

SCOUTLOOK



Altrincham & District Scout Council

February-March 2006

From the District Commissioner:

Dear Fellow Scouters,

Measuring Success

At a scouting training course many of us attended recently we were asked to consider the concept of how to measure success. What do you think? It is worth pondering. Unlike a business we cannot merely look at the bottom line of the balance sheet. Some of us are too used to measuring in terms of numbers. But Scouting shouldn't work that way. One measure of success is if former scouts and/or former leaders want to come back and help. We were delighted to learn recently from one Group that they had been approached by a former scout and a former leader who want to come back into the Group and be cub leaders. Terrific!

We are also pleased that a Scout leader from a different area, complete with Woodbadge, who has recently moved to Altrincham, has now taken up an appointment in a Timperely Group. In addition, on separate occasions, two young men with little connection to Scouting have phoned to ask if they could come and help out. They are newcomers in the area and want to get involved in the community. One is coming to an Explorer Unit regularly and the other is visiting sections to see which age group he likes best.

One of the Scout Movement's great strengths is that everyone is welcome and everyone can find a role. Our job is to make sure that our Group and our District is the kind of community that anyone with an interest in scouting would want to join. We need to make everyone feel valued. That includes playing to everyone's strengths and encouraging them to use their skills for the benefit of the young people.

Thanks for all the work that you do. Best wishes, Lucy

News from the Sections:

Beavers:

More than 100 Beavers enjoyed a matinee performance of "Cinderella" at the Garrick Theatre in Altrincham at the beginning of January. This has been an annual Beaver event for several years and those leaders who got their money in early were rewarded with delighted children.

Cubs

ADC Cubs

Many of you will know that the ADC for the cub scout section, Karen Salisbury, has been promoted to ACC for cubs. During her 13 years or so with Altrincham District she has helped to organise and run many events. She has also provided temporary support to cub sections which were experiencing difficulties. We are grateful to her for all her help in the District and wish her every success in organising the Centennial 2007 camps in May, '07. Although she will officially be taking up her new appointment on 1st Feb., we won't see the last of her for awhile yet. She wants to be actively involved with the preparations for the Cub and One Camp in June, '06.

No successor has yet been appointed. If you, or someone you know, would like to be considered for the role of ADC Cubs, please contact the D.C.

Cub and One Camp, 23rd-25th June '06

Middlewood campsite has been booked and preparations have begun. We hope that each cub section will want to take part. All cubs, accompanied by an adult to assume responsibility, are invited to attend. In previous years similar events, where the adults have taken on the organisation, have been named "Father and Son" camp. However, since the introduction of girls as cubs and the recognition that not every son had a father who could come, we have sought to welcome all cubs, with either a male or a female adult, to these camps.

CRB Clearance

After discussion with several senior members of the County and Child Protection teams, we are duty bound to announce that all adults who attend this camp must have completed a CRB form and received clearance. Even those adults who have a CRB clearance through another organisation must still submit to a Scouting check. As you can imagine, it takes several months for the forms to get through the system. Even if some are not sure yet whether they can attend the camp, they should still complete a form. It is impossible to get forms through at the last minute.

As soon as possible, therefore, we urge you to inform the parents in your group who might want to come on camp and make it as easy as possible for them to complete the

forms. For example, right after the half term holidays one Group is setting up two evenings when parents can drop in with their documents and "authorised" people will be available to help fill them in. Remember the black pens.

CRB forms are available from Sylvia Cornish, Appointments Secretary. Each CRB form now comes with a leaflet explaining exactly what documentation is required.

Once we get these forms sent off to Headquarters, we can concentrate on running a terrific camp. The theme is a secret but the activities are bound to involve lots of cardboard, tape, paint and comradeship.

Cubs Sixer Training Afternoon, 4th Feb.

Over fifty cubs and 10 leaders enjoyed games and bases concerned with the Law and Promise, the Grand Howl, secret codes, pioneering, road safety and others. In the Scouting for Boys base all had to practice crawling through an imaginary tunnel salamander fashion, keeping their heads and bums low. Some cubs are ready to sign on with the Marines already. I would like to thank all of the leaders who came along to help and all the cubs for entering into the spirit of the activities in such a cheerful and cooperative fashion. We had a most entertaining afternoon.

ALTRINCHAM AND DISTRICT CUBS CHESS CLUB 2005 – 2006

The cubs chess club activities are reaching a climax for the year. There is one more round left in the Inter Cub Pack competition to be held at 4th Hale HQ on Tuesday February 14th and the District Championships have been fixed for Saturday 4th March at 1.45pm to 5.30pm also at 4th Hale HQ. Please encourage as many cubs as possible to turn up from your pack.

Attendance at chess club meetings has been outstanding this year with an average of 21 cubs at each meeting. This is nearly up to the record attendances of the 2003-2004 season. The standard of play amongst the leading cubs is well up to last year's levels and considering the outstanding success of the Altrincham team at the County West Championships last year I am sure that this year's team will be in contention this time as well. If we were to win it again this time it would make it three times in a row. This has not been achieved yet by any pack since the competition started in 1991.

As it currently stands the Inter Pack champions are likely to be either 4th Hale or 1st Hale Barns, but it is so close that they will have to wait until the last game is played before we will know who has won. Neither pack has won the shield yet which will explain why they are so keen this year.

Due to unforeseen circumstances associated with my health there is an urgent need now to find a permanent helper for the chess club who is able to take it over completely where necessary. It would be a shame if we had to start cancelling meetings next year. Please give me a call on 0161 928 5128.

Chris Fitt.
January 2006.

Scouts:

Scout Five-a-side Football

Saturday 4th March – 6.45pm Altrincham Leisure Centre. All players to be under fourteen and a half on the night. Cost £12.00per team payable to me.

District Challenge Hike 2006

Provided there is sufficient interest I plan to run the event on the first or second Sunday in May. Easter prevents me from running it at the usual time around mid April. Please discuss with your scouts and let me know if you intend to enter a team

Leader Changes

2nd Timperley are losing their SL Keith Sulley who sadly is moving home to Scotland. We thank Keith for his contribution over nine years and wish him and his wife Sarah the very best in their new venture. We welcome new leaders into our ranks: Richard Morgan ASL 4th Bowdon, Nick Davison, ASL 2nd Timperley, Richard White ASL 1st Hale Barns, Andrew Reed ASL 1st West Timperley and Richard Barns ASL 1st Hale.

George Sharp. ADC Scouts

Adventurous Activities – Permit Scheme

A new national permit scheme was introduced in December 2005 replacing previous requirements and must be read in conjunction with Factsheet 120084 (Scout Led Activities) and the Activity Rules in chapter 9 of POR

The following is a brief summary of the new scheme. For more detailed information you should refer to the scout web site www.scoutbase.org.uk or contact your ADC

Like the 'Nights Away' permit the scheme is a way of ensuring that an individual leading or supervising an adventurous activity has the skill, experience and personal suitability to do so and provide a reassuring checking process for parents. The scheme is designed to be flexible allowing each permit to be tailored to meet the skills and experience of each applicant. Everyone wishing to lead or supervise an adventurous activity (See POR and Factsheet 120100) must have a permit for that activity.

A permit will be granted by the District Commissioner based on the recommendations of an Approved Assessor. The Assessor may be an internal appointment within a scout county or an external body such as the British Mountaineering Council, British Canoe Union or RYA.

There is no prerequisite training required to gain a permit so long as you can show a level of skill and experience appropriate to the activity you plan to run. A permit will be valid for five years and allow you to run that activity in any district or county

To gain a permit you will be assessed in four areas:

1. Technical competence
2. Knowledge of the Scout Association Rules on Adventurous Activities (See POR, Chapter 9)

3. Child Protection eg Have completed a CRB Form and attended a Child Protection Course
4. Personal Suitability eg General Attitude and Commitment to the activity

To obtain a permit you should complete an application form, which can be downloaded from Scoutbase.org.uk or available from your ADC, and forward to the 'Approved Assessor'.

An assessment checklist listing the skills required and used to assess an applicant is also available on the web site

Assessment might be Practical and/or Theoretical and will certainly take into account existing knowledge, current qualifications or authorisations

When you have been assessed the Assessor will forward the recommendations to you which you will pass on to the District Commissioner who will issue the permit.

It might be some time before County have a fully operational team of approved assessors so you could opt to be assessed by an appropriately qualified 'External' assessor (See factsheet 120104). If you have had recent authorisation from county under the old scheme they might be prepared to issue a permit, on the same terms, without further assessment. Evidence will be required to support your application

Explorers:

No Information this month

District Information and News:

Census Evening, 18th Jan.

It was a pleasure to see so many familiar faces that evening and hear about how your Groups are getting on. We would like to thank all those in the Groups who completed their returns in a timely and thorough fashion. In addition, we would like to take this opportunity to thank Iris Emery, District Secretary, Sylvia Cornish, Appointments Secretary, and Simon Gould, District Treasurer, for all the work they do, not only on Census Evening, but throughout the year. Without their willing help working away in the background, the leaders would find their jobs much more difficult.

Free Sports Coaching at the Timperely Sports Centre

As explained in the November, 2005, **Scoutlook**, free coaching is offered in lacrosse, hockey and cricket. The manager, Colin Taylor, would be pleased to hear from leaders who would like to book sessions. Contact him on info@timperely-sports.com.

Altrincham District Scout Network

Are you between 18-25 and a member of the Movement? Fancy a hike with like-minded people on 4th March? Contact Andy Reed, a Scout leader at 1st West Timperely on Scouts@apreed.co.uk. He's trying to encourage contact between all of you in that age group. As well as helping to facilitate training and activities leading to the DofE and Queen's Scout Awards, a sociable activity is on offer each month.

1st Timperley Family Quiz Night;

This is being held on Saturday 25th March, at 7.30 pm. Tickets are available at £10 for 2 adults+Up to 4 children, Adults £4, Children £2. The price includes hot-pot supper. Tickets available from any 1st Timperley leader, or by phoning Allan on 980-3451.

[A flyer for this is attached to this issue of Scoutlook - Ed]

Scout District Website

Gordon Fyfe, GSL at 3rd Altrincham, has been working hard on this project. It is now up and running on www.altrincham-scouts.org.uk. For more information contact him directly. Many thanks to him for dragging us into the 21st Century. Fame at last.

Scout Fellowship

We enjoyed a lovely meal and friendly ambiance at the Quality Hotel, known to us all as the Bowdon Hotel, in January. Once again we thank Iris Emery, our District Secretary, for arranging the evening and for making the tables look so inviting. Why not consider coming along next year? It is such a treat to be waited on and have a chance to relax and socialise with like-minded friends.

Dunham Campsite

There has been a Scout Camp Site at Dunham Park Estate since 1922 and many scouts have enjoyed it facilities over the years. This is a special year for the Camp Site as it is their twenty fifth year at the present site, following their move from the original site where the National Trust car park is now located.

In recognition of this Silver Anniversary they are holding a special "Another Anniversary" weekend from 23rd -25th June 2006. There will be fun activities, games, competitions, a campfire, barbeque and more. The camp costs are £10.00 per member and £6.00 per leader for the weekend. Day visitors are also welcome on Sat 24th June at a reduced cost.

For more information or to book your place please contact 0161-748-0819, or on e-mail at dparkscouts@ntlworld.com

The wardens are also offering free accommodation in return for five hours work. Paul Wilkinson would like to hear from Troops or Units who would be willing to take part in general work which needs to be done there. Please contact him directly on the phone number above.

Publicity about Scouting for Schools

At the DC's meeting in Dec. we saw an impressive power point presentation devised by two leaders in GM North. It's very catchy with lively music and lots of images which last for only a few seconds showing scouting activities. The main message is "Wouldn't you like to do this...?" It's designed to be shown to the older children in primary schools. The GMW office is supposed to have a copy. If you are thinking of running a recruitment drive aimed at that age, contact Lucy and she'll see if she can get it for you.

3rd Timperley's leader, Simon Ashton, has recently starred in an assembly for years 5 and 6 at his alma mater,

Navigation Primary School. At the end, when asked if the children were interested in having a leaflet with more information about Scouting, all of the 90 pupils raised their hands. We look forward to hearing about some new recruits.

Sale Scouts and Guides Gang Show

14th-18th Feb. at the Garrick Theatre, Altrincham. For tickets and information visit:
tickets@salegangshoworg.uk

Funding for Community Groups

The Community Foundation for Greater Manchester Local Network Fund still has £90,000.00 to give away to small community groups in Trafford before April 2006. To help you apply the Community Foundation for Greater Manchester is running a daytime informal funding information session with VCAT on 24th Feb. Further details from Derek or Rose on 0161-905-2414.

The Centenary of Scouting in 2007

Greater Manchester West County is planning to run camps for all sections on the three County camp sites of Dunham, Middlewood and Bispham over the weekend 25th -28th May, 2007 including the Bank Holiday Monday. More information will be available in due course. Perhaps cub sections could join together to take part. Enjoy starting to plan now.

A souvenir badge will be available and the county have asked for ideas on its design which must to be submitted before the end of May 2006. Please ask your budding artists or designers to submit their entries to the DC asap. With cost in mind try to keep the design simple and uncomplicated

Centenary World Scout Jamboree, July 2007 in Essex_

The County has finally released the information. GMW has 9 places for young people and one leader. George Sharp has tried to get to all of the scout troops in the past week or so to let them have the papers about it. Explorer leaders have been sent letters directly. If you have not received yours please contact Steve Morrell, address below, asap. We are hoping that several young people, who will be aged between 14 and 18 at the end of July, 2007, will want to apply. The total cost will be about £1000.00, in order to help to subsidise those coming from across the world. However, no scout or explorer should be deterred from applying because of the cost. There is money in both District and County kitties and Groups can also help. Please emphasise that to the young people and parents.

Please encourage suitable candidates in your Troop or Unit to apply. They need to send for an application form from Steve Morrell, ACC Explorer Scouts GMW, 4 Kinniside Rd., Hawkley Hall, Wigan, WN3 5RG. The nominal deadline is 24th Feb. but he said that was flexible. The very act of sending for the application form will indicate those who have the desire to go.

The selection process will involve a short informal interview. We are looking for people who would not only enjoy the opportunity of a lifetime but would also be able

and willing to talk about it to others afterwards.

Centenary badges can now be worn on our uniforms and are available from the District Badge secretary

Leader Training:

This list is updated each month. Please note the changed dates and courses highlighted in *italic* below.

Adult Leader Training Modules 2006

Getting Started

Module 3: Tools for the Job

(All new Section Leaders and Assistant Leaders)

Venues to be arranged

Saturday 18th March

Sunday 14th May

Sunday 17th September

N.B. Module 5 (Fundamentals), Module 12 (Providing a Balanced Programme, and Module 14 (Young People Today) are all covered by this Course.

10.00 a.m. - 3.30 p.m. £10.00. Packed lunch.

A First Response Course

This is run by Lucy Natrass, our DC and former employee of St. John's Ambulance. It is to be held on Tues. 14th and Tues. 21st March at 4th Hale H.Q from 7:30 – 10 pm. Cost: £10.00 each. Please book in advance so we can order the First Aid booklets which are included in the cost. Phone Lucy or Sylvia to book a place.

Child Protection

In 2006 there will be two different training sessions on Child Protection, one for new leaders and helpers, and the other for longer-serving adults who may not have undertaken any formal child protection training or who need to update and refresh their knowledge and understanding.

Dates will be published shortly

Module 10: First Aid

One day course (First Response)

3rd Worsley HQ. Sundays 9.30am - 4.30 pm

Packed Lunch. £10.00

12th February

9th April

14th May

11th June

9th July

10th September

19th November

10th December

Add on Courses for Adventurous Activities:

12th March

8th October

Section Leader Modules

All venues to be arranged.

Courses open to leaders and assistant leaders from ALL sections.

Wednesday, 15th March (evening):
Modules 9 (Working with Adults),
13 (Growing the Movement) and
6 (Changes in Scouting).

Wednesday, 22nd March (evening):
Module 8 (Skills of Leadership) and
18 (Practical Skills).

Tuesday, 25th April (evening)
Module 7 (Valuing Diversity) and
15 (Challenging Behaviour)

Tuesday, 9th May (evening)
Module 17 (Activities Outdoors) and
19 (International)

Beaver Leaders Skills Day

Saturday 25th March 2006.
Dunham Park Scout Camp. £10.

Further information and application forms: Ring Sylvia
Cornish 980 2140 or e-mail
sylvia.cornish@btinternet.com. Application forms can
also be obtained from gmwscouts.org.uk

New Training – Refresher courses.

Please note there are now 'Refresher Child Protection' and 'Refresher 1st Response'.

The child protection refresher are aimed at Leaders who wish to update themselves on the latest issues and for those longer serving leaders who may not have undertaken any form of Child Protection Training.

With regard to the 1st Response refresher this is for leaders who already hold a 1st Response Certificate who wish to refresh their training. Their certificate must not have expired when they actually attend the refresher training.

*Sunday 19.3.06 in Salford District
First Response 10-12.30 pm
Child Protection 1 – 3 pm.*

*Saturday 20.5.06 in Stretford District
Child Protection 10 - 12 noon
First Response 12.30 pm – 3 pm.*

*Sunday 24.9.06 in Urmston District
Child Protection 10 - 12 noon
First Response 12.30 – 3 pm*

*Saturday 25.11.06 in Wigan District
First Response 10 – 12.30 pm
Child Protection 1 – 3 pm*

The 'ordinary' Child Protection modules (as listed on 06 training sheet) are aimed at new adult leaders, especially those who need this module before being presented with Warrants.

Cost of each refresher is £5.00

As usual all applications to County Office.

District Diary

	Feb/March 2006	April 2006	Future
Beavers			
Cubs	Cub Chess Tues 14th Feb 6.30-8.15 pm 4th Hale HQ Sat 4th March - pm 4th Hale HQ (District Champ) Sat 11th March - pm Worsley (County Champ) Cub Warren Users Meeting Wed 22nd March 29 Ollerbarrow Rd, Hale		District Cub and One Camp 23-25th June Middlewood Camp Site
Scouts	Network Hike 4th March		
Explorers			
District	District Exec Meeting Tues 7th March 76 Brook Lane. GSL Meeting Wed 8th March venue tba 1st Response Course Tues 14th and 21st March 7.30-10.00 pm 4th Hale HQ 4th Hale Jumble Sale Sat 25th March - 2.00 pm Family Quiz Night Sat 25th March - 7.30 pm 1st Timperley HQ	St George's Day Parade Sun 23rd April 7.30 pm	District AGM Sun 9th July 12.00 noon Cub Warren

Scoutlook is planned to be sent by email at the end of the first week of each month, if there are sufficient news items available. This information sheet is intended to improve communications within the District. Please feel free to send in any material which you think might be useful for others connecting with Scouting, preferably by email to Alan Marriott by the last day of the previous month. If you are going to change your E-mail address please let Alan Marriott know, otherwise you will no longer receive Scoutlook and your address will be deleted from the Scoutlook e-mail address book