

SCOUTLOOK



Altrincham & District Scout Council

July-August 2007

From the District Commissioner:

This has been a wonderful year to be connected with Scouting and it is only half way through! We have all benefited from the media coverage of Peter Duncan in the Blue Peter studio and Ian Hislop extolling "Scouting for Boys". Some Groups took part in the County Rally "Passage of Time" events at the end of May. By all accounts the camps were well organised and a rewarding experience for the participants. 2nd Timperley cubs went to Dunham Campsite for the day and won a prize. Several Groups have already enjoyed Centennial camps. 1st Timperley got a free added bonus when they watched the fireworks at Sandiway put on for the Cheshire Centennial camps. 4th Hale held a Group Centennial Camp also at Sandiway with fifty cubs and scouts, a few beavers on the Saturday, as well as some members of the Panther Explorer unit. Some Groups are looking forward to camps later in the year. 4th Bowdon is holding a Group camp in the beginning of September.

All of those who took part in the **Altrincham Festival Parade** enjoyed themselves. We would like to express our grateful thanks to the small, hardworking team of Gordon Fyfe, GSL, Jane Ford, BSL, and Peter Slaughter who designed and built the float. They were ably assisted on the Friday night by Rob Slaughter and Michael Ford. The float, with "100 years of Scouting" painted on big banners along the sides and a huge birthday cake with colourful candles on top, won a cup for Best Newcomers. What wonderful weather we had as we walked along in our purple polo shirts, waving to the assembled multitudes and giving out leaflets about Scouting with stickers showing the district website. We would like to thank those leaders, beavers, cubs and scouts who accompanied the float. Our grateful thanks go to Wilds Motors on Atlantic St. in Altrincham for generously providing the lorry and driver.

Gordon Fyfe, George Sharp, ADC Scouts, and Mike, who came all the way from Essex, were prepared to man the Scouting **Mobile Display Unit** at the Festival Field. However, for reasons too complicated to relate, the MDU never appeared. Ever resourceful, Gordon, George and others quickly rigged up a Scouting display of sorts and gave out leaflets to passers by. But we were all disappointed that the opportunity to make a big impact was lost. After having given out about 800 leaflets, we hope that we will have attracted some adults who might be interested to help with the Movement.

After all the preparation and anticipation, the **Jamboree** is nearly here. We are looking forward to welcoming the **40 Japanese Scouts** on the evening of Tuesday 24th July at St. Peter's Assembly Rooms in Hale. Now that we have received a list of their names and ages, they seem like friends already.

We will be well represented in Essex. Andy Reed, SL at 1st West Timperley, is giving up a huge chunk of annual leave to help with the build and dismantling of the camp. Some young leaders are going down early to help with the build. Others are visiting the site for the day or as part of a Scouting package trip to the Southeast. Our own seven members of the UK contingent have been meeting regularly with the other members of "Winegums" at camps. Most of those weekends have been extremely wet, so they are well trained for camping in damp weather. We all hope they keep safe and healthy. We wish them a wonderful adventure and we can't wait to hear about their experiences when they visit sections in the autumn.

Best wishes, Lucy

News from the County:

The Scout Association's **Mobile Display Unit** will be at the Trafford Centre on the 31st July, 1st and 2nd August. During this time there will be a Tent Pitching Challenge. To enter a team or for more details contact Carlie Jackson on carliej@hotmail.com.

Wed. 1st August- There will be a Scouting Sunrise Ceremony at the Trafford Centre at 8 am prompt. Everyone is welcome. However, it does not say where around the Trafford Centre this will be. You could spend most of the morning looking for it!

County Commissioner

Brian Mouat has been doing the job for ten years and indicated well over a year ago that he would like to step down. So far a successor has not been found. If you have any ideas of who might like to lead GMW County, please let them know at that County Office.

Dunham Campsite Manager/Warden

Paul Wilkinson has resigned from this role and the post has not yet been filled. He did a good job there and managed to delegate a lot of the jobs. According to the County Newsletter, the role of Site Manager is similar to that of a GSL. If you know of anyone who might be interested in being part of the team at Dunham Campsite,

please let County Office know. Scouts and Explorers can gain valuable experience and badges by helping out there at weekends.

Festival of Scouting

Many of you will have seen references to this event in the frequent Scouting Digest which comes by email from HQ. The County has made a block booking for the afternoon performance on Sat. 24th November at the O2 Dome in London. Tickets, including travel from a central pick up point, cost £35.00 per person. Contact County Office if you want to book.

Helping young people with a learning disability

"In partnership with The Scout Association, Mencap runs Get Together Training. It is about enabling volunteers to develop knowledge, acquire good practise and examine attitudes to help young people with a learning disability to access scouting more easily."

In partnership with Mencap the Scouting Association is running two Get Together Training Courses: 13th October in South Gloucestershire and 14th October in Kibblestone, Staffordshire.

For more information and an application form, please contact Lucy Natrass or The Special Needs Office at Gilwell Park by 14th Sept.

Sale District Scout Swimming Club

Friday 6-7 pm at Sale Leisure Centre £1.15 per week. Splash Nights, water safety nights and staged swimming badges are offered. For more information contact Colin Parker, Club Organiser on 941-5975

District Information and News:

District AGM

It was a pleasure to see so many Scouters and supporters at our annual meeting at 2nd Hale on 4th July. The hut was decked out in American flags to help the DC feel right at home. It gave us a good opportunity to thank all of those who help to keep the Groups strong and active. We were able to thank Sylvia Cornish for all of her work to complete CRB forms and get new leaders on the road to their warrants. We also thanked Hugh Davies for his wise council and understanding of the workings of the Movement. Brian Mouat, County Commissioner, took pleasure in presenting Iris Emery, our District Secretary, with the Silver Acorn and George Sharp, ADC Scouts, with the Silver Wolf. Both have given many years of valuable service to the Movement. We are grateful for their time, expertise and unflinching support for Scouting activities. The pancakes, made by Colin Ellis, Joyce Clarke and some Panther Explorers, were a delicious addition to the refreshments.

Sainsbury's week

As mentioned in the last Scoutlook, Sainsbury's "will be welcoming Scout Groups into their stores from 3rd -9th October, as part of a new "Scout Community Week". During the week Scout Groups will be invited to raise money and awareness of what Scouting is about in Sainsbury's stores nationwide. This is an excellent opportunity for you to shout about Scouting in your local community and attract adults and young people to the adventure as well as raising much needed funds for your Group/District."

This was discussed at the recent GSLs meeting. I will go to see the manager of the event at the Altrincham Sainsbury's and find out what sort of displays and activities might be considered. I will then be back in touch with the GSLs. It sounds like an excellent opportunity to raise our profile in the community. Some of the wonderful props from the Festival Float might be put to good use again.

Need help with Science Badges?

Here's a terrific opportunity! Mark Baxter, a science teacher at Loreto Grammar School in Altrincham and a scout leader in Stockport, has contacted me with a raft of good ideas. As Loreto has just achieved Science Status, the school has a requirement to take science to the community. The teachers are willing to bring a sort of "Science Experiments Road Show" to beaver colonies and cub packs for an evening meeting. They are also interested in cooperating with leaders to run a weekend afternoon of bases with many types of science activities. In addition, they might also consider inviting scouts to the school to use the labs. You can contact him directly on markbaxter@ntlworld.com

Cub and One Camp- weekend of 20-22nd June '08

We have booked and paid the deposit for the entire campsite at Dunham for this famous District biennial event. We chose Dunham not only because of the newly refurbished toilet block, but also because of the lay out with the field in the centre of the pitches. This leads to improved communication between Groups and coordination of activities. We hope that each cub section will want to take part. You can't say that you haven't had enough notice of the date. Let the parents of your cubs know now.

Pool Table available:

Sharon Caldwell has asked if we can find a home for a "Pool Table"

Anyone interested - please contact:
Sharon Caldwell 0161 969 5338

News from the Sections:

Beavers:

The **Beaver Fun Day**, held at 3rd Altrincham, was a great success. Many leaders had the opportunity to plan and run a base.

The Beavers that joined in for the afternoon, had a go at making a board game, preparing chocolate bananas, tents and rucksack skills, reading trails, obstacle course and sports skills. The weather held off and the 91 Beavers that attended earned their 'Camping 100 Years' badge.

Thanks also goes to 3rd Altrincham Service Team for their support on the day.

Many thanks to all who gave their time and helped out.

It is hoped that the beavers will be joining in a morning sunrise activity to celebrate the 100 years.

Could all Beaver leaders be prepared to 'complete' their training. Expect a telephone call!!!!

The next leaders meeting will be in September. *Date to be confirmed.*

Thank you for your continued enthusiasm and have a great summer recharging your batteries.

P.S.

Talking of Science. I am desperate for any simple experiments that I can organise for a fun afternoon to add a bit of a bang!!! Please send any suggestions and instructions.

Glenda Gould - ADC(BS)

Cubs

4th Hale cubs have been enjoying working on their Scientist badge. Their camp, coming soon at Cub Warren, will feature many activities described in "Scouting for Boys".

Scouts:

4th Hale Scouts, with the help of Paul Lord ASL and his father, have made their own saws and canvas bags to carry them in. They will always be prepared for cutting branches and preparing fires. They have also had a joint meeting with two local guide sections. The weather was not at its best but all enjoyed the meeting down the Bollin – the River was out of bounds but the abundance of MUD wasn't!!!

Explorers:

No news this month.

District Diary

	July 2007	Aug 2007	Future
Beavers			
Cubs			District Cub and One Camp 20-22nd June 2008 Dunham Scout Camp
Scouts			
Explorers			
District			GMW County AGM -Tues. 18th Sept 7.30 pm at Swinton Golf Club

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.

Leader Training:

Courses for July-December 2007

Day	Date	Course	Venue	Course Type
Weekend	29 June- 1 July	Nights Away Module 16 1st Weekend	Bispham Hall Scout Estate	Weekend
Sunday	8 July	1st Response	3rd Worsley	Day
Wednesday	11 July	Module 25	TBC	Evening
Saturday	15 Sept	Child Protection Refresher 1st Response	Urmston District Trafford Metro	10.00-12.00 12.30-3.00
Sunday	16 Sept	1st Response	3rd Worsley	Day
Sunday	16 Sept	Getting Started (3,5,12 & 14)	Trafford Metro	Day
Weekend	21-23 Sept	Nights Away Module 16 2nd Weekend GCA Course - Modules TBC	Bispham Hall Scout Estate	Weekend
Sunday	14 Oct	Add On - 1st Response For Adventurous Activities	3rd Worsley	Day
Thursday	18 Oct	Child Protection	Wigan District HQ	Evening
Sunday	18 Nov	1st Response	3rd Worsley	Day
Sunday	18 Nov	Refresher 1st Response Child Protection	43rd Salford Salford District	10.00-12.30 1.00-3.00
Thursday	29 Nov	Child Protection	Sale Central	Evening
Sunday	9 Dec	1st Response	3rd Worsley	Day
Saturday	1 Dec	Getting Started	TBC	

COST OF TRAINING	
Day Course 10 am - 3.30 pm	£10.00 (bring packed lunch)
Evening Course 7.00 -9.30 pm	£5.00
First Aid 9.30 am - 4.30 pm	£10.00 (bring packed lunch)
Residential Weekend	£50.00 (£80 Nights Away 2 weekends)
Modules (at Bispham Hall)*	£2.50 each (Bispham Hall weekend)

Up to date details check the website www.gmwscouts.org.uk

Application forms can also be obtained from gmwscouts.org.uk/sections/adulttraining/index.htm.

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