



# OXFORDSHIRE SCOUTING

**YOUR SCOUTING NEWS  
FROM ACROSS THE COUNTY**

## CC CHAT

I can't believe we are already in May and firmly into the camping season. I am enjoying hearing about plans that people have for taking their sections away and also seeing lots on social media about outdoor activities that are taking place.

You will all know by now that Wendy Tatham will take over from me as CC in July. I am delighted with this appointment and am confident that Wendy will do a great job. She and I are already working together on decisions and ensuring that she is up to speed on what's happening. I'm sure you will get a chance to meet her soon too. I must also mention two other people who are stepping out of the County team - Shaun Kendall from his role as DCC (Adult Support) and Martin Richards as DC Thames Ridge. Shaun has spent over 20 years in various roles on the County leadership team and made a huge contribution. Martin has really brought Thames Ridge together as a "new" District and driven growth and even better Scouting there. My thanks go to them both for all they have done. We are currently searching for their replacements and hope to make announcements soon.

Talking of growth, I was delighted to close out the 2019 census and report a 3.7% growth across the County. This means we now have almost 7,500 young people and almost 10,000 total membership in Oxfordshire. Whilst Scouting isn't about targets, we did set ourselves goals a few years ago and I'm pleased that this year's census sees us hitting the numbers on time! As well as overall growth, it's great to see that Explorer Scouts grew really significantly, contributing to us now having 26% of our youth membership aged 12+ and girls also now make up 26% of total members too.

We have recognised the fantastic work of a number of volunteers with good service awards in recent months. I would particularly like to congratulate our St George's Day award recipients: Roger "Bosun" Padgham (Silver Wolf), Sarah Joyner (Bar to the Silver Acorn) and Dawn Hopkins, Anna Harris, Krys Daniels, Kevin Heydon, Naomi Heydon, David Ralphs, Colin Whitlock, Ron Shewry, Mike Bowden, Ben Smith, Jill Elliot and Shelia Sangster (Silver Acorn). Well done and thank you to you all.

Finally, our 6th County Awards Day was held recently which celebrated the achievement of 900 young people who have gained top awards in their sections. This means that we have now seen over 5,000 awards made in the last 6 years! This really does go to show just how much good Scouting is happening around our patch and is testament to the work that you are all doing with our young people. I'd like to finish by sharing an email that we received from the parent of an award recipient after Awards Day. The message is very clear and was a brilliant reminder to me ... this is what we all do as Scouting volunteers. *"My twin sons were receiving their first Bronze Award so it was an eye opener when we arrived to see such a huge set up and so many Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorer Scouts and Leaders involved. With so many on site, the organisation must be a nightmare, however, as a first timer, it was certainly v. impressive and we thank you for all the hours volunteering that everyone has put into making yesterday happen. It was a wonderful day, with a slick presentation of many awards, and then a wonderful selection of activities to follow. The boys know how lucky they are (to some degree) to be a part of the scouting community because you offer them so many opportunities that we as parents can't. There was just a fantastic BIG family feel about yesterday and that is testament to everything and every hour that everyone does to enable a day like yesterday happening. We as parents are very proud of their achievement, we hope that they are inspired to go further and can only thank you all for your time and dedication to putting smiles on faces and allowing young people to live their dreams."*

Phil Earl, County Commissioner

## OXON GATHERING

Back for it's second year! Oxon Gathering - 13th - 15th September.

Join us for a weekend packed with workshops, quiz, activities and a chance to share ideas, best practice and socialise! [For more information click here!](#)

## KAYAK & CANOE

We will be running a Kayak and Canoe skills course for anyone wishing to take on extra training to gain an Activity Permit in this area.

The course will take place 14-15th September 2019.

[Further information can be downloaded here.](#)

## COUNTY AGM

11.30am, Saturday 13th

July 2019

Queensford Lake

Open to all!

[Register to attend here](#)

## OXCHEFS

Do you enjoy cooking; do you enjoy being part of a team of friendly, like minded people?

Would you be interested in joining the catering team for Oxfordshire County Scout events? We are looking for new team members to join OxChefs County Scout Active Support. We have on average 10 events spread over the year of which you can choose which ones you want to help at, it can be challenging work but we have a good laugh.

If your interested and want to find out more about the role then please contact us on [oxchefs@oxonscouting.org.uk](mailto:oxchefs@oxonscouting.org.uk)



## TAKE IT EASY

South West Region Scout Network invites you to Take it Easy camp. The event takes place 13th—15th September 2019 in Taunton.

[Download the information here.](#)

## BADGE APP

Geoff Soord has kindly shared a Scout badge app that he has developed.

Thank you for sharing Geoff!

The app can be obtained [here](#). This is a PWA so it can be installed locally. An advantage of a PWA is that it will work offline.

## QSWP 75

This year, the QSWP is celebrating it's 75th anniversary, and we would like to invite all current and former members to join us at a celebration event taking place at Gilwell Park on Saturday 5th October. The event will include a drinks reception, an evening meal, and entertainment. For more information and to register to attend the event, please visit <http://www.qswp.org.uk/75th.html>.

OXFORD  
Wet n Wild

Aqua Park Fun!  
[www.oxfordwetnwild.com](http://www.oxfordwetnwild.com)



## EVENT FIRST AID SAS

Do you have a First Aid Qualification? Are you interested in being part of a team which provides First Aid cover for Groups up to County Events? Or are just interested in extending your first aid skills following some initial training (Module 10)? [Please click here to register your interest.](#)





# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

## 2019

14th - 16th June - Aqua Camp - Scouts  
12th - 14th July - Gilwell 24 - Explorers  
12th - 14th July - Cub World - Cubs  
13th July - County AGM - Open to all  
6th - 8th September - Gilwell Reunion - 18 +  
12th - 14th September - Oxon Gathering - 18 +  
20th - 22nd September - CESAW - Explorers  
4th - 6th October - CPCW - Scouts  
18th - 20th October - Jota/Joti - Open to all  
22nd - 24th November - RadiOx - Explorers and Network  
9th November - Cool Cubs Funday - Cubs  
24th November - Winter Wonderland - Beavers



**Youlbury are looking to expand their pool of local volunteers**

Youlbury are looking for expressions of interest from anybody who would be interested in getting involved in their site service team. They are especially looking for anybody who wants to be involved in their monthly working days, or anybody with an interest in instructing outdoor activities.

Anybody who is interested in getting involved with the Youlbury team is welcome to come along to the Oxfordshire Scouts open evening at Youlbury on June 4th, or register your interest [here](#). Or get in touch via email:

[youlbury@scoutadventures.org.uk](mailto:youlbury@scoutadventures.org.uk)

Or Phone: 01865 326264

## ADULT TRAINING DATES 2019

### Getting started for Section Leaders

#### Module 1

Tue 25th June - Deddington Arms  
Thur 11th July - King Alfred DHQ

#### Module 2

Mon 3rd June - Oxfordshire Scout & Training Centre  
Thur 6th June - Deddington Arms

#### Module 3

Wed 5th June - Deddington Arms  
Thur 20th June - King Alfred DHQ

You can attend any course around the County.

[Bookings are all taken online here!](#)

### Getting Started for Managers and supporters

**Module 2 & 4 are held at Rosehill, the County HQ & Training Centre**

Module 2 - 25th July

Module 4 - 8th August

Check out our full list of training dates.

[Getting started dates 2019](#)

[Mandatory Training](#)

[Section Leaders & supporters](#)

[Managers & Supporters](#)



**STAY IN  
THE LOOP  
WITH ALL  
THE LATEST  
NEWS!**



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SCOUTS IN  
OXFORDSHIRE



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