

FAR AND WIDE

Information for British Groups Abroad



Issue 84 September 2009

Welcome to the September issue of *Far and Wide*! As usual there's a lot of information for you – I hope that you find something of interest and use to you. Keep the contributions coming!

The copy date for the next issue is 1 November 2009.

David Bull
Editor, *Far and Wide*
+44 1244 676059
mail@davidbull.net
Skype: davidbull2005

WELCOME AND THANKS

Welcome to the following new and changed appointments:

Simon Hanley, Occasional Helper, 1st Djursholm

Mairi Watt, Occasional Helper, 1st Oman

Andy Willis, Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Falkland Islands

Carole Willis, Beaver Scout Leader, 1st Falkland Islands

Changes of Appointment

Conrad Holmes, Oman, Explorer Scout Leader

Ian Jones, 1st Falkland Islands, Assistant Group Scout Leader, in addition to existing roles

Farewell and many thanks to Paul Janvier who has stepped down as County Due of Edinburgh's Award Adviser

PROGRAMME SUPPORT

From this issue the three younger sections are following a similar pattern in the programme support material that we provide for you. Debbie, Astrid and Darren will be using a different Programme Zone each issue to give you practical ideas to use in your programmes.

We hope you find these ideas useful, and would be delighted to get some feedback on what you did with them – photos for the next *Far and Wide* are always welcome!

WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE 2011

This is a message for all Scouts / Explorers born between 25 July 1993 and 27 July 1997 and for all Leaders in British Groups Abroad, regardless of Section:

EVERYDAY ADVENTURE

THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION

International Office

Gilwell Park Chingford London E4 7QW United Kingdom

Tel + 44 (0)20 8433 7100 Fax + 44 (0)20 8433 7103 email international@scout.org.uk www.scouts.org.uk

Registered Charity numbers 306101 (England and Wales) and SC038437 (Scotland)

The next World Scout Jamboree will be held in Sweden in the summer of 2011. I am delighted to let you know that the County has been awarded 2 Patrols of 9 young people and 1 leader (total of 2 leaders and 18 young people) – which will make up part of two Units from the mainland.

I am currently working with Gilwell and the County Commissioner to develop a robust and fair selection process for both the young people and the adults who may wish to be part of this great event.

Two members of the County Team have already been appointed to roles in local Units going to the Jamboree, so between us we are keen to support this activity across the County.

The timescales for selection will be published in September, along with young person and leader criteria. The aim is that we want to make this opportunity open to anyone who wishes to be part of the event.

If anyone has any questions before the selection pack is published, then please feel free to contact me on accinternational@essexscouts.org.uk

Darren Bretton, Assistant County Commissioner (Scouts)

2ND DUBAI – THIRTY YEARS OF FUN

The 2nd Dubai (Jumeirah) Cubs celebrated thirty years with a Jungle Book party theme at their meeting on May 17th, recognizing this milestone. We invited the 2nd Dubai Beavers to join us. Special cakes prepared for the occasion were on display. Cubs brought in finger food for the buffet. We had a double anniversary as this year as Jim Ward celebrated his fifteenth year with the 2nd Dubai (Jumeirah) Cubs. Though his sons are grown and gone, he continues as Akela for our Pack.



Special 30 year badges were given to all attending. A design competition was held with the cubs at the beginning of the year and the winning design was used to commission a bulk order of badges. One special 15 year badge was presented to Jim Ward in recognition of his contribution to 2nd Dubai (Jumeirah) Cubs.



The Pack was founded in May of 1979 after the newly constructed Jumeirah English Speaking School (JESS) opened their doors. The Pack has been meeting at JESS since that time. The full complement of 24 cubs attended along with Beavers and Beaver Leaders. We gave the Beavers an idea of the next step in their life with Scouting. The games involved the characters in Rudyard Kipling's Jungle Book, emphasizing its importance to the structure of the Cub story. We all learned a few things and the boys had a blast.

We invited Susan Jalili as special guest for the event. After working as Assistant Beaver Leader for 3rd Dubai beginning in 2000, Susan served as District Commissioner for the UAE from 2002 to 2004. She organized training weekends for leaders and worked as group contact for membership lists. We all have benefited from her experience and guidance.

Before the feast began, Jim spoke about his time with the pack and special memories he carries from this. We presented Jim with an engraved picture frame with a photo of a camp chair, constructed by the boys on a camp, and Akela sitting carefully down to test it, his face bearing a trusting smile. The next photo was of his feet in the air, but we decided not to use that one for this occasion. With the first photo in his collection, he won't forget the second.



After we lit the candles on the cake, Jim blew them out and Helen Hossell (Kaa) made the first cut. The rest was a team effort as hungry cubs queued patiently for their piece. Parents arrived to join in the celebration and cake was handed all around.

Our Cubs went home with happy faces and full tummies, a very successful meeting indeed.

Susan Thomas-Dibden
Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 2nd Dubai

WELCOME PACKS

Since the new appointment process started in October 2008 there have been 'teething' problems at Scout Headquarters. The guidelines stated that a Welcome Card would be sent to all adults as soon as they were registered onto the National Membership Database (NMD). This has not happened, none of these cards have been sent and it is unlikely that this will happen in the future.

The guidelines also stated that Welcome Packs would be sent once certain information was recorded on the NMD. There has been a great deal of inconsistency in this process. It appears that no packs were sent before about April / May 2009. Distribution is then supposed to be on 1st & 3rd Monday of each month – again this does not appear to be strictly accurate.

I understood that the Welcome Pack replaced the Provisional Appointment Certificate and that it was personalised to the recipient. But it is just a general "welcome from Headquarters" pack applicable to all, but, possibly containing extra 'flyers' if relevant to the role, for example District Commissioners or Group Executive trustees.

If there are any new Leaders who have not received the Pack and would like one please email me:
 BGASecretary@gmail.com

New guidelines from Headquarters are in the process of being formulated and it is hoped they will be available by October 2009.

Ann Payne, Appointments Secretary

ADULT TRAINING

Well some of you really have risen to my challenge and I am pleased to report that in the first six months of 2009 there have been eight Wood Badges awarded, so many congratulations to Amada Gorvel and Karen Crease of 1st. Murcia Sur Scout and Guide Group, Ian Jones and Russ Foster-Jones of 1st. Falkland Islands, Lizz Swan and Debbie Brimelow of 1st. Djursholm and also Abigail Smallwood who was in the Falklands and has now unfortunately moved on. At the last BGA team meeting I was feeling on top of the world. There are quite a few of you out there who have nearly achieved the target so how about

another eight by Christmas?

In May I had the pleasure of going to Oman for a week of training where I was made very welcome by Sonia Carr and Nathan Prince along with their families and all the other Leaders. We had some very good sessions and I was ably assisted by Nathan. I also managed to visit the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers and see what they were doing. All were very busy doing First Aid, Communicator's Badge, Chef's badge, Mechanic's Badge and various other things.

In June whilst on holiday in Sweden I had the great pleasure of attending the Prize Giving Day at Djursholm School where I was able to present Wood Badges to Lizz Swan and Debbie Brimelow.



Normally Leaders wear their uniform for such an occasion but as it was the school prize day this was not possible but they did both put their neckers on for the occasion. The afternoon was attended by the British Ambassador, Andrew Mitchell who has children in the school. When checking with Lizz and Debbie as to how I should address him they both said "Mole". I was a bit taken aback until they explained that he sometimes helps out with the Beavers and is known as Mole. It was a very pleasant afternoon and my thanks go to the school Principle for allowing me to be part of the proceedings.

By the time you read this many of you will have returned from the summer break and be back in the swing of your Scouting, don't forget that every little note or planning piece counts as evidence for validating your modules and Astrid, Darren, Debbie, Tony and myself, we are all happy to receive anything you wish to send us to get this training completed. Some of you have been in the job quite a long time now so should have plenty of evidence to show us so please do get in touch.

All the best for the coming Scouting year!

Heather Elliott, County Training Manager

3rd DUBAI

We have just got back from another very successful international camp, this time in Norway. We took five Senior Patrol Leaders and five Explorers to the Norwegian National Camp in Andalsnes. We were invited there by the Norwegian 2nd Bestum, Oslo Troop, who we camped next to last year in Finland. So we shared a site with them. We were very lucky with the weather – only one day of real rain in ten days. The boys all liked the organized hikes they went on. The Explorers found theirs a real 'challenge', to my mind setting out as youths and returning as young men, having had to biv-

ouac overnight near the top of a local 2000 metre mountain. To give you a flavour, we are publishing a photo of the camp gateway.



David Sims, Assistant Scout Leader, 3rd Dubai

SISTERS' ISLANDS

The 1st Anza are an Australian Scout Group operating in Singapore. Lesley (Cub Scout Leader, Tanglin Trust School) Harwood's son Matt is a member of the Troop and writes of a recent camp:

For my fifth camp as an Anza Scout we went to Pulau Subar Laut, the larger of Singapore's Sisters' Islands. Located 1 km south of Sentosa, the island requires a journey on a ferry to get there.

There is a legend of how the Islands came about. The legend tells of a poor widow who had two pretty daughters, Minah and Linah. Minah and Linah shared a bond so strong that nothing could separate them. After the widow died the sisters left their village to live with an uncle. One unfortunate day Linah, whilst fetching water from a well near to the sea, met a group of pirates. Frightened, Linah ran home. The chief of the pirates followed Linah to her uncle's house. Brandishing a dagger, he made known his wish to marry Linah. That night the two sisters wept bitterly in each other's arms. When dawn broke, the pirate chief and sixteen of his men came to take Linah. Clinging together the sisters were forced apart by the pirates and Linah was carried away. They took her off to their boat. The desperate Minah swam after the boat but was drowned. On seeing this Linah freed herself from her captors and dove into the stormy waters in grief. The next day the villagers were shocked to see two islands at the spot where the two sisters had drowned.

The anniversary of this sad day was never recorded, but it is said that each year, on the very same day, a storm rages over the Islands...

This was my first camp as a patrol leader and first with my little brother as a new member of the troop.

We left Singapore from Marina South at 11 am on Friday 1st May bound for the small uninhabited Island of Pulau Subar Laut.

After unloading our gear, and having a packed lunch on the jetty, patrols were sent off to find a site to set up camp. After patrol discussions a site was finally decided upon. Tent allocations and pitching were completed, organisation of equipment and food was done and camp activities commenced. Friday dinner involved each patrol cooking for themselves and a leader/helper – the adults ate all we gave them so we mustn't be bad cooks!

Lanterns had to be lit for us to eat supper by as the lack of electricity on the Island and no light pollution from nearby (Singapore shone out to the North of us) meant when it went dark, it went dark!

As always on the first night of any camp it took everyone a little while to settle in their tents, especially the younger and newest members of our troop – who wouldn't stop talking. It was hot in our tents so we left them as open as possible, with just the mosquito screens closed. Some of the Scouts decided to sleep outside. They managed not to get bitten by putting insect repellent on. There was also a gentle breeze keeping the mozzies away. We were amazed the first night by how many ships passed by the island and how noisy they were.

At 5.30 am I heard a commotion and found our First Aider and Quartermaster chasing a troop of monkeys from our store! (The real things not our newest recruits). Our First Aider had woken to a disturbance, saw the monkey's and had to chase them away with a few of us that had heard the noise too. Some of the monkeys threw twigs and stones back at us!

By 6 am our First Aider had us emptying all the nearby rubbish bins, moving the rubbish as far away as possible and clearing every bit of evidence of us eating on site. By 7 am we were all up, hungry and ready for breakfast. Three of us cooked pancakes for the entire troop of 27 people.

Saturday daytime we worked on badges, from camp craft to First Aid and Scout camp wouldn't be Scout camp if we didn't teach our youngest members how to safely build fires. Our basic first aid for Scouting covered a variety of topics from broken bones to puncture wounds and burns. Our leaders were lay around the camp site with messages attached to them telling us of their injuries. Manfred had a large burn - remembering that you dehydrate quickly with a severe burn we hydrated him with a bucket of water! The patients had to be carried on our home made stretchers to safety.

Saturday night, after our traditional campfire with songs, stories, skits and 'smores' we had cocoa and put all the food into eskies and tight boxes – to stop the monkey's taking our breakfast.. It was very hot in the tents, but again there was a breeze strong enough to keep the mosquitoes away. Some of the boys slept outside and some inside their tents.

At midnight all the Scouts were asleep but the leaders were up watching a tropical storm grumbling away north of Singapore. Apparently it was an impressive sight – being able to watch from a distance with no light pollution. By 1 am the storm had moved close and the first drops of rain could be felt. By 1.15 am the Scouts that were sleeping outside were running to their tents. By 1.30 am the tents were starting to come unfastened and blow around – the leaders tried to fasten them down for us and attached some to trees! The tropical storm was overhead and the thunder and lightning was so loud - the wind was increasing and soon each of our tents had lost guide ropes. Within half an hour we were up to our ankles in water...

My tent had floating bed mats inside and five soggy Scouts. Because the wind, thunder and lightning was so loud the Scouts had to be even louder. At 2.15 am, a decision was made to abandon camp. Leon, our leader, said that it was his first experience of abandoning camp in twenty years.

The coast guard had to be called and a full emergency evacuation had to be executed.

The first boat with one leader left with twelve people on board. They began telephoning parents straight away to collect Scouts from the pier. The second boat arrived at Marina South shortly after with everyone but Leon and his son, Josh – they had to stay and guard camp. Scouts got home between 3 and 5.30 am.

At 10 am, Stephen, Manfred and our first Aider returned to the Island with a small group of parents to collect Leon and Josh and all the equipment and belongings that we had left behind.

Thank you so much to Leon, Stephen and Manfred, our Scout leaders for a fantastic week-end, and to Lesley for coming as our First Aider. Thanks to Steven for coming on Friday night; and Christian, Kai's older brother, for being there all the time. Also thanks to all the mums who sent cakes to camp – just what the doctor ordered – not once did any of us feel hungry.

This camp was voted by Scouts to be their 'best ever' When can we go again?

Matt Harwood, Patrol leader, Red-Backed Spiders, 1st Anza Scouts



PICTURES FROM ASCENSION

Our pictures this time feature the presentation of Chief Scout's Awards and training for the Cyclist Badge:



BEAVER SCOUTS

As I am writing this article I am enjoying the summer break, although am aware that not all Colonies will be enjoying a break from Scouting at this moment in time. Hopefully all those of you who have now finished for the summer will be planning ahead so that you can offer another action packed programme for the Beavers when they return. My leaders and I have already planned our programme up to Christmas ensuring the Beavers have a full varied programme. We are linking with another Colony to look at the International Friendship Award. For this the Beavers will be working from September until Christmas looking at ways to raise money. Each Beaver is being asked to collect loose change in a jar. We are also going to hold a sponsored walk, which will be far enough for the Beavers to gain their Hikes Away 1 Badge. All proceeds will then be spent on buying goats, chickens etc for people in the third world. The Beavers will then finish off with a joint Christmas party as a thank you for all their hard work.



Don't forget even though you may have planned your programme it is not set in stone. It is fine to adjust your planned programme to accommodate something out of the ordinary; you cannot plan for all eventualities, but can always go back to your planned programme.

From this issue of *Far and Wide* the three younger sections are going to follow a similar theme in the programme support material that we provide for you. We will be using a different Programme Zone each issue to give you practical ideas to use in your programmes. This time we are looking at The Community, even though Beavers do not have a specific Community Challenge Badge this topic comes into a number of different challenge badges.

The programme on a plate is looking at the Community. Other ideas you could use would be to ask the Beavers to collect loose change in a jar. This could then be used for a charity in the third world. If you have a nursing home close by the Beavers could go along to sing to the residents.

Please let us know what you think about this idea and share with the rest of BGA what your Colony has achieved in the Community. If you have any photos, that would be even better. Who knows we may even be able to send them to Scouting Magazine?

Don't forget if there is anything you would like us to cover in *Far and Wide* please let us know so that we can address it. Or if you have anything you would like to share with the other Colonies please feel free to send it to us.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Debbie Phillips, Assistant County Commissioner (Beaver Scouts)

CUBS CORNER

In this edition of *Far and Wide* I will concentrate on the Community Challenge.



First I will quote from the Pack Essentials booklet Page 13 headed Challenge Badges - "There are seven Challenge Badges and Cub Scouts should aim to earn two or three a year during their time in the Section." A bit further down the page under Flexibility in the Programme the booklet tells us - "While a few of our badges and awards are linked to external agencies, such as canoeing or sailing for the majority, The Scout Association publishes requirements that should be regarded as guidelines."

The requirements for the Community Challenge, as I'm sure you know, are found on page 44 of The Pack Programme booklet and can be found on the internet at.

<http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/library/hqdocs/badges/cub-coch.htm>

Of six choices for the Challenge you must complete three. If you look in the Pack Programme Plus booklet you will see suggestions for programmes to cover part of the Challenge.

- 1 - find out about a place of worship on page 6
- 4 - meet or visit someone who helps in the local community on page 22
- 5 - Hazards in the home or meeting place on page 16
- 6 - Basic First Aid on page 18.

And

On pages 14 and 20 there are suggestions of programmes for Cubs helping or learning about the community they live in.

I would guess that many leaders would choose to do numbers 4, 5 and 6 or possibly 1. As these are well covered in the Pack Programmes Plus booklet I do not plan to do more on them. Number 3 - look after a pet - is clearly for an individual Cub Scout to do at home so needs no comment from me.

Many leaders and Packs may like to consider choosing number 2 - Organise a fundraising event for a charity of their choice - but cannot think of a way. I know that in some countries organising a major fundraising event can be difficult because of extra insurance or even because it is illegal so I'm about to suggest small events that can be done within a pack meeting or an extended pack meeting.

Here are some suggestions:

- BBQ at a cost for Cubs, family and friends
- Sponsored silence / hike
- Xmas / birthday - cards / tags / decorations / night lights / pet stones
- Old toys / books / CD sale
- Simple meal for Cubs and family (do Chef badge with this)
- Feast or Famine meal for Cubs and family.

- 20 p fair with stalls for Cubs and family to 'have a go' during one meeting. Everything costs 20 p (or the local equivalent!)

Many of the suggestions above, a sponsored silence for example, speak for themselves and need no further explanation.

To run a 20 p fair, you may choose not to charge for the meeting that week but let the Cubs use their 'subs' money to 'have a go' on the stalls. Family and friends 'having a go' bring in extra money for the charity of choice.

The stalls can be things like:

- Throw a sponge at Baloo
- Make and fly a paper glider
- Popcorn for sale
- Guess the number of sweets
- Skittles
- Welly Wanging
- Face painting
- Beat the Goalie
- Hook the duck / fish
- Tea or coffee for sale
- Fizzy drinks for sale
- Decorate a biscuit
- Pick up the most books
- Hoop-la
- Super soakers - fell the empty tin cans

As mentioned earlier a Cub should aim to gain two or three Challenge badges a year. That could mean that a Challenge badge takes about a term to complete. The Community Challenge lends itself to be linked with other Activity Badges.

- Requirement 1 links in with World Faiths Activity badge.
- 2 links in with Global Challenge
- 3 links with Animal carer
- 4 links with Local Knowledge



- 5 links with Home Safety and Personal Safety
- And 6 links with Emergency Aid stage 2.

There is no need to do 'emergency phone calls' twice just because you're doing them for both the Community Challenge and the Emergency aid.

The Simple meal for Cubs and family requires a more detailed look (do Chef's badge with this)

A sample of simple meals is given in the requirements for the Chef's badge. Some others are:

- Jacket Potato with chilli sauce or cheese for vegetarians.
- Pasta bolognaise or pasta and cheese for adult vegetarians and pasta Marmite for children. (Nigella tells us it's good! 350 g spaghetti cooked in salted water. In a small saucepan melt 50 g unsalted butter and add the Marmite and 1 tbs of pasta water. Mix thoroughly to dissolve and then pour over the drained pasta. Serve with plenty of grated cheese.)

For the feast or famine meal do something with rice. Make the feast meal meat or vegetable curry with rice and salad while the famine meal is one with less rice and with watered down sauce only.

For this meal people will be shown to tables and the table menu will tell them if they will have a feast or a famine meal. In the world there are probably twice as many people who go to bed hungry as go to bed well fed.

The programme on a plate page shows you how you can complete the Community Challenge in a term. A term is normally about twelve meetings. The first meeting of term is usually a bit of admin and reforming sixes so I've put it down as a Sixers' and Seconds' meeting.

A Pack Forum could be held before half term to discuss the idea of a fundraising event for a charity to complete the Challenge in the next half term.

Astrid Roberts, Assistant County Commissioner (Cub Scouts)

SCOUT SPEAK

At the time of writing a lot of the County will be closed up for the summer, and we will all be taking a little time out with families and friends, relaxing from Scouting and getting on with real life. However, the time will soon go by and September will bring with it a new term and a need for new ideas.

I have been supporting some leaders locally at my son's group (he is a 7 year old Beaver) with their programme plan-

ning, and have even run a few Beaver / Cub evenings myself as well. So my theme this issue is how do you plan?

The method I use is as follows:

Annual Plan:

- Draw up a calendar
- Mark off the weeks when we are not meeting
- Add in any key dates – such as National Festivals / Faith events etc
- Don't forget any camps / visits that you plan to run

Term Plan:

- Bit more detail
- Fill in each week with a theme
- Note the programme zone with each theme
- Pencil in any awards that you want to work on

Half Term Detail Plan:

- Work up the first half dozen or so meetings in detail
- Make sure that you have someone responsible for each action
- Make sure you have a shopping list for the kit and ingredients that you need
- Work out timings
- Decide what communication you may need to give to parents

This, for some, may be a 'sucking eggs' situation, but when you add some structure to the plan, life becomes a lot easier.

I have very little idea what these plans look like in reality in the County, but would very much like to see what you do. I would also like to share some of your programme ideas with the rest of the County



So here is the my Challenge:

1. Send me a copy of your annual / term or week planners – not because I want to check up on you, but I am nosy and I want to share your best ideas
2. Take photos of your best bits of the programme for Far and Wide
3. Ask me for help – I am happy to work with any of you to develop great programmes. This could be on Skype or email
4. Set me a challenge – to give me a theme and ask me to come up with three ideas to fit that theme (based around the programme zones)

So, let us pool the creative minds of the County and share our programme capability across the World.

Scout well!

Darren Bretton, Assistant County Commissioner (Scouts)

EXPLORER SCOUTS AND SCOUT NETWORK



Cycling for ESUs and the Network

I know some ESUs use cycles more than others, so here are some ideas on how to implement them into the programme. Cycles can be hired or borrowed for those that don't have them. A day out cycling is great fun - but how about going cycle camping? I would suggest covering the following topics over 2-3 meetings, to ensure everyone's competent:

Safety Talk: Cycle Highway Code and particularly hazards to bikes. Cycle lighting.

Care of cycle: Tools. Practice in adjusting brakes, gears and how to repair punctures

What is the best clothing, equipment and food to use?

Size and weight reduction

Packing cycle panniers – weight distribution

Highways, byways and off-roading

Gradients and surfaces

Reading road maps and route planning

Then tackle a cycle expedition for one or two nights, carrying everything to be self-sufficient

Games

Cycle Jousting. On an area of sand or soft grass, stretch a length of rope or string for about 7 metres at a rough height of a metre above the ground. Mark in the sand a lane ½ a metre wide, each side of the centre string, or peg it out with more string. Armed with soft brooms, two cyclists ride towards each other and try to unseat their opponent, make them put a foot on the floor, or deviate outside their lane, using only the broom heads. They can use them to push away or hook towards them either the bike or its rider. No hits higher than the chest and no attacks on or through the wheels. The soft ground stops excessive speed and creates skill in cycling. Helmets must be worn and perhaps gloves, ankle and knee-pads in case of spills, depending on the risk assessment.

Pig-Sticking. As a young Cavalry officer in India, B-P became a proficient hunter of wild boar using a lance on horse-back. He practiced picking up a rope quoit on his lance at full gallop. Here's a version for a bicycle. Put two markers about 15 metres apart on a good surface. Between them is empty tin can, open end towards the rider. The rider has to approach at a good speed and hook the can onto his lance (broomstick), holding it aloft on the stick while he rides to the end of the course, dumps the can and races to the start, picking up on the way in a similar manner, a second can which a Scouter has thoughtfully put out for him. Fastest Scout wins.

Cycles are great for wide games too! Try these:

Treasure Hunt. Give map refs for about 8 – 10 phone boxes in the area. (It doesn't matter if the phone works or not). In each box they will find a single letter. They note the letter then when they think they have enough, try and decipher the key word(s) which is a precise location, e.g. "windmill." First team to this location wins. If you haven't enough phone boxes, use other small obvious locations or leave more than one letter in each. Variation: For obvious sites like phone boxes, give a couple of 6 fig grid refs, and the rest in 4 figures – leave it to them to work out where to find them!

Smuggling. Smugglers have to get from A to C on a choice of roads. At B in between, customs men are waiting. Have more routes than customs can cover. Only one (perhaps two) smugglers have contraband and try to slip through undetected to C.

Flag raiding. Held over a large area with no defenders on bases. To win, return their flag to your base. You will need to work out a system of life-taking, perhaps a scarf tucked in the rear of the trousers to snatch while still on the bikes, (see previous issue of Far and Wide)

Manhunt. Send cyclist off on route who drops 'markers' (flour, nuts etc) intermittently. After five minutes start, he rests for 1 minute every 5 minutes. The others have to track him on bikes and catch him before he reaches base or (alternatively) find his hiding place.

Variations: use cycle lights for signalling. Cycles for observation or reconnoitring



And then what?

Finally, don't stop with cycles. Here are some novel expedition ideas using alternative transport. I'll leave you to work out the details. All these are achievable – they have been done before!

- Camel Camping
- Donkey Duning
- Mule Mountaineering
- Horse Hiking
- Elephant Expeditions
- Canoe Camping
- Ski Sightseeing
- River Rafting

Tony Dunn, Assistant County Commissioner (Explorer Scouts) and County Scout Network Commissioner

NOTES OF THE BRITISH GROUPS ABROAD COUNTY TEAM MEETING HELD AT GILWELL PARK, SUNDAY 28 JUNE 2009

1. The following members of the Team were present: Peter Dawes CC, Debbie Philips ACC (BS), Astrid Roberts ACC (CS), Darren Bretton ACC(S), Heather Elliott Training Manager, Ann Payne Asst C/Secretary and Martin Payne County Secretary. We welcomed Andy Lannin, Activities and International Affairs Department, who joined us for the morning.

Thanks were given to Paul Janvier for his service as D of E Advisor – he is still willing to give advice if required.

2. Nights Away Permits and Notifications

A list of current permit holders was distributed. There was concern that Permits are not held in all Groups. It is not essential to complete Module 16 before getting a Permit

Agreed that sectional ACCs could advise and review menus and organisation before camps and then send the evidence, after the camp to Tim as support for the permit application.

Tim will contact all Groups without permits to check if they do go camping. Nights Away Notifications must be received by Tim at least 14 days before the event.

3. Adventurous Activity Permits and Assessments

A long discussion took place regarding permits and assessment of leaders and a practical way to achieve these per-

mits Further information available from the County Secretary.

4. Development Plan

Peter circulated a draft development plan – each item was discussed and recorded on the plan – further discussions needed before publication

5. Far and Wide – deadline 1 August 2009

6. BGA Essentials

To be published 1st September in PDF format – sections plus complete copy – send by email to all Leaders with a link to ScoutBase and a link to POR

7. Training

Eight **Wood Badges** have been awarded within the last 3 – 4 months.

Oman - Heather had a successful training visit to Oman. Explorer Scouts going well – Badge work - Mountain Rescue Training. Scouts - badge work – Communications at Radio Station, Mechanics Badge and Cooks Badge. Cub Scouts were doing 1st Aid.

Sweden - whilst on holiday Heather was able to present Wood Badges to 2 Leaders.

Falklands – good reports have been received.

Norway - 2 potential Beaver Scout Leaders and a Cub Scout Leader.

8. County Secretary

Annual General Meeting

- Election of County Secretary – all in favour that Martin Payne should continue.
- Annual Report – It was agreed that reports would be published in the next issue of *Far and Wide*.
- Census - All numbers were received but we are still awaiting break-down figures from 2 Groups. Overall there was a decrease of 2.1%.

Appointment Reviews

There has only been progress on one outstanding review from 2008 and 2009.

New Groups - Enquiries have been received to form new Groups in Dubai and Abu Dhabi

9. Jamboree

We have been allocated places for 2 patrols + 2 leaders. One patrol will be with West Yorkshire and one with Coventry. Consideration must be given to how we choose young people and adults. Every young person should have the opportunity no matter where they are situated or their financial position.

Darren to draft pack to be sent to all Groups. Define timescales.



10. Insurance for Overseas Travel

Peter has confirmed with Scout Insurance Services (Unity) that they are able to repatriate to Country of residence, if not resident in the UK.

Visits Abroad process needs to be considered and revised if required.

11. Sections / Group Matters

Beaver Scouts – Debbie Brimelow is moving from Sweden to Cheshire – Debbie Philipps has made contact and arranged a meeting

Cub Scouts – Astrid Roberts is pleased to be getting more contacts

Scouts – nothing to report

Explorer Scouts – no report

12. Any Other Business

New Area Commissioner to be appointed for BSWE

Welcome Packs are not being received in BGA – Ann to investigate.

While on 'work business' Nigel Hailey visited 1st Abu Dhabi – Group is thriving with 2 colonies, 1 pack, and 1 troop.

Martin Payne has 'stupidly' agreed to do a 7 km run in London on Saturday 26th September 2009 to support the endangered Gorillas. All 700 competitors will be un-identifiable as all will be dressed in identical Gorilla outfits! Sponsorship details will be circulated.

Future Meetings

Team Meeting to be held on 8th November 2009.

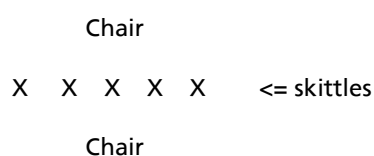
The meeting closed at 4.00 pm.

PROGRAMME IDEAS

Beaver Scouts

Time	Activity	Zone	Method	Instruction
5 min	Joining in Game Cattle train	Learning about yourself	Play Games	Played in teams. Give each person name of an animal. When leader calls out name of animal, that person to run to end of room round obstacle and back making noise of their animal. If cattle train is mentioned, whole team to run
10 min	Opening Ceremony	Exploring the world around us	Follow Themes	Introduce theme for the evening. Ask the children what is a friend
30 min	The Community	Discovering Creativity and Practical Skills	Make things	For these activities split the Colony into 3 groups and then rotate them around the bases. Base 1. Beavers could plant Bulbs, this could either be in a decorated pot which could then be given to a local nursing home, or you could plant Bulbs around where you meet. Base 2. Good turn mouse with a long tail. Beavers to cut out a template of a mouse and every time they do a good turn at home they can tie a knot in the mouse's tail. Base 3. Make bird feeders, (fat balls or cakes). Ask the Beavers to watch birds feeding from them during the day.
5 min	Game Skittles	Learning about yourself	Play Games	You will need 2 teams, 2 chairs, 2 sponge footballs and 5 skittles. The aim of this game is to place a team at each end of the room behind the chair. A ball is placed on the chair. When the game starts, a Beaver climbs onto the chair and throws the ball towards the skittles to try to knock one down, they must then jump down and collect the ball to pass to the next Beaver who should now be standing on the chair. The Beaver who has just had his go then joins the back of his team. The Beavers get as many turns as it takes to complete the game. The game is completed when one team has knocked down 3 skittles.
5 Min	Game Stuck in the mud	Learning about yourself	Play Games	Choose 2 Beavers (or one lodge) to be the leaders. The rest of the Beavers run around the room. When touched by one of the Leaders they must stand still with their legs apart. They can only be released from the mud by their friends who must crawl through their legs.
5 min	Closing ceremony	Beliefs and Attitudes	Follow themes	Beaver Prayer. Review the activities and explain what will happen the following week.

Skittles game layout



PROGRAMME IDEAS

Cub Scouts - Community Challenge Award - Emergency Aid stage 1 & 2 - Chef Activity Badge

Week 1	New Cubs, New Sixes	VI & II meeting Six bonding games
Week 2	Community Challenge #5 Hazards in the house or outside	Set up a room of "hazards in the home". Spilt drink on the floor, fork in toaster, etc Set up a space outdoors of hazards (E Aid 1 #1) Garden rake with tongs up on ground, etc
Week 3	Community Challenge #6 First Aid - Burns, scalds, bleeding	Burns & Scalds (Emergency Aid 2 #6) Have access to cold running water Control Bleeding (E Aid 1 #4 & E Aid 2 #4) Have fake blood and bandages
Week 4	Community Challenge #6 Airway protection	Open Airway (E aid 1 # 3) Clear airway & recovery position (E A 2 # 3) Practice putting into recovery position
Week 5	Community Challenge #6 How and when to get help	Get help from Emergency Services (E A 2 #2) Practice emergency phone calls on old phones
Week 6	Re-visit and Review week A chance for absent Cubs to catch up on anything missed.	Award Emergency Aid stage 1 and 2 if complete
Week 7	Community Challenge #2 Fundraising event for charity	Discuss charity and method of fundraising. Suggest meal. Discuss method, cost and profit
Week 8	Community Challenge #2 Fundraising event for charity	Plan a meal. Discuss Balanced Diet (Chef #3) and special diets. Send out invitations to families (made by Cubs?)
Week 9	Community Challenge #2 Fundraising event for charity	Basic safety and hygiene in kitchen (Chef #1) Make a "kitchen with hazards" to be found. Methods of cooking food (Chef #2) Bake, boil, roast, pressure cook, microwave
Week 10	Community Challenge #2	Make menus for tables

PROGRAMME IDEAS

	Fundraising event for charity	Make table decorations
Week 11	Community Challenge #2 Fundraising event for charity	Make biscuits (Chef #5) Fold napkins for tables
Week 12	Community Challenge #2. Cubs collect money at door. Fundraising event for charity complete this week.	Cook & serve & clear away two-course meal. Pasta bolognese or Pasta and cheese fruit salad water to drink. (Chef #4)

Scouts - Programme zone: community

- **exploring the community in which you live**
- **discovering local people, places and facilities**
 - **opportunity to offer help and service**

Time	Activity
30 mins	<p>Know Your Town 1</p> <p>Ingredients:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Large sheet of paper ▪ Pens, pencils, glue, paint etc ▪ Map of the area <p>The Task:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create a large size map of the local area with the location of facilities like post box, dentist, bank etc marked with suitable homemade icons ▪ Also add on the locations of items specific to each Scout – one may like to show the location of an ice cream shop for example <p>The Variation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create a 3D plan using contours and buildings made out of cardboard or polystyrene <p>Other Zones Support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creative ▪ Outdoors and Adventure
60 mins	<p>Know Your Town 2</p> <p>Ingredients:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Compasses ▪ Set of instructions to follow <p>The Task:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Set up an orienteering course around your town ▪ Send the Scouts out in small groups to follow the trail – collecting letters / items at each compass point <p>The Variation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use photos as the reference points <p>Other Zones supported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outdoors and Adventure

PROGRAMME IDEAS

Troop Night	<p>Who is who?</p> <p>Ingredients:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local personality <p>The Task:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Invite said local personality to come down to the Troop and talk about what they do ▪ Try to make it interactive – e.g. the owner of the local restaurant may come down and teach some cookery <p>The Variation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Go out to where they work and see them in action <p>Other Zones supported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any of them depending on the 'personality'
Troop Night	<p>Where are we going?</p> <p>Ingredients:</p> <p>Transport if required</p> <p>Notes home for parents of intention to go out for the evening</p> <p>The Task:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Arrange a visit to a local place of interest ▪ e.g. Baker, Hospital, Police Station, Café, Castle, place of worship ▪ Learn about the location and what it means to the community <p>The Variation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Make it a bring a friend event, or a multi section activity ▪ Travel by train or other public transport <p>Other Zones supported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outdoor and Adventure ▪ Exploring Beliefs and Attitudes
Troop Night (s)	<p>Who we are, where we come from!</p> <p>Ingredients:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Materials to make a display ▪ Location to host display <p>The Task:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create a display about your Troop to put up in the Library or similar location ▪ Make something of the fact that your members come from all over the UK <p>The Variation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Make a video presentation <p>Other Zones supported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creative
Various	<p>Other Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group Fun Day in the Community ▪ Local Fundraising ▪ Join in with other youth groups ▪ Make use of local facilities such as leisure centres or similar ▪ Use local experts to assess your awards ▪ Clean up a local public area like a park / beach ▪ Be an active part of the community by joining in with activities and events

County Team



County Commissioner
Peter Dawes
00 44 1403 256800
dawesp@gmail.com



County Secretary
Martin Payne
00 44 7980 541311
bga@martinwpayne.com
Skype: MartinWPayne



Assistant County Secretary
Ann Payne
bga@martinpayne.com



County Training Manager
Heather Elliott
00 44 1440 705509
elliott0647@yahoo.co.uk
Skype: heather.elliott47



Nights Away Adviser
Tim Taylor
00 44 1403 268298
tim@changeways.org.uk



**Assistant County Commissioner
Beaver Scouts**
Debbie Phillips
00 44 1606 738418
debbie@marketinggroup.co.uk
Skype: debbie.phillips2



**Assistant County Commissioner
Cub Scouts**
Astrid Roberts
00 44 208 778 5340
astridroberts@aol.com



**Assistant County Commissioner
Scouts**
Darren Bretton
00 44 1245 257 968
accinternational@essexscouts.org.uk
Skype: eagle-darren



**Assistant County Commissioner
Explorer Scouts, County Scout
Network Commissioner and
County Historian**
Tony Dunn
00 44 1562 824924
tonydunn@supanet.com



Editor, Far and Wide
David Bull
00 44 1244 676059
mail@davidbull.net
Skype: davidbull2005



**International Scout Fellowship
Chairman**
Alan Beavis
00 44 1189 333313
alanbeavis@btinternet.com