

Scouts gear up for experience of a lifetime

Jamboree bound Scouts from Cambridge, Huntingdon, Wisbech and Peterborough will see their once in a lifetime opportunity come a little closer this weekend. The World Scout Jamboree, the most anticipated event in Scouting's Centenary calendar, will become ever more real as Scouts are given the gear that will equip them for all the fun, challenge and adventure they will experience at this July's event.

Preparing a Scout to go to a World Jamboree is no easy task. This weekend four articulated lorries will arrive at Gilwell Park, The Scout Association headquarters, and offload £550,000 worth of kit which in turn will be distributed to every Scout and adult volunteer going to the biggest event in Scouting's 100th year. Over 1,000 leaders and volunteer staff will be on hand to pick up the kit, which includes 55,000 badges, 6,000 shirts and 5,000 water bottles, and return it to prepare their Jamboree Scouts.

Cambridgeshire Scouts play part in national bid to spend half a million nights under canvas

Young people are to focus on adventure at this weekend's Centenary Camps in Cambridge, Peterborough, St Ives, Little Abington, March, Huntingdon and Newmarket

Scouts across Cambridgeshire will hold their own adventure packed Centenary Camp as part of a nationwide series of events to celebrate 100 years of Scouting, which will see over 200,000 Scouts from across the UK sleep under canvas over the next two weekends. The camps will last from one to three nights and it is expected that young people from across the UK will spend a total of half a million nights away from home, in the largest simultaneous camping activity ever undertaken by the Scout Association.

As well as the adventure of camping and the adventurous activities on offer, Scouts are keeping with the founding principles of Lord Baden-Powell, and really enjoy being outdoors. BP called for all Scouts to be "Guardians of Nature".

Chris Ward

DCC Communications.



CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY SCOUT COUNCIL

Reports from members of the

COUNTY TEAM

for the

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2007



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in this our Centenary Year.

Pete Edwards is also responsible for managing the contact lists for email and hard copy communications so if you are not receiving information about Cambridgeshire Scouts happenings let him know.

External Communications

The County Scout Magazine, OnRecord is published twice a year and mailed to all contacts of Cambridgeshire Scouting, including politicians, business leaders, schools and community organisations. Simon Gates is responsible for the design of OnRecord and Shaun Coles joined the team during the year as our editor.

OnRecord is supported by the news and OnLine pages of the website. You will also see that the 2007 Annual Report OnReport follows a similar branding.

The biggest part of external communications for 2007 has been the media activity we have enjoyed, thanks to Chris Gawthrop-Bleet for the significant part he has played in making this happen. There have been plenty of opportunities in the press, radio and on television.

Here are a few of the stories that have made the local headlines during the year:

A Gift for Peace at Ely Cathedral this weekend (25/02/07)

Ely Cathedral will play host to a Thanksgiving Service for adult members of Scouting past and present and we expect more than 500 adults to attend. The service will be followed by a Reunion Reception at Kings School, Ely and is open to all adults that have been or are currently Scouts.

Cambridge Explorer Scout, Richard Claridge, aged 17, who will be attending the World Scout Jamboree, said:

"Baden-Powell's ideas on how to build a more peaceful world are as important to the world today as they were when written nearly 100 years ago."

Dan's Adventurous Youth to be recognised by the Queen on St George's Day

Her Majesty the Queen will honour Daniel Gooch with an award for outstanding personal achievement, during the annual St George's Day National Queen's Scouts event, held at Windsor Castle.

Daniel said 'Without the award I would not have taken up Karate, visited the Arctic Circle or climbed Mount Kilimanjaro'

a weekend at the campsite there is a Warden's room available (all mod-cons and TV)!

Last but not least I would like to thank and pay tribute to the members of the Management Team for all their hard work over the past twelve months, without them the site would not function.

Many thanks once again to everybody for their support.

Barry Wallman, ACC Campsites



Duke of Edinburgh's Award (Tony Bell)

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is continuing to make good progress in the County. Many Explorers and Network Scouts are now realising that much of their Scouting achievements can count towards the Duke of Edinburgh Award. One task with two ticks! There is more activity in the County now than for a long time. We have Gold Award achievers and many taking their Silver and Bronze Awards. If any Group wants to become involved please contact Tony Bell and he will be very pleased to visit and explain how to become involved.

Tony Bell [.tbell324@btinternet.com](mailto:tbell324@btinternet.com)



Report on Communications

It's been a busy year for the Cambridgeshire Scouts communications team who have worked hard to keep you and the outside world up to date on what is happening with the Scouting Adventure

Internal Communications:

County Noticeboard is a newsletter aimed at all adult volunteers in the County and continues to be edited by Michael Nurse. It is currently available on the web or (if requested) in the post to your home address. Last year we published 4 editions and in the next year will move to 1 edition per term. Look out for the September issue at the start of the new Scouting year.

County Noticeboard is supplemented by the County website – www.cambridgeshirescouts.org.uk. James (Baggy) Smith runs the website from a technical point of view, whilst the content has been kept up to date by Michael Nurse, Simon Gates and Shaun Coles.

Email bulletins are circulated by Pete Edwards. There has been an increase in the frequency of these bulletins since we are now having requests for help by more outside organisations. It also fair to say that there is a lot more to shout about

County Commissioner's Annual Report

This is a fantastic time to be involved in Scouting, as we celebrate our centenary there are so many activities taking place and receiving publicity that finally Scouting is getting a very high profile.

However this is but one year and we must all use the enthusiasm and good will we are getting at the moment as a launch pad for the future.

Development

This has been a key word for some time in Cambridgeshire and we can clearly see that where Districts plan development their groups flourish. This was a theme I outlined in my vision and one I promised to return to.

Continuous development of adults in Scouting starts with encouraging parents to become involved in the Colony, Pack or Troop and Group events, recruiting them as leaders or Group supporters. This in turn gives the experienced leaders confidence to become more involved in District and County events, which in turn helps with development of other members to new positions and challenges.

Groups that do this regularly do not have problems when looking for new leaders. These Groups and Districts are well supported, well funded, have full leadership teams and are confidently active and dynamic in what they do.

Scouting is also much more flexible than many people perceive, just because a given person did a job in one way does not mean that it always has to be done that way, so be innovative, Scouting on a Saturday once a month maybe just as good and sometimes better than a weekly meeting.

Events

Many saw our 100th year start in style with special celebrations including firework displays, then over 800 of us gathered for the unique Founders Day service at Ely, a truly memorable occasion. I will announce at the AGM our plans to celebrate founders Day 2008.

On 21st May four Scouts from Hampshire stood on the top of Mt Everest an activity they have been training and planning for several years, it just goes to show what Scouts can do.

We have just had the County Big Breakfast on 9th June and are now looking forward to the Scouting sunrise on 1st August – one district has decided to celebrate it for every time zone – and that is a lot more than 24 times in 24 hours.

Camjam 2006 was a huge success with 1,000 young people camping for a week taking part in a wide range of activities. This was the perfect example of what Scouting is about, adventure; challenge; camping; meeting Scouts from around the world and a lot of fun, we are now starting to plan for Camjam 2010.

Presentation Event

Last year we held a special presentation event at Peterborough where 125 members from Beavers right through to adults were presented with a special certificate to celebrate their achievement in Scouting.

This year the presentation event will be held at Duxford in October where members will have free access to the airfield and its exhibits for the whole day. Full details will be announced at the AGM.



County Executive

The Executive has been active in supporting Scouting in the County, we now have the membership of both County Scout Council and the County Executive detailed on the County web site. All members on the County Scout Council have been involved in the election process to both bodies in an effort, amongst other things, to encourage new members to take part.

Challenge 2007

In 2006 I challenged the County to raise money for Magpas and you responded magnificently in raising over £2,600.

As Scouts we promise to help other people, so in our 100th year I challenged the County to leave a legacy in its local community based around the number 100. I offered some suggestions including: plant 100 trees or a 100 metres of trees, organise a team treasure hunt with 100 clues, send 100 Christmas cards, run a 100 hole golf tournament, organise a reunion of 100 of your Groups past members, run a sponsored event around the number 100, have a fancy dress party based around the number 100, run a pub quiz with 100 questions, hold a promises auction with 100 promises, organise a concert for 100 people.

Some legacies are already in progress and I look forward to hearing about other events as the year progresses.

Vision

I have always said that I want to see Scouting in Cambridgeshire :

- Active
- Growing significantly year on year
- Highly visible throughout the whole community
- Well supported
- Well funded

County Campsite Report 2007



The Abington Appeal which was launched just over 2 years ago is unfortunately going very slowly and has been very disappointing but it is still on going with various charities still coming to look over the site.

Work is still going on at the site although some jobs have been put on hold on the present building.

I would like to thank all the groups that have worked on different weekends during the course of the past year doing some excellent work and pay special tribute to the Cambridge Network Unit who have put in a lot of time on the site

We have now removed the payphone as it was not being used, supposedly due to the fact that most people have their own mobile phones.

The campsite fees for this year have been increased slightly.

Unfortunately we have lost twelve large trees during the bad weather during the past year.

I am sorry to report that some groups' camping standards have dropped since the Campsite Inspection Form was dropped but some groups' standards are excellent.

Once again bookings have been good with the site being used nearly every weekend. We have had once again some new visitors to the site coming from long distances, a good number of schools' D of E groups and various other organisations. We are looking forward to having a number of summer visitors that will be attending the World Jamboree.

The Management Committee have met one Saturday a month and at other times to undertake work on the site. Again I know how busy people are but we are always looking to receive offers of help from any groups or individuals who can spare some time to help out. If you would like to help out or undertake a special project at anytime please contact me. Like the old proverb says "Many hands make light work"- so any help would be appreciated.

We are also looking for more people to act as Camp Wardens at weekends. Again please contact me if you are able to take on this task – which means seeing groups in to the site and off the site and being available at the end of a phone at least to answer any queries groups may have during the weekend or if you fancy

Adult Training



A very successful year's training in Cambridgeshire with over 1,000 modules competed and many Woodbadges awarded. The 100 free places offered for Getting Started introduction training were utilised within six months and this funding was really appreciated by Scout Groups.

Resources continue to be developed with the purchase of new projectors, laptops and other training aids. These are available to ensure the training team can continue to use modern technology and deliver first class training that would be expected of any training provider.

First Response, first aid training was completed by 141 volunteers during 2006 at venues around the county and 13 volunteers completed the Red Cross two day training to enable them to get further certification to run adventurous activities.

The First Aid team had a very busy year supporting and providing medical cover for two international camps Norjam and Camjam as well as providing first aid cover for various county events and camps. These have included St Georges Day, Cub Scout Challenge Weekend and The County Scout Competition Weekend.

The training team is always looking to develop and welcomes views on training or innovative ways to take it forward. Volunteers can get involved in training even if not previously involved in Scouting. It is not a closed shop and we are keen to welcome new volunteers, particularly from outside the movement



Chris Halliday *DCC Adult Training*

CamJam 2006 report

Scouts, Guides and Leaders from as far afield as the USA, Denmark, Norway, Spain headed to Cambridgeshire in August 2006 for the County's International Scout Jamboree, CamJam. For seven days, Huntingdon Racecourse played host to 1,400 young people hungry to sample a vast array of activities, ranging from karting and skateboarding, through to sailing, robot wrestling and much more! Throughout the week, the camp offered special events and competitions, a daily newsletter with gossip galore and evening entertainment with discos and tribute bands.

As the seven days ended, participants packed the Event Marquee to say goodbye with a closing ceremony, reflecting on a week full of fun, new-found friendships, challenge and adventure.



Phil Garrett, *Deputy County Commissioner
(Youth Development)*

We are well on the way, there is more to do but I am sure with your support we can continue to make Scouting the most successful youth activity in Cambridgeshire.

I write this having just returned from visiting the Centenary camps around the County, part of Cambridgeshire's celebration of 100 years of Scouting. During a wet weekend at the end of May almost 2,500 members have been taking part in what Scouting is all about, camping, outdoor activities, adventure and new experiences.

My second annual report as County Commissioner reflects a year where we have grown our membership by a whopping 4%, that's over 270 more people enjoying Scouting in the County than last year and this is before our celebrations have started!

When I presented my vision for the future, I could not have anticipated the effect it could have in many areas. For example Scouting in Peterborough has been regenerated and recently recognised by the granting of the Freedom of the City. Areas such as training and communications have moved forwards in leaps and bounds, we have seen new exciting events whilst the regular activities around the County are often over subscribed.

Whilst celebrating 100 years I am often asked if the movement is still relevant to today's society. I believe that with so much available at the touch of a remote control or the click of a mouse, and regulations causing other organisations to cut back, the modern, active, well run Scout Group has even more to offer the youth of today.

The atmosphere is so positive for Scouting we have more adults volunteering for significant roles, they are willing to make their contribution, take on new challenges, see the benefit it brings as well as enjoy for themselves the adventure of Scouting. I am confident that we shall become stronger, more active and larger in the year ahead.

Be proud of your part in Cambridgeshire Scouting, there is a great deal to be proud of.

Thank you

Finally I would like to thank you and your supporters, wives, husbands friends and many more for all that you do in Scouting, the time you give up, the heartache when things are not quite right but the satisfaction we all get in working on something we all believe in - Thank you.

Richard Hames *County Commissioner*



Census 2007

Membership has increased for the second successive year and is 4% up on 2006; more than 270 young people enjoying the adventure of Cambridgeshire Scouting. The movement became fully coeducational in January 2007 and there are 31% more girls now than in 2006.

Membership of Cambridgeshire Scouting

District	2007	2006	Change	Change
	No	No	%	No
Cambridge	1,102	1,071	3	31
Crafts Hill	740	707	5	33
Cromwell	817	770	6	47
Ely	375	362	4	13
Fenland	649	669	(3)	(20)
Granta	521	480	9	41
Hinchingsbrooke	761	760	-	1
Medehamstede	478	452	6	26
Nene	622	559	11	63
Newmarket	616	569	8	47
County	47	59	(20)	(12)
Total	6,728	6,458	4	270

Section	2007	2006	Change	Change
	No	No	%	No
Beaver Scouts	1,423	1,340	6	83
Cub Scouts	2,082	1,918	8	164
Scouts	1,561	1,538	1	23
Explorer Scouts	374	344	9	30
Scout Network	15	27	(44)	(12)
Total Youth membership	5,455	5,167	6	288
Adult volunteers	1,273	1,291	(1)	(18)
Total members	6,728	6,458	4	270

Richard Hames

County Commissioner

International Scouting

CamJam dominated the year with most of the Cambridge 'International' dimension concerned with that. The International tent was a great success and everyone who visited it seemed to join in and enjoy whichever part of the world was being featured on any given day.

We had young Scouts learning to play various musical instruments, especially the bagpipes. An International cooking evening with instructions on making an unusual feast from a far off land, mostly inspired by Africa or the Arab region. An African hut was constructed and used regularly and no African village hut would be complete without a real African campfire lead by Lamin Jarju, a Scout Leader from The Gambia.

The international dimension concluded with a choir at the closing ceremony. Well accepted and able helped by a backing track from Donna Summers.

Not everyone stayed at home though. The 1st Chesterford visited the Faroe Islands and there were various other visits across Europe during the year.

At the beginning of 2007 we launched our County Expedition to Ghana for 2008. This will be run in partnership with Harpingdon Scouts and will centre on the building of a Scout Hall near Hohoe in the Country. This summer two Cambridgeshire leaders, myself and Dave Pain of the 26th Cambridge will be in Malawi as part of the National 'Sunrise Malawi' Expedition.

Eastern Europe is a regular location in the county calendar. The 26th Cambridge have a long standing relationship with Slovenia and were there in 2005. Dave Clemments is trying to establish a formal link with the country and we are developing this through what will become the UK-Eastern Europe Scout Fellowship. More of that in the future.

One simple request, where-ever you have been, tell me how you got on. I am happy receiving request for the visit abroad pack but it would be equally nice to receive a short report back on your visit. As we go forward the International Activity in Cambridgeshire will grow and I look forward to reporting back to you on some of then foreign activities of our Scouts in 2007 in next year's report.

George Devine - ACC International



Queen's Scout Report

Daniel Gooch was the only person to gain their Queen's Scout Award last year though I am pleased to say that I know of 5 people who have almost completed the relevant elements to be assessed for the award. I am sure that there are many more Explorers and Scout Network members working hard towards the Queen's Scout Award in the County if so let me know who you are and how you are doing.



For those of you working towards your Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award, why not combine this with the Queen's Scout Award. You will be surprised how easy this would be.

You will have hopefully seen articles in County Noticeboard about both the Queen's Scout Award and the Explorer Belt. Take time to check things out, look at the requirements and take up the challenge!

We are celebrating 100 years of Scouting this year and it would certainly be a memorable time to be presented with your Award – if you have any questions, contact me and I would be more than happy to help.



Jane Warren Queen's Scout Coordinator

Fellowship Report 2007

The aim of Scout Fellowship is to support Scouting at Group, District and County level and this year there have been some really big events to organise. Fellowship members have certainly risen to the challenge.



At the Top Award Presentation in November a team of 20 managed the smooth running of the presentations to 125 members of Cambridgeshire Scouting. In February there was the challenge of tea and cake for more than 500 people attending the Founders Day Reunion Service at Ely Cathedral. Finally in May, Scout Fellowship was out in force running activities at Centenary Camps across the County from Craft to Crate Stacking.

John Chambers, newly appointed Scout Fellowship Commissioner, is keen to see this teamwork continue and for Scout Fellowship to support the youth programme in an active manner.



14 **John Chambers** ACC Fellowship

County Chairman's Report

The Executive Committee continues to meet regularly at the Old Bridge Hotel, Huntingdon and we very much appreciate the support of the hotel management in providing a suitable venue with the advantage of being geographically situated at the centre of our County.

The continued hard work and dedication of the Executive Committee adds value to the overall management of County Business.

In general, Scouting in Cambridgeshire continues to thrive and it is due to the hard work, perseverance and quality of our uniformed leaders and other supporters in the County. The Centenary events planned for 2007 are of great interest.

Lawrence Noble County Chairman



Adult Support

Whilst continuing to provide more opportunities for young people to join the "Adventure", the Development Team held two CAMEO evenings for GSLs - one was held in Peterborough and the other in Cambridge. (CAMEO: Come And Meet Each Other). Both proved to be very successful. Since then the team has disbanded, particularly with respect to 2007 and the tasks taken on by the various individuals.

At present I am working with the Girl Guides, hopefully to recruit young people and adult volunteers in new housing developments around Cambridgeshire.

Also I have had several meetings with Anthony Chandler (District Chaplain, Fenland) with a view to a County Chaplain. He has given me a great deal of support and lots of idea to take the project forward.

Highlights of my year were the Founders Day Services at Great St Mary's Church and Ely Cathedral as well as the Granta District St George's Day Service at Abington. I found being amongst the young people very rewarding.

Di Wisbey, DCC Adult Support



Creative Activities,

Both the Peterborough Gang Show and the New Werrithorpe Gang Show continue to go from strength to strength.

It is good to see that the Cambridge Gang Show is back on track at the Comberton Performing Arts centre in 2008, having missed a show in 2006

Rob Farrington ACC Creative Activities,



Beaver Scouts

It has been a year of growth for Beaver Scouting in Cambridgeshire. We have 7 more Colonies than in 2006 bringing us to a total of 96 in the County with a total membership of 1423. It's very encouraging to see that in a year when Scouting goes fully co-educational we have almost double the number of girls Scouting than we had in 2006. Our combined waiting list has reduced but it still shows that we have almost 370 young people waiting to join us and we are unable to accommodate them yet.



2006 was the official 20 birthday of Beaver Scouting and around the County there were a variety of festivities both from individual colonies who contacted ex members to join them to commemorate the anniversary, to whole Districts who celebrated with grand parties.

As more leaders gain their Nights Away permits the number of Sleepovers being run is increasing. In November, we experimented with bringing together leaders and Beavers from four different Districts. It was such a resounding success that we are currently planning two more in June. I have been privileged enough to visit several sleepovers around the County, they are not only fun for the young people but also a rewarding experience for the leaders.

District boundaries should not become barriers to groups getting together. I was delighted to hear recently that Groups in Cambridge and Granta Districts have got together for an Easter egg hunt and I know that several Districts will be getting together for the Centenary Camps, to which hopefully many Beavers will be making a visit.

I have continued a programme of visits to District events over the past 12 months. Where I have been unable to come along to District meetings or events or where a District has no ADC (BS) I have made a conscious effort to visit individual colonies.

Support and encouragement is important if we are to retain our leaders and I firmly believe a friendly face and listening ear can make a big difference to everyone. I was delighted to see a few familiar faces from the County at the Gilwell Fun Days in June, these are excellent value for money and well worth taking Beavers and Cubs along to.

During my visits it is evident that Colonies have embraced the new activity badges with vigour with many using them to plan their Colony programmes. It is also evident from my visits that there are a significant number of leaders who feel a little isolated and forgotten about at times. I hope that as new District leaders are identified and the band of Training Advisors grow, support will be more available.

Scout Network

NETWORK

Scout Network provides the opportunity for 18 to 25 year olds to continue Scouting either through the Network activities or as a Leader or Section Assistant with various Beaver Colonies, Cub Packs or Scout Troops. Either way changes introduced in 2006 now mean that 18 to 25 year olds must 'opt in' for Network and are no longer automatically members just because they are in the right age range. There are currently 45 Networkers in Cambridgeshire.

There were also changes to the programme in 2006 to meet the needs of this age group. The programme is based on three self-development areas. They link to the 6 to 18 programme, but allow a different way of working which is more suitable to young adults.

To support these changes two new publications were launched:

- Network Essentials: which contains all the information to organise a successful Scout Network (it replaces the old Scout Network Essentials *and* the Scouting Essentials File)
- Scout Network Membership Pack: which is for all Members of the Scout Network and contains the information they need to get actively involved in Scouting

Scout Networks can now be created in Districts as well as the County/Area. Whilst the overall direction for the Scout Network still remains with the County Scout Network Commissioner, each Scout Network has a Scout Network Leader who ensures the Network operates effectively. Deputy County Commissioner, Phil Garrett is working hard to put this management and support structure in place.

Aside from the changes 2006 was a busy year for Cambridgeshire Networkers:

- Many worked hard to ensure that work Camjam 2006 was a huge success.
- Networkers took key roles both on and off stage at the Peterborough Gang Show in November
- They worked with the Communications Team on the publicity for Centenary Founders Day Service at Ely Cathedral
- Network members were out in force at Centenary Camps in Cambridge, Peterborough, St Ives, Huntingdon, March, Ely and Newmarket
- We established the Cambridgeshire Young Spokespeople Team and Networkers have taken an active role to promote Scouting in the media. This has been through the press, radio and television as well as supporting County publications, events and the website: www.cambridgeshirescouts.org.uk
- Finally during 2007 members have enjoyed themselves at MAD07, the National Network Gathering and many are looking forward to attending the World Jamboree as part of the IST (International Service Team) and the Conty Network expedition to Ghana in 2008



Phil Garrett Deputy County Commissioner, Programme Development

Explorer Scouting

Explorer Scouting in Cambridgeshire continues to go from strength to strength. Census figures show a growth of 8% up from 2006. Cambridgeshire currently has 374 Explorer Scouts belonging to 16 Units. Examples of growth include the success within Crafts Hill District where 25 young people have now joined Crafts Hill Explorers.



Growth in leadership can be seen in Ely where John Wells has been appointed DESC, an important appointment which will lead to more growth and development for Ely Explorers. Elsewhere new appointments in Newmarket and Crafts Hill show that adult recruitment into the Explorer section is possible and happening in our County

With the growth comes success in many areas. An exciting and balanced program is being delivered to Explorer Scouts across the County.

The Scouting Year 2006/2007 saw many expeditions and events undertaken by Explorer Scouts from Cambridgeshire. Examples of these include a summer expedition by Cromwell Explorer Scouts to Kendesteg in the Swiss Alps and a walking expedition along the length of Hadrian's Wall by Newmarket Explorer Scouts. Elsewhere there have been numerous expeditions, hikes and camps that continue to demonstrate the excellent Explorer Scouting that's going on in the County.

Young Leader units continue to provide a valuable resource within the Beaver, Cub, and Scout sections throughout the County. I would like to thank all Young Leaders for their dedication and the time that they give up to Scouting. Also thanks to Explorer Leaders and Scouters within the district who provide resource and training for the Young Leader scheme.

Our 2007 Centenary Celebrations have left many Explorer units busy organising camps and providing help to the younger sections in their 2007 events. Good luck to you all and thank you for supporting the Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts throughout the County.

To look forward to the many County and National activities that will attract the Explorer section from all over the county. These include 222, Gilwell 24, Chiltern Challenge, and Sailing Days. So to all Explorer Scouts in Cambridgeshire I say 'go and join in the adventure'. To all adults involved in Explorer Scouting within the County I say 'thank-you'.



Tim Stopher - ACC Explorer Scouts

In 2006 I reported that we have seen a gradually reducing number of Beavers attending the Beaveree. A contributory factor was no doubt poor promotion of the event and what it has to offer. For 2007 I have recruited a dedicated team not only to provide an exciting programme but also to promote the event throughout the County. With the help of the Communications team I believe we have given every Colony all the information they require, in a lively colour packed way to enthuse and enlighten them. As I write bookings are already coming in.

My thanks to all who have provided a programme of activities for Beaver Scouts in Cambridgeshire. To those of you whom I have already met, thank you for your time and warm welcomes and to the others – I look forward to meeting you.



Sue Best

ACC Beaver Scouts

Cub Scouts



2006 was certainly a good year for Cub Scouts in the county. The year of the 90th anniversary of Cub Scouting has seen significant growth in numbers following a fall in the previous year. Whilst this fall was not totally unexpected as in the previous year the Beaver numbers had declined it is nice to report that this was a one off. Since the Beaver section grew in 2005/6 I would have been disappointed if this had not flowed through into growth in the Cub section in 2006/7.

A growing membership of the section is good to see and certainly something to shout about. This growth in the Cub Scout section is a result of a good and varied programme of activities through the year. It is this that ultimately brings and keeps the young people interested. Once again I would like to thank all those that have been involved in the Cub Scout section in any way over the last year. The Cub Scout leaders, assistants and helpers who week in week out, provide our young people with the Cub Scout programme that they all enjoy so much. We also have the ADC's and District Cub Scout Leaders who support the Cub Packs and leaders in their district and facilitate the district events such as camps, trips, competitions and other events through the year, which augments the programme offered at pack level. It is good for Cubs to come together and meet Cubs from other packs at such events throughout the district and county.

I would also like to thank all those who helped with the events put on at County level during the year. As previewed in my report last year May to mark the 90th anniversary of Cub Scouts a county trip to York was organised. We chartered a train from GNER and took almost 500 Cubs and leaders to visit the National Railway Museum and one other attraction from a choice of the Castle Museum, Jorvik or the York Dungeons. Despite a damp day everyone seemed to have a great time and we even coped with a fire alarm at the National Railway museum just as many began congregating for a spin on the Norwich Union Wheel, a new attraction in York, a smaller version of the London Eye. The return journey home included a drink, crisps and a slice of 90th birthday cake made large enough for everyone to get a piece. Whilst the journey home for most was a chance to close their eyes and rest their feet for those cutting and distributing the cake it was a very busy and tiring time. Thanks to all those who helped make this event a brilliant way to celebrate the 90th anniversary of Cub Scouts.

August 9th saw the inaugural Cub day at Camjam. It gave around 200 Cubs the chance to see the sheer scale of an international camp and be a part of it by taking part in some of the activities laid on for the participants at this event. The day began with an activity along an international theme laid on by George Devine our ACC International before the Cubs were split into groups to visit the go-karts, climbing walls and caving bases, the craft area and the techno zone. The day ended with a photograph of all the Cub Scouts taken on the steps of the grandstand.

The final county Cub Scout event of 2006 were the two Challenge Days held in October. Again demand for places justified spreading this event over two days where just over 260 Cubs took part in nine activities including climbing, canoeing, archery, fire lighting and cooking, orienteering, first aid, an aerial runway, a ballista and a team challenge. Those who put on the activities for this event work hard over the two days to ensure that the Cubs have a great time and many also put long hours in preparing an activity for the event. We must not forget our first aid team that not only provide an activity for the event but also provide the first aid cover.

With so much going on at pack and district level to mark the centenary of Scouting, 2007 will be a quieter year than our 90th anniversary year. As the Challenge Days are always popular this event will again be taking place at the beginning of October 2007.

Nigel Poulter - ACC Cub Scouts



Scout section review



There are nearly 1,600 Scouts in the County and this number is growing year on year. More girls than ever before are joining and now that Scouting is fully co-educational this trend is expected to continue.

Last Summer a small contingent of Cambridgeshire Scouts and leaders joined more than 10,000 international Scouts and Guides for Eurojam. This was one of the biggest Scouting events the UK has ever hosted and a fitting dress rehearsal for the World Scout Jamboree.

Whilst a number of Cambridgeshire Scout Troops chose CamJam for their Summer Camp it was business as usual for others and Scouts spent more than 5,000 Nights Away during the year!

The County Competition Weekend at Mepal was once again a resounding triumph and most recently the annual white water canoeing event at Cardington near Bedford provided a day of thrills and spills for canoeing enthusiasts of all abilities!



Arthur Towler ACC Scouts

Friends of Cambridgeshire Scouting (Tony Bell)

The Core Team has now been established to move the Friends of Cambridgeshire Scouting forward. The team have established a plan for the way ahead. This will be based on a three tier basis. There will be the core team driving the plan with a second tier of helpers. These helpers will, it is planned, help the County with advice in certain important areas. For example, legal, finance (including grants) and other professional matters. The third layer of assistants will be people located around the county. It is anticipated that these people will come from the commercial world who will have an interest in Scouting and wish to make a contribution to the County in one way or another. Once the team of people has been developed then it is planned there will be a central meeting once a year for a presentation of achievements and future ideas. This plan will take time to establish, but currently work is progressing satisfactorily.

We are very grateful to the Lord Lieutenant for Cambridgeshire and our County President, Hugh Duberly CBE, for helping to move this important initiative forward.

Any questions or ideas please contact
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