

LOOK SOUTH

THE VOICE OF SCOUTING IN BRISTOL SOUTH DISTRICT



Eighth Edition, Winter 2008

Welcome to the latest edition of **LOOK SOUTH**, the Newsletter that aims to keep our members and supporters "in the picture" of what's going on in our District.

Now that our centenary year is over it's time to thank everyone who contributed to make **2007** a truly memorable 12 months for all our members and for raising the profile of our movement. See articles and some photos elsewhere in this edition that serves to record the final few opportunities that the Scouts of South Bristol have enjoyed. Events such as the planting of the **Avon Scout Centenary Wood**, the **Bristol Gang Show**, **JOTI**, a **Science Evening**, **Beating the Bounds**, the **Winter Walkabout** and the **Carol Service**.

As we look forward to **2008** please take a moment to think of ways how you can help in maintaining the momentum discovered with the many **2007** events, both in our District and County. Not forgetting, of course, those national and international occasions.

Our District combined with Kingswood, to run a series of **workshops** for group 'officers' (Chairs, treasurers, secretaries) on Sat' 3rd Nov' 2007. Reports from those that attended said that a lot was learnt about the finer points of administration.

Now is the time for our **annual census** and early indications are that there could be a small increase in our overall numbers. As in previous years and in accordance with POR rule 3.5 (b), a list of names and addresses of all members in each Group must be collected by that Group and passed to the District Secretary who in turn will pass a copy to the County Secretary.

We have canvassed ideas of how of how you would like to celebrate **St Georges Day** this year. The general consensus was to continue to parade with a traditional format, therefore preparations are underway for a District gathering at St. Mary Redcliffe. Look out for full details later.

We had previously reported that a new ADC Scouts and another District Scouter were in position. Unfortunately, due to family commitments those posts have been relinquished and consequently we are looking to appoint a **ADC Scouts**. Any interested person should contact the DMT or if you can think of someone that we should 'have a word with' then please let us know.

Regular readers will recall (4th edition) that there are plans to redevelop the site that includes our Balfour Road District HQ. We can report that the details are gradually emerging and we continue to ensure that a 'Scouting' presence will continue within the new buildings.

Planning continues for this years District Camp. Chris Giles and James Watts will organise and run District Camp 3 '**Mega Doc**'. A recent visit to the proposed site and an outline of the activities planned indicated that all, especially our young members, will have a 'Mega' time. Leaders, please give everyone the opportunity of at least a visit during the weekend.

Some of the large signs with contact details etc. (suitable for outside Group HQ's) that were obtained from County last year have been distributed to Groups via our District Office. Some more remain available for collection. Please contact the DMT.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you can find the latest updates to our **District Directory**. Please amend your copy and report any further changes to our secretary Rose Nicholls (01275 836691 or rose.j.nicholls@virgin.net) Did you see a copy of previous editions of **LOOK SOUTH**? If not, please see your GSL as they were all issued with copies for distribution or see our web site www.bristolsouthscouts.org.uk. We aim to publish four times a year to correspond with the seasons.

From the District Management Team; *Bob Stanfield, Nick Winter and Bob Hussey.*

APPOINTMENT CARDS

(from Melissa Green Programme and Development Manager, Scout Association)

After 99 years of issuing Warrants from Gilwell Park, the last one has been issued.

From October 2007 all Adults with full appointments and/or membership of the Scout Fellowship and Scout Network will be issued with an appointment card. The idea behind the card is to give equal recognition to all our adult volunteers and their contribution to the movement.

The card will include an individual's membership number, full appointments (with review dates) and membership of Scout Fellowship and Scout Network, as well as providing them with information such as the Information Centre number and details about Programmes Online.

In the future it is hoped to link the card to some of the Association's external partners to tie in with the discounts and offers available to our membership.

The last year has been spent encouraging Districts and Counties to clean their data on the Membership Services Database and so we are confident that our membership records are more accurate and up to date than they have ever been. We anticipate that there is still a lot of work to do in order to get our records 100% accurate but we hope that the card will provide a further incentive to our members to ensure the accuracy of their records.

The appointment card went out with the October/November 2007 edition of Scouting and was attached to the reverse of the carrier sheet (address label). The movement will receive a new card annually from April 2008, but throughout the year cards will be sent out directly to those gaining a new full Appointment.

The appointment card is part of a wider project to review our appointment process and the way we welcome adults into the movement. We are currently trialling a new appointment process with a number of Counties across the Country and hope to implement the process nationally in 2008. We will keep you up to date with how this is going and any information you will need to know over the next few months.

In the next few weeks www.scouts.org.uk/mycard will be up and running which will give further information and there will also be an article in the magazine explaining a bit more about how the system will work.

So please don't throw away the carrier sheet from your next magazine and please spread the word to others.

If you have any questions or want any further information then please just call or email us on appointment.process@scout.org.uk.

DEPUTY COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Clare Waggett has been appointed to the role of Deputy County Commissioner and in her new role will focus on developing the County Support Teams of Training, Development, Child Protection/Special Needs, Fellowship and Communications.

Clare was until recently District Commissioner of Cabot District in Bristol.

BEATING THE BOUNDS

Saturday 10th November 2007 and the Bristol South Expeditionary Force sets off from Burrington Coombe to tackle 16 miles of the Avon County Boundary finishing up in Farrington Gurney. The intrepid volunteers could not have asked for a better Autumn day: the sun shone and the rain stayed away.

After the first 4 miles Daniel from 133 declared he could not go any further because his leg hurt. It hurt so badly that he was able to run the next 500m, and made it along all 16 miles. Not bad for a 13 year old Scout!

The only problem encountered along the way was noise. Tony, a Network Scout from 133, never shut up from the time we started up until the time he was dropped off back at HQ. The point of learning for the rest of us was to take earplugs the next time we go walking with Tony!

Rob, from Pyxis Explorer's, provided sterling service as a navigator working with Tony and Daniel to ensure they didn't get lost. They also learned the advantage of knowing what "PH" was on an OS map, a great place to have a checkpoint!

So what did we get out of it? We were part of Beating the County Boundary, the first time it has been attempted. We joined with 280 others to complete the 140 miles of land boundary, with Axe to our West and Wansdyke to the East. Daniel and Rob completed the requirements of the "Hikes Away" staged award, both qualify for the first stage. Tony, as a Networker, used the experience to improve his navigation skills as part of his Expedition Training for his Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

As for Ian, our DESC, and myself it was a great way to get some exercise and enjoy the countryside.

Our thanks go to Bob Stanfield and Nick Winter who were kind enough to bring us a buffet lunch and flasks of coffee which we enjoyed looking out over Chew Valley Lake.

Chris Jones GSL, 133rd Bristol (Newfoundland) 2007 Agent, Avon

Picture (from left to right). Tony, 133, CJ 133, Daniel, 133, Ian Clarke, DESC, Rob, Pyxis.



NIGHTS AWAY PERMIT SCHEME

Summary of Updates 2007Updates

These are the updates that are happening to the Nights Away Permit Scheme (NAPS) following the review of how successfully it has been implemented and is running.

New category – Lightweight Expedition

Recognition that when running expeditions you don't need exactly the same skills as when running standing camps on greenfield sites, in particular programme planning and types of equipment.

(POR 9.57a): Lightweight Expedition – for staying at any site for not more than one night before moving on. The core activity is a form of expedition, not residential, and all the equipment is transported with the participants. i.e. QSA/DofE hikes, expedition hikes, canoe expeditions.

First aid is required for all Nights Away events

Although the permit holder has always had the responsibility of ensuring there is first aid provision at an event, there is now a specific requirement for a first aid holder to be present.

(POR 9.56d): All groups undertaking a nights away event must have immediate access to someone holding First Response. This need not be the permit holder.

Nights Away Permit renewal is separate to warrant review

It is no longer recommended these take place at the same time as it is a different process and different people involved. There is now clarification that a Nights Away Permit expires at its expiry date and has to be reapplied for. (POR 9.57j): Permits will expire automatically if they are not renewed.

Simplify the process of under 18s working with Service Teams

Where under 18s are working with service teams at activity centres or campsites they currently require a new nights away passport and notification to their DC each time they stay while working at the site. This change allows them to be given a multi date passport and multi date notification to be made to the DC

(POR 9.61f): Those responsible for running Scout campsites or activity centres with a Nights Away Permit may issue site specific event passports for an extended period (up to a maximum of 12 months) covering multiple service events for under 18's working on projects on their sites. (POR 9.61g): The home Commissioner must be informed of under 18's working on service team projects at Scout campsites and activity centres, but a separate NAN form for each occasion need not be completed if a range of dates is specified.

Nights Away Adviser (NAA) workshops

To help support NAAs in their role we are looking to run, and to promote and support the running of local NAA workshops.

Updated the Nights Away Adviser requirements

The requirements needed to be a NAA have been updated to ensure that those in the role have the skills and experience to carry it out effectively. They are:

Be formally appointed by District or County

As per any other appointment NAAs are generally a District appointment, but there will be a few at County level to work with those with County appointments.

Hold a Nights Away Permit

All NAAs will need to hold a permit to the level they are assessing. i.e. A NAA holding an indoor permit can only assess for indoor permits; a NAA holding a campsite permit can assess for campsite and indoor permits; a NAA holding a greenfield permit can assess for all categories; a NAA holding a lightweight expedition permit can only assess for lightweight expedition permits. This will ensure that all NAAs have the technical knowledge they need for the role, and also allow more NAAs to work specifically with indoor and/or campsite permit holders without the need for greenfield knowledge and skills.

Validate module 25 for NAAs

This ensures that all NAAs have the soft skills of assessing, feeding back, supporting applicants etc that are important within their role. There is separate validation of this module for different roles. I.e. validation for a NAA is different than for a Training Adviser or County Activity Assessor.

Attend a NAA workshop

This ensures NAAs remain up to date in their role and gives them the chance for peer support and cross District and County working to spread good practise. Need to attend at least one workshop day within their five year appointment.

Confirmations

These are not changes to the current scheme, but provide further clarification where certain subjects might not have been clear before.

Continued.....

Permits are not section specific

Nights Away Permits are not section specific in the same way that Adventurous Activity Permits are not section specific. Giving section specific permits causes a number of problems, such as Young Leaders not being able to attend and help on events as the Leader's permit did not include Explorer Scouts.

(POR 9.57e) Nights Away Permits are not section specific and Districts and Counties must not operate a policy of issuing only section specific permits.

The Nights Away Permit Scheme is a National scheme

(POR 9.57f) A permit holder may operate with members from another District or County (subject to the normal approval of the District/County Commissioner of the Members concerned).

Event Passports are only for under 18s

If an over 18 has the skills to lead a Nights Away event then they can get a permit. If they don't have the skills to get a permit they don't have the skills to lead a Nights Away event. Passports can not be used to circumnavigate the system. (POR 9.61c) Event passports can not be given to those aged over 18.

Notification is required for Network Nights Away events

(POR 9.61h) When leading a Scout Network residential event a Nights Away Permit is not required but notification is.

There is no maximum age to gain a permit

(9.57h) There is no maximum age limit to gaining a Nights away Permit.

There are no prerequisites to applying for a permit

There is no requirement to have attended any specific training event (such as Module 16) before getting a Nights Away Permit.

A Nights Away Permit is not the same as Module 16

There is no requirement to have done Module 16 to gain a Nights Away Permit. There is no need to get a Nights Away Permit to finish your Wood Badge training. Validating Module 16 does not automatically gain you a Nights Away Permit. However gaining a Nights Away Permit is one way of validating module 16.

Better definitions of:

A Nights Away event

(POR 9.55b) This includes all events where it is intended that young people will sleep overnight and arrangements are put in place for this purpose, such as sleepovers, camps, Pack Holidays and expeditions.

When the permit holder needs to be on site

(POR 9.56a) as a minimum, attend the event during the time that provision is made for young people to be sleeping overnight. They remain responsible for the event at all times.

The difference between a campsite and greenfield

(POR 9.57a) - Camp Site – for staying at a site that has toilets plumbed into a waste disposal system (i.e. a cess pit, storage tank or mains drains) and access to running drinking water.

- Green Field – for staying at any site where any of the above facilities do not exist – for example, a summer camp on a farmer's field.

Who needs to hold a permit at large camps?

(POR 9.56c) For large scale events there needs to be a permit holder responsible for each residential group.

There is no limit to the number of groups that a permit holder can be responsible for, but they remain responsible for the standard of the event for each group.

Resources

Details of resources updated to support the changes

Online application form

A single page MS Word form that can be filled in online and sent as an email attachment, or printed off and filled in by hand.

Redesigned the permit

Provide more room for writing and remove the need for a photo.

Redesigned the passport to be available online

A printer friendly version that should be easy on printer cartridges to allow permit holders to download passports to use for their young people.

Streamlined the factsheets

An attempt to remove superfluous information and repetition from the factsheets so that it is easy to find the information you need.

Improved the assessment checklist

Aiming for a more national standard by proving NAAs with a more detailed syllabus to assess against.

Ability to record permits on the Membership Database

Shortly there will be the ability to record NAPs on the Membership Services database for ease of administration and communication.

THE WORLD'S BIGGEST SLEEPOVER

Scouts across the UK have been invited to join up for two Guinness World Record breaking attempts as part of The Giant Sleepover event, the world's biggest simultaneous sleepover.

The 5th annual Giant Sleepover will take place in venues all across the UK on the night of 14 June 2008.

Each year thousands of Beaver and Cub Scouts take part in this fun event, which is aimed at 6 - 11 year olds.



Every participating young person receives a free 'goody bag' and every sleepover venue receives a treasure chest of games, toys and ideas for activities to use on the night.

Over 40,000 children are expected to take part in over 1,000 sleepover venues - with primary schools, Scout and Girl Guide Groups, Boys' and Girls' Brigades, Sea Cadets, after school clubs and St John Ambulance Brigades all getting involved. Some youngsters are even expected to participate in America, Australia and New Zealand.

To break the world record for the largest simultaneous sleepover (currently held by 33,093 participants in the 2006 Giant Sleepover) all young people must have their lights out for at least 7 hours and not sleep in their own beds.

The following morning there is another world record attempt, 'The Aquafresh Minty Mouth Challenge' for the most people simultaneously brushing their teeth.

The Scout Association's Chris Foster said: 'The Giant Sleepover is the perfect opportunity to encourage thousands of our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts to come together for two world record breaking attempts, while also raising money for charity.'

'The Giant Sleepover has grown incredibly in the last few years and is a brilliant idea that has captured the imagination of young people in Scouting across the UK.'

Anyone wishing to take part can register a Group Sleepover at www.giantsleepover.com or call 0870 240 1640.

It will now cost £20 to register your Group.

BITS and PIECES

BRISTOL GANG SHOW 2007

Amongst the many families of the young cast of the 2007 Bristol Gang Show enjoying the 1st night of the production at the Hippodrome were members of the DMT as well as representatives from several of our groups.

A cast of 125 who danced and sang the night away included members from our District i.e. Supernova ESU, Blenheim and 133rd Groups.

It was 75 years ago, in 1932 that Ralph Reader started the Scouts 'Gang Show' and in the Centenary Year of our movement, Bristol put on a magnificent show demonstrating to the general public what young people can do.

GREAT READING ADVENTURE

We have been fortunate in securing enough free copies of the '2008 Great Reading Adventure', a 200-page graphic style history of Bristol, so that each member of our District will receive a copy.

Look out for details of distribution to each Group in the near future.

OBITUARY

We record the death in early January 2008 of **JOHN FOGG** the Scout Association's Public Relations Officer for many years.

CAROL SERVICE

Many members of our District joined their colleagues from across Avon County at St. Mary Redcliffe Church on 15th December 2007 and enjoyed a Carol Concert as part of the Centenary Celebrations.

The event was co-hosted by Somerset North Guide Association and was held with special needs in mind. The collection went to the 2007 chosen charity 'Gifts for Peace'.

JAMBOREE ON THE INTERNET (JOTI)

The 107th (Whitchurch) Group once again hosted a weekend in October 2007, of interaction via the Internet with many Scouts though out the world.

Several other Groups from our District, who dropped in to experience communication with many foreign countries, joined them.

BANNERS

Those that got involved in the Sainsbury's Scout Community week know about the promotional banners that District bought for the event.

These are now available for Groups to borrow for any occasion where a 'backdrop' is required. Just ask any member of the District Team.

If you prefer to own a set of your own, see below.....

Fantastic Banner Resource – On Sale Now!

Even though the very successful Sainsbury's Scout Community week is now over, we are still receiving very positive feedback about how the special banners proved a brilliant resource for the recruitment of both adults and young people.

The banners, produced in association with Sainsbury's and V, come as a set of four and are a fantastic tool to promote Scouting. They include messages about volunteering opportunities for 16-25 year olds, as well as youth and adult membership opportunities.

There are still some sets of banners remaining, which are available to purchase for £50 a set. To place an order call the Scout Information Centre on 0845 300 1818 or email info.centre@scout.org.uk



PROGRAMME REVISIONS

The latest Balanced Programme revisions have been revealed.

You can find out about all the upgrades and improvements to the 6-25 Balanced Programme in the latest (December/January) supplements. The changes will be supported by a new range of books, posters and resources available for dispatch from 1 February 2008.

In the Section supplements you would have found the details of the various changes to the Programme, including some new Challenge Badges, Joining in/Participation Awards and the realignment of the Programme Zones.

A summary of all those changes can also be found in the December 2007 'Focus' (the supplement for GSL's in their Scouting magazine).

Details of the requirements for all the new badges can be found on ScoutBase from December 2007.

Look out for the new badge posters, wall charts and personal record charts – together with the three new manuals for Leaders. All the new Challenge Badges and Joining in/ Participation Awards will shortly be available from our local Badge Secretary.

Order your resources now by visiting www.scouts.org.uk/shop.

MEGA DOC

Location confirmed as :-

**Brockmead Campsite
Between Hallen & Easter Compton**

Central catering confirmed

All inclusive price confirmed

£35 for the weekend if you pay before 14th April 2008
(Adult and Beaver cost to be decided)

23rd - 26th May 2008

Whitsun Bank Holiday Weekend
Camping for Cubs, Scouts & Explorers

Beaver day on Saturday 24th

Activities for all

Chris Giles - 077 8616 4724

James Watts - 077 4086 0735

megadoc@bristolsouthscouts.org.uk

During 2008, Beijing is hosting the Olympic Games and we thought it would make a great theme for the District Camp. That's what "DOC" stands for – **District Olympic Camp** and it's going to be **Mega!**

Unlike most camps, you will be with others in your section from around the District. There will be a Cub, Scout and Explorer Scout Sub Camp and you will be competing against each other for Mega DOC medals.

You don't even have to worry about cooking as we will be doing that for you. All you need to do is turn up! Once you arrive there will be no need to spend another penny as everything will be provided. You will just need to bring all your own personal items and a tent.

The campsite is the 4th Bristol site near Easter Compton. There is a road to the site, however traffic will be strictly controlled as the entrance is through a working stables. More information will be available at the time; however, we would ask that you do not plan to drive on and off the site during the weekend. Continued.....

MEGA DOC

Price

The whole weekend will cost just £35 if you pay in full by 14th April 2008. After this date it will increase to £40 so don't forget to book early.

Booking

We will start taking bookings in the New Year so don't worry just yet. In the meantime, please let us know if you are interested in coming by using the "Register" page at megadoc@bristolsouthscouts.org.uk

At this stage, it is completely free and we will not commit you to attending; we just want to gauge interest.

We will ask you to book in sections rather than groups. If your leader can't make it that's not a problem; just ask them to book you in, as there will be plenty of leaders at the camp to look after you.

If you have any problems just drop us an e-mail or give us a ring – if you want to go, we'll get you there!

Activities

We haven't finalised the activities yet, but most will be on the site and will be completely free. If you have any ideas, favourites or want to be involved then please get in touch with us. More details are on the "Feedback" page of megadoc@bristolsouthscouts.org.uk

Just like the Olympic Torch, we want you to pass on the exciting news about Mega DOC.

The event is only open to registered members of the Scout Association in the Bristol South District so if you have any friends who might enjoy it get them to join your group as soon as possible - www.bristolsouthscouts.org.uk/join

Make sure others in you colony, pack, troop and unit know about it and help us make it the best event of 2008.

The more of us that go, the better it will be.

Chris Giles - 077 8616 4724
James Watts - 077 4086 0735
megadoc@bristolsouthscouts.org.uk

Bristol South Scouts Orienteering Competition

Open to all Scout Troops and Explorer Units in the District

When: Sunday 19th October

Where: Starting at Chew Valley Car Park (map ref:579610)

Time: 10.30am – 2.30pm

Teams: 2 Scouts or Explorers per team.

Cost: £1 per person



There will be two competitions. One competition for Explorers and one competition for Scouts. This competition was previously held annually in the Bristol South East District.

Teams will consist of 2 Scouts or Explorers. They will be given a list of grid references; each one will have a marker there. They have 3 hours to visit as many markers as possible. They will be given points for each one they visit. The further the distance the more points will be awarded.

Each troop/unit can have as many pairs as they wish. All pairs will need to be booked in advance. Booking forms will be available in September. Please put the date in your diary and get your young people interested.

There is an option for troops/units to have **one** training team in the event. These teams can consist of up to 4 Scouts/Explorers and one leader. There will be no prize for the training teams. **Only troops/units that have at least one pair in the main event will be allowed to enter a training team.**

This is a great competition to allow Scouts/Explorers to gain and practice map reading skills in the safe environment of the Mendips.

Remember Scouting is all about taking part and not winning. So even if you feel your members are too young/inexperienced, give them a chance to take part. You don't even need to attend; you could get a parent to bring them along! **It would be nice if every troop/unit could get at least 1 team (2 people) to take part!**

More info will be available in September. Any questions or queries then please email chris.giles07@googlemail.com or call 07786 164724

Chris Giles & Will Moore

BRISTOL SOUTH DISTRICT CUBS UNI HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

The inaugural Tournament was held on Saturday 13th October 2007, at Blenheim Scouts HQ, Hartcliffe. Ten teams entered, they were split into two groups and played on a league basis, the top two qualifying for the semi-finals.

Group A was keenly contested and was won by 15th A St Martins, Knowle Group, who won three of their four matches. The runners-up were 21st B Gladstone Whitchurch Group. Group B was won easily by 21st A who won all four of their matches. The runners-up were 145th St Christophers, Brislington, who won the deciding last match.

The first semi-final was between the two 21st teams. It was a very even first half, but the A team were stronger and ran out 6 – 2 winners. The second semi-final was an exciting match between 15th A and 145th. The 15th A always had the upper hand but the 145th never gave up, the 15th won eventually by 8 goal to 4.

The thought was that we couldn't get anymore exciting matches than the ones we had already had but the final had everyone on edge and biting their finger nails. The lead changed hands throughout and after leading 4 – 2 with two minutes left, we all thought the 15th A were champions but 21st A never gave up and came back to draw 4 – 4 sending the game to Golden Goal extra time. Two minutes into extra time 21st A scored the winning goal.

A great time was had by all and there will be another tournament later this year, hopefully with more teams entering. Thanks to all who helped, especially Vicki (15th) whose idea it was.

Jane
ADC Cubs

CUB SWIMMING GALA

The District Cub Swimming Gala was held last Saturday 2nd February at Keynsham Leisure Centre from 4.30pm – 7.30pm. Cubs from 10 packs took part. There were freestyle and breaststroke races for 9 and 10 year olds, a backstroke race for a cub of any age and a 2 width race for the 8 year olds. The non-swimmers took part in a very exciting egg and spoon race.

The winners were the 5th Bristol, with the 107th in second place and the 145th in 3rd place. Many congratulations to all of them and thanks to all the Cubs from all packs who took part, making this a very exciting and enjoyable event. Also thanks to the District Team for their help and Stuart for comparing the races.

Jane
ADC Cubs

LETTER REC'D

Dear Sir/ Madam

I'm the Hon Fundraiser for Bristol Branch of Radio Lollipop.

Radio Lollipop is an international organisation founded over 25 years ago to provide care, comfort, play and entertainment for children and young people, primarily in hospitals. The service to children and young people is provided entirely by volunteers who have been especially selected, and trained to make a child's stay in hospital more fun and less frightening.

Each volunteer has a commitment to provide 2 hours per week of interactive play with children using a comprehensive range of fun and interactive activities developed over the years by Radio Lollipop. As part of the armoury of activities in our "toy box" most of the hospitals where a Radio Lollipop service is provided have a radio studio, providing a unique child-orientated programme of interactive competitions, music, stories and games.

We have to raise funds in order to purchase crafts and materials. I was wondering if you would be interested in helping to raise money for us.

If you would like further info about Radio Lollipop please look at the Website:

<http://www.radiolollipop.org/menu.asp>

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Jen Harris

CENTENARY WOOD 2007

Bristol South's allocated day for planting our portion of this new wood was Thursday 25th October 2007. We were represented by **256th (Hengrove)** who contributed to this County initiative to provide a lasting recognition of 100 years of scouting.

Many thanks to **Cyril Mullen** and his team.

The Duchy of Cornwall had agreed to allocate a piece of land at Pennsylvania Farm, Newton-St-Loe, Bath as a Scout Centenary Wood.

The area for the Centenary Wood is between two other existing wooded areas. Once the tree planting is finished, conifers will be removed from the adjoining woods so that the three become one. A sculpture will be sited in the middle of the new wood.

Eventually Scouts will be able to camp beside the wood but until this is established another piece of land will be set aside for this purpose. County office will have details.

THE ORDNANCE SURVEY OUTDOORS SHOW

The Ordnance Survey Outdoors Show is the perfect place to give Scouts of all ages a taste of the great outdoors. From having a go at diving and climbing to tackling the Trespass High Ropes Experience or learning essential skills to survive in the wilderness - these are just a few of the activities on offer at The Outdoors Show, which takes place at the NEC from **14-16 March 2008**.

As well as being great fun The Outdoors Show is a great opportunity to learn about conservation, global warming and how to minimise your carbon footprint, plus talks from renowned TV wildlife presenters and outdoors celebrities will get any Scout dreaming about their own outdoor adventures!

'MUST DO' activities at the show:

- Find out about bushcraft and survival skills in the Wilderness Camp
- Learn to map read with Ordnance Survey
- Get a birdseye view of the show on the Trespass High Ropes Course
- Try canoeing, climbing and caving
- Learn to scuba dive with PADI
- Marvel at world class climbers as they pit their skills against each other in the 'Sky Masters Challenge'

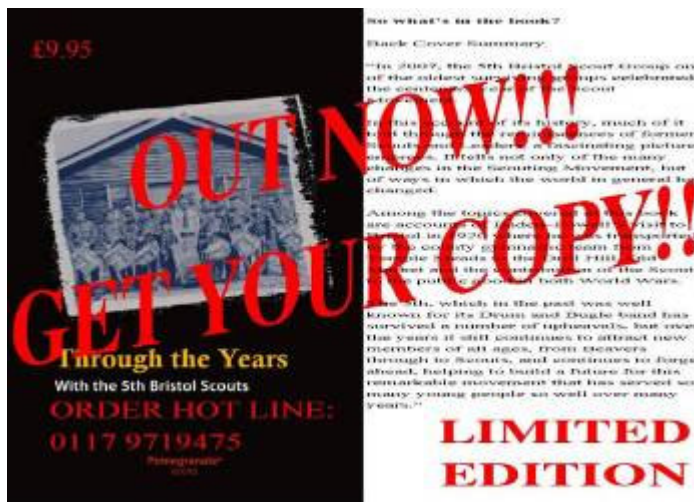
**All in 1 day,
all for 1 price!**

Save £12 and get 2 tickets for £20! Quote 'SCOUTS1' when booking your tickets@ www.TheOutdoorsShow.co.uk or via the hotline 0844 415 4418.

Also great group tickets are available from 10 members plus! Quote 'SCOUTS1' on the hotline 0844 415 4418 and receive a 15% discount! (Groups can combine adults and children under 16 plus kids under 5 go FREE!)

If your Scout Group turns up in uniform, you can buy tickets on the door for Advanced Prices: £7 (under 16s) or £12 (adults). Have Fun at The Outdoors Show!

THROUGH THE YEARS: WITH THE 5TH BRISTOL SCOUTS



INFORMATION FROM COUNTY

Rickard Shield

The Annual Explorer Scout event "*The Rickard Shield*" will take place on 15th/16th March. Full details are available at www.avonscouts.org.uk/rickardshield

Census

Don't forget that we're fast approaching 31st January, the date of the Annual Membership Census. Districts are distributing the relevant forms / on-line passwords to Groups. In the meantime forms can be access via <http://census2008.sbuk.org.uk>
If you haven't already started, please start collating the necessary information ready to pass on to the Group Secretary after 31st January.

New Badges

Don't forget that a new series of Activity Badges and Challenges were launched in the December 2007/January 2008 edition of Scouting Magazine and the various supplements. There were also some badges withdrawn. Details are available at: www.scouts.org.uk/magazine and at www.scoutbase.org.uk/library/hqdocs/badges
The new badges are likely to attract a lot of national media coverage, so you may receive some enquiries about the badges soon.

Centenary Badges

Badges for the World Scout Jamboree should now be removed from uniform (except that once you're entitled to wear the Union Flag on your uniform there is no need to remove it).
The "Join in Centenary" badges can remain on uniform until the young person changes section.
The WOSM "One World, One Promise" Centenary badge can remain on uniform until the end of March.

Events Diary

March 15, 16 - Explorer Event: Rickard Shield - www.avonscouts.org.uk/rickardshield

March 29 - Scout Event: International Cooking Competition

May 10, 11 - Ten Tors - www.events.ex.ac.uk/tentors

May 17 - BS, CS & SN: County 5-a-side Football - www.avonscouts.org.uk/football

May 18 - S & ES: County 5-a-side Football - www.avonscouts.org.uk/football

May 28 to June 1 - Bath Gang Show - www.bathgangshow.org.uk

June 6, 7, 8 - Scout section: County Patrol Camping Weekend - www.avonscouts.org.uk/patrolcampingweekend

June 14, 15 - National SleepOver - www.giantsleepover.com

June 21, 22 - Cub Section: Leaders Skills Weekend

June 21, 22 - BS & CS Fundays at Gilwell - www.fundays.org.uk

June 27, 28, 29 - Malvern Challenge - www.sr-mc.org/mcmain.htm

July 4, 5, 6 - Sun Run - www.sr-mc.org/srmain.htm

July 12, 13 - Explorers: Gilwell 24 - www.gilwell24.info

September 5, 6, 7 - Gilwell Reunion - www.scouts.org.uk/reunion

September 12, 13, 14 - Network event: Intense - www.avonscouts.org.uk/network/intense

September 20 - Explorer Event: One Night Stand - www.avonscouts.org.uk/ons

September 25 - County AGM - www.avonscouts.org.uk/agm

October 28 to November 1 - Bristol Gang Show - www.avonscouts.org.uk/gangshow

October - Cub section: Cub Scout day at Bristol Zoo Gardens (date to be confirmed)

November 1 - Scout section: County Young People's Forum - www.avonscouts.org.uk/ypf

WINTER WALKABOUT 2007

This night hike competition has its roots in the old Bristol South West District days and was run by Blenheim Venture Scout Unit being open to all troops in the district.

There were always two classes.

Unaccompanied for the more experienced hikers,

Accompanied for the younger less experienced teams where the Scout leader could walk with their teams. The route of 5-6 miles taking place in the Black Down region of the Mendip hills.

Its resurrection follows a void of this type experience for the Scout section and was brought back following requests from various troops from the old district along with support from the new.

The forms went out, replies came back, although not as many as we would have liked but regardless of numbers the event swung into action.

Start details were posted out. All systems go. The control point was set up, floodlights fired up, checkpoints dispatched and radio checks carried out. We were ready and waiting for the teams to turn up.

The weather was cold but clear with a light wind blowing. This was to increase during the evening and we had the odd drop of wet stuff. On arrival at the start teams went through check in and having been given their route wandered off into the darkness. A good start all went in the right direction, their Scouters breathing a sigh of relief.

As the night wore on team positions and checkpoints passed were radioed into the control. The route walkers passed teams happily plodding along and seemingly knowing where they were going. Great stuff we could be in for an early night.

Then the radio call, one of the teams had passed through checkpoint 3 and were overdue at checkpoint 4.

The route walkers set off in search and quickly found them one path out but heading in the right direction. Put back on course we all relaxed and gradually listened to the radio checks closing down checkpoints as the teams passed on into the night. 4 hours after the start all teams were accounted for and heading home, the checkpoints were packed away and we were all home in bed by 1.00a.m.

An early night after all. A good night, all teams had finished, and the rain had held off. Our thanks to the 21st and 229th and Blenheim for entering teams. It's a pity there were so few as this event is all about gaining that experience and getting out on the hills in a safe and controlled environment with all the support and back up to go with it.

All of the teams received a trophy and can't wait for the 2008 event. Will you be there??

Will your troop enter a team??

We hope so and look forward to seeing you at Winter Walkabout 2008.
November 15/16th 2008

The WWA team

Bristol South Adult's Quiz

Are you smarter than an Explorer Scout?

Date: Friday 12th March 2008

Time: 19:30

Venue: 229th St Althiems Scout Hut, Ashton



Cash Prizes!

Who is the most intelligent group?

All leaders, helpers & other adults are invited to the Bristol South District Adult's quiz. This will be a general knowledge quiz.

Teams of between 4-6 people. Only £5 per team!

The event is being arranged by SuperNova ESU to raise funds for this summer trip to Czech Republic.

Alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks are available.

Limited space so book early!

Email chris.giles07@googlemail.com

to reserve your space now! More info available from
Chris on 07786 164724

Avon Scout County Five-a-Side Football 2008

The Biggest Annual County Event!

Venue: Hengrove School, Petherton Road, Hengrove.

Date: Saturday 17th May 2008 – Beaver Scouts (*afternoon only*), Cub Scouts (*All Day*)
& Network (*afternoon only*)

Sunday 18th May 2008 - Scouts (*all day*) and Explorer Scouts

Cost: £20.00 per team (£10.00 of which will be returned on the day, if / when you arrive)

A Five-a-Side Football competition that is open to all Beaver Colonies, Cub Packs, Scout Troops, Explorer Scout Units and Networks in and around the Avon Scout County.

Last year we again had a record number of teams enter the event. It topped 150 teams! Once again we turned teams away because we could not physically accommodate anymore. So please book early to avoid disappointment. For the first time we have to state that we have limited spaces in each section and when these are reached; no more bookings will be taken in that section. You are not guaranteed entry for returning your form before the closing date.

The event will be run in much the same way, but we will always make changes if it improves the event. All games are played on grass and all teams play at least 4 games, (providing all teams turn up on the day), before anyone is knocked-out.

All you need to do is fill out the form below and send back with a cheque for £20.00 per team (first increase in **6 years!**), made payable to 'Five-a-Side Football'. Scout groups are allowed to combine with another Scout group to form team(s).

Please include your email address if you have one, as all confirmation and rules will be e-mailed back, where possible; to save time and money. If you do not have access to email then please send a S.A.E with your cheque.

All entries *must* be received by Saturday 3rd May 2008. If you are not able to enter please pass the entry form to another group who might be able to. Remember 'First Come First Served'.

We now have a web site; please visit to find out all the latest news: www.avonscouts.org.uk/football

Return forms to Chris Giles: 79 Manworthy Rd, Bristol, BS4 4PS.

As ever, any problems or queries please ring Chris Giles (Organiser) 07786 164724, Email chris.giles@avonscouts.org.uk

Avon Scout County - Five-a-Side Football 2008

The Beaver Colony / Cub Pack / Scout Troop
Explorer Unit / Network

of the Scout district, would like to enter
the following teams:

- Teams in the Beaver Scout Competition
- Teams in the Cub Scout Competition
- Teams in the Scout Competition
- Teams in the Explorer Scout Competition
- Teams in the Network Competition

I enclose a cheque made payable to 'Five-a-Side Football' for the amount of £..... to cover the entry fees and deposit for teams.

(Remember it is **£20.00** per team of which £10.00 is returned on the day if you turn up with a complete team.)

Please send all correspondence back to:

Name: Tel:.....

Address:

.....

.....

.....

.....

Email:.....

Look South

All competitors must be of the correct age for their section



JUNE ROSE DRISSELL 24 MARCH 1938 – 5 JANUARY 2008

All of June's friends and colleagues were saddened to hear of her unexpected death on Saturday 5th January after a short illness.

June had been involved in the Guide and Scout movements for well over 50 years. As a girl guide she became a 'helper' with the 266th Zion Methodist Cub Pack (now the 286th) at the age of 15. After her marriage to Ken, June moved to the 133rd (Newfoundland) Group, replacing Joan Neville as Cub Mistress in 1959 at the headquarters in Newfoundland School. After the birth of her two sons, June took a break from scouting commitments herself, whilst supporting Ken as Venture Scout Leader. In the 1970s she returned to 266th as an ACSL followed by four years as Group Secretary at 133rd. From the early 1980s she joined the South West Scout Fellowship, becoming chairperson from 1987 – 1995 and was persuaded to take up that position again in 2005.

June received the Scout Long Service award and was awarded the medal of merit in 1993 for her outstanding service to the Scout Organisation.

June was a member of Hartcliffe Methodist Church and church treasurer for many years and the church and church hall were both crowded for her funeral service on 18th January. It was a moving occasion for her many friends and colleagues who were present. An enthusiast and a hard worker in all the many jobs that she undertook throughout her life, she will be long remembered and sorely missed.

Ken Jenkins

SCOUT FELLOWSHIP

Our programme for the next few months is listed as below:-

Sunday February 24th – our lunchtime 'Founders Day Meal' at Woodspring Golf Club

Thursday 27th March – at Balfour Road HQ – an illustrated talk entitle 'Come feel the alps' by a gentleman who spends much of his time cycling around and photographing Europe.

Thursday 24th April – A.G.M followed by a Bristol Slide Quiz

Sunday 11th May – annual coach outing – details later

Thursday 22nd May – 'Lundy' – audio visual presentation about the mysterious island at the mouth of the Bristol Channel

Thursday 26th June – to be confirmed

Thursday 24th July – BBQ – venue to be announced later

All are most welcome to join us for any of these meetings except for 'Founders Day' meal which is fully subscribed further information from Ken Jenkins 0117 9775673

AMMENDMENTS TO DISTRICT DIRECTORY

255th Bristol (Channel) Sea Scouts

Please add: - Becky Hibberd –ACSL

48 Jacob's Wells Road, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 1DR (Term-time address only)

Late News

BRISTOL GANG SHOW

Although it is disappointing that the Bristol Gang Show is not appearing at the Bristol Hippodrome this year there will still be many chances for the 'Cast of 2008' to be involved in a series of Gang Show related activities including dance and theatre classes provided by the Gang Show team as well as an option of performing in a national gang show later this year in Birmingham. In the meantime we continue our discussing with the Hippodrome with a view to returning with an action packed show in 2009.

It would appear that the story was fed to the media by an individual Group Leader who possibly thought that he was helping the situation. Although the publicity in the Evening Post and on Radio has been positive towards our position it is certainly not helpful at this point in time as we look to rebuild our relationships with the theatre and theatre owners for the long term good of the show. It also underlines the fact that contact with the media in cases such as this should always be channelled through Philip Bird the ACC Communications.

KIDS OUTDOORS

Thought it would be useful for you to know that the national **KidsOutdoors** initiative launches soon. If all goes to plan, there will be coverage on BBC Breakfast (BBC1), as well as BBC Radio 4 and BBC Radio 5.

Details of the KidsOutdoors project is at: www.kidsoutdoors.com The Kids Outdoors campaign has five clear objectives:

1. Encourage parents and young people to engage in 1 million outdoor adventures across the UK
2. Call for a halt to the erosion of outdoor space for physical activity (including playing fields, swimming pools, and public gardens)
3. Provide more information for young people and parents on what is going on in their local area
4. Raise £10 million for investment into facilities and logistics to encourage young people in the UK to experience outdoor adventure
5. Ensure more adults volunteer to work with young people in their local communities.

Peter Duncan is being interviewed by BBC Radio Bristol. You can listen live at www.bbc.co.uk/radio/aod/bristol.shtml or can use the 'listen again' feature at the same link later in the day (programmes are only stored until the next edition).

Hopefully there will also be some local media coverage. Our News Release is at www.avonscouts.org.uk/media/kids-outdoors-campaign-launch.pdf if you're interested.

If you want a KidsOutdoors poster to display at your District Headquarters or similar, you can download one from www.kidsoutdoors.com/files/KidsOutdoors%20Poster.pdf

What's your adventure?

All entries for the next newsletter to me the editor by June 30th 2008. You can do this via email at: phillybuk2002@aol.com or phillip.burnett@avonscouts.org.uk. Alternatively you can send me articles via post to: 10 Dean Lane, Southville, Bristol, BS3 1DF (0117) 9857198.