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Launching Scouting@Home

Dear all,

Not long after Baden-Powell established Scouting, the Spanish 'flu epidemic travelled around the world, impacting millions of people. There are archived photographs of Scouts helping carry supplies to households that were stricken by the virus. While these acts of kindness are not currently recommended by the health authorities from whom we're taking guidance about the COVID-19 pandemic, we know that staying connected and helping each other remains a core part of Scouting.

We might be physically isolated from each other, but that doesn't mean we need to be virtually isolated too.

Today, I'm delighted to launch our new Scouting@home activities, designed to provide youth members across NSW – and their Leaders and families - with some dedicated resources to keep them connected to Scouting.

You can find our new site at: <https://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/things-to-do/scoutinghome/>

My thanks to every one of our remarkable Leaders who has helped us by testing out some of these ideas, sharing their feedback, designing the site and offering new, creative suggestions for inclusion. This is such a great way for us to keep Scouting open and active, and continue to help young people develop life skills and experience adventures, while protecting the health and safety of our Scouting community.

You will find:

- a weekly challenge scorecard, with accompanying virtual badges and certificates
- an Activity Pack containing a range of Youth Program activities
- opportunities to invite new youth members to participate and find out about Scouting
- ideas from our community
- feature of the week
- opportunities to share your feedback.

I encourage you to participate and experience new indoors adventures for every age to enjoy.

As Bear Grylls, the Chief Scout in the UK said earlier this month, "The people who really thrive in life are those who, when the storms come, they don't panic, they keep focused, they keep moving forward and they adapt to their new world."

Yours in Scouting

Neville Tomkins OAM JP
Chief Commissioner
Scouts NSW

To contact the Chief Commissioner, please email chief.commissioner@nsw.scouts.com.au.

Child Safety in Scouting

Scouts Australia NSW is committed to operating as a child safe organisation and implementing child safe policies and practices in accordance with the elements of a child safe institution outlined by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse report entitled Creating Child Safe Institutions.

Remember

All suspicions, concerns or allegations about criminal matters or child protection matters should be reported directly to the Chief Commissioner, the Deputy Chief Commissioner (Youth Safety, Compliance and Support), the CEO or the Child Protection Officer at the NSW State Office.

To make a report use the online [child protection form](#), call 02 9735 9000 or email childprotection@nsw.scouts.com.au.

Imminent Danger

If a young person is in imminent danger, the matter should be reported directly and immediately to NSW Police on 131 444.

Where a report is made to the police, you should also subsequently notify the NSW State Office.

You've received this email as a member of Scouts Australia NSW, or through your email address being the contact email provided for a member of Scouts Australia NSW.

Should you no longer wish to receive emails like this one, please contact the Members Services Team at the State Office with your email address and member number to have your membership record updated - info@nsw.scouts.com.au.

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