



# HOLIDAY ACTION

Autumn 2008

## Newsletter of the Scout Holiday Homes Trust

# Good news as we approach our 40th Anniversary

You will see inside that there is good news from Lynda as our 2008 bookings were considerably up. Chairman, John Le Warne reports that donations are also up this year so more good news but John warns that if we are to provide up-to-date caravans we still need more funds.

If you read the letter from Janet O (we shortened her name at her request) you will see how invaluable our holiday homes are to families who have a need for something special. It makes all our efforts worth while. It also reminds us that we also cater for families with elderly and possibly infirm members.

John makes the point that we should do something special for our 40th anniversary which falls next year. (Is it really 40 years, where has the time gone?) Let's also make this the catalyst to renew our efforts to find new sources of funding to ensure that the Trust can continue to provide holidays for families such as Janet's for many years to come.



How did this painted old banger raise money for Holiday Homes? Find out on page three.

The Scout Holiday Homes Trust is a registered charity, founded in 1969, by former Scouts to provide suitable self-catering holiday accommodation in a welcoming family environment for any family or group who has a member with special needs, families with elderly or frail members, people with any special needs with their carers, single parent families and low income families – in fact any family in which the quality of life is diminished by disability, infirmity or misfortune.

There is no requirement to be a Member of either the Scout or Guide Movements. The Trust owns 12 caravans and 1 chalet on 11 fully commercial seaside holiday parks (eg British Holidays, Haven Holidays, Hoburne Holidays).

The Scout Holiday Homes Trust is managed locally and nationally by volunteers dedicated to the tradition that 'Scouts Help Others'.

Its income depends on Members' subscriptions, voluntary donations, legacies and fundraising by Members and Supporters.

### The Scout Holiday Homes Trust

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Website: [www.scouts.org.uk/holidayhomes](http://www.scouts.org.uk/holidayhomes)

Administrator - Lynda Peters

Charity Registration Number 269946

### SPREAD THE WORD

Help us to get more people to know about the Trust, not only to those who may become supporters but also to prospective users of our facilities. We have a brand new pocket size leaflet covering holidays and donations. A phone call to our office will make sure some are in the next post. 020 8433 7290.



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Berkshire Scout Enterprises Ltd  
Edited by Dick Sawdon Smith

BSEL

## We still need more funds but let's do something special for our 40th Anniversary says our Chairman

As I write this in early September it is raining and cold, and we have had another poor summer weatherwise. Thankfully the Trust's caravans and chalet were almost sold out during August, and bookings generally have been better than in 2007. However, finances are still tight. We have had an increase in donations this year which has enabled us to pay for the site rentals for 2009 for 12 caravans and 1 chalet.

The National Executive Committee has decided to close our caravan on Presthaven Sands Holiday Park at Prestatyn, North Wales at the end of the 2008 holiday season due to the drop in lettings and the condition of the caravan. I would like to thank Denis Ward and Phil Stansbie who have been looking after this caravan. Also, David and Lesley Roberts who for the last few years have been doing the Spring cleaning in order to get the caravan ready for the Easter start of the season.

Now that the 2008 holidays are drawing to a close, members of the National Executive Committee will soon be inspecting the caravans – and then Christmas is just

around the corner.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our supporters a very Happy Christmas. I hope you all have a successful 2009 – which is the Trust's 40th year.

It would be nice to do something special to mark this anniversary – have you got any ideas? I remember that Poole Scout Fellowship hosted our 25th anniversary get-together on 30 October 1994 at the Denis Gooding Centre, where a full three-course meal was served. Perhaps another Scout Fellowship would be willing to do something similar for our 40th year celebrations?

John Le Warne

# LYNDA'S JOTTINGS - News from the Trust Office

## Welcome to our new Committee member

A warm welcome to Roger Hurrion onto the National Executive Committee. I hope that he enjoys his time on the Committee, and we are looking forward to hearing his views on the future direction of the Trust.

## Goodbyes at Burnham

Colina and Terry Hine have decided to retire from running the caravans at Burnham. They started as volunteers in 1994 looking after the two caravans that the Trust had at Sandy Glade at Berrow. I have some very happy memories of staying with them over the Burnham Carnival Weekends in November, and of their positive help in finding another suitable holiday park when we came off Sandy Glade. All our best wishes for a happy and relaxing retirement – enjoy the grandchildren!

## Sad passing at Exmouth

I was very sad to learn of the recent death of Ray Mallett. Ray was for many years the Chairman of the Exmouth Holiday Homes Trust Association and he will be greatly missed.

## More with less for 2008 Holidays

Ann and I would be delighted to send you a brochure so please do not hesitate to ring or e-mail us – especially if you know of any family with special needs, one parent family or anyone on a low income that would benefit from one of our holidays.

## Special price deals for last minute holidays

Despite the dismal weather for most of the holiday season from Easter until the end of October this year, we have in fact arranged more holidays than in 2007 – and we have one less unit! This must be an inspiration to everyone working for the Trust – especially to Ann and I in the Office and our Local Management Teams – as it is satisfying to know how valuable our service is to families and carers who look after someone with special needs. Again caravans at Berwick, Burnham, New Milton, Paignton, Poole, St Austell and Skipsea were exceedingly popular.

## More from our fundraising double act

Once again Colin Sheldon and Barry Bevington have had a fantastic year with fundraising – mainly touring with their restored fairground organ. I was lucky enough to be able to go and meet them in Warrington in February for the presentation of their £3,000 cheque. We had a superb sponsored lunch and the company was great! Well done Colin and Barry!

## LMT's handle emergencies with speedy dedication

I would like to thank everyone on our Local Management Teams for all their help in caring for the Trust's units – and a huge thank you for dealing with the emergencies which have to be sorted out quickly on change-over days. On 30th August we had problems at Berwick, Clacton, Kidwelly, New Milton, and Prestatyn which involved a lot of extra cleaning and repairs within a few hours. It was all hands at the pumps! With everyone's help we did what was necessary without the incoming holidaymakers knowing that anything had been amiss. All the units seem to have one problem or another during the season, and we owe each and every one of the members of our local teams our sincere gratitude – for without you the Trust could not exist.

## Scouts meet David Bellamy at Burnham

We had a phone call from Burnham-on-Sea Holiday Village in June this year asking if we could arrange for some local Scouts to be at the Park on 20 June 2008 as David Bellamy was visiting the Park to promote his Conservation Awards – Burnham having a Gold. I phoned Colina and Terry Hine who at the last minute arranged for some of their local Scouts to meet the ex-Scout and living legend and be present at a brilliant photo session – which was included on the Scout Association's website.

## National Executive Committee visits planned

Members of the National Executive Committee are looking forward to visiting the caravans and chalet once the Parks close on 1 November, as this gives them an excellent opportunity to thank the local teams personally for their selfless support and service to the Trust. It never ceases to amaze me that they so generously give us their time and energy.

## The end for Prestatyn

At the beginning of September the National Executive Committee decided not pay the site fees for our caravan at Presthaven Sands Holiday Park at Prestatyn, North Wales. The caravan was bought in 1995, and it was decided that the caravan and the Park did not

come up to the Trust's high standards of suitability for our holidaymakers, and unfortunately we do not have enough funds to buy another caravan in this area.

I'm really grateful for everything that Denis Ward (since 2003) and also Phil Stansbie (for the last couple of years) have done in helping us keep this caravan in tip top condition. With Denis living in Warrington and Phil in Wigan they are not exactly on the doorstep, but they have stepped up for every emergency. Many, many thanks.

## Incentives for early bookings for 2009 Holidays

We started taking bookings for 2009 holidays in September. We are offering £10 vouchers to all the 2008 holidaymakers, £20 off two-week holidays and a 3% discount for holidays paid for in full before 31 December 2008. We will also continue to offer last minute deals about 10 days before the holiday start date – and these can be seen on the Trust's website, or you can phone or e-mail me for the latest price and availability.

## Brochures available now

If you, or if you know of any family or group that would benefit from one of the Trust's holidays, please do contact Ann or I in the Office – as we would be delighted to send you the Trust's 2009 brochure. Ann will be sending these to our existing holidaymakers during October 2008.

## Open day at New Milton – everyone invited

Anne Davies at New Milton is proposing to arrange an open day at the caravan before the start of the 2009 holiday season. Everyone is welcome – so please let me know if you would like to attend.

## In Memorium

We have received donations in memory of Cis Tucker and Kathleen Green. It is very generous of their family and friends to think about the Trust during what must be such a sad and difficult time.

## New handouts available to spread the word

We have a new flyer which Dave Mowbray and the wonderful Berkshire Scout Enterprises Ltd prepared for us in a few days before Gilwell Reunion. This is a general leaflet covering holidays and donations – so please let me know if you would like some.

## Our grateful thanks to all our Fundraisers

After a review and consultation between the Scout Association and the Charity Commission, the Trust received £10,156.74 in September from the Millicent Bailey Fund.

The Trust also received £5,214.68 from the 2007 St Andrew's Country Fayre, Biggleswade, Beds – a report of which was in the Autumn 2007 Holiday Action.

As a very last minute addition to our display boards at Gilwell Reunion, we managed to raise £52 to start off the sponsorship money being raised by Geoff Endersby's trip on 25 September for the drive in a £100 car from his home in Biggleswade to Rome.

Colin Sheldon and Barry Bevington continue with their magnificent fundraising – mainly touring with their restored fairground organ. How much is the total going to be this year! They have also arranged another concert by the Macclesfield Youth Brass Band supported by the Churnet Valley Male Voice Choir on Saturday 27 September 2008 in aid of the Trust. Please do not hesitate to let me know if you would like to attend the 2009 concert as I'm sure they would be happy to let you have details.

I would also like to thank the Scout Fellowships and Scout Councils who have sent us donations – some from St George's Day Parades and Service Collections – please don't forget about the Trust when you are thinking about charities for 2009. We have received very generous donations from the Royal Tunbridge Wells, West Oxfordshire Scouts, Bristol South, Chandlers Ford, Holbeach & Spalding Fellowship, 1st Sawbridgeworth, Cheltenham, North Devon, Strood, Durham, and Richmondshire Scouts, as well as the Poole and Reading Central Scout Fellowships, and the Scout Lodge No 9814. Many thanks also to the many people who donate on a regular basis.

As always I would appreciate hearing any of your fundraising ideas. The Trust urgently need funds for renewing the caravans as the ones at St Austell and Skipsea need replacing in 2010, and we do not wish to reduce our fleet any further.

## Christmas & New Year

The members of the National Executive Committee and Ann and I would like to wish all our volunteers and supporters a very Merry Christmas and good health, peace and joy in 2009.

# HOLIDAYMAKERS' LETTERS 2008

*"My mother, who now uses a wheelchair, had tears in her eyes."*

CARMARTHEN BAY HOLIDAY PARK, KIDWELLY

June 2008

I am just writing with a big thank you for the holiday we had at Carmarthen Bay Holiday Park at the end of last month.

The weather could have been kinder to us but we had half the holiday in sunshine. My mum, who now uses a wheelchair, really appreciated it. We almost lost her last October and she was very ill again over Christmas and the New Year. She hadn't had a holiday for a long time due to illness. I took her for a paddle on Saundersfoot beach in the sunshine. She had tears in her eyes and said she never thought she'd be doing that again. She felt comfortable in the chalet and I'm certain it was due to the hand rails, etc, that were provided.

As for the two boys – well it brought them very close together for the week. My youngest, James, is autistic and usually takes up a lot of my time. My 14 year-old, Michael, stepped in and really looked after him for me. He even took him swimming without me, which would have meant helping him to dress/undress. I asked James what was his favourite part of the holiday and he said going to the amusement arcade with Michael at the end of each day.

By the way, both boys are involved in the Scouts. Michael has just moved up to Explorers and James is in Cubs (with a carer) and moving up to Scouts in September. They are with the 18th Chester Scout Group.

So thank you once again for what was a precious week for our little family.

JANET O

## Extracts from other letters we have received

### BERWICK HOLIDAY PARK

We are looking forward to our holiday at Berwick as we thoroughly enjoyed our time there in October 2007. Thank you for your kindness. God Bless.

J MACPHERSON

### GREAT YARMOUTH

Thank you for arranging the Caravan break in Great Yarmouth at such short notice. We had a wonderful time and may well return at a later date.

SOPHIE ALSTIN & FAMILY

### ROCKLEY PARK, POOL

We would like to thank you for the week's holiday at Rockley Park. We had a very good day at Swanage and a couple of days at Poole harbour. Thank you for the welcoming biccies.

MR & MRS F DORWARD

### SKIRLINGTON LEISURE PARK, SKIPSEA, EAST YORKSHIRE

Thank you for the holiday I recently received from you. It enabled me to take my 86 year old mother, sister, niece and great niece and myself on a lovely week's holiday. The weather was nice and everything we needed was literally yards away. Again, thank you very much.

THE TAYLOR FAMILY

### PENTEWAN SANDS HOLIDAY PARK, ST AUSTELL

Had a wonderful holiday in Cornwall with my son, mum and partner. Thank you so much for arranging it for me. It was so nice to be there.

SUZANNE LEWIS AND FAMILY

## Gilwell Reunion 2008 – the weather brought in the visitors

This year our stand was tucked away at the rear of The Lid so we were a little concerned that many wouldn't find us. However, in the event the appalling weather ensured that many attending were only too pleased to spend more time under cover than usual. Once again it was a pleasure to meet and be able to thank many of the Trust's friends for their continued support. Our display featured some of the new caravans which are now available together with information relating to a couple of supporters from Biggleswade who have promised us the sponsorship raised by them in their entry in a drive from home to Rome in a car costing less than £100. How about that for an innovative way to raise funds?

My special thanks go to those of you who have sent badges and memorabilia to us. Not only does The Badge Box sell at pocket money prices to youngsters but it is beginning to attract attention from serious "Badgers" who call in to see if we have any obscure omissions from their collections. They seek the most arcane variations such as whether the fleur de lys on proficiency badges has stars or spots on it. You will also be pleased to hear that not only are you supporting the Trust but helping Scouting world wide. One visitor who is supporting a Scout Group in an African country bought our entire stock of patrol badges to send to them. So you never know how far the ripples of your generosity will spread.

As well as Lynda the stand was manned by Margaret and Les Ling, Jim Hopkins, and David and Lesley Roberts. Their assistance is gratefully appreciated.

Thanks to you all and we look forward to seeing you next year.



• Photo taken by Jim Hopkins shows Lynda, Margaret and Lesley manning the stand.

## HOME TO ROME

This was the theme of a Car Rally that three young Biggleswade men took up to raise money for the Trust.

The Rules of the rally were that the car must be an old banger costing no more than £100. Geoff Endersby struggled with this until a local Garage agreed to help and generously supplied a red Vauxhall Cavalier. The car was duly sprayed black and then the Trust's rainbow logo was sprayed freehand on the bonnet. The other requirement for the race was that the occupants had to dress as cowboys and Indians and to have a water pistol fight somewhere on route.

The original plan was to leave Biggleswade at 8 am on Thursday 25 September 2008 but this was brought forward to 5.45 am. The pictures were taken in true Blue Peter fashion at 4 pm on the Saturday before they left in brilliant sunshine. The photographs were taken by Eric Lund, Chairman of the Biggleswade Scout Fellowship.

I would like to thank Geoff Endersby, Pete Webster and Shane Lawrence for taking part in this rally at no cost to the Trust. And in case you a wondering – Did the car make the 1500 mile journey? The answer is yes! And they had a great time and lots of fun. I'm sure that Geoff will give us more details of the journey, and let us know how much money was raised – and we will put this in the next issue of Holiday Action.

John Le Warne



• Colin Sheldon and Barry Bevington relaxing after a hard day at Churnet Valley Railway.

## Every little helps even foreign coins

Our arch-fundraisers Colin Sheldon and Barry Bevington have spent the summer once again raising money on behalf of the Trust, mainly with their restored fairground organ. One new venue this year was the Manifold Show in Derbyshire. Surprisingly amongst the money collected were old decimal coins which people must still carry in their pockets or handbags and foreign coins. Don't forget that we are happy to accept any foreign coins left over from your overseas holidays. Colin and Barry have also raised funds with another concert by the Macclesfield Youth Brass Band with the Churnet Valley male Voice Choir held in September.



• Our colourful travellers are Pete Webster, Geoff Endersley and Shane Webster. More soberly dressed to see them off is Chairman John Le Warne.

## Fly the flag

If you are publicising Holiday Homes at any event you might like to display some NEW Pennants kindly made and donated by Ken Greenwood. Available from the Trust Office.



# THE SCOUT HOLIDAY HOMES TRUST TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (ABRIDGED)

The Trustees present their annual report  
for the period 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2007.

The Trust currently provide 13 holiday home caravans and one holiday home chalet at 12 locations around England and Wales, available for booking at weekly rates at an average 25% less than the standard holiday park prices.

In 2007, the Trust was again unable to achieve the same level of letting income as prior years due to a further reduction in the number of letting units. The reduction in letting income was almost £8,000, following a reduction of more than £11,000 in 2006. The reduction in 2007 was 8.8% (2006: reduction of 13.1%). The Trust has therefore seen a reduction of over 23% in letting income over the past two years – in monetary terms the Trust earned almost £20,000 less in 2007 than in 2005.

At the end of the 2007 season, 246 (2006: 307) holiday weeks had been booked for 203 (2005: 241) families.

The following single, large sum, donations were received in 2007:

- £2,650.00 from Suffolk Beaver Scouts
- £2,500.00 from Colin Sheldon
- £2,268.50 from John Le Warne (recycling)
- £1,000.00 from The Arnold Singer Memorial Fund (Relief Chest Scheme), Arrowhead Lodge of Freedom No 8500, Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire
- £810.00 from Martin Payne's 40th Celebration
- £600.00 from the Nigel Reader Memorial Fund
- £571.86 from Sevenoaks District Scouts
- £525.00 from East Hertfordshire Scout Fellowship
- £500.00 from Sir John & Lady Heathcote-Amory Charitable Trust.

As a result of the above donations, plus many others of less than £500, the level of donations in 2007 exceeded the amount achieved in 2006 by £8,000. It is support such as this that enables the Trust to continue.

The Trust's charitable expenditure has again increased due to the increase in site rent and rates, and an increase in the non-cash element of depreciation. It must be recognised that the Trust has spent £24,000 more in 2007 than in 2005 and this has resulted in a precarious cash position as at 31 December 2007.

As a result of the reduction in letting units, the management and administration costs of the Trust in 2007 were again unable to be met solely by the income from lettings. Donated funds have therefore been used to cover the general running costs of the Trust rather than for building funds to provide for the replacement of letting units. This is permissible except in the event of any restriction being placed on any specific donation which would be adhered to by the Trustees.

The Trust will need to renew the remainder of the holiday home caravans over the next 13 years, requiring available funding of at least £45,000 each year to achieve this. This funding must, of course, be in excess of the general running costs of the Trust of approximately £105,000. With letting income being reduced by the number of units available, donations and other income sources must be increased significantly to allow the Trust to continue in its present form.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees  
**John LE WARNE**  
Honorary Chairman

## SUMMARY ACCOUNTS

	2007	2006
	£	£
<b>Statement of Financial Activities</b>		
<b>Incoming Resources</b>		
Holiday Lets	66,092	74,595
Donations - unrestricted	25,736	25,312
Donations – restricted	-	-
Other Income	1,654	5,872
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>93,482</b>	<b>105,779</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>		
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>129,904</b>	<b>122,416</b>
Net Movement in Funds (Restricted and Unrestricted)		
	(36,422)	(16,637)
<b>Balance Sheet</b>		
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Tangible Fixed Assets	108,713	132,546
Investments	-	-
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Debtors	38,358	35,926
Stock	1,179	154
Cash at Bank	397	17,813
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Creditors	(6,080)	(7,450)
Net Assets	142,567	178,989
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>		
Opening Funds	178,989	195,626
(Dec)/Inc in Unrestricted Funds	(36,422)	(13,637)
Closing Unrestricted Funds	142,567	181,989
(Dec)/Inc in Restricted Funds	-	(3,000)
<b>Closing Funds</b>	<b>142,567</b>	<b>178,989</b>

The above figures have been extracted from the full Financial Statements which have been independently examined. A copy of the full Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2007 has been filed with the Charity Commission and is available on request from the Trust Office.

**Martin Payne FCCA MInstLM**  
Trustee / Hon Treasurer

## National Executive Committee

<b>Trustees</b>	Bob Panton Martin Payne - Treasurer David Roberts
<b>Chairman</b>	John Le Warne
<b>Committee</b>	Val Drew Roger Hurrion Dave Mowbray Lesley Roberts Rex Stevens John Le Warne
<b>Special Needs Rep</b>	Laura Spafford
<b>National Commissioner Special Needs</b>	Sue Burton
<b>Scout Fellowship Office</b>	Glenn Walker Lynda Peters - Administrator Ann Standing - Assistant

## Local Management Team Secretaries

<b>Berwick-on-Tweed</b>	Dave Mowbray
<b>Burnham-on-Sea</b>	Colina Hine
<b>Clacton</b>	Carol Kerridge
<b>Exmouth</b>	Barbara Gover
<b>Great Yarmouth</b>	Gillian Mays
<b>Kidwelly</b>	Mary Davies (cleaning/overseeing)
<b>New Milton</b>	Ted Terry
<b>Paignton</b>	David Roberts
<b>Poole</b>	Brian Leaver
<b>Prestatyn</b>	Phil Stansbie and Denis Ward (overseeing)
<b>St Austell</b>	Ann Gibson
<b>Skipsea</b>	Derick Wilson

## YOUR RUBBISH IS WORTH CASH

Your office rubbish can be worth thousands of pounds to Scout Holiday Homes Trust

Office materials that normally end up in the bin - toner and inkjet printer cartridges, and old mobile phones - can be recycled to raise valuable funds for the Trust. If you're guilty of throwing away used printer cartridges and other recyclable office materials, read on!

Scout Holiday Homes Trust has teamed up with leading recyclers at the Recycling Appeal in an environmentally friendly fundraising scheme. Every time you donate a cartridge or old mobile phone to the Scout Holiday Homes Trust Recycling Appeal, we will earn cash.

### Martin Payne, Treasurer of the Trust says:

"Scout Holiday Homes Recycling Appeal is an easy way to help the environment while supporting a great cause. We are desperately working to raise funds for new caravans and with your support, we are confident our Recycling Appeal will be a great success."

Not only will your participation in the Scout Holiday Homes Recycling Appeal raise the Trust much needed funds, recycling allows you to make a positive impact on the environment.

### Rob Morton of the Recycling Appeal says:

"Throwing away old mobile phones and used printer cartridges sends them to landfill sites where they become part of our nation's growing waste problem. The vast majority of mobile phones contain toxic substances, which can leak into the surrounding soil and pollute it, and printer cartridges take hundreds of years to bio-degrade. Why not use these products for something good? Send them to the Scout Holiday Homes Trust Recycling Appeal and they will be refurbished and re-used. Some of the mobile phones even end up in developing countries where little or no landline infrastructure exists; meaning your old mobile could provide a lifeline for someone."

Send all your items to Lynda in the Trust Office and she will arrange for them to be dispatched to the Recycling Appeal. Use your rubbish to help the environment and support Scout Holiday Homes.