

SCOUTLOOK



Altrincham & District Scout Council

May-June 2007

From the District Commissioner:

Camping to a high standard is a huge ingredient in the recipe for successful Scouting.

It is a great pleasure to visit sections when they are at camp. At every site I've visited recently, the leaders have been providing the Scouts or Explorers with varied programmes and activities with a balance of free time. The young people are obviously having fun and learning new skills. We in Altrincham District can be justifiably proud of the leaders who run outdoor activities. Congratulations to all of you. Please keep up the good work. We appreciate all that you do. It would be wonderful to think that every cub, scout and explorer had been offered the opportunity to camp for at least one weekend this summer.

Awards

Four distinguished members of the Altrincham District scouting family were invited to attend the celebrations for St. George's Day at Windsor on 22nd April to receive awards. Our congratulations go to George Sharp ADC Scouts and Iris Emery, District Secretary.. The two SLs from 3rd Timperley, Simon Ashton and Alex Chambers, were honoured for their Meritorious Conduct awards.

Sainsbury's Scout Community Week

"As part of the larger partnership with Sainsbury's in our Centenary year, the supermarket chain will be helping local Groups to raise money for Scouting through a new 'Community Week' project. This project will take place during the week of **3-9 October** and your District will have the chance to organise fundraising opportunities and raise the profile of Scouting in your local Sainsbury's store." This is taken from a letter from Gilwell.

Within your Groups please discuss how your Group would like to take advantage of this opportunity. We will discuss it further at the GSL's meeting on 28th June.

Grants to support promotion of local Scouting

From 1st Jan. '07, Districts will be able to make application to the Development Grants Board to support the purchase of equipment for promoting Scouting (e.g. display boards, banners, promotional trailers, leaflets and consumables) up to a maximum of 50 o/o of the total costs. If any Groups would like to apply for a grant or to discuss this, please contact Lucy. Application forms are available to download.

Live 07

"...is a real extravaganza to celebrate the best of Scouting in 2007 and what lies ahead and beyond..." It will be held at The 02 in Greenwich, London on Saturday 24th Nov., '07. To find out more and book tickets contact: www.scouts.org.uk/live07. Lucy has some leaflets.

Best wishes, Lucy

Jamboree:

Japanese Explorer Scouts- 24th-27th July

As reported in previous Scoutlooks, Altrincham District is welcoming 40 Japanese Explorers for three nights at the end of July before they go to the International Jamboree in Essex. We are looking forward to offering friendship to young people from the other side of the world. What a wonderful opportunity to learn about Japanese people and Scouting in Asia. At the time of going to press, we have received offers of 37 beds. Many thanks to those who have responded. If anyone knows anyone who could help, please let Lucy Natrass know on 928-2679. There must be two more families out there somewhere. The induction evening will be on 12th June at 8 pm at a venue to be announced in a letter. Yet again we are very grateful to Sylvia Cornish for processing the many CRB clearance forms in such a conscientious way.

News from the County:

County News

Members of 1st West Timperley scouts and cubs, Snowdon Explorers and 2nd Timperley cubs are attending the County Rally at the end of May. Andy Reed, S.L. at 1st West Timperley even has a starring role. We hope they enjoy taking part in all of the activities and come back with lots of good ideas to share with the rest of us.

District Information and News:

Harry Howarth:

Sadly, Harry Howarth died on 8th March 2007, having been a Scout Leader at Hale Barns for over 40 years.

Following his time as both a cub and a scout, Harry became an ASL in 1966, progressing to become SL in

1969. He was awarded his Wood Badge in 1979, followed by the Medal of Merit in 1980 and Bar in 1984. He received the Long Service Award in 1983 and Bar in 1992.

In 2000 Harry was awarded the Silver Acorn, culminating with the 40-year Long Service Award in 2006.

Shortly before he died, Harry was able to attend the investiture of his grandson, James, into the 1st Hale Barns Beaver Colony - an occasion which gave him much pleasure.

During his 40 years as Scout Leader Harry was a role model for the many boys who were scouts at 1st Hale Barns. He taught them the outdoor skills of camping, cooking, canoeing and mountaineering - experiences and pleasures that will last them for the rest of their lives.

All the leaders at 1st Hale Barns join me in grateful thanks for all that Harry did for Scouting. Our deepest sympathies go to his wife, Barbara, and to all the family.

Grahame Simmonds (GSL)

St. George's Day Parade

Thanks to all who came to the St. George's Day parade and service on 22nd April. Even though there was a brief shower, many people turned up and seemed to enjoy taking part in the event. So many positive aspects of fellowship come together on St. George's Day. We show an area of the town that Scouting is attracting large numbers, sing some good hymns, remind ourselves of our promises, enjoy audience participation, learn something from a thoughtful vicar and include members of the Guiding movement and interested parents. How else can you do all that in two hours once a year?

Especially we would like to thank Bob Liddell, ASL 1st Timperley and Parade Marshall and Allan Gill, GSL 1st Timperley, for adapting to the circumstances, changing the route and keeping traffic at bay.

Altrincham District AGM- 4th July at 2nd Hale Scout hut 7:30

Come one, come all. Support your District team. Come and learn something about some of the other sections. Talk to the County Commissioner. Enjoy some lovely refreshments and take a chance to chat to people you haven't seen for awhile. We look forward to seeing lots of you there.

Group Annual General Meetings

Please let the District Secretary or the District Commissioner know your date, in order for a member of the District Team to come along.

Please let the District Treasurer have a copy of your Annual Report and Accounts as soon as they have been audited.

Altrincham Festival: Sat. 7th July:

Last summer at the GSLs meeting several leaders expressed enthusiasm for having a float in the Festival parade. We all agreed it would be a terrific opportunity to advertise Scouting in our centennial year. Having given

plenty of notice, a meeting was called at the beginning of May to plan the float. I received only two apologies from a long list of invitees. We are all busy but floats don't build themselves.

A select few came to the meeting. Many thanks are due to Gordon Fyfe, GSL 3rd Altrincham, who had made a design; Jane Ford, BSL 6th Altrincham who will give artistic flair and Peter Slaughter, parent of a Snowdon Explorer and a member of the Jamboree Unit, who has offered to build the set.

We made plans. Each pack and colony will be asked to supply some artwork which we will explain. A leader asked me which cubs and scouts would be chosen to ride on the float or walk in the parade. It's quite simple. The members of the sections who help with the float will get to take part in the parade. And what a great time they will have. We hope that lots of you will line the pavements and cheer us on.

Altrincham Festival Field in Timperley - Saturday 7th July

As reported in the last Scoutlook, Altrincham District has been awarded the Scouting Mobile Display Unit, for a fee, for the day. Gordon Fyfe, GSL 3rd Altrincham and George Sharp, ADC Scouts, gave up a Sunday in April to drive down to Gilwell for a course to learn how to work the thing. It has a climbing wall on the back, several audio visual displays, speakers through which we can play appropriate music and walls of pictures about Scouting. In addition, Gilwell supplies lots of Scouting advertising material and leaflets, to which we can add our website address and a phone number.

Standing on the Festival field, the Unit should prove interesting to both adults and young people. However, our main focus must be to try to attract adults. Every Group needs not only leaders but people who can help in supporting roles. We need to get across the message that we are not a stuffy organisation stuck in the past but a forward-looking movement in which adults can contribute and have a lot of good times.

Therefore we will be asking for volunteers on the day who will talk with those who show an interest. Shifts will be about two hours long. The time will whiz past when you're talking about something you're really interested in.

Willing to help on 7th July?

Please ring Lucy Natrass on 928-2679

St. George's Day, Windsor

I was delighted to receive the Silver Acorn and even more delighted to be going to Windsor to join in the "celebrations"

It was a lovely day, and after all the deliberations about what to wear etc I decided on the Jamboree necker and a red rose to celebrate St George's day..

As I joined the queue with my son Colin we met up with George Sharp, who has received the Silver Wolf, for "outstanding services to Scouting" and since everyone in Altrincham and District knows George we need not qualify his credentials for the award.

While we were waiting we were entertained by the Scout

Band from Halesowen augmented by a Corps of Drums from the 1st Syston Scout and Guide Band and Alderley District Scout Band, and by the Chief Scout touring the visitors and speaking to lots of people. George joined the "special" group who have all been awarded the Silver Wolf, from where he managed to speak to Alex Chambers and Simon Ashton who were in a very select group who have all received "Gallantry Awards" The Queen's Scouts marched in to the Band of the Scots Guards, and since there were about five hundred of them it took a while but was great fun to watch. They had spent the morning learning how to march at the near by barracks, and we were able to see the fruits of their endeavours.

The Chief Scout was very busy, his next job was to escort the Queen who along with the Duke of Edinburgh reviewed the lines of Queens's Scouts and spoke to a great number of them.

While the Gallantry Award Holders were being introduced the Colour Party, who were immaculate, and the two bands took their place ready for the "March Past"

The Scouts marched all around the quadrangle and out through the Engine Court Gateway to St George's Chapel for the National Scout Service. George and Colin and I followed them out and listened to the Service as it was relayed to the courtyard outside. We were given Service sheets and were able to join in with gusto!

At the end of the Service the Chief Scout led the re-affirmation of the Scout Promise and then addressed the young people. He praised their hard work in order to gain the Queen's Scout Award and how proud he was of them, of what they had achieved and what they would achieve in the future. He thanked their parents for being very supportive of their children.

The Scout Band led the parade back to the Royal Mews and they were dismissed from there.

Iris Emery

Scout Van for Sale:

1st Hale Barns Group are looking to replace their Scout Van. If any group is interested in purchasing their present van, please contact Grahame Simmonds on 980-7700

News from the Sections:

Beavers:

"6th Altrincham beavers set a target to collect 100 pairs of unwanted spectacles which will be taken by a team of opticians to Ghana. They will try to match the spectacles to the needs of the very poor people there. By donating the spectacles we would be helping to improve their quality of life.

Spectacles arrived at our hut from far and wide and our final total was a magnificent 274 pairs. The beavers did a great job and Vision Aid Overseas were very grateful for our efforts. " Jane Ford BSL

Cubs

Some members of 6th Altrincham cubs played musical instruments after their recent AGM and gained their entertainers' badges. As featured in the Sale and Altrincham Messenger, they raised over £300.00 for Marie Curie cancer care by filling smarties tubes with 20 pence pieces. They are looking forward to learning more about Andrew Robinson's sponsored bike ride around Ireland in June.

Quote of the month from Andrew Robinson CSL: "Freda is really the engine behind 6th Altrincham cubs."

4th Hale cubs will be running sponsored relay races on the lawn at St. Peter's Church during Christian Aid Week in the middle of May. We hope to raise enough to buy several goats for Africans through the scheme "Present Aid." They have enjoyed working towards their scientist badge. Pots with bean seedlings are all over the hut.

4th Bowdon cubs have been working towards their emergency aid badges. During the winter months they learned a lot about local services with a walk around Altrincham locating the hospital, fire station, police station and so on. They were rewarded for their efforts with lovely hot chocolate along the route.

Cubs Chess - Report by Chris Fitt

4TH WIN IN A ROW FOR CUBS IN GREATER MANCHESTER WEST SCOUT COUNTY CHESS COMPETITION

Another outstanding performance by the Altrincham and District Cubs Chess team landed a fourth consecutive victory in the County West Chess Competition held at Urmston on 10th March. Last year's win had already set a record for the competition so this fourth success is likely to set a precedent which will be difficult to match.

This was a very experienced and talented team, five of whom had taken part in last year's competition, and the winning margin over the second team was the second largest ever. No team member scored less than 4 wins and Michael Bates (2nd Hale) was the only cub in the whole competition to score a full house of six wins. The team was captained this year by Jonathon Holland (2nd Hale) who with Michael had swept the board for 2nd Hale in all the competitions this year. Another outstanding performance came from Adam Swinton (4th Hale) who is the only cub in the whole history of the competition to have been a member of 3 winning teams. This is a feat which is not likely to be repeated.

The only downside of this success is that this time none of the team will be eligible to play next year so we will have to start from scratch again, however judging from the enthusiasm being shown by some of the newer chess club members and with the format which we have now adopted for competitions and tuition throughout the year there is every possibility that next year's Altrincham and District team will be up in the running for a 5th championship win.

As reported in the last Scoutlook unfortunately I have had to give up running the Chess Club due to ill health so this task will be down to John Bates who I am sure will get as

much support from the cub pack leaders as I have had.

The full team scores from the competition were:

Jonathon Holland (2nd Hale) 4 wins, Adam Swinton (4th Hale) 5 wins, Michael Bates (2nd Hale) 6 wins, Jamie Watkins (6th Altrincham) 5 wins, Daniel Hough (1st West Timperley) 5 wins, Neel Ghosh (4th Hale) 5 wins, Jack Cave (4th Hale) 4 wins, George Taylor (1st West Timperley) 5 wins and a draw.

The overall team result was:

1. Altrincham – 31.5points, 2. Leigh and Lowton – 24 points 3.Wigan – 22 points, 4. Sale – 21.5 points, 5. Swinton and Pendlebury – 20 points, 6.Urmston – 17points, 7. Ellesmere – 13.5 points, 8. Stretford – 12 points.

Chris fitt. May 2007.

Scouts:

No news this month

Explorers:

No news this month.

Leader Training:

Courses for May-December 2007

Day	Date	Course	Venue	Course Type
Tuesday	8 May	Modules 17 & 19 for Section Leaders	Altrincham District Trafford Metro	Evening
Sunday	13 May	Getting Started (3,5,12 & 14)	Salford Metro	Day
Sunday	13 May	1st Response	3rd Worsley	Day
Sunday	13 May	Child Protection	2nd Urmston	10.00-12.00
Sunday	13 May	Child Protection	8th Flixton	1.00-3.00 pm
Sunday	20 May	Refresher 1st Response Child Protection	Atherton & Tyldesley HQ Wigan Metro	10.00-12.30 1.00-3.00
Sunday	10 June	1st Response - Add On for Adventurous Activities)	3rd Worsley	Day
Monday	18 June	Child Protection	3rd/1st Eccles	Evening
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

Further information and application forms: Ring Alan Roberts 929 0998 or e-mail Dawnandalan8@aol.com.
Application forms can also be obtained from gmwscouts.org.uk/sections/adulttraining/index.htm.

All course applications should be submitted to County Office via Alan Roberts, 8 Westmorland Close, Bowdon, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 3QR.

District Diary			
	May 2007	June 2007	Future
Beavers		Beaver Fun Day Sun 17th June - afternoon 3rd Altrincham	
Cubs	4th Bowdon and 4th Hale cubs Outdoor Skills Training Sat 19th May - Cub Warren		
Scouts			
Explorers			
District	1st Timperley AGM - Tues 15th May 3rd Timperley AGM - Tues 15th May Festival Float meeting Thurs 17th May 8.15 pm 4th Hale HQ - all welcome	Meeting for all parents hosting Japanese Scouts Tues 12th June 8.15 pm 4th Hale HQ 1st West Timperley AGM Wed 13th June 4th Hale AGM Sat 16th June 5 pm Sandiway Camp Site (at Group camp) Team Meeting Tues 26th June 8.15 pm Warren Drive GSL's Meeting Thurs 28th June 8.15 pm 4th Hale HQ 2nd Hale AGM - Fri 29th June	Altrincham District AGM - Wed. 4 th July 7.30 pm at 2 nd Hale HQ

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.