



NORTH LEEDS DISTRICT NEWS

DECEMBER 2007

FROM THE DC

We are coming to the end of what has been a very successful centenary year for the Movement as a whole and for North Leeds in particular. Our final event is our traditional Cub Good Turn Carol Service. This year it takes place at Meanwood Parish Church and I hope that there will be an excellent turn out and that a good selection of food gifts will be brought for the Leeds Lions to distribute to elderly people. This will be my last event as DC as Carol takes over from the 1st January. Apart from the annual census and subsequent 2008 District handbook (which I will be doing) from that date all forms, questions, problems etc. should be directed to Carol. As you know I am continuing in Scouting and apart from the County Secretary role will be involved in the Six Dales and as a Training Adviser however it is important that Carol is the first point of contact from the New Year.

In the nearly 8 years since the decision to form the new District was taken, we have come a long way together. Major events such as the Millennium and Centenary camps and their weather stick out but perhaps the slow moulding of North Leeds as a District is more important. I no longer hear the 'we always did it like this'. I believe that we have taken the best from each of the constituent Districts. That is not to say that as we move in to our second century, that there are no challenges for the District. Despite increased numbers some Groups and Units are still short of leaders and in some areas and sections there is now a severe shortage of places. The task in the next few years will be to overcome these, and other challenges, so that we can offer even better Scouting to even more young people.

I would like to thank everyone in the District for their support whilst I have been DC. They are too numerous to mention individually but include the District Officers and Executive committee, Badge and Appointment secretaries, present and past members of the District team, GSLs, leaders and assistants in Groups and Units, members of the Scout Fellowship and everybody who has helped North Leeds Scouting in any way whatsoever. Without all your help my job would have been impossible and I am sure that you will give Carol the same support in the years ahead.

Finally I would like to wish every member of our District a very Happy Christmas and all the best for a successful 2008.

Colin

NEW BALANCED PROGRAMME PUBLICATIONS

The December/January edition of Scouting magazine gives details of some changes to the existing balanced programme which will be effective from 1st February 2008. The main changes are the introduction of additional Challenge awards to match the programme zones, more consistency in zones across the sections and improvements to the Joining In/Participation awards. A new set of publications will be available in February, priced from £2.50 to £5 each.

The Finance Committee has approved purchase of a representative set of these publications by each section so that leaders can see them at section meetings before deciding to purchase. It is likely that the previous loose leaf manuals will still be useful as the changes are relatively minor.

CRB UPDATE

As previously notified the Scout Association has decided that all members of Executive Committees must complete a CRB by April 2008. The latest version of the CRB FAQ factsheet now states that CRBs checks should be carried out every 5 years. CRBs were first introduced in June 2002 so that a number of members of the District will need to undergo a new check in 2008. Note some organisations, such as Leeds City Council for use of school buildings and facilities, require a CRB to be less than 3 years old. Please submit applications in good time to minimise delays at peak times. Application forms can be obtained from the DC or direct from the Information Centre.

Please note that the revised pink application form promised for 2006 will not now be introduced until after the new Independent Safeguarding Authority becomes operational and the Vetting and Barring system introduced. This is not now expected to be before late 2008 so existing white forms should be used until further notice.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Andrew Barton, Grammar School ESU, on the gaining of the Chief Scout's Platinum Award

and to the following members of the Grammar School Group

Joseph Coleman, Robert Templeton, Oliver Dixon and Robert Jordan on qualifying for the Chief Scout's Gold award, to David Lane and Mark Ormerod on qualifying for the Yorkshire Challenge Gold Award and Sarah Wilshaw on qualifying for the D of E Gold Award

TRAINING NEWS

Congratulations to Claire Tivey, 24th Immaculate Heart on the award of the Wood Badge.

CHILD PROTECTION EVENINGS

Steve Reeves the new Child Protection Officer is running two workshops on the 28th and 29th January. The January 28th evening will be held in the Hesley Wood Scout Centre, White Lane, Chapeltown, Sheffield, S35 2YH and the one on the 29th in the Bradley Wood Scout Activity Centre, Shepherds Thorn Lane, Brighouse, HD6 3TU. Both evenings are non uniform and will start at 7.30 pm and are planned to finish by 9.30 pm. The evening is open to all adults in the movement but GSLs are especially invited. These sessions will count towards the 5 hours per year ongoing training requirement for leaders.

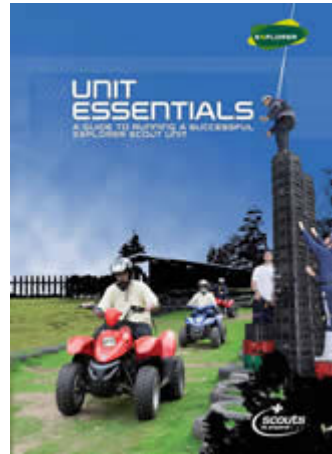
BALANCED PROGRAMME REVISIONS REVEALED

Find out about all the upgrades and improvements to the 6-25 Balanced Programme in the December/January supplements. The changes will be supported by a new range of books, posters and resources available for dispatch from 1 February 2008.

In the Section supplements you will find the details of the various changes to the Programme, including some new Challenge Badges, Joining in/Participation Awards and the realignment of the Programme Zones.

A summary of all the changes can also be found in this month's Focus. Details of the requirements for all the new badges can be found on ScoutBase from 14 December 2007.

Look out for the new badge posters, wall charts and personal record charts – together with the three new manuals for Leaders. All the new Challenge Badges and Joining in/Participation Awards will shortly be available from your local Badge Secretary.



Order your resources now by visiting www.scouts.org.uk/shop



DIARY DATES

DECEMBER 2007

Date	Meeting	Location	Time
3rd	District Executive Meeting	St Andrews	20:00
4th	SL's Meeting	Cancelled	20:00
10th	Cub Carol service	Meanwood Parish Church	19:00
15th - 16th	Explorer Scout Visit	London	07:00

JANUARY 2008

Date	Meeting	Location	Time
9th	Beaver Leaders Meal	Thai Sabai, Headingley	????
17th	Appointments Committee	7 Summerhill Gardens	19:30
17th	Cub Leaders Meeting	10th Grammar School	20:30
19th	Beaver Pantomime Visit	Carriageworks	13:30
21st	GSL's Meeting	26th Meanwood Parish Church	20:00
24th	District Team	34 Sunningdale Avenue	20:00
27th	Cub Trading Post	St Edmund's	14:00
28th	Explorer Leaders Meeting	5 Edgerton Road	20:00
28th	Child Protection Evening	Hesley Wood	19:30
29th	Child Protection Evening	Bradley Wood	19:30

FEBRUARY 2008

Date	Meeting	Location	Time
3rd	Sponsored Swim	Leeds Grammar School	13:00
14th	Appointments Committee	7 Summerhill Gardens	19:30
25th	District Team	34 Sunningdale Avenue	20:00

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