

COUNTY LIFE

REPORTING NEWS AND VIEWS FROM AROUND GME SCOUTS



From the County Commissioner:

Let me share with you a copy of an email I received a couple of weeks ago from the parent of a Cub who was very reluctantly moving on to Scouts:

"I have to tell you about Louis' first Scout night. He was really not keen to go and had been telling me all summer that he didn't want to join Scouts. He moaned when I told him he was going and he moaned more when I made him wear his cub uniform. But when he came back he was so excited I couldn't stop him talking for about two hours! Fires and popcorn and bread and games and bulldog and shouting and flags and scouts and patrols and and and....."

So...I think you have a new recruit"

What a heart-warming start to the new Scouting year. What excitement, adventure, fun and friendship that new Scout is now looking forward to. We can talk until we are blue in the face to a potential recruit but its only when they see for themselves that our performance is even better than our promise, that we can walk the talk, and that we wont let them down with mediocre programmes can we claim to be successful.

By coincidence the following week I came across this "success poem":

"Success – he has achieved success who has lived well, laughed often, and loved much; who has enjoyed the trust of pure women, the respect of intelligent men, and the love of little children; who has filled his niche and accomplished his task; who has left the world better than he found it whether by an improved poppy, a perfect poem, or a rescued soul; who has never lacked appreciation of Earth's beauty or failed to express it; who has always looked for the best in others and given them the best he had; whose life was an inspiration; whose memory a benediction".

Can you claim that you and your Scouting are successful?

I want to finish by paying tribute to Mike Vernon, former GSL of 1st Hazel Grove, and most recently District Commissioner for Ladybrook Valley who passed away on 23rd September. Mike personified Scouting and lived Scouting's highest ideals and values in his everyday life; he was an inspiration to many. Mike provided successful Scouting that our Cub moving on to Scouts would have loved and I can think of no more appropriate a tribute to Mike than the success poem. Mike has "gone home" and Scouting will miss him, but his legacy lives on undiminished.

Andrew Corrie
COUNTY COMMISSIONER

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COUNTY AGM

The County AGM will take place on Saturday 30th October at 2pm
THE AGM will be held at St Catherines Church Hall, Outwood Road (Off Finney Lane), Heald Green,
Stockport

Spots vs. Stripes

60 Scouts from Ashton and Droylsden took part in a competition at Linnet Clough. The Friday night started by the Scouts pitching their own camping areas before they took part in a wide game in which the patrols had to find questions and answers about Scouting from leaders who were hidden around the site.

Saturday started with a cooked breakfast and a site inspection of each patrol's camping area. The rest of the day the patrols had to carry out 8 scouting challenges including first aid, knotting, fire building, tents, flagpoles, orienting and barrel with ropes. The barrel with ropes was a team challenge where the patrol had to move a 50 gallon barrel across an area using only the ropes to touch the barrel; this proved quite a challenge for some of the patrols.

On Sunday "Groundwork" provided the Cadbury's Spots v Stripes team games, tug of war, sack racing, obstacle courses and three legged races. Rob Fulton, Senior Project Officer said "the Scouts and Leaders had a great time and we are looking forward to working together with them and other community groups". Groundwork has joined with Cadbury to help bring their Spots v Stripes campaign to communities and create the largest and longest running game ever, Cadbury is inviting the nation to divide into two teams, Spots v Stripes and play all sorts of games in the run up to the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012.

If any Scout or Community group wants to take part then contact Rob 0161 2201000 or go to www.spotsvstripes.com. The winners of the Camp competition were 3rd Ashton Scouts. The new Spots v Stripes Scout Shield was presented to the winning patrol from 12th Ashton.

WINTER SKILLS SCOTLAND WEEKEND

11 - 13 February 2011

*Want to play in Scotland in the snow?
Want to consolidate your abilities?
Want to learn some new skills?
Come and join other Greater Manchester
Leaders for a winter weekend!*

This year we are changing the format a bit in order to accommodate three types of people:

1. Those just wanting to go winter walking who have limited experience and would like to get a feel for what is involved
2. Experienced winter hill walkers who want to just go for a walk / climb with other experienced people.
3. A workshop, as in past years to show those wanting a winter assessment what they need to know to pass the assessment.

There will be an evening session for those attending before the weekend. At this evening we will discuss what kit is needed, we will issue kit to those who need it and discuss what groups will be doing throughout the weekend. The evening session will be at GMN county HQ at 19.30 on Thursday 3rd February. The address is 380 Rochdale Road, Middleton, Manchester, M24 2ST

The weekend will be self catering. There is pub/hotel nearby where we can go for an evening meal, but we will need to book this before we go if most intend to take this option. There also will be the opportunity to arrive on Thursday 10th February and have an extra day in the hills. The weekend will be held at the Hertfordshire Scout Centre at Locheamhead Station. See their website for details

<http://www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/index.php/activity-centres/locheamhead-scout-station>
The cost of the weekend for 2 nights is £45, for 3 nights it is likely to be £60. We will need a £20 deposit with your Booking.

NOTE: It is important that you are truthful about your abilities when you sign up to one of the above options.
Option 3 - The workshop - is for people with reasonable winter skills experience and fitness. Misleading information could put others in your party in danger.
More info and booking form @ <http://www.keithhampson.co.uk/activities/winterskills/winterskillsindex.htm>



Explorer Quiz Night

?
Saturday
20th November
Teams of 4-6 explorers

St Georges Centre

Dane Bank

7:00 - 11:00pm

£5 each

Hotpot supper & Disco

To book your teams place,
please contact

Chris Kippax, County Explorer Leader

0751 330 0110

ckippax@msn.com



Greater Manchester East Explorer Challenge 50

The GME Explorer Challenge is a series of challenges to achieve during your time in Explorers. Once you reach a landmark you receive a badge. The badges are available after completing a total of 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 of the challenges.

The rules of the GME Explorer challenge 50 are simple

- 1) All of the challenges must be completed as an Explorer Scout
- 2) All of the challenges must be signed off by your Explorer Leader or DESC or County ESL
- 3) Any challenges can be backdated as long as rules 1 or 2 are not broken
- 4) They can be done in any order.
- 5) All activities should be undertaken in accord with POR

This booklet contains all the information needed to complete the challenges. Can you complete 50 and get all 5 badges. When completing them, remember, they are supposed to be challenging but use your imagination when completing them.

Please send any pictures of you completing the challenges and let me know when you reach a badge, as each challenge is a unique achievement in its self

Obviously there isn't room to put all of the challenges in here so go to the county website (www.gmescouts.org.uk) and you can download the complete list and challenge sheet from there.

CHIEF SCOUT'S GOLD AWARD RECEPTION

Wednesday 13th October 2010



The next Chief Scout's Gold Award Reception is being held on Wednesday 13th October 2010 (venue to be announced). Please ensure that any of your Scouts who

have gained this award – the highest in the Scout Section, have the opportunity to attend.

For a copy of the application form to attend, please go to the County Website and download the form / or enter the following into your Web browser: <http://www.gmescouts.org.uk/downloads/booking-forms.aspx>

Please ensure Application Forms are submitted to County Office not later than 1st October 2010.

John Dawson ACC (Scout Section)
Tel: 07726 170875
e-mail: scouts@gmescouts.org.uk

Greater Manchester East Scouts 

Ski Italy 2011

Join the Adventure in Italy
18th - 26th February 2011 (Half Term)

Prices:	Participants Under 18 Years	£ 745
	Participants 18 years & Over	£ 845

Price includes: Transport from Stockport, Full Board Accommodation, Equipment Hire, Lift Pass, Ski Instruction, Helmets

DON'T MISS OUT - RESERVE YOUR PLACE TODAY!

For More Details Contact:
Phil Santana-Reedy - 0161 485 4507, 07962 072888

  

LINNET CLOUGH

SCOUT CAMP AND ACTIVITY CENTRE



News from the Clough

Technology Camp

This year's technology camp takes place over the weekend of 15th to 17th October. If you are interested in joining Scouts from all over the world at the Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) then please download a booking form from www.gmescouts.co.uk/jota/2010. Please note that there are only 200 places available do please book soon.

Service Crew

Would you like to join the Linnet Clough Service Crew? We would like more people to join the Crew who help maintain the site and run activity sessions. There are also lots of opportunities for fun and social activities. If you are interested please contact Carl for more information.

Site Services Weekend

We are running a Campsite Services badge weekend from 19-21st November. The cost is £15 per person and includes all food and instruction for the weekend. It is suitable for Scouts wanting to achieve Campsite Services and Explorers wanting to achieve Activity Centre Service badge. If you have anyone interested please book them on as soon as you can as there are limited places available.

Christmas Party Weekend



We will be holding the Christmas Party weekend on 11th & 12th December. The parties cost £5.50 per head and include refreshments and a present from Father Christmas. Ring or email now for a booking form.

We will also be having a Christmas Saturday Social at a cost of £5 per person including hot pot supper.

On Sunday evening we shall be hosting Carols by Candlelight once again. This is free of charge but you will need a ticket.

Linnet Clough can be contacted on 0161 427 1688 and linnetcloughcamp@aol.com

A New Year Medieval Banquet

Many of you will know that at Linnet Clough we periodically hold Medieval Banquets to raise funds for various charities and projects.

In 2011 the Scout World Jamboree is being held in Sweden, and at Linnet Clough some of the Junior Crew have been selected by the County to be part of the Greater Manchester East contingent.

The Junior Crew are an important resource at Linnet Clough, as is all our crew, and where possible we support any activity that our crew is taking part in. Of course supporting the crew needs to be done in the most appropriate way and can take the form of fund raising, loan of equipment or providing manpower.

For our Junior Crew's trip to the Jamboree the most appropriate support is fund raising, and in this case it is A New Year Medieval Banquet.

For those of you that are unaware of what is involved with our Medieval Banquets let me describe it for you.

You are welcomed to the Court of Linnet Clough and shown to seats by the Court's Serfs and Wenches, after being welcomed by the King and Queen you will be served a sumptuous 5 course banquet.



Throughout the evening you will be served with Ale, Cider or Wine and entertained by the Courts staff.

With this being a New Year's Celebration, the start of the New Year will be welcomed in with Fireworks, Lanterns and Champagne following this the festivities will continue on into the night.



The cost of this event, which includes all food, drink and entertainment is just £40. All profits from the evening will be going to the Junior Crews Fundraising for Sweden 2011.

For more information or to book tickets please contact Linnet Clough Camp Site, 0161 427 1688 or email linnetcloughcamp@aol.com

County Diary

October

9 th	Training – Essential Information and Module 3
11 th	Training – Getting Started
13 th	Chief Scout Gold Presentations
15 th to 17 th	Technology Camp - Linnet Clough
30 th	County AGM

November

4 th	Training – Local Trainers Support Meeting
12 th to 14 th	Campsite Services Badge - Linnet Clough
15 th	Training – Essential Information
19 th	Explorer Quiz Night

December

10 th to 12 th	Christmas Weekend - Linnet Clough
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National Notice Board

- Birthday Bash. Next year (yes we are thinking ahead) the Beaver section celebrates 25 years. A celebratory badge will be available to wear on uniforms from December. Remember to start planning those birthday celebrations now.
- Hill walking consultation – the association is currently carrying out a review of hill walking and is looking at terrain classification, group sizes and much more. For the consultation and a chance to comment please see http://www.scouts.org.uk/documents/activitiesx/hillwalking_consultation.pdf
- A new fact sheet is available for Mountain Biking at Terrain 0 its number is FS120422.
- As I'm sure many of you are aware the 31st of December is the last day that fellowship will exist after this date they should all have change to Active Support Units. If you are a Fellowship member (and have no other appointments) please speak to your commissioner and appointments secretary to ensure that you change your role to that of Active Support Member. For more information and all the factsheets on active support units visit <http://www.scouts.org.uk/cms.php?pageid=2236>
- The *No-Nonsense Parents' Guide to Scouting* is a brand new guide this year for parents to find out about Scouting. There is also a new guide for leaders called *The No-Nonsense Leaders' Guide to Working with Parents* both are available to download <http://www.scouts.org.uk/involvingparents> or you can order through the information centre (0845 300 1818).
- OS Maps – OS have extended their 3 for 2 offer on maps. Visit the OS website for more information at <http://leisure.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/>

Message from the editor.....Andrea Dolan

Its amazing how quickly dates come round, it only feels like a few days ago that I finished putting together the last issue. October has started already and Autumn has definitely set in!

Firstly appologies to those of you that were trying the link in the last issue to the Technology Camp as it was published incorrectly it should have read www.gmescouts.co.uk/JOTA/2010, hopefully you realized the mistake and managed to get yourself booked in for the weekend.

As always we are looking for you to help fill the next issue of county life. Please send all of your articles to countylife@gmescouts.org.uk by the 27th of October for inclusion.

Thanks for all of your continued support

Andrea Dolan

