



Former Ramsey Cub Scout awarded OBE



In the New Year Honours the Chief Executive of the Scout Association, Matt Hyde, was made an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE) in recognition of services to young people. He is a former member of 1st Ramsey Scout Group.

It was a double celebration as his father was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for voluntary service in the Ramsey community – which included some time as the Scout Group Chair.

Spring cleaning!

The records held on [COMPASS](#) (the Scouts national database) about you help your Group / District / County support your volunteering.

Please spare just 15 minutes during January to check / update / take action regarding your own record. If you have any questions on how to use COMPASS check out these [helpful pages](#).

- Is your e-mail address valid, are your phone number and address current?
- Is your [General Data Protection training](#) complete and the date recorded on ALL the roles you hold?
- Is any required [mandatory on-going learning](#) still valid?
- If relevant are the review dates for ALL your roles in the future?
- Have you set your [communication options](#)? *You don't have to have any marketing e-mails but these settings also dictate if you will receive Scouting Magazine and the important updates direct from the Scout Association that are specific to the role (s) you hold.*

For further assistance contact your line manager, Training Adviser or [Local Training Manager](#) in the first instance.

Alternatively contact the county team via training@cambridgeshirescouts.org.uk

County Commissioner's Message - Chris Ward

As we start the new decade I'm proud to say that, thanks to all our volunteers, Cambridgeshire Scouts continues to grow in terms of numbers and opportunities.

We now aim to bring you a bi-monthly local update, with a summary of what's happening across Cambridgeshire.

As part of that we'd be grateful if you could action the "spring cleaning" item on this page. We know some records are inaccurate, for example nearly 200 volunteers have invalid or missing e-mail addresses – which means they won't receive this newsletter!

The County Team continues to grow, which in turn means we will be able to increase the support and opportunities we can offer.

There are still various roles available so if you, or someone you know, is thinking of getting involved please take a look at the [opportunities](#) currently being recruited to.

Over the course of 2020 the County Team are keen to get out and about to meet even more of you, and our young people. Send us an invite – simply find the person you want to invite on the [County team structure chart](#).

There will also be an opportunity to meet the team if you attend the County AGM in June.

I look forward to meeting even more of you over the coming year.

Cambridgeshire Scouts in Action

Every week there are examples of Cambridgeshire Scouts in action being posted on the County website and / or various social media sites – all supplied by volunteers from across the county. Here are a few news items from Nov / Dec 2019.

The Hunts Post printed this great article about Hinchingsbrooke District Cub Scouts visiting Duxford Imperial War Museum



Cub scout groups, leaders, and volunteers enjoyed a day out at the Imperial War Museum in Duxford. Picture: CONTRIBUTED

More than 200 cub scouts from across the Huntingdonshire area enjoyed a visit to the Imperial War Museum in Duxford.

The cubs came from the Hinchingsbrooke Scout District, which stretches from Sawtry, through Huntingdon and down to St Neots.

Aged between eight and 11, the cubs were working towards the Cub Air

Activities badge, learning about different aspects of the aviation world.

A spokesman for the district said: "After the initial briefing, the cubs headed off to explore the eight hangers, packed with historic aircraft and informative displays. The American aircraft hanger impressed many, particularly the enormous Stratocruiser. "The Battle of Britain displays generated

discussions about 'the few' as well as 'the many' impacted by the bombing of towns and cities."

Aidan Joy, district commissioner for Hinchingsbrooke, thanked leaders and volunteers for helping to make the event a great success.

If you are interested in learning more about volunteering with scouts visit: www.cambridgeshirescouts.org.uk/get-in-touch.



Ely District raised funds by catering at another successful firework display



Peterborough Gang Show picked up this Award from the Pride of Peterborough! Watch out for details of how to book your tickets for 2021.

The Shelfords and Stapleford Scout Group in Cambridge District raised over £3,300 for Wintercomfort by sleeping out



Some great Christmas trees were created for village festivals in Cromwell District. A bug hotel by 1st Somersham Beaver Colony and a scout theme by 1st Fenstanton & Hilton Beaver Colony & Cub Pack. Maybe you have a similar local festival to enter.

The end of an era....

After around 93 years of trading the Perne Road Scout Shop in Cambridge will be closing permanently on Wednesday 12th February 2020. County and relevant District badges will still be available from the badge secretary in each District.

More details [on the county website](#)

Focus on... Programme

Ian Dugdale, Deputy County Commissioner – Programme

Ian was a teacher for many years and is now concentrating on his main interests as an artist. With wide experience in outdoor activities, particularly mountaineering and rock-climbing and former Reserve Forces experience, he brings much to this role.

He lives with his family near Arrington, where he is Group Scout Leader of 1st Bourn and is also the current Local Training Manager for Crafts Hill.



What does the County Programme team cover?

The Programme area covers most of the practical scouting in all sections, for young people and adults alike. This means [the team](#) includes all section Assistant County Commissioners; the Event, International, Permit, Duke of Edinburgh Award and Top Awards teams plus a few Active Support Units.

Work includes a project to build additional resources to add to those already on the [county website](#). The aim of this is to further support leaders in developing their section programmes, complementing the great [new Programme Planning Tools](#) being developed by the Scout Association – if you haven't seen these yet do take a look. Further updates over the coming months as new content is added to the county website.

If you have any questions, or would like to get involved in any area of Programme, please e-mail Ian ian.dugdale@cambridgeshirescouts.org.uk

Here are details about the first two County Active Support Units



The Mountain Activities Team is an important part of supporting leaders to obtain permits, and to support Duke of Edinburgh assessors. Whilst initially concentrating on Hillwalking and Climbing permits the aim is to expand to support a broader range of related activities in due course, including Mountain Biking.

To find out more or to ask related questions [visit the county website page](#)



Bushscout has the primary aim of “up-skilling” leaders in practical skills, including knife, axe and saw skills, fire lighting, backwoods cooking, shelter building and a range of craft skills (including leather work). The aim is to train leaders in safe and consistent techniques, enabling them to then deliver these skills confidently with their sections. We are planning a training day on Saturday 20th June 2020, which will be advertised for booking in the coming months.

To find out more or to ask related questions [visit the Bushscout page](#)

And finally.... Two national initiatives for all sections to take part in

A Million Hands

This initiative has more themes than ever this year:

- Protecting our environment
- Ending homelessness
- Supporting refugees and displaced children
- Better mental health for all
- Understanding disability
- Kindness in every community

[Look at the great resources available](#), and if you haven't taken part before perhaps do so this time. It is a great way to earn the staged Community Impact badge!

You Shaped 2020

February is You Shape month!

A great time to focus on how all sections can continue to involve your young people in shaping their programme in different ways and encourage them into leadership roles relevant to their age.

There are already lots of [resources available](#). The team will also shortly add a booklet of ideas to the programme area on the [programme area on the county website](#).

Snippets from

Growth & Development

The [team](#) is currently working on a range of initiatives across Cambridgeshire:

- [Projects](#) to open new sections or increase numbers (focussing on adults and / or young people) in existing sections as well as establishing new Groups.
- Delivering “Grow Your Team” workshops, designed to help you successfully recruit more adult volunteers. Dates and locations for 2020 available soon.
- Supporting Group / District / County Executive Committees through a workshop designed to help those who are new or those who have been in the role for some time ensure that, as Charity Trustees, they are aware of their responsibilities and the procedures to be followed. [Bookings are already open](#) for 28th Jan (Over), 28th Feb (Fordham), 2nd March (St Ives) and 8th June 2020 (St Ives). Dates for other Districts once agreed with them.
- Supporting the induction of District Commissioners, and their Deputies.

Join the team in one of our two [new Assistant County Commissioner roles](#)

People

Adult training

The range of courses and workshops offered is being expanded. Brand new for 2020 are Learner & Validation Workshops plus Inclusion, Youth Mental Health and Safeguarding training.

A reminder that for all relevant roles a current valid First Response (or equivalent) has to be in place at all times (previously this was only at review) by the end of 2020 – so we are running more such courses than usual.

Adults can find an over view of [training information and quick links](#), as well as [courses open for booking](#) on-line.

We are keen to expand the team of trainers for all course types, so if this is something you might be interested in please get in touch using the details in the item on the right.

Young Leader Scheme and courses

In summary this is a fully supported, 4-year adult leader “apprenticeship”, so an ideal way for us to “grow” scouting leaders of the future.

Section leaders are encouraged to ensure they are up to date with the current scheme, as volunteers aged 14 to 18 are insured only if they comply with membership requirements.

[Full details and useful links](#), plus [courses open for booking](#), are on-line.

Contacting the team

The [county structure chart](#) is kept up to date (when a new person is appointed they are added when the appointment process has been completed), click on the “envelope” under a person’s name to e-mail them. Alternatively contact the team using the [Get in Touch](#) form.

Support

Census 2020

As we are in January it can only mean one thing – it is nearly annual census time! This is taken nationally to collect key information, which is then used to help shape future planning and focus support in key areas. Full details to relevant individuals will be out shortly but for now here are the key dates so Sections / Groups / Districts can start to prepare:

- Mid-January – passwords to access the Census site will be e-mailed out
- Tuesday 21st January – census site opens
- Friday 31st January – census date
- Saturday 29th February – all data must be submitted by now as site closes

Perception

Using the latest branding

A reminder that the clock is “ticking” in terms of using the new brand - deadline is May 2020 (2 years after the initial launch).

Before you add something to a website, create a newsletter, press print on your next recruiting / fundraising poster or place an order for clothing / signage please just check you are using the correct branding.

[The site is simple and free to use](#), as is the font. You can amend and download items for free, ready to print locally.

If you would like some help using the Brand Centre then why not [book onto this event](#) on Saturday 7th March at County Office (St Ives).

What have you been up to?

By sharing your events and [fun activities](#) you help promote scouting across Cambridgeshire, and can often inspire others to try new things with their own Sections.

We can also add your scouting fundraisers to the Event Calendar and promote them via social media.

Simply submit your text /and photos using this [easy to use form](#)

Cambridgeshire Scouts Social Media

If you use Facebook and / or Twitter then consider joining or following these useful County sites – a great source for ideas and opportunities.

Open (for public and volunteers)

[Facebook page](#)

[Twitter](#)

Closed (volunteers only)

[County Facebook group](#)

Once you have joined the closed Facebook group you will see a “pinned post” which then lists other Cambridgeshire closed Facebook groups, including ones for leaders in each Section.