



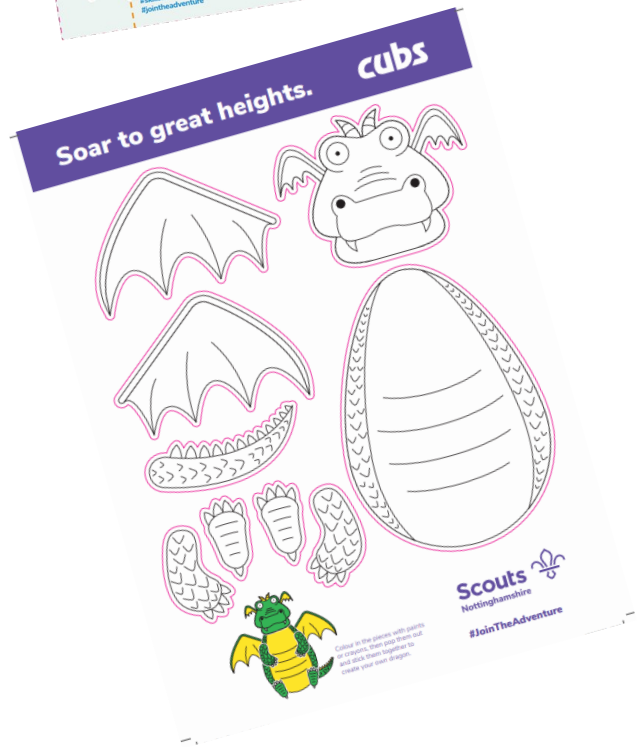
Hi everyone

It's been a little while since our last newsletter – but you'll see that a lot has happened and a lot is planned for the future too!

Census results are in!

The **census** that many of you completed in February showed that across the County we'd grown by over 300 young people (4-18yrs) and just under 200 adults. Together this means there are now just under 10,000 people in Nottinghamshire actively involved in Scouting. This is a significant achievement and my thanks goes out to everyone across the county for making it happen. Our target for the coming year has to be to get back above pre-covid numbers of young people, but we need to do this in a way that is manageable. There are a couple of tools out there that might be able to help:

- Beaver and Cub recruitment materials (see left) – these can be requested via the County Office
- If you are looking at opening a new section then the region can provide support. This isn't a quick win but can certainly make a difference if you are on the verge of having a go. Please get in touch if you'd like to discuss this



Well done and thank you!

It was great to attend the Gang Show last week and watch a fantastic performance by the Gang. I know that many of you were involved in making the show happen or simply supporting it by buying a ticket. Thank you!

Exciting announcement!

Finally a plug... please make a note of the exciting Information on pages 4&5!

Thank you for everything you do!

Steven

County Commissioner - Nottinghamshire Scouts

County Young Leader Day 2023:

In January, we held a County Young Leader Day open to the 300+ young people currently involved with our Young Leader Training scheme. Over 70 of us joined together at Nottingham High School to share great ideas and have fun with the people we have come to know well through the Zoom training meetings. It's safe to say that we have lots of highly skilled Young Leaders in our County – during our 'Games Showcase' we learned lots of new ways to engage Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts! Take a look at some photos from the morning....



After the free lunch (*a big hit!*), we held a giant Monopoly Run Challenge around Nottingham City Centre. Congratulations to the winning team, pictured below, who were awarded Ed's limited-edition **Notts Scouts' Monopoly Run** trophies!



To finish the day, we discussed wider opportunities (such as DofE and top awards) and held a County Youth Forum to gather ideas on how we could improve – it's safe to say we have big plans going forward!

Interested in joining our YL training? Visit notts-scouts.org.uk/young-leaders



The Kings Coronation - Big Help out

As you will have seen, as part of the Kings Coronation, a 'Big Help Out' event is being planned, you might also have seen our Chief Scout Bear Grylls on TV promoting this, encouraging Scout Groups/Districts to get involved.

As the Chief Scout pointed out this is a great opportunity to promote scouting locally and could be a great development opportunity.

Myself and Katherine Hawkins, ACC-Section Transition, are interested to find out what is being planned for this event.

Is your Group or District planning to take part? What are you planning to do and where?

The official date is on Monday 8th May, although we appreciate that this is a Bank Holiday as part of the Kings Coronation weekend.

If you are planning an event, can you let me know at:

phil.herriot@notts-scouts.org.uk

If you want to do something but need some inspiration or advice, go to www.scout.org.uk and look at their Big Help Out pages. The pages are regularly updated.

Development Activities

We have not done with winter yet, but the days are definitely getting longer.

Over the next few months, are you planning to take part in local events that will attract large numbers of the public?

Maybe your own Group/District has plans for a public event?

Would you like to see if the County Development team can come along with our display to help you promote scouting in your location?

Then please get in touch with us, as well as the county display we also have activities that you could borrow to help promote scouting.

We also have a couple of dates in the diary for big events in the County this year; would you like to come along and help us out? They are:

- ⇒ The 'Rothesay Open Tennis' Family fun weekend, at the Nottingham Tennis Centre, Sat/Sun 10th/11th June
- ⇒ Riverside Festival, Nottingham Embankment, 4th/5th/6th August

If you would like to help out at an event, or your group/district is running an event please get in touch.

Phil Herriot - Deputy County Commissioner-Development



Notts Scouts

BIG NEWS

3 - 6 May 2024

Southwell Racecourse



**THE BIG
WEEKEND IS
BACK IN 2024!**

For more information visit: tbw.notts-scouts.org.uk

Bookings open 5 May 2023 - Book early to avoid disappointment

Big is Back.....

Today we officially announce the launch of The BIG Weekend 2024, Nottinghamshire Scout's County Camp, running from Friday 3rd to Monday 6th May 2024.

It's been five long years since our last County Camp but 414 days from now Scouts from all over the County will be racing to Southwell Racecourse for Nottinghamshire's biggest Scouting adventure of the year. We aim to make The BIG Weekend 2024 a celebration of all things Scouting that we all love, so come join us as we build, chop, climb, shoot, splash and much, much more.

Although it is still over a year to go, our organising team have already been working hard to make the event something the young people will remember, and today we officially launch our brand striking The BIG Weekend 2024 brand.

We have worked closely with our Junior Organising Team and other adult members across the County to curate The Big Weekend branding that you see today. It's been a real challenge to create a brand that resonates with our young people and adults. Sean Kelly, Event Lead said "we are really pleased with the finished branding for The Big Weekend, having worked in conjunction with a number of voices across the county, including our excellent Junior Organising Team, we hope you agree it will help bring the event to life."

Please visit us on our dedicated The Big Weekend 2024 website:

<https://tbw.notts-scouts.org.uk/>

Here you will be able to find all information you need to make this camp a memorable occasion for your group. If there is any information you can't find, submit a ticket and one of our team will get back to you and signpost you in the right direction.

In addition, over the next few months we will be bringing the excitement on, so keep an eye out for our Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for the most up to date information!

Bookings will open on Friday 5th May 2023, one year out from the event. We urge that you book and secure your places as soon as possible as numbers for this event are limited. We will be using an online booking system that will simplify all bookings and ensure that the booking process is nice and easy.

The BIG Weekend promises to be an unforgettable experience for all involved, with new skills, new friendships, and new memories to be made. The BIG Weekend 2024 will be suitable for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, and Explorers, with day visits available for Squirrels too, so don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity,



Notts Scouts Adventure



Notts Scouts Adventure is the name of the Notts Scouts Activities team.

We have used this name and not Hoveringham Activity Centre, as our team is much more than the water activities provided at Hoveringham. We provide Adventure activities for Nottinghamshire Scouts, which include water sports, archery, hillwalking and rock climbing and we are all passionate about giving youngsters opportunities in the outdoors that challenge them.

The team comprises of about 100 adults from across the County and even a few from other Counties, many of which have other roles in Scouting in Groups and Districts. Any adults are welcome to join us, we have lots of adult opportunities in April and September this year - see our website for more details <https://bookwhen.com/nsa2023>

The bookings so far for this year have been great. Nearly all weekend places are filled; the only one with spaces on is the **Explorer Scout Water Activity Days** on 6th and the 7th May and costs £20.

Here are a few opportunities where we do have availability:

Adults Climbing Weekend - Held in Derbyshire 15th & 16th April (book online). We are trying to grow the team so anyone is welcome whether beginners or those looking for permits.

Rock Climbing Wall evenings - We have a whole series of climbing wall sessions available both at Hollygate Campsite, Cotgrave and at Hoveringham. We tried this out last year at Hollygate and they proved really popular with Cubs & Scouts; even a Beaver Colony had a go.

Come & Try it Evenings - Held at Hoveringham for sailing, paddlesports and archery. Lots of dates available from our first night on the 19th April throughout May, June & July.

Paddlesports Course - Fancy trying canoeing, kayaking and stand up paddleboarding (SUP)? Maybe you've already had a go and would like to develop your skills? We've got an eight week course aimed at both beginners and intermediates to learn and develop their canoeing, kayaking and SUP skills. This course is for Scouts and Explorers only and participants must be over 10.5 years old on the first night of the course.

All of these are available plus others on our website <https://bookwhen.com/nsa2023>

Lets make more memories by getting our youngsters out there doing things.

Steve Day - Notts Scouts Adventure



Training News

from Christine - DCC People

Wood badges

Well done to the 66 leaders from across the County who completed the wood badge for their role in 2022, congratulations to you all. As we all got back to face to face Scouting it was great to see leaders being presented with their well deserved wood beads.



Induction Training

In February we welcomed 16 newish leaders from across the County to Robin Hood Activity Centre and through a series of activities, practical skills, presentations and guest speakers we set them all off on a journey to gain their wood badge. From the fundamentals of Scouting to running safe activities, planning fun, quality programmes and the skills needed to run a residential experience, promoting positive behaviour we covered it all.



It was great to be back delivering a weekend for new leaders if you have less than a year's experience in your role or are new to Scouting.

Getting Out Training – Introduction to and Skills of a Residential Experience (Modules 16 and 32)

This is a great opportunity to gain skills to run a residential experience for your young people and the learning you need to gain your nights away permit. It is suitable for new leaders, those with some experience or for those who want to brush up on their skills. The next weekend is 22nd and 23rd April 2023 at Notts Scouts Adventure at Hoveringham so if you have not used or seen the facilities they have to offer it is a great chance to see them for yourself. Don't miss out on this fabulous opportunity.



Mandatory Training

Keeping our young people safe should be central to everything we do, so we expect all leaders, managers, supporters, section assistants and SASU members to keep their mandatory training up to date.

Safety, safeguarding training need to be completed every 3 years. Leaders and managers are required to have up to date first response qualification In Nottinghamshire we offer 2 ways to gain you First Response qualification:

- Blended approach which consists an e-learning theory session, a trainer lead virtual validation session and a short practical validation.
- Full 6 hour face to face course.

Trustee's are required to complete the Trustee introduction training. All adults also need to complete TSA GDPR training . All details, links and booking details can be found on training.notts-scouts.org.uk.

New Notts Necker

We're excited to announce that we now have a new Nottinghamshire Scouts Neckerchief! Many of you will have recently seen members of the County team walking around with question cards and potential designs, and more importantly, many of you will have heard us talking to our members to get their views.

As a youth shaped organisation, it was important that our young people had the formative and final say on what our new necker was to look like. **I am confident in saying that by listening to what our young people said, we have ended up with a meaningful and distinguishable necker that we can wear with pride.**

We've spent a lot of time over recent months asking young people 'what do you think represents Nottinghamshire?'. Using the creative answers we received, we sat down with some design gurus and tasked them with putting together a number of designs that each focused on the most popular answers amongst our young people. Once we received the designs, we printed them off, laminated them, and merrily carried them around the county to ask our young people and adult volunteers for their feedback, and for a vote on their favourite.

We spoke to a whole range of young people and adults at all sorts of fun and adventurous sessions and events, from our youngest, to our not-so, and by the end there was a clear winner - Blue, Yellow and Green with Robin Hood! In quizzing one young person as to why they'd picked Robin Hood over the other Nottinghamshire designs, I was told 'We already wear the Major Oak on our arms, so it makes sense to wear Robin Hood too!' - I couldn't have summed it up better myself.

Over the coming weeks and months, volunteers holding roles representing the County will be receiving their New Notts Necker, in fact, some are already wearing it with pride now, so do keep your eyes open to see if you can spot it! Going forward, recipients of County awards will also be presented with a New Notts Necker - recognising that we're all part of Team Notts, and by working together as a team, we're an unbreakable force for good.

I hope you'll agree that the fantastic young people that were given the difficult task of being quizzed have done an outstanding job, and have helped us produce a necker that we can wear with pride. Allow me to take this opportunity to thank you all for the hard work you continue to put into Scouts on a regular basis - without you, there isn't a Nottinghamshire Scouts, and there's no replacement for the **SkillsForLife** that we provide - we're ever so grateful for all you continue to do.



Yours in Scouting,

Jack Kellas

County Youth Commissioner

Nottinghamshire Scouts Charity Shop—Newark



The Notts Scouts Charity Shop in Sherwood, is run by a fantastic group of volunteers, who raise money for Scouting in Nottinghamshire.

How do we train our Leaders without charging them? This is just one of the areas, the money raised by this shop helps with.



The shop is open Wednesday to Saturday each week, 10am to 4pm.

Each day, two sets of volunteers, (10am to 1pm and 1pm to 4pm) look forward to meeting the customers who visit the shop. Many of the volunteers do a slot each week, some once every two weeks and some once per month.

If you cannot spare the time – donations are gratefully accepted.



Would you like to join them? If, yes, contact the County Office on 0115 952 3617 or email office@notts-scouts.org.uk



Sherwood Scout Shop – 606 Mansfield Road,
Sherwood.



Coronation Weekend Camping at Walesby



Walesby Forest has always supported the special occasions of the monarchy by holding a weekend camp in celebration.

2023 is the year of King Charles III Coronation, with the Queen Consort alongside him, which is being celebrated on Saturday 6th May. An extended Bank Holiday weekend has been created from Saturday 6th May to Monday 8th May.

We are holding a special camp to celebrate the coronation of our new monarch from Friday 5th to Monday 8th May 2023.

The weekend will include camp fees and activities and on Saturday we will have a lunchtime Street Party with an outdoor disco.

The fee for the weekend is £65.50 for campers which includes activities and £22.50 for leaders.

Activities will be available from Saturday morning to Monday lunchtime.

If you wish to book for this fun filled weekend, please call 01623 860202 or email admin@walesbyforest.org.uk to confirm your place. A 25% deposit will be required at the time of booking with the balance payable by 7th April 2023.

We look forward to seeing you and hope that we can all enjoy a great and memorable weekend to celebrate the coronation and reign of King Charles III.

Please note - Walesby Forest is a separate charity that does not sit within The Scouts Association but does have direct links to the City of Nottingham Scout District. This activity provided by Walesby Forest benefits Scouting members but is not Scouting led.



Radcliffe Methodist Youth Group

Community Mini Bus

As a Youth Group we had the opportunity to have a Mini Bus. The Bus seats 15 people (including the driver). We are members of 'The Community Transport Association' and it is fully insured. It is normally hired out as a self-drive to 'non for profit organisations'. There are some age restrictions for the drivers, this depends on how an event is funded.

The bus has a full tank of fuel and is to be returned with a full tank. The hire costs are £50 a day and £25 for half a day.

We also have two trailers that are available for hire either with or without hiring the bus.

Please contact Mark on 0115 9334467 or mark@markgreenhalgh.com for more information.

Community Mini Bus

Radcliffe Methodist Youth Group

Available for hire to no for profit groups Tel 0115 9334467