

SCOUTLOOK



Altrincham & District Scout Council

Nov-Dec 2006

From the District Commissioner:

Our young people are so privileged to have the knowledge, experience and enthusiasm of our leaders. Over the past few months I have enjoyed visiting section meetings throughout the District. It is a real delight to see leaders and young people at work and play. I have been impressed by the amount of effort many leaders have put into planning the programmes for the young people. We have a terrific group of adults working in Scouting. On behalf of all of the young people, parents and carers, I would like to thank you for the time and effort you put into the planning and execution of the programmes and nights away.

However, we must not get too comfortable! Leaders' jobs or family circumstances may take them away. We must all, always, be looking for new recruits. As discussed in many previous Scoutlooks and other publications, there are many ways of thinking about this. Encouraging parents in with parents' rotas is one way. Getting parents to come along to camps is another. Contacting former members is another. If an adult can't help regularly, but seems generally enthusiastic, get him/her to help with a fund raising event or perhaps ask him/her to demonstrate a skill during a session. Anyone who can give an hour has given you an hour to do something else. Keep thinking about what jobs need doing and who might do them. Keep making parents and all other adults feel welcome. Greet them! Keep asking. Scouting is a most wonderful product. The job of a leader is a privilege. We need to sell it more.

It may sound flippant - but I mean it sincerely: keep up the good work!

Best wishes, Lucy

News Flash!!!

World Jamboree, Essex, July, '07

The most memorable Scouting experience of your life!
40,000 scouts from all over the world!

Due to one member of the GMW contingent dropping out, we now have a place available for a Scout or Explorer who will be aged between 14-18 on 1st July, '07. Please announce this at your next Scout/Explorer meeting. Tell him/her to get in touch with me directly, please, and I will be able to give further details.

Unfortunately I am unable to write the total costs at this

moment, but I can do some research and get back to you. Please let me know if you have a person in your section who seems keen. - Lucy.

News from the Sections:

Beavers:

Beavers are invited to their annual trip to the pantomime at the Garrick Theatre in Altrincham. This time the show is "Puss in Boots" on Sat. 6th Jan at 5:30 pm. All beaver leaders have received letters about it and are encouraged to join in this jolly District event. Numbers and money **MUST** be in to Glenda by 12th Nov.

Cubs

The **1st Timperley** cub packs have merged and meet on Wednesdays at 6:30 at the Den. We anticipate that soon so many young people will want to be cubs that the Group will re-open a second pack. **1st Timperley** has recently recruited four new leaders. Two have been warranted and the other two are well on their way. We welcome them and congratulate the Group on their success in recruiting more adults.

They are busily preparing for a Gang Show on 25th November. It should be a great night. We send them all our very best wishes and thank the leaders and other interested adults, as well as the young people, for all the work they have put in so far breathing new life into many of the grand old songs and sketches.

3rd Altrincham cubs have thoroughly enjoyed their communications badge activities. A volunteer CB radio enthusiast got them all listening to the dulcet tones of someone in the southern United States! CSL Kenny had them climbing to reach balloons of sweets in full costumes after Hallowe'en. It's never a dull moment there!

The two fully subscribed packs of **4th Hale** cubs have been working on their DIY badges by painting panel doors, making cup holders, learning about the use and care of tools and wiring a plug. To fulfil the badge requirements they will be drilling, and screwing together a nesting box designed specially for robins or wrens. The Group is pleased to have recruited two leaders in the beaver and scout sections. After fulfilling the usual requirements, we are confident that their warrant applications will soon be approved.

Camelot Theme Park

On Sunday 25th March, cubs, older beavers and younger scouts have been offered exclusive use of the park. The all inclusive price of £15.00 includes return coach travel. There will be one adult place free with every eight children. Coach pick up points could be arranged. The Knights Jousting show could be included. Final numbers and money to Freda Clarke, ACSL at 6th Alt. by the middle of January, 2007.

Scouts:

No Information this month

Explorers:

Panther Explorers, meeting on Wednesday evenings, chose a wonderful clear, cold starry evening for a night hike last week. They have lots of activities planned including a First Response session, exotic cooking and advanced pioneering.

Phoenix Explorers, who met at 4th Bowdon, are meeting at 2nd Hale HQ on Tuesday evenings. Recently they enjoyed an evening of "senses" bases.

4th Bowdon Explorers: Sue Sharples E.S.L., is helped by members of the 4th Bowdon leadership team. They would all be grateful for more adult help. If anyone knows of anyone who might enjoy working with the Explorer age group, please let her know.

Snowdon Explorers, in addition to many other activities, recently practiced rifle shooting. Your DC, brought up in a Quaker household, held a gun for first time! What would the conscientious objector foremothers think? Thanks to Fred Warbuton and Andrew Broatch for letting me add another first to the long list of activities I've enjoyed through scouting!

District Information and News:

The sections of **4th Bowdon Group**, recently made temporarily homeless, have settled into their temporary accommodations with good cheer. Scouts meet on Mondays at 1st Timperley and cubs meet on Wednesdays at 3rd Altrincham. We offer many thanks to those groups who have offered their huts and storage space for the year. The Beavers are meeting on Thursdays at a church in Bowdon Vale. The cubs have been busy with their Home Help badge, a treasure hunt in Hale, and a autumn festivals evening with wonderful exotic foods from the East.

There are many silver linings to this cloud. Leaders from different Groups are interacting and sharing ideas. Leaders have also benefited from the process of reviewing their programmes and adjusting them to fit the new surroundings. They have recently recruited a beaver leader on her way to a warrant, and a section assistant. Well done.

Up on St. Mary's hill, the builders have poured the foundations for the new building. With a following wind, the Group should be settled into the new HQ by Sept. '07.

The District Team would like to thank all the Groups who, one way or another, have opened their doors to the "homeless" from 4th Bowdon.

1st Hale and 2nd Hale Scout Groups have merged and are meeting at 2nd Hale. All the leaders are expressing enthusiasm about how things are going and how well the colonies and packs have jelled together. Beavers and cubs meet on Monday evenings. On Friday before the half term break, the cubs went on a night hike, slept over at the hut and enjoyed a cooked breakfast. What a great start to the holidays.

2nd Hale:

At a recent meeting of supporters of the 2nd Hale, held at a local hostelry, twelve parents came along and offered to help the Group. One dad, in the summer, assumed responsibility for organising repairs to the fabric of the building. This has been an enormous help to the uniformed leaders and they are very grateful to him. Congratulations to 2nd Hale for generating such enthusiasm amongst the families of the beavers and cubs. What a good example!

1st Hale Barns hosted a smashing bonfire night party on 3rd Nov. with many supporters enjoying free burgers, sausages and very loud bangers on the cold crisp evening. Frank Aldwin and Dave Botterill, A.S.L.s, were chief firework lighters. No sparkly Catherine wheels or smoky horizontal types there. They reminded us that "we don't do soft" after our ears had finally ceased ringing.

It was also a significant event for Harry Howarth S.L., and many members of his family. He was presented with his 40 years service award and flash. The Group also gave him and his wife a voucher for a mini-break holiday to be taken where and when they choose. On behalf of all of us in the District and from wider afield, we send our warmest congratulations to Harry and 1st Hale Barns for such a long a fruitful Scouting partnership. Long may it continue. He's not going to be allowed to retire yet.

Jamboree '07

Have you been abroad and appreciated a visit to a private home?

Want to help with the Jamboree and avoid the trip to Essex?

The Home Hospitality (HoHo) committee is looking for families in Altrincham District who would be willing to host pairs of Japanese participants at the Jamboree for about four days from Mon 23rd or Tues. 24th July until the 27th, when they would be travelling to Essex. The families would need to be willing to provide beds, dinners, breakfasts and packed lunches. Activities during the days and most evenings will be organised by people in the district, so you need not take time off work. All members of the household who are over 18 would be subject to a CRB check. Some financial help might be available.

This is an excellent opportunity for us to support International Scouting and show off our wonderful area of the world. Your GSLs seemed keen when we discussed it at a recent meeting. We hope all Scouters will give this offer a great deal of positive discussion. Please also talk about this with families connected to your Group who

would welcome the chance to support international friendship. Several thousand participants seek accommodation somewhere in the UK for a few days before or after the Jamboree. Here is our chance to help. Enquiries or offers of help should be made to your GSL by 15th Nov. Alternatively please contact Lucy Nattrass. We look forward to hearing from lots of you!

Altrincham District Jamboree Participants

These scouts and explorers have enjoyed an "Introductions Day" at 3rd Altrincham and a weekend in Sheffield where they met the other members of their contingent, a group of Guides. They have come up with a catchy name for themselves: Winegums. When you see one, ask him/her what it means. You'll get a witty reply. Attendees at the GMW County AGM in Sept. were greeted with youths in uniform thrusting the sweets into our hands. All was later revealed by an excellent presentation showing their activities so far and what they are planning for the Jamboree. We look forward to hearing more.

Some participants have started fundraising. One lot livened up the punters at a recent jumble sale by selling pancakes. Please support them in all of their efforts. If you have any ideas for fundraising, please contact a participant directly or Simon Gould, District Treasurer.

Census Evening

Wednesday 17th January 2007. Please make sure that you are up to date with all members, not forgetting your Committee Members as we aim to update the directory. District Secretary

Cub Warren

When you are making plans for next year don't forget to think about Cub Warren. It is a perfect camp site for a day of activities and a lovely secure site for younger members of the movement. It is a super first time camp site. It is close by and easily accessible.

Contact :- Stuart Naylor 0161 980 8487

Centennial Celebrations

An event under canvas, 25-27 May, '07. Unfortunately we have not been overwhelmed with people interested in taking part in this weekend event to be held at the three County campsites: Bispham, Middlewood and Dunham. Therefore we have not made any firm bookings. If you would like to take members of your section, please contact the bookings secretary directly at the desired site. There are still plans to take Beavers for the day on the Saturday. Details will be discussed in January.

Altrincham Festival- Sat. 7th July, '07 - Celebrate 100 years of Scouting!

Last year 25,000 people attended the Festival. Why not use it to sell scouting and celebrate our heritage?

At recent GSLs meetings we have discussed the idea that the District provide a float for the parade and a stand at the Festival during this popular event. We've notified the relevant Festival authorities and the Scout Association concerning insurance. We are now looking for people who have contacts with the haulage trade who could help us with a trailer. We also seek offers of help with planning the trailer and making the decorations. Please let your GSL know if you have any good ideas. Members of several Groups could work together.

We have also put in a bid for the Scout Association's Mobile Display Unit, a large container full of A.V. activities and a climbing wall etc., to come that day. We will not know until mid-January. Wouldn't it be fun if we got it?

District Diary			
	November 2006	December 2006	Future
Beavers		.	Pantomime at Garrick Sat 6th Jan 5.30 pm
Cubs	Chess at 1st Timperley Tues 7th Nov 6.30-8.15 pm Chess at 2nd Timperley Mon 20th Nov 6.30-8.15 pm	Chess, 1st West Timperley Wed 6th Dec 6.30-8.15 pm	County Chess Competition Sat 10th March - Urmston Trip to 'Camelot' Sun 25th March
Scouts			
Explorers			
District	Scouts to Hale Road War Memorial - Sun 12th Nov 3 pm) Team Meeting Mon 13th Nov 8.15 pm District Exec Meeting Tues 14th Nov 8.00 pm First Response Training St.Peter's House, Hale Tues 21st and 28th Nov 7.30-10.00 pm	Altrincham Court Leet Advent Service. St.George's Church Mon 11th Dec 7.30pm	Census Evening 29 Ollerbarrow Rd, Hale commencing 7.00 pm GSL Meeting 3rd Altrincham Thurs 8th March 8.00 pm St George's Day Parade St Mary's Bowdon Sun 22nd April

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.