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# COUNTY COMMUNITY

GREATER LONDON MIDDLESEX WEST

Welcome to June!

Dear all,

Welcome to our June newsletter.

Hopefully you all had a good break over half term or were revitalised on camp?!

We now enter the final weeks of term, with some very varying weather to

contend with, and final plans for summer camps are falling into place.

Don't forget the suncream, antihistamine, extra drinks & snack breaks as well as extra blanket for the colder evenings and plasters for the grazed knees where shorts don't cover the same as trousers. We've seen a few near misses recently, please remember to share what you observe so that those coming after you are pre-warned, as you would have liked to have been.

Together, we are making the world as safe and exciting as we can, where our Young People can push their personal boundaries and build their confidence in a risk managed way- wrapping them in cotton

wool and staying home is not raising them to be future leaders, but neither are major and avoidable injuries.

Leaders... keeping safe goes for us too, make sure you are leading by example in regards to clothes, boots, protective equipment, eating, drinking and having enough rest.

Many Groups and District Trustee Boards have replied to the Charity Commission Regulatory Notice- thank you to everyone who has reflected on their current process and have identified a gap and made a plan moving forward. Very few already had 'everything' covered- well done to you too. For those who were not able to commit to the relevant standards, please keep a look out for support and next steps to help get you in the best place possible.

Our Jamboree/jamborette units have started meeting and fund raising towards their adventures in 2027, but there are other Units and Groups also venturing further away and raising funds for usual Scouting too- well done to Nexus Networks (G&D) who are fundraising for their Explorer Belt and to 1<sup>st</sup> Northwood for their GIANT jumble sale that was held last weekend. We're looking forward to hearing how you got on.

My own Scouts have been enjoying working towards the London Challenge Award- an exciting opportunity to find out about Greater London, to celebrate our heritage and explore the city in which we live. Completing the London Challenge Award will earn you a distinctive 63mm woven badge which has been approved by the Regional Lead for London as an occasional badge (£1 each) that can be worn on your uniform. Don't forget to register by emailing: [programme@scoutslondon.org.uk](mailto:programme@scoutslondon.org.uk)

I received positive feedback about West Drayton Scouts (Hillingdon West) last week while they were out and about in town.

Please remember- Nights Away Notifications and Visit Abroad Requests must be submitting in good time for the approvers to be able to review and (hopefully) approve. Any questions asked are to ensure we are all following the process and minimising risks where we can. These requests are rarely declined in GLMW, but if they are, it is not done lightly. Please work with those supporting you in this way.

And a thank you to everyone involved with training, DBS compliance and joining journeys- the list of suspensions for District Leads, Suspension Supporters and I to process in the last few weeks has dropped down to around 30 a week compared with the



180-200 a week that we were getting when the suspension processes started being enforced. Please ensure contact details are correct on the system and that new joiners do understand what is expected of them. Thanks to Adam Green (Brent Scouts) for producing this easy to understand image. Don't forget that we are adding suspensions for not in date first response training next term- please book on and attend (virtually and/or face to face) to keep compliant and be able to deal with those issues that may come up while we Scout.

We have had another change at District Lead level- we say a massive thank you to Chris Allen who has been leading West London District, but due to work demands has taken a step back. He continues as part of the CamJam Unit- 2027 and in background admin. Terry Kingham has kindly stepped up to lead the District for an interim 6 months while we recruit the new team. Terry has a wealth of experience including being DC, CC and Regional Lead previously.

Yours and smiling,

Cathy Muxlow

County Lead Volunteer



## REN Explorers at State opening of Parliament

Scouts were invited by the House of Lords to attend the official the State Opening of Parliament.

Some Explorers from REN represented GLMW - Well done for doing us proud - here's how they found the experience

*"It was a great honour and privilege to be able to help out. Especially enjoyed the tour and ceremony." - Andrew Glossop, Poindextor ESU, REN*

*"I am very grateful to have been selected. It was a very unique experience and great social opportunity!" - Martyna Paszel, Ruislip ESU, REN*

*"It was an amazing experience, I was so proud to be selected. Thank you!" - Eva Parker, Poindextor ESU, REN*

## Celebrating volunteers

Thank you to all of you for everything you do!

Volunteers Week is a chance to remember that impact we make

A huge congratulations to all of our Young People in GLMW for volunteering - check out the number of hours they have put in over the past year!



Sometimes a tough session can make us wonder why we do what we do...here's an excerpt from a beautiful poem to remind us all of the impact we are having.

*“Drop a Pebble in the Water” – James W. Foley*

*Drop a pebble in the water: just a splash,  
and it is gone;  
But there's half a hundred ripples circling  
on and on and on,  
Spreading, spreading from the centre,  
flowing on out to the sea.  
And there is no way of telling where the  
end is going to be.*

*Drop a pebble in the water: in a minute  
you forget,  
But there's little waves a-flowing, and  
there's ripples circling yet,*

*And those little waves a-flowing to a great big wave have grown;  
You've disturbed a mighty river just by dropping in a stone.*

*Drop a word of cheer and kindness: just a flash and it is gone;  
But there's half a hundred ripples circling on and on and on,  
Bearing hope and joy and comfort on each splashing, dashing wave  
Till you wouldn't believe the volume of the one kind word you gave.*

## GLMW Top Awards Day 2026

GLMW is hosting a Top Awards Day on Sunday 5th July 2026 at Paccar Scout Campsite to celebrate any young people who achieved one of the following awards in 2025:



- Chief Scout Acorn, Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum and Diamond
- King's Scout Award
- Young Leader Belt
- Explorer Leader Belt
- SOWA
- Gold DofE

They might no longer be in the section they earned the award in, but please pass on the details to the relevant leader so that they are invited. OSM has a badge reporting system which could help you identify the young people to invite.

Please refer to the email sent on April 2nd to GLVs, 14-24 Leads and DLVs for more information and parent signup links. Parent sign up deadline date has now passed,

Leaders are invited to attend the event regardless of whether you have any young people attending. It will be great to see lots of you there. The sign-up link for Leaders: [Leaders - GLMW Scouts Top Awards Day 2026 – Fill in form](#)



## Module 16 Training - sign up!

There are still spaces for Module 16 - Introduction to Residential Experiences which is taking place on the 20th June , 9am-1pm

Sign up [here](#) for this training (and other opportunities)

## TEAM UPDATES

### Resolutions Team

Sometimes we have challenging situations which result in complaints and difficult conversations in Scouts. To continue supporting our volunteer leaders and managers who are dealing with these situations, we have created a new team who can be on hand to talk through approaches to ensure we are all on the right lines and reflecting impartially- which can be challenging when we are in the situation. We are looking to grow this team and are open to recommendations of calm adults with lived experience. Please send your recommendations to [Cathy.Muxlow@GLMWSouts.org.uk](mailto:Cathy.Muxlow@GLMWSouts.org.uk)



### Team Updates

The training team has changed and is now led by Trevor Golder and Jane Sanguy. All courses are still found on the county website and a separate Training Newsletter will be coming out to keep you up to date.

Don't forget that everyone youth facing (Team Members, Team Leaders and Group Lead Volunteers) all need in date First Responses- check on the membership system to see when yours is due.

If you're not sure how, use the online guide: My learning:

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/volunteer-experience/digital-tool-guides/my-learning/>

Search for a co-CLV

We are seeking an enthusiastic and capable volunteer to work alongside Cathy Muxlow as 'Joint County Lead Volunteer', supporting Scouts in GLMW during the delivery of our new strategy.

We recognise the competing demands on people's time and have therefore evolved how volunteering operates within Scouting. By introducing more flexible, shared leadership roles at Group and District levels, we have made it easier for volunteers to collaborate effectively. We are now extending this

approach at County level, recognising that shared leadership is equally important in successfully leading our County.

The County Lead Volunteer is a senior leadership role with responsibility for providing effective support and oversight to the County's eight Districts. The primary focus of the role is to ensure Scouting is accessible to every young person in the County, regardless of faith, background, or circumstance and to enable Scouting to continue changing lives.

The Scout Association website has a good [role description](#) . If you are interested please use the form for [self-nomination](#) or if you know someone who you think would be suitable for this role please [nominate](#) them. If you would like to discuss this opportunity, please contact me. (details below)

Please return either form to [chad.lake@glmwscouts.org.uk](mailto:chad.lake@glmwscouts.org.uk)

Thank you for everything you do to support our young people.

Best wishes, Chad.

## HQ UPDATES

### 'Place to Belong'

This generation has so much promise. But so much pressure too. Many feel isolated and lonely . Nearly half don't have a trusted adult they can talk to. Nearly 40% don't have the chance to make new friends. More than 7 in 10 spend most of their free time on screens.



That's why young people need a third place – somewhere that isn't school or home where they can find themselves and be themselves. Where they can be seen, heard and accepted for who they are. It's a safe place with trusted adults.

Scouts is that place: a community of kindness, where fun and friendship run through everything . A local community that also connects you internationally, to a movement of more than 60 million Scouts . Scouts is a place to do your best.

If you want to read more about our new Strategy – Place To Belong – the link is [here](#)

### Network 26 in 26

Looking for a new challenge for the year?

Take on 26 exciting challenges inspired by a letter of the alphabet...

You could try adventurous activities, learn new skills, get involved in your community, go camping, or just have fun! The choice is yours!



Find inspiration for your A-Z challenges here [26 in 26: a Network Challenge | Scouts](#)



Planning a visit abroad?

If you are looking or planning your next adventure, you must complete a Visits Abroad form and submit to Gillan for review before you send it to your DLV/ CLV.

Gillan Barnard

[gillan.barnard@glmwscouts.org.uk](mailto:gillan.barnard@glmwscouts.org.uk)



Activity Centres in our County

Do you know that we have more than a dozen Scout campsites around our County? Or that London's largest indoor Bouldering Wall is in Harrow? Or that you can take your young people on a Narrowboat trip on the Grand Union canal.

We have compiled a list of campsites and

activity centres within easy reach of our County here:

<https://www.glmwscouts.org.uk/programme/campsites-and-activity-centres-around-glmw>

Take a look at the activities on offer - it may give you something new to add to your programme!

Quality Coach Travel

Scouts have officially partnered with [Quality Coach Travel](#).

This new relationship aims to help groups that don't have qualified drivers or their own transport, access safe, good value, travel options in the UK and abroad.

You can find out more [here](#)



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

Nisha, Chip, Claire, Ikongkar & Miles

*County Media & Comms Team*

GLMW Scouts



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