



**Safety Notice 1/23**  
**15/03/23**

Dear District and Group Lead Volunteers

All Groups should be made aware of a very serious near miss incident which occurred involving an Explorer Unit in Cheshire.

Explorer Scouts were cooking indoors using a stove connected to a gas bottle. As one of the stoves was being lit there was a leak from the regulator attached to gas bottle. This was noticed by a leader who turned the gas off at the bottle. As he did so there was an ignition at the outflow from the regulator. A quick-thinking leader extinguished the flame using a fire blanket. The whole assembly was moved outside and allowed to cool down. The regulator was of the screw in type and it would appear that it had not been fully tightened on assembly.

A very serious incident was narrowly avoided by quick thinking leaders. All groups should ensure that connections such as this are checked for tightness before use on a regular basis and especially at the start of the season, when equipment may not have been used for some months.

Yours sincerely,

John Bennett  
County Safety Advisor

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