

# Scouts



## South Berkshire District Newsletter

July 2020



### The Great Indoors Weekend

Did you, or someone you know, take part in the Great Indoor Weekend? I did with my Granddaughter and her Father. She thoroughly enjoyed the camp in the garden and then the multitude of activities which the Scout Association posted on their website for the weekend. Even the rocket was made and took off powered by vinegar and bicarbonate of soda!

Its great to see and hear about so many scouting experiences being enjoyed by Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers all over the District.

#### Sandhurst Online Scouts

To say that life in the current situation is difficult is an understatement - but online scouts is a place where kids can stop worrying about the world and have fun. Scouts can also be a place where children can see their friends that don't go to their school or live near them. It keeps kids active and their brains working with puzzles and games. I thoroughly enjoy every scout evening I attend and I enjoy the constant competition, it's enthralling. I strongly recommend (if you haven't already) to set up an online scouts meeting, inform your troop and have fun.

The value that Young People get from even the limited scouting we can do at the moment is still immense. Naturally, there is work to be done, especially as we get ready to return to face to face scouting now in September.

Take the Summer to get your risk assessments drafted and approved, and plan your programmes ready for next Term. Remember, like all things in life, the more you put in the more you get out.

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Riley, Scout at 2<sup>nd</sup> Sandhurst

#### Zooming at 1<sup>st</sup> Easthampstead

With eight Zoom meetings under 1st Easthampstead Scout Troop's belts, we're getting used to meeting virtually. We regularly have over 25 Scouts and in the last 9 weeks they've successfully escaped from the FESG Hall and a Forest, they've completed various quizzes on films and food, they've Mapped twice and Contoured once, they've completed part of their Navigators Badge, played some hilarious games and last Wednesday they cooked a Three Course meal in a mug.

#### DBS Checks Return

The Atlantic DBC application process is now functioning. So when you get a reminder, or for new leaders, you must now complete and submit the applications to get the disclosure check

#### Mandatory Training

For the safety of all our Young People and to protect our Leaders, every Leader and Assistant is required to complete certain mandatory training, which includes Safety and Safeguarding. We have a very good compliance rate in South Berkshire (better than 95%). However, **ALL** Leaders need to have valid training in place before they resume scouting. Please ensure that yours and your teams is up to date before September. Speak to your Training Advisor or GSL if you are unsure.

#### Zoom Pro is Still Available

The Scout Association's access to Zoom Pro for everyone to use for free until 21<sup>st</sup> November is still available to get this month. There is one license available per Group. So decide locally who will sign up and act as the contact. Complete the access request form via this link: <https://scouts-news.org.uk/31ME-11L4L-7BFFWC-NIAOE-1/c.aspx>

