



MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER – CHRIS GAVRIEL

Like the rest of the country, Scouting is going through unprecedented times as we try to navigate ourselves through the Coronavirus Pandemic.

With no face to face Scouting currently taking place across the Movement, adult volunteers are adapting their programmes so that our young people can still actively engage and have lots of fun but in a different way.

I was impressed at a recent group leader's meeting at the 7th Bristol with their enthusiasm and willingness to start planning how to offer virtual Scouting to the young people within the group; indeed, the Beaver Colony are ahead of the game and have been offering virtual sessions over the past few weeks!

The group are committed to ensuring there should be some level of continuity for all the young people, whilst at the same time appreciating there needs to be flexibility in the way we operate so that families don't feel under any more pressure during this difficult period.

I would like to thank everyone associated at the group for helping make the 7th Bristol the success it is today. We may be going through tough times, but it is clear to me that we will get through this and it won't be long before we can Scout together in the great outdoors once again.

Chris

Group Website:

<https://7thbristolscouts.org.uk/>

7th Bristol Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/7thBristol>



JUNE UPDATE

Latest News from the Group

LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Due to an increasing workload as one of our brave paramedics and juggling her shift patterns, **Fi Whent** has decided to step back, for the time being at least, as Group Scout Leader. Fi is still very keen to support, so her new role as Assistant Group Scout Leader alongside **Alex Punter** will concentrate on supporting section leaders with their programme ideas so that more young people can gain their top Scouting Awards.

We are delighted to welcome back **Leza Jagroop** as a member of the Cub Leadership team. Leza and her family are already well known within the group. Her husband Paul was instrumental with the regeneration project of Pavey House and their two boys are in the Scout Troop. We know she will be an excellent addition to the team!

After several years as the Group Chairman, **Carlton Jefferis** will be standing down from this role in July to take up the position of Cabot District's Chair. Carlton's drive and enthusiasm at the group has been little short of herculean and his legacy will live on for many years to come. He will still have connections with the 7th as a parent with two sons in the group.

CURRENT VACANCIES

7th Bristol is a thriving Scout group at the heart of its community in Clifton Village. In order for the group to remain successful, we would love more volunteers to join in the fun! We are looking to fill the following roles:

Group Chair

To help continue the fantastic work done by Carlton, steering the group into the next chapter of its history. This person will help support the leaders to fundraise as well as beginning the important regeneration of the much-loved Stiles campsite owned by the group in Failand.

Group Secretary

Attend Group Executive meetings (about 6 per year plus the AGM) and take the minutes. This is a flexible role that can mostly be done at home.

Parent Reps (x2 per section)

Have your say as a valued parent and help decide on the future plans of the group. No Scouting knowledge required, just enthusiasm and a can-do spirit able to attend some of the group's Executive meetings!

Sectional Assistant – Scouts

Work alongside our fantastic Scout Leadership team to put on an exciting programme for the Scouts. You needn't have the credentials of Bear Grylls, but it does help if you can cope with teenagers!

UPCOMING EVENTS

7th Bristol AGM

This will be taking place virtually sometime in July.

Cabot District Virtual Camp

Open to all members of the District, this event will be taking place from Saturday 25th – Sunday 26th July. Further details



EXPLORER UNIT PLANS FOR CLIFTON

With the growing numbers of young people attracted to Scouting within Clifton and surrounding areas, the 7th Bristol have been negotiating with Cabot District to open an Explorer Unit based at Pavey House.

The Explorer Scout section is open to young people aged 14-18 once they leave their Scout Troop. Whilst the provision is organized centrally by the District, the Unit will have a strong connection with the group, hopefully with our older Scouts putting their names down to sign up. More details to follow shortly!

VIRTUAL SCOUTING

Cabot District have produced a special badge for young people to complete at home to ensure they are still engaged in Scouting activities.



The badge is made up of six different areas:

1. Proficiency - **Keep learning**
2. Physical - **Be Active**
3. Support - **Give**
4. Join in - **Connect**
5. Camp - **Take Notice**
6. Baking - **Keep learning**

The Leaders are looking at how they can incorporate the badge into their programme ideas so that all the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts who wish to work towards it can do so. Avon County have agreed it can be worn with pride on their uniforms. More information on the requirements coming out soon.

GO GRACE GO!



Grace Costello, a Scout at the 7th Troop has been extremely busy during lockdown and has certainly made true her Scout promise to help others. She recently started camping in her garden as part of the [#CampAtHome](#), a Scouting world record breaking attempt.

She's enjoyed the experience so much that she has decided to continue camping out for as many nights as possible!

Not only that, Grace is also raising money for the [St Pauls Adventure Playground](#) a community hub in Bristol that she spends time at and which was sadly, partially destroyed by fire last month. They're aiming to raise £25,000 for repairs. Last year Grace donated her birthday money to the playground and raised £175.

If you would like to donate to this good cause, then please go to the link below. Grace has already raised a fantastic **£350**.

What a STAR! Well done Grace!

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/Gracescampout?utm_term=7bjdNNJMv