



# North Leeds District News

July 2008

## From the DC

Minding your 'P's and 'Q's

With the outdoor season well under way I am sure you are all busy either tidying away from or preparing to go on outings, camps or expeditions. I wish you all well and hope the weather is (or has been) what you are (were) prepared for! Practical skills and energy are most necessary for delivery of good Scouting but **PAPERWORK** and **QUALIFICATIONS** are also essential.

I'm beginning to think that the biggest part of a DC's job could comprise Paperwork - but I'm not going to let it be my main activity. To succeed in this aim I need your help. To start with, everyone can make my life a lot easier by completing forms properly, particularly **CRB** forms. **PLEASE** could these be completed in **black ink** AND with **all the information required**. In the last few weeks I have had numerous forms returned due to missing information (and one in blue ink). This causes unnecessary delay, work and expense and I'd rather be spending my time with **PEOPLE** not **PAPERWORK**!

**GS**Ls and those who were at the District **AGM** will appreciate that I have a much bigger concern regarding the major issue evidenced by paperwork and that can be neatly summarised as **QUALIFICATIONS**. A few times I have heard the view expressed that "we are only volunteers!" We may be volunteers but that does not mean that we have no obligations. We need to provide our Scouting to the best of our abilities and this means commitment to the role that we have undertaken, carrying out, wherever necessary, training and paperwork to ensure our own and our young peoples safety, enjoyment, success and well being. It's my belief that we need to understand that if we cannot fulfil the requirements of the role then we need not volunteer! This may sound a little harsh but who wants to do less than their best for our young people? If you have been in a Leader role for some time and you still haven't gained a Wood Badge I want to encourage you to pursue it vigorously.

May I end by wishing you all well for your summer Scouting activities and personal holidays.

Yours in Scouting  
Carol

## [Arial Extreme](#)

Arial Extreme is a tree top trek through the canopy of a beautiful Oak Forest. It consists of a series of fun obstacles and elements including bridges, scramble nets, zip wires, wobbly beams and walls. This is a fantastic activity for Scouts / Explorer Scouts / Adults and is very reasonably priced. The instructors are professional but fantastic with youngsters. The Phoenix St Mary's Troop visited the Camp Hill estate near Bedale and had a great 3 hours on the course. It culminates with a climbing wall, a wobbly bridge and then a parachute descent back to ground level. Several Scouts who took part had to conquer their fear of heights, but did so and had a great time in doing so. Prices are £15 for under 16's, £20 for adults, but there is a discount for groups. Visit [www.arialextreme.co.uk](http://www.arialextreme.co.uk) for more information.

## [Correction](#)

In last month awards we printed "Peter Priestner" of the Falkoner Group this should have read Neil Priestner. We also missed Matthew Johnston of the 30th Falkoner Group who receives his 5 year award.

## [Scout Fire Safety Badge](#)

Fire Safety Badge

It has been almost five years since The Scout Association and Chubb Fire joined forces to re-launch the Fire Safety Badge.



Since the start of the initiative, over 50,000 Scouts have been awarded the coveted badge, which means 50,000 youngsters have an effective escape plan in place for their homes should an accident occur.

Many more have taken part in the extremely popular live fire demonstrations up and down the country, or entered one of three national competitions.

To find out the latest news and competition information visit the [Chubb Fire website](#).

## District Newsletter.

As from September the Newsletter will be printed Bi-monthly in an attempt to make sure we get it out in time for the beginning of the month something we have been struggling to do in the past.

In order to achieve this the deadline for the newsletter will change to the 15th of the previous month to publication. We are still struggling to get enough copy to fill the monthly edition so please send me details of your events and remember when planning to tell me when and where meetings are being held so they can be included in the diary on the back page.

## The i:click awards

The i:click awards is a great new photography competition to be judged by a panel including former Chelsea and England footballer Graeme Le Saux.

It's aimed at all young people aged between 11 and 18 who are interested in photography, even if you're a complete beginner. Your whole Scout Troop can enter or you can enter individually.

The theme for this year's competition is 'senses' – smell, touch, hearing, taste and sight. We want you to capture one of the senses in a photograph.

There will be regional as well as national winners. All winners will have their photographs exhibited on London's South Bank in October.

National winners will also receive a brand new SLR camera and attend a special awards day and photography workshop in London later in the year



## Group Awards

These Awards are undertaken by a number of Sections working together. For example, a Cub Scout Pack working with a Scout Troop, or a Beaver Scout Colony, Cub Scout Pack, Scout Troop and an Explorer Scout Unit working together. Further info from [Scoutbase](#).

## Diary Dates

### July 2008

Date	Meeting	Location	Time
2nd	Beaver Leaders Meal Out	Olive Tree, Far Headingley	????
4th - 6th	District Cub Camp	Wike	
7th	SL's Meeting	43rd Phoenix St Marys Hawksworth	20:00
10th	District Team	34 Sunningdale Avenue	20:00
14th	GSL's Meeting	Wike	20:00
25th	Kenya Expedition Starts		

### August 2008

Date	Meeting	Location	Time
7th	Kenya Expedition Ends		

### September 2008

Date	Meeting	Location	Time
10th	Beaver Leaders Meeting	????	20:00
11th	District Team	34 Sunningdale Avenue	20:00
13th - 14th	Water Weekend	Aldwark	
15th	Explorer Leaders Meeting	????	20:00
16th	Cub Leaders Meeting	????	20:30
18th	Appointments Committee	????	19:30
19th - 21st	Skills 4 U	Bramhope	
22nd	County AGM	Wakefield	
28th	Six Dales Walk	Yorkshire Dales	06:30

## Six Dales Walk

Don't forget the Six Dales Walk on 28th September. Last years entrants should have received there entry forms for this year by now if not the forms are available from the website [www.sixdales.co.uk](http://www.sixdales.co.uk) where you can also pre register your team following the link from the Downloads page. All entrants please remember the route has changed after West Tanfield so make sure you are aware of the new route.

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