award is going up by £2.50

From 1st April 2024, the costs will be:

Bronze - £28

Silver - £28

Gold - £35



The 14-24 team need you!

Scouts HQ are looking for Scout Troops, Explorer Units and Scout 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.

- Scout Troops or Explorer Units 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!](#)
- Scout Network Units 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/>

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 at:

terry.kingham@glmwscouts.org.uk

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

Kandersteg 2025 Vacancies

YOU London Arts and Culture Opportunities

The YOU London team have shared some exciting (and Free!) opportunities for you to take your young people on. The following link will take you to their latest bulletin detailing all the available locations.

YOU
LONDON

COUNTY CALENDAR

GREATER LONDON MIDDLESEX WEST

Ramadan 10 March – 9 April 2024

RAMADAN



Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, observed by Muslims worldwide as a month of fasting, prayer, reflection, and community.

@GLMWSCOUTS

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

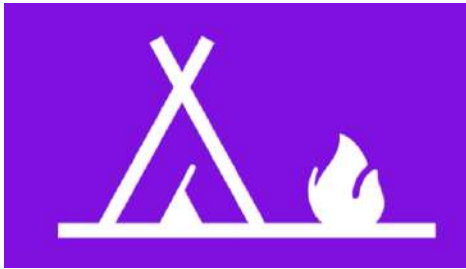
To book a place or to contact us with any questions, please email geoff.vanderplank@glmwscouts.org.uk

Geoff Vanderplank

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.

[Register here](#)



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.

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

[Register here](#)



New Leaders Skills Weekend: Paccar Scout Camp

13th – 14th April 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.

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 as soon as you can:

[Register here](#)



Pioneering Skills Day : Paccar Scout Camp

23rd June 2024

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.

[Register here](#)

Map Skills Practice Day

A day in the Surrey Hills for adult leaders to practice Navigation skills. This day will build on basic map reading skills and enable participants to develop and practice their navigation skills in the North Downs Area. We will be in terrain zero, but it will be a slightly more challenging environment, as might be encountered by young people on a Duke of Edinburgh Award Bronze level Expedition.

The day is open to all adults in Scouting. No prior experience is needed although it could be a useful follow-on to anyone who is attending the map skills day in April (attendance

on the April day is not required). The day will also be a good interim step towards anyone who is thinking of attending a GLMW Hillwalking weekend.

For details and booking, please click here

TRAINING CALENDAR

GREATER LONDON MIDDLESEX WEST

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:

- [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 of 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](#)

[Contact with the GLMW Community.](#)

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

[District Lead Volunteers](#)

[County Team](#)

Get in touch to share your news and events with the GLMW community!

We'd love to hear from you at:

media@glmwscouts.org.uk

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

GLMW Scouts



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