



# Challenge: A Night's Tale

**Content** It is not unusual for search and rescue activities to take place after dark; teams are on-call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. This has implications on safety and the effectiveness of search activities.

## Activities Scouts and Guides

- Talk about the additional hazards of night searches.
- Undertake an incident night hike and include at least two of the following skills. Support information can be found in other challenges' resources.
  - Kit selection, navigation, first aid, effective searching or evidence handling.

## Senior Section, Explorers and Network

- Talk about the additional hazards of night searches.
- Undertake an incident night hike and include all of the following skills. Support information can be found in other challenges' resources.
  - Kit selection, navigation, first aid, effective searching, search location selection or evidence handling.

**Equipment** This of course depends on the choices of skills and the complexity of the scenario you set. Parents or gullible leaders make excellent "mispers" (missing people) but make sure everyone has additional warm clothing and torches, especially if they are going to be stationary. Other equipment is as listed in the other challenges.

- Navigation – see challenge 6
- Kit selection – see challenge 2
- First aid – see challenge 3
- Effective searching – see challenge 1
- Search location selection – see challenge 4
- Evidence handling – see challenge 11

## Setup

**Possible scenarios include:**

- Someone missing for several hours after taking their dog for a walk.
- Someone missing without their medication.

**This is a night time incident hike. Safety is a prime concern so apply all of your organisation's policies.**

**Searchers face clear hazards at night yet the aim is to find a missing person and remain safe themselves. Hazards should be pointed out clearly to your groups, such as: easily making navigational errors, disorientation, trips and falls, members of the public using the area, mistakes and carelessness due to tiredness. For SAR team members the latter is often associated with the drive home.**

**Don't forget to make the scenario realistic but fun!**