

# SCOUTLOOK



## Altrincham & District Scout Council

### April-May 2006

#### From the District Commissioner:

Dear Fellow Scouters,

Thanks for all of your efforts in keeping your sections ticking over through another long dark winter. Now that the clocks have changed, we'll all want to spend more time outdoors. Go for it!

But there's always a catch. Don't forget the parents' permission forms. Instead of asking for parents' signatures every time you want to go out, get a signature on one form which covers the kinds of activities which you might be doing away from the hut during your regular weekly sessions. Then you're covered for the term.

Anything which saves paper has got to be good. I look forward to receiving Nights Away Notifications a week or so in advance of your trips. You can always send them on line. It's a real pleasure for me to learn where you are going and what you plan to be doing. Here's to more camping and outdoor activities.

Best wishes, Lucy Natrass

#### News from the Sections:

##### Beavers:

No Information this month

##### Cubs

#### ALTRINCHAM AND DISTRICT CUBS CHESS CLUB 2005 – 2006

The Altrincham and District Chess club created a new record on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March by winning the Greater Manchester West Scout County championship for the third year in a row.

The competition was held in the Atherton and Tyldesley district and for the first year we had been given permission to enter two teams following a near record turn out of 21 cubs at the District championship on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March. As it turned out only 15 cubs went to the competition, the main 'A' team of 10 with the remainder joining forces with cubs from other packs to make up their team numbers. The majority of the Altrincham and District cubs are very young so it will have been good experience all round and bodes well for a further positive result next year. The result was as

follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Altrincham 33.5 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> Swinton & Pendlebury 29.5 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> Leigh & Lowton 23.5 points, and 4<sup>th</sup> Wigan 22.5 points. 5<sup>th</sup> Stretford, 6<sup>th</sup> Sale.

The outstanding cub in this competition was Jonathon Holland of 2<sup>nd</sup> Hale who won all five of his games. This confirmed his nomination the previous week as the best chess club newcomer for 2005/ 2006.

The team this year also contained representatives of 6 of the participating cub packs in the district which is also a record

The Inter cub pack competition this year was won convincingly by 4<sup>th</sup> Hale, who are now the 4<sup>th</sup> cub pack in 4 years to hold the trophy. Jamie Watkins of 6<sup>th</sup> Altrincham won the club championship in a close finish with James Campbell of 1<sup>st</sup> Hale Barns. Timm Plagge of 4<sup>th</sup> Hale was third.

Adam Swinton of 4<sup>th</sup> Hale won the District Championship by a small margin from Timm Plagge, and James Campbell.

My thanks go to all the Akela's and leaders who have both helped this year, and done such a lot to encourage the cubs to attend. Particular thanks go to Phil Broadhurst, John Natrass, Simon Gould and Richard White who have taken over latterly with running the chess club due to my current health problems and a very particular thanks to John Whitfield who took on the successful leadership of the District team at the County West Championships

The chess club will recommence its activities in September 2006.

Watch this space for details.

Chris Fitt - March 2006



Photo of Altrincham District cubs who took part

## Scouts:

### Five-a-Side Football - Sat 4th March

Seven teams took part in this year's competition and was run as a single league. Every team played each other and the outcome could not have been closer. It went right to the wire and was not decided until the very last game. Good nail biting stuff! After some very keenly fought games the two leading teams finished on the same number of points. However, with a superior goal difference 2nd Timperley were declared winners and 4th Bowdon runners-up. It was 2nd Timperley's first win after many years of trying and means we have a new name on the trophy

Congratulations to all teams who took part and big thank you to the referees Dave Hodgson and Kenny Williams

District Challenge Hike - provisional dates 7th and 14th May.

I have not received any feedback from troops. Do you want the activity to go ahead?  
It is not viable to run this challenge with less than six teams so please let me know if and how many teams your troop is likely to enter and which of the two dates you prefer. Time is running out!

George Sharp, ADC Scouts

## Explorers:

No Information this month

## District Information and News:

### Jamboree in Essex - July, 2007

The opportunity of a lifetime! We are delighted that five young people from Altrincham have been chosen to join the delegation of nine in the Greater Manchester West Patrol at the International Jamboree in Essex in 2007. They are: Robert Balfour and George Johnson, 4th Hale Scouts; Robert Danson, Panther Explorer Unit; Katie Green, 3rd Altrincham Scouts and Matthew Robbins, 2nd Timperley Scouts. Many congratulations to all five of them. There might be more places available. If this proves to be correct then we must be ready to grasp the opportunity. Please contact Lucy or your ADC if you have any member who would like to be considered. They must be between 14 and 18 years of age on 27th JULY 2007

We look forward to hearing about their preparations for the big event. Altrincham District will be offering financial support to each of them and we hope that some Groups will want to organise their own fund-raising events to help our representatives in the coming year. Keep those photo opportunities coming. Want to know more? Try: [www.scouts.org.uk](http://www.scouts.org.uk) and follow the links.

### World Jamboree Badges:

These are available from our friendly local badge secretaries at 50 p each. Payment is requested with the order. We can wear them until the end of 2007 and they do cheer up the uniform. One World- One Promise to be worn on the left side above the world badge.

### County Centenary Rally 2007 - 'An event under Canvas'

A celebration rally will be held at each of the county camp sites over the spring bank holiday weekend 2007 (25/27 May)

It might seem a long way off but camps of this size and complexity take months of planning and the organisers need to have a good feel for the support they are likely to get at a very early stage.

They are proposing a varied and exciting programme for the weekend based on the theme "Passage of Time". As the theme suggests the activities will incorporate events in and out of scouting between 1907 and 2007. It promises to be a great weekend and comes only once in a lifetime so don't let your members miss out.

Planning is still in its early stages but please discuss the event now within your group. Application forms will be made available in August and must be returned with a deposit by 30th November 2006 so start planning now. Further information can be found on the county web site [www.gmwscouts.org.uk](http://www.gmwscouts.org.uk)

Put the date in your diaries and notify parents in the hope they will avoid planning holidays over this particular weekend. It is an important landmark in scouting so give your members the opportunity of saying in years to come "I was at the 2007 Rally to celebrate 100 years of scouting".

### County Rally - Souvenir Badge Competition

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorer Scouts are invited to submit designs using no more than four colours. Closing date 31st May, 2006.

Application forms can be downloaded from the County website

### Queen's Scout's Awards

Six young people connected with the Panther Explorer Unit have completed the necessary requirements to achieve the Queen's Scout award. They are: James Bell, Rachel Clarke, Daniel Moore, Ryan Stopford, Richard White and Caroline Young. Apart from Ryan, who joined the Royal Marines in December, they will be travelling to Windsor to take part in the annual Scouting parade and service on 30th April.

We intend to present them with their Queen Scout's Awards at the District AGM on 9th July at Cub Warren.

We would like to congratulate them on their hard work in gaining the award. In addition, we would also like to thank the Explorer leaders, and others, who have helped to provide the opportunities to make it possible for them.

### St. George's Day- 23rd April

When did you last hear the Guide Law? Here's your chance. Spot the differences between their Law and the Scouts Law. Answers on a postcard please. We are welcoming Guides from Altrincham South Division. You

will have received instructions from Bob Liddell, the Parade Marshal so we look forward to seeing you at Regent Rd. car park. Why not invite parents and well wishers to the service at St. Mary's? It starts at 3 pm.

In less than three hours once a year you can meet up with everyone taking part in Scouting in the District, get some fresh air and exercise, renew your Law and Promise, sing some jolly and thoughtful hymns, clap for some of your colleagues who receive awards, listen to a thought-provoking talk, praise God and thank Baden-Powell for this excellent institution. You can't beat it.

The money collected during the offertory this year will go to the Family Contact Line, a charity in Altrincham which helps troubled families.

#### **District Website: [www.altrincham-scouts.org.uk](http://www.altrincham-scouts.org.uk)**

At a recent GSL's meeting, Gordon Fyfe, GSL at 3rd Altrincham, demonstrated the new Altrincham District Scout website which he set up. It includes pages of District news, a page for each Group and information on all the sections. Feel free to send Gordon any additional information which you would like to have included. We would like to thank him for bringing our District up to date.

Lucy cheerfully answers two or three calls a week from local people who have phoned Gilwell for information about colonies, packs and troops for their children. Gilwell passes Lucy's number on to them. This website will be an additional source of information. The more people we can encourage into scouting, the better.

#### **Training Advisors' Meeting: Tues. 2nd May at 6th Altrincham HQ 8:15 pm**

One of the aims of the District Team is to help all leaders to gain their Woodbadges. All of you who have been helping to advise leaders who have not yet gained their Woodbadges are encouraged to attend this meeting. We would like to share ideas and see which leaders need which courses. If they are not offered by the County, we might be able to offer them.

#### **Cub Warren**

The Knutsford scouts have used it as a base during a weekend of orienteering around the Pickmere area. 2nd Timperely Scouts have spent a winter's night there. 1st Hale, 2nd Hale, 4th Hale and Knutsford cubs enjoy it in summer. How about **you** and **your** young people? It's a wonderful resource, it's cheap and it's on our doorstep. Contact Stuart Naylor on 980-8487 to book your stay.

Sun. 7th May- Come one, come all to Cub Warren for a working day. We'll get the music on and bop while painting the interior and doing various odd jobs. What a great way to spend a day with friends. Why not join us? Wear your oldest clothes and come to the party.

If you can't make the 7th May, but could help on another date, please contact Stuart or Barnie (941-2681). There is some woodwork to do, the inside needs a coat of paint and the Japanese knotweed needs pulling up.

#### **Want ideas for International Evenings?**

Christian Aid Week 14th-21st May. Copious, excellent and colourful resources for a variety of age ranges are available on [www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk). Why not have a chocolate evening: tasting, learning how chocolate is made and emphasising the importance of fair trade? Fair trade chocolate, including big Easter eggs, is available at the Altrincham Oxfam shop.

#### **GMW Network**

Recently restructured, the GMW Network is currently trying to recruit new members.

The Network exists to provide an active programme for its members, promote awards including the Queens Scout Award and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, and support scouting.

Anyone aged 18-25 can be a Network member, and many of the existing members are already involved in Scouting as Scout, Cub or Beaver leaders. There is no membership fee, but capitation will need to be paid by those who are not paid for by their Group.

The Network currently has a programme of one event per month. April is the National Network Gathering at Great Tower, May will see a skiing/snowboarding event and there will be a barbecue in June. Past events have included climbing, walking and bowling.

There is a County-level committee, which consists of the ACC Network, the Network Administrator, and a Local Network Advisor for each district.

The long term plan is for each District unit to run its own programme in addition to the County level programme. The Network website is available at <http://network.gmwscouts.org.uk>, and is frequently updated with new events and information.

The Local Network Advisor for Altrincham District is Andy Reed, who is also ASL at 1st West Timperley. He can be contacted via email at [scouts@apreed.co.uk](mailto:scouts@apreed.co.uk).

#### **Group Annual General Meetings**

Please will groups let the District Commissioner know when you will be holding your Annual General Meeting so that a representative from the District Team will be able to join you.

## 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

*14th May - Sale*

*17th September - 12th Swinton*

*Modules: 15th and 22nd March - Atherton & Tyldesley*

*25th April and 9th May - Urmston*

#### 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.

#### Child Protection

*Full evening course (7.00 - 9.30pm) for new leaders and those who have not previously attended a CP Course)*

*Wednesday, 26th April - Leigh*

*Wednesday, 21st June - 43rd Salford*

*Monday, 16th October - Sale*

(See end for details of 'Refresher' Child Protection Courses)

#### Nights Away Course

*2 weekends: 1st - 3rd Sept and 29th, 30th Sept and 1st October. Bispham Hall.*

#### Module 10: First Aid

One day course (First Response)

3rd Worsley HQ. Sundays 9.30am - 4.30 pm

Packed Lunch. £10.00

9th April

14th May

11th June

9th July

10th September

19th November

10th December

Add on Courses for Adventurous Activities:

8th October

## Section Leader Modules

All venues to be arranged.

Courses open to leaders and assistant leaders from ALL sections.

Tuesday, 25th April (evening)

Module 7 (Valuing Diversity) and

15 (Challenging Behaviour)

Tuesday, 9th May (evening)

Module 17 (Activities Outdoors) and

19 (International)

## GCA Course (For Group Scout Leaders and Commissioners)

*30th September - 1st October (Residential) at Bispham Hall, Wigan. £50.00.*

## New Training – Refresher courses.

Please note there are now 'Refresher Child Protection' and 'Refresher 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> Response refresher this is for leaders who already hold a 1<sup>st</sup> Response Certificate who wish to refresh their training. Their certificate must not have expired when they actually attend the refresher training.

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

	April/May 2006	June 2006	Future
<b>Beavers</b>			
<b>Cubs</b>	Cub Activity Day (1st, 2nd and 4th Hale cubs) Cub Warren - Sat 6th May	District Cub and One Camp 23-25th June Middlewood Camp Site	
<b>Scouts</b>	Challenge Hike 7th and 14th May (To be confirmed)		
<b>Explorers</b>			
<b>District</b>	<p>St George's Day Parade Sun 23rd April 3 pm St Mary's Church Bowdon. Meet 2.15 pm Regent Rd cp.</p> <p>District Exec Meetings Tues 25th April Tues 16th May 76 Brook Lane.</p> <p>Training Advisors Meeting Tues 2nd May 8.15pm 6th Alt</p> <p>Team Meeting Wed 10th May 8.00 pm</p>	<p>GSL Meeting Thurs 26th June 8.00 pm 4th Bowdon</p>	<p>District AGM Sun 9th July 12.00 noon Cub Warren</p>

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