

Newsletter Date February 2010
Volume 1, Issue 3

Wyre Scouting



DC's Column

Happy New Year everyone – and welcome to a year of change. As many of you will know, I handed in my notice as DC of Wyre just before Christmas, so the Search process to find the next DC is now underway. My thanks to Paul Johnston, our District Chairman, and the District Search Committee for carrying out this task in association with the County Commissioner. It is with some regret that I am standing down after my five year term in the post – but changes at work and a desire to get back involved in activities mean that I feel this is the right move.



As I write this, I am aware that you are all in the middle of carrying out the annual census, and getting your names, addresses and numbers to Hazel. My thanks to you all for the hard work that you are doing, and especially for Hazel for organizing the census, sending all the forms out and collating the responses.

It is with disappointment that I have had to cancel the District Development Weekend. Unfortunately, Myerscough needed numbers in early – and the applications by closing the closing date did not warrant the event going ahead.

Hopefully many of you are planning attending Red Rose International Camp this summer – either camping with Explorer Scouts or Scouts, or attending the day visits with Beavers or Cubs. Please make sure you get your bookings in before the closing date 1st March 2010. www.redrose.org.uk for more information.

On a personal note – despite being an IT Manager in my day job, I also have problems with computers – and mine has been down since the start of the year, so if I have failed to respond to an email, I apologise. Some of you will have had emails – but everything to date has had to be carried out from my work computer.

Best wishes to you all for 2010.

Yours in Scouting

Neil Roberts

District News

- As you should all be all aware our District Commissioner Neil Roberts will not be standing for a further five years when he completes this term of office at the end of March. The Search is currently taking place for a new District Commissioner and hopefully before too long we will have a new DC ready to take over the reins at the end of March.

I am sure you will all join in with the editorial team in wishing Neil all the very best in whatever field of Scouting he chooses to continue in and thank him for all the hard work he has put into Scouting in our District. We also extend our good wishes to the new DC, whoever that maybe - a he or a she?

- Activity Permits - do you have a valid Activity Permit? If so could you please scan the written documentation and forward it to the District Secretary Hazel Brindle hazel.brindle@yahoo.co.uk or post a photocopy to Hazel at 253 West Drive, Thornton Cleveleys, FY5 2RY. Wyre District is responsible for getting details of Activity Permit holders onto My Backpack.
- Nights Away permits -Backpack has now been updated with details of Nights Away permits. You will be able to check yours out if you access My Backpack on Scout Association web page. Select my personal profile, click on Permits and your details should be there. Any problems please get in touch with the Editor.
- Adult Training module achievement - Ron Chattington is working hard trying to get all the module achievements on My Backpack - it's a slow process as each module has to be entered separately. If you check your profile and you find that there is no record of training and you have completed or even have your Woodbadge please let Ron know.

Young Leaders News – Why we became Young Leaders

We first got involved in Scouting when we joined Cubs at Stalmine and then moved onto Scouts. As we got too old for Scouts, we realised that we didn't want to leave Stalmine, and we also wanted to put something back into the community, seeing that we had had such a great time at Stalmine since we started.

We initially decided to work with Cubs, and so, we went to Young Leader Training, this helped us learn the best way to help the Leaders, and how to organise our meetings. At Stamine Cubs, we regularly plan evenings and help out with games when our Leaders are busy with something else.

At the moment, our Cub Pack are doing badges, so we decided we would split our Pack into groups, and let them choose from three different badges. We decided to do the Environmental Issues Challenge badge. We worked on things like Fair Trade, Languages and Traditions in other Countries with the Cubs.

We enjoy going to Cubs every week because it means we get to stay at Stalmine and help our new Leaders to get used to the way things are run in Cubs. It also contributes towards our Duke of Edinburgh Award and gives us the chance to try and make Cubs as much fun now, as it was for us.

Recently, Sam and Zoe have also started helping out at Scouts, by running games, giving the Leaders a hand organizing things, and helping the Scouts out with skills such as map work and compass.



Lauren, Holly, Zoe and Sam

Unknown ESU News

Environmental Weekend is when Explorers from across West Lancashire gather at Great Tower Scout Camp, we help out doing various tasks from digging a trench to dry stone walling. It is an opportunity to help maintain the campsite, learn how to use tools and practice key skills. Also, this weekend offers tasks which are great for teambuilding by working together with the rest of the Explorer Group.

Firstly, we teamed up with Over-Wyre Explorer Group Tenerrimo, meeting at GT. After “setting up” camp up top, we decided it would be best if we got a fire started to keep us warm – so, that is exactly what we did. With our experience of making fires we gathered bits of wood and positioned them in the half-barrel, we then lit it with just a fire steel and some kinderlin and up it went. We played guitar and sang songs round the fire all through the night – it was great fun. Well, this isn’t quite how it went, as there was NO fire because..... we failed. Oh! And there were no guitars but, apart from that, that is how it went. We went to sleep at a reasonable time for an early start in the morning – ready to begin the busy day ahead.



Next day after Flag Break, we were assigned a couple of tasks and given the appropriate tools. One of the Explorers was led to believe – by a Leader, that the cover on the shovel should be left in place to avoid rust and damage whilst digging. This was amusing as we watched them for half an hour digging and getting nowhere. Our first task was to dig a shallow channel to drain water off the path, which we finished after an hour or two. Following this, we moved onto our next task of constructing hand rails for a set of steps which took us all the rest of the day and part of the next. This wasn’t as easy as it sounds as we had to dig holes for the posts to go in: easy enough! However, hitting a rock in the earth is a nightmare as this means shaving away at it with pick axes and rods until it smashes all good fun though. After a good eight hours work we were all knackered, we went of back to camp to get ready for the disco.

A few hours later, we were all ready for the disco, we thought it would be a great idea to cut open “Glow Sticks” and cover ourselves with its glowing juice, run through the doors of the building dancing and jumping around crazily – like some bunch of radioactive people. Unfortunately, this was a silly idea, when we ran in expecting the place to be busy - booming with people dancing to the music we were unpleasantly surprised by the lack of anybody even moving in the building. Everyone stared at us as they stood there motionless. I could tell by the look on their faces; they looked at us to say “why are you dancing” which is ironic because it was a disco. Maybe they were scared at the sudden entrance of glowing, camping, ravers. After this, we ran round the campsite in the dark, jumping out at people.

After a night of running round like headless chickens, we were tired but we decided to get the fire going properly before going to bed. So, after a second attempt at getting the fire started we succeeded – we sat back in our chairs feeling proud of our fire accomplishments, still mildly glowing from the glow sticks.

The next morning we had to be up early again for Flag Break – which, we were on time for, punctual as always! For the rest of Sunday we just finished off our handrails, packed up and went home. What a weekend!

Dylan

Unknown ESU

Scout News – Patrol Leaders Training Course

Venue: Helme Lodge, Waddeacar Scout Camp on 26th – 28th February 2010

The District are offering Scouts who are Patrol Leader's or would be Patrol Leader's the opportunity to attend a Patrol Leader's Weekend. The course will be based on the Patrol Leaders role with a "come along and have a fun weekend away" of activities. The course will include topics such as:

Team building/Teamwork, How the Patrol system works, Motivation and Lots of outdoor activities to put their newly acquired skills to the test.

Please encourage your Patrol leaders or would be Patrol Leaders to attend this action packed weekend of fun outdoor activities.

The cost is £45 per head (to be confirmed) this will include accommodation and food. Please book as soon as possible there are only 18 places left. For more information please contact: Keith Parkinson on 0799 607513.

Keith Parkinson
Scout Leader 1st Carleton

Cub News

There are a number of events which took place since the last Newsletter, namely the Helme Shield Swimming Gala in which Wyre did very well achieving fourth place, although I have to admit we did miss the presence of the Explorers.

The other event was Archery Competition for Cubs and Scouts. This popular event, as usual was well attended. The winners of the Group competition were as follows:

Cubs

Winners; Calder Vale
Second: 1st Hambleton
Third: 1st Carleton

Scouts

Winners: Gt. Eccleston
Second: 1st Stalmine
Third: 1st Carleton

Individual Winners:

Cubs

1st : Alex Peters – Calder Vale
2nd : Jack Lee – 4th Poulton
3rd : Jack Austin 2nd Cleveleys

Scouts

1st: Joseph Knowles - 1st Gt Eccleston
2nd: Joseph Tarry – 1st Carleton
3rd : James Wells - 1st Gt Eccleston



Forthcoming Events:

Chess Competition: 6/02/1020
Competition Day: 27/02/2010 (provisional date)
County Chess Competition: 13/03/2010
Superteams 27/03/2010 (provisional date)

Please book well in advance or should you need any further information, please contact Mandy Ramsden ADC Cubs

Beaver News

The Beavers District Sleepover at Guys Farm was a huge success despite the weather with eight Colonies taking part.

There has been lots of activities in the District in the past few months with three new Beavers invested at 1st Garstang. Three Bronze Awards presented at 2nd Cleveleys and Beaver of the Term presented at 16th Fleetwood. A new Leader at 1st Hambleton - Fiona Little and 1st Thornton is expanding rapidly with eighteen Beavers rising to a possibility of twenty-two by Easter. Well done to all Colonies involved.

Forthcoming Events: Marbles Competition - 6th February, Garstang HQ.
Please contact Fiona Cross ADC Beavers to enter your teams.



Group News – 1st Fleetwood

Last October, 1st Fleetwood went to Gilwell Park Scout Activity centre with fifteen Cubs and Scouts, eleven Leaders and one helper. A fantastic time was had by all seeing the “White House” The Buddha, Baden Powell’s caravan and lots more. They were impressed by all the things at Gilwell that had been put in situ by all the Countries around the world as gifts to Baden Powell.

Whilst at Gilwell we took a trip into London to see the sights – Tower of London, where the children were “knighted”. They stood on Tower Bridge, saw Buckingham Palace, Houses of Parliament and listened to Big Ben as it struck 8pm. We also went to see Dinosaurs at The Natural History Museum.

Whilst at Gilwell two of our Leaders were invested with Baden Powell looking on.

The children will talk about this for years to come, because those we took to O2 Arena back in '07 to watch “Live 07”, still talk about that experience. We watched a show with over 20,000 others Scouters from around the world, what will our next adventure be?



Chief Scout Awards at 1st Fleetwood

Scouts:

Chief Scout Gold Award: Lauren Lynch, Luke Doyle, Matthew Rennie and Anthony May

Cubs:

Chief Scout Silver Award: Thomas Delaney and Robbie Laycock

Beaver:

Chief Scout Bronze Award: Penny Ryall-Thurlow and Leonie Cummings

The young people already have or shortly will be moving up to the next section apart from Leonie who decided to follow her love of dancing. All the young people have worked extremely well to receive their Awards. So, WELL DONE.

Group Newsround

2nd Cleveleys

At long last, Janine Webster whose son Oliver is a Cub at 2nd Cleveleys managed to achieve her lifelong ambition to Sky Dive. Apart from being an experience of a lifetime Janine raised over £1,000.00 towards 2nd Cleveleys mini bus fund.

Nothing seems to deter Janine, she has also taken on the role as Group Secretary for 2nd Cleveleys. What a remarkable person.



Fellowship News

The changeover of Fellowship to Scout Active Support Units is continuing with lots of meetings taking place at County level. There is to be a meeting shortly at County Hall which Cyril Crossley ADC Fellowship will be attending. At that meeting, which will be attended by all District Commissioners, Assistant County Commissioners and Glenn Walker, UK Advisor for Adult Support it is anticipated that agreement will be made regarding the programme for the transition from Fellowship to Scout Active Support. Watch this space for further news.

Fellowship have an interesting programme for 2010 with a slide show of Ron Chattington's holiday in Southern India and Fellowship's very own Geoff Parker speaking in February.

Gang Show 8th – 10th April at The Marine Hall, Fleetwood

Gang Show 2010 rehearsals are going at great guns. I am told that there are about 100 people taking part in the show either on or backstage.

Make sure you keep the date free in your Diary to attend one of the performances. It promises to be a great show this year.



Football Competition 24th January 2010

Winners:	2 nd Cleveleys (Rovers)
Runners up	1 st Thornton (Celtic)
3 rd Place	2 nd Cleveleys (City)

All the Cubs played exceptionally well and displayed good sportsmanship throughout. A big thank you to the Referees, David Clegg and Phil Robinson, our Scoremaster Ron Chattington, timekeeper Rick Ramsden and Helpers Maureen Head, Chris McConnachie, Gemma Ramsden and Leaders for bringing their Cubs.

Snippets of Information

- **InTouch** is a new system setup to manage communication for all activities and events in Scouting. Following a complete review and six months of trials InTouch was launched to replace the Home Contact system. Watch this space for further news from our CC Carl Hankinson regarding implementation in our District. FS120075 available from Scout Association will give you further information.
- **World Scout Jamboree IST** – On the opening day for application for the International Service Team for the World Scout Jamboree in Sweden. There were over 2,000 applications for 500 places in one day. It goes without saying that the system crashed several times – is it any wonder with so many applications.
- **GSL Masterclass** – have you had a chance to look at the topics? There are lots of interesting sessions. I am told that these sessions are packed full of useful information. Why not look at West Lancashire Web site for dates and sessions. They are held at County Hall once a month.
- A reminder from the District Treasurer David Simpson if you get any cheques for camps etc can you please ensure that these are paid in straight away, any delay in banking cheques could cause some embarrassment for parents.
- Capitation is set at £23 per head for the year 2010. This comprises of £19.50 capitation, 0.50 pence for Jamboree fund and £3.00 for District.
- Appointment Board Meeting for December 2010 will be scheduled for an earlier date than advertised in the Year Book. The revised date will be published in the next newsletter.

Wyrescouts.org.uk – our very own webpage

Wyrescouts.org.uk web page has been up and running for the last six months and has made a good impression but we need to do more. If you have any information that you would like posting in the relevant sections of the site, please email me webmaster@wyrescouts.org.uk.

If any group is interested in having their own website there are several options:

- A sub domain to the main site, e.g. explorers.wyrescouts.org.uk - this is a **free** option and comes with its own login information.
- A new domain e.g. 1stfleetwoodscoutgroup.org.uk – there is a charge for this option which is £20 for the first two years, then £20 for every two year period.



Gareth Bates Webmaster,
Explorer Scout Leader

Calendar of Events

4 th -7 th February 2010	Explorer 4year Camp
6 th February 2010	Chess Competition Cubs & Scouts
6 th February 2010	Beaver Marbles Competition
9 th February 2010	County Explorer Scout Forum
11 th – 20 th February 2010	Explorer Snow & Ice
26 th – 28 th February 2010	Patrol Leaders Training Course
27 th February 2010	Cubs Skills Competition (provisional date)
11 th March 2010	Wyre District Executive Meeting
13 th March 2010	County Chess
27 th March 2010	Superteams (provisional date)



Adult Training Dates

Modules 1 – 3	17 th ,March (Module 1), 24 th March (Module 3) at St Andrews Church Hall, Cleveleys
Modules 5 – 9	21 st February 2010 at Preston or 10 th April 2010 at Fylde
Modules 11 -19	dates available on http://www.training.westlancashirescouts.org.uk/coursedates2010.htm
Manager Modules	15 th – 17 th Jan. & 12 th -14 th Feb. at Waddecar & Gt Tower

For further details & information contact:

Don Ashworth 01253 770787, email donashworth@hotmail.com or
 Ron Chatt, 01253 825581 e-mail: ronchatt@tiscali.co.uk

STOP PRESS: St George's Day Parade is Sunday 25th April 2010.

Please forward any articles for the next Wyre Scouting by 20th of March 2010 to:

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See us at:

www.wyrescouts.org.uk