

CC Chat

It is great seeing all the virtual scouting taking place across the County and I know that it is really appreciated by parents and young people alike - so thank you for everything you are continuing to do whether its posting out activity ideas, emailing programmes or online meetings - whatever the approach you are continuing to make a difference to the young people Involved. Keep reading for a range of programme ideas and help on holding virtual meetings.

Thank you, also, to everyone who's completed training in the last couple of months - our compliance is improving, although we still have a long way to go! If you are able to complete your mandatory (safety, safeguarding & GDPR) and getting started modules ahead of returning to face to face Scouting it would be really appreciated. I realise this will not be possible for everyone however for others this will be the ideal time. We will be continuing to make contact with those where training is overdue; the training is key to us showing that we are keeping our young people, and each other, safe and therefore I would be really grateful if you could complete your training as soon as possible (details on how on pages 2 & 4). I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank the training team for their efforts in moving training and validation online - don't forget they are there to support you and can answer any questions you may have about what training you need, how to validate the training and anything else you may wish to ask!

Over the coming months, we are set to see a number of changes as we return to face to face Scouting. It may not be at the pace we would like at times; we are keen to get Sections back together, out on the water and back to camping but this will come in time and we need to ensure that all leaders, young people and parents feel safe and comfortable with the approach we take - not everyone will be able to return at the same time and pace... and that's OK. So whether you continue with virtual Scouting or, when able, return face to face please make sure you feel comfortable with the approach taken in your Group and speak up if you don't. Please keep checking HQ's return to face to face Scouting page for all the latest details on returning (see page 4) - including details on the framework & guidance and details of the 4th July webinar taking you through the proposals.

Finally, I'm pleased to announce that Ashley will be staying on as County Youth Commissioner, although we will be sad to see Hannah step down later in the year. Ashley is looking to build a deputy youth commissioner team so if you, or anyone you know, would like to be involved please get in touch.

Hope you all have the opportunity to enjoy the good weather & are looking forward to The Great Indoors Weekender in July!!

Stay safe

Wendy

DBS Renewals

You may have received recently, or will soon receive, an email from the Scout Association advising you that your DBS check is overdue and non completion could lead to your membership being suspended. Please disregard this message and any subsequent reminders. You will not be suspended even though your DBS has expired.

Early in March the decision was made to stop DBS checking to relieve the pressure on the local Police service and the Scout Association staff who are working from home therefore no members will be suspended during the present climate. Unfortunately it was not possible to reprogram the membership admin system to stop sending these emails but I assure you your membership status is secure.

The tentative arrangements are that everyone with an out of date DBS will be invited to renew it when normal face to face Scouting activities resume and you will have 90 days from that date to arrange a renewal before suspension is considered. You will be contacted at that time to arrange a new DBS check.

We want to assure you that your membership status is secure and I'm sorry if the emails alarm you in any way.

Safety and safeguarding training reminder

Let's increase local compliance. The Scout Association has been sending email reminders directly to all members who have outstanding mandatory ongoing safety and safeguarding training on Compass.

Next week's email (and subsequent reminders) will contain a link to the online training to do at home and details of a central contact who can update Compass. It's really important that everyone is up to date as soon as possible.

To complete your [Safety training click here](#). To complete the new! [safeguarding training click here](#). You can also send your certificates to info@oxonscouting.org.uk for validation.

If you are a key worker and unable to complete the training at the moment just let HQ know and they will stop the reminder until after lockdown.

Welcome to the first ever Oxfordshire Programme Campaign!

In order to better share some of the wide variety of resources and tools available, over the forthcoming months the County Programme Team will be organising a series of "Campaigns" to highlight the badges available to Young People of all Sections across various themes. The first theme of "**Active & Healthy**" was launched on 21st June and the resources, for all youth sections, [can be found by clicking on the link here](#).

The resources and ideas are based around what is permitted by the Government in the current crisis but aims to encourage young people and parents to do more activities and learn more about the programme for all Youth Sections. The resources for the campaign feature a series of booklets, one for each section, to help Parents understand how Young People can be Active and Healthy and what elements of the programme they relate to. In addition, we have also included some resources on Mental Health, as this is also particularly important in these unprecedented times.

We will be highlighting the Campaign for the next four weeks, but you can do the suggested activities anytime.

During the Campaign we will also be introducing further resources on Athletics, Cooking and Hiking which will be added to the link over the period. The Athletics Resources, which have only just been released, [can be found by clicking here](#).

We would love it if you could send in your pictures and videos of whatever Active and Healthy activities you do during the period to the County Facebook Pages, and other Social Media, and then we can all share the accomplishments of the young people taking part. The Links can be found at the bottom of the page. Send these to your Section Leaders, too, so that they can award the badges once they have been fully completed.

Finally, we will also be offering a "Virtual" badge for the campaign that can be downloaded at the end of the period.

If you have any queries with regards to the campaign do not hesitate to contact me on

dcc-programme@oxonscouting.org.uk

- [Oxfordshire Scouts Facebook Page](#)
- [Oxfordshire Scouts Adult Forum Facebook Group](#)
- [@oxonscouting](#) on Twitter and [@oxonscouts](#) Instagram

Live webinars with Scout Ambassadors Tim Peake

Join us for a Facebook Live with Scout Ambassador Tim Peake who will be talking about his favourite activities from #TheGreatIndoors, and answering some of your questions so make sure you have them at the ready .

Tuesday 30th June at 6.30pm - [join here](#)

Rewarding adults in Scouting

Adult awards are an important part of recognising individuals who go over and beyond their role on a regular basis.

Do you know a leader who you think deserves recognition for what they do? [Nominate them here.](#)

Awards Day & Jack Hill Trophy 2021

Nominations for 2021 Awards Day and The Jack Hill Trophy for courage are now open! So you can nominate your top award achievers all year round! [For more information and to nominate them is available here.](#)

We are hoping Awards day 2021 will take place weekend of the 8th & 9th May 2021, pending COVID 19 restrictions.

Extension to first aid training

While face-to-face Scouting is suspended, unfortunately no face-to-face training is able to take place. This is especially challenging for First Response where elements of it (for example CPR) are required to be demonstrated by participants in order to validate the training.

We know that there'll be a backlog of volunteers requiring first aid training once face-to-face Scouting returns and so in order to reduce the impact of this, HQ are giving volunteers an extension to their existing first aid training expiry date. It will be extended for six months from when face-to-face Scouting resumes. It's hoped that in this time volunteers will be able to access the first aid training they require for their role and not prevent any Scout activities from taking place.

Virtual support

There are a number of different avenues to gain support during this virtual time in the world of Scouting. Along side local support there is social media, we have had a suggestion that its worth joining: 1st Virtual Scout Group. This is a Facebook group where they are sharing ideas on running virtual scouting. [Join the group here.](#)

The wall is coming!

Yes! You heard right! Our wall is coming back after some essential repairs. We will be opening bookings for community events due to take place in 2021, in September 2020 . More details to follow, but in the mean time, check out your local events and see if you can get a team together to put in a request!

Deadline - 30th June 2020

If you own your Scout Hut there's money waiting for you to claim!

Under the Governments Covid-19 business support charities and businesses in the business rates system are eligible for a grant. Scout Groups with property should have been contacted by their local authority providing the details of the grant and how it can be claimed. Eligible recipients will receive one grant per property.

If you haven't heard anything please contact your local authority and claim the money that is available. Even if you don't need it right now, it could be invaluable for the future whether its repair works on the property or to help fund the group over the coming months. [Download the detailed guidance here.](#)

Got a story?

We would love to hear stories on Scouting as it happens. Email us your stories on: theo@oxonscouting.org.uk

Save the Date

Oxfordshire County AGM

Saturday 19th September 11am

Details to follow

Coronavirus Support

Confused by what HQ support is available to you?

There is a webpage that is updated regularly with information from finance support to the return to scouting. Check it out here: <https://www.scouts.org.uk/coronavirus> & here: <https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/scouts-at-home/returning-to-face-to-face-scouts/>

A little extra help

The COVID-19 pandemic has created a period of uncertainty for various organisations. There are now a number of alternative funding packages that youth organisations may now be eligible for. [Check out the information here.](#)

The Great Indoors weekender

Have you signed up yet? The great indoors weekender will be taking place on the weekend of the 11th - 12th July.

[Form information can be found here.](#)



Oxfordshire Scouts Adult Training

Our Adult Training team have been working hard to ensure our training is available online during the suspension of face to face Scouting.

You can check out what courses are available, download useful information and book onto a session by following this link: [Book on a course.](#)

If you need to complete your getting started modules, check out the dates in July for module 1, 3 and 4 training and don't forget you can book to have them validated too!

Golden anniversary

Bill and Val Butcher will be celebrating their Golden wedding anniversary on the 4th July.

The photos (right) show a Scout guard of honour from 13th Wembley. Congratulations!

We wish you many more happy years!



Zoom

A partnership with Zoom is confirmed and is now available for Scout Groups & Districts. For more information on this wonderful resource, [click here](#)

Gift Aid

Does your Group need help in claiming gift aid?

[Check out our helpful step by step guides here.](#)

Scout Pride

Scouts welcomes everyone, regardless of gender identity or sexuality. To help celebrate the inclusion and diversity we're so proud of, we're holding **Scout Pride 2020** – a week-long series of online events including fun activities, useful webinars, thought-provoking discussions, and practical training and support, all focused on pride in our values. The event will run for seven days, starting Saturday 27 June and finishing Friday 3 July. [We hope you'll join us for it here!](#)



Support to help you deliver activities online.

Join a webinar on 1 July for Beaver and Cub Leaders to find out activity ideas and tips on how to adapt your programme in a virtual world. [Register here.](#) More dates soon for other sections.

GDPR Training

GDPR is a mandatory training module every member needs to complete in order to stay compliant. If you need to do your training, [click here](#). Send your certificate to info@oxonscouting.org.uk

Lockdown feedback

We wanted to pass on our thanks to your Cub and Beaver leaders for providing such great activities and support for our children during this lockdown period. They were the first to instil some normality and create meeting spaces which has enabled our Beaver and Cub to maintain contact with their friends which has been invaluable.

We have been so impressed with the effort that has been put into activities, which has gone beyond our expectations; especially providing the discos, quizzes and bingo. It has been so nice to do family events which have been something to look forward to at the end of each week. Also it has provided some structure to our week, where all the other routines have disappeared during this time. Well done all at Cholsey Scout Group.



International Opportunities

Eurojam 2021. We are looking for 2 Unit Leaders to join the existing team of Adults to help lead a group of 72 Oxfordshire Explorer Scouts. In addition we have a number of Explorer Scout places available. For Explorer Scouts you will need to be aged between 14 & 18 at the time of the Jamboree"

With an expected attendance of 23,000 Scouts from all over the world this will be the Scouting event of next Summer. Eurojam will take place between 2nd & 13th August 2021 near Gdansk in Poland. <https://www.ej2020.org>

Cost will be £750 and includes travel, food, insurance, hoody, necker. If you are interested in finding out more email me on:

acc-international@oxonscouting.org.uk

Scouts
Oxfordshire



Stay in the loop with all the latest news!