

HEADLINES

FEBRUARY 2011



HERTFORDSHIRE

**DELIVER THE
ADVENTURE...**

HERTFORDSHIRE ACTIVITY CENTRES

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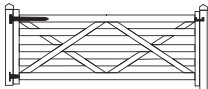
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OUR ACTIVITY CENTRES HELP YOU DELIVER THE ADVENTURE.

HEADLINES

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Editors Note

With the year off to a flying start we must firstly thank Melvyn Teare for Editing "Headlines" for the past 5 years. We can fully understand the task having put this edition together, once again many thanks.

Headlines, Headlines Express and the County Website are the main tools that we use to communicate with all in Hertfordshire Scouts. We need these methods to be effective. As such we are running a small survey which lead in to a review of our communications over the coming months. The survey can be found at www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/surveycomms where you can fill it in online, or download, print and post us your views.

Headlines and the website are always in need of good quality images of Scouting in Hertfordshire. If you think you have something suitable, please send it in to headlines@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk, along with an event write-up or even just a short description!

Best Regards,

The Headlines Editorial Team

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Frontcover Photo:

Brocken Spectre on AMC by Matt Dean



HERTFORDSHIRE

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RikkiLeaks!

Do you like the new name for my piece? I was going to call it Rikipedia but thought that sounded as though I needed an urgent appointment review. So I will leak some of my thoughts and maybe occasional hearsay or tittle tattle.

I'm a bit fragile today. It's either post Gang Show depression or the last-night party. Whatever, I do love my annual dose of 'sharp end' Scouting, although it's a bit like having grandchildren – you can enjoy them for a short time while they're being nice and hand them back when you've had enough. Many thanks to those at the sharp end week in, week out. The other activity I retain from my past is the Cubs' free Christmas card delivery service for the elderly of Harpenden. This really is a win-win. The Cubs and the parents greatly enjoy it and our 'customers' hugely appreciate it and say wonderful things about the town's youth. I very much hope that, included in your adventures for the year, will be some novel and enjoyable community service – an aspect of Scouting which I sometimes worry may not have quite the priority it once did.

Talking of win-win, lottery tickets to support the purchase and development of Phasels and Tolmers should by now be penetrating deeply into the County. Even if you don't win the cash, you win by knowing that you are securing the future of two great assets, so important to our County's Scouting.

Your census figures are in (I sincerely hope!) and being counted. How close can we get to having the largest number of Scouts ever in Hertfordshire – and in your own District or Group?

The year ahead is sure to be exciting for many – those going to the Jamboree, those celebrating Group centenaries, Beavers celebrating their 25th birthday. These may be some of the highlights but, hopefully, 2011 will hold excitement for each and every one of us in some Scouting form or other. I've got my lottery ticket and am excited about the future of our Activity Centres!

Many thanks for all you do.

Rikki

cc@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk



First Draw - Friday 6th May



Subscribe to the Lottery and help us climb the heights to secure the future of our activity centres at Phasels Wood and Tolmers.

The Lottery has now been launched and supplies of leaflets are now with your District Champion.

It's £52 for an annual direct debit
 £26 for six months
 £13 for three months.
 Weekly prizes of £1,000 plus smaller prizes.



Remember, the Lottery will make money that will help your Scout Group as well as the appeal.



Promoter: Nigel Clark
 Licensed by Hertsmere Borough Council
 License number 094
 Hertfordshire County Scout Council Charity Numbers:
 England and Wales : 302606
 Scotland: 039650



History and Heritage Support Team

In January 1911, following its second full year of being a Scout County, Percy Everett, (PWE), CC of Hertfordshire was pleased with the way things had turned out. There were 16 Districts each with its own President, Secretary and Executive Committee. Troops and Patrols were establishing themselves in increasing numbers. Now that Districts were being registered, the organisation he had set up was being copied all over the UK. His boss B-P had a problem. The vast area of the County of Middlesex was in chaos. No one would take on its organisation saying it was too big. "Impossible" was a frequent word used by the staff at IHQ. PWE, B-Ps right hand man, offered to take on the project. So in addition to being CC for Hertfordshire he accepted the role of CC for Middlesex until May 1913. During this time, order was established and following its first year, the census showed an increase from 700 to 2000 Scouts. It was often said of PWE that he was "a man who could get more work done in a day than most people could do in a week." The enthusiasm, ability and expertise of PWE had set Hertfordshire up as the role model for the rest of the UK and he remained CC of Hertfordshire for 36 years. All this time he was a Chief Commissioner of IHQ, a member of the triumvirate (in the later years of B-Ps role) and at the age of 70 took on the exhausting role of Deputy Chief Scout to Lord Somers when B-P died in 1941.

Bill Turnbull MBE Chairman of Mid Herts District, enthused by the rediscovery of long lost artefacts from Hatfield, has set to and spent time researching the history of Mid Herts, Welwyn, and Hatfield Districts. Using the facilities and information held in the Archive Cabin at Well End he has been able to write an excellent and very detailed history of each Group and the Districts from 1908 to the present day. This is being serialised in their District Newsletter.

At the age of 90, Stan Hedge, the Badge Secretary for Watford Central District for 25 years has "Gone Home." The funeral was attended by 25 friends and relations on 6 December and I was moved by the love, friendship and respect he had developed during his lifetime.

Also George Folly who died aged 90. His funeral was held at Royston on 22 December and I joined a guard of honour of Scouts to escort him in and out of the Parish Church where nearly 100 people were present. He was one of the few people to receive his King's Scout Badge from B-P during his last visit to Hertfordshire in 1933. Some appointments George held were as DC for 4 years, and GSL of the First Royston Group for 15 years. He was awarded the Silver Wolf in 1981.

Woodsmoke the longest running Group magazine of Abbots Langley Scouts has reported the loss of 2 of its most energetic supporters. Rose Baldry who was a founder member of the Ladies Guild and was a great fundraiser for the Group. Also Grace Young who had similar qualities and also many ideas for successful fund raising.

I have always considered our most important resource in Hertfordshire Scouting is its dedicated people. When they "Go Home" it is important to record and pay tribute to the service and support they have rendered to our young people however insignificant this may have been. May I ask Groups and Districts to advise me directly of a passing so that past and present members can be properly recorded in the County Obit File. This now contains the details of nearly 600 people who have "Gone Home" in the past 103 years.



Frank Brittain, County Archivist
archivist@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk

Stevenage Inspires

Stevenage Borough Council host an annual Pride of Stevenage event, this covers 6 categories and Stevenage Scouting were nominated and won the SO INSPIRING award.

This award was collected by Stevenage District Commissioner Roy Nicholson on Saturday evening 6th November at a Community Reception held in the Concert Hall of the Gordon Craig Theatre.

Roy was presented with a trophy, framed certificate and £100 cheque, the judges said:

"Right across Stevenage, hundreds of young people are involved in Scouting, and reap the benefits it offers."



Adult Support Team

Supporting Adult Training, Active Support and Special Needs

News and Update

Happy New Year from the Adult Support Team.

We hope everyone had a fantastic Christmas and New Year and is now well into the new Scouting year.

Perhaps part of your New Year's resolution is to complete some adult training? If so, we have a full calendar of courses now available for booking on the County website including some new venues. All modules are now available in both Spring and Autumn.

<http://www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/index.php/adult-support/training-courses>

If you need to validate modules, why not drop your Training Adviser or Local Training Manager a line? Many leaders are surprised how much can be validated in just a short meeting with a TA or the LTM.

Changes to Nights Away Training

As of the start of 2011 Module 16 – Nights Away has been split:

Module 16 – Planning Residential Experiences – a compulsory Woodbadge module lasting about 3-4hrs.

Topics covered:

- understanding the role that residential experience have in the development of young people
- understanding the organisation and administration of residential experiences
- knowing how to identify the skills required within a team running a residential experience
- understanding the Nights Away Permit scheme
- Knowing where to go for support and further information when planning a residential experience

The skills covered are equally applicable to organising day outings in your section so this is a valuable training, even if you never plan to be directly involved in running residential experiences.

Module 38 – Skills for Residential Experiences – an optional module lasting a short weekend if covered in its entirety.

This training does not automatically give you Nights Away Permit. It is an opportunity

to learn and develop the skills needed for going on to be assessed for a Nights Away Permit.

Topics covered:

- Understanding the planning process
- Identifying the main elements of effective administration
- Choosing and preparing staff
- Choosing, using and maintaining the right equipment
- Demonstrating practical skills
- Identifying health, happiness and safety issues
- Catering requirements
- Evaluating venues

This split is meant to make the scheme more flexible so that it can be tailored to your needs. Your Training Adviser or Local Training Manager should be able to advise on the most appropriate course(s) for you.

Positions Vacant

Training Team:

There are a number of vacancies in your County Training Team. Vast experience in Scouting is not necessary; if you are enthusiastic about Scouting, and enjoy communicating with others please consider joining the friendly and approachable team. Training of other leaders is fun and can be very rewarding particularly helping to pass on skills to the next generation of leaders. We are looking for people of

all ages, backgrounds and experience, from all sections.

There are opportunities to suit all levels of commitment. If you are interested, know someone else who might be, fancy a change of role, or just want to know more, please do drop me a line, I would love to be able to discuss the various opportunities with you. dcc.adultsupport@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk

First Aid Trainers:

All leaders in the County need to complete a minimum of First Response first aid training to complete their Woodbadge and for appointment review every five years. With 2500 adult members in the County that is a lot of training! In order to meet this demand and ensure that any leader in Hertfordshire who needs training can get it we are looking for a team of First Aid Trainers to deliver module 10 – First Response. ➡



You may already be a qualified First Aid trainer but if not you will need to hold a full First Aid certificate and be comfortable presenting to adults. We will provide the necessary training to qualify you as a First Response trainer for the Scout Association. Given a big enough team this should not be an onerous task and you could be based in your local area, helping to train your local colleagues.

Please do consider this role; a vital one to ensure that we share the skills necessary around the County for the welfare of all our members.

If you are able to help please do drop me a line at dcc.adultsupport@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk

County Active Support Unit Manager

There is a role description for this important role available on the website at <http://www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/vacancies>

If you are interested please do contact me at dcc.adultsupport@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk

Resources

Special Needs

From Anita Claydon, ACC Special Needs.

Having been privileged to have met so many of the dedicated Leaders we are so fortunate to have here in Hertfordshire, and having listened to your needs as far as children with Special Needs and disability are concerned, at our last Team Meeting it was decided to put together a fact sheet of useful sources of information.

This will only be a sample of what is available but if anyone has found any others that have been really useful please feel free to email me, acc.specialneeds@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk, and I will add them to the list.

- For general information on Special Educational Needs including a wide range of factsheets refer to the main Scout website: <http://scouts.org.uk/supportresources>. Click on 'Scouting for All'. The factsheets are regularly reviewed with new ones being introduced as needed.
- A great deal of information on many aspects of special needs is available from the special needs office. For specific help and queries contact them via the Information Centre on 0845 300 1818 or special.needs@scout.org.uk.
- Factsheet FS250046 lists various resources that can be borrowed and links to other organisations for a wide range of special needs and disabilities.
- Information and resources from External organisations can be found at <http://www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/specialneeds>

Up and Coming

Open College Network Support

You may have noticed in your Adult's Personal File that it is possible to work towards a qualification in 'Providing Voluntary Youth Services' or 'Managing Voluntary Youth Services' via the Open College Network (OCN) as part of your adult training. More details are available here <https://members.scouts.org.uk/supportresources/2769/open-college-network-awards-ocn?cat=23,232&moduleID=10>

If you are already working towards this and need support, or would like further information we will be running workshops on 12th and 13th March in Hatfield. Booking details are available on the County Training courses page. You can also contact our resident 'expert' Nick Farmer, LTM in Hitchin and Letchworth and Baldock - nick.farmer@mail.com

First Response Dates

These are available now for the Spring. Please book promptly as these courses will fill quickly. Please note that since First Response courses are expensive to run we intend bill Districts for anyone who has booked a course but does not turn up without cancelling in advance. I am sure everyone will appreciate that as a valuable resource we hope this ensures that there are spaces available for those who need it.

International Expedition Planning Training – Sunday 10th April

Led by the International Team and held at Well End, this event is for Scout, Explorer and Network Leaders to give support and advice on planning International Expeditions for their sections in 2012. See elsewhere in this edition for more detail.

Regional Support Days – Advance Warning

These events will be aimed at providing targeted support and information to Group Scout Leaders, District Commissioners and Supporter roles as well as giving HQ an opportunity to hear your views.

DCs/GSLs - Saturday 8th October

Although for GSLs and DCs, DESCs and CSNCs are also invited.

Support Teams – Sunday 9th October

For ACCs and ADCs for the Programme Sections and Activities, Safety Awareness Co-ordinators, County Training Managers and Active Support Managers.

Both are to be held at Wyboston Lakes Conference Centre in Cambridgeshire. Further details to follow but please put the date in your diary now if you hold one of the above appointments.

Tim Mills, Deputy County Commissioner (Adult Support)

dcc.adultsupport@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk

News from the Groups

Rotary Shoe Box Scheme

Beavers and Cubs from 1st Radlett and 4th Radlett Scouts Groups have both recently been taking part in the Rotary Shoe Box Scheme. This is a scheme where shoebox size boxes containing small gifts are sent to less well off communities in Eastern Europe.

The aim is to help ease the plight of orphans and disadvantaged children in countries such as Belarus, Albania, Kosovo, Romania, Ukraine, Turkey and Poland by giving small gifts to show that people in the rest of the world care.

Both groups collectively filled more than 100 boxes which should be soon wending their way across Europe to their intended destination.

Simon Pyzer, GSL 4th Radlett



Watford Beavers Come Runner Up in National Competition

6th North Watford Beavers have come runners up in a national competition run by Chubb Fire in association with Scouts, to design their Christmas e-card on the theme "How fire is involved in your Christmas".

This term, our Beavers have been working towards the Safety Activity Badge. During one of our sessions, the Beavers made collages of candles and fireplaces using felt, buttons, cotton wool and other items. Our Group Scout Leader was then invited to select three of the designs to enter into this competition on behalf of the group. A few weeks ago we heard the wonderful news that one of these designs was chosen from over a hundred entries as runner up and we had won £100 to put towards an activity for the Beavers. Last week, a representative from Chubb came along to present us with a "big" cheque.

When asked what inspired the winning design, the Beaver who drew it said *"My candle is setting a good example to little children not to play with fires at home. I decorated the candle to make it look colourful and large enough so everyone can see it."*



Lorraine Morgan, "Puffin", 6th North Watford Beavers

Ware's the Christmas Post!

This year 3rd Ware Scout Group trialled a Scout post system. The Group recognised that it was a steep learning curve and so, for this year only, limited the eligible people to members of the Group and their families.



A stamp design competition was held and a winner announced, the judge chose the design because he felt it encompassed the joy of Christmas. Members of the Group sold stamps, collected cards, sorted, franked and then delivered them to the people of Ware.

Now the system is in place the scheme will be opening up to all of Ware in 2011 and the leaders, parents and young people will be ending the centenary year of the Group by delivering cards to their local community. Why not note the date and use the service if you are visiting Ware at that time.

Ware's Gus Celebrating Today?

This year 3rd Ware Scout Group is celebrating 100 Scouting years and being part of Ware and District. A special new member has joined, Augustus Clibbon, otherwise known as



Gus. He is named after Reverend Augustus Payne who founded 3rd Ware and the Clibbon family who played a significant part in the early years of the Troop. Look out for Gus at District and county events, he will be attending with members of 3rd Ware and will then be writing about his experiences on his Blog:

<http://gus-augustusclibbon.blogspot.com>

He is always happy to have his photo taken or to greet fellow Scouts. So far he has visited the Scout Troop, been for a meal with the Leaders, been Geocaching and helped the GSL's wife tidy and put up a display in the Scout HQ. He is looking forward to a Museum opening and a party this month. Why not take a look at his blog and make a comment to let him know you dropped by.

Jacqueline Matthews, 3rd Ware

Boxmoor's Back!

More young people in Hemel Hempstead District now have the opportunity to follow in the footsteps of Chief Scout Bear Grylls. This is due to the reopening of 3rd Boxmoor Scout Group, all made possible by 9 adults from all walks of life who have volunteered their time to become leaders.

The 41 new members can now look forward to a camp at Easter along with joining in with over 50 other activities planned this year with other groups in Hemel Hempstead including the District Adventure Camp in Yorkshire at May Half Term.

Hemel Hempstead DC, Stuart Dickens says: "It's great to have been able to re-open a Scout Group which has had a proud history until it closed about 5 years ago due to a lack of volunteers. The team have completed their training and are full of enthusiasm."



Programme Team

Supporting 6-25 Programme, Activities and International

News and Update

330 Explorer Scouts and a Chinese meal?

Yes, over 330 Explorer Scouts took part in another fantastic meal at the Aroma Restaurant in Stevenage just before Christmas. The Explorers helped themselves to as much as they could eat during the evening and a number of special prizes were given out at the end of the evening including an iPod a digital camera and iTunes Vouchers. If you want to guarantee a good night out, make sure you book your Explorer Scouts onto the 2011 event on 5th December – the details will follow later in the year. A big thank you to “Team Pink” for organising this special event.



Recognising the achievement of the Queen's Scout Award

As part of our ongoing development to recognise the achievement of our young people in the County, we can now announce that we will introduce two key elements to congratulate our Queen's Scouts. In addition to the national recognition they receive through the Royal Certificate and an invitation to the National Scout Service and Parade at Windsor Castle, Hertfordshire Scout County will hold an annual Queen's Scout Dinner for those who gain the award in the preceding year. Additionally, they will be presented with a unique and restricted Hertfordshire Queen's Scout woggle which has been based on a design produced by Victoria Bolton, an Explorer Scout from Nomad ESU, Hertford who will receive a £25 iTunes voucher for her design. The final design will be in next month's Headlines.



Ware Priory

The 2011 Queen's Scout Dinner will be held at the Priory, Ware on 15th April 2011 and hosted by the Rikki. The County will be paying for each individual Queen's Scout's meal and each Queen's Scout can bring up to four other guests. Last year there were 16 Queen's Scouts eligible to attend the dinner.



Beaver Scout's 25th Birthday year!

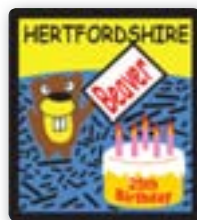
Yes, it really was 1986 when Beaver Scouts were officially recognised by The Scout Association. Some of you will have watched the first Colonies opening in your Districts, some of you may have been the very first Leaders, brave enough to venture into uncharted territory, and some may even have been some of the first Beaver Scouts. We in the County Beaver Scout team would love to hear your memories of the time so please get in touch.



The Beaver Scout team within County are aiming to make the year something special for our 3000+ Beavers by holding a range of events, both locally and as a County. We have already held our Design a Birthday badge competition. We received 130

entries from across the County! 2 winners were chosen and these have been merged to create a badge all Beavers will be proud to wear for the whole of 2011.

Please contact beavers@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk for details of how to purchase them.



Some Beaver Celebration events and activities:

Sunday 12th February sees the “Beavers’ Big Birthday Sleepover”.

These events, run within Districts, are an opportunity to get together with all our beaver friends for a sleepover we won’t forget. With a party theme, there are plans for making party food, decorations, hats, and, of course, a “birthday cake” in a variety of locations. We already know of one District who is sleeping in a police station!

Sunday 12th June is the date for the “Beavers’ Brilliant Birthday Party”.

This is being held at Tolmers and there will be a range of activities on site, including ice skating, archery, shooting, climbing, bouncy castles, an inflatable assault course and a variety of craft “make and takes” – truly something for everyone! Carrot’s Roadshow will be along to keep us entertained and to help us cut the cake. Come and join in the fun – visit the website above.

During September, date to be fixed - the Family Fun Day at Paradise Wildlife Park.

Last year, Colonies from as far as London, Oxford and Cambridgeshire joined Hertfordshire Beavers to visit the park, hear talks and presentations, meet the animals, handle a range of intriguing artefacts and work towards their Animal Friend and Explore interest badges and their Global Challenge badge too! 2011 promises to be even better with more activities for our 25th birthday.

Sunday 9th October - our second Cyclocross competition will take place at Well End.

All Beavers are welcome to come and try their hand at our timed, flat, skills course.

Whatever your Colony is doing to celebrate our 25th Birthday, whether it be joining us for one of our events or staging one of your own, we all wish you a fantastic time.

Vicki Gage - County Beaver Scout Leader

vicki.gage@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk

Don’t forget.....Celebrating Achievement Cards!

They are still there..... don’t forget to recognise the achievement of your young people by using the special County congratulations cards. It all very simple..... just tell your District Programme Award Contact – your District Commissioner will tell you who this is in your District. For more information visit: www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/awardcards



County Units to World Scout Jamboree, Sweden 2011

Only a few months to go now before our Units depart for the Jamboree. The pre event will be in Copenhagen and the Home Hospitality will be in Croatia for the Comet Unit, the Czech Republic for the Spitfire Unit and Portugal for the Jigsaw combined Unit. There will be a joint Units camp in in March and a special send off event for parents, supporters and Districts on the 26th June – details on this will follow. If you require any further information, please email Tony Hankin on t.hankin@btinternet.com, Liz Walker on Liz_walker@btconnect.com or Jen Coates on wsj2011@hotmail.co.uk. *Support our Units!*....The Units are raising funds by selling a special Hertfordshire supporter badge (see image right) which is available from any of the Jamboree participants or leaders. All funds raised will directly benefit the Hertfordshire units. These are available at £1.50 per badge.



Programme Support and Ideas

Next County Skills Booster Day - Sun 27th March 2011

Building on the popularity and success of the Skills Booster days in 2010, the next event for anyone working in the Beaver, Cub or Scout Sections will be on the 27th March at the Barclay School, Walkern Road, Stevenage. As a reminder, these events will help you to:

- gain practical programme ideas to take away;
- share ideas for weekly programmes and activities;
- meet Leaders working in other Sections;
- give you International and Activities ideas;
- discuss issues affecting your Section;
- use the Chief Scout's Awards, QSA and Duke of Edinburgh's Award and
- gain 5 hours of your annual ongoing training obligation.

The bases will include: Sectional Programme Planning, using Challenge Badges, Activity Badges, working towards achieving Chief Scout Awards, practical sessions on Activity Badges for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, basic & advanced knotting, making a happier Colony/Pack, basic mapping, lamps & Stoves, Residential Experiences, introduction to Backwoods, management and planning resources, 'Activities' PLUS we will also be having some input from UK HQ on activities. Remember there is no cost to you, so don't delay – book today by visiting the website:

www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/6-14

Sectional Programme Resources - This Editions Recommendation



Are you sure you have all the skills you need to take young people away? Need some fresh tips and advice on camping – well how about reading the revised Nights Away book. It covers subjects ranging from planning a residential experience, effective administration, catering and overseas events and much more.....it is for all sections and the new 127 page A5 format is compact and easy to use.

It is priced at £8.50 and available from your local Scout shop or Scout Shops Ltd.

Also whilst on this important outdoors subject, another book you may find very helpful is “A complete Guide to Scouting Skills”. A great read with easy to follow diagrams on all aspects of Scouting skills ranging from fire lighting to fishing!

Priced at £9.99 and may be available from your local Scout shop or Scout Shops Ltd at www.scoutshops.com



Resource Pack: The Police Community Challenge Award Activity Pack

The Police are delighted to have launched a national partnership with The Scout Association to give Scout Groups an opportunity to work with their local police force and make a difference in their community, thanks to an exciting new resource for the police-sponsored Scout Community Challenge Award.

Local community policing teams work with residents and partner agencies such as councils, to improve their local area. The new downloadable resource pack allows Scouts to get involved in this process and gives officers the opportunity to understand the issues from a young person's perspective. The pack consists of:

Leader's notes - a step-by-step guide to your Community Challenge
Scouts Activity Pack - quizzes, observational tasks, maps and wordsearch.
Headquarters would be delighted for your feedback on this award - please email sally.hilton@scouts.org.uk with your projects and pictures.



Your Help Needed...Minibus Hire - a message from Dan Nathan, ACC Activities

The most common question I get asked is...."Do you know where I can hire a cheap minibus?" I am keen to pass on information of the Minibuses that belong to Scout Groups/Districts within Hertfordshire that I know about as these always offer the best value for money. However, I am sure there are many more out there that I don't know about. I would like to compile a directory of Scout Minibuses within Hertfordshire that are available for hire. This directory would then be available from County Office and possibly also the website. If you do not currently hire your minibus out to other groups/districts then this is good way to raise funds towards the running costs of your bus. You will need to consider whether ➡

your current minibus insurance will cover other Scout Groups, but in all instances drivers should hold the Hertfordshire County Council Minibus Permit.



I will be compiling the directory at the beginning of March. If you would like your minibus included in the directory please send the following details to me at acc.activities@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk. *Group Name, District, Minibus Make and Model, No of Seats, Roof Rack?, Contact Name, Contact Telephone, Contact Email.*

Up and Coming

Back to Basic day - Harmergreen Wood Campsite April 9th & 10th 2011

A new event aimed at all leader and helpers who would like the chance to brush up or even learn some new fundamental Scouting skills in the outdoors. There will be bases on the Saturday and Sunday such as axe and saw, wood identification, cooking outdoors and bivouac building. There is also the chance to stay over Saturday night. Interested? Email the warden at harmergreen@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk. There is no cost (even for staying overnight) – meals included free!



Chiltern Challenge 4th – 6th March

Explorers: You may already be planning your teams for Chiltern Challenge. If you are reading this and thinking... "I knew there was something I needed to do", then get your skates on as the closing date is now! More info at www.chilternchallenge.co.uk or contact the organisers at: info@chilternchallenge.co.uk.

HEAT - 1st – 3rd April

HEAT (Hertfordshire Explorers About Town) is rapidly approaching and the preparations for the weekend are well underway. This is a special event for Explorer Scouts with fun and challenge that will take them about town. If the application pack has not dropped into your mailbox already, it should be there imminently.

The mystery tour this year is completely different to previous years and is looking to be really quite exciting.

We are short on team members to help coordinate and run some of the activities on Friday night, Saturday Evening and Sunday. If you are available for any of this time and would like to help Team Pink out, then please do contact us at heat@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk or call Dan on 07900 605197.



Gilwell 24 – 8th – 10th July

Once again Hertfordshire will be supporting Gilwell 24. Going on feedback from last year, we are looking to coordinate entries from all units across the County and camp as one unit. We can then centralise any equipment and catering, and also leaders are more likely to get a chance to take part in some of the activities. If your unit is considering attending G24 this year and you would like to join forces, please get in touch with Dan on 07900 605197 or email acc.activities@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk



GILWELL
PARK

GILWELL 24
8-10TH JULY 2017



Basic Hillwalking Training

We are looking to run a series of training sessions for leaders who do not currently have any skills in Hillwalking but would like to start looking into taking their groups out into the hills.

The training will initially consist of 1 evening (10th March), 1 day (provisionally 20th March) and then a weekend away (provisionally 10th -12th June). These initial sessions should give you the essentials to be able to further your skills at your own pace and then proceed onto the Intermediate Mountaineering Course at Lochearnhead.

To register your interest for this course, please email County Office – admin@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk

Basic Hillwalking Training – Trainers

We need a small team to support the delivery of the Basic Hillwalking Training. If you currently hold a Hillwalking Activity Permit and have the time to pass on your skills to others please get in contact with Mick Gurney at land.activities@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk or call him on 07795 516057.

Climbing Weekend – 16th – 18th September

The County Climbing Weekend is planned for September this year. We are looking for a small team to coordinate and organise the weekend, looking at catering, transport, accommodation etc. If you would like to help out with this, please contact Mick Gurney at land.activities@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk or call him on 07795 516057.

Here are a few key dates for the next month or so for your diary.....

- 12th Feb - Watford FC Annual Scout and Guide Match
- 12th Feb - Beaver Sleepovers, 25th Birthday Celebrations
- 5th/6th Mar - Chiltern Challenge
- 10th Mar - Basic Hillwalking Training part 1
- 25th/27th Mar - Joint Unit Camp for the Jamboree
- 1st/3rd Apr - HEAT
- 2nd Apr (TBC) - County Cub and Scout Swimming Gala

All the details for the above are, or soon will be on the County Website

Greg Stewart, Deputy County Commissioner (Programme)

dcc.programme@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk



International Matters

If you are going abroad this year, either as an individual or with your Pack, Troop or Unit - please remember to ask me for a Visits Abroad Pack - even if it's only a day trip to Boulogne with your Cub Scouts. The pack deals with everything from insurance to health and safety matters and, all important, the forms contained within are necessary to complete under the rules of our Association. A phone call or email (but please give your postal address) will suffice.

If you are thinking about taking your Troop or Unit abroad, maybe for the first time, in 2012 then you may be interested in joining the Expedition Planning day at Well End on Sunday, 10th April this year. The day will cover all aspects of camping and travelling abroad – sites, risk assessment, insurance, health and safety, Scout contacts and, above all, giving our young people a great international experience. Full details will be circulated to leaders in due course, but if you are interested and want to know more at this stage drop me a line as below.

Mike Aston, ACC (International)

8 Causeway Close, Potters Bar EN6 5HW

Tel. 01707 658644 Email acc.international@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk



Triathlon and Pushkart Racing Lees Wood Sunday 20th March 2011

Triathlon - Run 2 laps of Lees Wood, Cycle 2 Laps of Whippendell Wood, Rifle Shoot.

Pushkart Racing - Race around the grass track.

Triathlon starts at 10.00, Pushkart Racing starts at 14.00, teams of 4 required for both. Enter just Triathlon, just Pushkart Racing or both.

Cost: Triathlon - £10 per team, Pushkart Racing - £10 per team, or £17.50 per team for both events.

Closing date for entries is Saturday 6th March

Further information and entry forms can be found at www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/scouts



ITTH – Introduction To The Hills 2011



The One and Only ITTH is fast approaching, Friday 29th April – Monday 2nd May

Herts Scouts and Guides aged between 10 and 14 are invited for an action packed weekend at Orchard Farm in the Peak District. We will introduce you to numerous activities, including; climbing, cycling, walking & orienteering.



Prior to the trip, we will hold a gathering for the Scouts and Guides together with parents/guardians to enable us to share our plans for the weekend and for you to raise any questions you may have. This has been provisionally booked for Sunday 6th March 3pm, at Templewood School in Welwyn Garden City.

Date: Friday 29th April – Monday 2nd May, Venue: Orchard Farm, Peak District
Cost: £92.50 (the same as last year)

If you are a Guide, Scout or Leader who is interested in joining this fun weekend and would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact me on the details below.

To confirm your place please fill in the application form available on the website at <http://www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/itth> and return with your deposit of £40 (non-returnable), made payable to 'ITTH – Herts Guides & Scouts', by Friday 4th February to:

ITTH, Toby Stromberg, Woodland Cottage, 89 Sutton Road, Watford, WD17 2QG
Tel: 07551 244512
E-mail: hertsitth@googlemail.com

We cannot accept forms which have not been signed by your Guide or Scout Leader

Walking the Great Wall

Kayleigh Oddy, ABSL at 17th Hitchin will be jetting off to China in April with 2 friends to walk part of The Great Wall of China in aid of charity. Kayleigh is raising money for The National Autism Society, while Emma is raising for Keech Childrens Hospice and Sabrina is raising for Herts MIND and Cancer Research UK.

Kayleigh says "We would be grateful if you can help raise awareness and much needed donations towards our cause. We have each set up our own donation pages where people can make online donations safely and securely."

www.justgiving.com/kayleigh-oddy0
www.justgiving.com/emma-mahmood
www.everyclick.com/sabrinagreatwallofchinatrek

More information on their trek at
www.charitychallenge.com/expedition.html?id=1277



Can you enthuse and inspire Beavers and Leaders?

Helping with the County Beaver Scout Team could be for you....

We are expanding our **County Beaver Scout Support Team**. There are exciting and rewarding opportunities for people to help plan and run activities in Hertfordshire for Beaver Scouts and their Leaders. The County runs a number of events such as Beaver fun days, Cyclocross, County Parties, sleepovers and skills booster events for Leaders and so on and we are always looking for fresh ideas.

We are NOT looking for adults that have been in Scouting for years and have helped write "the book" - whatever your experience and however much time you could give, there may be a place for you. There need not be any formal appointment or long term commitment, just your enthusiasm and ideas and all travelling costs in the County would be reimbursed.

If you are in any way interested and would welcome some more information or a chat, please ring Greg Stewart, Deputy County Commissioner for Programme on **01279 501736** or email **dcc.programme@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk**

Go on.... give us a call! We can promise fun and great times helping more Beavers and the adults who work so hard across the County.

Can you enthuse and inspire Cubs and Leaders?

Helping with the County Cub Scout Team could be for you....

We are expanding our **County Cub Scout Support Team**. There are exciting and rewarding opportunities for people to help plan and run activities in Hertfordshire for Cub Scouts and their Leaders. The County runs a number of events such as Night Hikes, Cyclocross, Six-a-side football, canoeing days and skills booster events for Leaders and so on and we are always looking for fresh ideas.

We are NOT looking for adults that have been in Scouting for years and have helped write "the book" - whatever your experience and however much time you could give, there may be a place for you. There need not be any formal appointment or long term commitment, just your enthusiasm and ideas and all travelling costs in the County would be reimbursed.

If you are in any way interested and would welcome some more information or a chat, please ring Greg Stewart, Deputy County Commissioner for Programme on **01279 501736** or email **dcc.programme@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk**

Go on.... give us a call! We can promise fun and great times helping more Cubs and the adults who work so hard across the County.

I Went On.....

Advanced Mountaineering Course, Lochearnhead Scout Station

December 2010 - January 2011

Three Munros, mountains with a summit over 914m (3000 feet), and three Corbetts, summits less than 914m, in a week is no mean feat in the summer, let alone in the sub-zero temperatures of Scotland at New Year.

Between Christmas and the start of term I ventured to the Hertfordshire Scout Station in Lochearnhead, Scotland to undertake a course to push my abilities as a mountaineer. The course is designed to instruct participants in winter mountaineering skills such as advanced navigation, rope-work, using crampons, and using ice axes. I left Hertfordshire with little knowledge of where the week would take me but expecting to learn a lot! An expectation that was duly met!



We were split into teams on the first night, planned our next day's hike and were issued equipment. Subsequent evenings were then filled with further route planning for our adventures and lectures on everything from how to fit crampons and avoid dangers on the snow to the ways to make your fellow campers respect you on high camp – namely produce spectacular edible items such as freshly cooked pizza!



In the duration of the week we undertook three day hikes and a three-day expedition to a high camp. The day hikes were a chance to establish our ability and build on any skills that needed improving. In this time I learnt to use the equipment and fine-tuned my navigation. I had trouble with the crampons that led to them being cable-tied to my feet as they refused to stay on my boots! During these three days we

reached the top of Ben Ledi (879m), Stuc a Chroin (975m) and Ben Vorlich (985m). Each had their own challenges including endless slogs up steep paths or across snow covered bogs and streams, and training such as ice axe breaking to prevent falls, dangers of cornices (overhanging snow areas – see photo), avalanches and other hazards as well as spectacular views and weather phenomena such as Brocken spectres (see photo on front page). These involve your shadow being projected onto the clouds below and a rainbow halo being formed around you due to the refraction of light in the water particles– a spectacular sight!



As part of our three-day expedition we trekked up Gleann a Chalchain neighbouring Ben Challum. We hiked up on the first day before pitching tents near the river ready for our return in the dark. We then made a bid for the summit of Ben Chaorach only to be turned back by darkness. The second day of the expedition we climbed Ben Challum (1025m) before skirting round the horseshoe to reach Cam Chreag (885m), a great view of Ben Nevis and a spectacular sunset before returning to our tents for the evening. On the

final day we left early and returned to the station. En-route back we found a frozen waterfall and tested our new found abilities climbing the vertical sheets of ice and constructing belays from which to protect ourselves! I found the ice climbing very difficult as the technique between rock climbing and ice is so vastly different and my instincts as a rock climber told me the complete reverse of what I had to do!

Our eventual return to Lochearnhead brought us to the final meal! A spectacular five course meal including – of course – the traditional haggis, neeps and tatties accompanied by often humorous toasts to everyone from the founder of the station, Melville Balsillie to the instructors and trainees of the course!



The AMC provided me with a fantastic opportunity to experience winter mountaineering and improve my navigation and mountaineering skills! A brilliant week which I would recommend to any Explorer or Leader and I'm already looking forward to this year's!

Words: Bethan, Explorer Scout, Ware

Pictures: Matt, Explorer Scout, Ware

More information on the Mountaineering Courses at Lochearnhead can be found at:
www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/mountaineering

Dinghy Sailing, Kayaking, Rowing, Rafting (Including building your own raft and Power Boat Trips)

The 1st Luton Sea Scout Group is running Water Activity Fun Days for Beavers & Cubs, Scouts & Explorers and Network & Leaders. This is a great opportunity for your group to have a go at various water sports, whether beginners or experts.

Sat 14th May Scouts & Explorers, Sun 15th May Beavers & Cubs

Sat 23rd July Beavers & Cubs Sun 24th July Scouts & Explorers

Sat 24th Sept Scouts & Explorers, Sun 25th Sept Network & Leaders only

Each day will start at 10.00am and finish at 5.00pm

Location: 1st Luton Sea Scouts Boathouse at Luton Hoo.

Cost: £15 per person, per day.

This includes all activities, equipment and help from Qualified Instructors.

Please note: All groups must supply their own Leaders to supervise their members whilst off the water and organise their own "In Touch" details.

Places are limited on each day and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

To book places please email first.luton.seascouts@hotmail.co.uk with the date(s) you wish to attend, Group Name, District, section(s), number of places, and name & contact details of the Leader(s) in charge.

There will be qualified Instructors on hand to offer advice and help and most importantly to make sure all are safe and having FUN.

Places must be booked.

Joining Instructions & Directions will follow once places have been booked

Spring Bank Holiday Sailing Week

28th May – 4th June 2011 at East Mersea.

If you would like to take up Sailing or improve your Sailing skills then consider attending the Sailing Activity Week at East Mersea. We have a team of qualified instructors who will be able to help you. Please apply on the form to attend, preferably as groups, but individuals can be accommodated as well. The week will suit older Scouts, Guides, Explorer Scouts and Network Scouts. Scouts or Guides younger than 11 years of age will find the week taxing! The sailing activities during the week will be based on the Sailing syllabuses of the Royal Yachting Association (RYA). The appropriate RYA sailing qualification will be presented at the end of the week if the course requirements are completed successfully.



Further details can be found at www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/water

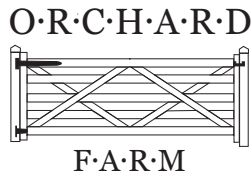
WALK THIS WAY...

Orchard Farm Open Weekend 11th/12th June 2011, All Day

All Leaders are welcome to come and see how Orchard Farm can fit with their programme.

Walking , climbing, biking - all in easy reach

Orchard Farm, Cauldon, Staffs ST10 3EJ
call The Registrar on 0845 0530437 or 0208 2360040
or email orchardfarm@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk



Rock Climbing Permit Assessment Opportunities

One day assessments for people looking to gain an Adventurous Activity Permit to Lead or Supervise Climbing (Single Pitch) and Abseiling on natural rock.

These two one-day sessions will be run on a Peak District crag on both Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 June 2011 (choose one of these two dates). This coincides with the Orchard Farm Open Weekend, so accommodation and catering can optionally be obtained by applying separately for the Open Weekend. This makes it an ideal opportunity to see the recent improvements at Orchard Farm, gain a climbing permit and enjoy the social event with other activity leaders.

Please apply with an Adventurous Activity Permit Application Form and up to date logbook to Paul Stretch, County Climbing Advisor at paul@stretch.org.uk. Limited places available.

Meet The Team!

Each edition, we are going to delve a bit deeper into the lives of the County Team. This edition we are talking to Rikki Harrington, County Commissioner.

Name? Well, you'd think that would be an easy one, wouldn't you? However, I lead a double life. To you, my friends, it's Rikki as it is to my wife and family. To my work colleagues, parental family, school friends and Ivor, it's Richard.

Whats your Role? County Commissioner (Hertfordshire), and District (Harpenden and Wheathampstead) Scout Active Support member.

Whats your Scouting History? I was enrolled as a Cub on my 8th birthday, way before Beavers had been invented, and didn't leave until I was 46. I was CSL with Weymouth West, 2nd/31st Kensington and 9th Harpenden Everest. When my Cubs son's and daughters started showing up, I ran away to be DC.

What's your day job? I'm an Entomologist. See www.rothamsted.bbsrc.ac.uk/insect-survey. Google "Mindarus harringtoni" if you are a fan of the bizarre.

Family and Pets? Yes and Yes. One lovely wife (Dee), two talented stepsons (Martin, a computer whiz and Andrew, an anaesthetist), one delightful grandson (Brennan), two cats (Merry and Saffy).

If you could do any job in the world, what would it be and why? It's going to be very hard having 'Butterfly World' just down the road and not be involved. I think I'd like to be its Education Officer! (But just in case my Director is reading this, I still enjoy (most of) my current job.)

Of all the places you've been in your life which would you recommend to a stranger? If it was a nice stranger, I'd recommend, without hesitation, Mürren in the Bernese Oberland of Switzerland, the most beautiful place I've been to (and keep returning to). To a mean-looking stranger, or one who enjoyed golf or had a fascination with the construction industry, I'd recommend the Costa del Sol.

What's your favourite part about Scouting / why do you do the job? Favourite part - 99% of the adults involved. As a CSL I really enjoyed seeing

the Cubs pick up something I'd introduced them to and take it further off their own bat. As CC I most enjoy presenting Queen's Scout Awards. It makes the rest seem extremely worthwhile.

What's your best Scouting memory? No doubt about that, I was Dorset's (the County where it all began) sole representative at the 13th World Jamboree in Japan in 1971. It truly was a life-enhancing experience. (I've been back to Japan four times since.)

What amazes you the most about the young people we work with? That they can't put their scarves on the right way up.

You can invite three people - living or dead, round for dinner, who are they and why? Wow – fun! Quite tricky, though, as I wouldn't want people who I was so in awe of that I'd be totally speechless. I'd go for my Dad, who I lost late last year. He was truly amazing up to his very last minute. Hmm, let me think. David Attenborough and Fred Quimby. Okay, I'd be speechless.

Favourite book of all time? A Butterfly Book for the Pocket, by Edmund Saunders.

Favourite album or single of all time? Single – See my baby jive (Wizzard); Album – a tie between A night at the opera (Queen) and Out of the blue (ELO); Classical – Violin Concerto, Heinrich von Herzogenberg.

Always leave them laughing, so please tell us a joke. A skeleton walks into a pub and says 'Pint of bitter please – oh, and a mop'.

You now know FAR too much about me!



CAN YOU BE PART OF THE 'CREW' THAT DELIVERS THE ADVENTURE?



HERTFORDSHIRE

SERVICE CREW OPEN WEEKENDS THROUGHOUT MARCH 2011



Tolmers Scout Activity Centre offers over 50,000 people every year the opportunity to learn new skills and have memorable experiences. This would not be possible without the support of its active volunteer team. Due to the growing needs of Scouts, Guides and other youth organisations for their outdoor activities we are seeking more fantastic volunteers.

There are many ways you can give your support from regular weekends, to only a few hours a month. You'll find being a member of this team is a rewarding and a life changing experience... That'll have you hooked!

Whether you are 14 or 40, if you want some fun and have a passion to help young people develop contact Tolmers on the details below.

**TOLMERS ACTIVITY CENTRE | WWW.TOLMERS.ORG.UK
CREWADVENTURE@TOLMERS.ORG.UK | 01707 872900**