



Hi everyone,

2022 has certainly be a year with a lot for us to celebrate. Whether it be the achievements of our young people, recognition of our adults or simply the fact we've come very close to a near normal year of Scouting. They are all truly amazing things. And...they have all been made possible by the great efforts of you all — thank you.

2023 is looking like it will be a bumper year as well. With the Gang Show in March, the World Scout Jamboree in the summer, young leader face to face sessions and the opening of bookings for our County Camp in 2024. Then of course there's the fantastic activities that I know Districts, Groups and Sections have planned too. There's no wonder why more and more young people want to join.

Linked to the above point, I know that some of you will cringe at the idea of the annual census. Before we know it will be upon us. It's really important that everyone completes it accurately so that County and Districts know where to focus effort and support. Please do whatever you can to complete on time; look out for the details in the new year.

But before the excitement of 2023, please enjoy the next couple of weeks and try to put down Scouting just for a little bit!

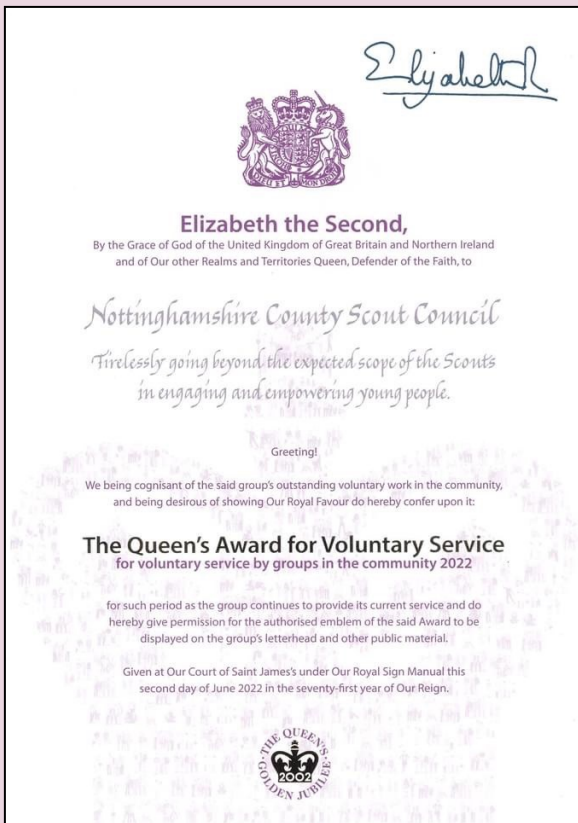
From everyone at Nottinghamshire Scouts, may I wish you an enjoyable and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Steven

# Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

In mid November, 200 representatives from Scouting right across Nottinghamshire gathered at County Hall. We were there to receive the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service which is the highest award that can be made to a voluntary organisation and equivalent to a MBE. The presentation was made by Sir John Peace, His Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire and the evening was hosted by The Chairman of Nottinghamshire County Council. Words cannot describe the feeling of pride in the room.

Those who were there have now headed back to their Districts and Groups with certificates and badges for our dedicated adult members.



# Challenge Walks

21st January 2023



After a two year hiatus, the NESST challenge walk is back! What better way to kick off another Scouting year, than with one of our famous walks in and around Sherwood Forest?!

NESST are a team of volunteers from Nottinghamshire Scouts who provide professional services for Scouting and our local communities. Each year the team organise a series of challenge walks to test our Scouts' navigation and teamwork skills in a fun adventure around Sherwood Forest.

The hikes on offer are:

**Beaver Ramble:** A 1.5 mile hike around Walesby Forest, starting at approx. 12pm

**Cub Ramble:** A 4-5 mile hike around Sherwood Forest, starting at approx. 1:30pm

**Short Challenge Walk:** A 10 mile hike around Sherwood Forest starting at approx. 7pm into the night

**Long Challenge Walk:** A 18 mile hike around Sherwood Forest starting at approx. 6pm into the night

NB: The two challenge walks are open to Scouts, Explorers, Guides, Senior Section, Network, Recognized Youth Organisations and Adult Leaders.

All hikes are taking place on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2023** from Walesby Forest Activity Centre.

More information, including the team application forms, can be found on our website <https://nesst.org.uk/our-walks>. The deadline for applications is Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023. If you have any questions or queries, please email [challengewalk@nesst.co.uk](mailto:challengewalk@nesst.co.uk).

We look forward to seeing you on the walks. Are you up to the challenge?

**Keith Morris & Alistair Bow**

Challenge Walk Event Leads

Nottinghamshire Emergency Scout Support Team



## Sherwood Scout Charity Shop—Afternoon Get Together at Linby

In November we said thank you to the amazing volunteers who run our Charity Shop located in Sherwood. Since the shop opened over £800,000 has gone through the till, making a profit for Notts Scouts of £400,000. That's simply stunning.



## Sycamore Dining—Who are they?

Sycamore Dining was mentioned as one of the reasons Nottinghamshire Scouts were awarded the **Queens Award for Voluntary Service**, but who are they and what do they do?

It is a Community Interest Company set up by the City of Nottingham District Scouts to work in our communities providing cooked meals to the elderly and vulnerable while raising funds for the District. The company has just completed its fourth year of operation. Most of its customers are elderly and living independently, alone.

In the last year we prepared, cooked and served over 8,000 meals. 1,563 were served in the café/ lounge adjacent to our kitchen in Foxton Gardens, Beechdale; 2,991 were delivered to the homes of the elderly; 2,384 were served at lunch clubs for the elderly. Our lunch clubs run at 15 different locations each month, each bringing together between 10 and 35 elderly people to eat together helping reduce loneliness and social isolation. We run one lunch club each weekday. All our meals are affordable at just £3.50 (cooked dinner and pudding).

890 meals were donated to vulnerable families in the Bilborough area where we are currently donating 30 meals each Tuesday and Thursday. 245 other meals were served to other community events. Our volunteers contributed over 4,400 hours to the community last year.



# **Gang Show 2023**

## **Mon 6th - Sat 11th March 2023**

The Nottingham Gang Show is a fast-paced, fun-filled variety show performed by the Scouts and Guides of Nottinghamshire.

The Gang bring to the stage an entertaining, family-orientated show, with a great variety of music, comedy and dancing. It stars over 200 young people from the Scouts and Guides of Nottinghamshire. The Show is a vibrant, colourful revue guaranteed to raise the roof and leave you with a smile on your face.

For great entertainment and supporting young people, then this is the show to see.

### **TICKET PRICES:**

Stalls £14 to £19

Dress Circle £16.50 to £19

Upper Circle £14 to £16.50

Balcony £9.50 to £12.50

### **SAVE MONEY!**

*Under 16's: Save £2 on all tickets  
(excluding £9.50 Balcony tickets)*

*Groups Discount: Buy 10 tickets  
and get the 11th free*

*School Groups: Buy 10 tickets and  
get the 11th free*

**You can book tickets\* in person at the Theatre**

**By telephone 0115 989 5555**

**Online bookings [trch.co.uk](http://trch.co.uk)**

**ALL TICKET PRICES INCLUDE THE THEATRE  
ROYAL RESTORATION LEVY OF £1.50**

**\*Box Office open 10am - 8pm, Mon - Sat  
Counter Service open 11am - 1pm, Mon - Sat  
And one hour before a performance**



Selling programmes  
è meeting è greeting

Front of  
House Team



Meet scouting  
friends 



Contact Dave Bagshaw  
[dave@davebagshaw.com](mailto:dave@davebagshaw.com)  
for more information 

Want to be part  
of the Team 



## 2022 Awards Celebration Dinner

In November we welcomed Queen's Scouts, Gold DofE recipients and adults receiving the highest awards from recent years at our Celebration Dinner. Some District Commissioners also recognised their amazing local volunteers. Massive congratulations to all.

Many thanks to John May, former Secretary General, Duke of Edinburgh Award International, for joining us and giving such an inspirational speech.

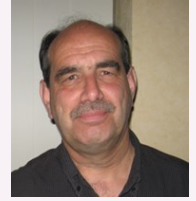


## County Oak Awards 2022

A great afternoon was held at Hucknall in October, as we celebrated those being awarded Oak Awards. All won for very different reasons, but all ultimately awarded for helping our young people gain those [#skillsforlife](#). A huge congratulations to all awardees!



## Development in 2022 from Phil Herriot, DDC Development



Well, 2022 has been a busy year and we are already looking forward to 2023!!

During this year we have taken the County Display to many different events, from an afternoon event in the Meadows to Newark's St. Georges Day event. We also topped up our suntans on two very hot weekends this summer, with events at the Djanogly Academy in Hyson Green/Forest Field, and at the Riverside Festival on the Victoria embankment Nottingham, in July and August.

At the beginning of the summer the display went to Nottingham Trent University, at both the Clifton and City Campuses, talking to students who might have been scouts before coming away to university in Nottingham, as part of the universities Volunteering Week event.

Our proudest events to attend this year involved the Platinum Jubilee events for the late Queen Elizabeth 2nd. We joined other volunteer organisations in a special jubilee event at the Nottinghamshire County Show on the Newark Showground and South-West Notts District hosted one of the Beacon Lighting events at Hemlock Campsite.

A big thankyou to everyone who helped at any of our events.



### Four Week Challenge

In September we started rolling out the four-week Challenge, this is a chance to let parents/carers see what we do and have a go, to see if scouting is for them. Many of your next leaders/helpers may well be waiting outside your meeting room to pick up their children, so why not invite them in!

### So, to 2023

The 'Gang Show' takes place at the Theatre Royal in March and we will be there to greet all those attending the show.

Riverside Festival will be at the beginning of August in Nottingham again, and If your Group/District would like us to come along to an event you are taking part in, please get in touch.

Over this winter we are looking at improving the County Display, and are looking at other ways of promoting Nottinghamshire Scouts. The County Office has made some changes to the way they process membership enquiries, hopefully our success rate will improve with many more of our enquiries turning into members.

We have a range of materials for you to help promote your scout group:

- **Rainbow activity cards** (Beavers)
- **The Dragon activity cards** (Cubs)
- **Options at 18 Booklet** (17yr old Explorers)
- **Various promotional leaflets**
- **Post cards**

Available from the County Office or our County Website.