

SCOUTLOOK



Altrincham & District Scout Council

April-May 2010

Web Site: www.altrincham-scouts.org.uk

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From the District Commissioner:

We wish you all a peaceful break over the Easter holidays.

As scouters we are always grateful to parents and friends who help us out. We would particularly like to thank those people who give so much consideration to all of the paperwork which takes place behind the scenes. Iris Emery, our District Secretary and Sylvia Cornish, our Appointments Secretary, have devoted many hours and considerable energy to the successful completion of the recently distributed District Directory. A few weeks ago, they successfully completed the Census returns. In addition, Sylvia continues to carefully process all of the CRB forms. Recently she said she had counted up how many she'd done in the past five years and the number came to well over 400! We would also like to thank Hugh Davies for his chairmanship of the District, Brian Pastore, our Treasurer, members of the District Executive, and Alan Marriott for editing Scoutlook and sending out important information to the huge emailing list. There are many more people who keep the wheels of scouting in Altrincham ticking over. We couldn't do without you! Many thanks and keep up the good work.

Yours in Scouting, Lucy Natrass

News from Headquarters

Changes to the Nights Away Home Contact System

Nights Away Notification - Fact Sheet 120075

As mentioned in the Scoutlook of Dec. '09, the Scout Association is changing the requirements for the home contact system. It is now called "In Touch". The new system has been piloted in several counties already and will go into force in Sept. '10. However, if you and your section leaders would like to adopt this system from now, you are welcome to do so. Under the new system, you do not necessarily have to have a home contact person. However, you must ensure that leaders have the contact details of all of the parents of the young people in their care. In addition, all of the parents must have the telephone number(s) of at least one leader who will be at the nights away event throughout. For more information, please refer to the Fact Sheet which is available through www.scoutbase.org.uk.

Reminder: If you are taking young people away from your headquarters overnight you **MUST** inform the DC

before you go. The DC would like to know at least a week in advance, if possible. The Nights Away Notification form (FormNAN) is available to download at www.scoutbase.org.uk/library/hqdocs/facts/formnan. Please complete it and forward it to Lucy.

Safeguarding Courses

Safeguarding is the new name for what we used to refer to as Child Protection. This new title has been in use by many organisations throughout the country for a year or two. It emphasises that adults might need protection as well as children.

The Jan. 2010 edition of Policy, Organisation and Rules, introduces a new requirement for adults to have undertaken approved safeguarding training every five years. There are two ways that adults can access their safeguarding training:

1. Participate in the **NSPCC Keeping Children Safe distance learning programme.**

The Scout Association has been working in partnership with the NSPCC to provide a Keeping Children Safe distance learning package. It will now be available online at £4.00 plus VAT per head. The registration forms for the Keeping Children Safe package are available from the Scout Information office at Gilwell on 0845 300 1816. If you pay to follow the course, keep the receipt and the Group should repay you. Also PLEASE, print off the certificate at the end and send a copy to Anthony Roberts, ABSL at 4th Bowdon, our Local Training Manager, so that he can update your training records.

2. Participate in a training session run by Jacqui Aspinall, the County Safeguarding Co-ordinator. She delivers the courses in a professional manner and is very well informed.

The next course will be held on Sun. 18th April, 2-4 pm, at 4th Hale Scout hut, Cecil Rd., Hale. Please complete a County Training Application form and send it with £5.00 to the County Office in Tyldesley.

Jamboree- Sweden- summer, 2011

We offer our hearty congratulations to the six from Altrincham who were chosen from 120 applicants to join the Greater Manchester West Jamboree Contingent of 36 young people. They are:

George Taylor	1 st West Timperley
Matthew Sanderson	4 th Bowdon

Theo Barker	3 rd Altrincham
Stephen Balfour	4 th Hale
Elizabeth Sutton	3 rd Altrincham
Mark Balfour	Panther Explorers

Andy Gravett, ASL at 3rd Altrincham, has been selected to be part of the International Service Team in Sweden during the Jamboree.

They will be embarking on their first of many training and preparation sessions over the Easter weekend. We hope that every Group and Unit in the District might consider helping them with their fundraising. The first event will be at the **BUPA 10 K event in Manchester City Centre on Sun., 16th May**. Some Scouting people within GMW are running in the race and are asking for sponsorship towards the Jamboree fund. Go along to the event and cheer them on. Better still - shower them with cash and cheques when they complete the course.

County News:

Dunham Park Campsite

They have recently completed the floor in the Dutch Barn Wet Weather shelter and added a new Adventure Playground for our youngest members. So there are facilities for mid-week evening visits – at £1 per head! Whilst the cost of hiring the Frank Harrop Lodge has risen due to increasing energy costs, all other costs have remained at 2009 prices. Next is a pedal kart track and a low ropes course. We continue to invest in the campsite on behalf of Greater Manchester West County Scout Council. If Leaders want to visit and see the developments, please call David Vost to arrange a guided tour!

Just a note of caution: ALL groups using Dunham Park Scout Camp are expected to book with the Bookings Secretary at least 14 days in advance of any visit or camp. We have a number of other users on site and just turning up is no longer possible. In addition, any groups which use the site without booking are considered as trespassers and are unlikely to be covered by Scout Association Insurance.

Day of Excellence, Sat. 15th May, 2010, Bispham Hall Campsite

Following the success of last year's GMW County Day at Dunham, they are organising another one on Sat. 15th May. Beavers, cubs, scouts or explorers who have gained the Chief Scout's Award relevant to their section, are invited to attend. Leaders of young people who have gained the Chief's Scout Award should send their contact details to County Office in Tydlesley. They will then receive official invitations.

Lots of activities have been planned and the young people should have a most stimulating day. Accompanying adults should also find activities and displays to amuse them. Refreshments will be available.

County Cub Chess Tournament

Many congratulations to the Altrincham and District **Cubs Chess** team who won the GMW County Cubs Chess Scoutlook -April-May 2010

tournament held in Stretford on 6th March. Our thanks go to Greg Barber, ACSL at 4th Hale, who led the team on the day. Greg, Richard White, Inst. at 4th Hale, and John Nattrass coached and organised the six evening cubs chess sessions during the winter months. It was a pleasure to see significant improvement in the strategies and tactics of many of the players during the sessions. These were open to all cubs in the District and we often had over twenty cubs from many different packs.

The winning team was:

Patrick Chen	2 nd Timperley
Dylan Morris	4 th Hale
Xinfei Liu	2 nd Timperley
Arun Denton	4 th Hale
David Hollingsworth	2 nd Timperley
Monty Harrison – Stirling	3 rd Altrincham
Timothy Naylor	2 nd Timperley
Sam Hey	3 rd Altrincham

We look forward to seeing many of these cubs when we start with cubs chess again in September. The parents of some of them who are moving to scouts mentioned that they might be willing to set up a Scout chess series. Scout leaders, why not encourage it?

County Scout Activities:

10th April – Lord Derby Competition at Middlewood Camp Site. Worsley – comprises a series of twenty minute skills bases judged on performance, team spirit and leadership
I am looking for 2 teams of six scouts to represent the district

15th May – Day of Excellence at Bispham Hall Camp Site. For scouts who have attained the highest award in their sections (scouts - Chief Scouts Gold Award). Applications for places needed to be in to county office by 31st March

25/27th June – Camping and Backwoods Competition at Bispham Hall. The district can enter 2 teams. Please let me know if you would like to put a team in.

31st July to 7th August – Cheshire County International Camp – to be held at Tabley, near Pickmere. Go to www.chamboree.co.uk for more details

31st July to 7th August – Red Rose Challenge at Great Tower in the Lake District. This is an action packed international adventure camp. Go to www.redrose.org.uk for more details

10/12th September – Omega Survival Camp – Let your scouts a fun weekend and learn new survival skills. Contact me for more details. Leader help would also be appreciated

26th September – County Hiking Competition (won last year by 1st West Timperley)

1/3rd October – County Chariot Race at Bispham Hall

For further details contact: George Sharp, ADC Scouts email: georgesharp@sky.com

23/24th October - Steam Sleepover Train from Rawtenstall or Bury stations. Further details are on the flyer attached to this issue of Scoutlook.

District and Group Information and News:

Census Evening

Thank you to everyone who came on time with the figures for the Census Returns. We were just in time with the figures going off to Headquarters in the nick of time.

Any advice to make the Census run any smoother would be greatly appreciated. I feel that it is a case of "please don't shoot the messenger" Headquarters make the rules and the timing, I am just the instrument they use. So please can you advise if you think there is anything we should change or indeed do differently.

Iris Emery

St. George's Day parade and service Sunday 25th April

We look forward to seeing you all at our annual opportunity to join together as a District, to renew our promises and to express our appreciation to God and Lord Baden Powell. Our theme is "Fellowship" and The Rev. Roger Preece has some interesting surprises in store.

Full instructions have been circulated by email already. Please meet behind the Jubilee Rooms at about 2:30 and line up with your flags to walk to St. Mary's church. Parents and friends are warmly invited to attend the service which starts at 3 pm. The collection this year will go to Stockdales, the charity chosen by the Mayor of Trafford .

Cub and One camp

Our bi-annual camp will be held at Dunham Scout Campsite from 25th -27th June. The District has booked the whole site and we have invited every cub in the District to bring a responsible adult to the camp. The theme has been chosen, the canoe instructors have been booked, a suggested list of craft materials has been drawn up. Get saving those cardboard tubes. It's going to be a great weekend. Keep urging the adults to get those CRB forms completed. The last date for getting them to Sylvia is 20th April.

There will be a meeting on Mon. 10th May at 8:15 at 4th Hale HQ where we look forward to discussing the camp arrangements with a representative from each cub pack.

3rd Altrincham Scout Group

The Group is running many fund raising activities to secure money to replace the roof on the scout hut. They have already approached the District, which has agreed to lend them money, and Manchester Airport which has given them lump sum. They are always looking for other sources of funding. If you have any bright ideas please contact Nikki Smith, the wife of the SL, Dave Smith.

Fancy a bit of **Strictly**? Join them for a dance lesson and demonstration at their SALSA EVENING in the 6th Form centre at the Boys' Grammar School on Sat. 17th April. Contact any leader at 3rd Alt. for tickets.

Cub Warren, near Plumley

When thinking about Nights Away, or days away, please Scoutlook -April-May 2010

consider using Cub Warren. It's safe, peaceful, not far away and it's OURS! Scouts from Knutsford have used it for a base when they went for a long night hike. Guides and cubs have enjoyed weekend camps there- although not at the same time. Cubs love to go for the day and do tracking, firelighting, tent pitching, orienteering, you name it. Beavers could have lovely picnics and walks. Everyone can play wide games in the huge fields behind the hut. There's a brick hut, toilets, a useful kitchen, tables, benches, crockery for 24 etc.

Stuart Naylor tells us that the drive-way has recently been laid with gravel and is in good condition to gain access to the site. The water has been turned on. The trees had been lopped. All it needs is some young people to start off a super camping season. So what are you waiting for !!!

For booking details contact Stuart Naylor whose number is in the Directory.

Cub leaders

Several packs are looking for new cub leaders to join their teams. This is a most stimulating and enjoyable way to take part in Scouting activities. If you know anyone who might be interested in coming to have a look at what we do at a cub meeting, please contact Lucy Natrass.

Training

We are delighted that Anthony Roberts, ACSL at 4th Bowdon, has assumed the role of Local Training Manager. He has set up an excellent data base and can tell, at the flick of a mouse, what training every leader has completed and what is still to do. You may already have received emails from him regarding the training you are encouraged to complete. Remember that when you agreed to become a leader, you agreed to undergo at least five hours of training every year. If you have any questions about your training, please contact him.

First Response certificates last for three years.

The next local course will be run by Lucy Natrass at 2nd Timperley HQ, Heyes Dr., on Thurs. 13th and Thurs. 20th May from 7:30-10 pm. Please contact Lucy directly if you would like to attend the course so she can gather the resources. If your certificate has not yet expired, you need to attend only the first session. If your certificate has expired you should attend both sessions. We look forward to seeing a big turnout. The next local course will be in October.

Basic Scouting Skills Training (Module 18)

The district is running a number of basic skills training courses in the coming weeks culminating in a full practical day at Dunham Camp Site later in the year. The courses will be open to leaders and helpers from any of the sections who feel they might benefit. Unless otherwise advised and subject to availability all sessions will take place on Tuesday evenings at 1st Timperley HQ starting at 7.30pm.

We are open to suggestions on content but to get the ball rolling the first two sessions will cover basic knots and lashings. Thereafter we plan to include other subjects such as Navigation (mapping and compass), Use of Axe

and Saw, Fires, Fire Lighting and Wood selection, Tents and Tent Pitching, Stoves and Lamps/Lights

The outline of our programme to date is as follows:-

13th April - Basic knots (Part 1)

20th April - Basic knots and lashings (Part 2)

27th April - Navigation (use of map and compass Part 1)
(Bring your own compass of the Sylva type if you have one)

4th May - No Course (Bank Holiday week)

11th May - Navigation (use of map and compass Part 2)

18th May - Use of Axe and Saw

25th May - Fires and Fire Lighting

1st June - No Course (Bank Holiday)

If you would like to attend and to help us make sure we have an appropriate number of instructors and enough equipment to go round please notify George Sharp on 904 0784 or preferably by email at

georgesharp@sky.com indicating the evenings of your choice. Please also supply your name, group, roll within the group and telephone number

If there are other skills you would like learn which we have not so far included please let us know

George Sharp, ADC Scouts

Five-a-Side Football

This was due to be held on 6th March but was cancelled because of insufficient entries. I am prepared to organise it later in the year but only if I have at least five teams. Please discuss this with your scouts and let me know if you would like it to go ahead with suggested dates in say April or May

George Sharp, ADC Scouts

Golf sessions

Paul Woods of Altrincham Golf Academy, Stockport Rd., Altrincham, WA15 7LP, in conjunction with Trafford Sports Council, is offering golf sessions for groups. He can be contacted at paulwoods1@btconnect.com.

Yoga sessions

A qualified yoga instructor in Timperley has contacted us offering to run sessions for sections for £40.00 per hour. If you would like her details, please contact Lucy Natrass or Iris Emery, the District Secretary.

Challenge 4 Change- indoor challenging activity centre

Some community minded people have taken over one of the big Tate and Lyle warehouses on Trafford Rd. in Old Trafford and have recently made it into an activity centre offering high ropes, a climbing wall and so on. It's a registered charity and would welcome applications from Scouting groups for evening use as it is used during the day by education authorities. Contact: Mark Faccenda : mark@challenge4change.org or 07969 287 259

Science Badges delivered by Science teachers at Loreto Grammar School

Mark Baxter, a teacher at Loreto as well as an ASL in Stockport, is offering the use of the labs and the time of a science teacher at the school for beavers and cubs. He
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will also arrange visits to pack and troop nights. Several cub packs and scout troops have taken advantage of this way to earn a badge. Please contact him through the School on 928-3703 or directly via markbaxter@ntlworld.com .

Archery

Some scout leaders at 5th Urmston are willing to instruct cubs and scouts in Archery. To find out their contact details, contact Sue at County Office. Why not ask them to join you and your cubs or scouts at Cub Warren for a Robin Hood session? 4th Hale did that last year at our camp at Cub Warren and it was a great success.

Vicky Salisbury, daughter of Karen Salisbury, ACC Cubs, is willing to give talks on reptiles to any group.

News from the Sections:

Beavers:

No News this month

Cubs

Cub Chess

The Cub Chess sessions have been very successful over the winter, culminating in a further win in the County Tournament - details of which are elsewhere in this edition of Scoutlook. We look forward to resuming the sessions again in the Autumn, but will be needing new cubs to join, since several of our current team are moving to Scouts.

Below is a picture taken at the session in January:



Scouts:

No News this month

Explorers:

No News this month

Leader Training:

There is no update to the Leader Training details this month.

Up-to-date details of courses can be checked at:

www.gmwscouts.org.uk

District Diary

	April	May	Future
Beavers	St George's Day Parade St Mary's Church, Bowdon Sun 25th April 2.40 pm (Parents and friends welcome)	Day of Excellence Bispham Hall Sat 15th May	
Cubs	St George's Day Parade St Mary's Church, Bowdon Sun 25th April 2.40 pm (Parents and friends welcome)	Day of Excellence Bispham Hall Sat 15th May	District Cub and One Camp Fri-Sun 25-27th June 2010 Dunham Campsite
Scouts	Lord Derby Competition Middlewood Sat 10th April St George's Day Parade St Mary's Church, Bowdon Sun 25th April 2.40 pm (Parents and friends welcome)	Day of Excellence Bispham Hall Sat 15th May	Camping/Backwoods Comp 25-27th June Cheshire County Int'l Camp 31st July-7th Aug Red Rose Challenge 31st July-7th Aug Omega Survival Camp 10-12th Sept County Hiking Competition Sun 26th Sept County Chariot Race 1-3rd Oct Steam Sleepover Train 23-24th Oct
Explorers	St George's Day Parade St Mary's Church, Bowdon Sun 25th April 2.40 pm (Parents and friends welcome)	Day of Excellence Bispham Hall Sat 15th May	
District	Module 18 Skills Training 1st Timperley Scout HQ 7.30pm Wed 13th April Knots/Lashings Wed 20th April Pioneering Wed 27th April Navigation(1) 3rd Altrincham - Salsa Night Sat 17th April Altrincham Boys Grammar District Exec Meeting Tues 20th April Quiz Night 1st Timperley HQ Sat 24th April 7 pm (Contact 1st Timperley leader for information/tickets)	Module 18 Skills Training 1st Timperley Scout HQ 7.30pm Wed 11th May Navigation(2) Wed 18th May Axe and Saw Wed 25th May Fires/Firelighting District Exec Meeting Tues 18th May	Team Meeting Warren Drive Wed 9th June 7.30 pm GSL's Meeting Tues 6th July 8.00 pm Ollerbarrow Road District Exec Meetings Tues 16th March 20th April 18th May 21st Sept District AGM 1st Timperley HQ Tues 13th July