

LOOK SOUTH

THE VOICE OF SCOUTING IN BRISTOL SOUTH DISTRICT



Tenth Edition, Autumn 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.

It’s now just three years since our District was formed, a ‘coming together’ of the Bristol South East and Bristol South West Districts. This was as a result of the ‘**Time for Change**’ review and the Avon County team are now considering the effectiveness of the changes. Letters, e mails etc have been distributed giving groups the opportunity to feed back in the same way that the District Management Team (DMT) has.

Now that the summer camping season is over, it’s time to prepare for the winter, thanks to all those groups and various sections who have shared their programmes with the DMT and /or ADC’s. We always welcome more, so if possible just e-mail them, as usual to **bristolsouthdmt@avonscouts.org.uk**.

The season for **Group AGM’s** is closing and the DMT supported by the ADC’s are kept busy attending these. All Groups are reminded to arrange a date if they have not already done so. Groups that have recruited new executive committee members should make sure that the district directory is updated.

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)

Invitations for nominations for the post of District Explorer Scout Commissioner (**DESC**) and for an Assistant District Commissioner, Scouts (**ADC Scouts**) were recently distributed via Group Scout Leaders (GSL’s) 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.

The Regional Development Manager, South West Region, Jamie Macdonald of the Scout Associations **Regional Development Service (RDS)** has produced a very useful guide of the support that his department can offer Districts and Groups. Copies are with GSL’s. There are generic forms that can be submitted requesting assistance with all sorts of projects that you may have in mind. Jamie’s note introducing his team is reproduced elsewhere in this **Look South**.

Other matters of interest that we have noted recently and are reproduced later include new **rules for under 8’s**, **Grassroots Funding** opportunities and **Adult Awards** changes.

Regular readers will recall that there are plans to redevelop the site that includes our Balfour Road **District HQ**. We can report that the details are slowly emerging and that we continue to ensure that a ‘Scouting’ presence will continue within the new buildings.

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.

FROM THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

I'm really pleased to confirm that Jean Marshall and Ben Powlesland will be joining us as our two new Regional Development Officers in the region. Jean is a Beaver Scout Leader in Brunel district (Avon). Ben has a variety of roles with Mid Cornwall district centred around St. Austell. Both of them have many skills which Gordon (*Gordon Weston – SW regional Commissioner*) and I feel will enhance the team along with Debbie's (*Debbie Evans Regional Development officer*) skills and years of experience.

We are a regional team so all of us will support the patch as directed by our work plan that Debbie, Gordon and I are working on at present. Any further development projects that should be added to the growing list would be much appreciated. Jean and Ben started officially on Monday 9th June. After a week long basic induction at Gilwell, the main part of the induction will be field based shadowing Debbie and I to as much as possible. I should be able to share the full contact details for the whole team as soon as we can confirm telephone numbers. (*see below*)

As a full South West regional team, we look forward to working and supporting the region in developing Scouting.

Jamie Macdonald - Regional Development Manager - South West Region

If you think the South West Regional Development Service could help you, please complete a development outline form and return to jamie.macdonald@scout.org.uk, or post to Mr Jamie Macdonald, 26 Gloucestershire Lea, Warfield, Berkshire, RG42 3XQ

Forms are available from the Regional Development Service or can be downloaded from <http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/support/development/>

Useful Links

The SW Regional Development Service contacts are:

SW Regional Development Manager

Jamie Macdonald
Tel 01344 428211 or 07983 640472
Email: jamie.macdonald@scout.org.uk

Jamie

SW Regional Development Officers

Debbie Evans
Tele 01635 247845 or 07932 115744
Email: Debbie.evans@scout.org.uk

Debbie

Jean Marshall
Tele 01454 270134 or 07983 589566
Email: Jean.marshall@scout.org.uk

Jean

Ben Powlesland
Tele 01726 70372 or 07984 210724
Email: Benjamin.powlesland@scout.org.uk

Ben

Supporting the counties of:
Avon, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Guernsey, Jersey,
Somerset & Wiltshire

JOIN THE ADVENTURE

www.scouts.org.uk/join

Tel 0845 300 1818

0845 300 1818 - Use this number on all your publicity material, it is Scout HQ's Information number and they will process all enquiries and will send them to your DC or District contact.

CHANGE TO RULES FOR UNDER 8'S

Note from Gilwell on "Change to rules for Under 8s" see below and attached from Jenny Winn, Programme and Development Advisor (Beaver Scouts)

Dear All

After several years of trying to get a definitive answer whether Section 71 of the Children Act (1989) applies to Scouting we have an answer. We finally have an answer that Section 71 does not apply to Scouting. This is the part of the act that says under 8 year olds must not go to Cub Scouts.



Accordingly we will be changing the POR rules to say that there is flexibility in the age range to join Cub Scouts from 7.5 and 8.5. The core ages for both sections will remain the same.

Please find attached a new briefing note that will go to ACCs/AACs/DCs in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Scotland doesn't need to change as they have been operating a rule similar to this for several years. Also attached is a FAQ sheet which should answer any questions you have. If you do have any questions that are not covered by the FAQs please let me know and I will update the sheet.
Any questions just ask.

Jenny Winn

Programme and Development Adviser (Beaver Scouts) The Scout Association Gilwell Park, Bury Road, Chingford, LONDON E4 7QW

UNDER 8s AT CUB SCOUT MEETINGS - A BRIEFING NOTE FOR ACCs/AACs/DCs/CCs BACKGROUND

This note provides clarification and briefing on an issue that has been the subject of some confusion in the recent past. This note supersedes all other information and advice which you may have heard or been given previously.

The issue is that the Children Act 1989 (the "Act") states that young people under the age of 8 years need to be supervised by registered childminders in certain situations. This raised the query as to whether the legislation applied to under 8s attending Scout meetings.

THE CURRENT SITUATION

For many years Headquarters has sought to obtain clarification on the legislation from the responsible authorities. It is following recent correspondence between a Beaver Scout Leader and the Department for Children, Schools and Families that the Association is now able to confirm that under 8s attending Scouting are not covered by Section 71 of the Children Act '89. Scouting is by definition not considered "child care" and this means that the specific requirements of Section 71 of the Act do not apply to Scouting.

GUIDANCE

In light of this information it is now possible to amend Policy, Organisation and Rules to allow young people aged 7½ years to join Cub Scouts.

Beaver Scouts activities should continue be run in accordance with the official Section Programme and in line with the rules outlined in Policy, Organisation and Rules.

This briefing note does not affect the rules for Cub Scouts in Scotland or Northern Ireland.

Matthew Heydays –

Assistant Secretary (September 2008)

CHANGE TO RULES FOR UNDER 8'S (continued)

Frequently Asked Questions – Version 2

Changes to the Under 8's Rule 3.8h in PO&R

1. Does this mean that all Beaver Scouts move to Cub Scouts at 7½?

No. The core ages for both Sections remains the same, Beaver Scouts: 6 – 8 years old and Cub Scouts 8 – 10½ years old. As we have been able to clarify the information that The Scout Association is not covered by The Children Act (1989) we have made this change to encourage flexibility and to help the moving on process suit the individual young person.

2. When do we start the Moving On process between Beaver Scouts and Cub Scouts?

As you would normally – a few weeks before children join Cub Scouts. A Beaver Scout moving to Cub Scouts should move up at the appropriate time for them, any time between 7½ and 8½ years old.

3. Does this mean that we can take 5½ year olds into Beaver Scouts?

No – the youngest that anyone can join the Scout Association still remains at 5 years and 9 months.

4. Has the length of time a Sleepover runs for changed?

Sleepovers are still only for 24 hours, this time period was not decided because of The Children Act (1989).

5. Will there still be enough time for a Beaver Scout to complete their Chief Scout's Bronze Award if they move up at 7½?

If you think a Beaver Scout is going to move up before 8 years old, make plans to help them complete the challenges in time.

6. If we get a child who is 7½ who wants to join, can they join Cub Scouts straight away?

Yes – a Beaver Scout can join Cub Scouts from the age of 7½ years old.

7. If a Beaver Scout joins Cub Scouts between the age of 7½ and 8 years old are they allowed to go on Nights Away events using Cub Scout rules?

Yes – once they are in Cub Scouts, follow Cub Scout rules for any activity.

8. Why have we made the changes to this ruling?

After many years of lobbying and dialogue with HMG, The Scout Association has finally got confirmation from the Department of Children, Schools and Families that Section 71 of the Children Act (1989) does not apply to us.

9. Can those Beaver Scouts aged over 7½ camp as part of a Sleepover?

No, while they are in Beaver Scouts they follow the Beaver Scout rules.

10. Can Beaver Scouts over the age of 7½ attend Cub Scout camps before they are invested?

Yes, once they start their linking then the rules for the Cub Scout section apply when on Cub activities

Brunel Scout District First aid training course - Sat' 29th Nov' 2008

Anyone that needs to do this training and this date / location is convenient for them, they are welcome to join. <http://www.brunelscouts.org.uk/item-14.html>

Please let Mark Gollop know if you're coming. mark.gollop@avonscouts.org.uk
0117 965 3244 or 07789 621 323

Bits and pieces

Building Fund – HQ Pilot Project - new fact sheet FS185096, good for building grants.

Promoting Sexual health – new fact sheet FS950000 , recommended

County – training : 2009 timetable and booking forms available soon – Web site training pages to be re-launched. Internet connections in training centre at Woodhouse Park (WHP) now in use.

WHP redevelopment , Planning permission has been submitted for phase 1.

GRASSROOTS FUNDING

This programme is funded by the Government's Office of the Third Sector and its purpose is to support small, informal voluntary and community groups and organisations, many of whom are dependent on volunteers. The programme will run from September 2008 to March 2011. Quartet Community Foundation is the appointed Local Funder for this programme in the West of England.

Quartet CF welcome applications to the Grassroots Grants Programme from small, local voluntary and community organisations where a small amount of money can make a difference. Applicants must be based and working in North Somerset. Eligible groups must have been active in their local area for at least 12 months prior to applying to this fund. Groups must have an evidenced income of less than £20,000 per year taken as an average over three financial years, or the life of the group. Please contact us if you have any questions about this.

The maximum amount awarded from this programme is £5,000 in total to any group over the period of the grant programme. You can apply for up to £5,000 which can be used all at once or over the lifetime of the funding programme.

To be eligible for a grant from the Grassroots Grants Programme the work of your organisation must benefit people who are disadvantaged or isolated. People may be isolated due to poverty, disability, age, location or culture.

Priority is also given to groups that:

Enable people to take opportunities that would otherwise not be available to them
Involve local people in improving their community

Reflect the concerns and priorities of people living and working in the area.

To apply to the Grassroots Grants Programme you do not have to be a registered charity, as long as the work you do has charitable aims and you have a constitution (set of rules) and management committee.

For further details contact:

Alice Meason

Royal Oak House, Royal Oak Avenue, Bristol BS1 4GB

0117 989 7706

alice.meason@quartetcf.org.uk

Prize giving & Award ceremonies

The District Management Team (DMT) and the Assistant District Commissioners (ADC's) remind everyone that they are happy to receive invitations to any 'special' section meetings to perhaps, assist in prize giving or award ceremonies. Please contact any member of the DMT - e mail - bristolsouthdmt@avonscouts.org.uk

They would also like to 'just turn up' and show their support during standard meetings, so would welcome copies of section programmes such that wasted journeys could be eliminated.

Going the extra mile

Everyone probably knows someone in Scouting that should be recognised for 'going that extra mile'. The Association has a scheme providing formal recognition of good adult service. It also recognises special acts of bravery, quick thinking in the face of danger, courage and endurance for all young people and adults involved in the Movement.

There is no mystery in the way our awards scheme works. All awards have to be applied for and justified by a District and/or County/Area Commissioner in order to ensure a uniform national standard. The scheme is governed by rules laid down in POR which are generally administered by the Awards Board.

Guidelines have been written by the Board with a view to helping everyone understand the scheme and make it more effective. These are available on '**SCOUTBASE**'. There is also some good advice about a number of other areas where thanks are appropriate, such as awarding Thanks Badges and making presentations generally.

The following awards are included in the listings

- Silver Wolf
- Silver Acorn (and Bar)
- Award for Merit (and Bar)
- Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service
- Bronze Cross
- Silver Cross
- Gilt Cross
- Medal of Meritorious Conduct
- Chief Scout's Commendation for Meritorious Conduct

Prior to July 2007 the following awards are also listed: Medal of Merit (and Bar)

Most of the adults involved in Scouting look for and expect no reward, but a timely word of thanks in the right direction never goes amiss and can work wonders in terms of morale and motivation, not to mention retention. To make that occasional 'thank you' even more special, please give serious consideration to making an application for an award for those Members and Associate Members who, over a period of time, you find yourself thanking more frequently. Service decorations, too, will afford you regular opportunities to thank many whose valuable service is sometimes overlooked. **Recommendations should be made to any member of the DMT.** bristolsouthdmt@avonscouts.org.uk

Awards for Gallantry and Meritorious Conduct, including the Cornwell Scout Badge, are also considered in the Guidelines. While the numbers awarded are small, the effect they can have on recipients and their immediate families, as well as on local Scouting, can be significant. If you think you have someone in Scouting in our District whose bravery, courage, quick thinking or endurance, either during a single incident, or during a prolonged period of suffering, deserves recognition, please make an early application.

Those recommendations should also be made to any member of the DMT
bristolsouthdmt@avonscouts.org.uk

ADULT AWARD CHANGES

Over the past year or so the Awards Board, in conjunction with the General Purposes sub-Committee, has reviewed our Awards Scheme. You will recall key elements have included:

Streamlining of the number of awards for Gallantry/Meritorious Conduct which are now all represented by a medal reducing the service period to five years for consideration to awarding the Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service the Medal of Merit (and Bar) replaced by the Award of Merit (and Bar) which are now worn around the neck allowing easier presentation and giving consistency with other Good Service Awards the realignment of award anniversaries and emblem design for Length of Service Awards.

We write to advise you of a final change to our scheme that will become effective immediately. The change, detailed below, was approved recently by the Chief Scout, the General Purposes sub-Committee and the Awards Board.

Chief Scout's Personal Award

The Chief Scout's Personal Award, is now to be awarded by the Chief Scout in consultation with the Awards Board to recognise achievement not covered by the criteria for any other awards. The Award may be applied for using form TSA06/GS (Award for Good Service and Honorary Scouter Certificate) without the submission of a full citation, however a few lines of narrative are required when the nominating Commissioner submits the application. The reasons for this broadly being:

To ensure the award is not used in substitution for a Good Service Award as an avenue to avoid the requirement for the appropriate training to be completed. To give the Association, Awards Board and Commissioners some idea of the achievement to enable them to decide whether or not a Gallantry/Meritorious Conduct Award is more appropriate.

To allow the achievement to be annotated on the Award certificate. The Award is available to all persons in Scouting, irrespective of whether they are a Youth or Adult Member or what position they hold. The Chief Scout's Personal Award will consist of an emblem with a green arrowhead badge superimposed on a gold circular background on a dark green cloth badge or brooch. At the discretion of the Chief Scout it may also occasionally be accompanied with a suitable commemorative item.

The Award will be processed and dispatched in the usual way with other monthly Awards. This change is in response to direct feedback to allow high profile recognition to extra special achievements. In recent times examples where the new criteria could have been used would include recognising:

- a Network member becoming the youngest person ever to trek to the South Pole
- a young person raising a substantial sum of money in memory of a parent
- a Scout Leader who secured funding to fully develop a new Scout HQ and then undertook the building project management benefiting over 100 young people.

Unfortunately due to length of service a Good Service Award was not appropriate. As with all our Awards granted by the Chief Scout we rely on the initial overview of yourselves to ensure nominations are those that stand out from the norm. The Awards Board are now turning their attention to develop and implement strategies to ensure that Scouting is recognised more widely than at present in the National Honours System (MBE, OBE etc) and in other appropriate external schemes.

Length of Service Award

The Length of Service Award is a way of saying thank you to volunteers for their continued efforts in bringing the fun and excitement of Scouting to young people. After a recent review of the award a few changes have been made.



Recognising a volunteer's dedication and hard work is what the Length of Service Award is all about.

Recently, the General Purposes Sub-Committee requested that additional Length of Service Awards be made available for 20 and 30 years' service, and that we provide awards at five yearly intervals up to 30 years and then for each successive period of 10 years.

They also asked that a review take place of the complete process. The result of this review is that a certificate, together with an emblem or brooch for the non uniformed, will be issued with each five, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 60 and 70 year award.

In addition, you will see that the design of the emblem is changing slightly. It still follows the traditional pattern, but with the figure-of-eight knot and number of years served in green in each case.

These new-style emblems and brooches were issued from April this year.

Existing holders of Length of Service Awards may purchase the new-design emblems and brooches by contacting the Scout Information Centre on 0845 300 1818 should they wish to change to the new design.

COTSWOLD OUTDOORS

Did you know that Cotswold outdoors are offering 15% discount to members of the Scout Association **by quoting AF-AVONSC-6V**

Online at www.cotswoldoutdoor.com or by tele' 0844 557 7755

CAMPFIRE LEADERS COURSE

The next Basic Course for becoming a camp fire leader is arranged for

Sat. Feb 7th 2009
At Mafeking Hall
Ram Hill
Coalpit Heath

and full details will be in the County Bulletin nearer to the date

Avon County Group Reviews

The next round of 'RAG' reviews will commence in Bristol South soon. These are an established way of gathering an overview of the up to date situation in our groups. It measures if a group considers itself achieving Red, Amber or Green (RAG) status in many different categories.

Forms for completion are (will be soon) with GSL's.

Group Boundaries

The difficult problem of group boundaries has risen once again. There cannot, of course be any fixed geographical limits around group HQ's, but deliberately approaching potential young candidates from an area that has traditionally been accepted as being the catchment zone of another group, is always discouraged.

It is recognised that young people (as well as adults) will sometimes choose to be with their friends and acquaintances; however we should not allow ourselves to bring Scouting into disrepute by being seen to squabble amongst ourselves. This will undoubtedly happen if groups go out of their way to canvass support from around another group's HQ.

If any group has room (vacancies) for more young people and a nearby group has a waiting list, it is hoped that information is freely passed between them.

The DMT as well as the RDS are always available to assist and arbitrate on matters such as these.

Scouts welcome government plans to support volunteering

The government recently outlined plans to make it easier for more people to volunteer for key roles in their local community, a key recommendation of The Morgan Inquiry that was launched earlier this year with The Scout Association's support.

Launched in February, The Morgan Inquiry found that many young adults would benefit from an extra eight hours leave a year from their jobs for voluntary activities. It also included the recommendation for a flexible day off to encourage volunteering.



Sometime soon, Communities Secretary Hazel Blears will announce proposals to broaden the list of activities that will entitle people to time off work.

Magistrates, school governors and members of health bodies or police authorities already have time off entitlements. But the government will be looking at whether this should be extended to other roles to better reflect modern life and the needs of local communities.

'Nearly three quarters of all adults volunteered at least once during last year, with almost half volunteering at least once a month,' said Blears.

'If we value volunteering and community spirit then we have a responsibility to see what we can do to make it easier for more people, from all walks of life to get involved.'

Nominations for a Local Training Manager in Bristol South District.

We are writing to ask if you know a suitable person to take on this role and to nominate them for it. This may be someone currently in Scouting (could be in our District), someone who is currently having a rest from Scouting, someone who doesn't hold a Scouting role or even yourself!

Role description for a ... Local Training Manager

Item Code FS330069 **Date** May/04 **Edition no** 1

Title: Local Training Manager

Outline: To assist the County Training Manager (CTM) in managing the Training / Learning process in a given area of responsibility.

Responsible for: Training Advisers, Local Training Administrators (LTA)

Responsible to: County Training Manager

Main Contacts: District Commissioners, Adult Support Office at HQ

Appointment Requirements: To understand and accept the Scout Association's policies, have a satisfactory CRB clearance, completion of a Wood Badge including the role specific modules as detailed in the Adults Personal File and the Adult Training Scheme.

“General” Main Tasks “Specific” Tasks Agreed with the CTM

- Act as line manager for LTA (recruit, induct, support and carry out appointment reviews)
- Act as line manager for Training Advisers
- Plan and ensure the delivery of the learning provision in their area of responsibility so that all adults in Scouting completing a personal learning plan have access to suitable learning opportunities using a variety of methods
- Ensure that people involved in the learning provision are suitably qualified (have attained or are working towards the relevant role specific Modules)
- Make Wood Badge recommendation within their responsibility
- Provide training opportunities locally
- Any other task as agreed with the CTM

Please return nomination form to any member of the District Management Team (below)

BOB STANFIELD, 155B, Coronation Road, Southville, Bristol BS3 1RE 0117 9633731
NICK WINTER, 17, Dennon Park, Hengrove, Bristol BS14 9BY 01275 832833
BOB HUSSEY, 14 Foxcombe Road, Whitchurch, Bristol BS14 0JT 01275 835571

E mail - bristolsouthdmt@avonscouts.org.uk

Nomination Form for Local Training Manager for Bristol South District.

From:

Name:

Address:

Telephone Number:

Email address:

I wish to nominate:

Name:

Current Scouting Appointment (if any):

Address:

Telephone Number:

Email address:





Reason(s) for nomination:

Please explain briefly about the person you are nominating and why you feel they would be suitable for the role of District Explorer Scout Commissioner. Please continue on the back if you need more space.

Signed:

Date:

Notes

-  Please copy this blank form if you wish to make more than one nomination.
-  Please return completed nomination forms to District Secretary (address on accompanying letter)
-  The closing date for receipt of nominations is 30th November 2008.
-  Self nominations are welcomed and encouraged.

The Scout Association Activities eNews, Issue 6, October 2008

Introduction

Welcome to the sixth edition of Activities eNews.

This newsletter is designed to keep you up to date with the latest developments and opportunities within Activities. It is being emailed to ACCs/AACs Activities, County Duke of Edinburgh's Award Advisers and those with Activities appointments. It will also be available on the Activities pages of ScoutBase UK.

Home Contact Review

As you may be aware, we are currently conducting a review of the Home Contact system. Following the responses we received from an initial round of consultation the review group has put together a consultation document. This consultation document is available for all to view, and we would welcome comments on this from anyone who wishes to contribute: www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/activities/homecontact.pdf

Support Assessors

We are looking to recruit a volunteer project leader to support County Assessors in their role. The role involves developing support and support networks for County Assessors. This is likely to involve (although not limited to) the designing and delivering of Assessor workshops, and the development of resources to allow for Assessor workshops and Assessor support locally. Technical activity knowledge is not a requirement, but experience in training would be a benefit. Details and further information are available on ScoutBase UK at: www.scoutbase.org.uk/hq/jobs/volunteer.htm

Money Money Money

The Development Grants Board has made funding available towards the cost of attending an activity permit assessment course and associated travel costs. County Assessors can also now get funding towards travel costs of their assessment courses in addition to the course costs that have been available for a number of years: www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/activities/assessment/funding.htm

Climbing and Cycling Helmets

There has recently been work done on our requirements regarding the wearing of helmets during cycling and climbing for Sikhs wearing turbans. There has now been agreement for a change of wording that clarifies that the wearing of helmets is a requirement for cycling and climbing (in the circumstances that it was before), except in the case of Sikhs wearing turbans who can decide personally whether they wish to wear a helmet. This change will appear in the next issue of POR.

Hovercrafting Relaunch

Following consultation with the Hovercraft Club of Great Britain (HCGB) we are floating some changes to the way in which Hovercrafting is operated within Scouting. Hovercrafting will be incorporated into the Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme with a transition period lasting until January 2010 to enable Assessors to be trained and appointed. Full details can be found on ScoutBase UK at: www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/activities/factfile.php?ID=29

A Big Hello

We have two new members of the UK Activities Team to welcome. Ben Julian has joined as the UKTA for Dinghy Sailing, while on the professional side Nicola Ashby has joined as a P&D Adviser alongside Barney and Jess. Both can be contacted via Gilwell Park. Details can be found at: www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/activities/news/naas.htm

AAIAC

The Adventure Activities Industry Advisory Committee (AAIAC) is an advisory body that issues guidance mainly in those areas that fall outside the Adventurous Activity Licensing Service (AALS (previously AALA)). To help with our ongoing work with external organisations we would like to hear of your experiences with AAIAC. Have you heard of AAIAC? Has its work filtered through to you? Have you been asked about AAIAC codes of practice when supplying activities externally? Please email us at activities@scout.org.uk

Congratulations

Congratulations to John Dohoo (UK Technical Adviser for Shooting) who has been recognised by the National Small-bore Rifle Association (NSRA). John has been awarded the Silver Special Service Award for his service to shooting.

Fellowship Going Underground

Over the weekend of 14 – 16 November there is an opportunity for adults in Scouting to join in a caving trip in South Wales. In addition to this there will be a meeting on the Saturday night looking at the possibility of forming a National Caving Fellowship. Full details from idriswilliams@aol.com

UK Snowsports Award

The governing bodies for snowsports in Scotland, England and Wales have launched a unified qualifications pathway covering coaching, leading and instructing awards. UK Snowsports will eventually replace all existing qualifications. Full details can be found in the UK Snowsports press release:

www.snowsportengland.org.uk/uk_snowsports_coach_award_scheme_press_release-2795.html

Permit Scheme Rolling Review

A reminder that there is an ongoing rolling review of the Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme. If you have any thoughts or comments about any specific activities, assessment checklists, factsheets or forms supporting the scheme then please send them in to us. They will then be considered the next time the activity involved is reviewed. Comments should be sent to activities@scout.org.uk

National Support

A quick reminder that members of the UK Activities Team are very happy to visit Regions, Counties or Districts to provide support, run presentations, answer questions etc, for any area of activities. For more information email Barney Poulton, Jess Kelly and Nicola Ashby at activities@scout.org.uk

Factsheet Updates

Details of new and updated factsheets and assessment checklists over the past few months can be found on their dedicated web page at: www.scouts.org.uk/recentupdates

Diary Dates

Below are listed a number of activity events taking place in 2008. Many of these allow novice levels to take part without the need to bring specialist activity equipment. The fact that we are advertising them does not mean that these events are necessarily vetted or endorsed by The Scout Association nationally. For a full and up to date list of activity events and dates please see: www.scoutbase.org.uk/direct/events/activitiesemp.htm

Sussex Downsman Hike

Buriton - near Petersfield, Hampshire

4 October 2008

www.downsman.com

Apex Extreme

Ilkley Moor, West Yorkshire

10 - 12 October 2008

www.apexchallenge.co.uk

National Scout Rifle Championships 2008

National Shooting Centre - Bisley

17 - 19 October 2008

www.scouts-shoot.org.uk/nsarc2k8

National Sedan Chair Rally

Tolmers, Hertfordshire

24 - 26 October 2008

www.sedanchair.org.uk

And Finally...

Thank you for reading this edition of Activities eNews. If you have any ideas that you feel would make future issues even more helpful, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Andrew Wellbeloved

UK Commissioner for Programme

Linda Thelwell

UK Adviser (Activities)

All articles for the next edition of look south to the editor by **Monday 19th January 2009**. You can do this either by email or post: Philip Burnett, 10 Dean Lane, Southville, Bristol, BS3 1DF (0117) 9857198. E-mail: Phillybuk2002@aol.com or phillip.burnett@bristolsouthscouts.org.uk