

# SCOUTLOOK



## *Altrincham & District Scout Council*

**December 2007 - January 2008**

**Web Site: [www.altrincham-scouts.org.uk](http://www.altrincham-scouts.org.uk)**

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### **From the District Commissioner:**

As we conclude the 100<sup>th</sup> year of Scouting, take a minute to think back on all that has been happening in our own Groups, the District, the County and the wider Scouting community. Hasn't it been terrific? Remember: camping, hiking, cycling, canoeing, playing chess, doing woodwork, preparing and riding on the float in the Altrincham Festival, anticipating the Jamboree, hosting the Japanese Scouts, watching sunrise ceremonies, taking part in the Jamboree, hearing about the Jamboree from the participants, learning about rockets and science, performing sketches and songs, having horrible Hallowe'en parties, munching on bonfire night, creating Christmas crafts and doing so many different kinds of entertaining activities. Aren't you glad you've been part of it all?

We adults have the privilege and opportunity to inform and inspire young people. We also have fun being with them, learning from them and taking part in adventures. Many more young people want to become involved in the movement. We need more leaders and adult helpers in all Groups and in all sections. Tell your friends, colleagues and people you meet what you've been doing. Tell the parents what you've been doing that evening. If people show interest, invite them along to a meeting to see. Encourage them. Let them tell you about what they're interested in. Can you include that in the section's programme? Let them see what fun we adults have. We have a great product. We need to sell it.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the leaders and helpers for the time that you have given and the skills that you have shared over the year and all the previous years. May you and your loved ones keep safe and well. Have a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Best wishes, Lucy

### **News from the County:**

#### **Volunteers wanted at Dunham Park Camp Site**

As you may know, the post of warden at the campsite is vacant. Haydn Worrall, the new County Commissioner, has made it his priority to try to recruit a warden, or a team to share the job of warden, for the Site. As you will recall, Paul Wilkinson, who had been warden for many years, stood down after the Centennial Camp in May. All who might be interested in learning more about the opportunities at the site are invited to come to a meeting at the beginning of February. Haydn would be pleased to

hear from anyone with questions, comments, suggestions or offers of help. Contact him through the County Office in Tyldesley.

During the last twelve months, major investments have been made including the purchase of new activity equipment. In order to make the best possible use of the kit available, the site needs qualified volunteers for archery, canoeing, rifle shooting and climbing. The activity sessions are approximately three hours duration, usually at weekends. Out of pocket expenses are available. If you are able and willing to be part of the team, please contact Judy Kelly on [judy.k@ntlworld.com](mailto:judy.k@ntlworld.com).

#### **Community Leaders' Project**

Matthew Osborne on 07799 147 000 or [Matthew.Osborne@astrazeneca.com](mailto:Matthew.Osborne@astrazeneca.com) has been promoting this project for young people in Trafford aged 16-25. They are providing training in community leadership / working with youth. Please pass on this information to anyone you know who might be interested

#### **Pot of Gold for Young People in Trafford**

"Pot of Gold" is a new fund available to young people in Trafford aged 13-19. The money can be used to fund a variety of activities and projects. POG is run by a panel of young people with the support of the Trafford Youth Service.

The young people's POG panel is part of a national initiative called the Youth Opportunities Fund. It was designed to improve young people's all round participation by giving them the opportunities to choose the activities they want to do.

The POG panel gave out a total of £92,000 in grants last year. This amount was shared between 30 different projects in Trafford. These included a charity bike ride, dance projects, Djing, film-making and sports initiatives.

Executive Councillor Christine Turner said, "We are encouraging young people from all over Trafford to get involved in the project, either by becoming a grant panel member or applying to the fund. These grants, which are given out by young people, can provide a real boost to community projects that benefit the lives of youngsters in the borough."

The money is available in two ways. Groups can apply for a maximum grant of up to £3000 and individuals can apply for up to £500.00

If you want to apply for funding, pick up an application

form at your local youth centre or contact the POG team at Gorse Hill Studios, Cavendish Rd., Gorse Hill, M32, OPR or phone 0161-865-3052 or 0161-911-8633.

### **The Children's Fund in Trafford**

The Children's Fund in Trafford has been operating as part of the Trafford Children and Young People's Service and has secured funding to 2011. It has been involved in the following areas:

**Participation:** giving everyone, especially children and young people a voice, involving them in the decision making process

**Working in Partnership:** especially with the Voluntary and the Community Sectors, bringing agencies together

**Inclusion:** working with Black and minority groups, disabled children and people often marginalized.

**Early Prevention and Intervention:** working to prevent children and young people developing problems at key transitions in their lives.

They invite bids from the Voluntary and Community Sectors to work with families. Many of their priorities coincide with the aims of the Scout Movement. For all queries contact Mandy Hughes or Chris Conway on 911-8654 or by email at [mandy.hughs@trafford.gov.uk](mailto:mandy.hughs@trafford.gov.uk) or [Christopher.conway@trafford.gov.uk](mailto:Christopher.conway@trafford.gov.uk).

### **District Information and News:**

**Census Night:** Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> January at Lucy's house, 29 Ollerbarrow Rd., Hale WA15 9PP from 7 pm onwards. We look forward to seeing you or your representatives here. Don't look so surprised. It happens at this time every year.

For your information the capitation fees will be:  
Headquarters subs: £19.10 ( with a rebate of 50p for prompt payment),  
County Levy: £4.30  
District Levy: 2.70  
Jamboree Fund 0.65

To avoid waiting and munching delicious biscuits at Lucy's house, please ring Iris Emery, our District Secretary, to book an appointment time.

**The District Dinner** will be held at the Quality Hotel on Langham Rd. in Bowdon on Sat. 26<sup>th</sup> January. Tickets are available from our District Secretary, Iris Emery, at £21.00. Why not treat your main squeeze to a lovely night out with like-minded friends? Last year the puddings were to die for. We'd love to have you join us. [ A flyer with details of the dinner, which could be pinned to your Group Noticeboard, is attached to this issue of Scoutlook. ]

**Young Leaders:** If anyone aged 14-18 is helping out with your section, please let Lucy Natrass or Gordon Fyfe know their contact details. We would like to offer them Young Leaders' training where they will interact with like minded people from Sale and Altrincham and learn a bit about running games, managing difficult behaviour, some First Response and child protection. Any young leader who turns 18 MUST complete a CRB form as soon as

possible. If you need help with that please contact Lucy, Gordon, Sylvia Cornish, Hugh Davies, George Sharp or Glenda Gould at your earliest convenience.

### **Science Badges / Science Activities with Mark Baxter and his team from Loreto Grammar School, Dunham Rd., Altrincham**

He writes: "We have been delighted with the response and enjoyed meeting the various leadership teams. We have met with the Scout sections from 3<sup>rd</sup> Altrincham, 4<sup>th</sup> Hale and 1<sup>st</sup> Hale Barns, giving out approximately 60 Astronautics badges. We have just finished the first half of the cubs' science badge with 6<sup>th</sup> Altrincham cubs coming to the school. They looked at energy, and have planted cress to examine next week, prepared salt solutions to crystallise and conducted a pulse rate experiment. The second half is next week. At the District Beaver meeting they decided they would like to access the School's resources at a carousel type event. All three scout troops have rebooked us for Electronics in January / February. "

If you'd like to find out more, contact Mark directly on: [markbaxter@ntlworld.com](mailto:markbaxter@ntlworld.com). Why not book some science activities for those cold, dark nights in January and February? Take advantage of this excellent FREE opportunity on your doorstep.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Hale equipment**

Grahame Simmonds, GSL at 1<sup>st</sup> Hale Barns, has reported cheerfully that all of the equipment from the 1<sup>st</sup> Hale stores at Hale Rd. Methodist Church has now been successfully distributed to good homes. We owe him a great vote of thanks for generously offering his time, energy and vehicles as well as temporary storage space at 1<sup>st</sup> Hale Barns. Thanks are also due to Barney Barnes, Colin Ellis, Kenny Williams, 1<sup>st</sup> Hale Barns Scout leaders and others who helped to shift the gear. Thanks for your help for a job well done.

### **First Response Training-**

Note: We try to make it as easy as possible for leaders to gain or maintain these important qualifications. Please take advantage of these courses held locally!

The next course will be on Tuesdays 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Jan. at 1<sup>st</sup> Timperley HQ from 7:30 – 10 pm. First Response certificates are valid for three years. Those who hold a valid First Response certificate or equivalent can attend the first evening's course only. That will be classed as a "Refresher." Those whose certificates have expired should attend both sessions. If you can't remember the date of your cert., ask your GSL who has a copy of your training record. Alternatively, you could contact Gordon Fyfe, our Local Training Manger.

The cost is £6.00 for one session and £12.00 for two. Please make cheques payable to "Altrincham and District Scout Council". You should claim the fee from your group. For a place on the course, please contact Lucy Natrass directly on [lucynatrass@hotmail.com](mailto:lucynatrass@hotmail.com). The number is limited to 14. If it's not full with Altrincham people by 7<sup>th</sup> Jan., she will open it to Knutsford and Sale districts.

## Child Protection Course

The next course, run by Jackie Aspinall, the County Advisor, will be held at 1<sup>st</sup> Timperley HQ on Tues. 26<sup>th</sup> Feb from 7 – 9:30 pm. Please complete a County Training Application Form (available to download from the [www.gmwscouts.org.uk/sections/adult training](http://www.gmwscouts.org.uk/sections/adult%20training)) and post it to the GMW County Office in Tyldesley. The cost is £5.00 which you should claim from your Group. The County Office will send you a receipt. If you are planning to attend this course, please get your forms in as soon as possible so the County doesn't cancel the course. If you don't have regular contact with your Training Advisor feel free to write Lucy's name in where it says Application Approved: Training Advisor

It is highly recommended that leaders, and helpers, attend a Child Protection Course every three years. Remember that you are asked to attend 5 hours of training a year. It is good to set some time aside regularly to consider these important issues.

## News from the Groups:

**4<sup>th</sup> Hale** Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, with additional material and help from some Panther Explorers, performed a most successful campfire show with sell outs at matinee and evening performances on 16<sup>th</sup> November. "The Crest of a Wave" and "Bring Me Sunshine" never cease to please the crowds. A delicious hot-pot supper with homemade apple crumble and custard was enjoyed by a large gathering after the evening show. What a good way to bring the parents in. What a good way to give every child a chance to shine on stage.

## News from the Sections:

Got some good news, some new successful game, some fund raising idea, something you'd like to share? Don't keep it to yourselves. Send it along to Alan Marriott, address above, and we'll all enjoy hearing about it.

## Beavers:

Glenda Gould, ADC Beavers, and her team are organising the annual Beaver trip to the Garrick Theatre in Altrincham to see the Panto on Sun. 7<sup>th</sup> Jan at 1:30. All beavers are invited to join the party. She might still have some tickets if you get hold of her quickly.

## Cubs

**4<sup>th</sup> Bowdon** cubs have been working on their cyclist badge. 1<sup>st</sup> West Timperley cubs have completed their Caring Challenge with a most informative visit to the synagogue in Sale. **1<sup>st</sup> Timperley** cubs made rockets. 4<sup>th</sup> Hale cubs have been making wooden troughs to house prepared hyacinths. They've also enjoyed arranging a table decoration using saucers, oasis, greenery and roses. **6<sup>th</sup> Altrincham** cubs have worked on their science badge at Loreto Grammar School.

## Cubs Chess

We are indebted to the late Chris Fitt who left all of the paperwork for the Club in such good order. After four rounds this term, some clear winners are emerging from this collection of cubs, none of whom has played on the team at County level. Eighteen to twenty cubs have participated each night and the standard of play is improving all the time. The cubs are working on taking command of the central squares and cornering the opponent's king. A hedgehog comes into it somewhere too. They've met at 2<sup>nd</sup> Timperley twice, 1<sup>st</sup> West Timperley and 4<sup>th</sup> Hale.

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> Jan., at 4<sup>th</sup> Hale**, Cecil Rd., WA15 9NU. The one after that will be on **Tues. 5<sup>th</sup> Feb. at 1<sup>st</sup> Timperley HQ**. The date of the last session in the series has not yet been finalised. All of the cubs who have played so far will receive a notice. Please encourage any others who might want to come along. The District chess final will be held at 2<sup>nd</sup> Hale on Saturday afternoon 1<sup>st</sup> March. From that event we will select the team who will represent the District at the County Competition on 8<sup>th</sup> March in Wigan.

We are grateful for the help of Richard White, John Nattrass and cub leaders at the huts where we've met. In addition we are delighted that two young men, Greg Barker and Andrew Weston, who started playing chess when they were cub age, have come along to help and give valuable advice and demonstrations of how to improve the game.

## Cubs Sixer Training Day

We have booked St. Peter's Assembly Rooms, Cecil Rd., Hale for Sat. 26<sup>th</sup> Jan.'08, from 1-5 for this action-packed biennial event. Each cub section is welcome to send up to six cubs aged 9 and over. Please see additional attachments to this Scoutlook for examples of forms to distribute. Each cub **MUST** bring a completed One Day Activity Form to the event. The cost for each cub will be £3.00 to defray expenses: paper, drinks, photocopying etc. You can ask each cub to pay or persuade your Group to pay. Whatever you decide, please come on the day with checks payable to Altrincham and District Scout Council.

Lucy will be ringing around the leaders about a week before to find out how many cubs are coming. We would be grateful for as many leaders and helpers as possible to help out that afternoon. You will not be required to bring anything. Just come and be prepared to lead an activity which will be organised ahead of time

There will be a **Cub Leaders'** meeting on **Mon. 21<sup>st</sup> Jan at 8:15 at 4<sup>th</sup> Hale** Scout hut to discuss this Sixer Training Day, the proposed Construction Challenge Day in the spring and future events. Items for the Agenda to Lucy please. Anybody got any successful games they'd like to share? We hope to see lots of you cub leaders.

## Cub and One Camp

As reported in the last Scoutlook, we have booked Dunham Camp Site for the weekend of 20<sup>th</sup>- 22<sup>nd</sup> June. Every cub may invite a responsible adult to enjoy the fun

of the camp. Please let the parents of your cubs know the dates as soon as possible. Now that the England team is out of the European cup, there will be fewer excuses why not to come.

Every adult who plans to attend must complete a CRB form. As you can imagine, the sooner we get going with completing these forms the better. More information will be available at the Cub Leaders' meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> Jan. Why not plan a "drop in session" one evening for parents to come with their documents where they will be greeted by a team of authorised people ready to help them fill in the forms? Provide refreshments. Make a party of it. Get to know the parents of your cubs.

## Scouts:

Several troops have gone for outdoor adventures this autumn. 4<sup>th</sup> Bowdon got drenched and had to turn back. 4<sup>th</sup> Hale scouts slept in self-made bivouacs and roasted their meat on spits in spite of the horizontal rain. 1<sup>st</sup> West Timperley Scouts had good weather for their weekend training camp at Dunham. As reported above, 3<sup>rd</sup> Altrincham, 1<sup>st</sup> Hale Barns and 4<sup>th</sup> Hale have taken advantage of the offer of the Loreto Grammar School science teachers. 1<sup>st</sup> Timperley and 4<sup>th</sup> Bowdon scouts have been improving their traditional scouting skills of map reading, knot tying as well as first aid.

## Explorers:

Due to the size of their successful Unit, The Panther The Panther Explorers seem to do lots of cooking and eating. They cook in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Altrincham HQ and they cook down by the Bollin in the dark. They also have fancy dress parties, night hikes, First Response evenings and very noisy games.

The Phoenix Explorer Unit, based at St. Mary's Parish rooms in Bowdon, is undergoing a transformation and will re-emerge soon. They have had some wonderful Burns Night suppers with expert dialect coaching, night hikes, activities at Dunham Massey campsite, quizzes, pinatas and games as well as deep discussions about the state of the world. We, and the young people who are members of the Unit, are most grateful to Sue Sharples, GSL at 4<sup>th</sup> Bowdon, for her generous spirit, imagination, good humour and willingness to lead this group through thick and thin for several years. She's hanging up her ESL hat, but we're pleased to know that she'll continue to help with 4<sup>th</sup> Bowdon Scouting at the new Parish Rooms.

We are also sorry to report the resignation of Bev Rae as a District Leader in the Explorer Scout section. Due to work and personal commitments she says she is unable to continue to be involved with Scouting for the foreseeable future. However, she wishes us all well and hopes to keep in touch with the District. Although we didn't see as much of her as we would have liked, we thank her for her willingness to get involved a few years ago.

## Leader Training:

Up to date details check the website

[www.gmwscouts.org.uk](http://www.gmwscouts.org.uk)

(Note: At time of printing this edition of Scoutlook no details had been given for Training Courses in 2008)

Application forms can also be obtained from [gmwscouts.org.uk/sections/adulttraining/index.htm](http://gmwscouts.org.uk/sections/adulttraining/index.htm).

Alan Roberts has moved out of the District, so, in the short term, all course applications should be submitted to County Office via Sylvia Cornish

<b>District Diary</b>			
	<b>December 2007</b>	<b>January 2008</b>	<b>Future</b>
<b>Beavers</b>		Pantomime sun 7th Jan 1.30 pm Garrick Theatre, Altrincham	
<b>Cubs</b>	Chess Wed 6th Dec 6.30-8.00 pm 1st West Timperley HQ	Chess Thurs 16th Jan 6.30-8.30 pm 4th Hale HQ  Mon 21st Jan 8.15 pm 4th Hale HQ  Sixers Training Day: Sat 26th Jan 1.00-5.00 pm St Peter's Assembly Rooms Cecil Road, Hale	Chess Tues 5th Feb 6.30-8.30 1st Timperley HQ  District Chess Comp: Sat 1st March - tba 2nd Hale HQ  County Chess Comp: Sat 8th March - Wigan  Cubs Construction Challenge Afternoon: Sat 6th April 1.00-5.00 pm St Peter's Assembly Rooms  District Cub and One Camp 20-22nd June 2008 Dunham Scout Camp
<b>Scouts</b>			
<b>Explorers</b>			
<b>District</b>		District Exec Meeting Tues 9th Jan  Census Night Wed 16th Jan 29 Ollerbarrow Rd, Hale  First Response Course Tues 22nd Jan 7.30-10.00 pm 1st Timperley HQ  Team Meeting wed 23rd Jan 8.15 pm  District Dinner Sat 26th Jan 7.30 pm Bowdon Quality Hotel  First Response Course Tues 29th Jan 7.30-10.00 pm 1st Timperley HQ	District Exec Meetings: Tues 11th March 2008 Tues 22nd April 2008 Tues 13th May 2008 Tues 9th Sept 2008  Census Evening: Wed 16th Jan 2008  Child Protection Course Tues 26th Feb 7.00-9:30 pm 1st Timperley HQ  GSL Meeting Thurs 28th Feb 8.15 pm 1st Timperley HQ  St George's Day Parade Sun 20th April 2008 3 pm

Scoutlook is planned to be sent by email at the end of the first week of each alternate 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.