

Scouts



October 2021

South Berkshire District

Remembrance

As we approach Remembrance Day to honour all those who made the ultimate sacrifice to enable us to live the freedoms that we currently enjoy, let us also remember why we support Scouting.

In fact Scouts played an active role during World War II from acting as spotters of enemy warships to runners with messages for the Home Guard. It was for this last role that my own father was awarded a scouting National Service badge!

I'd also like to share a quote from Bear Grills that I saw recently: "Our youth should be seen as our training ground, where we try and we fail, and we learn to get back up. Our young years are where we build our resilience and thirst for life."

Thank you for everything you do and enjoy your scouting!

Graeme

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District Scouts Night Hike

On Saturday 16th October the rearranged Scout Night Hike finally took place. 9 teams of scouts from 6 troops took part in an 11K hike around Sandhurst, Wildmoore Heath and Broadmoor. The hike was in the late evening and into darkness with incidents along the way. The scouts were challenged with codes, feely bags, first aid, knots and Kims game. On average the scouts took 4 ½ hours to complete the hike. They were rewarded with hotdogs and soup at the end point at 3rd Sandhurst. It was a busy event with 58 scouts, 3 young leaders and 22 adults in support either walking, manning a base or cooking.

Thanks to everyone who took part. See you again next year!

Graham Davies

Commissioner's Awards for Sarah and Dan

It was with great pleasure that two District Commissioner awards were presented this month to Sarah Nicholson and Dan Turner. Both had been doing a great job as Explorer Leaders of the Sandhurst Unit but have decided to stand back for the time being to concentrate on a new family arrival! They have also been instrumental in doing some key renovation work on the hut at 1st Sandhurst getting it ready to receive new Cub and Beaver sections later this year. Our congratulations and best wishes are offered to both.

2nd Sandhurst Scouts in the Community

Earlier this month 2nd Sandhurst Scouts spent their day at a care home in Camberley working on various maintenance jobs to earn their Community Service badges. They worked in small teams to sand down and give a fresh coat of paint to the outside furniture. The greenhouse needed clearing out, the patio got a thorough power washing, some planters at the front of the home were potted up with new plants and some washing up was also done. The scouts were able to take a break in the lovely autumn sunshine and enjoy a fabulous sausage-and-chips lunch with ice-cream provided for them by the home. At the end of the day the scouts were awarded their badges by one of the residents who was himself a scout leader. They worked hard all day to make a real difference in the home and all are deserving of their badges!



Scouting Golf Society

Do you play golf? Would you like to play more, perhaps with others in the family of Scouting? We are thinking of setting up a Scouting Golf Society which can play on an occasional basis at different courses for some fun. If you are interested then please contact Graeme. dc@southberksscouts.uk



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](#).

First Aid – a reminder

Leaders have until the end of the year to become compliant with their first aid training. County is providing the learning elements of first response training through online facilitated sessions followed by a short COVID safe face to face validation for the practical elements.

Follow this link: [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](#)

Risk Assessments

Before approval can be given for nights away activities, the approver must know that you have a risk assessment in place. Guidance on assessing risk can be found here:

[Risk Assessments](#)