



countywide outlook ... Scouting in Bedfordshire

December 2004

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news from the county commissioner

Friends,

What an exciting time for our young members with Christmas almost upon us. I hope that you have all taken the opportunity to celebrate this festive time within your Programmes and Carol Services.



May I thank you all for the continued hard work you all give so freely each and every week and look forward with you to a new and exciting 2005. A year where all young people of age

wishing to experience Scouting in Bedfordshire are given the opportunity to join, a year where we will experience good exciting Programmes, a year of continued happiness!

I shall be attending as many of the Carol Services as I am able during the next three weeks and I look forward to meeting and celebrating with you.

I shall also be attending The Peace Light Service at All Saints Church in Luton on Monday 13 December commencing at 7-30. This service is an opportunity for everyone to come along and collect a light, a light that has travelled all the way from Bethlehem, a light that comes to us as a sign of peace. Come along and join in this wonderful service of light, don't forget to bring your lamp or some other means of collecting your flame.

For those of you who will be attending the Winter Camp at Gilwell in January, I wish you well, have a great time and I shall look forward to hearing all about it in future issues of Countywide Outlook.

May I wish you all a very Happy Christmas, enjoy the festivities with your families and I look forward to seeing you all in 2005!

The County Commissioner and County Team wish you all a Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.

directory updates

Ampthill & Woburn

New ADC BS and District Treasurer
New GSL for Flitwick

Bedford

DC, District Secretary & Great Barford
GSL - new email
7th/94th - New GSL

Biggleswade

Badge Secretary - new email
Biggleswade Group - new GSL
New DESC

Somerries

New DCSL & Appointments Secretary

Produced by Bedfordshire County Scout Council, The County Scout Office, The Leslie Sell Activity Centre, Molivers Lane, Bromham, MK43 8LD, Tel/Fax: 01234 826079, Email: bedscouts@btinternet.com
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The editorial team is happy to include any relevant material provided it reaches the office before the copy dates: 15th January, March, June, September & November 2005

www.bedfordshirescouts.org.uk





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Special Needs

Hi there!

Gillian has recently given me the appointment of special needs advisor to the County, so here I am to introduce myself.

My background with special needs comes from having a daughter with cerebral palsy who spends most of her time in a wheelchair. Through her I became involved with helping to run a Special Needs Summer Holiday Club which operates under the local Mencap organisation. Recently, we started a Special Needs Youth Club for children with profound learning difficulties. These children would find it difficult to cope socially within a Scout Group.

I have been Scouting in Leighton Buzzard for fifteen years, so am a relative newcomer. During this time I have had the privilege of meeting some remarkable young people who have overcome personal difficulties to join in all the fun, excitement and adventure that Scouting has to offer. I am proud to be a member of an organisation that embraces equality in all senses and does this with little fuss or need for recognition.

I know that there are many leaders today that see no problem in integrating children with special needs into their sections and cope easily with the challenge of running a programme for all. But there may be times when advice is needed. I would hope that the understanding that I have learnt from being involved with both Mencap and Scouting gives me the opportunity to share experiences with you and hopefully offer support to anyone who feels that there is a situation that they would like to "mull over" with an impartial person. If this is the case, please feel free to e-mail or phone me. (Details available from the County Office)

Alison Kelly
Special Needs Co-ordinator

Editor's note

Why not write and let us know what is happening in your group for the next edition of Countywide Outlook.

Amphill is bursting with Beavers!



Amphill re-opened their Beaver Colony, having found a new Beaver Leader, Sally Amos, during the summer. We had one Beaver already invested from the old Colony before it had to close. The 23 remaining Beavers were invested on 4 November by the CC, Gillian Nash and the Mayor of Amphill, Sue Whittaker, handed out their Badges. On the same night, Sally and myself were invested by Nigel Taylor, our DC.

The evening was made into a celebration, as Sally and her Beaver Helpers (Maryla Carter, Nigel Cross, Rob Davies and Ailsa French) lit a small bonfire outside the Hut, where the Beavers could hold a sparkler, and toast a marshmallow.. The Beavers also had hot dogs and made firework paintings.

Debra Bradley, GSL 2nd Amphill & Woburn

Christmas Quiz

1. How long did the Hundred Years War last?
2. Which country makes Panama Hats?
3. From which animal do we get catgut?
4. In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?
5. What is a camel's hair brush made of?
6. The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after which animal?
7. What was King George VI's first name?
8. What colour is a purple finch?
9. What country do Chinese Gooseberries come from?
10. How long did the Thirty Years War last?

The answers are not as obvious as they might first appear, and can be found on the last page.



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2005 Training Courses

All at Bromham unless stipulated

adult training

Mod 3 and 18 full day

Sunday 9th January
Saturday 5th March
Sunday 8th May
Saturday 16th July
Sunday 11th September
Saturday 5th November

Mod 4 Tools for the Job (Managers) evening

At Insys

Tuesday 8th March
Thursday 7th July
Tuesday 18th October

Mods 5, 7, 8 & 9

Saturday and Sunday (not overnight)

12th & 13th March
(5 and 7 on Saturday, 8 and 9 on Sunday)
24th & 25th September
(8 and 9 on Saturday, 5 and 7 on Sunday)

Mod 10 First Response full day

Saturday 8th January - Full
Sunday 6th March
Saturday 7th May
Saturday 10th September
Sunday 6th November

Mods 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 & 19

Saturday and Sunday (not overnight)

21st & 22nd May
(11, 12 & 14 on Saturday, 13, 15, 19 on Sunday)
19th & 20th November
(13, 15 & 19 on Saturday, 11, 12 & 14 on Sunday)

Mods 16 & 17 Friday to Sunday

(includes two overnights)

15th to 17th April
7th to 9th October

Mods 20, 22 & 23 full day

Saturday 5th February
Sunday 16th October

Mod 21 full day

Saturday 25th June

Mods 24 & 26 full day

Sunday 10th April
Saturday 3rd December

Mod 25 Assessing Learning full day

Sunday 6th February
Saturday 9th April
Sunday 26th June
Saturday 15th October
Sunday 4th December

Mods 28 & 29

Saturday and Sunday (not overnight)

19th & 20th February

Modules 1 and 6

To be delivered in District after consultation with the LTM.

Modules 27 and 30 to 36

Will be arranged when the need arises.

The Closing Date is 6 weeks before the Course

How to Apply

Please contact your relevant Local Training Manager for details on how to register:

Alec Hissett 01767 650052

Amphill and Woburn, Dunstable, Icknield, Lea Valley,
Leighton Linlade and Someries

Pearl Farr 01234 300506

Bedford, Biggleswade and Ouse Valley



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Caption Competiton

The three photos below were taken at the Nights Away Training at Bromham in October. There will be a small prize for the best captions received at the County Office by the 31st January 2005.



Picture 1

Picture 2



Picture 3

Advertisement for Local Training Manager (LTM)

We are looking for a new LTM to join the County Training Team. This role would be suitable for someone with scouting experience and who is looking for a change of direction. The new adult training scheme has been operating for nearly a year and needs to grow to meet the needs of leaders across the County. Good communication and administration skills are necessary for the job. If you are interested and would like to know more about the role please contact:

Alec Hissett - County Training Manager
Tel. 01767 650052 or E-mail alechissett@hotmail.com



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Induction – starting adults in a new role

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The Induction Toolkit

A new version of a popular

resource. The Induction Toolkit has all the generic information on Scouting that is ideal to help you put together a locally produced welcome pack. Extended to cover District and County roles.

Support within Scouting

Takes a look at the support available in Scouting – locally and nationally and how to make the best of them. Also helps managers in Scouting assess and improve the support they give.

Review – helping adults choose the right path

What is a review and why is it important? Taking you through the stages of review – preparing for a review, conducting a review and advice on how to record the outcomes of review. Covers the new review process!

To have a look at the publications logon to

www.scouts.org.uk/adultsupport

The publications are available to download for free from the website, or can be purchased from the Information Centre.

The format of the publications

means that they can easily be updated, so we would like to hear your comments. If you think we have missed anything out let us now – we want to hear your views.

Email

adult.support@scout.org.uk

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Or, can be ordered from the Information Centre.

Help protect the planet and get a special event badge

Between 12-20 March 2005, thousands of Scouts from all five Sections and WWF supporters will be challenged to take part in an exciting new joint initiative called The Gimmie 5 Challenge. It's a fundraising event that will raise lots of money for not only the Needy Groups Fund and WWF (the global environment network) but also for all Scout Groups that take part.

The idea is to have some fun and fundraise at the same time. The difference is that you and your Scouts create your own challenge. We've got lots of ideas you can use, plus you can make up your own. It could be anything from getting your Scouts to be Ray Mears for the day, organising an Australian style neighbours BBQ night or surviving without your favourite thing for a week.

To make sure your Group takes part in this brand new and fun event, register now for your FREE Section Leader Challenge Pack by logging onto www.gimmie5.org.uk, e-mailing register@gimmie5.org.uk stating your name, Group and postal address or phoning the Scout Information Centre on 0845 300 1818 quoting G5C001001.



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Downsman County Challenge 2005 "Medieval Theme"

11th – 13th February 2005

Open to Explorer & Network Scouts
Teams of 4 / 5



Brave knights and fair ladies of the land, we summon you to a battle of such ferocity, the likes of which has never before been witnessed...

For the last 32 years, Venture Scouts / Scout Network have run an event called The Downsman County Challenge.

Every year, in pursuit of victory and valour, teams compete for the glory of the title of Champions.

We shall transport you back to Medieval England, where you will compete against knights of the realm in order to claim your prize.

For further information or a presentation to your Unit please contact:
Jenny Ryder [jenny_ryder@hotmail.com] or the County Office

A Winter Poem

I keep my snowman in the freezer
Just behind the pies
He likes it there, he told me so
I can see it in his eyes

I made him on a cold, cold morning
When the snow was fresh and deep
Now he sits in the freezer
Near the fish that we got cheap

I keep my snowman in the freezer
And look at him each day
If I'd left him in the garden
He'd simply have melted away

But now he's like my Grandma
Living somewhere safe and nice
He's in a frosty, snowy palace
On a throne of coldest ice

I keep my Snowman in the freezer
Near to a lump of frozen beef
And I've got a treat for him in August
I'm taking him to Tenerife!

Norjam 2006

Norjam 2006 will be held at the Royal Norfolk Showground from Saturday 29th July and finishes Saturday 5th August 2006. The campsite will be open from 6pm Friday 28th July 2006

The site has permanent toilets, showers, washing facilities and piped water. The cost is £100 for young people between 10 and 18 and £50 for adult contingent leaders. This includes activities, transport to activities, a Norjam 2006 T-shirt, a sub-camp scarf, camp handbook and a local day trip. The fee does not include food and transport. Camping is in designated areas within one of six subcamps, contingents must provide their own camping equipment and tents.

Booking information and further details available from: 01603 866814
www.norjam2006.org.uk, email: hq@norjam2006.org.uk

Bedfordshire Scouts Kent Challenge

Sunday 15 May 2005

8-10 mile hike with incidents

Bedford/ Ouse Valley area

Patrol of 4-6 members

Mapreading & Timekeeping Essential

Look out for Further Details



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notice board

Help Scouting this Christmas

If you are a regular shopper at Amazon.co.uk you can help Scouting by using the following link: and it won't cost you a penny extra!

www.scouts.org.uk/amazon

As a member of the Amazon Associates scheme we are able to receive referral fees on items that are purchased via this link. So next time you go online to buy those Christmas or birthday presents or even if you just want to treat yourself remember to use

www.scouts.org.uk/amazon

New EuroJam Badges go on sale

The following badges are now available from Outdoors - Order online at www.outdoors.ltd.uk

- The EuroJam 2005 UK Uniform Cloth Badge
£1.00 - Outdoors code number 1020920.
- The 2005 UK Metal Pin Badge
£1.00 - Outdoors code number 1021000
- 2005 UK Metal Pin Badge/Keyring Set
£3.25 - Outdoors code number 1021001
All inclusive of VAT

Volunteering Survey

Headquarters would be very grateful if you could try and find some time to complete this volunteering survey (www.nfpsynergy.net/scouting.html). It should not take more than 15 minutes and is designed to help all levels of The Scout Association understand more about you, the Volunteers, who make Scouting possible.

To help understand how we can get more volunteers, we need to understand as much as we can about our current supporters - and that's the reason for this survey. The survey covers all sorts of questions about you, your experience of Scouting, your values and background.

The survey responses are totally anonymous and the results, compiled by an independent research company (nfp Synergy), will be made widely available throughout the Movement and on the Internet.

Please only complete the survey once, but feel free to pass this link onto others involved as volunteers in Scouting .

You can find the survey site at:

www.nfpsynergy.net/scouting.html

County AGM

Wednesday 11th May, 7.45 pm at The Rufus Centre, Steppingley Road, Flitwick.

The Southern 50 Challenge

0600 hrs Sat 12 - 10.00 hrs Sun 13 February

In the Chiltern Hills around and through Buckinghamshire and surrounding counties

Teams of 4

Scouts & Guides over 14 & Explorer Scouts

50 mile & 50 km challenge for all

30 km challenge for Explorer Scouts only

Further details from the Beds County Office or

southern50@hotmail.com

Walk Secretary - 020 8361 2830

Christmas Quiz Answers

1. 16 years, from 1337 - 1453
2. Ecuador
3. From sheep and horses
4. November. The Russian calendar was 13 days behind ours
5. Squirrel fur
6. Canaria - the Island of Dogs
7. Albert. When he came to the throne in 1936 he respected the wish of Queen Victoria that no future King would ever be called Albert
8. Distinctively crimson
9. New Zealand
10. Thirty Years - 1618-1648

How did you do?