

YOUR SUMMER CHALLENGE

With this Courier being the last before the Summer break, here's a challenge for our young people.



Can you make a water silhouette? Lie down on the ground in a pose everyone should recognise and someone else throws water over you (great on hot days like we've just had!) Get up quickly and get a photo of the silhouette!



County Commissioner's Corner



As I'm writing this, we are in the middle of the hottest June days on record! Thanks to your adaptability, you've all managed to amend your programmes to ensure Scouting has safely continued through the heat!

Permits

We are now in the busy period of nights away with most groups having camping activities across the country. As we continue to develop our Place to Belong strategy, we will be trying to ensure all groups have access to permit holders to ensure all sections can take part in adventurous activities. If you would like to gain a permit (Nights Away, water sports, climbing or archery/air rifles), please contact Ian or myself and we can put you in touch with the various county teams who will support.

Explorers Programme

Hopefully by now you will have heard about the new Explorer programme and branding to ensure Explorers continues to remain relevant for our teenagers and build on Scout programme rather than just repeat Scout programme. Other section programmes will be reviewed over the coming years.

First Response reminder

When we moved to Teams based volunteering, the role of section assistant became a team member role. Previously these section assistants were exempt from First Response training and were given 2 years to complete it and be compliant. This 2 year exemption comes to an end in November this year. If you need to complete the First Response training then there are several ways to complete it. Either sign up for a face to face county event advertised via our usual communication methods (Facebook, Whatsapp, Courier, email) or log in to the membership system online learning and book an online workshop. You will still need to complete the practical session in person but this can be arranged by getting in touch with Ian Railton.

Finally, I want to wish you all a great Summer holidays whether you are Scouting through the holidays or not.

I look forward to seeing lots of you in September at the County Fun Day.

Andy

HAARLEM QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 10th July
Stockton Masonic Hall

Friday 17th July
Redcar Rugby Club

Hot Food Included

Doors 7:15pm
Quiz 7:45pm

Ticket reservation required [scan QR code]

£12

TICKET DEADLINE
Friday 26th June

Payment via cash on the night

Please direct any questions to haarlemclevelandscouts@gmail.com

Scouts

Charity Number 1 308102



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Mr. Dwayne Fields,
Chief Scout,
The Scout Association

Please convey my warmest thanks to all Scouts and Members of the Scout Association for their loyal greetings, sent on the occasion of the relaunch of their Explorer Scouts programme today in Derby. I am delighted that the programme has been revitalized to offer young people the opportunity to experience adventure and undertake activities which are both rewarding for themselves and wider society.

As your Patron, I much appreciate your message of loyal greetings. In return, I send my warmest good wishes to all those who are present for a memorable event.

CHARLES R

25th June, 2026



Ian's Bit's & Piece's



THE NEW PROGRAMME FOR EXPLORERS HAS BEEN LAUNCHED!



Thursday 25th June saw the launch of the NEW Explorers programme! Over quite a long period of time, we've (HQ) been working with over 2,000 young people and 200 volunteers from 116 Explorer units across the UK and British Scouting Overseas. They've tested and shared their views on the new activities, badges and programme guidance. It's a programme for Explorers designed by Explorers.

Here's what to expect:

New Activity Badges:

We've reimaged all the Activity badges. While some favourites remain with new requirements, we're also introducing a few new badges too. The badges are made to reflect how young people learn, grow and engage today.



Challenge Awards:

We're introducing six new Challenge Awards which will help Explorers complete parts of their ICV lists. They're not to replace Top awards but to support young people to achieve them.

More flexibility:

The programme is more flexible than ever, allowing young people to complete the programme in the ways they want to. There're still requirements but the young people can take control of them and decide how they want to complete their badges and awards.

A new brand:

Alongside the programme we're also launching a brand-new look and feel for the Explorer section. There'll be new logos, colours, imagery, badge artwork, recruitment resources and tone of voice. The brand was also shaped and influenced by those who know best – our Explorers!

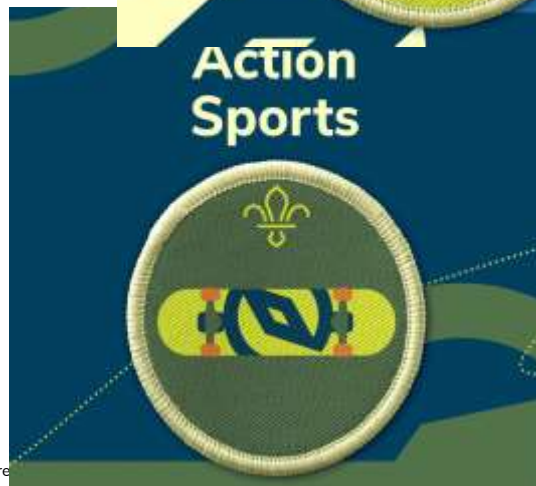
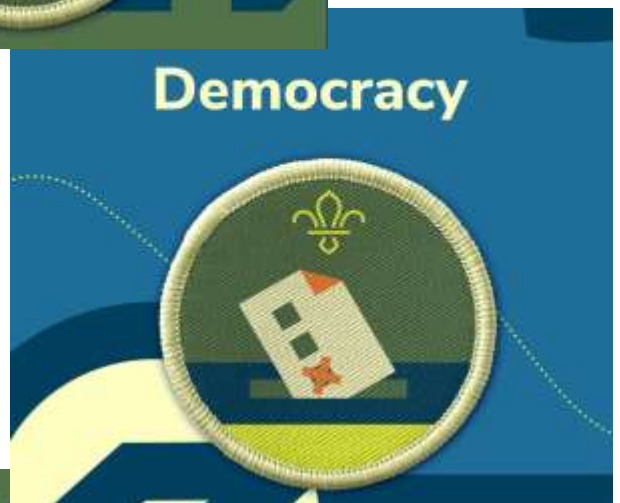
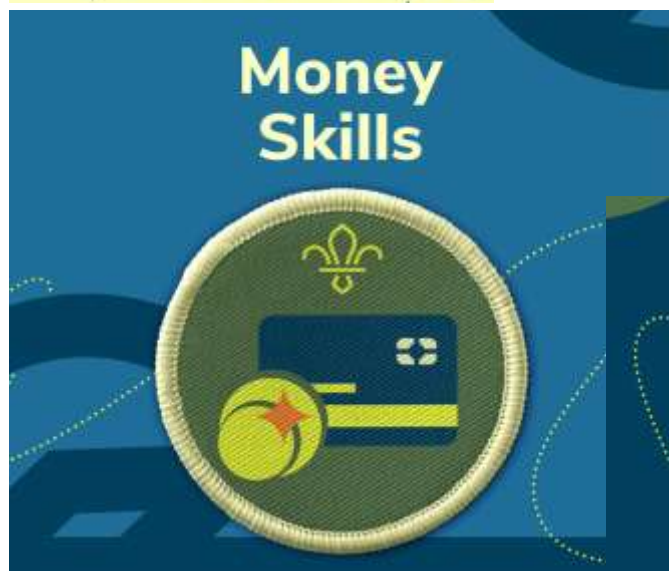
There was a lot of launching taking place last month but there's no expectation for any Units to get started on delivering the new programme or updating their resources straight away. There's a transition period until September 2027 to allow Units to finish off parts of their current programme and update resources when they need a natural refresh.

This is the first step to refreshing our programme for young people aged 14-24 and our focus will turn to the programme for 18+ very soon. We'll be in touch with more information about this later in the year.

We're excited to see the impact of this new programme, offering more experiences to a new generation of young people for years to come.

Kevin Munday

14-24 Programme Sponsor



Fun Day

‘JUST SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES THAT WILL BE AT COUNTY FUN DAY’



1st Saltburn Scouts

1st Saltburn Scouts started the photography badge last month.



East Cleveland

Squirrels from across East Cleveland District came together to celebrate an incredible milestone – 5 years of Squirrels!



Train Spotting

One for our train spotters leaders or young people.

Scouting Locos

Gill Clay



The Gill Clay (Intercity Express Train No. 800021): Named by GWR to celebrate 100 years of ScoutsCymru in Wales. It was named after Gill Clay, the granddaughter of Robert Baden-Powell.

"The Boy Scout" Locomotive:
A historic London, Midland and Scottish Railway (LMS) Royal Scot Class steam locomotive (No. 6169) built in 1930.

The Boy Scout



Gilwell Park



The "Gilwell Park" is a LNER B17 class (4-6-0) locomotive built in 1935. It was named after the historic headquarters of the Scout movement

Union Pacific No. 2010: A GE ES44AC locomotive wrapped in a special commemorative livery to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America in 2010.

No. 2010



1st Norton

1st Norton Beavers visited the small gauge railway at Preston Park last month.



Synthonia

Paul Elliott the District Lead Volunteer attended Synthonia Scouts to present not 1 but 4 Chief Scout Gold Awards, the highest award for a Scout to receive to Amelia, Rosie, Imogen and David. Well done for all your hard work!!



East Cleveland Squirrels

What a fantastic evening celebrating Squirrels' 5th Birthday at Marske Scout Hut!

We had SO much fun together – from crown making and 🍪 decorating biscuits, to pass the parcel and den building! Of course, we couldn't forget our 🎵 singing too!

It was brilliant to come together with all the other Squirrels from across the East Cleveland district – so many smiles, laughs, and happy faces all in one place!

What an amazing way to kick off our summer term



8th Billingham Cubs

The Cubs had a fantastic visit from the local neighbourhood police. They are based in Billingham but cover the whole of Stockton on Tees. We learnt so much and looking forward to welcoming them back soon.



43rd Middlesbrough

What a voyage!

Last night the crew of the B.N.C. Mafeking successfully cast off from Middlesbrough Scout Wharf for an evening of adventure, teamwork and exploration.

Our Cub sailors stocked the ship's water stores, navigated treacherous channels, crossed creaky bridges, survived stormy seas and avoided becoming stranded at Crocodile Creek!

The crew then searched high and low to recover the lost pages of Captain Mafeking's Log, charted their own voyages, designed ship's sails and earned their sea legs before settling down with some well-earned rations.

There were ship's boats, lifebelts, cannon smoke and plenty of rope on deck before the crew gathered to enjoy Moana 2 and prepare for a night aboard ship.

By the morning, although a few sailors were looking a little adrift and running on low tide, all hands were present, all crew accounted for, and the Mafeking remained happily afloat!

A huge thank you to all the leaders, volunteers and young people who helped make the evening such a success. Your teamwork really helped us steer a steady course.

Now it's time for the next adventure... canoeing!

Fair winds and following seas, crew of the Mafeking!

The Beavers put their teamwork, imagination and exploring skills to great use, creating some fantastic shelters, before sitting down inside them for a well-earned hot dog supper!

It was a brilliant evening full of adventure, fun and friendship.

We're also proud that our Beavers followed the Countryside Code and left no trace of our visit, helping to look after the beautiful woodland for everyone to enjoy..

Well done, Beavers!

The young people had a fantastic time taking part in a range of fun activities, including biscuit decorating, den building, and some party games. It was wonderful to see Squirrels from different groups making new friends, working together, and celebrating everything that makes Squirrels such a special section.

A huge thank you to all the volunteers who helped organise and run the event, and to everyone who came along to make the celebration such a success.

Here's to the next 5 years of adventure, fun, and learning!

We're excited to share that Middlesbrough Environment City (including Cub Leader Matthew Allen) featured in a major new BBC One documentary with Sir Gareth Southgate.

Gareth – the former England and Middlesbrough FC manager – visited our Acklam site as part of filming for 'Gareth Southgate: Changing The Game for Young Men'. The documentary will air on BBC One at 9pm on 8 June.

He spent time with volunteers, hearing their stories and learning more about how community-led volunteering can help people build confidence, develop skills and find a sense of purpose and belonging.

The documentary explores some of the challenges facing young men across the UK and highlights the importance of positive role models, connection and opportunity. These are themes that resonate strongly with the work we see every day through our volunteers and community members.

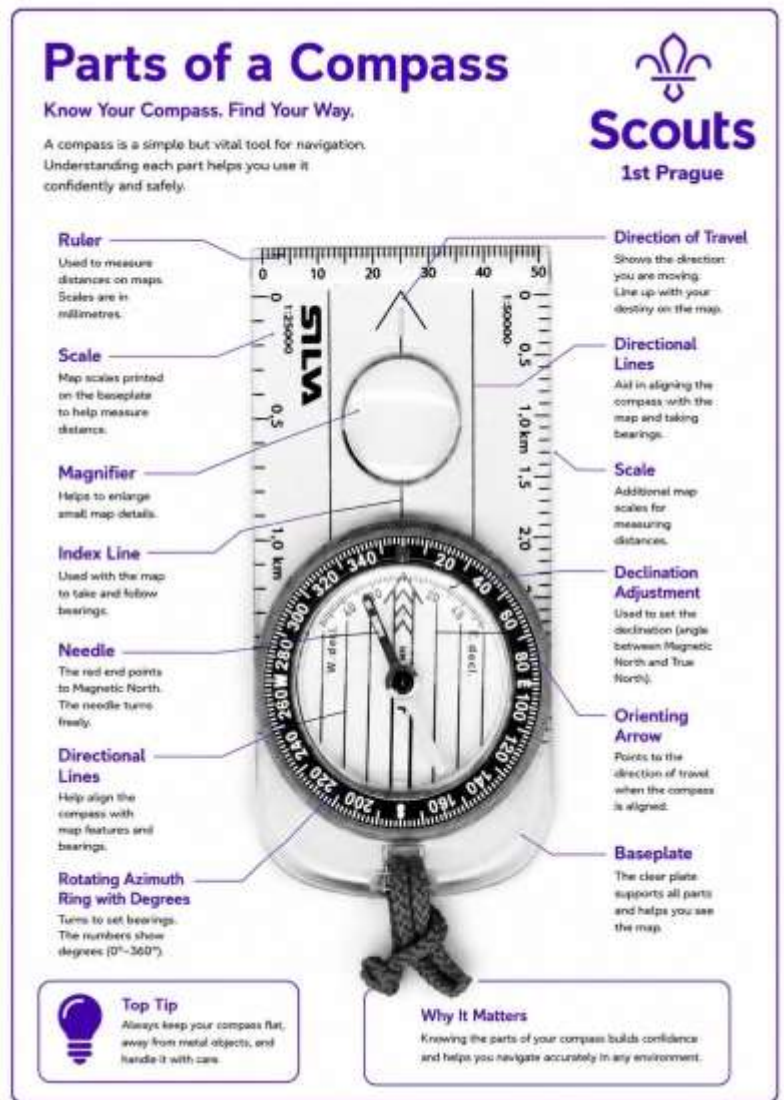
It was a real privilege to welcome Gareth to our site and showcase the incredible impact of volunteering in Middlesbrough and the Tees Valley. We're proud that the stories, experiences and achievements of our local communities will be shared with a national audience, helping shine a spotlight on the vital role community organisations and volunteers play in supporting people to thrive.

If you missed it it'll be available on BBC iPlayer.



Sythonia Cubs

30 Cubs from Sythonia and 18th Hartlepool took part in the district visit to Saltholme for their naturalist badge. They did pond dipping, bird recognition, natural art picture, dragonfly trail, picture quiz around the site and of course the playground. They all enjoyed themselves. I would like to thank the adults for bringing the young people as without the adults it could not have happened. I would also like to thank Jess from RSPB Saltholme for the guided sessions. Well done everyone.



7th Redcar

Thanks to the cubs at 7th Redcar Scout Group for planting new hedging at Raven Gill, in a few years, it will provide cover for the abundance of wildlife we get at the site - along with some hiding places for Man Hunt



44th Middlesbrough

Great night tonight in Redcar for 44th Middlesbrough - the rain didn't put us off!



1st Norton Scouts

Great night climbing last night with 1st Norton Scouts, and some personal boundaries really pushed by the Scouts, great effort!



18th Hartlepool Beavers

After a very wet few days, were lucky enough to enjoy a dry evening for a walk into the woods at Summerhill to build dens.





LINE UP!

SUITABLE FOR ALL SECTIONS



1 Ask your group to form a line in the order of their 'Birthdays By Month'



2 Ask the group to form a line in the order of their 'Shoe Size'



3 Ask the group to form a line in the order of their 'Hair Length'



IF THEY DON'T ACHIEVE THIS IN THE TIME...
GIVE THEM A FORFEIT!

OLDER SECTION CHALLENGE!

GIVE THEM A SHORTER TIME LIMIT TO DO THIS!



WWW.EASIERSCOUTING.COM



10 SCOUTING MYTHS BUSTED.

The facts about Scouting in the UK.

Scouts
Prepared for life

- 1 IT'S BASICALLY THE ARMY FOR KIDS.**
Scouting builds confidence, skills and character – not armies.
- 2 IT'S ONLY FOR BOYS.**
Scouting is fully **Inclusive**. Everyone is welcome.
- 3 IT'S ALL CAMPING AND TYING KNOTS.**
From coding to community projects, Scouts learn skills for life.
- 4 IT'S OLD-FASHIONED AND IRRELEVANT.**
Our programme evolves to tackle today's challenges and tomorrow's.
- 5 ONLY KIDS WHO AREN'T 'COOL' JOIN SCOUTS.**
Scouting is for all kinds of young people from all backgrounds.
- 6 LEADERS ARE UNTRAINED VOLUNTEERS WINGING IT.**
Leaders receive training, ongoing support and are DBS checked.
- 7 IT'S TOO EXPENSIVE.**
We work hard to keep Scouting accessible for everyone.
- 8 SCOUTS JUST PLAY GAMES.**
Games build teamwork, problem solving and leadership skills.
- 9 YOU HAVE TO BE OUTDOORSY TO FIT IN.**
You don't need experience – just a willingness to have a go.
- 10 IT DOESN'T ACTUALLY HELP IN REAL LIFE.**
Scouting builds skills employers value and shapes future leaders.