

CC Chat

Isn't it great seeing pictures and stories of face to face Scouting again! Since the start of September we have seen the number of Sections and Units returning to scouting increase, with more than 40% back to face to face activities and more about to return. Thank you to all the leaders that are working their way through the return process and embracing the new normal. And more good news recently as we learnt that the national return process ensures we are seen as a Covid secure organisation allowing us to continue with activities even as we see cases rising again across the Country and new restrictions introduced. There are lots of programme ideas throughout this edition to help Groups with activities and games both face to face and virtual to help Scouting continue over the winter months.

As part of the return process all members of the Group/Unit need to be up to date with their mandatory ongoing learning – details of how to complete this can be found below. Even better our compliance as a County is improving, currently 14% of members are non-compliant on their Safety and Safeguarding modules, which is a massive improvement compared to the start of the year. Thank you to everyone who has completed the training – if you haven't please follow the links below and send your certificates in to help us reduce this even further!

We have seen a number of changes to training over the last month including the introduction of online modules for getting started modules that produce certificates to verify completion. Please do send your line manager or training advisor your certificates as you complete them so your Compass record can be updated. As a result of the changes only the Tools for the Role module requires a discussion with a training advisor to complete getting started. A time slot to discuss this module can be booked via the County website – look out for more validation sessions and training opportunities being added soon. Details of all the changes can be found on page 5.

If more adult volunteers would help you return to face to face Scouting take a look at headquarters [recruitment at a distance](#) video to get some ideas on how to recruit in the current circumstances. Within the County Team there are some new faces and more opportunities to join the team – why not take a look. And there are new opportunities and adventures for 2021 being announced all the time, many are detailed over the coming pages – be sure to pass these onto your young people and look out for next month's edition where more will be sure to follow!

Wendy Tatham

County Commissioner

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 or your Training Advisor for validation.

Thank you Jo!

Sadly, Jo Hawtin has decided it's time to step down from her Assistant County Commissioner roles for Inclusion and Duke of Edinburgh Award and her County Queen's Scout Award Advisor role too.

For many years, Jo was a great Venture Scout Leader at Pegasus in Kidlington where she ran a great programme and got the unit involved in all manner of activities and adventures; encouraging a number of Venture Scouts into Leadership roles too. She provided significant support to Brian in his District Commissioner role for the old Isis District where she held a District Assistant Commissioner role for Venture Scouts before moving onto helping at County level for the Section including supporting a number of Venture Scout events.

In more recent years Jo has supported Explorer and Network Units in her current roles, providing inspiration to young people across the County. Her encouragement and support of young people and unit leaders has seen numerous Duke of Edinburgh and Queen's Scout Awards being completed. I know a number of those that have completed these have valued her motivating ways.

Jo has also provided considerable support with additional needs across the County including Open Doors workshops and assisting at regional level with activities in this area.

Words cannot express the thanks Jo deserves for all the support she has offered to Oxfordshire Scouting over the years. I know she will be greatly missed by leaders across the County.

Thank you Jo, for all you have done.



NSGSO & NSGCB 2021

NSGSO & NSGCB are very pleased to be able to announce that applications for the 2021 NSGSO and NSGCB course are now open. They are accepting applications for both the Symphony Orchestra and the Concert Band. The residential course is held in Stourbridge, West Midlands, with concerts held at prestigious venues in the Birmingham area, as well as the first ever completely joint concert between the NSGSO and NSGCB at Coventry Cathedral. The course runs from Sunday 1st August - Sunday 8th August 2021 and the closing date for applications is midnight on Saturday 12th December 2020. [Download the information here.](#)

To apply for the 2021 NSGSO or NSGCB course and to find out more details, please visit nsgso-nsgcb.com

European Jamboree 2020 (+1)

The European Jamboree takes place in Gdansk, Poland, on 2nd to 13th August 2021 and was rescheduled due to the Coronavirus Pandemic.

Building on a fantastic programme developed as part of their World Scout Jamboree bids, the Scouts and Guides of Poland are inviting Units to join for 11 days of activities; combining the chance to develop new skills, make new friends from across Europe and experience Poland's culture.

Oxfordshire is committed to sending two Units of 36 Scouts/Explorer Scouts to the event next August and we have a few Scout/Explorer Scout places available.

If you are interested in attending please contact [Alex here](#) for more information. Oxfordshire Scouts/Explorer Scouts with a date of birth between 3 August 2003 and 31 December 2007 are permitted to attend the event. Those aged over 18 on 2nd August 2003 may consider joining the event as members of the International Service Team (IST) again please contact [Alex for more information](#)

Welcome to the Team!

I am delighted to appoint Samuel Foxon to the role of Deputy County Youth Commissioner for activities.

Samuel started scouting in Beavers and has been a member across three scout counties. He took part in the Young Leaders programme with a cub unit and progressed into an Assistant Explorer Scout Leader. Last year Samuel completed his Queens Scout Award; as part of this he volunteered as staff at an international scout camp in Leicestershire where he helped deliver water sports activities such as sailing for young people. Samuel attended the university of York where in 2016-17 he was the president of the music society and the stage manager for the university of York choir. In his professional life Samuel is a secondary school music teacher.

Samuel's focus will be to set up a county youth forum, which will support the county and district teams with planning and decision making to ensure all aspects of our scouting is youth focused. With the aid of the youth forum he will be setting up community impact projects across the county.

Please join me in welcoming Samuel to the County team.

Ashley Falkner - County Youth commissioner



100 nights for a cub!

Wilf is a cub in Henley on Thames. During lockdown, there was a County Easter Virtual camp which was on 10th April 2020. Both Wilf and his two sisters camped out that weekend however, Wilf continued to sleep out in his tent. He absolutely loved it. Wilf's Dad, Akela at Henley's Monday Cubs, then organised another virtual camp for the Pack on 29th May, which included Wilf's 50th night in his tent.

Wilf continued to stay out in his tent every night through all types of weather, heat, wind, rain and gales.

On 18th July, Wilf reached his 100 night sleeping out in his tent. He was incredibly proud and all the Monday cubs congratulated him on his achievement. That night, he went to sleep in his bed in his bedroom, but after 10 minutes, he came down and went straight back into his tent in the garden.

Wilf camped out there until he went on holiday on 28th August. Once he returned home, he again, wanted to sleep outside but begrudgingly had to stop sleeping out due to the fact he was going back to school!

Here is Wilf celebrating his 100th Night in his tent!

Congratulations on an amazing achievement Wilf!



New Opportunities

We have a number of vacancies within the County Team who support Scouting locally. Fancy a challenge? Something new? We want to highlight the following roles:

County D of E Coordinator

County Queen's Scout Award Advisor

[Check out all the vacancies here.](#)

All member call

Tuesday 6th October at 7pm - [Join here.](#)

Got a story?

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

Programme support

Are you looking to return to face to face Scouting, but not sure what to do?

There's lots of great information and Ideas out there on the internet for socially-distanced games and activities, for all Sections looking to return to face to face Scouting. Here are just a few examples of where you can find some of them:

Beaver Scouts

- <https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/running-your-section/running-a-beaver-colony/beavers-covid-19-safe-games-and-activities/>
- <https://www.richmondscouts.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Socially-Distance-Games-Database-v3.pdf>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/208981546868424/permalink/321679588931952/>

Cub Scouts

- <https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/running-your-section/running-a-cub-pack/cubs-covid-19-safe-games-and-activities/>
- <https://www.richmondscouts.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Socially-Distance-Games-Database-v3.pdf>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1stcubs/permalink/2829689313931073/>

Scouts

- <https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/running-your-section/running-a-scout-troop/scouts-covid-19-safe-games-and-activities/>
- <https://www.richmondscouts.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Socially-Distance-Games-Database-v3.pdf>
- https://www.asphaltgreen.org/blog/rep-it-out-games-for-social-distancing?fbclid=IwAR1zbluoUg_m--scs6ozag0JRkLEutqvjDDxTQqe7WW87OWXoQs5CkGpOqo

Explorer Scouts

- <https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/running-your-section/running-an-explorer-unit/explorers-covid-19-safe-games-and-activities/>
- <https://lm.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.bestscoutgames.com%2Fescapefrom23rdbathv2.zip%3Ffbclid%3D%3DIwAR0nfT0LkDAFSnMuWGWxZyU8jcl3Zu4KAbII78Uq9h3jIDpDVyoEjZzIH-rA&h=AT1fLQxCn8CbsGeSmGO8QZp6DUXBA4fzzOCAskWzhrX3GP6Nc84fgnm4RdNPS6SHLOR6mUSTkpAmmjeNsGT-KrJsltEmBeu5WQr3EGoHi9DL-wdbcimewhUUBjOxTF8YMa9kkYI7RADmRlDsHcFkUCVw>

Have you already returned to face to face Scouting in the County? If so, we would love to hear your story.

Please upload a photo or short film of your young people during your face to face Scouting session on Oxfordshire Scouts Social Media as follows:

- Oxfordshire Scouts Facebook Page
- Oxfordshire Scouts Adult Forum Facebook Group
- @oxonscouting on Twitter and @oxonscouts Instagram

1st Virtual Scout Facebook Group Lots of ideas for those who use FaceBook! [Join here.](#)

Santa fun run!

Buckinghamshire have a pretty good (and Fun) Fundraising activity for people to do, which is connected with the Marlow Santa's Fun Run event, which is a nationally recognised charity fun run event run every December.

The local Rotary Club have realised that there are a significant number of groups who are struggling financially, and so have created a virtual event where the participants can benefit from 75% off all the sponsorship they generate.

It's a great opportunity to fund raise in a fun and innovative way with most of the effort being done by the organisers.

[Download the event information here.](#)

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.

Training updates

On 15th September there were a number of national changes to the adult training scheme.

The full list of changes can be [found here](#).

OSM Support

OSM has launched several new features to OSM to support you with RA's and COVID records, check out his video updates from within the OSM system when you log in. On FaceBook? Follow the updates on [OSM here](#).

Young Leader Training



Young Leader Training is now available to book for the rest of 2020 – [click here](#).

Includes Module A (compulsory within 3 months of starting) on 18th October

The September 2020 update on POR's now live.

This includes the changes to training requirements for all roles, as well as other updates. [Read more about what's changed.](#)

Missed Reunion?

Don't worry, you can catch up on loads of the content [Watch event videos here.](#)

Scouts
Oxfordshire



Stay in the loop with all the latest news!