



countywide outlook ... Scouting in Bedfordshire

December 2006

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A Merry Christmas to all our Readers

news from the county commissioner

May I wish all adults and young people the compliments of the season and to wish you all the very best for the New Year.

From a scouting perspective it will be difficult to miss 2007, all the activities being planned at Group, District and County Levels makes it truly a time for celebration.

A 100 years from that first Camp at Brownsea so much in our world has changed but the vision Baden-Powell had at that first camp remains and is encompassed in the World Jamboree. The desire that these gatherings are used to symbolise the peace and unity among young people is at the very core of what the world movement is and we all play our part in the fundamental aim of developing young people to take a constructive role in their local, national and international communities.

Recent research has shown what I think most of us already know, that Scouting does benefit young people and help them achieve. Our task for 2007 and beyond remains that of providing the opportunity for more young people to 'Join in the Adventure' of scouting.

I do not underestimate the challenge, we need to find ways of attracting new adults and keeping them and that is my clear focus in terms of supporting districts and groups over the coming months. There will be a number of National Initiatives which will help; the new 'No Nonsense parents guide to scouting' is one. I am aware that in one group that the second one they gave to a parent resulted in a new leader.

The new Membership Enquiry link on Scouts.org has generated four adult expressions of interests across Bedfordshire in the first month of

operation. The national publicity, while important, needs to be supplemented with local stories and this will also be an area that we will focus on at county level.

The big event for us will be the County Camp. I am immensely thankful to all of those who have been working, and continue to work on this event. The range of activities being planned will certainly make this something to remember by all who take part and will be a fitting celebration of Scouting in Bedfordshire.

Changes to the Activity Permit scheme should help in terms of helping adults organise the outdoor activities we know our young people want and this is just one of what will be developments aimed at reducing administration by leaders.

2007 will be a year to party and to look back with pride in what the association has achieved. As with all Organisations, while celebrating our heritage we have to look to the future and what we need to do to ensure that the movement grows and reacts to the changing national and world conditions. Scouting I believe has survived because it has balanced its basic principles with the need to develop and change. We have to be prepared to look at new ways of working and organisation, not because the previous was wrong but just because time has moved on.

I look forward to sharing the events of 2007 with as many of you as possible so good luck and as always my thanks for all you do for Scouting.

John Duley



Produced by Bedfordshire County Scout Council, The County Scout Office, The Leslie Sell Activity Centre, Molivers Lane, Bromham, MK43 8LD, Tel/Fax: 01234 826079, bedscouts@btinternet.com

The editorial team is happy to include any relevant material provided it reaches the office before the copy dates: 15 February 2006



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Promoting Scouting in Bedfordshire

I am compiling a list of Scouting events in Bedfordshire that will make good news stories. They should identify the Adventure, Fun and Challenge of Scouting at all levels. Here are some examples:

- Case studies of young people who have done well.
- Tree planting with the free trees from the Woodland Trust
- Burying time capsules
- Plans for the sunrise camp
- Hospitality for foreign Scouts attending the Jamboree
- Plans for the first camp of 2007

I don't want to cut across anything your local press officer is doing but if you do have newsworthy items that may not get aired, let me know in good time and I'll see what I can do.

Peter Sutherst
Media Development Manager
PeterSutherst@aol.com—01582 731498

Local Scouting News Items In October and November 2006

A summary of Scouting news stories in the local press in Bedfordshire. The categories identify the good news stories about the adventure, fun and challenge of Scouting from the remainder.

Luton News, October 18th : He stoops to conker. Cub Scout Alfie Spillane overcomes disability to win the Lea Valley District conker contest. **Cat. A**

Luton News, October 18th : Calendar to mark birthday. Item about the Bedfordshire Scouts centenary calendar. **Cat. B**

Herald & Post, October 19th : Pulling them in. Item about the Bedfordshire Scouts centenary calendar. **Cat. B**

Luton News, October 25th : Conker champ enjoys new adventure. Disabled conker contest winner Alfie Spillane from the Lea Scout Group enjoys his first District Camp. **Cat. A.**

Biggleswade Chronicle, November 3rd : United across the airwaves. 1st Sandy Scouts, Cubs and Beavers explore new computer and radio skills at the 2006 Jamboree-on-the Air. **Cat. A.**

Luton News, November 15th : Scouts game for a laugh with hit or myth games. Report about the First Luton Sea Scouts invitation fun night. **Cat. A.**

Luton News, November 15th : The yesteryear page. Picture taken in February 1937 of the 1st Luton Scouts and St Mary's Scouts attending a farewell parade for the Rev A F Lee at St Mary's church. **Cat. B.**

Biggleswade Chronicle, November 17th : One you may have missed. Good morning Your Majesty. The Queen is holding a large 80th birthday card from the Scouts in the front cover picture. **Cat. B.**

Biggleswade Chronicle, November 17th : We will remember them. Report on the Remembrance Day parade attended by Scouts from Potton. **Cat. B.**

Biggleswade Chronicle, November 17th : Fireworks off with a bang. Thank you letter to everyone involved from Roger Adams of the 1st Sandy Scout group for making their bonfire and fireworks display a success. **Cat. B.**

Biggleswade Chronicle, November 17th : Report about the 1st Sandy Scout Troop who entered two teams in the Biggleswade District challenge hike and came third and fourth in their category. **Cat. A.**

Bedfordshire on Sunday, November 18th : Poppy shame. Poppy wreaths laid by Scouts and other organisations in memory of the area's war dead in Kempston were ripped to shreds within 24 hours. **Cat C**

Leighton Buzzard`Observer, November 21st : Scouts and Guides lay wreaths of poppies. Report by Ann Weight about the Wing Scouts and Guides who were out in force for their Remembrance Service. The Scouts made their own wreath which the Beavers decorated with poppies. **Cat. B.**

Categories

- Cat A = Positive Image (Adventure, Fun or Challenge stories)
- Cat B = Neutral Image
- Cat C = Negative Image (Stories meant to sensationalise)
- Cat D = At Risk Image (Stories about accidents and court cases)

Peter Sutherst
Media Development Manager

NOTE: Please e-mail brief details of local press reports in the county's newspapers in December and January or better still send me a cutting.
Petersutherst@aol.com



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Cub Corner

Hi to all Cub Leaders

Let me introduce myself- I am Alan Burnham... for my sins, the new ACC Cubs. I am also currently DC of Lea Valley - a role I hope to shed shortly after Christmas to concentrate on the Cubs.

Prior to that I was a GSL for eight years and prior to that a cub leader for two years. So how on earth does that give me any knowledge of cubs? Well- somehow during being GSL and then DC I have always been a cub leader- don't ask how!! Somehow I have always had a pack!

My main aim as ACC Cubs will be recruitment and retention. Ideally your first port of call for these kind of sectional problems is your ADC Cubs. If you haven't got one please feel free to contact me, if you have one you can still feel free to include me.

Enough of the serious stuff- I intend to visit as many packs as possible over the coming months... but there is only one of me and lots of you! So it may be a while. However if you have something interesting, exciting or just downright daft going on, please feel at liberty to extend me an invite. I don't do watching- I prefer to muck in so if I come to see you, please give me something to do. If any of the following is of any help anytime... one of my other hobbies is nature- I am a volunteer warden on an RSPB reserve. I do a fair amount of knotting - from the practical to the highly decorative. I DO do camping!!! And I run a pretty good campfire even if I say so myself.

So have yourselves a good Christmas and come back refreshed for the biggest year ever in Scouting!!!!

Alan

01582 595687, alan.burnham@med.ge.com

County AGM 2007

The County AGM will be held on Tuesday 23 May 2007 at the Rufus Centre, Steppingley Road, Flitwick.

Young Leaders

A training weekend for Explorer Scouts who are also Young Leaders was held at Bromham in September, and attended by 9 participants from around the County.

This was a camping based weekend covering the first half of the Young Leader training programme, with plenty of time for fun and relaxation on the way.

All involved enjoyed the weekend, including the two Guide Young Leaders who were drafted in as Chariot Riders for the games module! At the end, certificates were presented and D of E record books signed where appropriate.

The next Young Leader training weekend will be in June at Bromham, again covering the first half of the training programme.

All Young Leaders in the County are invited and encouraged to attend. More details will be Circulated to all Districts soon, or you can contact Tom Oldershaw on tho@bluegreen.org.uk or 01234 211375.



County Membership Fee

The County Executive have agreed that there will be no increase in the County Membership fee for 2007. HQ have also not increased their fee for the Centenary Year.



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Royal Navy Put Sea Scouts Through Their Paces

The First Luton Sea Scouts have come through their regular Admiralty inspection with flying colours at their headquarters on Luton Hoo. Around 65 Scouts and their leaders were put through their paces by inspector Lt Commander David Griffiths RN during a gruelling two hour series of water and land based activities to emerge with their important Admiralty recognition intact. Ellie Giles (13) was awarded the title of smartest Scout, the first girl to receive this honour.

Impeccably dressed Scouts, Cub Scouts and Beaver Scouts met Lt Cmdr Griffiths when he arrived promptly at 7pm. He met the two younger sections first and asked questions about the badges they had gained and what they liked about Sea Scouts.



It was then the turn of the Scouts and Explorer Scouts to show their experience on the mirror like calm waters of the Hoo. Despite the darkening twilight skies, the Scouts were able to navigate around the water with ease. They share the lake with around a dozen swans who made a low level swoop before landing at the far end of the lake away from the action.

The Scouts demonstrated their confidence on the water when they turned over sailing boats and made the waters churn with canoes performing rescue techniques and capsize drills. Scout Leader Nicola Marshall explained to Lt Cmdr Griffiths that they were not afraid of operating in the dark. They all had waterproof lights on their safety helmets and worked in pairs to look after one another.

Once on land the inspector saw an operating balister constructed from logs and rope lashings that the Scouts used to hurl water filled balloons across the parade ground.

Over at the traditional wood fire, Scout Gemma Montford (11), helped by Duane Hutchinson (11) and Emma Coleman (10) cooked the Admiralty inspector a meal of eggs in potatoes, with orange cakes and marshmallows in chocolate for afters.

At an informal gathering after the action packed evening Lt Cmdr Griffiths confirmed that the Sea Scouts had maintained their high standard and had passed his stringent tests. He said, "You are one of just a handful of Sea Scout Groups who have had Admiralty recognition since 1941. The idea started in the early days of the second world war when Sea Scouts were used to man coastal observation stations and went on to deal with sea going rescues. The Sea Scout experience and discipline also provides a useful training ground for a career in the Royal Navy."

David Griffiths went on, "You are incredibly well supported by your leaders and clearly have lots of fun. You also have a great variety of badges including a rarity amongst Sea Scouts - a badge for skiing!"



At the end of the inspection, in front of County Commissioner John Duley and District Commissioner Karl Collins and other visitors, Lt Cmdr Griffiths announced his surprise selection of Ellie Giles (13) as the smartest Scout on parade. She had been with the Group for just two years and was the first girl to receive the distinction in the history of the Sea Scouts. Her twin sister Frances was one of the first to congratulate her. "We share most things but this one's just for her", she said.





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Fire & Ice



12TH – 14TH January 2007

COME AND JOIN THE FIRST CAMP OF 2007 AT TOLMERS

Turn up and have a go on a wide range of activities

~

£10 per person (includes camp fees and all activities)

£5 for leaders

~

For more information and to book your place please contact Tolmers:
Tolmers Scout Campsite, Tolmers Road, Cuffley, Herts, EN6 4JS
Tel: 01707 872900 email: tolmers@bigfoot.com website: www.tolmers.org.uk

SCOUT CENTENARY BALL



Harrold and Turvey Scout Groups are holding a fundraising Ball, celebrating 100 years of Scouting, on the 24th March 2007, at the newly opened Sharnbrook Hotel (on the A6 between Bedford and Rushden).

Tickets will cost £37, and this will include a champagne reception, three course meal (followed by coffee) and a disco until 1am.

To find more details, and/or reserve tickets, please contact Julie Blake (phone 01234 881202, email henryblakes@aol.com).

Demand is expected to be very high; the Groups are hoping to raise over £1600 to support their young people, and to help them have a very enjoyable "Scouting Birthday Year".



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Get Together

Date:- Saturday 13th January 2007
 Time:- 10am. till 4pm. (approx)
 Place:- Training Centre, Leslie Sell Campsite, Molivers Lane, Bromham
 Cost:- No Charge, Free, Gratis

Bring a packed lunch

Get Together" is an ideal training module for Leaders and Young Leaders who have an interest in or are already working with young people with a disability.

Viewers of the 'Blue Peter' programme raised a large amount of money for Children with Needs. The idea is to help young people with needs attend out of school clubs such as Scouts, Guides, swimming and sports activities.

Subsequently Mencap, The Scout Association and Girlguiding UK have got together and a training programme has been written to help leaders by giving some guidelines on inclusive practices within the organisation.

As this is a pilot module, places will be limited. If you wish to attend, please register by returning the attached slip to the County Office, or email before 22nd December 2006.

If you want more information, please contact Alison Kelly, Special Needs Coordinator, Tel 01525 370377 or email, alik23@btinternet.com

Return to:-
 email to: bedscouts@btinternet.com or
 The County Scout Office, Leslie Sell Campsite, Molivers Lane, Bromham, Beds MK43 8LD

Please book me a place on the "Get Together" module Saturday 13th January 2007.

Name _____	Group _____
Address _____	District _____
_____	Appointment _____
_____	Telephone No. _____
_____	email _____



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2007 Training Courses

All at Bromham Closing date 6 weeks prior

Mod 3 and 18 full day

Sunday 7th January
Saturday 3rd March
Sunday 9th September
Saturday 3th November

Mod 4 Tools for the Job (Managers) evening

Tuesday 6th March
Thursday 18th October

Mods 5, 7, 8 & 9 (not overnight)

10th & 11th March
(5 and 7 on Saturday, 8 and 9 on Sunday)
22nd & 23th September
(8 and 9 on Saturday, 5 and 7 on Sunday)

Mod 10 First Response full day

Saturday 6th January (Refresher)
Sunday 4th March
Saturday 12th May (Refresher)
Saturday 8th September
Sunday 25th November (Refresher)

Mods 11, 12, 13, & 19 (not overnight)

19th & 20th May
(11 & 12 on Saturday, 13 & 19 on Sunday)
17th & 18th November
(13 & 19 on Saturday, 11 & 12 on Sunday)

Mods 14 & 15

Saturday 6th January
Sunday 25th November

adult training

Mods 16 & 17 Monday evening and Friday to Sunday (includes two overnights)

Monday 12th March and
30th March to 1st April
Monday 3rd September and
5th to 7th October

Mods 20, 22 & 23 full day

Saturday 3rd February
Sunday 14th October

Mod 21 full day

Saturday 27th January
Sunday 24th June

Mods 24 or 26 part day (depending on attendee's roles)

Saturday 21st April
Sunday 2nd December

Mod 25 Assessing Learning full day

Sunday 4th February
Saturday 23rd June
Saturday 1st December

Modules 1 and 6 to be delivered in District after consultation with the LTM.

Modules 27 to 36 will be arranged when the need arises.

How to Apply

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

Alec Hissett	01767 650052	Amphill and Woburn, Icknield, Lea Valley, Leighton Linlade
Pearl Farr	01234 300506	Bedford, Biggleswade and Ouse Valley
David Betterton	01525 222135	Dunstable
Brian Goodchild	01582 412540	Somerley



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Chiltern Challenge 2007

It is now less than 100 days until this spectacular event happens again and already interest indicates that we will be welcoming more teams than in 2006 – which will make for a great weekend of activities, including day & night bases, night hike, camp fees / certificates / prizes etc new style orienteering activity, improved assault course, Saturday evening dinner / cooked breakfast Sunday.

To make it easy to encourage Explorers and Scouts (13+) to enter, we have produced a brochure and a letter template which you can give out which has all the details on it – just add the reply details relevant to your unit. All the paperwork (health forms etc) are provided too, so it really does only take a few minutes to register your team(s) to enter the event.

For more details, to register or to download any of the paperwork, please visit our website – <http://www.chilternchallenge.co.uk> or email info@chilternchallenge.co.uk.

I look forward to welcoming you to Chiltern Challenge 2007 at Phasels Wood.

Yours in Scouting,

Russ Dyble & the team from Hemel Hempstead Scout Network

Chiltern Challenge 2007 Organisers

07790 296378

www.chilternchallenge.co.uk

Sainsbury's



Register from 4 December for Active Kids!

With Sainsbury's Active Kids 2007 Scouts can collect vouchers for equipment and resources designed to complement a wide range of Scouting activities

<http://www.scouts.org.uk/scoutingplus/301106/301106.htm>

Letchworth and Baldock District Gang Show 2007

The Letchworth and Baldock Gang Show cast of Brownies, Cubs, Guides, Scouts, Explorers and Leaders performs their show three times, over the weekend of 24th March 2007 at St Francis College Theatre, Letchworth. They perform on both Friday and Saturday evenings as well as a Saturday Matinee.

The show has a Dr Who section, which was an idea that came directly from several members of last years cast. There will also be sections on Eurovision / X Factor; Wild West and Colours of the Rainbow.

The Gang (with an average age of only 10years) rehearse every weekend from the October half term, their enthusiasm, energy and commitment continues to surpass any expectations that the production team have.

Book your Group tickets early (by 31st January) and take advantage of our special offer, Buy 10 tickets @ £5.00 each and will give you 2 tickets free.

Come and see the show!

Come along and join in a song or two!

For further information and ticket availability contact:

Peter Marsh on 01462 624894 after 3:30

Or The Gang Show Answerphone 01462 671183



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Bedfordshire Scouts Centenary Calendar

At 8am on Thursday 1st August 1907, Robert Baden Powell sounded a bugle call that started the very first Scout camp on Brownsea Island in Poole Harbour. At 8am on Wednesday 1st August 2007 the echo of this bugle call will rouse over 28 million Scouts around the world at sunrise camps where they will gather to celebrate 100 years of Scouting.

To commemorate this event Bedfordshire Scouts, with the help of county archivist Mrs Cynth Sutherst, have produced a desk calendar as a memento of Scouting in our county over the past 100 years. Each month has a relevant themed picture and the calendar comes in a smart CD jewel case that doubles as a desk stand.



Included with the calendar is a reminder of key Scouting milestones over the last 100 years. Even more important, there is a useful timetable of the major events that we will all be celebrating in centenary year.

The calendar costs £4.50 each post free and all profits go to the county jamboree fund.

Calendars are on sale from Someries Scout Shop, the County Office, or can be ordered by leaving an address and telephone number on BedsSctsCal2007@aol.com.

SSAGO

In 2007, Scouting will be 100 years old and the Student Scout and Guide Organisation (SSAGO) is 40 years old.

Although it is SSAGOs birthday in February, we are keen to hear from members who were involved prior to 1967 or subsequently in independent Student Scout and Guide Clubs.

SSAGO has always liked having a good time, and 2007 will be no different. A special reunion rally is planned for early July, which promises to be the best summer rally ever!!! Other events including a formal ball are currently being finalised. Even if you have no interest in coming along to a rally or other event, we are keen to find out more about SSAGOs past.

If you wish to find out more information about SSAGO 2007, please email ssago2007ev...@googlemail.com. It would help if you could give the following information, name, involvement in SSAGO (which club you were in club, a rough guess at the years you were involved), a contact email or/and postal address, what you are doing now and how you would like to be involved.

Martin Whelan

Reunion Event Secretary, www.ssago.org.uk

Centenary Challenge

I wonder if you can help. I am a Cub Scout Leader from Suffolk and have set myself a personal Centenary Challenge to set up a pen pal link with a leader (of whichever section) from Each county of the UK to correspond, ideally by e-mail and share ideas and experiences.

Paul Daley

CSL 2nd Ipswich

paulmarydaley@btinternet.com

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CAMPSITES

HENLOW

Boyd Campsite, Church Road, Henlow
(Biggleswade District Campsite)

Warden:

P Bellamy

Boyd Campsite, Church Road,
Henlow, SG16 6AR

Site Tel: 01462 811424

info@boydcampsite.com

www.boydcampsite.com

JORDANS CLOSE

New Road, Great Barford, Bedford
(Bedford District Campsite)

Warden:

David White

4 Fair Way

Great Barford, Bedford

MK44 3LT

Tel: 01234 870837

dw@great-barford.demon.co.uk

LEIGHTON BUZZARD

Memorial HQ, Grovebury Road
(1st Leighton Buzzard Group Campsite)

Bookings:

Sarah Roberts 01525 854159

LONGROVE

Studham, Bedfordshire
(Studham, Kensworth & Whipsnade
Group Campsite)

Bookings:

John Coleman

40 Northview Road, Houghton Regis,
Dunstable, Beds LU5 5AH

Tel: 01582 613150

MILTON BRYAN

Church End, Milton Bryan, Beds
(Amphill & Woburn District Campsite)

Bookings

Julie Richards, 2 Recreation Road,
Houghton Regis, LU5 5JW 01582-611943

kennith.richards@ntlworld.com

Warden:

Phil Thorogood—01525 8753685
59 Wingfield Road, Tebworth, LU7 9QQ

SHARNBROOK

Yelow Lane, Sharnbrook, Beds
(Sharnbrook Group Campsite)

Bookings:

Dr J Best

1 Windmill Court

High Street, Sharnbrook

Beds MK44 1PG

Tel: 01234 782223

The Leslie Sell Activity Centre Molivers Lane, Bromham, Bedford

Have you visited the site recently and experienced our new toilet and shower facility
Why not give us a try for your next outdoor or indoor camp

8 acres of Grass, 10 acres of Woodland,
Dormitory Accommodation for 26, a Storm Building and Training Centre
Archery, Shooting and Orienteering.

For availability or a brochure please call Rita on 01234 824080 or email
bromham.camp@btinternet.com