

Google Calendar 3 Version 0.8 and 0.9 Installation and User Guide

Preliminary Setup

You first need to establish and create google credentials before the plugin can access your calendar.

Follow the instructions in the document “Setting up a Google V3 API Service Account” – when you have finished you should have a credentials file named GCal3.json

Next get a Calendar ID for the calendar you wish to use (described below).

CalendarID

In order to support a range of google calendars- the CalendarID needs to be a url style. This is because google calendars use a variety of formats. **This is different to the CalendarID used in versions prior to V0.8 of GCal3**

Broadly speaking, any calendar of the form

`https://www.google.com/calendar/ &src=[something]@group.calendar.google.com`
should work.

To get the correct url. Go to your calendar setup page, select the calendar and where it says Embedded this Calendar copy the link where it says "paste this code into your website" and use that link as the calendar ID for the plugin. The plugin will extract the necessary portions.

Here is an example personal site:

```
<iframe src="https://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=yourgoogleid%40gmail.com
&ctz=America/Denver" style="border: 0" width="800" height="600" frameborder="0"
scrolling="no"></iframe>
```

And here is a public site (this for the Miami Heat):

```
<iframe
src="https://www.google.com/calendar/htmlembed?src=nba_14_%254diami%2B%2548ea
t%23sports%40group.v.calendar.google.com
&ctz=America/Denver" style="border: 0" width="800" height="600" frameborder="0"
scrolling="no"></iframe>
```

Other public google calendars (which are not obtained from the google calendar setup) can be used and will be in the form

`https://www.google.com/calendar...&src=[some calendar]@group.calendar.google.com&.....`

If the link contains any of the following characters you need to substitute the encoded form. This is a limitation of the vera input method. Vera have verified that this is an issue with UI5 and UI7. They said they will be fixing it in UI7 but any fix for UI5 will come later. Note that I have not tested GCal3 with UI7.

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The two that I know of are:

& - replace with %26

- replace with %23

There may be others

For example, this link

https://www.google.com/calendar/hosted/worldcricketschedule.com/htmlembed?title=World+Cri+cket+Schedule&showDate=0&showTabs=0&showCalendars=0&mode=AGENDA&height=300&wkst=1&bgcolor=%23FFFFFF&src=vcricknet.com_mbkd7ffnp0855jb3a62jq5tark@group.calendar.google.com&color=%232952A3&ctz=Asia/Calcutta

needs to be changed to

https://www.google.com/calendar/hosted/worldcricketschedule.com/htmlembed?title=World+Cri+cket+Schedule%26showDate=0%26showTabs=0%26showCalendars=0%26mode=AGENDA%26height=300%26wkst=1%26bgcolor=%23FFFFFF%26src=vcricknet.com_mbkd7ffnp0855jb3a62jq5tark@group.calendar.google.com%26color=%232952A3%26ctz=Asia/Calcutta

Using iCal Calendars (V0.9 Only)

It is also possible to use **PUBLIC** ical calendars for example:

for example this (from google using the ICAL link)

<https://www.google.com/calendar/ical/en.australian%23holiday%40group.v.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>

or this:

<http://sports.yahoo.com/nfl/teams/sfo/ical.ics>

If you are trying the ical feature - the easiest way to tell if you have a 'good' url is to paste it into a browser and see if the browser attempts to download a calendar file for you. Also the url must be in the form of http:// or https://

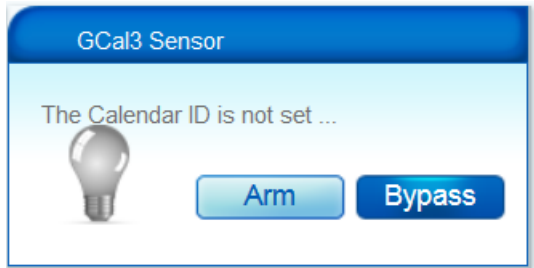
An iCal calendar will not display in the calendar tab – instead a default calendar showing the days of the year will display.

Also note that ical is inconsistent (allowed by the spec) in the way it stores date and time information . The plugin will correctly handle ical calendars that specify the start/end in utc or an unspecified 'local' time. If it's unspecified – the plugin will use the time setting from vera. Usually this will be fine so long as the ical sets the events to the same time as the vera expects. If the calendar has a different timezone and does not save the time in utc - then the vera event times will be wrong.

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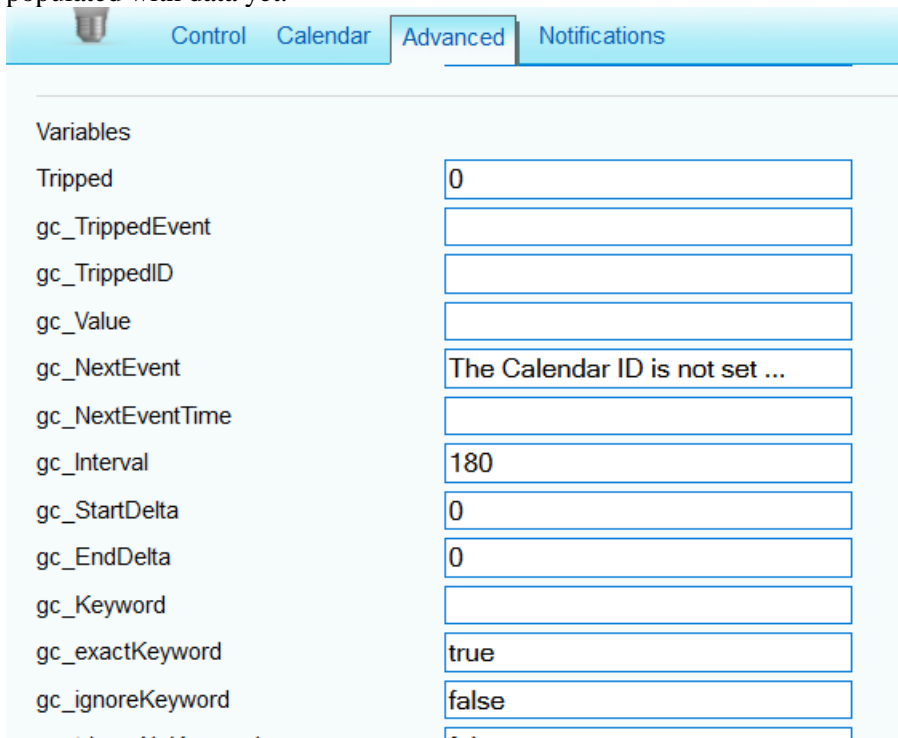
Installation

Install from the marketplace.



Press F5 on your browser (to refresh) and then

Open the advanced tab on the plugin and you should see the calendar specific variables. Not all will be populated with data yet.



Initial Configuration

The initial configuration is minimal. Go to your google calendar and create a test event (say) one hour from now.

1. Go to your vera dashboard and upload a copy the GCal3.json file created earlier

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Apps → Develop Apps → Luup Files → Browse [select GCal3.json]

Do not check Restart Luup after upload. **Then press 'GO'**

You should get a message telling you the upload was successful.

2. Open the Control tab on the plugin, copy your Calendar ID into the input field and press 'Set'

Next Event :

Calendar ID :

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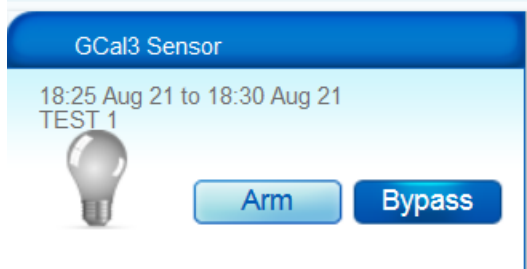
The control will then attempt to connect to and access your calendar.

If there is an error at this stage – you will likely need to look at the log information with `gc_debug` (see below) set to 3.

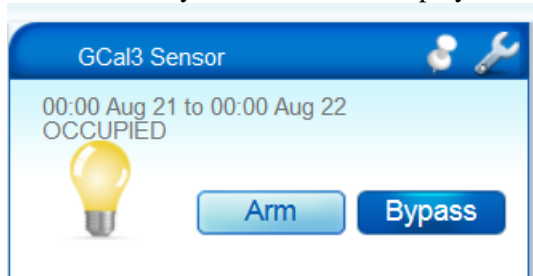
Open the Calendar tab and you should see your calendar

If this is not the case – the likely causes are (1) the CalendarID is incorrect, or (2) you are not logged into google from your browser.

The front panel of the calendar will look like this: Showing the start and end time of the next event (light bulb is grey) or the current event (light bulb is yellow) event together with the event name (truncated if too long).



If it's an all-day event it will be displayed like this:



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Configuration Options

The main way to configure the calendar is through the advanced tab – which should now look more or less like this :

Variables	
Tripped	0
gc_TrippedEvent	OCCUPIED
gc_TrippedID	OCCUPIED 08/22 00:00
gc_Value	
gc_NextEvent	OCCUPIED
gc_NextEventTime	00:00 Aug 21 to 00:00 Aug 22
gc_Interval	180
gc_StartDelta	0
gc_EndDelta	0
gc_Keyword	
gc_exactKeyword	true
gc_ignoreKeyword	false
gc_triggerNoKeyword	false
gc_ignoreAllDayEvent	false
gc_retrip	true
gc_CalendarID	http://sports.yahoo.com/nfl/teams
gc_jsonEvents	[]
gc_jsonActiveEvents	[]
gc_ActiveEvents	
gc_EventsToday	0
gc_EventsLeftToday	0
gc_lastCheck	2014-11-10 at 09:56:32
gc_nextCheck	2014-11-10 at 12:56:32
gc_debug	0
gc_displaystatus	0

Variables with names in bold are for altering the plugin behavior – all others are set by the plugin and are for information.

Variable	Value	Comments
Tripped	0 or 1	Set by the device. 0 if not tripped, 1 if tripped

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Variable	Value	Comments
gc_TrippedEvent	An event Name or Blank	Set by the device. The name of the currently tripped event
gc_Value	The value of an optional parameter for the tripped event	Set by the device for a triggered event. The event name can have optional text in { } at the end. If present it will be placed into this variable as is – without the { }
gc_NextEvent	An event Name	Set by the device. The name of the next event that will trip the device or be active. If the event is tripped – this will be the same as gc_TrippedEvent.
gc_NextEventTime	If an all day event: All Day -- dd mmm Otherwise the start and end time hh:mm mmm dd to hh:mm mmm dd	Set by the device. This is the time of the current or next event. If it's an all day event then only the day and month are shown. If it's not an all day event then the start and stop time are displayed including any allowance for gc_StartDelta and gc_endDelta.
gc_Interval	A number in minutes The default is 180 minutes, i.e. 3 hrs. The minimum is 1 minute.	Configuration. This is the maximum amount of time between refreshes of the calendar See notes below.
gc_StartDelta	A number in minutes Default is 0 Negative numbers are preceded by - positive numbers have no +	Configuration. This is the number of minutes before (negative) or after the event start time that you want the plugin to turn on. Applies to all events <u>unless</u> an event specific start / end delta is defined (see usage notes below).
gc_EndDelta	A number in minutes Default is 0 Negative numbers are preceded by - positive numbers have no +	Configuration. This is the number of minutes before (negative) or after the event end time that you want the plugin to turn off. Applies to all events <u>unless</u> an event specific start / end delta is defined (see usage notes below).

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Variable	Value	Comments
gc_Keyword	Can be left blank or can be a keyword or phrase. Multiple keywords can be specified if separated by a semi-colon ;	Configuration. If set this specifies the event name and / or description to match. The plugin will force it to upper case. The behavior depends on the values set for gc_exactKeyword and gc_ignoreKeyword
gc_exactKeyword	Either 'true' or 'false' (no quotes) Default is true	Configuration. Set this to true if you want the plugin to match an event name exactly . Set to false if you want the plugin to match anywhere in the event name.
gc_ignoreKeyword	Either 'true' or 'false' (no quotes) Default is false	Configuration. Set this to true if you want the plugin to ignore any events where the event name matches the keyword or the description contains the keyword
gc_triggerNoKeyword	Either 'true' or 'false' (no quotes) Default is false	Configuration. Set this to true if you want the plugin to trigger the plugin if no keywords are set. This means the plugin will trigger on every event. It will usually be better to set to false and use the "An event has specified name" option.
gc_ignoreAllDayEvent	Either 'true' or 'false' (no quotes) Default is false	Configuration. Set this to true if you want the plugin to ignore all day events.
gc_retrip	Either 'true' or 'false' (no quotes) Default is true	Configuration. Set this to false so that back-to-back events with the same name will be treated as one long event. Useful for repeating all-day events.
gc_CalendarID	Your Calendar ID from google	Configuration. Set on the control tab
gc_jsonEvents	Json encoded array of pending valid events	Set by the device. See notes below.
gc_jsonActiveEvents	Json encoded array of active events and parameters i.e. current nested and overlapping at the current time	Set by the device. See notes below.
gc_ActiveEvents	Comma delimited list of active events i.e. current nested and overlapping at the current time	Set by the device. See notes below.

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Variable	Value	Comments
gc_EventsToday	Gives a count of the number of events present in the calendar in the current (local time) 24 hrs. This will remain the same during the day.	Set by the device.
gc_ActiveEventsToday	Gives a count of the number of events remaining in the current (local time) 24 hrs. This will start out equal to gc_EventsToday and decrease as each event completes. When no more events remain it will equal 0	Set by the device.
gc_lastCheck	The date and time the plugin last checked the calendar	Set by the device.
gc_nextCheck	The date and time the plugin will next check the calendar	Set by the device.
gc_debug	A value from 1 to 3 Default is 1	Configuration. Set this to 3 for verbose debug messages to the vera log
gc_displaystatus	A value or 0 when there is not tripped or active event, 50 when an active event and 100 when a tripped event. Varies the icon on the plugin panel	Set by the device.

Front Panel Messages

The plugin front panel is used for various messages and status. Usually it will display the time and name of the current event or next event :

Other message can be:

Message	Meaning
The Calendar link is not set ...	This should only appear during initial install. You need provide the calendar url information
Click X then RELOAD	This will appear after you provide the calendar url information
Checking	You pressed the 'Check' button from the Control Tab. The plugin is checking the calendar. If this message persist then something is wrong.
http error code: [number]	This means that the plugin could not connect properly to the google calendar site. The http error code will indicate why (or at least give a clue).
Could not get the calendar data	Could connect to google calendar site but could not retrieve the calendar data.

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Message	Meaning
No events in next 24 hrs	There are no more trigger events in the calendar for the next 24 hrs
No events in the calendar for today	There are no events at all for the next 24 hrs.
Fatal error getting credentials ...	There was a problem with the GCal3.json file or communicating with google – look in the /etc/cmhludl/GCal3 directory at the *.token file(s) and the error.log file
Fatal error getting access token	There was a problem with the GCal3.json file or communicating with google – look in the /etc/cmhludl/GCal3 directory at the *.token file(s) and the error.log file

Usage Notes

1. Events can be named in the calendar as a word or words (**do not use quotes**)
e.g. “Occupied” or “Wake Up”
2. Descriptions can be used in the calendar as if they are events
3. Zero or more keywords can be defined in the plugin, if more than one keyword is defined, they are separated by a semi-colon i.e. ;
4. Events, description and keywords are case insensitive -- so 'Test Event' = 'test event' = 'TeSt EVeNT'
White space is trimmed from the start and end and they are forced to upper case - this just makes it a little more robust to typo's
5. If no keyword is set then any event will enable the plugin to be used to activate a scene. This can be done in two ways depending on the value of gc_triggerNoKeyword. When set to true the device itself is ‘triggered’ for every event. If set to false (recommended) then the scene can be specified to react to “An event has specified name” this does not technically trigger the plugin – but the event is ‘active’.
6. If keyword is set and gc_exactKeyword is true. Then an event name or description must match the keyword exactly – there can be nothing before and nothing after **except for options** (see below).
7. If keyword is set and gc_exactKeyword is false . Then the keyword can match anywhere in the event name or the description.
8. If a keyword is set and gc_ignoreKeyword is false then only those events that match the keyword can trigger the plugin
9. If a keyword is set and gc_ignoreKeyword is true then any events that match the keyword are ignored – it’s as if they were not in the calendar in the first place.
10. If gc_ignoreAllDayEvent is true then all day events are ignored – it’s as if they were not in the calendar in the first place.

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11. There are two **optional** parameters that can be used in defining keywords (in the plugin), events and / or descriptions (in the calendar). These are :
[x,y] and **{some parameters}**
[x,y] specifies a start(x) and end(y) delta (in minutes)
{some parameter } is used to populate gc_Value and can be used by other plugins as input.
While event names, descriptions and keywords are all forced to upper case anything in {} is left as-is
12. There is a strict order of precedence for these optional parameters – meaning that if [] or {} are used, then the first time they are encountered is used and subsequent uses (for an event) are ignored. The order is:
Keyword → if specified for a plugin keyword, this over-rides anything below in precedence
Event → if specified in the event, this over-rides anything below in precedence
Description → if specified in the description, this over-rides anything below in precedence
Default → the default for [x,y] is [gc_startDelta,gc_endDelta] and for {} is "" i.e. empty string

The optional parameters can be used in any order and different levels of precedence – although it's probably simpler and easier to be sure of what is happening if you use one level

Two examples:

Example 1 - No parameters

An all day event "All Day"

An event "A keyword" in the near future

An event "Not a keyword" in the near future

and I have the following

gc_Keyword = a keyword

gc_exactKeyword = true

gc_ignoreKeyword = true

gc_ignoreAllDayEvent = true

The plugin will trigger on the event "Not a Keyword" -- because all day events and any events with the keyword do not (logically) exist

If I change gc_ignoreAllDayEvent = false then the plugin would trigger on "All Day" because it's as if events with the keyword do not (logically) exist

If I next change gc_ignoreKeyword = false then it would trigger on "A Keyword" -- i.e. we are back to the 'default' behavior

Lastly with gc_ignoreKeyword = false and gc_ignoreAllDayEvent = true then it will trigger on the event "A Keyword" (but if there was an All Day event called "A Keyword" it would be ignored)

In the above example gc_exactKeyword was true. If I now change gc_exactKeyword to false and gc_Keyword to "keyword" then the two events "A keyword" and "Not a keyword" will be treated as if they satisfied the keyword and would trigger the plugin (or not) based on the setting of gc_ignoreKeyword.

Example 2 – using [] Parameters

Lets say I have gc_startDelta = -5 and gc_endDelta = 5

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I have a keyword = This Keyword [-10,10]

I have 3 events

1. This Keyword [7,7]
2. This event [8,8]
3. Another event

The effective events would be (respectively)

1. This Keyword [10,10] i.e. because it matches the keyword the keyword parameter takes precedence
2. This event [8,8] i.e. it's not matched by the keyword so it's left alone
3. Another event [-5,5] i.e. defaults

Note that this example does not take into account the trigger conditions.

Events:

The variable `gc_jsonEvents` is populated with a summary of the eligible events for use by other plugins / scenes. `gc_jsonEvents` is json encoded with each entry comprising the effective start time, end time and name of the event. Effective means that the event satisfies any keywords etc. and also takes into account any start and end delta's. By way of example - here are three events.

```
[[{'eventEnd':1402867800,'eventStart':1402866000,'eventName':'FIRST EVENT'},{'eventEnd':1402869000,'eventStart':1402868400,'eventName':'SECOND EVENT'},{'eventEnd':1402870200,'eventStart':1402869900,'eventName':'THIRD EVENT'}]]
```

To use the variable - it's simplest to decode the json into a table and then treat like an array. Note that the start and end times are **local times** (i.e. the timezone of your vera) - *so you should not need to do any timezone manipulation*. To help illustrate - here is some test code I used:

Function testJson()

```
local GCAL_SID = "urn:srs-com:serviceId:GCal2"
local myGooglePlugin = 45 ? change to be your GCal_II plugin device #

local jsonEvents = luup.variable_get(GCAL_SID, "gc_jsonEvents", lul_device)
if (jsonEvents == "") then
    return
end

-- load the json package
package.loaded.json = nil
local json = require("json")
local eventList = json.decode(jsonEvents)

local numberEvents = table.getn(eventList)
local startevent, startDate, startTime, endevent, eventname, event
for i = 1,numberEvents do
    startevent = eventList[ i ].eventStart
    --startEvent = os.date("%Y-%m-%dT%H:%M:%S", startevent)
    startDate = os.date("%Y-%m-%d", startevent)
    startTime = os.date("%H:%M:%S", startevent)
```

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```
endevent = eventList[ i ].eventEnd
endTime = os.date("%H:%M:%S", endevent)
eventname = eventList[ i ].eventName
event = "On " .. startDate .. " event " .. eventname .. " will start at " .. startTime .. " and end at " ..
endTime
    luup.log(event)
end
-- unload json module
package.loaded.json = nil
end
```

Similarly the variable `gc_jsonActiveEvents` gives a json array of the currently active events – not just the first event but any overlapping or nested events. The event name and any associated parameter are provided. This variable can be used in the same manner as described above by Luup/Lua code to trigger scenes.

For simpler uses, `gc_ActiveEvents` is a comma delimited list of active/overlapping/ nested events (with no parameter) that can be used by Luup/Lua/PLEG to trigger scenes.

Interval Notes

The variable `gc_Interval` (in minutes) sets the maximum time between checks of the calendar. The plugin will check the calendar at the start and end of each 'valid' event (i.e. an event that will cause it to trigger). Also - if the time between the end of one valid event and the next valid event is more than `gc_Interval`, then it will check `gc_Interval` minutes after the first event and so on until the start of the next event. So if there are no events in the near future it will check every `gc_Interval` minutes to see if anything has changed.

Each check of the calendar looks at a 24 hr window (+ `gc_Interval`) from 'now' (negative `startDelta` and positive `endDelta` will alter this a bit). So events more than 24 hrs from 'now' (+ `gc_Interval`) will not be seen.

The default value for `gc_Interval` is 3 hrs as a compromise between 'annoying' google (and vera) too often and seeing new events in the calendar. If you place a new event in the calendar and it's less than 3 hrs from now - it may not be seen unless the plugin had a check scheduled before the new event (either another event or just lucky). So - if you NEEDED a new event to be seen and it was scheduled in the next 3 hrs (or `gc_Interval` minutes if you use something other than the default) you'd need to press the check button on the plugin to force an update.

Setting `gc_intterval` to a large number (like 24hrs - or one week :-\ runs the risk of not seeing newly entered events) and setting it less than the default is likely a waste of vera resources (and maybe google will get upset with you if it's really small :o)

GENERAL NOTES:

For 'eligible events (i.e. (taking into account `gc_keyword`, `gc_exactKeyword`, `gc_ignoreKeyword` and `gc_ignoreAllDayEvent`)

1. If events overlap – then the first event will complete before the second event starts i.e. the second event will have an effective start time at the end of the first event.
2. If an event is completely 'enclosed' by another event – then it will not be seen.

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- 3. If two events have the same start time – it is undefined as to which one will trigger the plugin.**
- 4. If there are two events with the same event name and the second event has the same start time as the end of the first – they are viewed as one continuous event. i.e. the plugin does not ‘untrigger’ then ‘retrigger’.**
- 5. The minimum duration for an event is 1 minute taking into account the effect of any start and end delta. If the effective duration is less than one minute then the event will not be seen by the plugin i.e. it will be discarded.**

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DEBUG MESSAGES

The number specifies the debug level. 1 is lowest and recommended for everyday use. 2 provides more information and 3 is used for troubleshooting.

```
DEBUG(1, "Fatal Error - Could not get credentials")
DEBUG(1,"Continuing Event-End " .. GC.trippedID)
DEBUG(1,"Event-End " .. GC.trippedID .. " Finished")
DEBUG(1,"Event-End " .. GC.trippedID .. " Inactive")
DEBUG(1,"Event-Start " .. GC.Events[i][7] .. " Active")
DEBUG(1,"Event-Start " .. GC.Events[i][7] .. " is already Active")
DEBUG(1,"Event-Start " .. GC.Events[i][7] .. " is already Tripped")
DEBUG(1,"Event-Start " .. GC.Events[i][7] .. " Tripped")
DEBUG(1,"Fatal error trying to get access token")
DEBUG(1,"Next check will be in " .. delay .. " sec at " .. nextCheck)
DEBUG(1,"No event in the next day. Retry later...")
DEBUG(1,"Unable to retrieve google calendar data. Retry later...")
DEBUG(1,GC.debugPre .. "Running Plugin ...")
DEBUG(1,GC.debugPre .. "The Calendar ID is not set ...")
DEBUG(1,GC.debugPre .. "Variables initialized ...")
DEBUG(2,"All Day Event " .. effectiveEventName .. " Ignored")
DEBUG(2,"Calendar request status: " .. status)
DEBUG(2,"Checking google calendar")
DEBUG(2,"Event less than 1 minute: " .. effectiveEventName .. " Ignored")
DEBUG(2,"Event matched keyword " .. effectiveEventName .. " Ignored")
DEBUG(2,"Getting new token")
DEBUG(2,"Got new access token")
DEBUG(2,"Next Event: " .. eventtitle .. " -- " .. nextEventTime)
DEBUG(2,"There were " .. numberEvents .. " events retrieved")
DEBUG(2,"token info status: " .. status)
DEBUG(2,"Token will expire in " .. time_to_expire .. " sec")
DEBUG(2,"waiting 15 seconds to activate the next event")
DEBUG(2,"waiting 15 seconds to trigger the next event")
DEBUG(3, "Fatal Error - Could not download file" .. GC.jsonlua)
DEBUG(3, "Fatal Error - Could not download file" .. GC.jwt)
DEBUG(3, filename .. " already exists")
DEBUG(3, GC.debugPre .. "Timezone is " .. tzhr .. " hrs and " .. tzmin .. " min")
DEBUG(3,"Attempting to download " .. url)
DEBUG(3,"Calendar ID is not set.")
DEBUG(3,"Cancel any active event")
DEBUG(3,"Client email is: " .. client_email)
DEBUG(3,"Command " .. command .. " returned " ..result)
DEBUG(3,"Could not create the file - " .. GC.clientfile)
DEBUG(3,"Could not create the file - " .. GC.pemfile)
```

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```
DEBUG(3,"Could not decompress the file - " .. GC.pluginpath .. GC.credentialfile .. ".lzo")
DEBUG(3,"Could not execute the googlejwt.sh script")
DEBUG(3,"Creating a new pem file")
DEBUG(3,"Downloading " .. filename)
DEBUG(3,"Effective Event Name " .. effectiveEventName)
DEBUG(3,"Error code " ..status)
DEBUG(3,"Error downloading " .. filename)
DEBUG(3,"Event " .. i .. ": " .. event)
DEBUG(3,"Function: checkforcredentials")
DEBUG(3,"Function: getEvents")
DEBUG(3,"Function: getjsonEvents")
DEBUG(3,"Function: requestCalendar")
DEBUG(3,"Function: saveJsonEvents")
DEBUG(3,"Function: setTrippedOff")
DEBUG(3,"Http request error. Code : " .. code)
DEBUG(3,"json event list " .. eventList)
DEBUG(3,"Requested url: " .. url)
DEBUG(3,"StartMin is " .. s1 .. " StartMax is " .. s2)
DEBUG(3,"The credentials are not for a service account - you need to get a new json file")
DEBUG(3,"Writing file " .. filename)
DEBUG(3,(access_token or "Could not get access token"))
```