

# SCOUTLOOK



## Altrincham & District Scout Council

**October-November 2007**

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

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### From the District Commissioner:

2007 has been a wonderful year for scouting and it is only two thirds of the way through! Hasn't it been fun to read about our wonderful movement in the papers, see snippets on TV, and hear about it on local and national radio? Royal Mail has even put Scouting on postage stamps. Here in Altrincham we have celebrated with parties, camps, a float in the Festival, sunrise services, visits from Japanese scouts, participation in the Jamboree and visits to the Jamboree. You can enjoy pictures of many of these events on the website, address above. Thanks to all who have sent in photographs and to Gordon Fyfe, the webmaster. You can read about some of the experiences in this Scoutlook.

As a follow up to the Jamboree, more events are planned including a social evening for the Jamboree participants and their families, plus the families who hosted the Japanese scouts and other interested parties. 4<sup>th</sup> Hale is planning a Campfire Show in November on the theme. We extend our thanks to everyone who has helped and taken part in events so far. Remember, it's not over yet. The centenary celebrations can carry on for another few months. Keep them coming. Perhaps, after 1<sup>st</sup> January, we should continue to think of Scouting as a celebration. We have a lot to feel good about. We've got lots of young people, and older ones, out enjoying the great outdoors and practicing and learning new skills all the time.

Let me know when you're planning an event and I'll happily join you!

**In Memoriam:** We were so sorry to learn of the death of Christopher Fitt in September after a long and debilitating illness, bravely borne. He had organised the Cubs Chess Club for many years and trained victorious teams at the County Chess Championships four years in a row. He will be sadly missed.

Best wishes, Lucy

### News from the County:

Following the retirement of Brian Mouatt at the County AGM in September, our new County Commissioner is Hayden Worrall. A former Venture leader, then former G.S.L. of Eccles District, he was serving as Deputy County Commissioner. We all welcome Hayden to his new responsibilities.

### Trafford Metro- Young Leaders' Course

Here is another opportunity to take advantage of this course, being run by Sale District for the benefit of all the 14- 18 year olds who help with a colony, pack or troop. It starts at 9:15 on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> Oct., at Sale Central HQ on Raglan Rd., Sale. The course aims to cover, among other things, some Child Protection, purpose and method of Scouting, and running games. The people who attended the course last year enjoyed it.

All who received notification last year will receive it again. Please inform any Young Leaders you might have helping in your Group. They don't need to sign up, just appear. They needn't come in uniform. The cost of £6.00 includes lunch. Any questions? Please ask Judith Dutton, D.C. in Sale, on 610- 0652.

**Urmston Scout Shop** is open Saturday mornings 10 am to 12:30 at Dyson House, Newton Rd., Urmston. They cater for all of your scouting needs including uniforms, blankets, compasses, record cards, certificates and anything from the 2007 Scout Shops Catalogue. Profits return to the Districts of the shoppers. Give them a try.

### Altrincham Football Club

Support your **local** team. For each of their home league matches, they can offer one group of a youth organisation up to 25 free children's tickets and five free adult tickets to see the match in the Family Stand. Full details of all of Altrincham F.C.'s fixtures and prices can be found on the website: [www.altrinchamfc.co.uk](http://www.altrinchamfc.co.uk). Home fixtures in the near future are 6<sup>th</sup> Oct., 9<sup>th</sup> Oct., 20<sup>th</sup> Oct. and 17<sup>th</sup> Nov.

Another initiative you might like to consider is a behind the scenes tour of Moss Lane for small groups, on weekday evenings, subject to availability. Contact either Dana Laidler or Karen Rowley on 928-1045 if you would like further information or would like to take up either of these offers.

### District Information and News:

**New Directory-** Our excellent team of record keepers, Iris Emery and Sylvia Cornish, has up dated the data about all of the leaders which has been sent to them recently from Headquarters. You can imagine what a long and intricate task this was. We are extremely grateful to them for the hours they put in over the summer. A new District Directory will be available for all leaders fairly soon.

## **New Committees**

If any groups have new officers on Group Executive Committees please let the District Secretary know. Please also let us know if you change your address, phone no. or email address. We must keep the lines of communication open.

## **Training**

We are keen to encourage as many leaders as possible to carry on with their training. After all, everyone who agreed to take out a warrant agreed to work towards his or her woodbadge. All of those who have already earned woodbadges need to fulfil at least five hours a year. Please check the list of training courses being held and see what you could go to.

## **Awards**

If you know of anyone in your Group, uniformed or non-uniformed, who you think is worthy of a Scouting award, please write to Iris Emery, District Secretary. You will need to support your recommendation with specific facts about the person's activities within Scouting. It is not enough to write, "He has been helpful on camp." It would be better to write: "For five years he has written out the menus, bought the food, cooked breakfasts for 35 people for three mornings and organised a wide game on the first night." If that's the case, he deserves some sort of an award!

A sub-committee of the District Exec. can complete the paperwork needed to ask for an award. That doesn't necessarily mean that an award will be granted by Headquarters. We can only apply. However, people will not receive awards if we don't get the recommendations. So, please, write in with your suggestions.

## **Help with Programmes – Science Badge Work**

As reported in the previous Scoutlook, Loreto Grammar School, Dunham Rd., Altrincham, has recently achieved Science status. They are therefore keen to offer their expertise, equipment and even facilities to the community. The head of Science, Sarah Gregory, and Mark Baxter, a member of staff and a scout leader in Stockport, attended the recent Cub leader's meeting. Both have full CRB checks and, of course, experience in working with children and young people. They explained that they could bring equipment to your meeting or arrange for your colony, pack or troop to come to Loreto and use the labs there. They could provide mini-buses and drive them. They would be willing to come for a full meeting or run an afternoon's activities. On request, they'll even produce smells and explosions, in addition to electrical circuits and rocketry. And it's free.

What are you waiting for? Take a night off programme planning. Take them up on the offer! Contact Sarah Gregory at the school on 928-3703 or E-mail: [hasslemrsg@aol.com](mailto:hasslemrsg@aol.com).

**4<sup>th</sup> Bowdon Scout Group**, after a year spread around the District, was delighted to move into their HQ in the new St. Mary's parish rooms. All four sections are now under one roof and are enjoying a wonderful, big, open, airy space. The only drawback is the noise, but we're sure that architects, with the encouragement of the Parish, will be able to dampen the problem.

Iris went to the service at the opening of the new Parish Centre and sends the following report:

Bowdon Parish church bells rang out with their lovely sound that could be heard throughout Bowdon. The Bishop of Chester arrived to take the service and open the new Parish Centre. The church was full with families very much to the fore. After a lovely service, centred on a "Special Journey" to build the Parish centre, the congregation followed the Bishop and the whole team who had been involved in the planning and building of the Centre, along to the Parish Centre. The room was full and the Bishop and the Mayor unveiled the plaque. There were refreshments for all and an opportunity to have a look around. There were beavers, cubs and scouts and brownies all joining in the fun.

I am sure that the 4th Bowdon "Scouting Family" will be very happy in their lovely new home and everyone in Scouting in Altrincham wishes them well.

## **World Scout Jamboree Hylands Park, Chelmsford – 2007**

Just a few days before the opening ceremony the United Kingdom was being deluged by constant rain causing flooding to many parts of the country. The organisers who had been planning the jamboree for many years and at huge cost were desperately praying for a some dry weather and indeed their prayers were answered hours before thousands of scouts descended on Hylands Park to celebrate 100 years of scouting.

With over 42,000 attending from almost every country in the world and up to 10,000 a day visiting it was an amazing undertaking. It is only when you visit jamborees of this scale and talk to the people involved that you begin to realise the amount of careful planning and sheer hard work that goes on behind the scenes to make them the success they are. This, the 21<sup>st</sup> World jamboree, was no exception and for me it was an achievement of which everybody in the movement can be justly proud. My last visit to a jamboree was in 1957 as part of the Altrincham contingent but on this occasion I joined a group of leaders and families from our district on a day's visit.

We arrived on site around 10.00am via a very efficient park and ride service. There were tents, banners and flags as far as the eye could see and hundreds of scouts in a variety of colourful uniforms rushing around eager to get to their next objective.

Visitors to the site were not permitted into the sub camps but we were content to walk round the site talking particularly to overseas scouts, sample the occasional culinary delights offered in the hospitality tents and experience the rich diversity of cultures, scouting skills and faiths.

At lunchtime we were treated to a spectacle of music and dance performed by scouts on a huge stage in the main arena culminating in the longest conga I have seen let alone been in.

It called for ice creams all round and for the adults a glass of cool Czechoslovakian alcohol free beer to aid recovery. As we waited for our coach to collect us a number of the Japanese scouts we had hosted came to see us off and say their goodbyes. It was a wonderful climax to what had been a wonderful day.

George Sharp, ADC Scouts

## Sunrise Ceremony

August the first 2007 dawned a lovely bright morning in south Manchester. This was the Day of the Scout Centenary Sunrise Ceremony. Ceremonies were taking place at the Jamboree, Brownsea Island, venues all around the world -----and on the car park at the Trafford Centre!

Stretford District had arranged for the Mobile Display Unit from Headquarters to be there and had organised a morning of activities for the young people. Sylvia Cornish and I decided that we would take part, and rose early in order to be there for 7.45am. We were marshalled onto the appropriate car park by scouters from Stretford.

Leaders and explorer scouts were busy blowing up 100 white balloons and putting strings onto them for the beavers, cubs and scouts to let go at the end of the ceremony.

We were joined by 150 young people and about 80 adults. We weren't the only visitors, there were scouters and supporters from around the county.

Just before 8.00am there was a bugle fanfare, and the Beavers were led through their Promise followed by the Cubs and then the Scouts and adults. Everyone was in full uniform and they were a credit to the Scout Movement.

The balloons were handed out to all the young people but as they were being given their instructions, the excitement was too much and they were let go! They floated up into the morning sky like a white cloud. The Boys Brigade closed the ceremony with a final fanfare.

All the young people present were offered a free breakfast and were able to chose a sporting activity at the Trafford Centre. The Mobile Unit had the climbing wall and there were bouncy castles and games to keep everyone busy throughout the morning.

We were very glad that we had joined in the Centenary Celebrations

Iris Emery

## Census Evening

Start now getting your records up to date as Census Evening will be on the horizon quicker than you think. I will contact you all nearer the time, but you could start any time now !!.  
Census Evening Wednesday 16th January 2008

## Fellowship Dinner

Once again "party frocks" will be needed for the Fellowship Dinner. Why don't you come and join in, good food and good company. We look forward to a lovely evening with good friends.  
Fellowship Dinner Saturday 26th January 2008

## Air Gun Shooting

For several years scouts and explorers have been able to try out airgun shooting at Altrincham Rifle and Pistol Club, and some groups have done so. If any other groups are interested in an afternoon or evening of airgun shooting, under the supervision of experienced and qualified air gun shooters, then contact Ian Jones on 0161 980 8317 or

email [shooting@talktalk.net](mailto:shooting@talktalk.net).

If any scouts or explorers are interested in taking part in competitive target airgun shooting on a regular basis, with the intention of forming a district team to compete against other districts then please contact Ian as noted above. In the last few years two British U21 air pistol champions have come from Cheshire, and both started shooting with their scout group, perhaps you could be the next British Champion.

## News from the Sections:

### Beavers:

No news this month.

### Cubs

#### Cubs Chess-

We are keen to carry on the work of Chris Fitt, who ran the Cubs Chess Club for many years. Unfortunately John Bates, who had offered in the spring to run the Club after Chris retired, is unable to do so because of work commitments. All cubs are welcome to attend, from beginners to budding Grand Masters. We would like to involve the parents as well, particularly those who know anything about chess, in the hope that someone will take over the management of the Club. Any offers, or suggestions of names of people who might be persuaded, to Lucy Natrass, please.

The following dates and venues have been fixed. Cub leaders will receive further information to give out to interested cubs. .

Wed. 17 <sup>th</sup> Oct.-	6:30- 8pm.	St. Peter's Assembly Rooms, Cecil Rd., Hale
Tues. 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov. -	6:30- 8 pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Timperley HQ, Heyes Lane
Mon. 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov. -	6:30- 8 pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Timperley HQ, Heyes Lane
Wed. 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec. -	6:30 - 8 pm	1 <sup>st</sup> West Timperley HQ
Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> March '08	afternoon	District Chess tournament venue t.b.a.
Sat. 8 <sup>th</sup> March '08	in the afternoon-	County Chess Competition in Wigan District

We need dates and venues in mid January, in the beginning and the middle of Feb. Any offers of dates at huts?

### Cub and One Camp, 20-22<sup>nd</sup> June '08

Our camp has been booked at Dunham campsite. We would be pleased to welcome as many Packs as possible. As usual, the theme is a secret until you get there. Please let the parents of cubs know the date so they can plan to come. All parents or relatives of cubs who plan to come must have had a Scout enhanced CRB check within the past three years.

### 6er Training Day and Construction Challenge Day- '08

At the recent cub leaders' meeting, we agreed to hold another 6er Training Day on 26<sup>th</sup> Jan. In addition, we were so intrigued with the idea of cubs and science, we thought we'd offer an afternoon for teams to try construction

activities on 5<sup>th</sup> April. Both afternoon activities will be held in St. Peter's Assembly Rooms, Cecil Rd., Hale, because there are several large rooms available. Any offers of help or ideas for bases gratefully received by Lucy Natrass.

There will be a Cub leaders' and helpers' meeting to discuss these activities on Mon. 21<sup>st</sup> Jan at 8:15 at 4<sup>th</sup> Hale. We look forward to seeing lots of you there.

**Scouts:**

No news this month

**Explorers:**

Due to the size of their successful Unit, The Panther Explorers have moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> Altrincham headquarters on Wednesday nights. They were happily creating and then eating gourmet meals the other week.

**Leader Training:**

**Courses for October-December 2007**

Day	Date	Course	Venue	Course Type
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](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

## District Diary

	October 2007	November 2007	Future
<b>Beavers</b>			
<b>Cubs</b>	<p>Chess Wed 17th Oct 6.30-8.00 pm 4th Hale HQ</p>	<p>Chess Tues 6th Nov 6.30-8.00 pm 2nd Timperley HQ</p> <p>Mon 26th Nov 6.30-8.00 pm 2nd Timperley HQ</p>	<p>Chess Wed 6th Dec 6.30-8.00 pm 1st West Timperley HQ</p> <p>Cub Leaders/Helpers Mtg: Mon 21st Jan 8.15 pm 4th Hale HQ</p> <p>Sixers Training Day: Sat 26th Jan 1.00-5.00 pm St Peter's Assembly Rooms Cecil Road, Hale</p> <p>District Chess Comp: Sat 1st March - tba</p> <p>County Chess Comp: Sat 8th March - Wigan</p> <p>Cubs Construction Challenge Afternoon: Sat 6th April 1.00-5.00 pm St Peter's Assembly Rooms</p> <p>District Cub and One Camp 20-22nd June 2008 Dunham Scout Camp</p>
<b>Scouts</b>			
<b>Explorers</b>			
<b>District</b>	<p>Team Meeting: Wed 10th Oct 8.15 pm Warren Drive</p> <p>Social Evening for post-Jamboree debriefing: Thurs 11th Oct 8.15 pm St Peter's Assembly Rooms Cecil Road, Hale</p> <p>GSL's Meeting: Thurs 18th Oct 8.15 pm 4th Bowdon</p> <p>Young Leaders Training Day: Sat 27th Oct 9.15 am - 4 pm Sale Central HQ</p> <p>Cub Warren Meeting: Tues 30th Oct 8.15 pm 29 Ollerbarrow Rd, Hale</p>	<p>District Exec Meeting: Tues 13th Nov</p> <p>4th Hale Campfire Show: Sat 17th Nov St Peter's Assembly Rooms</p>	<p>District Exec Meetings: Tues 9th Jan 2008 Tues 11th March 2008 Tues 22nd April 2008 Tues 13th May 2008 Tues 9th Sept 2008</p> <p>Census Evening: Wed 16th Jan 2008</p> <p>Fellowship Dinner: Sat 26th Jan Quality Inn, Bowdon</p> <p>St George's Day Parade Sun 20th April 2008 3 pm</p>

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.