



## Cleveland Boundary Challenge

This is the badge that you can buy once you have completed all the challenges in the 50th Birthday Pack which all Groups and Units have along with the map of the County boundary to walk. More details later.



## Outdoor 24 Blanket Badge

Remember that this year HQ have launched the #Outdoors24 blanket badge. Go to the pages on the website [scouts.org.uk](https://scouts.org.uk) for ideas.

This will be good preparation for our Outdoor Challenge 2025 next year!

**Remember**  
Cleveland Scouts also has an Instagram account!



6 Posts    30 Followers    0 Following

### Cleveland County Scouts

We prepare young people with skills for life  
#skillsforlife #beprepared #scouts #ukscouts

[clevelandscouts.org.uk](https://clevelandscouts.org.uk)

"When you were made a leader, you weren't given a crown; you were given the responsibility to bring out the best in others."

Jack Welch.

## Cleveland Courier

Next issue of the Cleveland Courier is in March 2024

Please send items to [clevelandcourier14@gmail.com](mailto:clevelandcourier14@gmail.com)



# County Commissioner's Corner



## Census 24 Update

Hopefully by now you should have all completed census information and returned to districts/county. Thank you for all your work in ensuring the data is correct and with as much additional data as possible. This helps HQ know about the demographics of our membership and helps in applying for grants at a national level.

Thank you once again to those Group Lead Volunteers and District Lead Volunteers who have gathered the figures together and to Ian Railton and Sue Dunn for compiling it all for County.

I will update you next month on the headline figures. Hopefully we will have continued to grow our numbers and be back to pre pandemic figures!

## Transformation Digital Tools

The new digital membership system to replace Compass has been robustly tested by large numbers of members and is due to be rolled out shortly to the early adopter counties. However, due to the incredibly large amount of data that is to be downloaded from Compass and uploaded to the new system the switch over is proving challenging. HQ want to get it right so have taken the decision to delay moving to the new digital system until they have solved the data transfer situation. It is anticipated that Early adopters will now go live in the summer with other counties to follow afterwards (probably Autumn 24).

This doesn't mean that we will be standing still on transformation. We will continue to update the welcome process and provide information on the replacement to Appointments Panels. These Welcome Conversations should provide an appropriate welcome to our new volunteers.

## Health and Safety Update

We recently had an incident at a section meeting where a few beavers had lost woggles and so parents had tied a know in the necker. When tightening the necker it ended up quite tight around the child's neck and needed prompt action from the leaders.

Teaching how to complete a friendship knot in your necker may be a useful activity for when a woggle can't be found! How to Tie the Friendship Knot for Neckerchiefs (youtube.com)

**Online**  
**Spring Volunteer Recruitment Workshops**  
Thursday Evenings

- Getting Ready (25th January, 7.00pm - 8.30pm)
- Finding New Adults (8th February, 7.00pm - 9.00pm)
- Placing and Preparing Adults Effectively (29th February, 7.00pm - 9.00pm)
- Welcoming and Supporting New Adults (21st March, 7.00pm - 9.00pm)

Sign up now!

Want to learn more about how to recruit from the comfort of your own home? Join our online Volunteer Recruitment Workshops. You can join the whole series from start to finish or dip in and out, whatever works for you.

Take a look at the webpage to sign up or find out more [bit.ly/Scouts\\_VRWorkshops](https://bit.ly/Scouts_VRWorkshops)



*Andy*



# Ian's Bit's & Piece's



February 2024							Scouts 
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	
			1 Time to Talk Day Make a chatterbox 	2	3	4 	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Children's Mental Health Week - Go on a mindfulness walk							
	Safer Internet Day Play Moral compass 			National Pizza Day Cook pitta pocket pizzas 	Lunar New Year Chinese window flowers	International Day of Women and Girls in Science Make a recycled rocket jet pack	
12 	World Radio Day Play Phonetic phrenzy Pancake Day Cook Swedish semla buns	13	14 Valentine's Day Make a card to thank a friend International Book Giving Day Create a little library 	15	16	17 Random Acts of Kindness Day Kindness bananas 	18
19	20 World Day of Social Justice Try the Equity spaghetti activity		21	22 Founder's Day Play Capture the flag	23	24	25
26 National Tell a Fairy Tale Day Go on a story time adventure	27 International Polar Bear Day Climate change quiz 		28	29	 <p>What's happening this month: LGBT History Month Explore LGBT history</p>		

Find more activity ideas at [scouts.org.uk/activities](https://scouts.org.uk/activities)

March 2024							Scouts 
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	
				1 Global Day of Unplugging	2	3 World Wildlife Day Make seed bombs 	
				4	5	6	7
			World Book Day Make a monster bookmark 	8	9	10	
				British Science Week - Grow crystals and geodes			
				International Women's Day Guess the faces 		Mother's Day	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
British Science Week - Grow crystals and geodes							
Ramadan expected to begin							
						St Patrick's Day Irish soda bread 	
18	19 	20 International Day of Happiness Gratitude scavenger hunt Spring Equinox Grow sunflowers	21	22 World Water Day Make foraged filters 	23	24 Purim - Make graggers 	
25 Holi Celebrate the festival of colours 	26	27 World Theatre Day Put on a performance	28	29	30	31 International Transgender Day of Visibility 	

What's happening this month:  
Women's History Month  
Make a zine and learn about amazing women 

Find more activity ideas at [scouts.org.uk/activities](https://scouts.org.uk/activities)



# TWO Full (Modules 10A and 10B) First Response Courses:

- Sunday 11th February at Synthonia HQ, Billingham, TS23 4BA and,
- Saturday 17th February at Synthonia HQ, Billingham TS23 4BA

Both will start at 9am and finish about 3pm. Both have only 12 places available.

If you have leaders who have completed the Hampshire Scouts online training then they can complete 10B by arriving after 1pm on either of the dates.

I have also asked Ben Atkinson to organise a First Response for Redcar and Eston and East Cleveland leaders, but they will also be accepted on either of these courses.

**To register, email me at [dccprogrammecs@gmail.com](mailto:dccprogrammecs@gmail.com) as soon as possible.**

## Our Woggle of the Month

This was given to Santa Claus when he visited 1st Norton's Christmas Fair. It's carved from wood. If you have an interesting wiggle that you'd like to see in the Courier send a picture and a brief description to [clevelandcourier14@gmail.com](mailto:clevelandcourier14@gmail.com).



## Friendship Badges

Came across these just before Christmas. The red and blue badges are made from plastic with a pin back and were bought/given (not sure which) to those who went to a Friendship Camp in the mid to late 1970s (1974 / 1978).

The orange one is a tin badge with a pin badge. I'm not sure if they were given to young people or could be bought at an item. Any more information would be welcomed.



## Are you a new Scout or Explorer provision?

You may be eligible for the DCMS start up (£500) and program activity fund (£3,000)

The funding provides grants to Scout Troops and Explorer Units to reduce their waiting lists and improve the wellbeing of young people in the sections:

To be eligible you must have:


- Opened the section after 15.10.2023
- Be a explorer or scout unit

see full list below:

[LEARN MORE](#)

What is next?

If you want to learn about your eligibility for the fund, or want to progress with the process, please reach out to the Growth & Communities Uniformed Youth Fund team, or contact me on the details below.

 [sara.peacock@scouts.org.uk](mailto:sara.peacock@scouts.org.uk)  
07563373457



# CLEVELAND SCOUTS CALENDAR 2024

## Dates for your 2024 Diaries

**Sunday 11th February - First Response Course (10A and 10B) at Synthonia's HQ, Greenwood Road, Billingham, TS23 4BA**

Starting at 9am, this is a 6 hour course. For those requiring 10B assessment only come for 1pm.

Register with me: [dccprogrammecs@gmail.com](mailto:dccprogrammecs@gmail.com)

**Sunday 11th February - County Transformation Zoom Call @ 7pm**

Our latest Transformation Zoom call to follow up the HQ's Zoom Call for Transformation Leads from January. Slides and zoom details have already been sent out. All volunteers are invited.

**Saturday 17th February - First Response Course (10A and 10B) at Synthonia's HQ, Greenwood Road, Billingham, TS23 4BA**

Starting at 9am, this is a 6 hour course. For those requiring 10B assessment only come for 1pm.

Register with me: [dccprogrammecs@gmail.com](mailto:dccprogrammecs@gmail.com)

**Thursday 1st March - Bookings open for the 50th Birthday County Fun Days at Raven Gill in September**

This is for all Sections and volunteers! £5 per young person and £2 per volunteer. More details shortly.

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 17th March - Raven Gill Maintenance Weekend**

Loads of things are needed to be done at Raven Gill as we approach the start of the camping season. If you're available at any time over the weekend to help out (Explorer Scouts and Leaders as well) then contact Chief Warden Bob Hodgson, [bob.hodgson@ntlworld.com](mailto:bob.hodgson@ntlworld.com). Please give Bob plenty of time so that jobs can be allocated to volunteers.

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May – Squirrels, Beavers and Cubs Artist / Illustrator day with Liz Million.**

This is for our younger sections. Three sessions, choose which one to attend. More details on the poster elsewhere in this Courier.

**Saturday 8th June - County Annual General Meeting and Get2Gether for all Cleveland Scout volunteers at Teesside University 10am - 4pm.**

**Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th July - Water Activities Weekend on the River Tees**

Back-up dates in case of cancellation: Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st July.

**Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th September - 50th Birthday County Fun Days at Raven Gill**

**Friday 4th - Sunday 6th October - Operation Escape for the Explorers.**



## 43rd Middlesbrough

We have recently presented our first ever chief scout platinum awards to the 43rd titan explorers, four of our explorers have worked towards this award for a number of years, taking part in various activities including volunteering, expeditions and international events. We are extremely proud of these explorers and they will continue to work towards their diamond awards. We invited our group scout leader Mike, district commissioner James, district explorer scout commissioner Rachel and our special guest, county commissioner Andy. BRAVO!



Cubs preparing healthy food plates and unhealthy food posters as part of their skills challenge award and chefs badges



## 1st Norton-on-Tees

We loved seeing some of our Cubs painted Spitfires, after putting them together last week! Tonight we covered more of the Air Activities badge with lots of fun games. Well done to our Cub of the week who got their paper airplane in the hoop!



## 18th Hartlepool

Last night the cubs started the money maker activity badge. They designed their own money and learnt about different currencies and that they had to exchange the English money for the currency of the foreign country they were travelling to.



## RAVEN GILL 3 YEAR IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2024 – 2026

2024 (YEAR 1)	2025 (YEAR 2)	2026 (YEAR 3)
1) Develop comprehensive H&S policy and procedures for the site. Publish and circulate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Asbestos survey</li> <li>- Legionella procedure</li> </ul>	1) Agree re-decoration/refurbishment schedule and budgets for site buildings	1) Detailed review of site lease
2) Investigate grant funding options for development of site	2) Review Friendship Forum building and future use. Make recommendations.	
3)EICR testing (Electrical Industry Condition Report) to be completed for site	3) Refurbish Centenary Centre shower room	
4) Implement "new" booking system		
5) Investigate macerator at north toilets		
6) North toilets refurbishment		
7) South ladies & gents toilet refurbishment plus ladies' shower refurbishment		
8) Agree communications strategy for site		



If you can help out at Raven Gill in any capacity please contact either the Chair, Neil Scott or the Chief Warden, Bob Hodgson.

### Raven Gill Maintenance Weekend

Tasks for the Raven Gill Maintenance Weekend in March. (See the diary dates elsewhere in the Courier for the exact weekend).

- Preparing the buildings for use in 2024
  - Clearing Gorse from the roadside
  - Spreading roadstone on site roads
  - Drainage channels around site to be re-established – Mini digger available
  - North Toilet block to be refurbished
  - Fallen trees to be cleared from site
- Extraction ducting in cooking areas to be inspected/ cleaned

If you or any of your Group's, Unit's or Team's members can help at any time over the weekend in any way, please contact the Chief Warden Bob Hodgson as soon as possible.

Any Explorer Scouts who help will get a free camping day in the future.

### Jambowlee

Running until the end of the year. Any age section from any country from any Scouting (or Guiding) organisation can take part. Turn an evening bowling into an international event! More info at <http://www.jambowlee.org>





## The Time Capsule



The Time Capsule at 1st Norton! Remember to take plenty of pictures when it arrives at your Group and post them on our Cleveland County Scout Leaders Facebook Page and on your social media sites.

The County photo frame at 1st Norton squirrels.



### Big Birth Days

Quite a few of our leaders were born in 1974 and are celebrating the same birthday as Cleveland Scouts! Here's Kevin Storer from 1st Norton giving us a clue as to his age this year!



### Happy birthday also to

Claire Craig (18th Hartlepool) and David Carter (35th Hartlepool) on their big birthdays!

### 1st Fairfield

1st Fairfield Scouts with the photo frame and the 50 from the Time Capsule.

### 2nd Billingham



What can I say? What a sleepover!!!! We had beetle and board games, campfire with added carols in for measure. Elf movie, SLEEP IMMEDIATELY (WOW). Hot chocolate for breakfast, panto with treats and an AMAZING BUNCH of kids and adults. Thank you to all leaders, young leaders and parent assists. What a way to end the 2nd Billingham year. Despite what others think "They NEVER miss out"!!! Merry Christmas everyone. Always be kind and thankful, even for the little things x x





# 40th Hartlepool

Report from our scout leader in Chile

On Wednesday summited with Lancelot, my guide, the highest volcano in the world and second highest summit outside the Himalayas.

Very hard work and took 7hrs up and another 3 down. An hour spent on the summit with only the 2 of us - the guided lain

Congratulations lain on climbing the highest Volcano in the world Ojos de Salado 22,615 feet



The cubs tonight learnt how to put together a trangia stove , fuel it with methalated spirit and light . They prepared an egg and milk mixture and fried on the trangia .



# Synthonia Scouts

A great night at cubs .Science was the theme ,showing various basic designs for strength with spaghetti and marshmallows. Have you ever tried mixing cornflower and water ? This blew my mind just ask the cubs . Thomas Rutter explained in words and pictures how he completed his skills badge making a cushion with a pocket using a sewing machine , and making dough and baking it for shortbread which he shared with the pack and leaders . This completed his Silver chief scouts award , the highest you can achieve in Cubs , Thomas has now moved up to the troop with further challenges to look forward to with the GOLD award .

Tonight the scouts started their media relations and marketing badge. This is a brand new badge, and we've tasked the scouts with making their own scout themed news report. Tonight they've come up with their programme names and the content of their broadcast, made a poster to advertise it and we'll follow this up by filming news programmes, complete with all star interviews next week



**Always bear in mind when you're  
planning your programme...**

## **The Essential Ingredients of a Successful Section Meeting**

**Action** is better than **inaction**

**Participation** is better than **looking on**

**Outdoors** is more fun than **indoors**

**The unusual** is more exciting than **the usual**

**The surprising** is more interesting than **the  
expected**

**The mysterious** is more appealing than **the  
obvious**

**The real thing** is better than **the substitute.**





**Learn To Draw Like a Pro  
With The North East's  
Most Entertaining Illustrator**

**LIZ MILLION**

Saturday 18th May

10am - 11am  
12 noon - 1pm  
2pm - 3pm

Middlesbrough HQ  
Tollesby Road.  
TS5 7PJ

Bookings to  
Ian Raitlon  
idccprogrammecs@gmail.com

Liz will teach you how to change a boring potato shape into a bonkers beaver or an elephant on a skateboard.

**Be Prepared  
To Laugh Draw and Learn**

£3 each.

Scouts Cleveland

**IT'S GANG SHOW  
TIME!**

**MIDDLESBROUGH**

**SHOW WEEK:  
WEDNESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> APRIL - SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup>  
APRIL 2024**







# THE 59<sup>th</sup> CLEVELAND HIKE

22nd – 23rd June 2024

A team challenge hike in the North York Moors for all ages. For more details check us out on our website [www.theclevelandhike.com](http://www.theclevelandhike.com) or see our

Facebook / Twitter pages



TEESSIDE BATTALION

## You can enter

- the 1 or 2 day event,
- just for fun or competitively,
- the event at any age ,
- as a sponsored challenge to raise funds for good causes,
- DofE Practice or warm up event,
- if you can read a map and you are able to walk a long distance carrying your kit.

You will set off from the start, somewhere in the north York moors, where you will be given the grid reference of the first checkpoint. You find the best route to this point, hence why you need to be able to read a map. Points are awarded for speed and keeping within set timescales.

At each checkpoint there will be a challenge which will be either mental or physical where you can earn points for your score. You will then be given your next grid reference.

For those in the two day event, the end of the 1st day requires teams to put up their own tents and cook an evening meal. The next day follows the same format.

Everyone completing the hike gets a certificate and winning teams will receive prizes and trophies!

**To enter or for more details see our website**

**[www.theclevelandhike.com](http://www.theclevelandhike.com)**