



# North Leeds District News

**FEBRUARY 2008**

## **From the DC**

I have begun the New Year with lots of 'firsts' for me – Queen's Scout Award interviews, District Team Meeting, Group Scout Leaders Meeting and an Appointments Committee Meeting. Ted and I have also been guests for dinner at another Scout Group Winter Weekend – 16<sup>th</sup> Alwoodley at Thornthwaite on 5th January – following on from a similar event at Blakedean Hostel with 43<sup>rd</sup> Phoenix in December. I'm looking forward to more opportunities to come and join in and meet with Young People and Leaders alike.

I do hope that many of you will be able to attend our Joint District Camp with Pontefract and Castleford – another 'first' – at Squirrel Wood over 25 to 27 April 2008. This camp will provide an opportunity for renewing our Promise together within an extended Scout Family. More details will follow in next month's news as we have a meeting early in February to put together menus, programme and all the other arrangements. GSL's are in the picture regarding the skeleton plan and ideas on how things might happen.

Sharing with other people in our District, Group or Section is an important part of our Scouting life together. This can be done in many ways by holding joint activities with other Groups or Sections, by attending events organised by others or by organising events and inviting others to come. Whenever these things happen Scouting flourishes, we are recognised and valued and more young people can share their experiences and talents together. This in turn should encourage our young people to develop their own Scouting contacts across the District – and beyond – and lead to more adventurous Scouting for all as they share different ideas with a wider audience.

Active and adventurous Scouting leads to recognition of achievement through its award system. It has always been observable that some Groups ensure the giving of awards better than others. The established District Team seems to feel that this is not usually down to shortcomings in the activities on offer but can be caused by shortage of time to keep the necessary records or to order the appropriate badges. It is my experience and the view of the Scout Association that the award system is a key component of what it offers to young people. I would like to encourage all Leaders to reflect on whether they are doing everything they can to encourage and nurture our young people in reaching their own potential **by recognising their achievements with the awards** they can gain in our uniformed organisation.

I should be pleased to be invited to come and join in the presentation of awards at any Colony, Pack, Troop or Unit meetings so as to help raise the profile of the awards system, if that is what is needed. If any Group feels in need of support in progressing awards please let me know.

Carol

## **Adult Training**

**Courses at Bramhope:** Apply via [www.cycscouts.org.uk](http://www.cycscouts.org.uk)  
Sectional Woodbadge Course 1st/2nd Nov  
(Modules 8,9,11,12,13,14,15,17,19.)

Nights Away 25/27 April or 20/22 June

**First Response at Wike** - 16th March 10am - 4.30pm

Apply on form below or by email to [steve.farnill@googlemail.com](mailto:steve.farnill@googlemail.com)

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First Response 16/3/08

Name.....

Appointment..... Group.....

Address .....

Telephone.....

email.....

## The world's biggest sleepover 2008

Calling all Scouts across the UK – join us for The Giant Sleepover which will take place in venues all across the UK on the night of 14 June 2008.

Each year thousands of Beaver and Cub Scouts take part in this fun event, which is aimed at 6 - 11 year olds. Every participant receives a free goody bag and every sleepover venue receives a treasure chest of games, toys and ideas for activities to use on the night.



Over 40,000 young people are expected to take part at over 1,000 sleepover venues - with primary schools, Scout and Girlguiding groups, Boys' and Girls' Brigades, Sea Cadets, after school clubs and St John Ambulance Brigades all getting involved.

In 2008, all groups participating in The Giant Sleepover will have the opportunity to raise money for Save the Children, the event's nominated charity, in addition to charities of their choice. This will be The Giant Sleepover's fifth year of operation.

To break the world record for the largest simultaneous sleepover all children must have their lights out for at least 7 hours and not sleep in their own beds!

Anyone wishing to take part can register a Group Sleepover at [www.giantsleepover.com](http://www.giantsleepover.com) or call 0870 240 1640. It costs £20 to register your group.

## Want to feature in a well-known magazine?

The Media Team at Gilwell Park are about to start work on some exciting features in well-known specialist magazines.

If your Section or Group has been working on any the following badges, the team would love to hear from you. Your experiences would help bring articles to life and promote Scouting to the general public.

The badges involved are:

Health and Fitness, Healthy Eating, Emergency Aid, Hikes Away, Parascending & Street Sports

If you are interested in telling your story, please email Simon Carter at [simon.carter@scout.org.uk](mailto:simon.carter@scout.org.uk) for further information.

## Diary Dates

### February 2008

Date	Meeting	Location	Time
3rd	Sponsored Swim	Leeds Grammar School	13:00
4th	District Camp Planning	Pontefract	????
6th	Explorers Bowling Evening	Hollywood Bowl	????
7th	Hill Walking	St Barts Armley	19:45
7th	Chinese New Year Evening	24th Immaculate Heart	18:30
14th	Appointments Committee	Cancelled	19:30
25th	District Team	34 Sunningdale Avenue	20:00
27th	Six Dales Committee	St Chads Parish Centre	19:45

### March 2008

Date	Meeting	Location	Time
6th	District Training Advisors	Meanwood Parish Church	20:00
9th	Scout Trading Post	????	????
10th	District Executive Meeting	????	20:00
11th	SL's Meeting	????	20:00
12th	Beaver Leaders Meeting	877 Scott Hall Road	20:00
13th	Appointments Committee	Cancelled	19:30
15th	GSL's Workshop	Wike	????
16th	Get Together Training	West Yorkshire Police Headquarters, Wakefield	10:00
16th	District First Aid Course	????	????
17th	Explorer Leaders Meeting	????	????

### April 2008

Date	Meeting	Location	Time
8th	Cub Leaders Meeting	????	20:30
14th	Appointments Committee	7 Summerhill Gardens	19:30
19th - 20th	Scout Expedition challenge	????	????
21st	GSL's Meeting	????	20:00
24th	District Team	34 Sunningdale Avenue	20:00
25th - 27th	Castleford & Pontefract Joint Camp	Squirrel Wood	19:00

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