

February/March 2015

Scouting

Scotland

WIN!
An Aquaferno
barbecue,
worth over
£300
Page 58

**ALASKAN
ADVENTURE**
An Explorer heads
north for an
alternative experience

**MOGULS AND
MONEY-SPINNERS**
Innovation,
Scout-style!

**WE'RE GOING ON
A FOSSIL HUNT**
And you can too

YOUNG ACHIEVERS

Meet some of the impressive
Scouts setting the world alight





GREAT EVENTS

for your Group to enjoy

The nation's heart charity has two fun activity-based fundraising events that your Group can take part in during the spring or summer term.

Jump Rope For Heart

For 5-13-year-olds

A popular skipping event that encourages children to learn skipping skills as individuals, in pairs or in groups. Skipping is great fun and a superb way to get kids active.

11 skipping ropes, skills DVD, activity cards, posters and sponsorship forms are provided, as well as an organiser's guide, which is packed full of helpful hints, tips and ideas.



Ultimate Dodgeball

For 7-18-year-olds

A great way for boys and girls of different ages and abilities to have fun and get active. Just choose your teams, create a team identity and organise your own fun event.

Three dodgeballs, teaching resources, posters and sponsorship forms are provided, as well as an organiser's guide, which is packed full of helpful hints, tips and ideas.

Everyone wins

Your Scouts win – They learn how to improve their heart health by taking part in fun physical activities.

You and your Group win – These events are simple to organise and you get a comprehensive activities pack with resources worth over £30. Your Group also gets to keep 20% of the sponsorship money raised, to support its activities.

Your community wins – One in every 180 babies born in the UK has a heart defect. The money you raise will help us fund research to prevent, predict and try to cure heart disease.



**FIGHT
FOR EVERY
HEARTBEAT**

For more information, visit bhf.org.uk/scouting or call **0300 330 3322**. To register online visit bhf.org.uk/register



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It is important to note the differing structures of UK Scouting in Scotland, England, Wales and Northern Ireland. However, for ease of reading this supplement refers to all variations of 'County'-level groupings simply as County.

You can read Scouting magazine and Get Active! online at scouts.org.uk/magazine.



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Welcome

A Movement shaped by young people

Scouting is all about giving young people amazing opportunities to experience life and adventure. But how do we make sure that it really delivers what young people need and helps them to thrive? The answer is to give young people a genuine say, so that they can shape their own adventures.

In this issue, we celebrate some of the remarkable young people who are leading the way. We meet Hannah Kentish, The Scout Association's first UK Youth Commissioner, and her deputies Jagz Bharth and Jay Thompson. There are so many young people in Scouting whose achievements are truly inspiring – find out about some of them on **page 30**.

On **page 22** you can read about four fantastic teenagers from a Group in Bristol who go to great lengths to help the others at Scouts and at school. From helping with confidence to leading fun activities, Georgia, Reece, Muirne and Dom are a real inspiration.

Scouting gives young people the confidence to achieve their dreams and take on new challenges. A great example of this is Owen Hayman. In Alaska he's working on the tundra in sub-zero conditions and sharing adventures with local Scouts. Read about his experiences on **page 36**.

We're part of Scouting because we want to help young people be the best they can be. But they have a lot to teach us, too. Reading this issue, I hope you'll agree that we can be proud of laying down solid foundations for Scouting's future for generations to come.



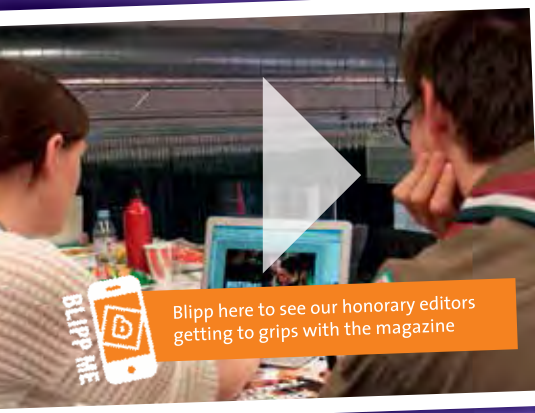
Bear Grylls
Chief Scout





THE SCOUT TAKEOVER!

Three lucky winners had the chance to take control of Scouting magazine for a day. These young people have lovingly shaped the issue to make it better than ever. Keep your eye out for this handy stamp to see their feedback on the issue. To ease them into their roles as editors, we asked them...



Blipp here to see our honorary editors getting to grips with the magazine

What Scout skills did you use to get to our takeover day today?



Kris, Young Leader

'I used how to pack a rucksack, and I've used different types of knots, like the friendship knot in my necker, and hiking skills.'



Claire, Scout Section Leader

'I've used independent travelling skills, and I've navigated my way around London, which is pretty different to Ormskirk!'



Eleanor, Beaver Scout Leader

'Navigation definitely! It's great that you do so much hiking in Scouts as I've used it to get around London today.'

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Meet our new Youth Commissioner

This issue, the UK Chief Commissioner has gallantly handed over his usual page to welcome The Scout Association's newest senior member, **Hannah Kentish**

Having the opportunity to have my say here is really exciting for me! I'm always talking about how I want every day to be a takeover day for young people at Scouts, so it's brilliantly fitting that I get the chance to take over from Wayne for our takeover issue.

When I first started Scouting, I remember feeling like I had to keep it really quiet. When I went to Kenya to complete my Explorer Belt and put a photo on Facebook of a giraffe licking my face, a lot of people said, 'That's incredible! I'd love to be able to organise something like that for myself, but I have no idea where to even start planning it'. Through Scouts I have been given the knowledge and support to do just that – if I want to plan something I know exactly where to start, and that's not something I could've learnt in the classroom at school.

There's a fantastic quote by Steve Jobs that says, 'You can't connect the dots looking forwards; you can only connect them looking backwards.' At the age of 15 I couldn't see how what I was doing at Scouts was going to lead to something bigger; how it was teaching me skills and developing me. But looking back I can see how much it has changed me, and how it has made me the adult I am today.

'From me, and from all of the young people you inspire, it's a massive thank you.'

Throughout this issue, you can read about other Scouts who've had truly life-changing experiences through Scouting. There are other young people who have exceeded all expectations because of the belief their leaders had in them, who have overcome their fears thanks to the support of the adults around them.

For me, it's all about people recognising our potential. Leaders need to recognise the potential of every individual Scout. Young people might not have the confidence to take on a challenge, and without the assistance of their leaders they're not going to find that courage. It's about leaders telling us: you can do it, and that's what you're doing every day.

So, from me and from all of the young people you inspire, push and support every day, it's a massive thank you.





UK

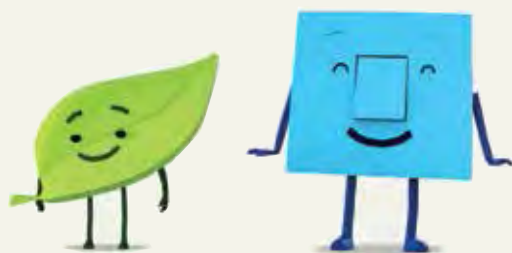
2015

GREEN AMBASSADORS 4 Youth

DOES YOUR GROUP...

- Love nature?
- Care about the planet?
- Want to have the skills and confidence to help care for them both?

THEN CHECK OUT WWF'S NEW GREEN AMBASSADOR 4 YOUTH SCHEME!



Choosing from six topical issues – **Food, Energy, Throw-away, Plants & animals, Getting around, and Water** – your group can ‘Get Informed’ about environmental issues, ‘Get Involved’ in positive hands-on projects, and ‘Get Sharing’ ideas on what we can all do to help.

Open to all youth groups including Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers, it's a great way to have fun and make a difference.

REGISTER TODAY

Sign up today at wwf.org.uk/ga4youth and access all of the materials you need to run Green Ambassadors 4 Youth with your group.





Seen the cool
new stuff?

What stuff?

New Logos
and posters...
they've even got
pictures of us!



Resources to support the refreshed programme
and section branding are available now.
scouts.org.uk/brand

upfront

The latest Scouting news and events



Hannah, Jay and Jagz are already enjoying getting to grips with their new roles

IT'S ALL ABOUT YOUTH

A message from Scotland's Chief Commissioner, Graham Haddock

Youth involvement is an important pillar of our strategy, both at Scottish and UK levels. In appointing Paul McIlvenny as Depute Chief Commissioner (Youth Involvement) at SHQ and Hannah Kentish as the first UK Youth Commissioner, both Scottish and UK HQs have sent clear messages to the wider Movement. We are deadly serious about making youth involvement a reality at every level in Scouting.

But what does youth involvement mean at Group, District and Region level? How can each Colony, Pack, Troop, Unit and Network ensure that their young people have a real say in the shape of their Scouting? Does your District have two young people on every search group and appointment

panel? Are young people the focus of any local media coverage that you get for Scouting? Is your Young Leaders' Scheme in good shape and are Young Leaders making a real contribution to the running of the three younger sections? Do younger leaders take lead roles in planning and running Group and District activities and events?

If the answer to these questions is a resounding yes – well done! If not, why not? You are failing our young people if meaningful youth involvement is not on the radar in your patch.

Graham

Graham Haddock, Chief Commissioner of Scotland



SCOUTS SLEEP ON THE STREETS

Explorer Scouts in St Andrews had a very different kind of sleepover recently when, with the support of their leaders, 10 of them decided to 'sleep rough' for a night to help raise awareness of homelessness.

Sasa, 14, said: 'Nancy, who works for Shelter Scotland, told us that there are 4,000 homeless children in Scotland and I was really surprised to hear that because I didn't realise that there were so many people in that situation. It just makes me more thankful for what I have now.'



Embroidered uniforms

Now available for your scouts or guides group



Your club will receive a 5% cash donation on all placed orders



£350,000

Donated to clubs/school so far!

- 5% of all sales from your designated webpage are donated back to your club
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IT'S OVER TO YOU

The Depute Chief Commissioner for Youth Involvement, **Paul McIlvenny**, explains why a youth focus should be at the heart of everything we do

Scouting is moving fast towards its Vision for 2018, and youth involvement is firmly at the top of the agenda. I'm delighted to be leading the work here in Scotland, which supports, develops and engages young people's voices, views and opinions to shape Scouting in Scotland for the future.

development of our Sections, Groups, Districts, Regions and governance of Scouts Scotland. Young people have the ideas, creativity, ability, motivation and are ultimately the experts on young people, what they need and want is support, guidance and empowerment to realise they can and should take the lead.

Four core values that support the development of Youth Involvement

- Young people choose to take part
- Young people have the right to have their views and opinions equally valued
- The activities, programmes and opportunities must build from where young people are
- Scouting recognises the young person and the leaders as partners in a learning process

'Youth involvement should be our ethos... the foundation of the work we do'

Many are asking if this drive for youth taking the lead is a vision, a view, or just a funding opportunity. The answer is none of them. It should be our ethos – a core value, belief and the foundation of the work we do and activities we offer, young people taking the lead should be core to the

Travelling around Groups, I'm learning about some fantastic work: from Beavers choosing their activities and trips and Cubs planning their programme zones, to Scouts setting their programme and choosing the badges they aim for and Explorers organising their events and fundraisers. And that's just the start...

Together with young people, my Youth Involvement Development Group is a partnership between youth members and adult members who are working to develop the new Youth

Involvement Strategy, supporting new toolkits and planning a range of events for both young people and adults to experience, share, learn and celebrate youth involvement, from just starting off to its very best.

As we work towards our new Youth Involvement Strategy and the 2018 Vision, I would like to hear from the Sections, Groups, Districts and Regions that are doing fantastic work around youth involvement; I want to celebrate your successes and achievements.

Contact me via email, Facebook, Twitter or catch me at events...

 facebook.com/
youthinvolvement

 @scoutsinvolve

 YouthInvolvement@scouts.scot



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scouts
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THE BIRTHDAY WEEKEND: In May 1940, 800 Scouts witnessed Tolmers being officially opened. 75 years later, you can join us for a weekend full of adventures and celebration to mark this big birthday. **2nd - 3rd May 2015**

CTT: Whether its 1 week, 2 weeks or just a few days, join us for this action packed summer camp, with activities from land zorbing and zip-lining to rafting and quad-biking, all for just £90 per week. **25th July - 8th August 2015**

VISIT WWW.TOLMERS.ORG.UK OR CONTACT 01707872900

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NEWS IN BRIEF



AND THE RESULTS ARE IN...

Feedback from the members' survey is now available. An online and printed survey was previously released and all members were asked to take part. The survey explores members' attitudes to Scouting and how you feel about certain aspects of your volunteering. One of the key purposes of the survey was to track how empowered, valued and proud volunteers feel as we work towards our 2018 Vision. More than 5,300 volunteers filled out the survey and feedback suggests that key areas of the Vision resonate with members. When asked to pick the top three priorities for the focus of HQ work, a key element of our inclusivity aims was highlighted: 27% of respondents listed 'Helping grow Scouting across the UK in deprived areas' as a top priority.

Ninety-seven percent of volunteers also feel that they make an impact on the lives of young people and 95% are proud to tell people that they volunteer

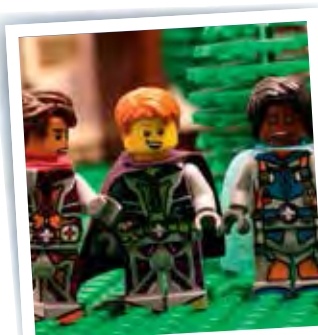
for the Scouts. Both of these figures are higher than last year.

Ninety-one percent would recommend volunteering with Scouting to family and friends – an increase of 4% on last year's results. Check out the full summary of the results at scouts.org.uk/2018resources.



YEAR OF ADVENTURE

The Cubs Year of Adventure will officially commence next month and focuses on providing opportunities for adventurous activities for your section. The Year of Adventure provides an action-packed warm-up to the 2016 Cubs Centenary – check out page 16 of Get Active! for more information on what's set to be an amazing year for all Cub Scouts.



MEET THE SUPER SCOUTS

Take a look at our brand new Scout minifigs film starring four ordinary Scouts with extraordinary powers. It's ideal to show to younger members, as well as school assemblies, as a light-hearted introduction to Scouting. Available to download at scouts.org.uk/video.

fundays

Spring into Summer!

20-21 June 2015

NOW
at Woodhouse Park
as well as
Gilwell Park



scouts.org.uk/fundays


GILWELL PARK
Scout Activity Centre


WOODHOUSE PARK
Scout Activity Centre


scouts
be prepared . . .

housekeeping

Brand updates and the latest Compass progress

COMPASS IS LIVE



Compass is now live and all members of Scouting in the UK with an email address will have received an email invitation to register and set up personal log-in details for the system

If you haven't yet set up a new username and password for Compass, register now and check your details are correct. You will need your membership number and the email address we hold for you in Compass, as well as a few other personal details in order to complete registration. You can find your membership number on your appointment card or you can ask your local managers/administrators/appointment secretary. Your log-in details used for the old system will no longer work. Register now by heading to the Members area of scouts.org.uk and click on the Compass button in the top right corner.

Getting your youth members on Compass

Now that all of the adult members in Scouting have had access to Compass

for a couple of months, the focus has been on ensuring that all of our youth members are loaded onto the system too. Many of you will have been busy loading all of the young people in your section, Group, District and County/Area/Region into Compass over the last month or so. Don't forget to take a look at the user guides available on scouts.org.uk/compass to help you make a start using these tools. Thank you for taking the time to complete this task.

Support for using Compass

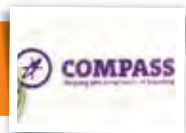
As well as the user guides on scouts.org.uk/compass, you will also find a useful FAQ section. There is also a user forum and so, if you have a question that is not answered by a user guide or the FAQ area, you can post it on the forum and other users or the staff

team can come back to you with more information to help your query. The Scout Information Centre is always on hand to help with your questions too.

The recent high level of enquiries to the Scout Information Centre has meant some members have experienced a delay in response, and we also recognise Compass has had periods of outage or slow running during this period of heavy usage. For this we apologise. Thank you for your patience and for persevering with populating Compass with all the correct member information during this critical launch period.



New to Compass? Blipp here to watch a handy video.



Supporting your section

Have you been inspired by the new section brands? A selection of templates is now available to support each of the five sections. You are able to change the text and contact details and create communications simply and easily. You can create and print a PDF free of charge or place an order for printed materials with our print partner, N2 Visual Communications. Head to scouts.org.uk/brand and log in to access the Print Centre.

Updated brand guidelines

A revised edition of The Scout Association's brand guidelines is now available. As well as clarification on the use of the corporate logo and fleur de lis, there is advice on illustrations, typography, photography, tone of voice and digital use of our brands. Guidance on the section brands is now incorporated within this single document. Download your copy at scouts.org.uk/brand.



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GILWELL 24

10-12 JULY 2015
GILWELL24.INFO



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 /ScoutActivityCentres

what's on

Exciting dates for your diary



March

6-8 MARCH

BASP two-day Emergency First Aid Course

Suitable for outdoor workers, instructors and enthusiasts. Qualification is valid for three years and recognised by MLTB, BASI, BCU and other NGBs. Call 01887 866231 or email warden@meggernie.org.uk.

20-22 MARCH

Survival Skills at Meggernie

Covering requirements for the Scout Survival Skills Activity Badge: spend one night in a tent provided (and erected) by the centre and the other in a shelter you construct yourself. Call 01887 866231 or email warden@meggernie.org.uk.



April

3-5 APRIL

Leader Paddle Sports Development Weekend

Head to Lochgoilhead to receive advice on how to gain permits or NGB awards in paddle sports. Call 01301 703217 or email info@lochgoilhead.org.uk.

10-11 APRIL

Leader Hill Walking Development Weekend

Want to get your T1-T2 Scout permit? Learn new skills or brush up on old ones. £75 for indoor accommodation, food and tuition. Call 01301 703217 or info@lochgoilhead.org.uk.

11-12 APRIL

Fordell Basic Leaders Skills Weekend

Get to grips with basic leader skills, including pitching tents, campfire cooking, menu planning, first aid and more. To book your place or for more information, call 01383 412704 or email warden@fordellfirs.org.uk.



11 APRIL

DofE Intro Course

If you're unsure about your AAPs/OAs/green forms/E-DofEs, try this one-day course to bust the myths around DofE. Cost £40 (Scout Leaders) or £50 (non Scout Leaders). Call 01301 703217 or info@lochgoilhead.org.uk.

12 APRIL

DofE Expedition Assessor Accreditation Course

Learn to become an assessor at Lochgoilhead. Cost £40 for Scout Leaders, £50 for non Scout Leaders. Call 01301 703217 or info@lochgoilhead.org.uk.

13-17 APRIL

Lochgoilhead Scout Badge Week

Complete land and water-based badges and receive top-level tuition as well as all food and accommodation for £179. Call 01301 703217 or info@lochgoilhead.org.uk to book places.

17-19 APRIL

Woolly Jumper Camp

The Woolly Jumper is a fully catered activity camp for Explorer Scouts and Guide Senior Section at Templars Park in Aberdeenshire – thewoollyjumper.org.uk.



Further ahead

Lowland Adventure

1-4 May

Scouts aged 11 upwards can take part in this lightweight activity camp where they can enjoy activities such as raft building, zorbing and cycling. Tickets cost £42 per person. Email info@highlandadventure.org.uk for more information or visit highlandadventure.org.uk.

Parent and Cub Camp

15-17 May

An opportunity for Cubs and their parents or guardians to share the fun of Scouting at Meggernie National Activity Centre! Fully catered weekend, guaranteed to be fun for all! Call 01887 866231 or email warden@meggernie.org.uk.

Scottish Awards Day

14 June

Scotland's national event recognises and rewards outstanding achievement by Scouts and outstanding service by adult volunteers. This year the event will be held at Paisley Town Hall.



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Sail round Britain in 2015

For 2015 our yachts will circumnavigate Britain in seven 7-day stages between mid-July and the end of August. They'll visit key ports en route to Newcastle, Edinburgh and Inverness, then through the Caledonian Canal. On to Belfast, Milford Haven, Plymouth and the Solent before heading home to Ipswich. Reserve your berth on this iconic voyage.

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sailing@adventuresoffshore.co.uk
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Kibblestone International Scout Campsite

aerial - high ropes, low ropes, Jacob's ladder, abseiling, land - archery, rifles, artificial caving, water - rafting, canoeing and games - assault course, obstacle course, wilderness sites, bivouacking zone, dormitories, camping, wilderness sites, indoor support buildings, large event buildings

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Kibblestone International Scout Camp, Oulton, Stone, Staffordshire ST15 8UJ

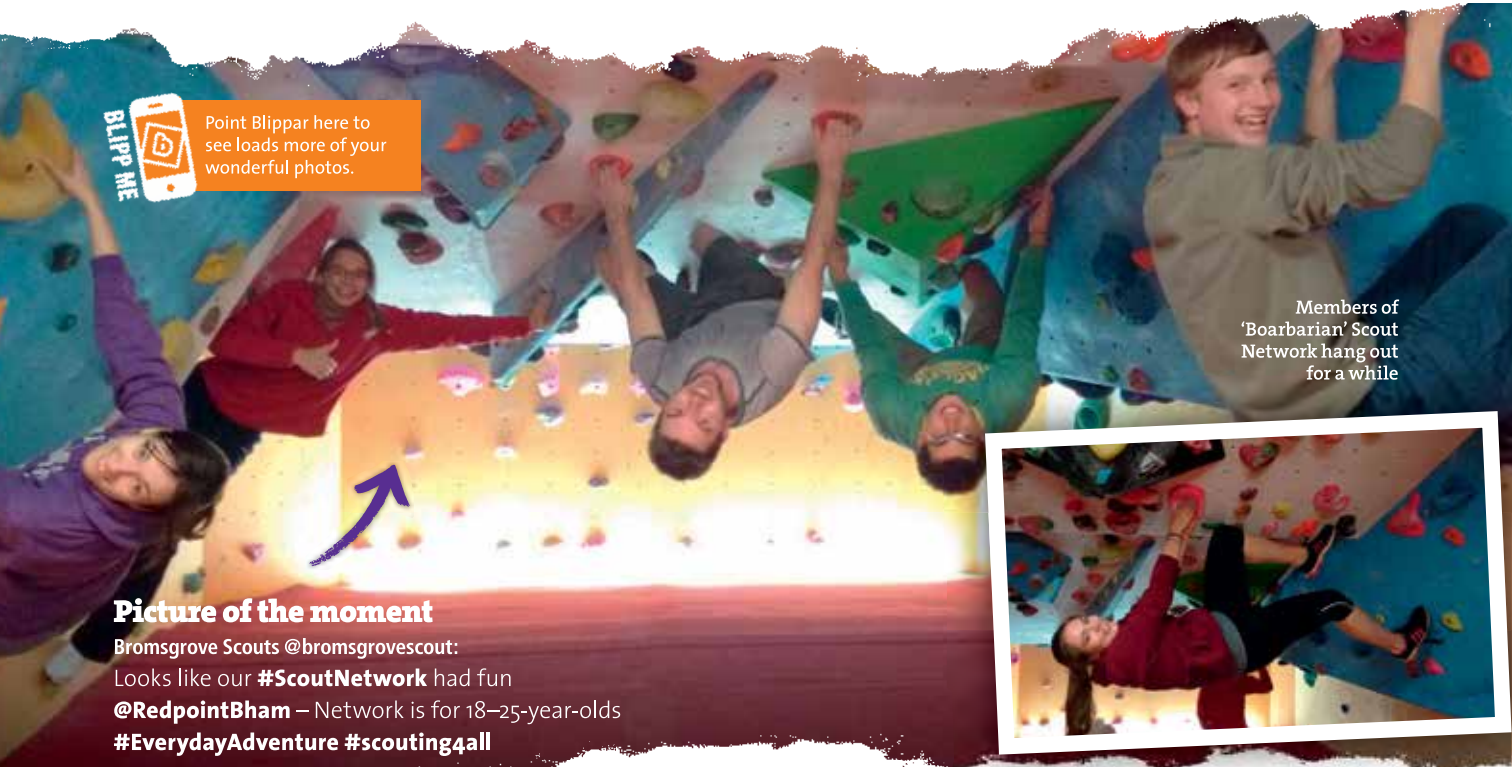
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Email: scouting.magazine@scouts.org.uk | Write to: Scouting magazine, Gilwell Park, Chingford, London E4 7QW



Point Blipper here to see loads more of your wonderful photos.

Members of 'Boarbarian' Scout Network hang out for a while



Picture of the moment

Bromsgrove Scouts @bromsgrovescout:
Looks like our #ScoutNetwork had fun
@RedpointBham – Network is for 18–25-year-olds
#EverydayAdventure #scouting4all

 **Roger Birtles:** Scouting truly is fully inclusive on the Isle of Man. Along with male, female and transgender, Scouts of all religions and atheists, the newest addition is the living dead!


This picture was taken at the 1st Malew Scout Group, Group activity day at the Mully ne Carty campsite near Ballasalla. Beavers, Cubs and Scouts had a day-long round robin of different fun and skills-based events to do including, abseiling, fire starting, badge design, Trangia cooking, a blindfold trail as part of their badge work learning about




visual awareness, mini raft racing and (you guessed it) face painting. All topped off with songs around the campfire and hot dogs.

Also present was Island Commissioner Guy Thompson who presented the 'zombie' (aka Roger Birtles SL of Viking Troop) with a Chief Scout's Commendation.

 **@237thScoutGroup:**
Bravo to 1st Bournville Scouts in @BirminghamScout County. Fantastic article in @UKScouting magazine
#Scouting4all #iScout

 **Annette Sheppard:**
I am a mental health nurse and I think Scouting gives young people good wellbeing, independence, self confidence etc with its programme, all of which can go a long way to maintain and improve people's mental health right through to adulthood.


Also, young people getting out and about and not being stuck inside behind modern technology has its benefits. It takes young people out into the real world and teaches them how to cope out there.

 **@countrygirl25:**
Proud to be an Assistant Beaver Scout Leader. Started at 13 in March 03 as a guide help and stayed in Scouting since @ScoutsScotland.



Cubs Owen, Robert, Dylan and Peter, and Cub Leader Sara, light up the night sky



 **Peter Donnelly, 6th Londonderry:** These illuminating young people are Cubs Owen, Robert, Dylan and Peter, as well as Sara, who is one of the leaders.

The photo was taken on a sixer and second year camp. We stayed at a cottage beside Dunluce Castle on the North Antrim coast where we enjoyed a

beach hike at Portballintrae, which led to all the Cubs ending up in the water, some up to their waists. We then had a night visit to a graveyard, where we made the attempt to spell out CUBS with our head torches. On the Sunday, we held a treasure hunt at Dunluce Castle. It was a great weekend!

OVERHEARD

The funny things Scouts say

A Cub speaking to a fireman once asked, 'What's the coldest fire you've ever had?'
Abigail Allan

A Scout to a visiting Red Arrows pilot: 'Wouldn't you find your job more interesting if you were a bank manager?'
Richard Arden

While planning a trip abroad with my Group: 'Will this compass work in France, or will I have to buy a French one?'
Sam Duffield



Tweet us using **#overheardscouts**, get in touch via Facebook or email to tell us what you've overheard.



STAR LETTER Friendship

We would love it if this entry made it into a future edition of Scouting magazine. We were blown away by Emily's poem about Friendship, which she wrote on a Troop night as part of her Writer's Badge. We were so impressed that we wanted to share it with others. Well done, Emily, you took us all by surprise.

The leaders of 1st Ilminster

A Friend

A Friend is like a flower.
A rose to be exact,
or maybe like a brand new gate that never comes unlatched.
A Friend is like an owl, both beautiful and wise,
or perhaps a friend is like a ghost whose spirit never dies.
A Friend is like a heart that goes strong until the end.
Where would we be in this world if we didn't have a friend.

By Emily, age 12, 1st Ilminster Scout Group



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NATURAL LEADERS

Pictures: Rob Scott



Left to right: Georgia, Reece, Muirne and Dom

BORN

Four young people from Bristol show us youth-shaped Scouting at its best...

WORDS: LEE GRIFFITHS

REAL TROOPERS 1ST ABBOTSWOOD

Members: 75 members.

Did you know?

Though unintentional, 1st Abbotswood have now had an all-female leadership team for nine years running.





They call Muirne ‘the brains’ of the Group and after speaking to her for just a couple of minutes, you can see why. She’s sharp, focused and passionate about academia. Muirne talks about her upcoming GCSEs with enthusiasm, then goes on to explain her plan to tackle A-levels, university and finally a career as a field medic. She’s ambitious, confident and passionate about helping others: she’s a Scout through and through.

Muirne is part of an incredible

team of Young Leaders at 1st Abbotswood in Yate, Bristol. There are four of them in total; as well as Muirne, there’s Dom – a natural leader: calm, collected and always keen to help the younger Scouts with whatever problem they bring to him. Reece is the practical one; a mechanic in the making with a cheeky sense of humour. And then there’s the final member of the team: ‘Georgia? Georgia does whatever she wants!’ laughs Reece.

In actual fact, Georgia is the ‘mother’ of the group; a problem-solver who has a head for funds and a heart for helping in any way she can. Together they form an amazing leadership team that has changed the lives of every young person that has come through the door at 1st Abbotswood and they have contributed to growing numbers

and greater stability – not bad for a leadership team that hasn’t even left school yet.

The fantastic four

‘The four of them are very different,’ says Georgina Hudd, Scout Leader. ‘They were like this going through all sections – Patrol Leaders then Troop Leaders. They’ve always loved learning and leading as opposed to just doing the activities – that’s the kind of people they are.’

With the help and amazing support from Georgina, Muirne, Georgia, Reece and Dom have done fantastic things for the Group. They organise events and activities, organise and plan meetings, take care of funds and work on the Group’s social media and website. They also organise activities and events for the Scouts.

But as well as being great organisers, the Young Leaders are even greater with the younger Scouts.

‘They see people differently and they look at things differently,’ says Georgina. ‘They come to Scouts every week and they do a brilliant job. They get to be who they are here and they



Muirne’s support extends beyond her HQ and into her school where she tries to make daily life smoother for her fellow Scouts



The Young Leader team plans meetings, manages funds and takes care of the Group's social media, as well as offering support to their Scouts

'This Group has helped me a lot and I wanted to give something back'

DOM, YOUNG LEADER

feel comfortable; therefore the young Scouts feel comfortable.'

The Young Leaders help the Cubs and Scouts with their homework and chat about school projects at camp. They talk about GCSEs and exams and moving to different school years and classes and they give advice to those that worry and who might struggle with school.

'One girl struggled particularly with confidence at school,' remembers Georgina. 'But having Muirne there, even just seeing her around school helped considerably. That girl now has loads of friends and is doing brilliantly.'

Selfless heroes

'This Group has helped me a lot and I wanted to give something back,' says Dom.

It's clear that these guys love

Scouts and they all see how important it is to young people; they also understand how vital it is to mentor and help others.

'I'm a senior student at school – which is basically being a mentor' says Georgina. 'When I started school they didn't have the scheme so I didn't have access to an older kid to go to with any questions or to get advice. There were teachers, but having people my age helped a lot.'

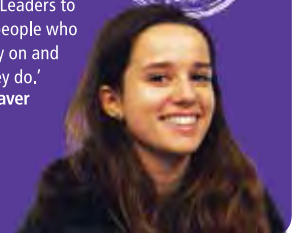
With their own exams looming in the near distance and study taking up a lot of their time, these guys are more than familiar with the pressures of school and Scouts offers a respite from that world.

'Scouts gives people the chance to be themselves and it's brilliant to be part of it,' says Dom. 'Everyone goes



through tough times and it shouldn't have to be that tough. School is difficult enough already so I want to help make life easier for young people. Scouts is an escape; it also

'I love this – it's a really nice story. It's so good to read about people staying on in Scouting. And it's brilliant for Leaders to see young people who want to stay on and do what they do,' Eleanor, Beaver Leader





The Scouts are fully supported by their Young Leader team, whatever they may need help with

... reveals who you are. It's an amazing feeling; helping others is the best feeling I've had.'

Doing things differently

Considering the passion for leadership and helping others these Young Leaders have, it's no surprise that they took an alternative approach; instead of joining Explorer Groups elsewhere, they decided to stick together at 1st Abbotswood and register as a Young Leader Unit.

'It's a fairly new concept,' says Georgina. 'You can be an Explorer and a Young Leader but these guys didn't want to do that – they wanted to go straight to the leadership roles and focus on that. Many people in the District weren't sure about this and asked why they just didn't go to Explorers, but these guys are happy; it means they go straight to supporter roles, which is what they like doing.'

The Young Leader team at 1st Abbotswood shows Scouting at its very best – youth-shaped and putting young people in the driving seat; allowing them to carve out their own adventure no matter what.

'As a society we're prone to taking

'I like being here and I really like being a leader. I enjoy it too much to leave.'

REECE

away young people's choices but we try not to do that at Scouts,' says Georgina. 'If these are the type of young people that take joy from giving back to others, then so be it. The YL scheme isn't for everyone – some of it is hard and you have to be the right kind of person. These guys are mature for their age and they want the responsibility at that age and it works for them.'

It's hard to argue with this, especially when you talk to Muirne, Dom, Reece and Georgina, who clearly couldn't be happier. 'I like being here and I really like being a leader,' says Reece. 'I enjoy it too much to leave.'

Making their mark

The Young Leaders have already finished their Young Leader training – and in record time. 'They'll probably take different roles going forward,' says Georgina. 'Dom will

gravitate to Cubs and run the Group. Reece will probably join Dom and Muirne loves the paperwork – so she'll probably go for Chair or Group Scout Leader, knowing her – always aiming for the top. Georgina will probably go with Scouts, which is her favourite section to work with.'

Beyond that – who knows; but whatever happens, this group will have truly made their mark at 1st Abbotswood and changed the lives of countless young people in the process... 📧

Feeling inspired?

Find out more about the Young Leaders' Scheme on the Member Resources area of [scouts.org.uk](https://www.scouts.org.uk). Tell us about how Scouting has changed your life: scouting_magazine@scouts.org.uk.



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BRIGHT YOUNG THINGS

Who says you need to be an adult to make your mark on the world? These young people are already blazing a trail – and they're all under 21

WORDS: ABBIE CAVENDISH



‘I had so much to say about Scouting’



Twenty-one-year-old Hannah's appointment as the first-ever UK Youth Commissioner was announced at the end of October 2014 and since then she has launched our Better Prepared campaign, has been travelling – both nationally and internationally – to meet Scouts from around the world, and taken a year out of university to start a full-time internship.

So what made her apply for the role in the first place? 'I first saw an advert for the job on the Scouts Facebook page – it said something like "could you lead the Movement?" and I thought "yeah, I could!"'

Writing her application, however, was a little harder: 'It was so difficult because I had so much to say – to write about what Scouting can do for young people... it's a big subject. I finished the first draft and it was seven pages long, which is kind of ironic because I wasn't so great at writing essays at school.'

Hannah's career in Scouts began 11 years ago when her next-door neighbour took her to a Scout meeting. She then had a taste of leadership when the leaders on her first camp allowed her and her fellow Scouts to take turns navigating their minibus. 'I remember thinking "I am leading the whole Troop!" and it just felt so amazing! It was just a really simple way to share responsibility.'

Fast forward a few years to Hannah age 15 and you'll see her standing in front of her County Commissioner, without knowing who he was, and asking for support for a Monopoly Run she was organising. 'Half an hour later he stood up to speak and I was so embarrassed. He said something like "I had a young person approach me today and one day I think she'll end up taking my job." Someone saying that sticks with you.'

Hannah's County Commissioner's belief in her – as well as her belief in herself – has clearly given her the courage to reach for the skies. She says that she would like to become a Chief Executive in the charity sector. 'If you ask me on a different day I'll have a new dream. At the moment I like the idea of being the Chief Executive of a charity. I reckon I could do Matt's job (Matt Hyde, CEO of The Scout Association)! The way I look at it, if I can already be where I am now, then I could well be running a charity in 10–15 years' time.'



Meet the Youth
Commissioner team
by Blipping here





Jagz credits Scouting with helping him get where he is today

‘Scouting gave me confidence’

Deputy UK Youth Commissioner Jagz is currently studying in north London and credits Scouting for helping him get there. ‘I think Scouts has given me the confidence to be independent no matter where I am.’

Scouts has also helped Jagz overcome obstacles and conquer fears; after discovering his fear of heights his leader gave him some unforgettable advice. ‘What my leader said to me will stay with me forever. He said, “In time we are going to overcome this fear.”’ That leader kept his promise and by the time Jagz was a Scout he was no longer afraid. ‘That’s what makes a Scout, helping each other and keeping our promises.’

‘The skills I have are down to the Movement’

Jay Thompson may accomplish massive feats every day as the new Deputy UK Youth Commissioner, but it was a different story when he joined Scouts 15 years ago.

‘I remember joining Beavers aged six and being so nervous. I was very shy.’

Jay championed Scouting throughout his school life, bringing his friends along to join his Group and dispelling myths about Scouts along the way. It was this desire to prevent more young people from missing out that inspired him to apply for his new role.

‘I know that the skills I have are down to the Movement,’ says Jay. ‘It’s so important that Scouting can have a positive impact on even more young people.’

‘It’s a brilliant opportunity’

Explorer Scout Harry, 15, is a Young Leader at his local Group, having joined at the age of six. Harry has cerebral palsy and was not expected to live beyond his first birthday. Despite his mobility problems he learnt to walk and says one of his favourite activities is rock-climbing. Harry has even been presented with a Chief Scout’s Commendation for Meritorious Conduct by Chief Scout Bear Grylls. Jet-setter Harry is off to Japan this year to represent Bedfordshire at the World Scout Jamboree. ‘I am so excited... it’s a brilliant opportunity and I can’t wait,’ says Harry.





Scottish Sprint
Champion, Fiona, was
inspired to try canoeing
after two Olympians
visited her school

‘I was so pleased when I won gold’

Fifteen-year-old Explorer Scout Fiona became a canoeing champion only a year after she took up the sport. She decided to start canoeing when Olympians Tim Baillie and Dave Florence visited her school, and took to it straight away. ‘I gave it a go and really enjoyed it. It took me a while to get good balance. It still isn’t perfect now but it’s a lot better.’ Fiona won the Scottish Sprint Championship Open in 2013, which was the first competition she had ever taken part in. ‘I was so pleased when I won gold. I wasn’t expecting to do as well as I did, it was a great feeling,’ she says.

‘Scouting has been a huge part of my life’

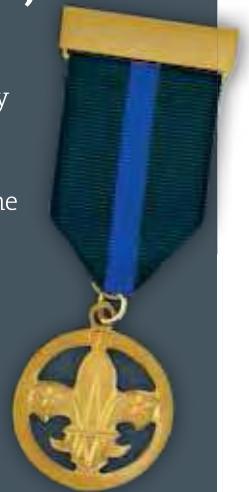


Hannah is the Vice Chair of The Scout Association delegation to the British Youth Council. She’s worked hard to ensure that young people’s views are taken on board, and is passionate about the opportunities young people have at Scouts. ‘Scouting has been a huge part of my life for many years, giving me so much room to grow into the person I am,’ says Hannah.

Hannah has also done a lot of work to get Scouts into the media, helping to launch a Scout show on a community radio station and representing the Movement on BBC Three’s debate show Free Speech.

‘Well done, mate!’

Cub Scout Ethan bravely jumped into a swimming pool when one of his friends got into difficulties. He calmly rescued him and pulled him safely to the side. As well as getting a ‘well done, mate!’ from the lifeguard at the pool, Ethan was awarded the Chief Scout’s Commendation for Meritorious Conduct.



Picture: The Scotsman Publ Ltd



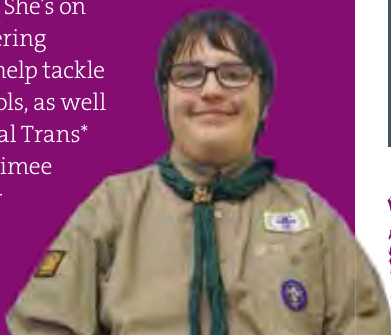
‘If I hadn’t gone to Specsavers, I wouldn’t be here’

After a routine visit to the opticians, 14-year-old Young Leader Ben was diagnosed with a brain tumour and underwent two operations. He has since spent time helping children on the neurology ward. Ben was in a wheelchair for some time after his operation and says he still can’t play most sports but it’s certainly not holding him back. He volunteers at a Lego club at a local sensory unit and at his old primary school, where he talks to the children about the importance of eye tests. ‘I tell them if I hadn’t gone to Specsavers I wouldn’t be here and they are all pretty keen to get their eyes tested after that!’



‘Scouting has really helped me’

Aimee is an Explorer at Radford Rhinos in Coventry who identifies as transgender. She came out to her Unit last September and received nothing but support. ‘It’s not an issue, I’m an Explorer and I contribute to my Unit and that’s what counts.’ In addition to working towards her Queen’s Scout Award, Aimee works on a number of volunteer projects. She’s on the Stonewall Youth Volunteering Programme, which works to help tackle homophobic bullying in schools, as well as volunteering at the National Trans* Youth Network Conference. Aimee hopes to become a Cub Leader one day. ‘Scouting has really helped me and I hope I can pass that on.’



‘There was no-one left to remember them’

Explorer Scout Gemma is the inspiration behind Every Man Remembered, a Royal British Legion campaign to commemorate individual servicemen who gave their lives during the First World War. The digital memorial was launched after Gemma visited the battlefields of Flanders and noticed that some graves were bare. ‘It’s a shame for some people to have dozens of wreaths and flowers while others had no-one left to remember them,’ said Gemma.

‘It’s about young people taking the lead...’

Callum joined Scouts as a Beaver and hasn’t looked back. As well as being a full-time student, Callum currently works as a youth worker in a local authority. He works with 200 young people every week and provides support as well as a lot of fun – he says Scouts can be a bit of an inspiration in that respect!

Callum is also a member of the Community Impact Group and wants young people to have the chance to lead in Scouting. ‘It’s about young people taking the lead... it’s about all of us going around and saying this is what we want, this is what’s important to us,’ he says.

Share your stories

Tell us about any amazing Scouts and volunteers you know on our Facebook page or by emailing scouting.magazine@scouts.org.uk.

SCOUTS GO ULTRA LOW

Three Scout Leaders were challenged to drive an ultra low-emission car for three months to see what a difference it made to their lives...



When Go Ultra Low, a government campaign to promote Ultra Low-Emission Vehicles (ULEVs), offered three of our Scout Leaders the chance to test drive its cars for three months, they jumped at the chance.

A few months on and Pete, Simon



David Gerrard, Gt Harwood, Lancashire
Car: Renault Zoe

and Pete, these cars are one step ahead of the rest. Not only can ultra low emission cars cost as little as 2p a mile, but they also calculate your energy use against your speed and tell you how far you can travel before recharging.

Each leader had a chargepoint fitted at their home, but they were also impressed at the number of chargepoints available around the



Simon Corrigan, Hampshire
Car: Toyota Prius Plug-in

and David have been travelling to and from their Scout meetings in their ULEVs: the 100% electric Renault ZOE and Nissan LEAF, and the Toyota Prius Plug-in Hybrid, a combination of an electric motor and an internal combustion engine.

How they got on

The leaders took great delight in all the wonderful features of their ULEVs. From David being able to find his nearest chargepoint using his Renault ZOE's sat nav, to Pete being able to pre-heat his Nissan LEAF on cold mornings using a smartphone

All three Scout Leaders loved getting to grips with their ULEVs, which became a real talking point at Scout meetings

Pete Sturgess, Chorley, Lancashire
Car: Nissan LEAF



The new Go Ultra Low resources made great programme material



country, many of which are free to use, helping Simon in particular to halve his fuel costs compared to his regular petrol car.

All three found the electric cars were a talking point, receiving interest from Scouts, colleagues and friends, all of whom wanted to be taken for a spin. Even strangers would approach them to ask questions. In particular, Pete's Scout Group were fascinated by his new ULEV. One Scout said, 'I really like it but there doesn't seem to be anything propelling it!'

Exciting new resources!

Pete also introduced his Group to the new resources from Go Ultra

Low. These aim to teach young people about electric and Ultra Low Emission Cars and include a range of activities that are simple and fun to do in the meeting place, including building their own electric car. To download the pack visit scouts.org.uk/goultralow.

Want to know more?

The GUL campaign aims to provide a one-stop hub for everything motorists need to know about Ultra Low-Emission Vehicles to demonstrate that they are a real choice for motoring today.

WHY SHOULD YOU GO ULTRA LOW?

The UK Government has committed to reducing the UK's greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% by 2050, the aim being that in 2050 almost every car and van in the UK will be a Go Ultra Low vehicle. The UK Government is making it easier to switch to a ULEV with Plug-in Car Grants, offering up to £5,000 towards the cost, and by installing rapid chargepoints around the country that can charge a car in as little as 20 minutes.

ULEVs don't just help with environmental savings; it is estimated that parents make 1.3 billion journeys over school year. Go Ultra Low estimates that 410 million litres of fuel* will be needed to power these pick-ups and drop-offs, at a total cost of £530m. When compared to the fuel costs for a ULEV**, if every single one of these journeys was made in a 100% electric vehicle, fuel costs would amount to less than a fifth of this (18%) at £94m. As a result, drivers could save as much as £440m a year on fuel for school runs if they switched to a ULEV.

To find out more visit goultralow.com



* Average car fuel consumption in 2013 is approximately 50mpg
** Running costs based on Nissan LEAF: 1.75p/mile (on range of 124 miles) based on British Gas Clear & Simple Economy 7 unit rates for a customer paying by Direct Debit as at 11 November 2013, assuming 7 hours of charging at the night rate and one hour on daytime rate, 35% charging efficiency. A daily standing charge of 26p also applies. Renault ZOE & BMW i3 also achieve under 2p/mile running costs.





ALASKAN ADVENTURE

One Explorer Scout Leader embarks on a different kind of journey...

WORDS: LEE GRIFFITHS





You may have heard of Barrow, Alaska... It's the desolate setting for the horror film (and novel), *30 Days of Night*. It's also the place Karl Pilkington visited during his *An Idiot Abroad* escapades, commenting that it wouldn't matter if you went blind in Barrow 'because there's nothing to see there anyway'. There are no roads

that lead to Barrow; only planes and boats can access it.

A small town at the most northern point of Alaska, Barrow is plunged into darkness for a couple of months straight every year (the perfect place for vampires in the aforementioned film and book!). It's a bleak place and almost certainly it wouldn't be your first choice for a holiday destination.

But for one intrepid Explorer

Scout Leader from Swansea, Barrow is the place – for now at least – that he calls home.

It's grim up north

'It looks like a post-apocalyptic wasteland; full of dusty corrugated-iron sheds and warehouses and a patchwork of wind-blasted wooden houses. Forget the mountains and glaciers you picture of Alaska; Barrow is extremely flat. On a clear day you can see for hundreds of miles in all directions.'

Meet Owen Hayman: 23 and an Assistant Explorer Scout Leader from Sheffield whose Scout spirit and hunger for adventure has brought him to Northern Alaska.

Though it's not the most glamorous place for an explorer, there's a reason Owen has flown out to this remote location – he's here on serious business. Owen is a field technician intern, working on collecting information for Sheffield University and San Diego State University as part of a long-term project. 'Our research in Barrow tells us if the tundra up here is absorbing or releasing carbon dioxide and methane, both of which are greenhouse gases.'

With a trend of arctic warming,



'I love to see the skills that Scouts in different countries use.'
Kris, Young Leader





‘During the winter the Scouts build an igloo and sleep in it.’

greenhouse gas release from the tundra could cause even more warming and climate change, with disastrous global consequences; the research team have field sites across the entire North Slope of Alaska.

Living and working in a remote corner of the world in -40° conditions is the kind of situation Owen is used to. He has adventure flowing through his veins and he’s been exploring the world and seeking excitement since he got his first taste of Scouting: ‘I’ve worked on Scout camps in Washington State, an international camp in Arkansas and volunteered in Sweden,’ says Owen.

Spirit of adventure

Owen has been a Scout since he was six, joining 44th Swansea Scouts as a Beaver; he’s now AESU with Anvil Explorer Unit in Sheffield. ‘We’re based within a short distance of both Sheffield city centre and the

Peak District,’ says Owen. ‘We enjoy everything from caving to city-wide Pac-Man wide-games.’ He continues: ‘Scouting gave me an appreciation for the spirit of adventure and a hunger to explore further afield.’

So it’s no surprise that Owen ended up getting an intern role that takes him to the far corners of the

earth – to environments as unique as Barrow. ‘Without a doubt, Scouting was key in helping me identify my strengths and finding ways to work with my weaknesses. Outdoors work and an interest in the environment were fostered in Scouting, so in life I’ve naturally headed toward jobs where I can put these skills to use.’




A long way from home, Barrow is a far-cry from Sheffield, but Owen has made plenty of new Scout friends to see him through his stay





'I love seeing real people in real places. As a reader, it gives you a sense of really being there.'

Claire, Section Leader and Scout Network member



'Scouting gave me a hunger to explore further afield.'

A typical working day in Barrow usually consists of your usual 9–5 structure, despite the lack of sunlight. Owen starts the day with porridge and tea before checking the weather and the data coming in from the team's instruments in the field. He then drives out to the laboratory and warehouse to collect equipment and tools and then returns to get dressed for the cold conditions.

'While staying warm is essential, sweating into the clothes and boots is a dangerous mistake to make,' says Owen. 'The sweat makes your clothes damp and takes heat away from the body quickly.'

Tasks out in the field might include collecting data, such as ice depth within the soil, to cleaning and calibrating instruments that permanently collect data. 'This may last the whole day, with lunch being eaten in a small shed out on the tundra,' says Owen. 'We round things up with any indoor work and data handling and then I will see out the rest of the day by watching the sea ice on the beach in the

summer or looking for northern lights in the winter.'

All work and no play?


Of course, Owen's Barrow experience isn't entirely work-focused: 'During the mid-summer there were many other researchers here from all over the world – as many as 50 – we'd have bonfires on the beach.

Quad-biking, coastal walks and exploration and bird-watching all feature in Owen's day-to-day routine, as does getting involved in cultural events like local dances and meeting local Scouts. 'There's a Boy Scout Troop here in Barrow,' says Owen. 'During the winter the Scouts build an igloo and sleep in it. During summer they may camp locally but usually fly to central Alaska to Lost Lake Scout Camp to meet Scouts from other parts of Alaska.'

Owen will spend five-and-a-half months in Barrow; adventuring and studying with other researchers and enjoying a fairly surreal way of life.

He's come a long way since lighting his first campfire as a Beaver Scout

and enjoying a memorable meal of toast and marmalade. These are the earliest memories of adventure for Owen and it's definitely Scouting that started him out on the path to an amazing journey.

'I remember bonding with Scouts from all over the world around the campfire at Gilwell Park and getting on a plane to go to the USA when I was 19 to work at a Scout camp,' says Owen. 'It was the first time I'd been on a plane. I was alone but I knew I had the best summer of my life ahead of me and this was just the beginning of my adventures!' 

Tell us about your travels

Has Scouting taken you to amazing and unexpected places? Let us know by emailing scouting.magazine@scouts.org.uk. Help Scouts experience their own international adventure: contact your local ACCI or check out scouts.org.uk/international for advice on getting started.



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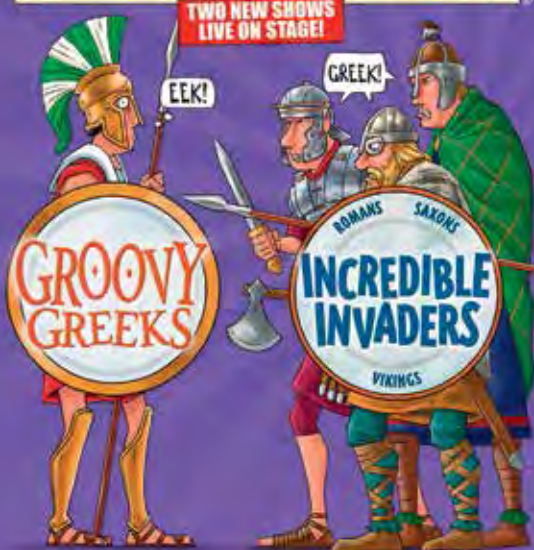
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SCOUT
MOGULS
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SPINNERS

From quirky fundraising ideas to exciting business ventures, these Scouts have no shortage of talent, determination and entrepreneurial skills...

Illustrations: Martina Paukova

WORDS: VICKY MILNES



THE CREATIVE LEADER

Dawn Carter, Scout Leader at 1st Bishop's Stortford, came up with a fantastic idea to bring out her Scouts' business acumen. She explains: 'I loaned 39 young people in my Group £1 each and asked them to turn it into more money. Over eight weeks they made an amazing £1,300 for Grove Cottage, the local Mencap centre. I wanted to give them a bit of a challenge and bring out their creativity. I didn't tell them how to raise money but gave them a few ideas. Some of them bought baking ingredients and made cakes to sell. Others clubbed together to buy cleaning products and washed cars. It was great to watch them develop their ideas and confidence!'

THE FILM WHIZZ

Young Leader Jamie Malone entered a competition run by his local council, and won £5,000 to invest in a film production company he runs with his friend. After creating a business model and pitching his business idea to a group of local business minds, the council agreed to give him the funding he needed to invest in equipment for his company. He's just been contracted on a year-long project to mark his local primary school's 150th anniversary. Jamie says: 'I attend college at the same time as running my business. I hope to study film production at university.'

THE FUNDRAISER

Brynja, an Explorer Scout from St Andrews, is raising funds for the Movember Foundation in memory of her grandfather who died from prostate cancer. Being unable to grow a moustache herself for the charity event, she came up with the brilliant idea of baking 'tash-on-a-stick' cookies to raise money. She says: 'The last three years have been difficult with my grandfather's illness, but going to Scouts gave me a focus. Being a Scout has also developed me and given me the confidence to take my 'tash-on-a-stick' cookie idea forward to raise money for Movember and help others.' Find out more at facebook.com/tashonastick and uk.movember.com/mospace/5636641.



Blipp here to
check out
Jamie's work



THE BAKER

Jess, 17, is a Young Leader at 1st Chesham Beavers. She baked cakes to raise money for the 2011 Scout Jamboree in Sweden and now runs her own cake-making business, Iced and Sliced. She says: 'My business is mostly through Facebook and word of mouth – I've had a lot of support from people in Scouting. I love being creative and my favourite cake was decorated as a campsite – it was birthday cake for my mum's friend who's a Cub Leader. I hope to open a cake shop in the future. If you've got a skill that you're good at, you might as well make the most of it.'

THE WORLD CYCLIST

Assistant Scout Leader Reece Gledhill, 23, is about to embark on a massive challenge – cycling across the globe. He'll be on the road for 10 months, raising money for The Scout Association and children's charity UNICEF. Reece says: 'The hardest thing is going to be eating enough food. I've got high metabolism anyway but I'm going to need 6–7,000 calories a day. I'll have to carry a week or two's worth of food – so my bike will be quite heavy!' Reece's trip is solo but people are welcome to join him for parts of the ride. Find out more at worldwidecycle.org and [facebook.com/worldwidecycle](https://www.facebook.com/worldwidecycle).

THE BIKE EXPERT

Conor Culham, 15, an Explorer Scout from Braintree, has run his own business for two years. His business fixing and selling bikes started as a small service to friends and family; it has now developed into a successful venture that thrives on word-of-mouth recommendations. Conor has two sheds in the garden kitted out with his 'spares' department and rammed with bikes that are 'work in progress.' In two years he has turned over £2,000. His skills have also proved useful for Thorrington Scout Camp, where he built trailers to transport tools around the site.



THE APP DEVELOPER

Michael, 15, an Explorer Scout with Dorking Roundabout Roosters, created the 'Scout Forms' app to make life easier for Scout leaders and raise funds for a Scout trip to Finland. Michael says: 'My mum is a District Commissioner and was always talking about the forms she had to work with. That started my idea for an app with Scout forms.' Michael has been interested in programming since his father taught him his first lines of HTML code at the age of 10 and has also designed a computer game for his younger brother. You can get the app for Android devices, including Kindle Fire and Fire Phone.

THE CHEF

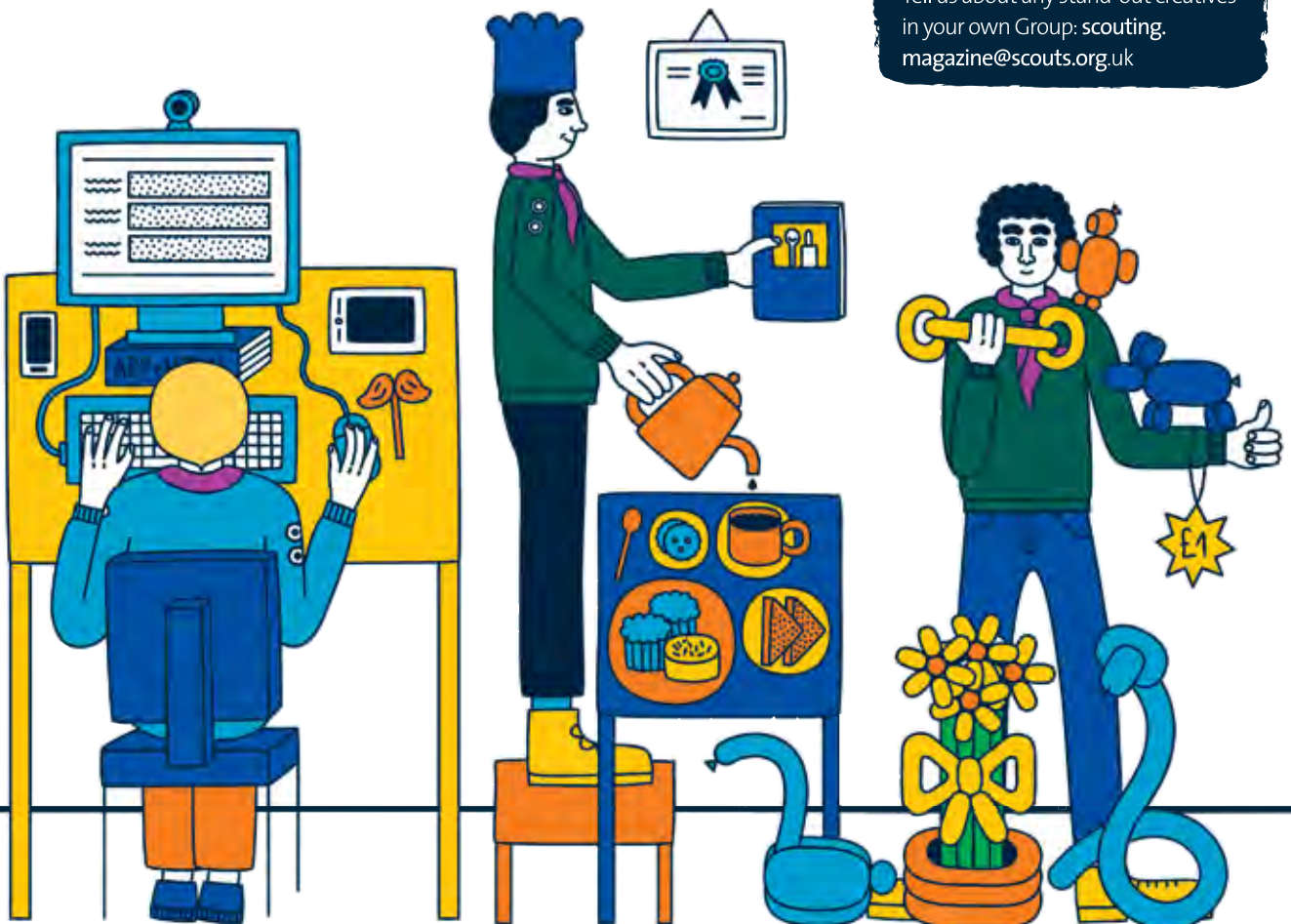
Cub Scout Dylan, 8, has been a keen supporter of the Wallace & Gromit's Children's Charity since he was three years old. He's written a recipe book to raise funds for the charity and raised £1,000. Through his achievements he's been crowned 'The First Young Ambassador for Crowdfunding in the UK'. Dylan's other fundraising endeavours include holding a tea party, taking on a five-mile bike ride and his new enterprise – 'SuperCandylicious' – which involves selling candy floss and sweets. Turn to page 62 to try out one of Dylan's recipes and find out more at crackinggoodrecipes.org.uk.

THE BALLOONIST

Caspar, 9, created and sold balloon animals, flowers and swords to raise money for the Ebola crisis appeal. His balloon creations cost £1 each and so far he's raised more than £40 for the appeal. Caspar, who attends 12th Darlington, learnt the art of balloon modelling when he was in hospital after contracting MRSA. His mum gave him a balloon modelling kit to pass almost two weeks on the ward. Caspar says: 'I thought maybe I could do that (balloon modelling) to help the Ebola crisis and that it would be a good deed. I wanted to try and help end Ebola, and even a little bit of money could help.'

Share your stories

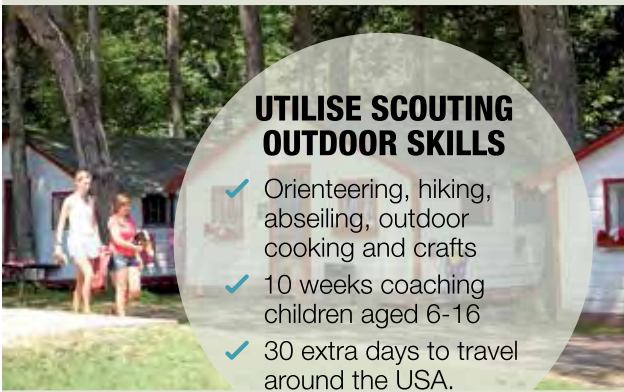
Tell us about any stand-out creatives in your own Group: scouting.magazine@scouts.org.uk



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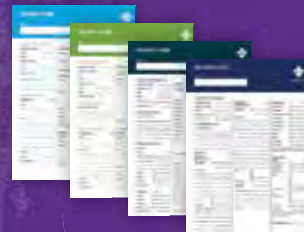
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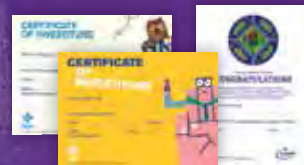
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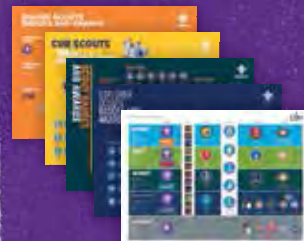
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VOLUNTEER IN PROFILE

'I want to dispel myths about Scouting'

Josh Lee-Taylor, 19, is keen to share the excitement and adventure of Scouting with everyone

I'm Media Development Manager (MDM) for Nottinghamshire and this is a role I really enjoy. I want to shout about Scouting, get more young people involved and show everyone the benefits of it.

As MDM and ACC I try to dispel any myths about Scouting and tell people how great it is. Scouting gives young people so many exciting opportunities, and I want as many people as possible to know that. This involves writing press releases, using social media and going to lots of events. I deliver presentations around the County, explaining how to use the Scout brand and take great photos.

I've been involved in Scouting since the age of nine. There have been many highlights over the years but one of my proudest moments was meeting the royal family. When I was an Explorer Scout, the Queen, Prince William and the Duchess of Cambridge visited Nottinghamshire. I was part of the flower party, collecting flowers from members of the public. I only had a quick chat with the Royals, but they asked me about Scouting. I felt very privileged to meet them.

Scouting is all about young people so it's really important that they're involved in shaping the Movement. The people who know best about what young people want and need are of course the young people themselves. 88th Nottingham is run in a way so that young people's views really matter. We regularly ask for their ideas on the programme and when we've done an activity we ask for their feedback and what they would change next time. I'm excited about the future of UK Scouting and how young people are going to have more influence.

In 2013 I ran a 40-mile ultra marathon and raised almost £400 for my Group. I'm the youngest person who's run the High Peak 40 in Buxton, Derbyshire. The sponsorship money paid for the Group's Christmas camp – a great result! The training was tough, but I wanted to prove to people that I could do it, and raising money for the Group was a great motivation.

Share your stories

If you have remarkable Scouting tales to tell, email us at scouting.magazine@scouts.org.uk

Safeguard your Scouts

Leaders are always asking how they can help protect young people online, so we asked some Scouts what support they would like

How can adults help you stay safe online?

'Talk to us; engage us; show an interest in what we're doing. Young Leaders would be perfect for something like this – you could ask them to run an evening on online games or something similar. Staying safe online would obviously feature heavily, but if you keep the focus on fun, we're much more likely to remember what you tell us.'

Jasper, 2nd Rhiwbina Beavers

'The best way to keep us safe online is by letting us know that we can talk to you about anything we discover that worries, confuses or upsets us. If you let us know that you will never be angry or disappointed with us if we have concerns, we will be more likely to discuss things openly with you.'

Isobel, 4th Golcar

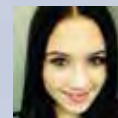
'I think that if a young person is doing something online, the adult should also know how to use that particular website. That way they can provide real help for us if something does happen and we know we can go to them for help.'

Rebecca, Red Dragons ESU

'I think as well as support, you also need to offer a level of privacy to young people, as some may use the internet as an escape, or for guidance with issues such as eating disorder recovery, or other personal problems, and it would be awful to have parental intrusion compromise something like this. I think the level of support needed is a very personal thing as some younger people can be trusted to use the internet appropriately whereas others can't. For most I think the solution would be as simple as just asking them about it.'

Amy, 2nd Crofton/Apollo ESU

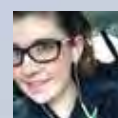
Our young experts



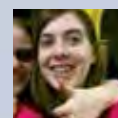
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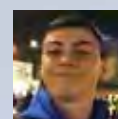
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2nd Rhiwbina Beavers



Rebecca
Red Dragons ESU



Amy
2nd Crofton/Apollo ESU



Dafydd Evans
61st Cardiff/Brave Dragons ESU



Ella
4th Golcar

Stay safe

For more guidance on internet safety, search 'social media' in the Members area of scouts.org.uk.

How do you stay safe online?

'I stay safe online by being wary about what I post, knowing that something I tweet stays there forever, and just because the internet is huge, it doesn't mean something you regret saying will disappear and people won't find it in the future. I don't think enough teenagers are aware that employers may look at your online presence, and one simple, ill-thought-out comment could mean the difference between having your dream job or not.'

Ella, 4th Golcar

What do you think the real risks of the internet are?

'The majority of young people are conscious of people not being who they say they are online. In fact, a lot of teens have multiple accounts on social networks where they might not use their real name. Often the real issue comes from people you know. For example, getting into cyber arguments can be a real problem; both parties are a lot braver behind a screen and can say things they may later regret.'

Also, everyone can be lax about online security, but I think we are often less likely to spot the scams that could land us in serious trouble. We all need to be taught how to recognise and deal with scams and hackers.'

Isobel, 4th Golcar

How should adults around you stay safe online?

'Leaders probably don't always follow their own advice! It might be easy to think that because a lot of internet safety advice is directed at young people it doesn't affect adults, but if your security measures aren't good enough, you leave yourself open to being hacked.'

Ella, 4th Golcar

'I think often our leaders don't realise just how much we know about technology and the internet. I often find myself advising adults on how to do something online. There are some bad habits that are actually really easy to change. Some adults might think it's less effort to make an easy password or to not bother locking their phone or computer, but these are the vital things that young people are taught to do all the time.'

Dafydd Evans, 61st Cardiff/Brave Dragons ESU

Why is online safety important?

'Because we are using the internet more and more now. I stay safe by only sharing my accounts with people I know and having my privacy settings up so only my friends can see my posts. I think it's also really important to ask yourself "is this sensible?" before posting, because later on in life, when you are trying to look for a job, someone could see your post and use it as a reason not to employ you.'

Rebecca, Red Dragons ESU

Over to you...

Do you have a query about Scouting, or experience you could share as a member of our reader panel? If the answer to either question is yes, email us at scouting.magazine@scouts.org.uk with your questions and advice.



Puberty can be an extremely tough time for teenagers – BBC Radio 1's **Dr Radha** ensures you're offering the right kind of support to your Scouts

Puberty is a critical phase in any young person's life as it is the time when they are faced with huge social, physical and psychological change. The type of support you offer at this time can make or break a young person, so it's crucial to take the correct approach. The right support means being well informed, allowing that young person to have a voice, while at the same time giving them a sense of security and support should they need it.

What's going on

Puberty is the time when changes in hormone levels trigger the development of male and female sex characteristics.

On average girls start puberty between 8–14 years and boys start between 9–14 years of age. Most changes occur within an average of four years of these changes starting.

Puberty can ignite new impulses and motivations, driving emotions and thought processes. The most important thing you can do to is normalise their environment while these changes take place, removing additional challenges and stresses. Let it be known just how common it is to feel this way and how they are not alone. Letting peers chat to each other is a great help and can really help bonding within a group. Being among friends they can trust and who won't judge them is vital.

Teen changes

- **Physical** changes including increase in penis size in boys, development of breasts and the start of periods in girls, and growth spurts in both, as well as acne and changes in body odour.
- **Psychological** changes often causing self-consciousness, irritability and changes in mood.
- **Behavioural** changes sometimes causing teenagers to experiment with smoking, alcohol, drugs and sex.

Here are five changes your Scouts may experience, and how you can help them cope with them:

Physical changes

Lots of teenagers are quite shocked when they see changes in their bodies. The best way to help them is to provide a safe and secure environment where Scouts can truly be themselves without feeling even more self-conscious or under scrutiny. Remember to respect a young person's right to privacy and always bear in mind the code of behaviour, which can be found at tinyurl.com/lrywynt. You can also make sure you have a selection of relevant leaflets available for further information.

physical changes they experience can accentuate differences between them and others. Young people are trying to carve out an identity for themselves, but they are also trying to balance that with being accepted and not being marked as too different from the crowd. At this stage, approval from peers is more important than approval from adults. Be open to signs of bullying, changes in character or individuals becoming more silent or aggressive. Be aware of different groups forming and the dynamics of these groups. The key is to be open and to inspire confidence in your young people. Talking in a general session about bullying can help as well as giving them information about places of confidential

Self esteem and developmental insecurity

Self-esteem can be a real challenge and can be focused on body-image issues, confidence in themselves, social groups and friends or relationships. It affects each young person in a different way, for example in public speaking, academic success or appearance.

You can help by becoming aware of the specific patterns for each young person and focus on helping them with a cognitive behavioural approach. Try to intervene in small ways by challenging thoughts and resulting emotions in that young person. You can take it further by suggesting thought re-balancing exercises that can be fun and simple.

Mindfulness and self-awareness techniques are also really useful for them to try at home or you can direct them to another source of help. Have a look at tinyurl.com/mhrk628 or moodgym.anu.edu.au/welcome and think about checking out these courses for youth workers – mindfulnessinschools.org/courses/b-for-teens/.

'On average girls start puberty between 8–14 years and boys start between 9–14 years of age'

Relationships, sexuality and gender identity

Young people will start having feelings and thoughts about relationships and sex at this age. Leaders should ensure that their young people have the knowledge they need to make informed decisions. You can make them aware of the various services available to them, including sexual health services and local GPs, and if you're approached about contraception, you should try to provide the relevant information. Many of the situations Scout Leaders may come across can be found in the FAQ section of the Promoting Good Sexual Health within Scouting factsheet, or at fpa.org.uk and brook.org.uk.

support. Have a look at the following page at scouts.org.uk/lifeissues and youngminds.org – tinyurl.com/mksvtu6.

Peer pressure

Young people are often affected by peer pressure because they are still forming their own set of rules and ideals. This can manifest in experimentation with alcohol, smoking or other drugs, as well as relationships and sexual behaviour. You can help by discussing the importance of developing their own individual ideas about how they want to behave. Try then comparing this to a different person's principles to see if they can see the difference, and how this makes them feel. Make it more general to avoid it sounding like a lecture. There is a great article on peer pressure that you might find helpful here: tinyurl.com/lvztzsf.

Dr Radha

Dr Radha is an NHS GP and is the co-presenter on *The Surgery* with Aled and Dr Radha on BBC Radio 1. She has also been the medical presenter for Channel 4's *The Sex Education Show* and BBC Three's *Body Beautiful Season*. She supports MIND and Youth Net as well as many other young people's charities.



TAKE A HIKE

THE JURASSIC COAST



A stunning stretch of the South West Coast Path, taking you from lofty coastal views to searching for fossil treasures on the seashore



This is really helpful for leaders and parents' Eleanor

Map OS Explorer 265
Scouting Classification Terrain Zero – well-marked and well-maintained footpaths throughout. One long ascent to a peak otherwise stick to paths and follow diversion signs away from cliff edges. Less mobile walkers could head straight to Charmouth for fossil hunting on the beach. When planning your own walk, it is important to check the terrain definitions at scouts.org.uk/a-z.
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A stunning view of the Charmouth coastline at low tide – the perfect time for fossil hunting!



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The Jurassic Coast, Dorset



This is very much an up and down 'roller-coastal' walk, providing a good stretch for the legs. Start at the little coastal village of Seatown directly south from Chideock off the A35. You'll find a car park opposite the Anchor pub.

The route

Walk back up the road for 200 metres before turning left **(A)** onto the footpath that takes you across a field and a small copse of pines. From here it's an open cliff-top route, steadily ascending towards Golden Cap. The last push **(B)** is steep but cut steps allow for a slow, steady plod uphill. It's worth the effort for the spectacular views of coastline from Portland Bill to the east all the way across to Devon in the west.

A short right-hand detour off the coastal path **(C)** takes you to the ruins of St Gabriel's chapel, once part of a medieval hamlet. Heading back to the coast path there is a permissive route down to the shore at St Gabriel's Mouth

(D). It's a good place for fossils but it's reached via a steep flight of wooden steps and can be especially slippery in wet weather.

Back on the coast path proper (follow the acorn symbols), the next section **(E)** is more gently undulating with the sea views on the left accompanied on the right by a patchwork quilt of green pastures stitched together with a thick thread of dark hedges. Keep your eyes peeled here among golden gorse and wind-sculpted hawthorn bushes for stonechats, or even the rare Dartford warbler. Listen out too for the harsh 'kronk' of ravens as they para-glide along the cliff edge.

The last section of the walk is diverted, due to a recent landslide, but an alternative route is well sign-posted. Turn right, away from the coast, into a National Trust car park **(F)** (Stonebarrow Hill) and then immediately left along a single-track lane which leads (downhill all the way!) to the centre of

Charmouth. Turn left past Seadown Holiday Park then follow a footpath which takes you directly to the beach.

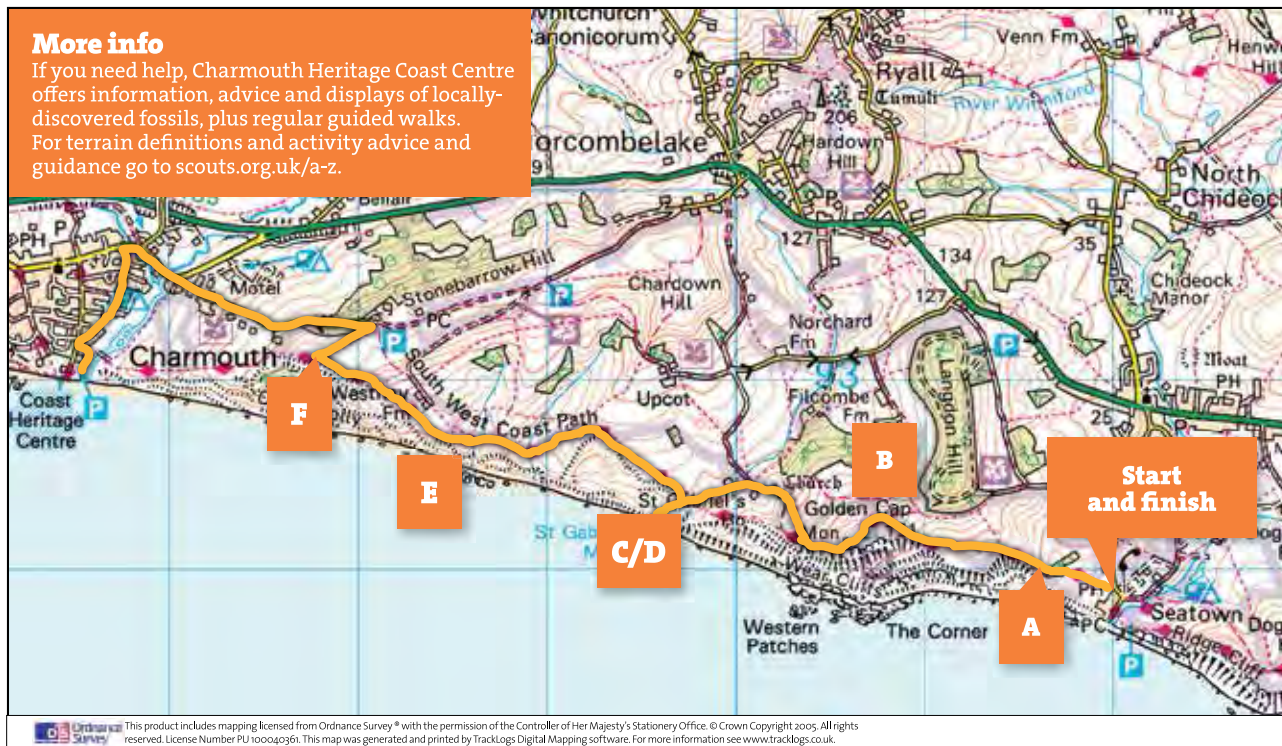
This is the perfect place to hunt for fossils as 185 million years of prehistoric life is gradually exposed from the eroding rocks. Try to time a trip for just after high tide, leaving plentiful hours to scour the shingle for fossil shells especially tiny ammonites and even shark's teeth that have been exposed by the receding sea. It's simply a question of wandering with your eyes glued to the beach at your feet – maybe turning over a rock or two. Once your eye is 'in' you'll soon have a trove of fossil treasures.

Getting back

There are two bus services from Charmouth Church, the X53 from Exeter to Poole and the 31 between Axminster and Weymouth, which run east along the A35 to Chideock Bridge. From here it's a mile walk back to Seatown itself.

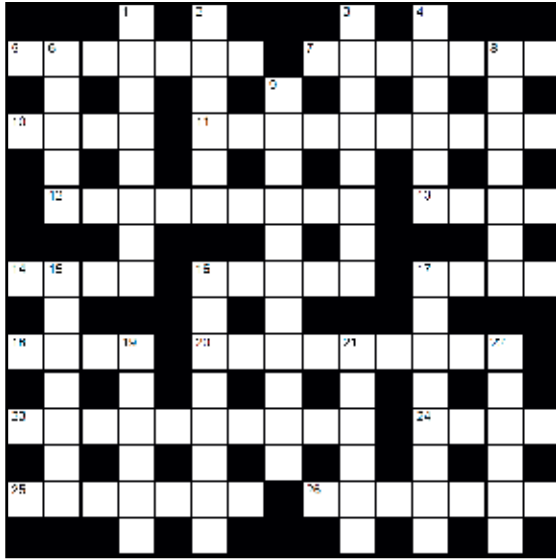
More info

If you need help, Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre offers information, advice and displays of locally-discovered fossils, plus regular guided walks. For terrain definitions and activity advice and guidance go to scouts.org.uk/a-z.



FUN and GAMES

SCOUTING CROSSWORD FEB/MAR



Crossword by Eddie James

For the solutions to last issue's puzzles, head to scouts.org.uk/magazine.

INTERNATIONAL JAMBOREE TEASER

How are you finding the jamboree challenge so far? Identified them all? Here's another four badges to keep you on your toes.



Across

- 5 Our mag's name once makes toes curl almost (7)
- 7 Maybe the Bard's latitude (7)
- 10 European capital element of Murmansk i.e. Vilnius! (4)
- 11 CD-ROM shelf dismantled for Eurojam 2005 location (10)
- 12 Big ones taken by Beavers from VIP's fetes maybe (4,5)
- 13 Test, formerly in the morning (4)
- 14/24 Thoroughly cooked? That's a good job (4,4)
- 16 Outdoor swimming venues – cap outstanding (5)
- 17 Kitty's amusement day (4)
- 18 Lots of cash returned? Don't go on! (4)
- 20 That of the Scout Movement's was seven years ago – any recent changes? (9)
- 23 Guides Activity Centre, Lancs. replaced wall – how, dad? (6,4)
- 24 See 14ac.
- 25 Rotating ... Scouts activity? (7)
- 26 Devious pursuer, one who seizes power (7)

Down

- 1 Continuing to be Bear Grylls' forte! (8)
- 2 Preliminary surveys of scree scattered round crater's top (6)
- 3 Moving poems, sir? Scouts have core ones (8)
- 4 Air Force took to the air almost as a money-raising activity (6)
- 6 Rock face's male name (5)
- 8 Area of land and its physical character – finished off by wet weather! (7)
- 9 A former Scout Chief's lost untraced pen! (5,6)
- 15 Right inside, yet USA scrambled a delta? (7)
- 16 Insect preying on aphids found in palace wings (8)
- 17 RAF lends out part of Belgium! (8)
- 19 Propeller for canoe? (6)
- 21 Listen out and join up (6)
- 22 Kenyan keeps holding New York baseball player? (6)

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London E4 7QW**
or email your answer to scouting.magazine@scouts.org.uk.

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1 The prize consists of one Aquaferno and bag worth £348.99 in total. The prize does not include the paella pan, but does include free delivery. 2 The closing date for entries is 1 April 2015. Winners will be picked at random from the correct entries after this date. 3 The competition is open to Scout Leaders only.

SIDE SPLITTER Why did the rooster crow before daybreak? Because his cluck was too fast!

SCOUTING DAYS OUT

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Every Scout loves a fun day away from HQ, so we're bringing you some extra information in our new listings section to help you choose the best excursion for your Group



Alton Towers Resort

Alton Towers is offering one free leader place with every five primary-school-aged children and every 10 secondary-school-aged children! Scouts of all ages will enjoy our fun-packed activities all within our unique theme park setting. Prices start from £23 per person.

☎ 0871 222 6944*

✉ alton.trade@alton-towers.com

🌐 altontowers.com/groups



The Association of Scout and Guide Centres

Visit the ASGC website to find a regional directory, campsite info and reviews. The ASGC is the biggest network of Scout and Guide campsites in the UK and you'll find everything from a small district site to large activity centres, plus training courses and events.

🌐 asgc.org.uk; like us on **Facebook** and follow us on **Twitter**.



Bamburgh Castle

The King of castles, Bamburgh Castle has 14 rooms to explore and over 3,000 artifacts to discover. There are arms and armour, furniture, paintings and tapestries, porcelain, china and much more!

☎ **Chris or Katie on 01668 214208**

✉ administrator@bamburghcastle.com

🌐 bamburghcastle.com





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☎ **0871 222 6944***

🌐 theblackpooltower.com,
madametussauds.com/blackpool or
sealife.co.uk/blackpool



Blackwell Court

Owned by Birmingham Scout Association, Blackwell Court is a fully equipped Outdoor Adventure Centre with 52 acres of parkland. Our residential camping and adventurous outdoor activities are used by over 25,000 young people every year. Just 1/2 a mile away from Pikes Pool.

☎ **0121 445 1285**

✉ info@blackwelladventure.co.uk

🌐 blackwelladventure.co.uk



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☎ **01234 720726**

🌐 chellington.org

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☎ **0871 222 6944***

✉ south.parkstrade@merlinentertainments.biz

🌐 chessington.com



Drusillas Park

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☎ **01323 874100**

✉ info@drusillas.co.uk

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☎ **0871 222 6944***

🌐 thedungeons.com



Houses of Parliament tours

Take your Group on an audio tour of the Houses of Parliament and follow in the footsteps of the Queen at the State Opening, see where debates take place in the Lords and Commons Chambers and marvel at historic Westminster Hall dating from 1097.

☎ **020 7219 4114**

✉ visitparliament@parliament.uk

🌐 parliament.uk/visiting

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🌐 LEGOLAND.co.uk

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*Calls cost 10p per minute plus network extras



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☎ 0161 871 8145

✉ groups@nationalfootballmuseum.com



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☎ 01568 780111

🌐 oakerwoodleisure.co.uk/scouts



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☎ 0121 445 1285

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☎ 01323 832731

🌐 the-observatory.org/scouting-and-guiding



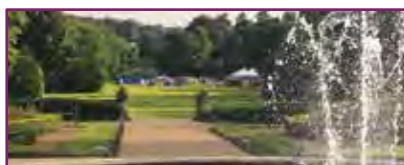
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☎ 0871 222 6944*

🌐 warwick-castle.com



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☎ 01299 402114

🌐 wmssp.co.uk



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☎ 01932 863243

✉ info@waltonfirs.co.uk
🌐 waltonfirs.co.uk



SCOUT'S
Reader's recipe

Cheeky leeky pie

Eight-year-old Dylan wrote a recipe book to raise money for the Wallace and Gromit Children's Charity. Here, he shares one of his tasty recipes with us

This recipe is a good use of leftover roast chicken. If you wanted you could make a vegetarian cheeky leeky pie by just using more seasonal vegetables rather than the chicken and ham, and replace the chicken stock with vegetable stock.

Ingredients

Serves 4

- Plain flour 50g
- Unsalted butter 50g
- Seasoning (salt and pepper)
- Cold water
- Knob of butter for leeks
- Large leeks 2, washed, trimmed and chopped into chunks
- Plain flour 1 tbsp (for sauce)
- Semi-skimmed milk 300ml
- Chicken stock up to 100ml
- Leftover roast chicken
- Ham 2 slices, cut into chunks
- Egg 1 small, beaten (optional)

1 Turn the oven on to 200°C/400°F/Gas Mark 6.

2 Put the flour, 50g unsalted butter, and seasoning into a mixing bowl and rub the butter in until the mixture is like breadcrumbs. Add enough cold water into the breadcrumbs mixture and stir until it becomes doughy. You can add more cold water if necessary to make it less dry. Wrap the dough in cling film and put in the fridge for 30 minutes.

3 Melt a knob of butter over a low heat and add the chunks

of leek. Stir and soften for 5 minutes.

4 Add in 1 tbsp of plain flour to the leeks and mix well, then add the milk a little at a time, stirring all the time until the sauce thickens, then add enough chicken stock to make the consistency you like.

5 Add the roast chicken pieces and the ham into the white sauce, season, and tip the whole mixture into an ovenproof dish and leave to cool.

6 Roll out the pastry to make a cover

for the pie dish. Lift the pastry over the dish, making sure it goes over the edges, and press down all around. Make a hole in the middle with a knife and brush all over with beaten egg if you wish.

7 Bake in the oven for 25 minutes until the pastry is golden brown.

Find out more

To learn more about Dylan and his Cracking Good Recipes book, head to crackinggoodrecipes.org.uk.

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MUNA HASSAN

The inspirational young activist tells us about her campaign and how your Scouts can also strive for change

How did you begin your campaign?

I started campaigning against female genital mutilation (FGM) at the age of 14. I'd never heard of it before, but just seeing the UN definition of FGM told me all I needed to know: it was a horrible practice and it was our duty as human beings to do something. At the time we were four girls working with an organisation called Integrate Bristol. Our first project was to write a piece of poetry about FGM. We were young, but incredibly passionate and we all believed that in order to make a change we had to speak out.

Where did you find the courage to strive for change?

For me, it was knowing that 2,000 girls were at risk of the practice in Bristol and no one was speaking out. It was all about them.

What support did you have in your actions?

We had incredible amount of support from our families and friends. Our project manager, Lisa Zimmermann was amazing; she gave us a platform on which we could say exactly how we felt, which for us was really difficult to find, especially on a subject like FGM. Local organisations and politicians have also been amazing and to have people who are just as passionate as we are around us really helps.

What has the response been to your efforts so far?

We've had some incredible response to our work. One of our earlier projects, Silent Scream, won Young Voice of the

year 2012. I was also awarded young person of the year 2013 at the Sexual Health UK ceremony, which was a complete honour. I think what always gets to me, is seeing younger girls and boys being able to talk about FGM without feeling any form of stigma being attached to the subject. Knowing the next generation is just as passionate if not more, inspires me every day.

How can Scouts make a real difference?

Scouting can give young people the confidence to speak about issues important to them. That's where true change comes from – young people trying to make the world a better place for themselves and future generations. It's important for them to have a voice because they are our future politicians, doctors, teachers, nurses, and most importantly, the next generation of parents. Young people can change the world if they want to – they just need to be heard.

The 21-year-old activist began campaigning at just 14 years of age

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Artwork to be supplied & agreed

Please ask for more details



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