

"Rediscover our soul by being kind, staying safe, looking after yourself &

> **Scott Leiper Creator at Imaginocity** & The Learning Lab.

Lover of Bowie, Bread and Biking. Scott is a creative and curious human focused leadership, management and personal development generalist - loves to explore lots of different areas of growth rather than one single specialism. He has a reputation for making the often-complex stuff simple, practical and memorable. He believes kindness counts in large amounts.



React

My first few days of lockdown were spent sat on my home office roof pondering personal pivots and troubling times. I wanted to get a view of the 'Sleeping Warrior', the profile of the Isle of Arran hills. It takes its name from a resemblance to a resting human figure. It seemed symbolic of how I'd felt since the Coronacoaster engulfed our lives. Spiralling and swirling from worrying and panicking to resting and reflecting. I chose not to share on social media. Preferring to chat and on and offline with those who could help wake me from this unplanned slumber.

I'm an optimist, like on a ridiculous level of sunshine and stars. When I hit a bump, I'm pretty good at pulling a wheelie. However, this one felt more like a wall. I wanted to react, to build, to create, to innovate but in reality; I needed time to understand.



Response

I shuffled my cards and asked myself 'What If?' What if we shared our stories and lessons as we travel through these times and beyond. What if we understood our fears and rediscover our soul by being kind, staying safe, looking after yourself and each other.

I decided to set myself a challenge. To utilise my strengths to navigate these tough times. I'm ridiculously creative on a Willy Wonka level. I love to experiment, that's my flow. When I'm creating, I'm flourishing. I didn't plan flow times pre coaster, just fitted them into my day. In four weeks I created, with the support and partnership of others, two new businesses by deploying my best to cope with my worst. I've also got plans to develop another two ideas in the month ahead. I going full on Edison by taking old ideas, dusting them off and sprinkling them with magic dust.



Repurpose

I started this summary by talking about the Isle Of Arran. I used to always say to my wife Mairi, "I'd love to live on an Island, but it wouldn't work with the nature of my job." Not noticing I was limiting my dreams and possibilities with my own choices.

In reality, Covid has pushed me forward quicker than I would have moved myself. I said to my good friend Kirsty on week one of lockdown as she surfed the waves like Keanu Reeves in Point Break, "You were made for these times".

My shadow was telling me I was not. I now disputed it. I woke, I got huge inspiration from others - the surfers, the dreamers, the deep listeners who have crafted brilliance and kindness in a landscape of uncertainty - I salute you all.

