

Scouts



November 2021

South Berkshire District

Be Prepared and Remain Vigilant

Clearly we are not out of the woods yet! It is great to see everyone getting back to scouting and the resumption of District activities and important Community events such as Remembrance Sunday. However, we need to remind ourselves that this Covid pandemic is still with us. Therefore, please note the article on the right here giving information on getting back together safely.

I am reminded of how our grandparents must have felt during the war when they didn't know when the end was going to be.

They showed us a great example of resilience, fortitude, and making the best of the situation. I know that this spirit still exists and see it every week in what you all do for Scouting. There are many great activities taking place and being planned (including the District Camp for next May).

Thank you again for all this and enjoy your scouting!

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Beavers Hike – In September (better late than never!)

On 18th September South Berkshire beavers were finally back together for an incident hike. We had 6 colonies attend and were supported by a number of leaders and some very able young leaders from all across the district. The beavers and adults alike were stretched with a 5.5 mile walk between 3 huts mostly off road navigating from maps along the footpaths. They completed some scavenger hunts, a first aid base, built supporting structures for their mascots and created some fruit kebab and campfire biscuits along the way. Followed with a birthday tea and cake with badges still to come. Thanks to all who supported and attended it was great to be back and the weather was kind too. - Pingu



Awards for our Youth Commissioners

Our two District Youth Commissioners, Megan Currie and Greg Vincent, finished their 2 year roles as DYCs. During this time they have overseen the introduction of youth led scouting in our District. As a result many of our leaders are better aware of what this means and the District Management Teams benefited from their input. As a sign of our appreciation for their service they have both been awarded the District Commissioner's Commendation for Good Service. Well done and thank you to Megan and Greg.

District Cub Chess Tournament

In the first District Cub event since January 2020, 17 Cubs played in a tournament, overseen by a member of the Crowthorne Chess Club. The trophy was won by a member of 1st Easthampstead.

An intellectual well done to all those who took part.



Remembrance Services



It was so good to see the return of Remembrance Services this month. These took place across the District including the large one in Sandhurst supported by the Royal Military Academy. (Pictured is the one in Crowthorne) They may have been a little more moderate this year due to the restrictions on keeping everyone safe in the current circumstances, but the main thing was that we remembered all those who gave so much in previous wars so we can enjoy the freedoms we have today.



Protecting everyone and responding to incidents

Knowing how to protect everyone from COVID-19 is key, read the Scout Association's guidance on [protecting ourselves and others](#). This website link includes information on face coverings, social distancing, hygiene, and PPE.

Being prepared and [knowing what to do if something goes wrong](#) is also important. This website link explains what to do if someone is isolating or is confirmed with COVID-19.

Check out the Scout Association's guidance on the use of [lateral flow tests within the scouts](#).

District Camp 2022

This is planned for everyone for 6-8th May 2022 at Walton Firs. Briefings have now been given to all Groups. So if you want to know more or want to register your interest then contact your GSL. Registration of attendees and deposits are required in January.

First Aid – a reminder

All Assistant Section Leaders, Section Leaders, GSLs, ADCs and even the DC are required to hold a valid First Aid certificate. If yours has now expired then it must be renewed by end Jan 2022.

Please follow this link to find out how you can book yourself on a course: [First Response Training](#)

Mandatory Training

All adults active in scouting are required to undertake certain mandatory training, specifically Safety and Safeguarding. Please make sure that yours is up to date.

The training doesn't take long and can be done online at:

[Safety eLearning](#)
[Safeguarding eLearning](#)