



# Look Wide



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The Newsletter of Great North Scouting

March 2009

## District Commissioners Comments...

The Carol Service was well supported, and I was delighted to present to the Brunton Park Beaver Scouts, a tub of sweets for winning the DC's Christmas Quiz. For those who did not know, Dinizulu is the Chiefs name. Our District President, Ken Patterson presented the Cub Section Challenge Trophy to the 47th Newcastle (Holy Cross), congratulations to those Packs who took part in producing a large poster of what happens in their Cub Pack. Thank you to the Scout Fellowship and St Charles Church for a lovely afternoon.

I have been pleased to present some Leaders Service Awards, some at the Carol Service and some within the Leaders Groups,

30 Years Service Angela Ryan (25th Newcastle)

20 Years Service Chris Jones (District) , Kathleen Swallow (Brunton Park),  
Paul Frost (49th Newcastle) , Dorothy Lamb (Dinnington)

10 Years Service Carol Preston (82nd Newcastle) , Amanda Sudworth (73rd Newcastle)

5 Years Service Helen Byers (25th Newcastle), Christine Lawson (25th Newcastle),  
Cate Watson(82nd Newcastle)

To join these established Leaders, I am delighted to welcome Claire Shanley, who has volunteered to become the Leader of a Beaver Scout Colony starting on Kingston Park. The Colony will be starting in the next couple of weeks with the young people who are of the Beaver Scout age on Kingston Parks waiting list. We also have a new Beaver Scout Leader at 49th Newcastle and two new Beaver Scout Leaders at Dinnington. There are more young people wanting to become Beaver Scouts, and we therefore have vacancies for Beaver Scout Leaders, in the Central Gosforth, West Gosforth and Westerhope areas of the District. If you would like to join our team, please contact your section Leader or myself and we will speak, to see what you would like to do, either working with the young people or supporting the work done in the Groups.

The All Saints College Scout Troop, had a super article in the Evening Chronicle, promoting their Troop, well done.

The Explorer Scouts and two Groups within the District have been fortunate enough to be selected to keep the funds they have raised from a bag pack at the local Sainsbury's. A good injection of cash for all, well done.

I understand from a discussion with the County Commissioner that there are some Groups in the District still not claiming Gift Aid, we will be proactive within these Groups over the next few weeks, as this is money we can get from the Inland Revenue, in respect of the subscriptions that are paid for your son/daughter to be part of the Scout Association. (The Group/Unit claims 28% of the amount of fees paid, and the cash goes directly back to the Group or Unit)

*Kath Tyson*

# Round

## News From Chil

Congratulations to the 47th Newcastle for a brilliant winning entry into the District Challenge 2008 - a display at Fenham library detailing why they liked being cubs. As Cub leaders we met on 8th Jan to plan activities for 2009, the first one being the quiz on 4th Feb - to be hosted by 1st Westerhope. The 2009 Challenge is themed around international scouting. I myself have taken the plunge and am attending Gang Show rehearsals though not as cast and more as 'dogsbody' - it is great to see some Great North cubs involved.

*Sarah Haswell*

## Gosforth Sea Scouts

Gosforth Sea Scouts have been busy over the festive period.

On 7th December we attended the District Carol Service at St Charles Church. We particularly enjoyed the priest's 'address'. Thanks to Vince for the organising and to Sophie, Philip and Fiona for helping with the readings.

On 13th December we did a bag-pack at Sainsbury's on Gosforth High St. Many thanks to all those scouts and cubs who turned out . We raised a magnificent £773.87 towards our Tall Ships Appeal. Well done! Our thanks also to Sainsbury's for inviting us into their store. Our final night of term was our Christmas party which was a Geordie theme night. Everyone dressed up and we ate singing hinnies, panhaggarty, Felton Fruit Loaf and Northumberland hotch-potch pie, as well as the usual festive fayre. Thanks particularly should go to Philip for leading us in traditional Geordie songs on the piano.

*Brian Smith*

## Brunton Park Cub Pack

Four Cubs from Brunton Park Cub Pack were presented with their Chief Scout's Silver Award last term; Sam Cornell was presented with his at the Cairn Presentation ceremony in October, while Adam McLeod, Dominic Smith and Aidan Walker received their awards on their last night in Cubs at the end of December. Congratulations to these boys for working so hard to attain this prestigious award. Their enthusiasm and commitment to the Cub Pack will be greatly missed as they all move on into Scouts.

At our group AGM in November Sam Cornell was presented with the Cub Scout of the Year Award for his outstanding commitment to the Cub Pack. Merit awards, for consistently upholding their Cub Scout Promise, were presented to Adam McLeod, Dominic Smith and Joe Hunter.

*Jackie Morley*

## Grants/Loans to Groups 2009

The District agreed that twice a year applications from Groups/Units for grant aid or loans will be considered at the end of March and the end of September. If Group/Units wish to make applications these have to be made on the form provided which can be obtained from the District Treasurer, Pat Anson, and returned to her by 31 March 2009. Contact details can be found in the County Year Book or contact Look Wide or the District Commissioner. Many Thanks.

*Glynn Payne*

### Just For A Laugh

Doctor, doctor. Every time I stand up quickly, I see Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck and Goofy.

*Ok, how long have you been having these Disney spells?*

## Newbiggin Hall

In September 2008 Newbiggin Hall released 3 Geocoins into the world in a race to see which sections coin would travel the furthest in 12 months. The 3 coins were released into Geocaches around Cramlington on the same day. All the caches were new and so each coin had no advantage over the others.

After 5 months the distances travelled for each coin are as follows:

*Signal Bouncer* coin (Scout Troop) = 49 miles slowly making its way south at the moment its just outside the Yorkshire Dales national park.

*Phantom Logger* coin (Beaver Colony) = 397 miles near Swindon via Cornwall.

*Poison Sumac* coin (Cub Pack) = 14113 miles and is currently on its way to Vegas. This coin has travelled to Ibiza, then on and around Switzerland and then on to the USA and is making its way around Nevada via Arizona.

For those who don't know Geocaching is a High-tech Treasure hunt that has hundreds of caches around Newcastle and 10s of 1000s of caches all over the world. Newbiggin Hall have placed a few caches when we have been on camp and will be placing one or two more this year as well. If anyone wants anymore info about Geocaching and how it can be used with the navigators badge I can be contacted via my email

[jimmygibbons57@googlemail.com](mailto:jimmygibbons57@googlemail.com)

*Jimmy Gibbons*

## District Carol Service

We collected £228 for the Peter Pan Club, Gosforth at the Carol Service in December  
Thank you to all those who attended.

*Glynn Payne*

## 1st Westerhope Cub Scouts

At the end of 2008, all 21 of Westerhope Cub Scouts completed their "Global Challenge Badge" and their "Animal Carer Badge" which they have been working on them simultaneously since September.

Also, on the 28th February, 1st Westerhope Scout Group had a table top sale with things like Teddy tombola, cake stall, book stall, raffle etc and we raised £671.69 for the group!!

*Becky Boyd*

## 47th Newcastle Cub Scouts

The year got off to a flying start with the election by the pack of our 3 new seconders, our congratulations go to James, Jake and Adam. We are all enjoying making biscuits and with tin can cooking pancakes as part of our chefs badge... don't worry we will be working hard to improve our fitness as we have a night of football and an evening swimming.

As part of their Community Challenge Badge the 47th Newcastle Cubs met with a Marie Curie Nurse during a cub meeting, organised a coffee evening and raised £108.51 for Marie Curie Hospice, Benwell. They presented the money after they entertained patients, their families and staff at the hospice with their favourite cub songs and their own version of Rudolph the red nose reindeer! **Well Done** to all who helped.

*Catherine Holliday*

# And About



## Founder's Day Service at Westminster Abbey.

More Scouting people are supporting this event than they have done. My Guiding friends and I have attended for many years. The 6am train gradually fills up at each station with Guiding and Scouting people. We met the Chief Guide on the tube and the Chief Scout was at the Abbey doors.

The service was one of the best! The Cub, Scout, Brownie and Guide readers were fantastic - good rehearsals I presume. The speaker - a Guider from Glasgow- was excellent and we had seats near the pulpit and the altar. We followed up with lunch and a visit to the Victoria and Albert Museum before catching the 6pm train to travel FIRST CLASS back to Newcastle. A truly great day out. Worth considering applying for tickets next year!

*Angela Ryan*

*25th Newcastle English Martyrs' Pack*

## Dates to Remember

### March

County 5-A-Side (Cub & Scout)

### April

14th-18th

Newcastle Gang Show at the Peoples Theatre, Heaton

Thursday 23rd

St George's Day Service at Westerhope Methodist Church, 18:30 start

### May

Thursday 24th

District Games Competition (Cubs) at 25th Newcastle (English Martyrs)

### June

Tuesday 16th

Annual General Meeting at the District Headquarters, House on the Hill, 19:30 start. All welcome.

Saturday 20th

District Sports Day for all sections at House on the Hill, 11:00-13:00

Saturday 20th

Sanderson Flag (Cub County Competition)

26th-28th

District Cub Camp at West Hall

### September

Saturday 19th

Challenge Day for Older Cubs

### October

Thursday 1st

District Cub Skills Competition at Kingston Park  
County Peel Award

## And Finally...

We are now 2 months in to 2009 with Christmas and New Year seeming like a distant memory. Having heard of some of the activities that are being planned for this year, I look forward to reading the articles and seeing the pictures of what is happening in Great North. Please continue to send you articles via the usual methods.

*John*