



County Fun Day

Don't Forget

Monday May 25th is the closing date for PROVISIONAL numbers for the County Fun Day - 60 Years of Friendship.

Cleveland Scouts County Fun Day 2026 – 60 Years of Friendship has several challenges for all the Sections to take part in leading up to the day itself in September.



One of them is to:

► **Make a flag or banner to take to District or County events in 2026.**

- Make a flag or banner to take with you either as a Section or as individuals to events, (including the County Fun Day on Saturday 12th September), outings, even on holidays!
- The flag or banner should be
 - Bright and colourful
 - Made from material
 - Whatever size you want it to be!
 - Printed, sewn or glued
 - Include the Section name, Group and logo.



We will also have flags from the six countries who attended the first Friendship Camp flying on site on the day of the County Fun Day.

For the remaining challenges see the Time to Celebrate Pack emailed out to all Groups back in January. If you need another one please email dccprogrammecs@gmail.com

County AGM June 26

The county AGM will be held on Friday 5th June at 7pm. It will be held at the same location as last year- St Cuthbert's Church Hall, Marton, Middlesbrough.

Formalities will be followed by a Pie and Pea supper, Bar and socialising.
See our usual communication channels for how to book a space to attend.

Come along and hear about the Scouts plans for the next 10 years with the strategy Place to belong which follows on from our skills for life plans.

You'll also have a chance to review how Scouting is doing locally and ask any questions to the County team.

County Commissioner's Corner



Water Activity Days

We are looking forward to some great sessions on the water again this year. The water sports team will be on the Tees most weekends and some evenings. We hope everyone can get on the water at some point this year.

Final Call for County Fun Day

The County Fun Day takes place at Raven Gill campsite on Saturday 12th September. We are really looking forward to having Dwayne Fields our Chief Scout coming. We don't get the Chief Scout often to our area so take the opportunity to come along, have some fun and meet our newest Chief!

The closing date for booking is May 25th.

Please ensure you have confirmed provisional attendance and numbers to Ian by this date.

Andy

East Cleveland

Following extensive discussions Cleveland Scouts now has four Districts following the merger of Redcar and Eston and East Cleveland. The new district will be known as East Cleveland.



WATER ACTIVITY DAYS

13TH JUNE
18TH JULY

£ 7.50 PP

TRY 3 ACTIVITIES DURING A 2 HOUR SESSION

- KAYAKING
- CANOEING
- STAND UP PADDLEBOARDING
- RAFTING
- BELL BOATING

Scouts Cleveland



Ian's Bit's & Piece's



FIRST RESPONSE COURSES

MAY



Date: 09/05/2026

Time: 09:30 – 16:00

**Location: Marske Scout Hut,
High Street, Marske, TS11 7LR**

Scan to sign up

Module 10B Assessment 10:30-15:00

June



Date: 20/06/2026

Time: 09:30 – 16:00

**Location: 3rd Guisborough Scout Hut,
Belmangate, Guisborough, TS14 7AB**

Scan to sign up

Module 10B Assessment 10:30-15:00

60 Years of Friendship Up Date

+ International Friendship Zone; + The Royal Navy; + Davinci Bridge Building;
+ Royal National Lifeboat Institution; + Badge Swapping with more to be confirmed.

But even though we can provide many activities we still don't have enough help!

We need help with the following activities:

- Orienteering
- Arts and Crafts - and ideas of what to do!
- Soft Archery
- Soft Axes
- Parachute Games
- Davinci Bridge Building

If you're available or you know someone who can help (Trustees, friends of your Section or Group, retired Scouters etc) then let us know as soon as possible.

We'd also like to put on the following specialist activities:

- Whittling
- Leather work
- Pyrography
- Branding
- Paracording

If you know someone who can put on these specialist activities then please contact dccprogrammes@gmail.com

Next Update will be at the end of May after the closing date for provisional numbers.

Ian, Paul, Mike and Val



60 Years of Friendship County Fun Day 2026 April Update



Dear Leader,

This is an update on where we are with our planning following our meeting last night.

Provisional numbers:

At present the number of young people provisionally booked in stands at just over 100. In addition, we know that one District has also booked two coaches for the day so that puts the numbers up to approximately 200.

Closing date for provisional numbers:

May 25th is our cut off date for provisional numbers. However, if you know before this date your numbers then let us know. By doing this it gives us an indication of available funding. Obviously, the more numbers we have the more money we can spend!

What attractions will there be?

Our biggest attraction will be the Chief Scout, Dwayne Fields!

At present, most of what we had at the 2024 County Fun Day, will be available again so that includes:

- + Target Sports including archery, axe throwing and tomahawks.
- + Blind Trail; + Outdoor Cooking; + Inflatables; + Drumming; + Fencing; + Assault Course;
- + Scavenger Hunt; + Arts and Crafts; + Slackline; + Big Games; + Soft archery; + Soft Axes;
- + Nerf Wars; + Orienteering; + Parachutes; + North Yorkshire Police and there will be more!

In addition we have the following new attractions!

Place to Belong

Every young person deserves a place where they feel safe, welcomed, and able to be themselves. A place where they can try new things, learn from others, grow in confidence, and discover who they are and who they could become.

That belief sits at the very heart of The Scouts new strategy, Place to Belong, and it strongly reflects what so many of you already create every week. This strategy sets out an ambitious and exciting direction for Scouting to 2035. It reminds us that Scouts is not just about activities or badges, it's about belonging. Belonging in a section, in a group, in a community, and ultimately, in society. When young people feel they belong, they are more likely to thrive, to lead, and to make a positive difference in the world around them.

There are countless examples of this already happening:

- Dedicated volunteers giving their time, care and encouragement
- Young people supporting and learning from one another
- Communities strengthened through kindness, service and shared experiences

Place to Belong challenges us to build on this strong foundation. It asks us to:

- Be welcoming and inclusive so that every young person can see themselves in Scouts
- Offer experiences that are fun, meaningful and relevant to today's world
- Support and value our volunteers, recognising that you are central to everything we achieve
- Work together locally and nationally so that Scouting continues to grow and thrive

Change can feel challenging, but it also brings opportunity. This strategy is not about losing what makes Scouts special, it's about protecting it, strengthening it, and ensuring it's still here for generations of young people to come.



Place to belong is The Scouts's Association's new strategy for the next nine years. You'll be hearing more about it soon!



Why young people need a place to belong

This generation has so much promise. But so much pressure too.

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

Nature and the outdoors can feel remote and inaccessible. School can bring pressures and expectations too.

For our young people, it feels like the world is tearing itself apart – with a deepening climate crisis; damaged further by conflict and division. Extreme voices seem to drown out the rest, amplifying fear and distrust.

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

Young people need a place they can express themselves without fear of judgement or embarrassment.

Scouts is that place: a community of kindness, where fun and friendship run through everything. A local community that also connects you internationally, to a movement of more than 60 million Scouts. Where standing on the podium isn't the be all and end all. Scouts is a place to do your best, not be the best.

This strategy is about helping young people find that place.

40%

of young people don't have the chance to make new friends

7 in 10

young people spend most of their free time on screens.



Why now?

There is a crisis, not just of mental health and loneliness among young people, but of anxiety about the future too. That's why young people need a place to belong more than ever.



Nearly half (44%) of young people surveyed aged 11-18 regularly feel lonely.*



53% of young people say they're worried about their mental wellbeing.*

45% worry about their physical wellbeing.*

63% are worried about finding a job.*



Though the digital world offers endless connections, sometimes I feel a strange, quiet loneliness. What really stings is the lack of places to just be. Outside of school, there isn't much for my mates and I to do in person. We need spaces to just hang out, make friends, and frankly, just have some fun... that in-person community factor is lost.

– Young person from Hastings*



When young people feel like they've got a place they belong, they act like they belong.

– Young person from Newcastle*

* DASH Youth Matters: State of the Nation report 2022, based on a survey of 24,000 young people.

* The Children's Society's Good Childhood Report (from a survey, including 2,000 UK children and young people aged 10 to 17).

More Programme Ideas

If you want something different to do on camp at Raven Gill (or anywhere) try exploring at night with a UV torch - this is Raven Gill beck on a night. It looked completely different 24 hours later!



Night Away Weekender

You asked. We listened. Now it's heading north!

After great feedback on our previous events, we're taking the Nights Away Weekender on the road - heading to Great Tower in the Lake District this November.

This practical two-night experience is designed for anyone working towards, holding or developing their Nights Away Permit.

Great Tower, Lake District
Friday 6 to Sunday 8 November 2026

Whether you're just starting out, or building on your experience, sessions flex around you, so you get exactly what you need.

Expect practical learning, shared ideas and a real boost in confidence for your next overnight adventure.

Spaces are limited. Don't miss your chance to be part of it!

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/national-events/nights-away-weekender/>



Westminster Abbey

National Thanksgiving Service.

Following the death of The Chief Scout of the World, The Lord Baden-Powell, in 1941, a memorial stone was unveiled in Westminster Abbey on 23rd April 1947. From then until 1955, Scouting Headquarters staff and some members held an annual wreath laying and a small service in the Abbey. In 1957, the centenary of Baden Powell's birth, the service was attended by members of the Royal Family. In years thereafter it was referred to as a Service of Thanksgiving and became a much bigger celebration. It now is a biannual event which is held at Westminster Abbey.

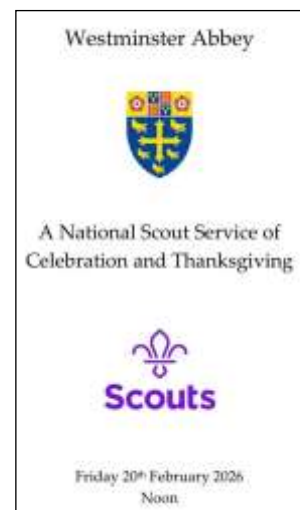
I along with Les Bland and Michael Cook were privileged to be invited to the National



Thanksgiving service on the 20th February. The service started at 12 noon, and it was really invigorating to see the Abbey full of members of the Scouting family. The service was conducted by The Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle KCVO MBE, Dean of Westminster, with singing by the special service choir. The prayers were led by The Reverend Tessa Bosworth, Minor Canon and Succentor. Ayesha Karim, UK Youth Lead gave a very interesting testimony highlighting some of her activities and experiences with young members during her time as Youth lead. Later in the ceremony the Chief Scout thanked all adult volunteers for their service in developing young Scouts. At the end of the service the UK Chief Volunteer led the congregation in renewing their promise.

All in all, it was an event that helped to maintain the spark that is Scouting and I must admit on occasions it was quite emotional to be part of such a fantastic ceremony.

Frank Rose



Operation Escape 2026

2nd - 4th October

Save the date!

What you need to know:

- Compete in a large-scale wide game across open moorland.
- Try and evade capture from our teams of leaders!
- Teams of 4-7 explorers required.
- Take part in challenges or tasks along the way.
- A presentation & well deserved hot meal at the finish!
- An enjoyable & sociable weekend to be a part of!
- Keep your eyes peeled for more info.

Open to all explorers within Cleveland (and beyond).
If you are interested in this years event or have questions please get in touch!

operationescape.cs@gmail.com






Cleveland & St George

Middlesbrough

After renewing their promises Middlesbrough celebrated by holding a fun day where games and activities were on hand and of course a BBQ



Frank Holliday who is the President of Middlesbrough District Council. With his wife Joyce



7th Redcar

Were out and about celebrating, They were at Guisborough Priory



Easter bunny drive

3rd Guisborough Scouts Group East "Bunny Drive" for fundraising towards maintenance of our HQ lighting.

Great turn out for the event and raised enough money to have our Hall lights replaced.

Amy Levitt



Middlesbrough Gang Show

'Did you go and see Middlesbrough Gang Show 2026 at Middlesbrough Theatre? If you didn't you missed a cracking, colourful entertaining two hours. With a cast of 100 from local Scouting and Guiding groups with an age range of 8 to 75 (not including the Beavers) the show provided a variety show with lots of colour and laughs a plenty. There were original items to see as well as some old favourites. Many of the cast experienced performing on the theatre stage for the first time and every member smiled, gave 100% and came away from show week with a new found confidence and a lot of new friends.

The show couldn't go ahead without the people who don't get seen on stage but give a lot of time and effort to make sure the show goes ahead and to a standard that is required - to you unseen Gang Show members a big thank you from us all.

Do you maybe want to get involved in any way if a Middlesbrough Gang Show 2028 goes ahead?



1st Norton

Last month 1st Norton Cubs held a 110th birthday party at their HQ. Here are some of the EC pictures from the party.



6th Redcar Squirrels

6th Redcar squirrels have had an amazing time at Dunes Care Home where they spent time with the residents taking part time crafts and playing games. It was great to see the smiles on everyone's faces. We are proud of our squirrels for their kindness, enthusiasm, and brilliant energy throughout the visit. A big thank you to everyone at Dunes Care Home for making us feel so welcome — we can't wait to come back!



Synthonia Scout Group

Synthonia Scouts started the first aid badge. They learned how to approach a person, check for a response and learned how to perform cpr, and we spoke about the application of aed's. The scouts all did very well learning a life saving skill.



1st Ingleby Barwick

1st Ingleby Cubs were invited to the Riverside Stadium to be flag wavers at a recent game. Unfortunately they didn't see the team win but had a great time!



9th/18th Hartlepool

9th & 18th Hartlepool and 8th Billingham Beavers, leaders and families filled screen 9 at Showcase Cinema for a private viewing of Hoppers.



18th Hartlepool

18th Hartlepool Beavers have officially earned their Photography Badge, and what an amazing time we've had! A huge thank you to one of our fantastic parents, for planning, preparing, and providing everything needed to make it such a fun and creative experience.

Over the past few weeks, we've:

Learnt how to use a camera and take all kinds of photos - including some very funny portraits!

Captured moving shots of bubbles, balloons, and Beavers twirling ribbons.

Taken photos of still objects with different colours and textures.

Used a magnifying glass linked to a laptop to zoom in and photograph tiny details.

Had a magical evening painting with light using glow sticks and LEDs in the dark.

And for our grand finale — we even made our own creative cameras, filled with photos taken by the Beavers themselves.

An incredible mix of learning, laughter, and creativity. Well done everyone!



1st Loftus Squirrels

We had an absolutely brilliant first session this evening at 1st Loftus Squirrels 🐿️ ⭐

It was great to meet all of you 😊

The children got stuck in learning all about our FIVE amazing caterpillars 🐛 that we'll be watching closely as they transform into beautiful butterflies 🦋 —such an exciting journey ahead!

We also got creative making our very own Hungry Caterpillars 🐛 and finished off the session with lots of fun games, songs and laughter 🎉

What a fantastic start—we can't wait for next week!

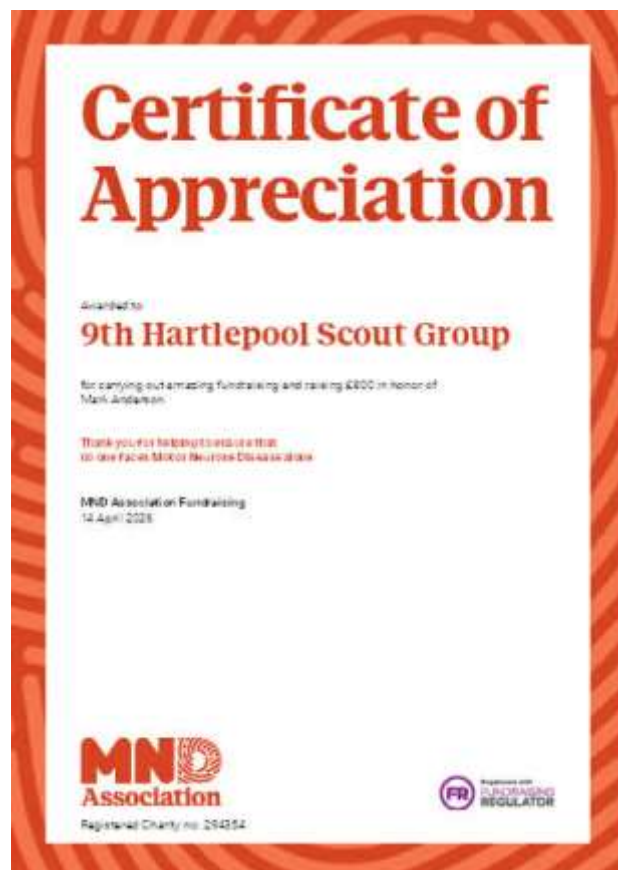


9th Hartlepool raised £800

towards MND. This donation has been recognised as a contribution to Mark Anderson who was a volunteer for the groups Cubs section. Mark was diagnosed with MND in 2025.

The group reached out to local businesses for the donation of prizes and raised £800 towards MND. 9th Hartlepool also put up £100 as the first prize.

Mark, who is a friend to so many of the members of the group who joined us over 10 years ago and after 12 months of helping Throston cubs he also volunteered to support Louise with the beaver section, devoting 2 evenings a week to volunteering for the group. Mark switched from Throston to become the Akela at the cub section and run the pack with fun activities at St Lukes. During Covid Mark still continued to run cub meetings with online meetings and later social distanced cub meetings.



Scout of the World Award ?

Interested in doing the Scout of the World Award?

Contact our County Co-ordinator Beth Gibson.

