

Your chance to help Scouting in Malawi



Every Scottish Scout, from the youngest Beaver to the oldest Leader or Fellowship member, now has the chance to make a real difference to the world of Scouting.

For Scouting in Scotland is to embark on what, hopefully, will be the first stage of a campaign to help Scouting grow in Malawi.

And the challenge is quite simple – between us we want to try to raise about £6,000 for the Scout Association of Malawi, not only to help more young people there to experience Scouting but, at a more basic level, just to allow the Movement to continue. Already, thanks to the generosity of our own Scouting community, over £1,000 has been sent to Malawi to help achieve these goals.

The projects which would make a significant impact on the development of Scouting in Malawi, if we can raise £6,000, are:

Maize mill - the construction of such a mill at the national campsite at Makwawa would produce continuing revenue for Scouting in Malawi through the crushing of maize to produce meal – cost £2,272.

Vocational training for Rover Scouts - £550 would allow the purchase of six sewing machines; £250 would pay for fabric and both would allow the Rovers to produce Scout shirts and neckerchiefs; £780 would pay for three computers to enable them to train in computer skills and communicate online; and £450 would pay for metalwork instruction so they could produce buckets, tools, etc. Rover Scouts would

also be taught to be cobblers and make footwear (£450) and become artists (£250).

Office car maintenance - needs £1,000 per annum.

Communication items - computing costs, telephone and stationery – require £650 per annum that is just not available.

T-shirts – a mere £70 would pay for the design and purchase of t-shirts for Makwawa campsite.

Many of the costs of Scouting in Malawi are met by grants from Norway, Denmark and Gilwell. But these are short term lasting for a maximum of three years. We believe that all the above are well within the capabilities of Scottish Scouting and a good starting point for something that could grow and benefit Scouting both here and in Malawi.

Later this year we will make available a monthly programme idea for each Section of the Movement that can be used in conjunction with your fundraising efforts.

How you can help

1. Purchase of a special badge – ‘We’re supporting Scouting in Malawi’ – at £1 each, with all profits going to the fund.
2. Beaver Scout colonies or Cub Scout packs could collect 5p or 20p coins in Smartie tubes.
3. Districts or Groups might like to raise the funding for one particular item on the Malawi ‘wish list’.
4. Groups or Sections might like to raise funds by highlighting that their efforts locally can make a real difference to the development of Scouting in another country.
5. If Groups, Units or Troops are raising money for an expedition, they might consider giving a percentage to the Malawi Project.

Any contributions should be sent to SHQ made payable to ‘The Scout Association’ and marked ‘Malawi Project’. So that Sections can show their youngsters that their fundraising efforts are appreciated, those raising £50 will be sent a Bronze certificate, £100 a Silver and £150 a Gold. Starter boxes will also qualify for certificates – a Bronze for one, Silver for two and Gold for three.

Good luck!

Hamish Leal, SHQ Adviser (International)



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get in touch

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Bear Grylls announced as new Chief Scout

Bear Grylls will be the new Chief Scout of the UK Scout Association. The famous adventurer takes over when current Chief Scout, former Blue Peter presenter Peter Duncan, completes his five year tenure in July.

When asked why he chose to volunteer for the UK's largest mixed youth movement, Bear said: 'In short, because I love adventure and I love hanging out with good friends. For me this is what Scouting is about.'

Born on 7 June 1974, Bear Grylls will be the youngest ever Chief Scout.

He first got involved in Scouting aged eight as a Cub Scout. Bear attributes this time as part of the inspiration behind his adult adventures presenting TV shows such as *Born Survivor*: 'So much of who we are as an adult is formed when we are kids,' said Bear. 'What Scouting says to people is: "it's okay to go for it in life".'

'Every child has a right to have an adventure. Life is about grabbing opportunities. The prizes don't always go to the biggest, the best and the strongest – they go to those who persevere. These are simple life lessons that Scouting teaches people.'

Working in partnership with Bear will be Scouting volunteer Wayne Bulpitt, who takes on the new role of UK Chief Commissioner. Wayne will focus on providing leadership to all volunteers within Scouting. Like Bear, Wayne's Scouting began when he joined as a Cub Scout.

'I am delighted to have been invited to take on this position at such an exciting time,' said Wayne. 'The successes of the last few years mean that we are well placed to make the most of a high public profile and fulfil our vision of providing personal development and exciting opportunities to increasing numbers of young people.'

Date for your diary

The 99th AGM of The Scottish Council The Scout Association will be held on Saturday 7th November 2009 at Stirling High School. Keep an eye on www.scouts-scotland.org.uk for more information.

2010 Blair Atholl Jamborette preparations

Preparations are now under way for the 32nd Jamborette, which will take place at Blair Atholl from 19th to 30th July 2010. The camp is for Patrols of 6 Scouts/ Explorer Scouts aged 13 or over, but not yet had their 18th birthday, on 17th July 2010.

District Commissioners have been asked to apply for places for Scouts and Explorer Scouts in their Districts. When returns are received from all Districts, allocations will be confirmed. At that time Blair Atholl Co-ordinators will be appointed to deal with the training and preparation of the Scouts/Explorer Scouts in the run up to the camp and to assist with home hospitality arrangements after the camp.

Co-ordinators will be appointed for a District, a group of Districts or a Region depending on the allocation of Patrols.

Assistance is being offered to Districts to promote the camp; to allow time for this and to assess likely interest, final allocations and the appointment of Co-ordinators will be finished by October 2009.

Scottish Staff application forms will be available to download from the website from early July 2009, and should be submitted by 31st October 2009.

For full details of the camp, please visit our website www.jamborette.org.uk.

John Kennedy, Camp Chief.



Scottish Scout Regatta 2009

The Scottish Scout Regatta 2009, which is aimed at Scouts, Explorers, Network and Leaders, will take place at Sportscotland National Centre on the Isle of Cumbrae (www.nationalcentrecumbrae.org.uk). If you can kayak, sail or helm a power boat why not take the challenge?

Heats and finals will be held in various categories over the weekend of 12th - 13th September 2009.

The cost for the event depends on which option you choose:

1. Outdoor accommodation own tent (Friday and Saturday nights & supper), breakfast (Saturday and Sunday), Saturday evening meal, lunches, transport from Largs and event entrance - £50 per head.
2. Indoor accommodation is available at an additional cost and is up to the individuals to arrange and book and will be on a first come first served basis. The costs per head for Chalet accommodation is:
 - £10 per night (shared twin room in bunks).
 - £15 per night (single room if available).

If you are interested in taking part please register your interest so we can send you more information as it becomes available.

Information will also be posted on the Regatta website as it becomes available. If you would like any more information in the meantime, please email regatta09@aol.com.

Membership grows for third year running

- **Growth in Scottish membership for 3rd year in a row**
- **Female youth membership up 12%**
- **Youth membership rises to over 30,000 for the first time in over 5 years**
- **Total Scottish membership now approaching 37,000, the highest since 2003**
- **Movement in growth but still lacks adult volunteers**

This year's annual membership census has shown that the number of girls joining the Scouts in Scotland has greatly increased over the last year, helping us to achieve an overall growth in membership for the third year in a row.

Figures show that over 300 girls have joined the Movement in the last year in Scotland, an increase of 12%. Female youth membership now stands at 3,200, while total youth membership has risen to over 30,000 for the first time in over 5 years. A 2% rise in our total adult and youth membership in Scotland over the last year means that 36,788 people across the country are now enjoying the adventure of Scouting, the highest number since 2003. Total membership of the Movement across the UK stands at nearly 500,000.

In terms of age groups, the biggest growth has been in the Scout Section (10 – 14 year olds), which has attracted almost 500 extra young people in the last year, a rise of 6% to 8,600. The number of Young Leaders in Scotland has also

risen by a third to almost 800. Despite this impressive growth, demand for Scouting still outstrips supply and waiting lists remain high due to the lack of adult volunteers. This year's UK waiting list has actually risen to more than 33,000 although Scotland's waiting list is stable at the 2000 mark.

Zoe Mackie (pictured below), an Explorer Scout from Falkirk, said:

"Six years ago I was the first female Scout in my Scout Troop and now we have ten. The girls really enjoy it and love camping to the extent that they are away nearly every weekend.

I originally joined the Scouts to learn new skills and to make friends. I've been involved for six years now and as a result I've been to a lot of great camps including the Blair Atholl Jamboree and

the 21st World Scout Jamboree. I've also met some amazing friends and tried a range of different activities that I would have never even have thought about doing if it wasn't for Scouting."

Sarah Paget, an Assistant Cub Scout Leader based in Edinburgh, said:

"For me Scouting is all about the challenge. Not only do we challenge the young people that we lead, but they challenge us. I'm always learning new skills and ways to deal with situations.

I really value the skills I've picked up while I've been doing this - skills that I've then been able to use outside of Scouting as well. It's also really rewarding to see how much young people enjoy Scouting and how much they are actually learning each week."



Need help for your summer camp?

The drift of the wood smoke: the thwack of mallet against peg: the smell of wet canvas (well, this is Scotland after all!)... yep, planning for summer camps is getting underway and excitement levels are rising.

The membership of the Scottish Scout Fellowship ("SSF") has already whetted their appetite for adventure this year by lending their services to provide some active support to the Hub Camp (pictured right). A wide range of activities were on offer with members of the fellowship providing some (but admittedly not all!) of the relevant expertise. And now, we're hungry for more!

If you're starting to think about arrangements for this year's camp and fancy making the experience more memorable for the participants by offering a greater range of activities or simply by gaining an extra pair of hands to make things run more smoothly, why not consider contacting SSF on ssf@scouts-scotland.org.uk to see if we can help you?

Even if we don't have the relevant skill required for your event within our membership, chances are we know someone who does.

Go on, make it a camp to remember!



Awards, February-April 2009

BAR TO THE AWARD FOR MERIT

In recognition of further outstanding service

South East Region

Ms S R Ritchie, CSL 100th Pentland

AWARD FOR MERIT

In recognition of outstanding services

Clyde Region

M Corbett, GSL 88th Lanarkshire (9th Airdrie)/District Nights Away Adviser, Calder; M Duffy, SL, 231st Glasgow (Kilsyth) Kelvin Valley; R J Kelly, Group Treasurer, 40th Glasgow (Stepps) Kelvin Valley.

Highlands & Islands Region

Mrs S Clark, ABSL 1st Conon Bridge & Maryburgh (8th Ross & Sutherland).

North East Region

Mrs J Allen, District Appointments Secretary, Deeside.

South West Region

Mrs M D Dumigan, BSL 16th Ayrshire (Newmilns), Ayrshire East; Mrs L Mathieson, Group Treasurer, 19th Ayrshire (Kilwinning), North Ayrshire & Arran; Mrs S M Taylor, ACSL 102nd Ayrshire (Beith)/ADC (BS), North Ayrshire & Arran.

CHIEF SCOUT'S COMMENDATION FOR GOOD SERVICES

Clyde Region

R Sneddon, EXSL, Kelvin Valley.

Forth Region

Mrs F J Osborough, BSL 2nd West Lothian; S E Osborough, GSA 2nd West Lothian.

North East Region

P C Ash, ASL 1st Torphins, Deeside; Mrs D A Gwynne, SL, Group Contact 1st Linn Moor, Deeside; A J McMurtrie, SL, Group Contact, 1st Torphins, Deeside; I D Robertson, GSL Braemar, Deeside.

South East Region

Mrs J C Graham, Regional Fellowship Member/Regional Administrator; I E Small, Group Executive Member, 26th Haymarket (Craigsbank).

South West Region

Dr I R Buchanan, Group Treasurer, 37th Ayrshire (Henderson Church), Ayrshire East.

St George's Day Awards 2009



SILVER WOLF

In recognition of services of the most exceptional character over many years

Forth Region

S J Sanderson, District Commissioner, Stirling & Trossachs.

South West Region

D J B Mathieson, Group Scout Leader, 28th Ayrshire (Troon), Kyle & Carrick.

West Region

W McCallum, Regional Chair, TSA Council nominated rep; D J Woodrow, Scottish Scout Fellowship Member.



BAR TO THE SILVER ACORN

In recognition of further specially distinguished services

Scottish Headquarters/Clyde Region

G Haddock, Depute Chief Commissioner (Programme), Reg Adv (Int), Scottish SF Member.

Clyde Region

Ms M H Aitchison, ABSL, 159th Glasgow South Western, Reg Adv (CP); J R McCallum, District Treasurer, South Western.

East Region

A B Sims, ESL, Perth & Kinross.

Forth Region

R Brown, Appointments Secretary, West Lothian.

Highlands & Islands Region

N Johnstone, District Secretary, Orkney.

North East Region

J M Brown, SL, 1st Turiff, ADC (Scouts), Deveron.



SILVER ACORN

In recognition of specially distinguished service

Scottish Headquarters

G W Luke, Programme & Development Executive.

Clyde Region

B Donaldson, Grp Treasurer, 30th Glasgow (1st Cardonald), South Western; W M Goldie, Dist Nights Away Adviser, South East; C Large, District Treasurer, Calder; N MacDonald, SL, 113th Glasgow (Burnside), South East.

East Region

Mrs A J Bickerton, District SF Mbr, South Angus; G G Campbell, District SF Mbr, South Angus; C M W Farquhar, ESL, ADC, TA Dunfermline, ARC (AT); J R Grace, ADC (SF), District SF Mbr, South Angus; Mrs E S MacKenzie, AGSL, 81st Fife (1st Broomhall), TA Dunfermline; J B McLean, GSL, 2nd Fife (Dunfermline), TA Dunfermline; Mrs A T Steel, CSL, 29th Angus (Newtyle), South Angus.

Forth Region

A McGowan, GSL, 29th West Lothian (Howden).

North East Region

Mrs J Davies, Grp Exec Member, 1st Forres (Moray); Mrs I W Stewart, CSL, 1st Peterhead, ADC (CS), Buchan; W Stewart, DC, Dist Sec (Acting), Buchan; I S Suttie, Grp Chair, 1st Forres, Moray.

South East Region

R M Prince, App Sub-Ctte Member, Morningside; G H Young, Dist Treas, Borders, Reg Treas.

South West Region

G D Bell MBE, ADC (Scouts), Dist Adviser, District SF Mbr, Ayrshire East; J M Gray, GSL, 27th Ayrshire (Kilmaurs), Ayrshire East.

West Region

Mrs M Murdoch, Appointments Sec, Renfrewshire.

Scouting's new voices in the media

11 Explorer Scouts and Scout Network members from across Scotland came together in Edinburgh in March to prepare to represent Scouting in the media.

The Young Spokespeople course, run by mediaco-op, prepares young people in Scouting to talk confidently to TV, radio or print journalists about the challenge and adventure they experience through Scouting.

Among the participants were Siobhan Dawson and Andrew Cameron, two Explorers who travelled down from the course from the Western Isles and Sutherland respectively.

Siobhan said: "I learnt how to be more confident in front of the camera, how to present myself on camera and how to get my point across effectively.

During the day, we were split into teams and were also paired up with someone we didn't know. We had to interview each other and then watch ourselves

back on screen. That was quite embarrassing but it did help as it made me more conscious of how to act on camera, i.e. not look down at my notes too often and not to 'err' and 'umm' too much! It was a really enjoyable day, with good instructors and a great group."

Andrew said: "It was a great experience working with such a group of young and dynamic individuals. The course itself was extremely engaging with a series of scenario workshops where you felt

like you really were under the hot studio lights.

It was a fantastic experience and if anyone has an opportunity to attend a similar event in the future then I would strongly recommend that they take the plunge."

Anyone of Explorer or Network age who is interested in taking part in Young Spokespeople training in future should contact david@scouts-scotland.org.uk.



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The Lochgoilhead Centre

visit www.lochgoilhead.org.uk or www.scouts-scotland.org.uk to download the Lochgoilhead Centre leaflet and 2009 course diary.



Courses at The Lochgoilhead Centre

The following courses are being run at The Lochgoilhead Centre during the first half of this year. Please visit the web site for more information – www.lochgoilhead.org.uk

RYA Pre-entry Assessment

- 19th June – costs £55.00 for Scout Association members, £66.00 for others.

RYA Dinghy Instructor

- 22nd – 26th June – costs £297.00 for Scout Association members, £357.50 for others.

RYA Dinghy Level 1 (Start Sailing)

- 27th – 28th June – costs £115.50 for Scout Associations members, £137.50 for others.

RYA Dinghy Level 2 (Basic Skills)

- 27th – 28th June – costs £115.50 for Scout Association members, £137.50 for others.

RYA Day Sailing

- 26th – 27th September – costs £115.50 for Scout Association members, £137.50 for others.

RYA Sailing with Spinnakers

- 26th – 27th September – costs £115.50 for Scout Association members, £137.50 for others.

All course fees include food and accommodation. Weekend courses start on Friday evening at 8.00pm. More information is available at www.lochgoilhead.org.uk.



Contact:

The Warden,
Fordell Firs National Activity Centre,
Hillend, Dunfermline
Fife KY11 7HQ

t: 01383 412704

e: warden@fordellfirs.org.uk

w: www.fordellfirs.blogspot.com and
www.fordellfirs.org.uk

What's available at Fordell:

If it's a Group, District or Centenary Camp, Fordell Firs can help with:

- Reception facility
- Marquees
- Tables and benches
- Lighting
- Industrial cookers
- Pots and utensils
- Field huts
- Activities for 200
- Flag break and Scouts' Own
- Transport on to site
- Plenty of parking
- Wet weather facility
- Henderson Building kitchen facilities for 600
- Assistance for transport from Airport or station
- Pre-camp storage facilities



Fordell Summer Staff

Fordell Firs are currently looking for volunteer staff (18 years of age and older) for this summer. Free accommodation and food is supplied, as is training in various activities. If you are interested, please contact call 01383 419 704 or email warden@fordellfirs.org.uk.

www.meggernie.org.uk

Lots of activity happening at Meggernie just now:

- Beavers are heading off to the Beaver Picnic at Meggernie Outdoor Centre in Glenlyon. Sounds like it will be great fun, watch out for it next year.
- Cubs and their parents have just returned from the gathering of the Megg and Ernie clans at the annual Parent and Cub camp in May – a weekend of non-stop activities, feasting and fun.
- Leaders have also recently been doing their BASP Emergency First Aid Course, a great way of learning practical first aid as well as the chance to meet and share ideas with some new people. The next course is 27th -29th November 2009, contact warden@meggernie.org.uk to find out more.
- Explorers are gearing up for Meggernie Midsummer Madness, a

fully programmed activity weekend being held from 19th – 21st June

- HALOW, which takes place from the 2nd - 4th October, will be a fun-filled weekend, giving you the opportunity to meet Leaders from all other Sections and share ideas. Why not see what Meggernie has to offer, take part in some adventurous or pampering activities, maybe learn some new Scouting skills, do some of your training modules and enjoy a Saturday Night Ceilidh? Don't miss out on this fantastic, fully-catered weekend!

Want to know more? Please contact:

Rab & Judith Potter,
Meggernie Outdoor Centre,
Fasgadh,
Bridge of Balgie, Glenlyon,
Aberfeldy, PH15 2PP
Tel/fax: 01887 866231

Email: warden@meggernie.org.uk
Website: www.meggernie.org.uk



Kirkdale Port Campsite

Situated on the Galloway coast, SW Scotland, Kirkdale Port is a greenfieldcampsite with altar fires, campfire circle, water stand pipes and chemical toilet disposal. Activities include a climbing tower, crate climb, leap of faith and 56 metre "Kirkdale Tunnels".

www.kirkdaleport.com or
Tel: 01557 814 665



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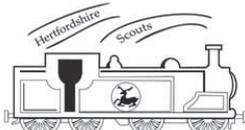
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For more info please call Kathy Overman on 01438 812819 or email lochearnhead@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk.

www.lochearnheadscoutstation.org.uk



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We have a choice of 2 indoor accommodation centres which sleep up to 34 & 24 each, as well as 11 campsites of various sizes across the site.

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Take a look at our website for more information and to make a booking

www.douglaswood.org.uk
or email us - bookings@douglaswood.org.uk
Come and stay - you'll have a great time



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For the more adventurous, canal canoeing can be organised and Beecraigs Country Park is nearby. Beecraigs has wide range of outdoors activities ranging from archery to rock climbing - all within 10 minutes.

Do you want to know more? Visit our website

WWW.THECRAIGSSITE.INFO
or contact the Bookings Manager on 01506 633 689

Adventurous Activities and Special Needs

I'm sure there will be many Groups planning outdoor activities as the weather improves and the summer season starts. How do we ensure that the activities are safe for all who are taking part?

Well of course there will be the correct procedure of risk assessments. However there can be a very grey area when a member with special needs is involved. How can we be sure that it is safe, rewarding and appropriately challenging, for any member with an additional support need, to take part in the activity that is being undertaken?

This is a matter that has to be discussed at a local level as it will be the local Leader who will know the capabilities of the young person involved. If there is any doubt or concern then guidance should be sought from your Regional Special Needs Adviser or SHQ who will be happy to provide support in making the appropriate decisions.

The welfare of the young member will not only include any physical issues but must also include any mental stress that may arise and how this will affect the member particularly in them completing the activity and indeed any after effects. It may well be that the member involved will require additional equipment to take part in the activity. It may also be the case that an additional Leader will be required to support the member. The SHQ Special Needs fund will be able to help purchase additional equipment and

could help pay the cost of the additional Leader required.

If it is not appropriate that a member with a special need in a Group takes part in an activity there are two points to remember. Firstly, try to involve the member in the planning of the event and perhaps it would be appropriate for them to visit the activity for however long is practical and worthwhile for the member. Also remember that the group should undertake all the activities that are available to them to ensure the members enjoy the full Scout programme and have a challenging, rewarding and enjoyable experience through their Scouting activities that is appropriate to their abilities.

There will be few young people who are unable to join all the group's activities and that is acceptable and the young person will usually be happy at taking part in Scouting activities whenever they can while realising certain activities will not be suitable for them to fully participate in.

Groups with special needs members

All our Scouting Awards are based on the individual's ability. It may be that there will be some Awards that individual members will not be able to undertake, but hopefully with a minor adaptation most Awards will be able to be undertaken by all members.

If you have members with a special need and are concerned about what they can or cannot achieve, please get in touch with your Special Needs Adviser either at Region (see box below left) or SHQ and we will be happy to provide assistance and support in making the appropriate decision.

The Special Needs Team is there to help however trivial you may consider the issue. Please do not hesitate to contact us to ensure you feel fully supported in helping members with special needs.

Special Needs Advisers

Clyde

Sinclair Scott wsinclairscott@aol.com

East

Vacant

Forth

Christine Simpson christine47@btconnect.com

Highlands & Islands

Russell Lees dar.lees@hotmail.com

Highlands & Islands

Margaret Kinsman mgt.kinsman@btinternet.com

North East

Anne Gwynne anne_gwynne@hotmail.com

South East

Vacant

South West

Lauren Hussain laurensmith3480@fsmail.net

West

Quentin Levack levack@aol.com

The advertisement is for Scouts Summer Camps 2010, celebrating the 50th anniversary. It features a collage of photos showing scouts in various outdoor activities like climbing, cycling, and kayaking. The text includes 'Scouts Summer Camps 2010 *Free Place Extravaganza' and 'Jeka 50th anniversary 2010'. Logos for Scouts, ABTA, and Jeka are present. Contact information is provided at the bottom: 'Tel: 01823 365777 Email: info@jeka.co.uk' and 'www.jeka-groupolidays.co.uk'.

Good News!

Census figures show:

- Beaver numbers in Scotland have increased slightly.
- Girls in Beavers are up by 10%.
- Waiting List numbers have reduced slightly (but are still a cause for concern in some Districts).
- New colonies have opened in Orkney & Western Isles
- Let us know your good news stories!



Eva Will
SHQ Commissioner (Beavers)
beavers@scouts-scotland.org.uk



Scottish Beaver Challenge Award

Since we introduced the Scottish Challenge Award, Leaders have been permitted flexibility to decide whether they count the requirements towards other awards.

This seems to be working well and hopefully will ensure that no Beaver loses out on the Chief Scout Bronze Award because their colony has been working towards the Scottish Award.

Recently at the Programme Support Workshops at Tulliallan, ADCs (Beavers) voted to continue with the Award in the future, so another batch of 5000 badges have been ordered and are available from SHQ for 30p each – what a bargain!

Awards for Beavers after fire station visit

Bill Linley of the 1st East Kilbride Scout Group wrote to us following a visit to East Kilbride Fire Station, after which five Beavers were presented with their Chief Scout's Bronze before they 'swam-up' to Cubs.

Bill said: "These are the first Beavers from our Colony to achieve their Bronze Award. We should have a few more before we break up for the summer holidays!"

Thanks Bill – great news. Your Colony must be finding the new requirements easier to achieve.



Since the refinements made to the Balanced Programme in 2008, Beavers now need to earn all 6 Challenge Awards to gain the Chief Scout's Bronze Awards.

Part of the reasoning behind the change was that, nationally, the Personal Challenge was unpopular with Leaders as it was harder to administer and many Beavers lost out because of difficulties with parental support.

Since the change took place, there have been many comments from Leaders praising the Personal Challenge as it gave Beavers an opportunity to share their own skills and interests with the rest of the Colony.

Although this is no longer part of the Bronze Award, we can fill this gap by encouraging Beavers to try the Hobbies badge:

- Take part in a chosen hobby for a period agreed.
- Tell and show the Colony the chosen hobby.



This new method of gaining the Chief Scout's Bronze Award involved a complete cross-zonal approach to ensure that Beavers have participated fully in the Balanced programme during their time in the Colony.

Although at first glance, this appears like more work for Beavers and more planning for the Leaders, with the reduction of requirements for each Award from 6 to 4, each Challenge is easily achievable. For example:

Outdoor Award

As a pre-Easter treat, I recently took my Beavers on a trip to our District Campsite:

1. The week before, we chatted about what they should pack in their rucksacks,
2. They were asked to pack their own healthy snack & drink,
3. When we arrived, they followed a trail through the site involving a

Nature Hunt,

4. Stopping to help erect a tent and,
5. Bark rubbing.

At the end of the evening we had a campfire with songs, sausages & marshmallows (less "healthy", but you can't have a campfire without marshmallows!) ...Outdoor Award completed easily with extra activities thrown in!

Now, not all the Challenges can be completed in little more than an evening, but Colonies following the Balanced Programme will find that the requirements are not too demanding.

It does involve sitting down at the end of each meeting ticking off what has been achieved by each child and ensuring that Beavers who have been absent from a particular meeting are not losing out by revisiting Zones every term.

Remember, requirements for the Challenge Awards should be completed with the Colony and not be undertaken individually.



Bronze Awards recording

We are very interested to see if the changes to the Top Awards have made any difference to the numbers gained in all the sections.

Your DC will have been asked to submit the numbers earned both for last school year Aug '07-June '08 (if possible) and also for the year ending in Summer '09. It would be most helpful if you could look back your records wherever possible and submit these to your DC and ADC (Beavers).

For the future, please try to keep a note of these numbers as we will be asking for them again.



Has your Cub Pack grown?

The Census shows that there are 119 more Cubs in Scotland than last year - hopefully you have seen your numbers grow – both young people and Leaders. While it is encouraging to see an increase, there is still a lot of scope for even more young people to join and have fun and adventures.

While we all need a well-deserved break over the summer months we should be starting to think of how to keep the momentum going.

- Perhaps you will have new Young Leaders who have lots of energy for games?
- Perhaps a few parents might be encouraged to come and share a skill with the Pack?
- Perhaps you could send a report and pictures to your local paper on a regular basis to raise the profile locally?
- Perhaps you could try a new activity badge especially one which has free resources available from Gilwell?

Please do remember that the Cub Support Team is here to help as well – just contact cubs@scouts-scotland.org.uk.

The Cub Support Team would like to thank all Leaders for your work throughout this session and wish you a peaceful, relaxing holiday – but do remember to come back to Cubs!

Cubs out and about

- 220 Cubs had a badge day in Perth (see pic below left) – all the young people had a fantastic day and they went away with badges and new skills. Many thanks to Rosemary for all the hard work she put into the day.
- 130 Cubs had a busy badge day in North Ayrshire and Arran District with some Cubs and Leaders having the energy to go for a sleepover at night!
- “Big B” organised a Superhero camp at Lapwing which 56 Cubs attended including some from Dundee (see pic below right).
- Glasgow Science Centre had 2 sleepover nights as part of the International Year of Astronomy. Among those attending were Cubs from the 70th Greenock & District Cubs, 121st Glasgow (Clarkston) and 21st Glasgow (1st Newton Mearns).
- “Big B” also organised a District Bowling and McDonald’s night for Glenrothes and Levenmouth District. Congratulations to 25th Fife Pack for winning the trophy for the highest average scoring Pack!
- Kyle and Carrick had a Backwoods Day for older Cubs – highlight for the Cubs were cooking the bacon rolls and making chocolate bananas.
- 60 Cubs, Leaders and helper took part in a conservation day at Dumfries House in Ayrshire.

Thanks to all who have been sending in photos and reports of what your Cubs are doing. Have you looked on www.scouts-scotland.org.uk to see if your Pack is featured? Why not make that a challenge for next session?



Scottish Programme eNews

Do you receive this monthly email bulletin? It contains useful programme support information for the Cub Section (as well as the other Sections) and is sent to ADC Cubs who can then forward it on to you. If you have not received it, please log in to www.scouts.org.uk to check that your email address is correctly entered and then check with your ADC.



District Events

District events are the ideal way to get to know your Leaders and for inexperienced Leaders to learn new skills.

These events provide the support for both Leaders and young people in offering a balanced programme. Your ADC is there to encourage such events to take place – everyone in the District can help make them happen.



Please note that the new Scottish Cub Scout Challenge Badge is due to be launched in November. Further information will be available through Scottish Programme eNews.



Yer Numbers Up! (5.9% to be precise)

This was an old recruiting phrase we used many years ago, but for the third successive year the Scout Section in Scotland has seen an increase in membership.

In the 2009 census the male membership of the section rose by 5.2% and female membership by 11.4%. In total another 483 Scouts joined last year giving us a 5.9% increase overall on 2008. So to all the Scout Leaders in our 503 Troops a big thank you and keep up the good work!

Super Trooper 2009 & 2010

All Troops who participated in the 2009 Super Trooper Challenge should have registered online at www.scouts-scotland.org.uk and should now be gathering together their evidence for award of Super Trooper 2009. This documentation should be sent to SHQ. Please also note that a new set of challenges for 2009-2010 will be launched this month.

Changes to Scout Section age flexibility

Many of you will have heard various rumours over the last few months about changes to the age range within the Scout Section. I have tried to list the key facts below:

- The core age range of the Scout Section remains the same at 10 1/2 – 14 years of age.
- There is no change to the core age range of the Explorer Scout Section, this remains 14 – 18 years of age.
- A youngster may still move to Explorer Scouts from age 13 1/2 if this is appropriate for that young person.
- The Scout Section was unique in having a 12 month period of flexibility at the top end of the age range – this facility has been removed.
- From 1st September 2009 nobody aged over 14 1/2 will be able to take part in the Scout Programme.
- If someone aged 14 – 18 wishes to be involved with the running of the Scout Troop they can do so as an Explorer Scout Young Leader.
- It is strongly recommended that a Young Leader does not help in their old Scout Troop until six months after leaving the Troop.
- As the change takes place from 1st September 2009, all Leaders should begin to plan for this slight change to the flexibility.

There are a number of very good reasons for the change to the flexibility arrangements:

- The Scout Programme is designed for the core age range of the Section.
- The Chief Scout's Platinum Award and Duke of Edinburgh Bronze both have a starting age of 14, and a young person joining at 15 potentially loses a year of possible progress to these awards.
- Since 2002, both the Scout and Explorer Scout Sections have shown healthy growth and this is partially attributable to the delivery of focussed programming.

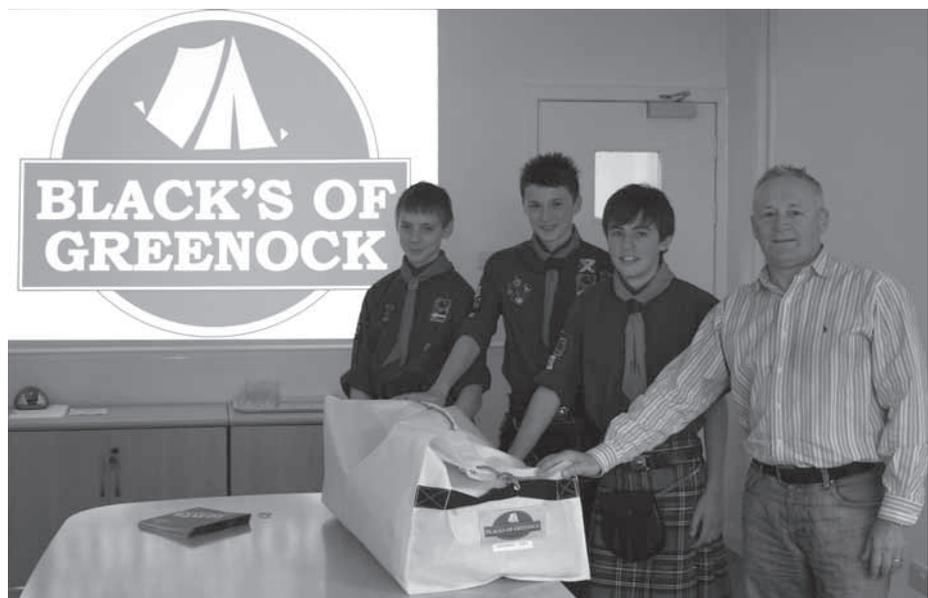
I hope all Scout Leaders will make arrangements and discuss the situation with their local Explorer Scout Leader or DESC to ensure continuity of Scouting for our young people.

Black's of Greenock Pentland Challenge & Vango

Lunar Challenge

This event (previously the Campsie Challenge) has moved east this year and will be held at Bonaly Outdoor Centre, in the shadow of the Pentland Hills, from Friday 25th – Sunday 27th September 2009.

As in previous years, letters and flyers will be sent to all Scout Troops in the next few weeks and available on www.scouts-scotland.org.uk. Black's of Greenock are continuing their fantastic support of the Scout Section with 1st Prize being a voucher for £500, 2nd Prize a voucher for £300 and 3rd Prize a voucher for £200. I am once again indebted to the Scottish Scout Fellowship for organising this event.



The Queen's Scout Award

Jenny Steven
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EXPLORER

Niall Williams
SHQ Commissioner
(Scout Network)
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NETWORK

WELCOME TO
SCOUT NETWORK
TAKING THE LEAD

Please note: for the events diaries, please see the Explorer and Network pages on www.scouts-scotland.org.uk.

LIFE IS A CHALLENGE MEET IT!
National Scout Service, St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle
Sunday 26 April 2009

"There was a feeling of excitement rushing through our bodies as we were so proud to have completed the award." A quote from a Network member a few years ago, I think that it sums up being proud.

The ultimate training Award for members of Explorer Scouts and Scout Network is the Queen's Scout Award - the highest youth award in the Movement. It requires extremely high standards of self-discipline, leadership and achievement in activities, interests and community service. It helps build confidence for the individual while they are having fun. Every Queen's Scout receives a Royal certificate. A major part of the Queen's Scout Award can be used to complete the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award, more on that later.

It's also a Queen's Scout's privilege to be able to attend the annual Scottish Scout Award Service and the St George's Day Parade held at Windsor Castle. Why not put yourself forward to be a member of the Windsor Colour Party? You'll also be invited to join the Queen's Scout working party, a national Scout Fellowship with the main function to assist with the running of major National Scout Association Events.

To gain this Award the following requirements must be completed:

- Be a member of Explorer Scouts or the Scout Network or both for at least 18 months. This can include any time counted for the Chief Scout's Platinum or Diamond Awards.
- Complete 18 nights away as an Explorer Scout or member of the Scout Network, of which 12 must be camping. This may include any nights counted for the Chief Scout's Platinum or Diamond Awards
- Complete two activities from the list of International, Environment and Values activities. These should be different activities from the Chief Scout's Platinum and Diamond Awards and not from the same area.
- Hold the Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award, or complete the five Queen's Scout Award Challenges, which are:
 1. take up a skill for 6 or 12 months, and show progress and lasting interest. The skill can be an existing interest or something entirely new.
 2. take up a Physical Activity for 6 or 12 months, completing an agreed programme of taking part and achievement.
 3. Provide Service to an individual or the community for 12 months. Briefing and training should be given in order to gain the necessary skills. This may include helping with another Section as a Young Leader.
 4. Complete a four day and three night expedition in open or adventurous country by foot, cycle, horse, canoe, boat or dinghy. The expedition should involve careful preparation, training, responsibility and review.
 5. Complete a five day and four night residential project in an unfamiliar environment with people who are not known. This project should be environmental work, activity based, service to others or personal training.

Following completion of the first four elements of the Award make a presentation, to a suitable audience, of your achievements so far in working towards the Queen's Scout Award. All Members should complete twelve months in either the Physical Activity or the Skill.

Explorer Scouts and members of the Scout Network who are not holders of the Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award or the Chief Scout's Diamond Award must complete an extra six months in either the Service or the longer of the Skills or Physical Recreation Challenge.

Buy One Get One Free!

If you are embarking on your Queen Scout Award then it makes sense if you also participate in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award. All you need to be is a member of either an Explorer Scout Unit or the Scout Network. Even if you are not already registered with the DoE, then see your Explorer/Network Leader and get two for the price of one!

Both the Gold Award and the Queen's Scout Award can be started once you are 16. The requirements are the same for both and the chart below shows how the Duke of Edinburgh's Award links together with the Queen's Scout Award requirements above.



Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award

Service	Skills Physical Rec	Expeditions	Residential Project
12 Months	One section for 12 months and the other section for 6 months	Plan, prepare for and undertake a 4 day, 3 night venture in wild country	Undertake a shared activity in a residential setting away from home for 5 days and 4 nights

Direct entrants must undertake a further 6 months in either the, Service, Skills or Physical Recreation Sections.

Why Do Both?

By registering for both awards you can gain twice the recognition for the efforts you put in. Both the Scouting and The Duke of Edinburgh Awards are recognised by employers, colleges and universities. You may have that extra edge on the next applicant!! Further information can be obtained from an excellent publication entitled "A Perfect Match."

Team of Ten at Windsor - by Sarah Paget

Challenge. Fun. Friendship. All terms we associate with Scouting at its best. Over the last 5 months I have been involved in the greatest Scouting adventure I've had so far! I've worked hard, made some fantastic lifelong friends and taken a central role in one of the most high profile events in the Scouting year.

What have been involved in? I've been a member of the 'Team of Ten' for the St Georges Day Parade and National Scout Service held at Windsor Castle. The Team of Ten are ten Queen Scouts drawn annually from across the country, selected this year from three selection weekends back in November. From these weekends the ten are split into the six that will train together and become the Colour Party and the remaining four who become the Readers team who will research, write, prepare and present the National Scout service.

It's been quite a journey. Over the past five months we've had five training weekends, where we really gelled as a team. The Colour Party had to be taught how to march, communicate and look good, learning all sorts of

fancy manoeuvres. Meanwhile the readers were sorting through the Gilwell resources to inspire them to create this year's service. The theme for this year's 'Team of Ten'? Challenge.

And the final goal? Sunday 26th of April 2009. The Colour Party lead this year's Queen Scouts from the Royal Mews to the Quadrangle for the Annual Review and then to the Chapel for the National Scout Service – probably the grandest Scouts Own you can attend. This was made all the more nervewracking by the audience of expectant Queen Scouts, Gallantry Award Holders, various VIPS and perhaps worst of all our own Families. Despite our fears the Colour Party had no glitches in their performance.

Not only was I the only girl in the Colour Party but also the only Scottish Scout to put themselves forward for selection. My challenge to you – let's have more Scots next year!

This year's Team of Ten would like to think they rose to the challenge - can you?



UKHQ have produced a new pack to help completion of the award. "Reach the Top: Information for Participants" is a valuable tool with help at every stage. Included are hints and tips, examples of activities and a structure to create a Queen's Scout Award action plan.

There is also an accompanying pack for Leaders and Commissioners. Both resources can be found at www.scouts.org.uk/qa.

Young Leaders

Having difficulty with the service element of the Queen's Scout Award? The Young Leaders' Scheme could fit the bill! The scheme is a voluntary training scheme which comprises of a number of modules and project work (missions). Of the 11 modules, one is obligatory. Module A covers all the child protection, POR and health & safety matters the young person will need. Following on are 10 other modules ranging from learning how to deal with kids behaving badly, a First Aid master class and programme planning.



In order to use the YL Scheme for the Queen Scout Award and DofE Gold Award the Explorer Scout must be registered and be a member of the Young Leaders' Unit. Following on from completing Module A, the Young Leader must do an additional 5 other modules to fulfil the requirements.

Further information for the Duke of Edinburgh Award is fully explained in Factsheet FS120303 available from the Information Centre or www.scoutbase.org.uk. The scheme is an excellent way to fulfil this element of the Queen's Scout Award and it has been a great way to recruit the leaders of the future!

High standards

The standard of the Queen's Scout Award is extremely high with choices of achievement to suit the candidate's interest and growing talents, Great personal effort, determination and self-discipline over a considerable period time is needed.

We strive to ensure that the standards are maintained at a high level, so not to undervalue the achievement of so many award holders over the years.



"I thoroughly enjoyed obtaining my Queen's Scout Award. It helped me discover new talents."
Ross Hunter



"This award has given me the opportunity to go out and achieve something for myself, but also more importantly, let me give something back to the Scouts through my service. I have also been able to go to countries I would never have dreamed of and gained many friends along the way." Iain MacDonald



"Windsor – gorgeous weather and a fantastic experience sets the scene to the proudest day of my Scouting career."
Euan Elliot

The weekend of 20th – 22nd March saw an influx of Scouters descend upon Tulliallan Police College. Over the weekend, two events ran concurrently; a DESC Training Course and a conference for ADCs (Adult Training). There were over 60 people at Tulliallan for the weekend. Feedback from both events has been extremely positive.

Adult Training Conference

28 participants at the ADC Adult Training workshop found the content useful and relevant to their role in Scouting and all felt able to participate in the sessions. The workshop followed the journey of an ADC Adult Training through Scouting using the Adults in Scouting Model.

We explored the Role and Responsibilities of an ADC Adult Training and relationships with District and Regional teams. We covered induction and support to lay members, grant funding for training, support to Training Advisers, Membership Services System, the Young Leaders Scheme and review and evaluation, amongst other things. There was even time to build a few jigsaws and play with building blocks.



Other Training events

Regrettably we had to cancel the Training Bazaar as at the closing date there were insufficient participants. We also postponed the Network training to allow Niall and his team the opportunity to identify the training needs of those involved in the Network section.

As I write this article, we have run at least one Module 37 course, Advising on Adult Appointments, in all but one Region. A date has been set for June to run the Module in the final Region. The courses have been well attended in all Regions.

This means that we are on course to ensure that all District and Regions can go live with the new process by the October implementation date.

Supplementary training material has been produced to help the Appointment's Secretary in their role. The material is aptly titled 'Ticking all the Boxes' and has been designed to offer support for using the online tools in the appointment process.

Please contact your ARC (Adult Training) for further details.

District Explorer Scout Commissioner Course

There were 28 participants on the DESC course which was run by Chris and Mel Brammer and Fiona Dalziel.

The aim of the weekend was to clarify the role of the DESC and to give participants the skills and knowledge to undertake their role more effectively. The participants covered some of the core Management Modules including Managing Adults and Growing the Movement.

Other topics included D of E, the Young Leaders' Scheme, Adult Training in the Explorer Section and Development planning.

Feedback told us that the participants gained a clearer understanding of their role and gained much from the sharing of best practice and networking opportunities over the weekend.

Thanks to the presenters, the participants and those who worked behind the scenes for making both of these events so successful.



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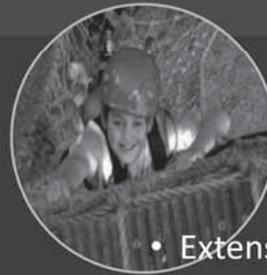
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