

Issue 1/2017 – September 2017

land@westlancsscouts.org.uk



Programme 2017/18

Who we are

The Land Active Support Unit (LASU) is a team of volunteers with a passion for hillwalking, mountaineering, mountain biking, skiing or caving. We organise and facilitate a range of events throughout the year as well as providing activity leader support to other county, district or group organised events such as the Ardennes Adventure, County Explorer Scout Camp, County Rally and the Bowlander.

In addition to organising and supporting activities we provide training and assessment opportunities for those wishing to obtain activity permits or just to improve their skills.

Membership of the LASU is open to all current or prospective members of West Lancs Scouts.

Cave Leader Days

Dates TBA

Aimed at: Leaders wishing to gain caving experience.

Cost: no charge

Organiser: TBA



Scottish Mountain Bike Weekend

Friday 20th – Sunday 22nd October 2017



A weekend of mountain biking around the 7stanes trail centres of southern Scotland. Some say they are the mecca of mountain biking in the UK. We aim to ride at least two of these trail centres over the weekend from our bunkhouse accommodation in the heart of Ae forest.

Aimed at: Explorer Scouts, Scout Network, and Leaders.

Cost: £45 (not including mountain bike hire)

Organiser: Tim Crozier

Autumn Meet

Friday 27th – Sunday 29th October 2017



Our autumn weekend based in the Hope Valley in the Peak District offers opportunities for adults to come together to get out walking, mountain biking, caving, and rock climbing. Explorer Scouts accompanied by a permit holding leader are also welcome. Boost your climbing logbook, and sample the excellent biking to be had. A top quality weekend!



Aimed at: Scout Network, Leaders

Cost: campsite £5 per person per night, own food, own transport costs.

Organiser: Geoff Lyons

Winter Meet

Friday 26th – Sunday 28th January 2018



A weekend up on the west coast of Scotland for adults wishing to gain more winter hill walking or climbing experience. The chance to grab two quality mountain days on Ben Nevis, Aonach Mor or in Glen Coe.

Aimed at: Scout Network and Leaders who have some previous winter climbing & mountaineering experience.

Cost: bunkhouse approx. £15 per night, own food, own transport cost.

Organiser: Geoff Lyons

Snow & Ice

Friday 9th – Wednesday 14th February 2018



Get to learn the basic skills and experience the Scottish mountains in winter. There will also be the opportunity for overnights out in the wilds and building your own snow hole! For older members, there'll be opportunities to develop your skills to be self-sufficient in the mountains, understand the risks and grow experience in a controlled environment. Those with more experience will be able to hone their skills further and obtain permits.



Aimed at: Explorer Scouts (15+ years), Scout Network and Leaders.

Cost: £260 (To be confirmed)

Organiser: Phil Acklam

Spring Mountain Bike Day

Date TBA



Work off those winter legs with a day mountain biking in the Lake District sampling some of the excellent trails in the area (both uphill & downhill!).

Aimed at: Explorer Scouts, Scout Network, and Leaders.

Cost: £10 (not including mountain bike hire)

Organiser: TBA

Mountain Adventure Challenge (The MAC)

Friday 6th – Sunday 8th April 2018

The Mountain Adventure Challenge is a two-day mountain backpacking event in the Lake District. The weekend can be used as training for the expedition element of the Chief Scout's Platinum & Diamond awards or the Queen's Scout award. The event can also be used by adults to practise their navigation and backpacking skills.



Aimed at: Explorer Scouts, Scout Network, and Leaders.

Cost: £15 entry fee per person (To be confirmed)

Organiser: Phil Acklam

Terrain Zero Mountain Bike Leaders Day

Date TBA



A day of training with the County Mountain Bike Team focusing on leading groups in low level terrain. Based at Gisburn Forest near Clitheroe, the day will cover all the Scouting rules and regulations, leader and group equipment, followed by a ride on one of the two routes through the forest.

Aimed at: Scout Network and Leaders who want to lead groups on biking activities.

Cost: no charge

Organiser: TBA

Spring Meet

Friday 27th April – Monday 30th May 2018



The partner event to our Autumn Meet, Spring Meet usually takes place in North Wales, in the heart of the Snowdonia National Park. The venue may, however, change to another mountainous area of the UK depending on demand. The chance for adults to get three quality days of walking, climbing, scrambling and mountain biking.

Aimed at: Scout Network, Leaders

Cost: campsite £5 per person per night, own food, own transport cost.

Organiser: Geoff Lyons



Navigation Training Day

Saturday 23rd June 2018

A day's training in basic map and compass work for leaders wishing to deliver this element of the programme to their groups or for those just wanting to refresh their skills. Based at Waddecar Scout Activity Centre.

Aimed at: Explorer Scouts, Scout Network, and Leaders.

Cost: £10 Bring your own dinner.

Organiser: Geoff Lyons

Mountain Leader & Single Pitch Award courses

See the calendar for course dates



The Mountain Leader Award and the Single Pitch Award are nationally recognised qualifications for leaders delivering summer hill walking and single pitch rock climbing activities. The route to achieving either of these awards normally involves attendance of a training course, a prerequisite being reasonable experience in the activity, followed by a period of skills consolidation before



attendance of an assessment course. Training and assessment courses are offered to members of West Lancs Scouts, at a discounted rate, by Andy Brown, our Technical Advisor for mountaineering. Achievement of these awards will normally allow a relevant Scout Association adventurous activity permit to be gained without further technical assessment. Participation in relevant LASU events is an ideal opportunity to gain the prerequisite and consolidation experience. For further details of the awards see <http://www.mountain-training.org/> and for information about the courses provided by Andy see <http://www.adventures.org.uk/>

Aimed at: Scout Network and Leaders (18+)

Cost: TBA

Organiser: Andy Brown

Adventurous activity permit assessments

By arrangement with an assessor



In order to maintain the highest standards of safety whilst providing challenging and rewarding activities for its members the Scout Association operate a permit scheme for those wishing to lead adventurous activities.

Details of the permit scheme can be found on the Associations website

<https://members.scouts.org.uk/activitypermits>

Most Activities organised and offered by the LASU are subject to the permit

scheme and provide an ideal opportunity to gain the skills and experience required in order to obtain a permit. In addition to the normal personal suitability and criminal record checks, those wishing to obtain an adventurous activity permit will normally undertake a practical assessment of their skills with a Scout Association or external



assessor; contact details for the county's current activity assessors are listed in the following table.

Aimed at: Explorer Scouts, Scout Network and Leaders

Cost: TBA

Organiser: Please contact a relevant assessor (see table on the following page)

County Assessor contact details

Hillwalking	Geoff Lyons	07736 115031	geoff@glyons.co.uk
	Tim Stewart	07966 542663	email@timst.co.uk
	Andy Brown	07974 390977	andy@adventures.org.uk
Single pitch rock climbing	Geoff Lyons	07736 115031	geoff@glyons.co.uk
	Mike Penwarden	07979 757742	mike.penwarden@blackpool.gov.uk
	Andy Brown	07974 390977	andy@adventures.org.uk
Multipitch rock climbing	Judith Hunter	07980 650890	webmaster@16lancasterscouts.org.uk
	Andy Brown	07974 390977	andy@adventures.org.uk
Winter climbing	Andy Brown	07974 390977	andy@adventures.org.uk
Snow sports	Andy Brown	07974 390977	andy@adventures.org.uk
Mountain Biking	TBA		
Caving	Rachel Platt	07939 667265	Precious_oneuk@yahoo.com

Calendar of events

October 2017				
20 th – 22 nd	Scottish mountain biking	Dumfries & Galloway	Tim Crozier	ES, SN, SASU
27 th – 29 th	Autumn Meet	Peak District	Geoff Lyons	ES, SN, SASU
November 2017				
3 rd – 5 th	ML Training (1/2)	Lake District	Andy Brown	SN, SASU
TBA	Cave Leader Day	Yorkshire	TBA	SN, SASU
17 th – 19 th	ML Training (2/2)	Lake District	Andy Brown	SN, SASU
January 2018				
26 th – 28 th	Winter Meet	Scotland	Geoff Lyons	SN, SASU
February 2018				
9 th – 14 th	Snow & Ice	Cairngorms	Phil Acklam	ES, SN, SASU
March 2018				
TBA	MTB day	Lake District	TBA	ES, SN, SASU
April 2018				
6 th – 8 th	MAC	Lake District	Phil Acklam	ES, SN, SASU
TBA	T0 MTB Day	Gisburn Forest	TBA	SN, SASU
28 th	Bowlander	Forest of Bowland	ACC Scouts	S, SASU
27 th – 30 th	Spring Meet	Snowdonia	Geoff Lyons	SN, SASU
27 th – 29 th	ML Assess (1/2)	Lake District	Andy Brown	SN, SASU
May 2018				
11 th – 13 th	ML Assess (2/2)	Lake District	Andy Brown	SN, SASU
June 2018				
23 rd	Navigation Training	Waddecar	Geoff Lyons	ES, SN, Leaders
29 th – 30 th	County Explorer Scout Camp	Great Tower	ACC Explorers	ES, SASU
August 2018				
11 th – 18 th	Red Rose 2018	Kendal	West Lancs	S, ES, SASU

Event organisers contact details

Andy Brown	07974 390977	andy@adventures.org.uk
Geoff Lyons	07736 115031	geoff@glyons.co.uk
Pete Willingham	01772 452849	peter.willingham@gmail.com
Tim Crozier	07532257073	tim.crozier92@gmail.com

See www.westlancsscouts.org.uk/members-2/activities/land-activities for updates to the calendar and details of additional events not listed here.

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