



# Look Wide



Vol. 5 No. 1

The Newsletter of Great North Scouting

October 2008

## District Commissioners Comments...

We have started a new Scout Year with energy and a new freshness, and look forward to many happy hours of new challenges and activities in our Scouting.

However I must start on a sad note, during August, Bill Moon sadly passed away. He served Scouting in the County, and especially in his District of Gosforth and obviously Great North with a great deal of enthusiasm, he was one of those people who never said a bad word against anyone, could always see the good in people and was never quick to make judgement or negative comment. He was involved actively in this hobby of his (and ours) for the last 60 years, producing even the last edition of Lookwide. When I joined Scouting in 1969 Bill was the Group Scout Leader of the Group I joined, and Bob, John, George and myself always counted him as one of our close friend. Bills jokes, sense of humour, humility and ability to communicate with the youngest to our most senior person made him a special person. His memory will live with us and this District and Scouting as a whole is poorer for his passing. He touched many lives, and my family and I, as well as anyone who he came into touch with were fortunate to have talked to and worked with such a special person. Our congratulations go to Jennifer Harvey (47th Newcastle) and Stephen Barnes (Griffin Explorers) who became engaged during the summer break.

I would like to welcome John to our Team, I am sure he will introduce himself somewhere in this edition. John had planned to help Bill with Lookwide, and has now decided that he will be our Editor, he has already spoken to the Group Scout Leaders about what they would like from Lookwide. (I do not know what his jokes are like).

Another change in role is we said goodbye to Tim Speed, Appointments Sub Committee Secretary, again Tim has served this and his previous District of Newcastle West exceptionally well. The Groups that Tim deal with will have the contact details of Tim's replacement, Bob Tyson, sent to them direct. Thank you Tim for all your hard work, support and friendship.

I have put the Pauline Armstrong Trophy in the calendar, numbers of participating Colonies are slowly improving, but this is a good opportunity for a parent to come along with the Collage if the Section Leader is unable to attend. Please offer your services, it is appreciated (you do not have to do anything, and the tea, coffee and biscuits are usually nice).

Recently I have had the opportunity to Invest two new Leaders with the Scout Section at West Gosforth, welcome on board Kath and Catherine. I was also delighted to present two Chief Scouts Gold Award Badges to two young men from the 47th, I am sure there will be a report if not in this months

Great North District Scout Fellowship  
have organised a

## TABLE TOP SALE

*of decorative, domestic, leisure, sporting  
and other quality goods*

at the **Scout Hut, Silver Lonnen**  
on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2008**  
**10am to 2pm**

Please contact Peter Short or E-mail  
LookWide@talktalk.net for more details.

Lookwide, then in next months about what they have done.

Finally I was saddened to miss Harry James present two Explorer Scouts from the Gosforth Unit with their signed books after completing the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Expedition - well done, again the report has been promised by the young people. (I am afraid the District Executive Meeting had been in my diary for six months) I look forward to meeting you and also the young people who have completed the Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Expedition. Thank you to Cas and Harry for supervising and advising.

*Kath Tyson*

# Round

## Explorer Activities

**Young Leaders Training** - If any Section Leader has assistance from Young Leaders and they require the YL training modules then please contact me. Please note that the County Team are planning a weekend YL training event 24/10/08 – 26/10/08. This weekend will cover several modules over the weekend. I am then planning to cover the remaining modules over the coming months. If you do not attend the weekend then don't worry I will cover those modules again later on. Please contact me directly if you want more details.

**County Explorer Scout Forum** - The place to find out what is happening across The County and have your say. 21/10/08 19:00-21:00 Eversheds, Central Square, South Orchard Street, Newcastle, NE1 3XX

**Explorer Scout Expedition Training** - The Explorer Scout Expedition Training course is being re-scheduled for Spring next year, dates to be confirmed. Please note any scouts who are older than 13 years 6 months on the event weekend and planning to go to Explorers can also attend this event.

**And Finally** - Congratulations go to Gosforth Explorers for completing their Duke of Edinburgh Gold expedition last month. The route took them from Coast to Coast on bikes over 4 days. There was also a Silver training expedition. I await the presentations to see what happened en route.

*Andy Castling (Cas) - DESC*

## Gosforth Sea Scouts

### Cheviot Hike - 24th August 2008

Early on a Sunday morning in the summer holidays, groggy eyed and grunting, three scouts and two young leaders turned out for a days hike up the Cheviot. Boots to hand and bags packed we drove for an hour to the Harthope Valley. This was to be part of the personal challenge for the Scout's Chief Scout's Gold Award. They had been on hikes before and had done JOTT for the previous few years, but this was to be something altogether more challenging.

Taking it in turns to map-read and lead the group the three successfully managed to guide us up the valley past Harthope Linn to the steep ascent of Cairn Hill. There we joined the Pennine Way...and the mud! After a few hundred yards the path had been paved to the summit. On the way down however the mud returned, knee deep in places. At times I think scouts are distantly descended from hippos, or so it seemed that day. The highlight of the walk was perhaps when one of our young leaders got stuck in the mud. We dutifully tried to pull him out but his feet didn't move, instead he ended up face down, prostrate in the bog! The weather was very kind to us and the views from the top where magnificent. It was a day to remember. Well done lads.



*Brian Smith*

## Brunton Park Cubs

Our main focus last term was on the Outdoor Challenge which involved learning some basic knots, using tracking signs, revising compass skills and practising putting up tents. We are grateful to the many parents and to Ian Morley, Gosforth Explorer Scout Leader, who gave extra help with these activities throughout the term.

We also went out and about on Brunton Park Estate to put our observation and map reading skills to the test, to Gosforth Park where we played mini golf at Parklands and wide games in the woods and to Whickham Thorns to do archery, orienteering and use the assault course. Sweet making for Father's Day gifts proved a popular activity, as did working towards the Athletics badge. We concluded the Outdoor Challenge by taking part in a Six's water quiz at our end of term party at the last Cub meeting of the term.

*Jackie Morley*

## Brunton Park Beaver Scouts

Our Beavers have been very busy working towards achieving badges both individually and as a colony this year. Colony badges have been awarded for three challenge badges namely Creative, Northumberland and Global Challenge (80 colony challenge badges in total were awarded) and various activity badges have also been awarded.

Beavers had the option to work towards the Outdoor Challenge over school holidays and produced fantastic reports for show and tell sessions. Two of our older Beavers completed enough tasks to gain three further Challenge badges over the year namely Promise, Friendship and Fitness. Jerry Durkan and Matthew Meyer left Beavers having attained the highest award available in the Beaver Scout Section – The Chief’s Scout’s Bronze Award. Let’s have their thoughts on this great achievement:-

Jerry said "I felt very excited when I was getting the award and I felt quite happy too. I had to do several badges to get it and it was quite a lot of work".

Matthew said "I was surprised when I was at Beavers on the last night because Chief said she was awarding the bronze award to 2 Beavers that night and we did not know and I was quite happy about that and it is gained by getting all six challenge badges. It was fun doing all of the badgework!"

When asked which challenge badge they enjoyed working on the most Jerry said "Outdoor because the walk was several miles and the views were quite nice when you got to the highest waterfall (High Falls)". Matthew said "I enjoyed the Global Challenge because it was fun learning about stuff about the world and learning different promises from other countries".

Thanks boys for your comments and well done!

*Serena Meyer*

## 82nd Newcastle

In January of this year the 82nd Newcastle took over an allotment at nearby Moorside Allotment Association. The allotment had been left unused for some time and took a lot of time and effort from the leaders to get ready before the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts were let loose on it. New fences were erected and paths were laid to make the allotment accessible to all and the greenhouse was re-glazed with perspex, all thanks to some generous building contractors. Eventually the time came and all sections spent time on the allotment, weeding, digging, planting both seeds and young plants. Some existing plants were allowed to grow until someone could work out what they were.

Over the months the children, their parents and the leaders have looked after the produce, learning some valuable lessons along the way. On Sunday 7th September some of the produce was taken along to the Harvest festival at St. James and St. Basil’s church in Fenham, where the group meet in their hall. After the service the produce was auctioned off to the congregation and the proceeds along with the collection went to a charity which helps needy children in Palestine. It was quite satisfying to know that the pumpkin, which a Beaver planted the seed months ago, had grown and was sold to help those children.

The group plan to learn from this first year and build on all the hard work. It is very satisfying to see the children who live close to the city centre enjoy the outdoors and learn at the same time.

*Carol Preston AGSL*

## News From Chil

Well done to everyone who took part in Greencarts Farm camp and the District Cub Scout Skills competition on the 25th September. Many packs are preparing their District Challenge entry - find out who the winners are at the Carol Service!

*Sarah Haswell*

## Kingston Park Cubs

Congratulations to Robert Sanderson and Jack Fawcett who were recently invested in to the pack.

*Stephen Duck*



### Don't Forget!

The deadline for articles for the November Issue of Lookwide is the **26th October 2008**.

# And About

## 25th Newcastle Cubs

The 25th Newcastle Cubs and Brownies have just returned from their Pack Holiday in London staying at B-P House in Kensington. There were 32 of us. The first day on arrival we went to the Natural History Museum to see the dinosaurs.

Next day we had our flight on the London Eye, followed by shopping at Guide HQ then into Icando for our packed lunch and lots of time spent on the activities there. The musical instruments were popular, the little theatre was used for dressing up and making up plays. Other games and exhibitions kept us well occupied. We went to the Houses of Parliament and had a most informative tour. The Guide who took us round answered questions for us. At the end of the tour he said it had been a great honour to have us in his group!!!

On the Friday we had a cruise on the Thames up to the Tower. The Crown Jewels were the highlight of the day. Our Young Leader got her GCSE results while we were queuing for the Jewels (mostly A\* and As!) Then off to the Bank of England Museum to work on the quiz, make money boxes and write with pen and ink. The lady in charge was a Guider and very pleased to see us. We headed for Covent Garden to see the live statues and watch the entertainer.

On Saturday we spent the day at London Zoo. There were plenty of animals to look at and 2 shows to watch too. The weather was lovely as it was every day (and warm too!)

From the Zoo we went to Westminster Cathedral for the 6pm Mass where we provided the Offertory Procession, then to McDonald's next door.

On Sunday we had to get the suitcases packed and the beds stripped before heading to the Science Museum. There are so many hands-on activities everyone was busy. We watched a show about bubbles and one on rockets. After a quick packed lunch we collected our luggage and set off for King's Cross. We completed a quiz during the journey and arrived in Newcastle to be welcomed back by all the parents. The Cubs and Brownies were smart, polite, well-behaved and a credit to our fantastic Movements.

*Angela Ryan CSL and Brownie Guider 25th Newcastle English Martyrs' Packs*

## **Don't forget the following events taking place in the next few weeks....**

### OCTOBER

- 15th SL Meeting - All Scout Section Leaders, at House on the Hill 7.30pm
- 18th Table Top Sale at the Silver Lonnen Scout HQ. Contact Peter Short or Lookwide for details.
- 18th Chief Scouts Award Ceremony at The Cairn - all Sections

### NOVEMBER

- 4th ADC Meeting at the home of the DC 7.00pm
- 14th Pauline Armstrong Trophy (District Beaver Scouts Collage Competition and Games night), at the 82nd Newcastle 6.15 to 7.15.
- 18th District Executive at House on the Hill
- 22nd County Moot, St Marys School, Benton Park Road. All Adults welcome, theme Moving In Moving On.
- 30th All District Challenges for the Cub Scout Section should be handed to Sarah for judging, trophy presented at the Carol Service on the 7th (One entry per Pack)

### DECEMBER

- 7th District Carol Service at St Charles RC Church, Gosforth. 4.00pm all welcome
- 15th County Carol Service, St Andrews, Newcastle upon Tyne (Newgate Street/Gallowgate junction)

## **And Finally...**

Just a quick note to say "hello" to all those I haven't yet met, "good to see you again" to all those who I haven't seen for a while, and "Good Luck" to all those who are taking on new challenges this term, from University to Swimming up to Cubs, I look forward to hearing from you all.

*John*

PS. Apologies in advance for the jokes

## **CRB Checks**

Anyone who is about to complete a CRB form, please E-mail Lookwide for some top tips to help ensure the process goes smoothly.

## **Just For A Laugh**

What do you call someone who has been knocked down by a car?

*An ambulance!*