



North Leeds District Newsletter Jan - Feb 2012

From the DCs,

Happy New Year everyone! We hope the Christmas holiday has been a time of joy and peace for all.

This year promises to be special in at least two particular ways. Firstly for the Olympics, being held in our country again after several decades and secondly and more significantly for many of us, it is the year of 60th Jubilee for our Queen, Elizabeth. We have yet to schedule any special events for this in North Leeds but we're sure that there will be opportunities to join in the celebrations through events led by others or events prepared by ourselves. All ideas are welcome!

Scout Association Awards to Leaders

This is an area where we have been remiss in our Newsletter reports for 2011, with the exception of congratulations given to Richard Frank, Ann McKenna and Bill Rogers on their Silver Acorns in the May - June edition. We'd like to rectify this now by including congratulations to the following, also awarded during the year:

Award for Merit - Roger Illingworth and Mavis Kirk

Chief Scouts Commendation for Good Service - Richard Bunce, Doug Pollock, Patrick Tivey, Jane Whittingham and Lawrence Wilson

The above have all been presented but we have been less successful in being enabled to present Length of Service Awards. These have been carried in Carol's portable award folder to GSL meetings and reliance placed on a check through the folder at the meetings or 'phone calls to GSLs later. With a view to improving the process we will aim to list all such awards received in each two month period in the Newsletter following receipt by us. Before doing this we'll try to contact each person and arrange a presentation date. If we haven't managed to do that, we hope that recipients will call us as soon as they see the announcement in the Newsletter.

Our thanks and those of Bear Grylls and the young people of North Leeds District go to the following who have achieved Length of Service Awards during 2011: 5 years - David Barker, Amanda Dyer, Andrew Dyson, Susan Field, Stephen Gibbin, Jonathan Sumroy; 10 years - Alistair Bamford, Karen Lawson, Susan Milestone, Joann Watson; 15 years - Helen Milestone; 20 years - Roger Cook, Paul Ellis, Carol

Milburn, Bill Rogers; 25 years - Philip Glynn; 30 years - Ted Fairfax, Neil Parfitt; 40 years - Cliff Baum, David Jackson. Of these 19, a handful has been presented and 7 have only just been received by us. We'll make a concerted effort to present these during January and February 2012. Do please call us if we don't call you!

Wood Badges

Very well done to the following whose Wood Badges have just arrived: Duncan Jefferies - ADC Wike, Russell Thomas - ASL 16th NL and Richard White - ASL 7th NL. We'd be pleased to know of a suitable occasion at which you'd each like these presented. Again, do please call us if we don't call you!

Annual Census

Yes, it's that time again!

Part way through 2011 it became apparent that, although each Group and Explorer Unit had provided the necessary statistical data, only 3 Groups (9th NL, 10th NL GSAL and 24th NL) and all Explorer Units had sent in their lists of the names, addresses and dates of birth of all members. This information is a supplementary requirement of the Census and we were asked by the County Secretary to try to gather this during the year and 4 more Groups complied. This year please would all those responsible for Census returns make sure that this aspect is dealt with at the time of completing the return.

At the time of writing, I'm advised by Andrew Watson, our District Chairman, that the necessary codes and database sheets are overdue from HQ. We're afraid this will make our task a little more time constrained than usual as we know that some Groups have previously been able to deal with the returns over the Christmas holidays.

Nevertheless we are sure that everyone will do their best to submit returns on time and to follow up with prompt payment of the capitation fee to the District Treasurer when it is requested, in order to claim the discount for the Group.

Latest update - the census information found at scouts.org.uk/census has been updated, so that preparations can begin to be made for the completion of the census returns. Password information will be sent out early in January.

Central Yorkshire County Conference - 27th to 29th January 2012

Although the original concept for this was to engage District Teams and GSLs with the County Team in devising a development plan for Central Yorkshire, this has been found to be rather cumbersome. Each District will now be represented by its DC(s) and one other representative. The aim is to make separate provision at later dates for inviting District Teams and GSLs to workshops designed to devise District development plans.

Leader Appointment, Training and CRB matters

We have been working hard with Roger Cook, Appointments Secretary, and Steve Farnill, North Leeds Leader Training Manager, and the Appointments Committee and have caught up on the backlog of applications. We are now dealing with new candidates and are pleased to say that there is a steady flow of new recruits. We are also now reviewing Leader Training progress with a view to encouraging more completions of Wood Badges. There has also been a concentrated effort to catch up on expired and expiring CRBs. In connection with the latter, please note that we had a letter from Wayne Bulpitt on 2nd December requiring us to ensure that all Leaders have valid CRBs in place at 31st January 2012. It was made clear in the letter that we would be expected to suspend Leaders not so covered. We certainly don't want to be put in this position so would encourage all GSLs who haven't yet dealt with the CRB issues brought to their attention by Ted in his emails of 16th November 2011, to deal with these urgently.

Lost and Found

We have lost track of the following, lent out to Groups during the year:

- Our map of the District, mounted on a pinboard about 750mm by 500mm, showing the location of each Group, labelled and marked with pins
- A set of about 4 or 5 roll up Scouting promotional banners in metal cases and each in a blue fabric bag It would be good to have these back, please.

We have the following, which is available to any Group which can use it:

- A Scouts be prepared ... Join the adventure Contact white on blue swoosh sign board size 800mm by 600mm

Finally, for now

We are very pleased to welcome Kirsty Owen to North Leeds as District Secretary. When you hear from her, I'm sure you'll do your best to make her feel at home!

Best wishes, Carol and Ted

Beaver Leaders meal out

The Beaver Leaders meal out is at the Aagrah, Chapel Allerton on Wed 25th Jan at 7.45pm. If you would like to come please contact Nicky on nicky_carey@sky.com

Six Dales Open Meeting

We are always looking for ways to improve the event and encourage further entrants from near and far and with this in mind we would like to invite people to an open meeting to be held at St Chads Parish Centre in Headingley on Wednesday 11th Jan 8:00pm. If you have any suggestions on ways to improve the Six Dales and ensure it remains one of our premier events for years to come please come along and make them known.

Diary Dates

January 2012

Day	Date	Meeting	Venue	Time
Sun	8th	Wike Management	Wike	13:30
Mon	9th	ESL Meeting	51 Allerton Grange Rise	20:00
W/E	13th/ 15th	Explorer hostel w/e	????	
Mon	16th	Scout Leaders Meeting	Alwoodley Community Centre	20:00
Tues	17th	District Team & GSL's	Wike	20:00
Sat	21st	Navigation In the Dark	????	15:30
Sat	21st	Beaver Trip - Cinderella	Carriageworks	
Mon	23rd	Cub Leaders Meeting	22nd HQ	20:30
Wed	25th	Beaver Leaders Meal	Aagrah, Chapel Allerton	19:45
Sun	29th	Cub Trading Post	St Edmunds	14:00
W/E	27th/ 29th	County Development Conference	????	

February 2012

Day	Date	Meeting	Venue	Time
TBA		Sponsored Swim		
W/E	3rd/ 5th	Explorer Winter Weekend	TBA	
Mon	6th	Appointments Committee	7 Summerhill Gardens	19:30
Sat	11th	Climbing Training	Bramhope	
Sat	11th	Module 37 - Appointments Process	Blackgates School Apply by 20th Jan	
Mon	20th	Hill Walking Permit Scheme Introduction	43 Great George Street, Wakefield	19:45
W/E	25th/ 26th	Module 16 Residential Experiences & Module 18 Practical Skills	Bramhope Apply by 3rd Feb	
Sat	25th	Module 10 - First Aid	Bramhope Apply by 10th Feb	
Sun	26th	Module 10 - First Aid	Bramhope Apply by 10th Feb	