

October 2020



Scouts
Nottinghamshire



Hi everyone

This week you will have seen the announcements relating to the strengthening of coronavirus restrictions in Nottinghamshire and across many other parts of the country. Despite this and in consultation with the National Youth Agency, the Scout Association is clear that we remain at amber – the same applies for Nottinghamshire.

However, I want to be really clear that being at amber does not mean that Scouting has to be done face-to-face, delivering virtually is still an important part of the way we do things. It is far more important that we undertake things in a safe way that protects young people, adults and communities.

I actively encourage and ask all groups and sections to stop, think and consider whether face-to-face Scouting is the right thing to be doing at this point. You may wish to consider the age of your leaders, your meeting place and the local circumstances. If you decide it is not appropriate for you to meet face-to-face then you have my full support. If you continue to offer face-to-face Scouting then please proceed by following the [guidance](#) and by ensuring activities are only undertaken when approved and relevant risk assessments are in place. I would also advise you to:

- Revisit existing risk assessments to see if areas could be improved. You do not need to resubmit risk assessments for approval where minor changes are made
- Wherever possible undertake activities outdoors only.

By taking these steps we will make sure that we maintain the excellent approach to safety that I can see happening across the county. Elsewhere in the country there has been challenge including from local authorities when activities have continued despite tightening restrictions – we need to be ready for this. If this happens please can I ask that you let the County Office know so that we can provide support and consistency across the county.

If you decide face-to-face Scouting is not the right thing then please do whatever you can to provide Scouting virtually. This will ensure we continue to support our young people during these difficult times. Programme ideas are regularly being added [here](#). Please also share your ideas on the [Nottinghamshire Scouts facebook](#) page.

Finally, we need to be prepared to move between amber and red over the coming weeks and months. This may also be different for different parts of the county. Where the government moves locations into very high risk (tier 3) I will be having conversations with regional and national commissioners because at that point I do not feel it will be appropriate for us to remain at amber.

Thank you for everything you continue to do.

Steven Tupper



Stay safe and be kind

County Commissioner

NESST HIKE 2021

Unfortunately due to the ongoing covid situation we have had to make the difficult decision to postpone the 2021 NESST Challenge Walk. We will be constantly monitoring both the covid situation and HQ guidance to see if we can run our event later in 2021.

If this is not possible then we would look to have our next Challenge Walk in Jan 2022.

1st Keyworth Scouts – Virkey Trot Scout Relay Challenge & Badge Design

1st Keyworth Scout Group would like to invite you to our Virkey Trot challenge. For over 30 years, in December, we have organised a half-marathon (the Turkey Trot) around the surrounding villages of Keyworth to raise funds for the group. Unsurprisingly this year we had to make the disappointing decision to cancel the race. In its place we will be staging a virtual half-marathon for runners. Alongside this we would like to challenge Scout groups to their own virtual run. For Scouts and Explorers this will be a half-marathon. For Beavers and Cubs this will be 5K. Each respective race will take on a relay format; there is no restriction to the number of young people that can take part in the relay. Further details can be found in this link:

<https://notts-scouts.org.uk/virkey-trot-challenge>



Programme Team

HOT OFF THE PRESS FOR CUB LEADERS

To help you deliver a blended programme and run Cubs safely, TSA has pulled together a one-stop shop of resources. There's a bunch of new online, outdoor and indoor activities that can be done at a distance. [Explore the programme resources for Cubs](#). For further support, [check out this video](#) of Leaders sharing how socially distanced activities worked in a recent meeting

“ALWAYS LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE OF LIFE”

Covid has certainly thrown up its challenges and threats to Scouting in Nottinghamshire. Many of you who remembered the SWOT Analysis practice method have spotted too, the “OPPORTUNITIES” in delivering your Programmes against the odds. Face to face has kept us apart these seven months but KEEPING IN TOUCH with our young people through Zooms, emails, Programmes Online, Face- book, and the rest, has not stopped many of us in our tracks.

Flu never stopped us in the past, but Covid has made it more of a challenge by stopping our young people meeting together. But you Leaders haven't stopped, and although frustrating at times your passion for Scouting has shown through. Some of you may well have lost a spark, but if you keep providing a Programme you will relight Scouting through your efforts.

You have the passion, you have the ability, maybe sometimes not the will, but above all you are making a difference. Our decisions and actions now really will make a difference to where we end up.

Keep your Programme alive too. Keep your young people involved whether outside or in. You can have fun; you can let your Community know that Scouting is still together.

I hope this inspires you all to continue the excellent activities you are providing. Remember: Don't Rush, Keep it Simple, Be Patient and Together in a big Hall maybe, we can hopefully as Leaders “ALL” get together when this is all over and celebrate our achievements.

So for further inspiration here's two examples of groups having fun



7th Retford : Keeping in touch with their Community and Winning 3rd Prize for their efforts without even meeting! Cubs & Scouts made their Scarecrows at home and parents dropped them off at Leaders who made the display and entered into the competition. The group also sent picture and information to local press and that let's all know Scouting is Alive in Retford. The group has risk assessments in for further activities for outside.

and another: Getting together outside and in. **Kinoulton**. (Taken from Facebook)

Cubs inside as it lashed it down with rain. Let the dice decide, human skittles, sweeper, plate hockey and bucket ball ...FUN had by all. Scouts outside and the rain stopped: Capture the flag, Glow in the dark ball? (That's a new one on me) and they too had FUN!!.

So that's it for now, in the meantime keep well,

keep safe and keep your young people together as best you can.

Have Fun!! Always here to support

Jock Shaw

DCC Programme



Training Team

NEW County Young Leader Support Initiative

Calling all Young Leaders.... register below!

Following the success of Young Leader Training during the Covid-19 lockdown – completing 301 modules - the County have decided to continue offering a schedule of virtual training and support. We've also got big plans to recognise and thank those participating in the Young Leaders' scheme, as well as holding a Young Leader Camp to create a community of YLs who can share and learn from each other's experiences.

To benefit from all of this, all you have to do is register as a Young Leader via: www.notts-scouts.org.uk/young-leaders-signup.

Our offer is completely new and improved so all Young Leaders who signed up to the last set of training in March will need to re-register with the new (long-term) offer. Remember, you can pick and choose which events you wish to access and can unsubscribe at any time. The purpose of this initiative is to supplement District Young Leader training and provide a blended learning approach to the ESYL scheme.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at: youngleaders@notts-scouts.org.uk

Ed, Connor & Annette

Young Leader Training Team

Useful links for Young Leaders in Nottinghamshire:

YL Resource / Support Area – www.notts-scouts.org.uk/young-leaders

YL Offer Booklet 2020/21 – www.notts-scouts.org.uk/young-leaders-offer

Young Leader Registration Form – www.notts-scouts.org.uk/young-leaders-signup

Link to additional information for Adult Leaders in Nottinghamshire: <https://nottsscouts.sharepoint.com/:f:/s/YoungLeaders/EvPQwVpvpdVGrqO6D37tr8MBFaGi3A3xYQ7dlqG-vzTSIA?e=28nCfk>



Training Training Training - What are the changes

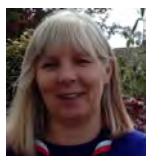


Keeping everyone safe is fundamental to everything we do in Scouting. It is important that all of our members have up to date knowledge delivered through training of our Safety and Safeguarding procedures along with key information for their roles.

To ensure safety is central to everything we do there are a number of changes to our policies and training which came into force on 15th September 2020. All of these changes are relevant to everyone regardless of whether you are involved in face to face Scouting or not. For more information <https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/learning-development-and-awards/training/updates-to-our-learning-and-training/>

I am working on an updated Leaders Training Guide and updating the info on the website which should all be done by the end of October, these changes will also be in the new leader welcome pack so I will when these are ready be wanting to do a bit of a splash. so just the shortened version for now might be enough.

Christine



Join the NSGSO / NSGCB

Do you play an **orchestral** or **concert band** instrument to grade 4 or above?
Will you be aged between **12 and 25** by next August?
Are you a **Scout** or **Guide**?



Then we want to hear from you!



The National Scout and Guide Symphony Orchestra and Concert Band meets every **summer** for a week of rehearsals, workshops and social **activities** alongside **professional** conductors, sectional tutors and Scout and Guide leaders. The week culminates in **concerts** in the Birmingham area. Around 130 members join in this fabulous music week.
Applications are open from September each year.



For more information including dates, costs and the application form go to:

nsgso-nsgcb.com

or email info@nsgso-nsgcb.com



County Office

The County Office at Robey Close is closed for visitors. We are still working though and more than happy to help over the phone or email. If you wish to collect items or drop off Charity Shop donations, please telephone in advance. 0115 952 3617 and office@notts-scouts.org.uk.

Jayne & Paula

