

July 2020

Scouts

Nottinghamshire



Hi everyone

I am sure you will have all seen the guidance on restart that has been issued by The Scout Association, there may be a lot, but it is well worth taking time to familiarise yourself with it. I recently met with the District Commissioners and District Restart Champions to plan a consistent way ahead for Scouting in the County, it was a really positive meeting and I would like to thank everyone for their efforts so far. It was also great to see that we have restart champions in every District. I thought I would share with you the key points that I heard loud and clear from the call:

- The safety of our young people, adults and communities is essential, we all need to follow the guidelines to help us achieve this.
- We are now in “amber” which means for sections that want to meet in small groups outdoors start planning and working on your risk assessments.
- A risk assessment is vital and even in “amber” face-to-face Scouting must not take place until these are approved.
- If Leaders do not feel comfortable or are unable to offer face-to-face Scouting then they have my full support.
- Virtual Scouting will continue to have an important role to play and a blended programme will be essential.
- The restart of face-to-face Scouting is going to be easier for some Groups than others. For example some will have easier access to suitable outdoor space or greater availability of leadership teams. For restart to be a true success we need to all work together to ensure no groups or sections are left behind. Some Groups will be able to restart sooner than others— please share your experiences so others can learn from you.
- The guidance issued by The Scout Association is clear that Leaders must have their Safety and Safeguarding training up to date before risk assessments are signed off. Please ensure that yours is up to date to avoid any issues.

Districts Restart Champions and District Commissioners will be working closely with all Groups and Sections over the coming weeks as things change.

In addition to the fantastic work the Restart Champions are doing, I am pleased to say that the County have agreed to spend £15,000 and provide all Sections with the basic equipment to start safely. These basic equipment packs will include 12 weeks worth of hand sanitiser, anti-bacterial spray, gloves, aprons and masks

Thank you for your continued commitment and determination to offer the best possible programme to young people in Nottinghamshire.

Take care and stay safe.

Steven Tupper

County Commissioner



Programme Team

NEARLY FOUR MONTHS OF LOCK DOWN AND SLOWLY THE DOOR STARTS TO OPEN.

I finished last month's Newsletter by saying "Hopefully not long to go now, so BE PREPARED".

By now you will probably be aware that the Scout Association has cleared a pathway for small groups to be able to meet outside now we are in 'Amber'. This will demand some thought and discussion with your Group Scout Leader to move on this opportunity should you wish. Just remember your District Teams will be there to support your Groups and Sections.

Keep on doing what you have over the last four months:

TAKE YOUR TIME, KEEP IT SIMPLE, HAVE FUN AND CONTINUE KEEPING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE TOGETHER.

Whether by video, zoom, WhatsApp, magic lantern or carrier pigeon, just continue setting the odd challenge and having fun in your Programmes. You have achieved great varied content across the County, and let's hope we can retain our membership and get young people out and about once more.

Finally, as I sit at my computer dunking my biscuit in my tea, I notice my bus pass is up renewal soon and that reminded me to say **Thanks** to the Special Branch.

Well, it's the same thing I refer to... **Our SASU Members**. Many have faced total isolation from Scouting and families until now. Not only have they supported in delivering your programmes over many a year, but have done the same at events, charity shops, District meetings and the like. Now they have been set free, don't forget to seek their advice. They are a wealth of skills honed over many years and can help you with ideas and perhaps suggestions in your planning, and I'm sure until they feel safe to mix once more they will be there for you. Just write an IOU out for a tea and biscuit for their next visit.

Good Programming, keep well, keep safe

Jock Shaw

Deputy County Commissioner (Programme)



Gang Show 2021

It is with great sadness we announce the cancellation of Gang Show 2021. Our decision has not been taken lightly, and many factors were involved. Our sincere thanks to the GS2021 Production Team who have been working on the numbers and set designs for many months.

And so to more positive news;

Gang Show will return in March 2023 - our week at the Theatre Royal has already been booked.

We are planning to produce a 'Gang Show Revisited' show at a suitable venue towards the end of 2021, where, after a short rehearsal period, we will again perform some of our most memorable numbers from recent shows, whilst adding a few festive songs. Details will be confirmed in 2021. In 2022, auditions will be held for the 2023 show.

On behalf of the Gang Show Production Team we all look forward to seeing you again soon and to a fantastic show in 2023.

Scouting at Home Badge

Well done and thank you to everyone across Nottinghamshire that submitted an entry to the County's 'Scouting at Home' badge competition. There were some tricky decisions for District and County Teams when judging the designs as so many of them were excellently designed with so much care and attention to detail.

After much deliberation, we are proud to announce that the County Winner is **Charlotte Boaler of 1st Kirkby and Ashfield Scout Troop**. Well done Charlotte - we look forward to seeing your badge sewn onto uniforms across the County.

Each District will shortly be announcing the entries that they submitted to the County as 1st, 2nd and 3rd - these people will be posted a special prize for being shortlisted from their District.

The badge is now going to be manufactured and the order form is open for leaders. Please could Group Scout Leaders (GSLs) place one order for everyone in their group that has participated in the initiative.

Online order form - www.notts-scouts.org.uk/scouting-at-home/order

Please place your order by: **Sunday 9th August 2020.**

