

### CC Chat

This year the start of September is looking very different for many of us, with a number of Groups and Units continuing with virtual programmes whilst others are back to face to face Scouting. Either way, engaging our young people either virtually or face to face will become more important than ever as we continue through the strange year of 2020 and head into the winter months.

Of course, there are a number of changes that are taking place with updates already made to the safety and safeguarding online courses, and further changes coming to getting started modules. The changes will make it easier for new volunteers to complete the training and offer safe Scouting. The courses include information on completing risk assessments as we move towards documenting risk assessments for all activities from January 2021; this shouldn't be an arduous task but ensuring the risk assessments already being carried out are documented.

As a County we are currently looking at how we can make the volunteer journey easier for everyone by streamlining processes and providing more resources for all involved. From recruitment, appointments, access to training, timely reviews and making sure we properly recognise the achievements of our volunteers we want to improve the whole experience. More on this will follow shortly.

We are also in the process of updating the County website to make it easier to find information. Please do let us know if there is anything you would like to see added.

Throughout August we have seen some brilliant virtual County events thanks to Becky and her team. Don't worry even if you didn't take part at the time, you could still use the ideas just head over to the website or Facebook for the details. Whilst we are not planning any face to face County events for the rest of 2020, we are looking at how to put a virtual spin on some of the regular County events later in the year.

We also have the County climbing wall back from repair and available to be booked throughout 2021, so if you would like to make use of the wall take a look at the information on page 5.

Over the coming months I'm looking forward to see the new term and more young people back doing Scouting activities we have missed over the recent months. I would love to see you sharing ideas and stories on Facebook on the Oxfordshire Scouts Adult Forum and don't forget to send any stories you have to:

[TheOx@oxonscouting.org.uk](mailto:TheOx@oxonscouting.org.uk) so we can share them here too! Thanks,

Wend

### Welcome to the Team!

I am pleased to announce that Sarah Joyner is joining the County Team as District Commissioner for West Oxfordshire!

Sarah has been a key part of the West Oxfordshire District Team for a couple of years and had numerous roles in Scouting. She organises the County annual Awards Day event at Youlbury and is a County Training Advisor. Now she is turning her skills to managing West Oxfordshire District.

Having been part of the District team already, Sarah has some clear ideas on what support the District needs and is looking forward to helping to progress and develop the District going forward.

We welcome her to the County Team and look forward to working with her congratulations Sarah!



## Farewell Hannah!

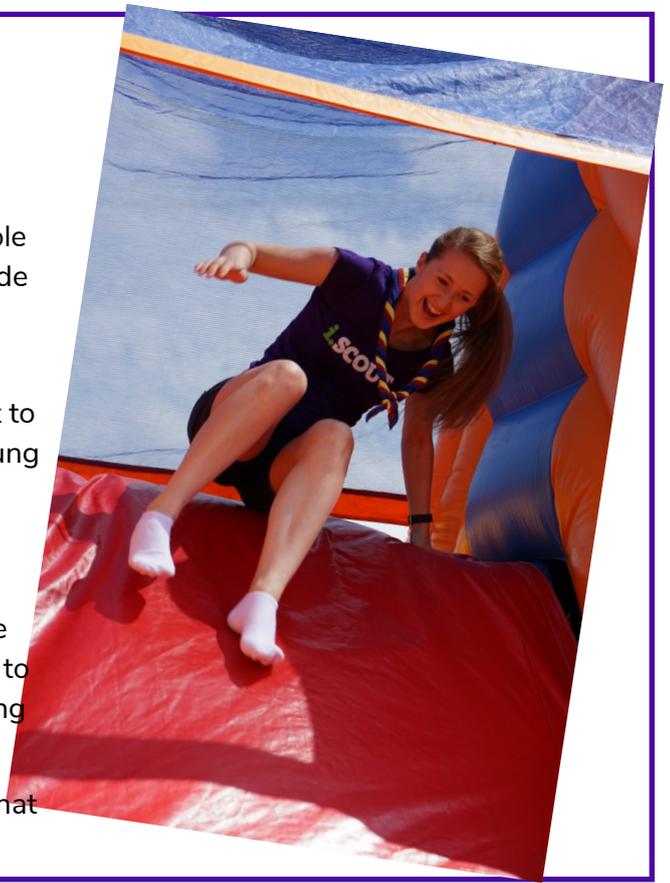
Sadly after 3 years in the role Hannah has stepped down from her role as County Youth Commissioner.

When Hannah came into the role with Ashley, it was a brand new role. As a result there was little information on how the role would fit with the rest of the County Team - yet they have made it their own and are very much an inherent part of the Team.

Alongside Ashley she has helped raise the profile of youth shaped scouting, providing programme resources and support to leaders across the County. In doing so we are seeing more young people influence their sections with programme ideas and leading evenings and we now have District Youth Commissioners in place too.

Hannah has been a great member of the County and executive teams bringing fresh ideas and always been ready and willing to get involved with a smile. She is now turning her time to helping her local Cub section.

Hannah, you will be missed from the team - thank you for all that you have done!



## Save the Date!

### Oxfordshire County AGM

**Saturday 19th September 11am**

**If you would like to attend,**  
**please sign up here.**

## Young Leader Training



Young Leader Training is now available to book for September to December – [click here](#).

Includes Module A (compulsory within 3 months of starting) on 9<sup>th</sup> September and 18<sup>th</sup> October

## Can you lead the next OxonJam?

We have an exciting new opportunity! Do you think you have the vision to work with a team and deliver the next County Camp in Oxfordshire?

Check out the role description of the [event lead here](#).

For more information, including full role descriptions and how to apply please visit the [Vacancies section of the website here](#).

## HQ Webinars

Keep up to date with all the latest updates by joining a webinar.

15 September @ 7pm: [GSL online meeting](#)

6 October @ 7pm: [All member online meeting](#)

# Oxfordshire Scouts Adult Training

We have dates through to September which cover:

Getting Started modules:

- Section leaders (modules 1, 2 & 3)
- Managers & Supporters (modules 1, 2 & 4)

Validation of learning for all roles

In addition, we are offering the following Wood Badge modules (5, 11, 12, 14, 15, 19)

All the online sessions are listed on the system, [Book on a course](#) here.

Event Title	Day	Date	Start	Finish
Module 14 - Supporting Young People	Wednesday	02 September	19:30	22:00
Module 15 - Promoting Positive Behaviour	Thursday	03 September	19:30	22:00
Validation Online - One time slot per module	Saturday	05 September	10:00	11:00
Validation Online - One time slot per module	Saturday	05 September	11:00	12:00
Module 4 - Tools for the Role, Managers & Supporters	Thursday	10 September	19:30	22:00
Module 11 - Administration	Saturday	12 September	14:00	16:30
Module 19 - International	Saturday	12 September	09:30	12:00
Personal Learning Plan (PLP) Managers and Supporters	Wednesday	16 September	19:30	22:00
Personal Learning Plan (PLP) Sectional roles	Wednesday	16 September	19:30	22:00
Module 3 - Tools for the Role, Section Leaders	Thursday	24 September	19:30	22:00
Module 12 (A&B) Planning and Delivering a Quality Programme	Sunday	27 September	09:30	13:00
Module 5 - Fundamentals of Scouting	Monday	28 September	19:30	22:00

## Mandatory On Going Learning (MOGL)

Exactly what it says on the tin! It's mandatory! The Scouts have been sending email reminders directly to all members who have outstanding mandatory ongoing safety, safeguarding and GDPR training on Compass.

It is now essential that all outstanding mandatory training is completed.

To complete the new! [Safety training click here.](#)

To complete the new! [safeguarding training click here.](#)

To Complete the GDPR training [click here.](#)

You can also send your certificates to [info@oxonscouting.org.uk](mailto:info@oxonscouting.org.uk) or your Training Advisor for validation.

## Are you ready to return?

Here is a quick guide to checking the readiness level as you prepare to return to scouting.

- [Check your readiness level](#)
- [Take a look at the guidance](#) on managing different situations
- [Use this short video](#) to help you complete your risk assessment with ease

Still a little unsure? Remember your District Teams are there to support you.

## TV opportunity

We've been contacted by Andrew Thorp from the media team at HQ with the opportunity for young members in Oxfordshire to be on the telly.

He says that throughout lockdown they have been working with "FYI", the children's strand of Sky News. They have successfully placed a series of young person led stories [such as these](#).

Based on this success, "FYI" are looking for more potential stories and possible candidates for future contributions. If you have anyone that you think might have a story please ask them to send Andrew a 1 minute video of them talking about something they're passionate about, that's Scout related. It can be on a current news story, or a topic they would like to see discussed.

It needs to be shot in landscape as submissions in portrait will not be accepted.

Please pass this on to all who may be interested and inform them to get their parents/guardians to contact [Nick Davis](#) for further details on how to send videos to HQ and a copy of the relevant parental consent.

## Awards & Wood badges

There is currently a delay in dispatching awards and wood badges due to the pandemic.

The Team are back and battling through the backlog and dispatching when they can.

Missing an award from over 12 months ago? [Log it here](#).

## Scouting magazine

Check out the latest and last edition of the Scouting magazine [here](#).

## Got a story?

We would love to hear stories on Scouting as it happens. Email us [your stories here](#).

## Updates to risk assessment

Following the HQ consultation which took place last month, you're now required to undertake and document risk assessments for all activities in Scouts. We'd encourage you to start doing this as soon as possible, but you have until 1 January 2021 to change your processes locally. You [can read the full details on this change and the support available to help you here](#).

## Actions to secure our future

Like so many organisations, COVID-19 has left The Scouts in a challenging financial situation. To make sure that we build a brighter future for our young people, there's a number of actions HQ need to take, which include: increasing the HQ membership fee and stopping the magazine. The Scouts have also reviewed our decision about when census should be taken. [Read more on the action we're taking to protect our movement in this blog](#) from UK Chief Commissioner, Tim Kidd and Chief Executive, Matt Hyde.

## Gilwell Reunion is on!

5 and 6 September 2020

Using the power of technology, our annual get-together will connect thousands of volunteers from across the globe for an online weekend this September. It'll be jam-packed with interactive workshops, training sessions, and the all-important socials.

Save the date and [sign up](#) to express your interest in attending (you need to be 18+).

It's completely free and by registering you can:

- Help shape the programme by letting Scouts UKHQ know what you're interested in
- Receive weekly updates about what's happening (some sessions will have limited capacity so you'll be the first to hear about them)
- Be entered into a prize draw to win a selection of Scouts goodies

Find out more here - [scouts.org.uk/reunion](https://scouts.org.uk/reunion)

## Our climbing wall is back!

Yes! You heard right! Our wall is back after some essential repairs. We will be opening bookings for community events due to take place in 2021.

Bookings will open Tuesday 1st September and close 31st October 2020 for all events taking place in 2021.

We will let you know if your application has been successful. After bookings have closed and they have been reviewed. Check out the [booking process here](#).

Take a look at our [handy FAQ guide](#) for things you should consider before you submit your bid.

## County Virtual Events – Summer 2020

This summer has seen Oxfordshire run its first ever virtual County events. The summer kicked off with 'Pace-a-Picture', where young people from across the county created imaginative hiking routes and enjoyed getting outside in the fresh air. It was brilliant to see photos from several young people who participated, including Leo and Grace from 30<sup>th</sup> Abingdon who made a fantastic representation of K9 from Doctor Who. Albert & Rose from 43<sup>rd</sup> Oxford tackled a less familiar shape, creating an awesome Roman helmet with their route.

A fortnight later was the Festival of Scouting; a jam-packed weekend of over a dozen live sessions covering topics ranging from firelighting to pioneering, science and crafts, and even a live cook-along where young people learnt to make calzone. Saturday evening saw teams battle it out in an interactive pub quiz, including a fiendishly difficult logos round. Young people who participated in the various sessions throughout the weekend were able to work towards activity and challenge badges, as well as having a lot of fun.

The summer will soon be brought to a close with our Bank Holiday Bonanza, where young people will compete in a series of wild and wacky challenges to earn points. Keep an eye on our social media channels to see who is crowned the winner.

**Scouts**  
Oxfordshire



**Stay in the loop with all the latest news!**