



State of readiness to return to face-to-face Scouting is currently AMBER

Restarting Face-to-Face Scouting

From Monday March 29th we have been able to meet face-to-face outdoors again and from Monday 12th April we can meet indoors and outdoors! However, at the time of writing, we know that there is no limit on the number of young people who can meet outdoors but it has not yet been announced if it will be the same if you go indoors. Also, bear in mind that there is no pressure to return to face-to-face Scouting just because others are. You can keep on doing virtual Scouting until you are ready to return. Keep following our social media for the latest up to date information as well as www.scouts.org.uk.

Let's have a look at things we need to consider when returning to 'proper' Scouting!

Will You Help Phillip ?



Following this tough year, with things looking on the rise, I am going to be running the Great North Run in memory of Geoff Cox who lost the battle to Covid. I am going to be raising money for the Blood Run EVS which Geoff was heavily involved in. As well as the Great North Run, I am also looking at setting myself the challenge to run from my home in Guisborough – Saltburn – Redcar – Normanby then finishing on Tollesby Road in Middlesbrough. Some of these places hold fond memories of Geoff. To donate you can scan the QR code below or go to <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Phillip-Rosebloodrunevs>



County Commissioners Corner



You may have seen my email earlier in the month about the need to be up to date with Mandatory Ongoing Learning, primarily Safety and Safeguarding.

I'd just like to thank all those who have helped in significantly raising our compliance data to ensure Scouting is run and led by suitably trained volunteers who know how to keep our young people safe.

When I sent the email out on the 14th March we had 65 volunteers not compliant. Thankfully that number has dropped to 37, as I write this, and hopefully will drop further with just less than a week to go until the March 31st deadline for compliance.

Can I please urge all volunteers to check on Compass when they are due for renewal and complete the online training before their expiry date.

You can find the link to all the modules here:

Getting started training | Scouts

www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/learning-development-and-awards/training/learners/modules/

Once we have got everyone up to date with safety and safeguarding, our next focus will be on First Aid training. We are aware that many volunteers will have expired during lockdown and are releasing remote training with Phil to ensure we can achieve compliance around this. If your training has expired, please sign up for Module 10a (theory) via the county website and Eventbrite. You can then sign up for Module 10b (practical) which will be a short interactive session to complete CPR etc.

Once we are all up to date with training, it'll mean we can fully focus on getting back to Scouting Face to Face which we have all missed!

Andy

HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED IN SCOUTING?

At the Volunteer Recruitment webinar I joined last month we were asked to complete a poll asking us how we got involving with Scouting. I thought I would ask the members of our Cleveland County Scout Leaders Facebook page the same question and to complete the poll.

Here's the results:

- I joined as a young person and never grew up – 62%
- I brought my children one day and now I'm a volunteer – 25%
- My friend asked me to help out – 1%
- Something else – 12%

The conclusion, which is the same as the webinar's poll, is that the vast number of our volunteers, 87%, are home-grown ie. they are already with us or they are the parents of our young people and are already known to us.

This suggests we should consider the following:

- Treat every young person as a potential future volunteer but not necessarily a Leader.
- Ensuring our Young Leader Training Scheme works well and is encouraged.
- We talk and get to know our young people's parents and carers and how they might support you or your Group in future.

Finally, HQ is running a national Volunteer Recruitment campaign in May. Look out for it and see how you can use it to your benefit.



Ian's Information

Restarting Face-to-Face Scouting



ADULT RECRUITMENT

From January 2020 to January 2021 we lost 68 volunteers according to the annual census. That means we need to either persuade some of these to return or recruit 68 new volunteers! HQ are running Volunteer Recruitment webinars throughout April which last 1.5 hours. I've pinned sign-up information to the top of the [Cleveland County Scout Leaders](#) Facebook page.

YOUNG PEOPLE RECRUITMENT

In the past year we lost Beavers from every Colony, Cubs from Packs and Scouts from Troops, so its time now to start building them up again from our waiting lists or through some good local advertising - especially at the school gates for Beavers and Cubs! Remember though, your best advertising tool is your weekly programme so take a look at it before you return. Is it time to make changes, or keep things the same for a while? Consider whether your programmes are always a **FIASCO – Fun, Imaginative, Active, Spiritual, Challenging and Orderly!**

COVID RISK ASSESSMENTS

Make sure you've got District approval to start again. If you've got an **AMBER** approval from before Christmas or since then you're good to go provided nothing or very little has changed. If your risk assessment hasn't been approved yet, complete one as soon as you can detailing risks for both indoor and outdoor activities. Resources to help you do this can be found at www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/getting-back-together-safely/
Let's also make sure that we are utilising all resources across Groups and Districts to help plug leadership gaps that might prevent our young people being able to enjoy Scouting again, and that we are sourcing alternative outdoor meeting spaces to temporarily replace those venues who are not able to allow us to use presently.

ACTIVITY AND MEETING PLACE RISK ASSESSMENTS

From the beginning of January 2021, you must have a written risk assessment for the activities you do – do not confuse these with Covid risk assessments. Really useful advice, guidance and example risk assessments can be found at www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/staying-safe-and-safeguarding/risk-assessments/

VIRTUAL SCOUTING

We have learning a lot over the past year and many of you have taken like a duck to water with virtual Scouting so don't dismiss it when we return to face-to-face Scouting. There will remain a place for it in our programmes, for example one week some young people could do virtual Scouting for an activity badge or an award; Colony Chews, Sixers meetings and Patrol Leader Councils can also benefit from meeting virtually. Give it some thought with your Leadership Team.

THANKS

Thank you to those who have contributed to this months Courier



ADULT TRAINING

A **HUGE** thank you to those who have already completed their Safety and Safeguarding training or have continued to work on their Wood Badge training during the pandemic. Last month our County Commissioner was informed by HQ that Cleveland Scouts was the 10th worst County in the UK for non-compliance in Safety and Safeguarding which was completely unacceptable to all us, especially as some volunteers have been receiving reminders for the past year. In the following week, thanks to the efforts of our District Commissioners and Local Training Managers, we were able to reduce numbers by 20 but at the time of writing there are still 43 volunteers (27 Leaders and 16 Executive Members) who need to be compliant by the end of March.



Please make sure you act on reminders promptly so that we are never in this situation again. All volunteers (except Occasional Helpers) have to have up to date Safety and Safeguarding training at all times to take part in all aspects of face-to-face Scouting.

FIRST RESPONSE TRAINING

At each Section meeting there must be at least one person with up to date First Response training. Phill Hobson has been organising the new training and it's included elsewhere in this Courier. He has also sent the information to each Group in the County.

WOOD BADGE TRAINING

At our Training Team meeting last month the presenters of the Section Essentials modules agreed to run their modules twice more on Zoom before the end of the Summer Term. More details will come out after Easter. We don't mind you accessing your training in another County if you are unable to attend ours. Look at other Counties websites and/or Facebook pages for details. We've had Leaders from Chorley and Cambridgeshire accessing ours!

CAMPING AND RESIDENTIALS

The HQ Restart Team have a sub-group which is looking at Camping and Residential Experiences. They have been scenario planning a range of likely outcomes. There are no secrets and yet there are many unknowns. The UK governments have not yet set out their advice or guidance on residentials so it would not be advisable to offer anything too early. A few examples, what will be the guidance around shared accommodation, or on the use of Group mini-buses to get young people to campsites, or what arrangements need to be put in place for communal cooking and eating, what's a Covid safe set-up for a campsite that might have ten Scout Groups camping and what space or bubbling might be needed between each camp, and then what management is needed of shared toilet and shower facilities? So, the Restart Team are working on these and others and engaging with the National Youth Agency and other departments so that they can offer the right guidance as soon as it is appropriate to do so. (Thanks to Graeme Hamilton, Deputy UK Chief Commissioner, for providing this update)

KEY DATES – a quick summary.

From now until you start back, submit your risk assessments for moving from red to amber. If you already have these approved, then check and amend them as necessary. If you need help with these, then contact your District approvers.

Once you know how many you have returning then you can start your recruiting of young people and volunteers through waiting lists, local publicity and your programme.

From Monday 29th March you have been allowed to meet outdoors with no restrictions on numbers.

From Monday 12th April both indoor and outdoor meetings are allowed. However, guidance on numbers for indoor meetings will not come out until around 5th April is my understanding.

From Monday 12th April you'll be allowed to take part in non-residential day trips and visits. Keep following www.scouts.org.uk/coronavirus for updates.

Ian Railton

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Cleveland Scouts

Roll of Honour 2021



HQ have announced the following awards for Cleveland Scout Council
Congratulations go to all for their hard work and dedication to Cleveland Scouts

Bar to the Award for Merit

Ian Christopher Greenwood (Middlesbrough)

Award for Merit

Andrea Marie Sotheby
Karen Lorraine Askwith
Paul Andrew Elliott
Shaun Anthony Jones

Middlesbrough

Award for Merit

Helen Elizabeth Rose
Rebecca Jayne Hole

Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service

Michael John Bowen
Michael John Mead
Rebecca Elizabeth Wright

Stockton Thornaby And District

Award for Merit

Antony Charles Moody
John Anthony Trotter

Tees Valley North

Award for Merit

Andrew Marc Oliver Woods
Elizabeth Anne Louise Moriarty



Bar to the Award for Merit



Award for Merit



Chief Commendation for Good Service

Gang Show Will Be Back

Planning is going ahead to restart rehearsals to produce the next Gangs Show in 2022. Subject to Government regulations.

Watch out for more information later in the year.



2nd Billingham

Last Thursday at Cubs/Beaver zoom kids made well-being boxes. They were asked to think of things that make them feel happy when they feel sad or anxious. They came up with some great designs and great ideas of what to put in them. Well done guys I love them all. Some of them have also been backing.



Cubs and Beavers were asked to create Toilet Art for their art badges. Absolutely brilliant. Well done guys



Our Thoughts and Thanks

In these difficult times we send our thoughts and thanks to the following people who gave a great deal of work to Cleveland Scouts over the past years and are no longer with us.



Pal Martian

Pal started his Scout with the 2nd Normaby Scout Group as a helper in 1972 when his son joined the group and after returning from the Harlem Jamboree he became Scout Leader and had a strong connection with 7th Vlaardingen Scout Group and have enjoyed their friendship over many years.

Pal and many willing parents helped build the original wooden building the Scout Headquarters in December 1972. The brick building came later in March 1985.

Pal was also a big part of the fundraising activities within the group collecting newspapers from scout parents, friends and the community in general which was sold to be recycled. He also helped to build and maintain the group Campsite at Claybank,

After retiring from being a leader in 1996 he continued to help with fund raising and maintaining the Head Quarters. In all Pal was at the heart of 2nd Normanby Scout Group for almost 50 Years.

Harry Watts

Harry started his life in scouting in 1961 when he met Ann, who became his wife.

He was a helper in cubs at 1st South Bank then he became a warranted leader in 1965 within the role assistant cub leader.

He then moved to Whale Hill in 1976 where him and Ann opened Whale Hill Cubs after a few years Harry became Group Scout Leader within in the group and still went to cubs every Wednesday.

Whilst been at Whale Hill another group, St Peters found themselves in difficult times so himself and daughter Sharron went to get the group and carried on to get a good group and brilliant leaders. The group thrived and he was able to step away .

Edna Smallwood

Edna first joined the 9th Middlesbrough Cub Scouts as an Assistant Cub Scout Leader in 1970s . She also held District and County roles also being Gang Show Secretary for many years. She also with Jim her husband planned many Special Needs Camps which were known as Agoonoree

Synthonia Scout Group

This week saw us run our 39th zoom pack night, a whole year since we ran our first one. Twenty four cubs began the Environmental Conservation Badge. We watched a short David Attenborough video about how we are overpowering the nature of our planet and the steps we need to take to readdress the balance. Then we looked at renewable energy sources, in particular wind turbines, and then watched another animated video showing ways to save energy and water. Next the cubs discussed what items we recycle in our homes and our game this week was a scavenger hunt. The cubs had to locate items that spell the word 'Recycle'. Looking forward to our 'Easter Sleepover @Home' starting on Saturday at 4pm.



First Aid

If you have completed Mod 10A you need to register for one of the validation times below to complete your qualification.

Mod 10B Validation sessions times (max 3 people per session)

11 th April 0900-1400	17 th April 0830-1200	8 th May 1300-1600
M'Boro HQ, Tollesby Road	Venue TBC	M'Boro, HQ Tollesby Road
0900-0915	0830-0845	1300-1315
1000-1015	0900-0915	1330-1345
1030-1045	0930-0945	1400-1415
1100-1115	1000-1015	1430-1445
1130-1145	1030-1045	1500-1515
1200-12-15	1100-1115	1530-1545
1300-13-15	1130-1145	
1330-1345		

Revised County First Aid Courses Dates as of: March 2021

Date	Venue	Course	Time
Wed 31 st March	Online	Mod 10A	1800-2030
Thurs 8 th April	Online	Mod 10A	1800-2030
Sun 11 rd April	Face 2 Face M'Boro HQ	Mod 10B	0900-1400
Sat 17 th April	Face 2 Face Venue TBC	Mod 10B	0830-1200
Tues 20 th April	Online	Mod 10A	1800-2030
Sat 8 th May	Online Face 2 Face M'Boro HQ	Mod 10A Mod 10B	0930-1200 1300-1600

Blast From The Past

Below are photographs of Venture Scouts
Can you name them ? And are they still in Scouting. Let us know

Have you any old photographs to show
If so send them to the Courier

Photograph taken from TeessideLive



1st Ingleby Barwick Scout Group

Alongside our usual weekly zoom meetings, over the February half term holidays, the group organised a Monopoly run for the families to complete. This involved two elements, the first was a hunt around Ingleby looking for our 'what3words' we gave them. And (if done correctly), would lead them to some of the recognisable places in Ingleby. They had a week to do this, so could participate in their daily walks. The second part was a 'year in a day' activity extravaganza, where each day of the week was a key day in the year (valentine's day, Christmas) and there was a special task to do each day and points were awarded for creativity.

All the families taking part seemed to really enjoy it and loved spending the time together, and we hope to replicate this in a face-to-face way at some point.

After the thrills of that week, some very sad news came our way. Frances, our Assistant scout leader, and Clay, our GSL, have announced that they have to move to Grantham because of work (selfish, I know!). This means we are losing them as they did not accept our offer of a 2 ½ hour drive for scouts. They have been committed members of our groups in various roles for a long time now, and both started as parent helpers. They will be sadly missed