

Welcome to the latest edition of **LOOK SOUTH**, the Newsletter that aims to keep our members and supporters "in the picture".

By now most of you will have heard of the tragic passing of **Allan Burnett** (GSL Blenheim Scout Group) and his colleague Lee Pibworth. Our thoughts are with their families at this sad time. A tribute to Allan is included in this edition.

Also included is a tribute to **Brian Davidson** (ex leader with 208th (St Barnabas) Group) and his wife **Maureen** who recently passed away within 7 days of each other. Our thoughts are also with this family.

FAQ – why is a group of stones used in a Scout obituary?

Gone Home: A Scout tracking symbol made from sticks or stones and taking the shape of a circle with a dot in the middle. The sign is used to show that the person laying the trail has 'gone home'.



We are pleased to announce that the County Appointments Advisory Committee has approved the appointment of **Simon Shorland as Local Training Manager** (LTM) for Bristol South District. Further details later in this edition

Our '**Look South**' editor **Phil Burnett** feels the newsletter needs a new and fresh person to take the publication forward. So we will be looking out for a replacement later this year. If you fancy giving it a go, please e mail or speak to any member of the DMT. Invitations remain open for nominations for the post of District Explorer Scout Commissioner (**DESC**) and for a Young Leaders Leader (**YLL**) although there are plans to fill that post so 'watch this space'. Any interested person (for DESC) can still contact the DMT or if you can think of someone that we should 'have a word with' then please let us know.

During last November the Scout Association ran the latest in a series of **workshops** including one in Bristol that was aimed at Group Scout Leaders and District Commissioners. Your GSL will be able to update.

Looking forward to later during 2011 – There is an open invitation to join us at a social evening, playing **skittles** at St Bernadette's Rugby Club on the evening of Saturday 26th February from 7.30pm onwards in Bamfield, Whitchurch, **Bristol** BS14 0AU. See you there? Will your Group be represented?

Avon Scouts are holding their '4 Seasons' **Jamboree** from Friday 27th until Monday 30th May 2011 at Woodhouse Park Almondsbury. All Cubs, Scouts, Explorers, Network, Guides and all leaders are invited to camp with day visits from Beavers and Cubs. More details later.

Bristol South **St Georges Day celebrations 2011** are still open for suggestions, as the nearest Sunday to the 23rd April is the 24th which is Easter Day. See also note elsewhere regarding Bear Hunt – May 7th will see the County going on a **Bear Hunt**. Yes, we are all off to Ashton Court

Elsewhere you can read about The Scout Association taking forward Woodhouse Park as a National Activity Centre and about the recruitment of a development worker for the County. As a result we have to face up to a number of new challenges in the months and years ahead. These are new and exciting times for the County and **Neil Salter** (our CC) believes that this also means that it is also time for fresh leadership to take the County forward and onto better and brighter things. He writes therefore to inform us that he has recently tendered his resignation as County Commissioner for Avon Scouts to Gordon Weston our Regional Commissioner.

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

AVON SCOUT MOUNTAIN ACTIVITIES TEAM

Draws your attention to.....

LAKE DISTRICT WEEKEND – FEB 2011

Our pinnacle event, this event takes place at Rydal Hall (catered bunkhouse accommodation) on 18-20 February 2011. The course fee is £45 and the booking form is now available online. Last year, all the crampons went out and got used so if you fancy getting cold, wet, wind-blown and exhausted yet have an exhilarating time in a totally controlled and safe way, this event is the one for you! Again, full information is on the website and we had to turn people away last year.

SNOWDONIA MEET - OCTOBER 2011

Our annual autumn terrain 2 mountaineering trip is planned, as always, for September. Based from Capel Curig campsite the 2009 event saw a change in style, having a two-day wild camping weekend instead of the usual two one-day forays into the hills. Camping high in the Carneddys we enjoyed a good weekend and may repeat this format next year. Information will, as ever, be posted on the website and more information will follow when details have been set. This is the ideal course for you if you want to learn how to take your Scouts/Explorers walking in the big hills/mountain regions of the UK, gaining expert tuition and terrain 2 skills and training. Following recent feedback we've moved this weekend into October to allow more Scout and Explorer Leaders the opportunity of coming following the return to Scouting after the summer break.

AN INTRODUCTION TO HILLWALKING WEEKEND - NOVEMBER 2011

The website will shortly be updated with this information..... www.asmat.org.uk



Mark Hennell (County Mountaineering Advisor) from ASMAT

FORTHCOMING EVENTS (SO FAR)

Details of forthcoming events... (Some of which may have passed by the time of publication)

JANUARY

- 4 - Start of term 3
- 7 to 9 - [Winter Camp, Gilwell](#) (Scouts & Explorers)
- 20 - [Avon Active Support Klub Meeting](#), Woodhouse
- 29 & 30 - [Winter Challenge](#) (Explorers)
- 31 - [Census Day](#)

FEBRUARY

- 12 - [Silent Disco](#) (under 18's disco at Woodhouse Pk. WSJ fundraising)
- 12 & 13 - [Cub Sleepover at At-Bristol](#)
- 18 - End of term 3
- 18 – 20 [Hill Walking Terrain 2 assessment weekend](#), Rydal Hall
- 19 - [International Cooking Competition](#) (Scouts & Explorers)
- 22 - [Founder's Day](#)
- 26 - [Basic Campfire Leaders Course](#), Woodhouse Pk
- 28 - Start of term 4

MARCH

- 12 - Bristol South Night hike www.bristolsouthscouts.org.uk/scouts (**Scouts**)
- 19 & 20 - [Rickard Shield](#) (Explorers)
- 27 - Training and Assessment Day for Traditional Rafting

APRIL

- 8 - End of term 4
- 9 - [County Ball](#)
- 26 - Start of term 5
- t.b.a. - [Network Bristol Run](#)

MAY

- 1 - [Queen's Scout Parade and Service](#), Windsor Castle
- 7 - **COUNTY BEAR HUNT**
- 8 - [Activity Assessors Workshop](#), Woodhouse
- 13 to 15 - [Ten Tors](#)
- 14 - [Jamboree On The Trail \(JOTT\)](#)
- 21 & 22 - [World Scout Jamboree 'All Adult Weekend'](#)
- 27 - End of term 5
- 27 to 30 COUNTY JAMBOREE, 4 SEASONS**

JUNE

- 6 - Start of term 6
- 18 & 19 - [Beaver / Cub Fun Day](#), Gilwell Park
- 24 to 26 - [Malvern Challenge](#)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS (SO FAR) CONTINUED ...

JULY

- 1 to 3 - Camping and Rafting 2011 www.bristolsouthscouts.org.uk/rafting (Scouts)
- 1 to 3 - [Sun Run](#)
- 2 - [Young Leader Training 'Module A'](#)
- 8 to 10 - [Gilwell 24](#), Gilwell Park (Explorers)
- 22 - End of term 6
- 27 - [World Scout Jamboree](#) (Opening Ceremony)

AUGUST

- 7 - [World Scout Jamboree](#) (Closing Ceremony)
- t.b.a. - [County Network Camp](#)

SEPTEMBER

- 1 - Start of term 1
- 2 to 4 - [Gilwell Reunion](#), Gilwell Park
- 9 to 11 - [Intense](#) (Network)
- 17 & 18 - [One Night Stand](#) (Explorers)
- 25 - [County Shooting & Archery Competition](#)
- t.b.a. - [County AGM](#)

OCTOBER

- 7 to 9 - [Hill Walking Terrain 2 Assessment Weekend](#), Capel Curig
- 15 & 16 - [Jamboree On The Internet](#) (JOTI)
- 15 & 16 - [Jamboree On The Air](#) (JOTA)
- 21 - End of term 1
- 21 to 23 - [County Patrol Camping Weekend](#)
- 31 - Start of term 2
- t.b.a. - [Sandcastle Competition](#), Weston-s-M (Explorers & Network)

NOVEMBER

- 18 to 20 - [Introduction to Hill Walking Weekend](#), Brecon
- t.b.a. - [Network Quiz](#)

DECEMBER

- 3 - District Beaver Parties to celebrate 25 years of Beavers *contact District for info*
- 16 - End of term 2

CUB SCOUT LEADER WANTED

The 82nd (St. Bernadette's) Whitchurch are looking for someone to take up the position as Cub Scout Leader. They are currently keeping the group open by running on minimal leaders and have to put more and more hours into it all. If you know of anyone who would be interested in taking up this position please contact Scott Stowell on 07504110082.

POR (POLICY, ORGANISATION AND RULES)

Gilwell has now publicised the new version of POR and provided additional information (including FAQs) with regard to the changes affecting the Beaver section.

See: <http://www.bristolsouthscouts.org.uk/por>



Brian and Maureen Davidson

We are sad to report the passing of a devoted couple who were married for more than 50 years, within seven days of each other.

Brian was a well-known and well-liked member of the Knowle West community who helped to run the **208th Bristol (St Barnabas)** Scout troop for many years as SL and later as their GSL.

Below we record what the local paper recently published.

Brian and Maureen who had six children, spent most of their married lives in the Knowle West area of Bristol.

They met at a church social in Redfield in 1956, just three months before Brian was called up for National Service in the Army.

He was posted to Suez during the international crisis in 1956 which nearly led to Britain being involved in another war.

After his return to Bristol, Brian married Maureen and they set up home in Newtown near the city centre before moving to Knowle West seven years later.

Brian worked on the railways, first as a fireman, stoking boilers with coal on steam locos, and later as a train guard. He retired from the railways due to ill health in 1994 and took a job with Gardiner Haskins as a car park attendant.

He worked there for 14 years and eventually gave up the job in 2008 due to his worsening heart condition and only a few days before Maureen was diagnosed with cancer.

His eldest daughter Kim Spencer said: "My mother was the rock that kept the family together, a wonderful mother and grandmother, who was there for everyone.

"The grandchildren went to her very often for help and advice, which she said kept her both young and up-to-date."

A few days after Maureen died, Brian suffered a massive stroke and died in Bristol Royal Infirmary a few days later, on December 11th 2010 aged 73.

A joint funeral service was held for them at St Barnabas Church, Knowle West, where they renewed their wedding vows on their 45th wedding anniversary in 2004.



LOCAL TRAINING MANAGER

We are pleased to announce that the County Appointments Advisory Committee has approved the appointment of **Simon Shorland** as Local Training Manager (LTM) for Bristol South District.

Simon will take on the role currently undertaken by Bob Stanfield – ensuring that all Training Applications are properly completed and forwarded to County Office.

BUT please ensure that such applications reach Simon in time so that he can countersign them and record them in his own files and still have time to forward them to reach the County Office **BEFORE THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE COURSES.**

Several of you will know Simon already – he has worked in the Cub Scout Section as a leader and as an ADC and lately has been an AGSL.

His contact details are as follows:-

Simon Shorland
90 Hazelbury Road
Knowle
BS14 9ET

Telephone: 01275 891945

e-mail: simon.shorland@blueyonder.co.uk

Simon is very enthusiastic about the role and is looking forward to supporting both individuals and all the Training Advisers who are helping new leaders through the Learning/Training process - so that all the young people in Bristol South District can enjoy more and better Scouting.

Rosmarie Kirwan (Avon County Scouts, County Training Manager) will be helping Simon for a while (and arranging some local support too) until he is familiar with all the related paperwork, Modules 1,2,3 and 6 which are run in the District and while he catches up with the Training Advisers and all those currently “in the system”.

Rosmarie’s contact details are:-

rosmarie.kirwan@avonscouts.org.uk

Telephone: 0117 973 4994

Please let Simon know about any outstanding difficulties so that we can help sort them out without delay. Also, if you or anyone you know would like to be a Training Adviser i.e. TA’s (especially if you/they have been through the current Training Scheme) please let us know. You may care to see Avon Scouts web site for more information regarding TA’s.

Please see the page below reminding everyone of the 2011 adult training courses
(Please note at the time of publication some of the courses may have already happened)

AVON SCOUTS

ADULT TRAINING PROGRAMME 2011

Date	Time	Module(s)	Course Title	Times	Closing Date	
JANUARY						
29	Saturday	am	11	Administration	10.00 - 12.15	8 Jan 2011
29	Saturday	pm	17	Activities Outdoors (BS+CS)	13.00 - 15.15	8 Jan 2011
30	Sunday	all day	10	First Aid	09.30 - 16.30	8 Jan 2011
FEBRUARY						
5	Saturday		21	Developing the Movement	09.00 - 14.30	8 Jan 2011
5	Saturday		20	Administration (Managers)	14.30 - 17.00	8 Jan 2011
6	Sunday		24/26	Managing / Supporting Adults	09.00 - 12.45	8 Jan 2011
6	Sunday		23	Safety (Managers)	13.30 - 16.30	8 Jan 2011
17	Thursday	eve	19	International	19.30 - 21.45	22 Jan 2011
MARCH						
5	Saturday	am	14	Young People Today	10.00 - 12.15	12 Feb 2011
5	Saturday	pm	15	Challenging Behaviour	13.00 - 15.00	12 Feb 2011
6	Sunday	am	7	Valuing Diversity	09.00 - 13.00	12 Feb 2011
6	Sunday	pm	8	Skills of Leadership	13.45 - 16.00	12 Feb 2011
16	Wednesday	evening	17	Activities Outdoors (S+ES)	19.30 - 21.45	19 Feb 2011
26	Saturday	all day	10	First Aid	09.30 - 16.30	5 Mar 2011
APRIL						
9	Saturday	all day	18	Practical Skills	09.15 - 16.00	19 Mar 2011
10	Sunday	am	5	Fundamental Values of Scouting	09.15 - 11.00	19 Mar 2011
10	Sunday	am/pm	12	Providing a Balanced Programme	11.30 - 16.00	19 Mar 2011
MAY						
14	Saturday	am	13	Developing the Section	09.30 - 12.15	16 Apr 2011
14	Saturday	pm	9	Working with Adults	13.00 - 16.00	16 Apr 2011
15	Sunday	am	25	Assessing Learning (TAs & Managers)	09.00 - 13.00	16 Apr 2011
21	Saturday	am	16	Introduction to Residential Experiences	To be advised	16 Apr 2011
21	Saturday	pm	38	Skills for Residential Experiences		16 Apr 2011
22	Sunday	all day		(Residential weekend, timings to be advised)		
JUNE						
11	Saturday	all day	10	First Aid	09.30 - 16.30	21 May 2011
12	Sunday	am	14	Young People Today	10.00 - 12.15	21 May 2011
12	Sunday	pm	15	Challenging Behaviour	13.00 - 15.00	21 May 2011
SEPTEMBER						
8	Thursday	evening	11	Administration	19.30 - 21.45	20 Aug 2011
17	Saturday	am	16	Introduction to Residential Experiences	To be advised	20 Aug 2011
17	Saturday	pm	38	Skills for Residential Experiences		20 Aug 2011
18	Sunday	all day		(Residential weekend, timings to be advised)		
OCTOBER						
1	Saturday	am	5	Fundamental Values of Scouting	09.15 - 11.00	10 Sep 2011
1	Saturday	pm	12	Providing a Balanced Programme	11.30 - 16.00	10 Sep 2011
2	Sunday	all day	10	First Aid	09.30 - 16.30	10 Sep 2011
22	Saturday	am	7	Valuing Diversity	09.00 - 13.00	1 Oct 2011
22	Saturday	pm	8	Skills of Leadership	13.45 - 16.00	1 Oct 2011
23	Sunday	am	13	Developing the Section	09.30 - 12.15	1 Oct 2011
23	Sunday	pm	9	Working With Adults	13.00 - 16.00	1 Oct 2011
NOVEMBER						
9	Wednesday	evening	19	International	19.30 - 21.45	15 Oct 2011
26	Saturday	all day	18	Practical Skills	09.15 - 16.00	5 Nov 2011
27	Sunday	am	17	Activities Outdoors (BS+CS)	09.30 - 11.45	5 Nov 2011
27	Sunday	pm	17	Activities Outdoors (S+ES)	13.30 - 15.45	5 Nov 2011

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www.avonscouts.org.uk/adulttraining

The above courses are being run at the Training Centre at Woodhouse Park.

Other courses can be run locally by the Training Team if numbers are sufficient - please speak to your Local Training Manager.

To book a place please submit a booking form (available from website and your Local Training Manager) and send to County Office.

WOODHOUSE PARK

Most readers should have received notification of the updated situation regarding Woodhouse Park announcing a formal partnership between the County and The Scout Association, to take forward the facility as a National Activity Centre.

This exciting news ensures the long term stability and future of Woodhouse Park as a camping and activity centre for the young people in our County.

The County website has been updated to reflect this news story and there was an update in the December County newsletter.

Separately there will be further communications on a national basis including Scouting Plus.

The handover of the site (remember the Scout Association are leasing WHP and it is still owned by the County) is planned for the 1st April 2011 although before that point there is still significant work to be done to dot all the i's and cross all the t's.

This decision also means that we will now be looking to take forward the employment of a County Development Worker helping Districts and Groups to grow and deliver scouting to more young people.

Avon Scout County Sailing Section www.ascss.org.uk



Scout Introductory Evenings - Bookings are now being taken
Cost £60 per session
For more info www.ascss.org.uk/intro

Scout Sailing Courses available at Cost of £70 for 4 Days
For more info www.ascss.org.uk/rya

Scout Sailing Club at the Cost of £3pnp
For more info www.ascss.org.uk/club

A LETTER FROM THE COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Folks

With the agreement for The Scout Association to take forward Woodhouse Park as a National Activity Centre now in place and with the recruitment of a development worker for the County getting underway in the New Year the County is about to undergo considerable changes and will as a result have to face up to a number of new challenges in the months and years ahead.

These are new and exciting times for the County and I believe that this also means that it is also time for fresh leadership to take the County forward and on to better and brighter things. I write therefore to inform you that I have this week tendered my resignation as County Commissioner for Avon Scouts to Gordon Weston our Regional Commissioner.

I will of course continue to lead the County until a successor has been appointed and has taken up the reins. Gordon with the support of Paul Maisey will be leading a search group for the new CC early in the New Year with a view to having a new CC in place from the beginning of April. From this point I will of course be giving all my support to my successor as they face up to the fresh challenges that the new era for the County will bring albeit from an as yet undefined but backseat role.

I will be informing members locally that I am stepping down in my New Year message that will go out early in the New Year in the meantime please feel free to cascade this message to your teams as you see fit.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in the role and feel particularly privileged to have been able to lead the County in the celebrations for the Scouting centenary back in 2007 and to have been at the helm as Scouting became more relevant to the young people of today with the consequential increase in numbers. The challenge going forward of course is not new although the path to be trod may be different - it is to continue to provide Better Scouting to More Young People - a challenge you have always supported me with and one which I will now start to hand over to you and your new CC.

Kind regards

Neil Salter



“ONE PERSON CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE”

Allan Burnett, who died on New Years Day 2011 aged 55, was regarded as an inspiring leader of a loyal and hard working team who have ensured the continuing success and vision of his beloved Blenheim Scout Group.

He founded the Group in 1978 and through his drive and enthusiasm made the Group what it is today.

Allan was killed, along with his friend Lee Pibworth in a tragic hot air ballooning accident.

The families and associates of both men have paid tribute to them. Among the many Scouting tributes paid to Allan, one from Neil Salter, County Commissioner Avon Scouts sums them all up-:

Allan was a valued member of the Scouting movement who had given over 30 years of adult service to Scouting. A larger than life individual Allan had been instrumental in the growth and development of Scouting within his local community. An inspirational leader he was the driving force in the quest for a new Group Scout Headquarters, and the many and varied projects that Blenheim Scout Group were involved with.

A spokesperson for the Group said "His enthusiasm, energy and vision to create a better future for the youth of the area touched many lives, and his death will leave a huge gap in the community. Blenheim Scout Group was his driving passion, and their young members were inspired by his dedication, strength and commitment".

Allan's wife, two daughters and son described him as a loving man with a thirst for life and adventure. His vision was to live every day to its fullest.

The funeral took place on Wednesday 19th January 2011 at St Oswald's Church, Cheddar Grove, Bedminster Down and was attended by many of his Scouting colleagues.

All members of the Bristol South Scout District together with all others in the wider Scouting community pass their condolences to Allan's wife Jill and their children Charlotte, Stephanie and Alex.



Allan receives his "One person can make a difference" award from The Lord Mayor Councillor Peter Abraham in 2006



MESSAGE FROM THE

COUNTY COMMISSIONER...

4 Seasons Jamboree

May Bank Holiday weekend 2011 will see the 2011 Avon Jamboree taking place at WHP. Pete and his team are working flat out to bring you a camp that will provide lots of adventurous and challenging activities plus the opportunities to make new friends from around the County. It all adds up to a really great weekend so get your entries in as soon as possible as entries close on the 28th February. See Avon Scouts web site for info' and Booking forms. Also please refer to Kat Allen.

Bear Hunt

May 7th will see the County going on a Bear Hunt. Yes we are all off to Ashton Court to see which famous bears we can spot. Rupert Bear and Paddington are already signed up but which other famous Bear is coming along to meet Avon Scouts? To find out you will need to be there. More info' later

Beavers

A number of activities are being put in place to help Beavers celebrate their 25th Birthday. Please refer to Andy Dyer (ADC Beavers) for more info'

LOOK SOUTH – Printing and Distribution.

As many readers know the team that has, in the past arranged for the printing and distribution (to GSL's) of the '**LOOK SOUTH**' have, unfortunately just lost that facility. Until an alternative printer etc. can be arranged most readers will have to rely on a link to the District web site and download their own copy. We also trust that each Group will be able to print off copies for those that do not have that capability and distribute. However, if you know of anyone seriously inconvenienced by this temporary arrangement please let the DMT / Dist' Chairman know.

If anyone knows of someone that can reproduce about 125 copies of a 14 sided, A4 black and white, news sheet four times a year very cheaply, let the DMT / Dist' Chairman know. We may consider adverts to help pay any costs.

EDITOR'S PIECE

All items for the "Spring Edition" of Look South to the editor by Friday 1st April 2011

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