



From the County Commissioner:

The clocks have gone back, nights are drawing in and soon Christmas will be upon us. So – think positive – what great opportunities for exciting, fun, and challenging programmes. Bonfire night, Thanksgiving, Advent, St Andrew's Day, night hikes, parties, Winter camps, etc etc. Don't use the dark nights as an excuse to hibernate. More young people leave during the winter months because what's offered to them gets watered down and our performance doesn't march our promise. Don't let that be the case in your Section.

Our International Evening on 17th November at Stockport County is an event not to be missed. Hear all about the County's trip to Japan, the Explorer Belt in Denmark, the Rover Moot in Kenya attended by 7 of our members, as well as first hand accounts from Groups in the County who have taken part in camps abroad this year. And looking forward to future events including next year's World Jamboree in Sweden. Whether you're an experienced "international"er or someone who's vaguely thinking about how to plan an international experience this will be the event for you. You can find further details of the evening further on in this edition. Hope to see you there.

Some food for thought from Chris Bonnington writing about Leading by Example:

"Preparation and planning are among the most important facets, I feel, of any kind of leadership. Having worked out a plan one can then put it to the team, always being prepared to be flexible in the face perhaps of better ideas. The other vital thing I feel is that your fellow team members must respect your own devotion to the interest of the expedition as a whole as opposed to your own personal interests. You can only accept loyal acceptance of your decisions if you are genuinely putting your fellow team members first rather than yourself. The final factor is that you undoubtedly have to be prepared to work considerably harder than any of the people you are leading. There are many occasions when you need to lead by example and yet, at the same time, one must be careful not to get bogged down in a series of minor chores that nobody else wants to do so that you cannot fulfil your main function of running the expedition as a whole"

And finally...

I'm delighted to report that Barbara Murphy has taken on the role of County Secretary – a most welcome appointment; Barbara's skills, Scouting background and experience will be a great asset to the County; we wish her well in this role.

Andrew Corrie
COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Inside this Issue

- Scout Dates 2011
- Making a Difference
- News from the Clough
- Great Peaks
- Silver Cubs
- Winter Camp
- Training Date
- County Diary
- Tech Camp
- National Notice board





Hello • Hallå • Halløj • 今日は konnichi wa • grüezi

INTERNATIONAL EVENING

FOR ALL MEMBERS FOR THE COUNTY ALONG WITH SUPPORTERS AND FAMILIES
HEAR ABOUT WHERE OUR MEMBERS HAVE BEEN IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS - KENYA, JAPAN, SWITZERLAND
AND DENMARK AND WHAT WE HAVE PLANNED.....

**Wednesday 17th
November 2010
19.30 till 21.30**

**Venue: Stockport County's
and Sale Sharks ground,
Edgeley Park
Stockport SK3 9DD**



Please note that this event is to take place this year and not in 2011 as previously advertised

Scout Section dates 2011



Scout Leaders it's that time to get your diaries out and scribble down the dates of events for 2011 (you will of course be reminded through the coming years as events get a bit closer).

Date - 2011	Event / Activity	Location	Who for
14-16 January	Scout Winter Camp	Linnet Clough	Scouts
19 March	Scout Activity Badge Day	Linnet Clough	Scouts
20 April	Chief Scout's Gold Award Reception	<i>to be confirmed</i>	Scouts
1-3 July	Survival Skills Camp	Boarfold campsite	Scouts
25 September	Z.A.P. Day (Zones Activities Programmes)	Linnet Clough	Scouts
30 Sept - 2 Oct	Troop Leadership Weekend	Linnet Clough	Scouts
16 November	Chief Scout's Gold Award Reception	<i>to be confirmed</i>	Scouts

Making a difference

Scouting is the business that we are in, our goal is to ensure that the young people we have in our care get the best they can from us as leaders and from Scouting as an organisation. It is with great pride that Scout Leader Gary Hollingsworth (in the left of the picture below) has been nominated by Manchester City Councils Senior members of staff as a person who makes a difference to the young people of Manchester. Gary is Group Scout Leader for the 105th St Peters Scouts, North Manchester and has been involved in Scouting with the group since he was a cub, and has held both SL and BSL roles. He is also well known for his involvement and enthusiasm in Scout pedal car racing, a passion which brought the event to Manchester earlier this year, for the first time in the competition's history.

After attending a recent photo shoot at Manchester Town Hall, Gary's image will appear on the large hoarding boards surrounding the Town Hall Extension which is being refurbished. The images will change over the next 3 years; approximately 10 people from Manchester have been selected for their continued work in their chosen fields.

When asked how he feels about his nomination, Gary said:

"I have a great sense of Honour and Pride in this fabulous opportunity, to not only highlight the time I give up but to also put Scouting in the face of all who visit Manchester, especially as the Christmas Markets will be descending on the Town Hall doorstep. "

We look forward to seeing Gary as the "Face of Scouting" for Manchester in the near future.



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

LINNET CLOUGH

SCOUT CAMP AND ACTIVITY CENTRE



News from the Clough

CHRISTMAS PARTY WEEKEND

We will be holding the Christmas Party weekend on 11th & 12th December.

We have parties on both days at 10.30am, 1pm and 3.30pm. The parties are suitable for Beavers, Cubs, Rainbows and Brownies and cost £5.50 per head. This includes refreshments and a present from Father Christmas.

We will also be having a Christmas Saturday Social at a cost of £5 per person including hot pot supper. This is an ideal opportunity for Scout Leaders to enjoy themselves when someone else has done the organising.

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

Please contact Linnet Clough for a booking form on 0161 427 1688 and linnetcloughcamp@aol.com.

NEW YEAR'S EVE MEDIEVAL BANQUET

Come and join us at the Court of Linnet Clough on New Year's Eve for a Medieval Celebration.

You will be welcomed by the King and Queen and served a sumptuous 5 course banquet by the Court's serfs and wenches. Ale, cider and wine will also be served and there will be entertainment by the Court's staff.

The New Year will be welcomed in with fireworks, lanterns and champagne and the festivities will continue into the night.

The cost is £40 per person and includes all food, drink and entertainment.

Proceeds are going to the support members of the Junior Service Crew who are going to the World Scout Jamboree next year. Please come along, support them and enjoy yourself.

WE NEED YOUR HELP



My name's Martin Burke and I am the chairman of Linnet Clough service crew, and I'd like to tell you a little about what we do.

You've probably all seen us around the site litter picking and cleaning toilets but we also do so much more, a lot of it behind the scenes so to speak. A lot of the service crew have activity qualifications gained through the site and run the activities for various groups. We also do a lot of the maintenance around the site from cutting down trees and hedges to painting buildings and fence erecting.

Also we get involved in some big events; this year was the big guide camp Blast, a full week of activities and fun which we were privileged to be a part of.

You may not know we also have a social every month, which have ranged from meals out to go-karting and bowling; we are always looking for new ideas to try.

So as you can see we're not all about cleaning and work there is a big fun element in crew and we also now have a junior crew section for explorer ages, so please come along and help we're always looking for new members so if you would like a welcome pack please do not hesitate to contact the site. Hope to see you soon

Martin Burke
Chairman, Linnet Clough Service Crew

Great Peaks

The Tameside MENS (Manchester East Network and Support) Unit successfully completed the National Three Peaks Challenge over the weekend 3rd – 5th September 2010. The Challenge was in aid of raising money for the unit's members/relatives to attend the World Scout Jamboree (Sweden) in 2011!

Six members (plus two volunteer drivers) completed the Challenge in a total of 30 hours, setting off from Ben Nevis (Highlands, Scotland), climbing Scafell Pike (Lake District, England) and finishing with Snowdon (Wales). What follows is an account of one of the team members (Richard, Assistant Scout Leader @ 250th Manchester and MENS Network member).

The tale of my "3 Peaks Challenge" started in May, when I received an email from my former Scout and Explorer leader. With my mind occupied with other matters (mostly my A Levels), I agreed without giving it too much thought.

Come July, my A Levels had finished and I turned my attention to a summer of fun...err, I mean rigorous training. For some reason, I cannot imagine why, this training routine never took off. When it was decided that it would be best to actually climb some mountains in an attempt to train, it finally dawned on me what I was letting myself in for!

Climbing Snowdon with a dog may not have been the best method of training, with him pulling us up the Miner's track and attempting to pull us off the Pyg track on the way down. A month later, the week before the actual challenge, it was decided that one mountain was possibly not sufficient training for climbing three mountains back-to-back, so several members of the team climbed Scafell Pike (in the rain)!

The 3rd of September arrived; tyre pressures were checked, engine oil was topped up, as were the drivers. After packing up the two cars, we set off for the 6 ½ hour journey up to Fort William at around 11 O'clock on the Friday.

After a not so hurried breakfast and a Red Bull, the first hitch of the Challenge revealed itself.... the map was about 320 miles south of us in a back-up car in Denton – a tremendous start. After purchasing a new map from a Youth Hostel, we set off on the challenge at 6am. The climb up the mountain seemed endless with every small plateau followed by another climb – a demoralising sight. However, the daunting task of climbing the mountain was made entertaining by the other climbers, especially the trio with ironing boards that not only passed us on the way up, but also descended while we were still climbing (they also had irons with them to get some "Extreme Ironing" done). The climb up took slightly longer than anticipated, but the view was spectacular – right until we climbed into a dense cloud. A quick recharge of the batteries, my investiture and a picture at the top was followed by a sharpish descent – as we wished to get off the mountain before the annual Ben Nevis fell-run began.

Having quickly eaten some lunch, we set off on our journey to the Lake District; the scenery we saw through Glen Coe and past Loch Lomond was out of this world.



Our target was to arrive at Scafell Pike in time to allow for the majority of the climb to be in daylight but the slower than expected climb at Ben Nevis had put us behind schedule by about 1 ½ hours. This meant that an 8 O'clock departure from the edge of Wast Water resulted in about half of the ascent and the entire of the descent taking place in darkness with the rest in twilight. On the way up, we once again saw our friends with the ironing boards – on their way down – along with a pair who had started the fell run on Ben Nevis 6 hours after we had started our ascent – also on their way down! We reached the peak in the dark and, after another quick beverage, started the descent. After going a little "off piste" (navigating over rocks in the pitch black doesn't lend itself to finding the right path



again straight away) we found our way down back to the car park absolutely shattered at around half past midnight.

Arriving at Llanberis, after climbing two mountains and having very little sleep, does not bode well for a fast climb. Once the 24 hours had passed – just after we left the Llanberis car park – our attentions had turned to just finishing the Challenge. Despite being the easiest of the paths up the mountain, all seven of us – six climbers and one driver – struggled with fatigue. Flat portions of the path were welcome and made us all appreciate the utter foolishness of people doing the Challenge.

The views from just below the summit, of the Pyg and Miners tracks to one side of the ridge and down the valley towards Llanberis and the coast to the other were magnificent (good job I remembered to take my camera up with oh, wait). The summit was reached just after half past 9 and, after an extended break (turns out the café doesn't open until 10am on Sundays), the final descent began. We were very lucky with the weather throughout the weekend, right until the shower we experienced half way through our descent of Snowdon.

The last gate..... corner..... flat road..... the car..... It was all over; time to return home for some well-deserved refreshments and bed!

Congratulations to all those who took part in and completed the Challenge! Everyone got something out of the experience (other than the sponsorship money), which is what Scouting is all about! A special thank you also to the two drivers who gave up their weekends to drive more than 1,000 miles each with some very tired and no-doubt smelly climbers in their back seats!

Sliver Cubs



Congratulations this month are going towards 5 cubs from 1st Davenport Mill End who whilst at Challenge Camp at Linnet Clough were presented with their Chief Scout Silver Awards.

The 5 cubs presented with their award's were William Omokeowa, James Millward, James Rouen Stout, Grant Sullivan and Emily Carrington (all pictured below)



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

  

Greater Manchester East Scouts ...

Winter Camp



Welcome to the sub-zero adventure

When? Friday 14 to Sunday 16 January 2011

Where? Linnet Clough Scout Campsite & Activity Centre

**Bored of being indoors in winter? Want to get outside and do loads of activities?
Come along to Scout Winter Camp!**



So what's lined-up for the weekend?

- **High Ropes / The CUBE**
See how you react at heights. Teamwork and communication are key here to negotiate around the high level course.
- **Leap of Faith**
You may have the guts to conquer the high ropes, but are you brave enough to throw yourself off a platform?
- **Either Archery or Air Rifle Range**
Have a go or hone your skills at these activities.
- **Saturday Night Sports & Leisure**
Visit a local leisure centre for swimming and sports.
- **Troop Activities**
Drop-in activities organised by the Troops attending camp.

How much? £17 for young people (under 18) and £10 for leaders/helpers (+18)

If you would like your Troop to join us for the weekend, please fill in the slip below and return along with a cheque for **£10** deposit per Scout and a self-addressed, stamped envelope by the 31st December 2010 to:

Greater Manchester East Scouts

County Office, Youth Service Resource Centre, Reddish Vale Road, Reddish, Stockport SK5 7HQ
Contact: John Dawson, ACC Scout Section / mobile: 07726 170875 / e-mail: scouts@gmescouts.org.uk

Winter Camp Booking Form – 14th to 16th January 2011

I would like to book ___ Scouts and ___ Leaders on Winter Camp.

I enclose £10 deposit per Scout (Cheques made payable to 'G.M.E.C.S.C.')

Troop Name & District _____ Group Contact Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ E-mail Address _____

Contact Tel. Number _____

Please note that we need to know numbers of attendees by 31st December 2010, as activities and activity sessions will have been pre-arranged for the numbers booked.



Welcome to the sub-zero adventure

Information for group leaders

Welcome...

We are looking forward to welcoming you on site for Winter Camp. Without leaders and helpers, young people would not be able to attend Winter Camp.

To make your weekend as smooth as possible please read through the information below.

Be brave, be challenged, be amazed by this brilliant, if cold, weekend of thrills and spills for Scouts.

Scout Winter Camp is an activity camp running right in the middle of winter. You can certainly expect the extremes of British weather. We have seen snow, ice, torrential rain, and bright sunshine. Combine that with 'on and off-site' activities, we've got ourselves a very exhilarating weekend.

At our event in 2011 you'll be able to try a number of activities including the usual favorites: shooting or archery, crafts, The Cube and an evening film in the Lynmouth building. There will be a visit to Avondale Leisure Centre on Saturday night.

Arrivals and Registration: Reception is located in the Lynmouth Building, within the Cub field. Please register upon arrival (Reception will be open from 6:30pm to 8:00pm).

- To assist with smooth running, we ask that only a single representative books your group in.
- To register you will need your Booking Confirmation, completed list of all Scouts and Leaders attending and either cash or cheque to pay the balance (Cheques should be made payable to 'G.M.E.C.S.C'.)
- Please note that refunds cannot be given for lower numbers of attendees as activities and activity sessions will have been pre-arranged for the numbers booked.
- On arrival you will be issued with a pack containing ID Wristbands for Scouts, Winter Camp Programme, tickets for Activities, Winter Camp Badge for Scouts and other useful information.
- Once you have pitched camp please return to reception and let us know the location of your campsite.

Activities will start at 9:30am and finish at 4.30pm on Saturday, with a designated lunch break between 12.30pm and 1.30pm.

The Leisure Centre is booked from 7:30pm to 9:15pm on Saturday evening. Please could Troops organise their own transport arrangements to and from Avondale Leisure Centre.

Certain activities require parental permission in order to participate and permission forms must be signed by the parent or guardian for an individual to participate. *Permission forms are available on the GME County Website*
<http://www.gmescouts.org.uk/downloads/booking-forms.aspx>

Sunday Troop Programme: On Sunday activities will run from 10am to 1pm. Because of the nature of some events, participants may get particularly muddy, so please ensure that your group have adequate changes of clothes and shoes.

TROOP ACTIVITIES

We would like every Troop attending Winter Camp to organise and run an activity on Saturday and Sunday. Drop-in activities such as football/five-a-side, volleyball, orienteering, hot air balloons, kite making are just some suggestions (please advise which activities your leaders are able to organise and run during Saturday & Sunday).

Winter Camp will be popular, so don't delay – book today!

When? Friday 14th to Sunday 16th January 2011 (finish 2pm)

How much? £17 for young people (under 18) and £10 for leaders/helpers (+18)

Contact: John Dawson, ACC Scout Section / mobile: 07726 170875 / e-mail: scouts@gmescouts.org.uk

Adult Training Update

Queries about any of the information below to Kay Hill 07747 036433 or gmelearning@gmail.com

*****New Opportunities to get involved*****– themed, short, quick paced meetings to share information and encourage people to help support adult learning in a variety of ways. Open to anyone with an interest in the content.

'Getting Started' Delivery Get together 6th December County Office 7.30-8.30pm

This meeting is open to anyone who may like to get involved in training delivery in the future. We'd love to see those who have delivered essential information and tools for the job training to adults in districts and who may like to be involved in the county delivery for 2011 which will replace district based courses. We will plan to ensure trainers are updated and validated to deliver this training.

Courses

***New* - Essential Information – Module 1 and 2 - FREE**

Monday 15th November 2010, 7:30-9pm

All courses at county office to book:

Email: gmelearning@gmail.com or Call: 07770 440016 and leave a message

...with your name, membership number, course date and any special requirements. All attending should have had initial check and CRB back and appointments committee approval.

Also

Module 4 – Tools for the job managers and supporters - FREE

Tuesday 9th November 7.30-9.30pm

Residential weekend - 'Getting on' 27/28 November

Modules 5 – Scouting Fundamentals, 6 – Changes in Scouting, 8-Skills of Leadership, 9 –Working with Adults, 13 Developing your section, 36-Special needs

Come along for the whole weekend (9am Sat to 4pm Sun) for an active programme of blended learning – lots of opportunities to learn on the go.



County Diary

November		December	
9 th	Training – Module 4 - Tools for the job managers and supporters	4 th	Network Snowball
12 th to 14 th	Campsite Services Badge - Linnet Clough	6 th	Training - 'Getting Started' Delivery Get together
15 th	Training – Essential Information – Modules 1 and 2	10 th to 12 th	Christmas Weekend - Linnet Clough
17 th	International Evening	January 2011	
20 th	Explorer Quiz Night	14 th – 16 th	Scout Winter Camp
27 th – 28 th	Training – Residential Weekend (Mods 5-6, 8-9, 13 & 36) (See above)	28 th – 30 th	Explorer Winter Camp



Tech camp 2010

Once again this years Tech Camp was another great success and the weather was good to. The weekend was attended by over 250 people who all had a great time earning various badges, contacting other Scouts from throughout the world and taking part in a number of different competitions.

Here are some statistics from the weekend:

Camp History

Previous Technology Camps: 8

Attending camp; Staff; Dedicated 39, Plus leaders from attending groups 13 , Total 52

Scouts 174, Leaders 44, Service team 12.

Total on camp over whole period 269.

Activity badges gained; Total Awarded 152

IT stage 1,	42
IT stage 2,	32
IT stage 3,	18
IT stage 4,	2
Communicator (radio) 12	
Electronics 17	
Photographer 29	



Electronics Construction;

Completed Kits 174

Radio Station

Unique stations contacted	174
Contacts made	191
Countries contacted	33
Scout stations worked	36

Competitions;

Radio Orienteering;

First place	1 st Chelford
Second place	6 th Cheadle Hulme
3rd Place	306 th Manchester

Robot Racer team challenge;

First place	5 th Preston
Second place	1 st Chelford
Third place	6 th Cheadle Hulme









Freemasons Hall, Bridge Street, Manchester

Saturday 4th December 2010

7pm till Late

Tickets £35
(£30 if booked before 31st October)

See our website for booking info







www.networksnowball.co.uk

National Notice Board

- Have you seen the Scout Associations new promotional video yet? If not then you can watch "Think again" at <http://scouts.org.uk/noticeboard/252/think-you-know-scouting-think-again> Its designed as a promotional video so send the link to someone you know and see if they will join you in a section in the county.
- [Scouts.org.uk](http://scouts.org.uk) is continuing to update. The following can be added to get to the following sections
 - /brand – a template system to support your communications
 - /ccblog – keep up to date with the UK Chief Commissioner
 - /impact – the Scout Association's Annual report and accounts
 - /insurance – specialist insurance
 - /por – Policy, Organisation and Rules
- The National Scout Service and Parade will be held on Sunday the 1st of May 2011 at Windsor Castle. Queen Scout Award Holders can apply to be a part of the Colour Party and Service Planning Team on www.scouts.org.uk/windsor
- The latest factsheet changes are as follows
 - Updated
 - FS260002 – International Links
 - FS120707 – RAF Recognition Scheme
 - FS120081 – Activity Information Form (
 - FS120083 – Family Camps
 - FS120082 – Nights Away Information Form
 - New
 - FS103958 – The Scout Association's Copyright and Trademark
 - FS103965 – Young Leaders – Info for Beaver, Cub and Scout Leaders
 - FS103966 – Working with Young Leaders in your section
 - Deleted
 - FS155060 – Working with Young Leaders in your Colony
 - FS170059 – Young Leaders – Info for Cub Scout Leaders
 - FS315092 – Young Leaders – Info for Scout Leaders
 - FS315093 – Working with Young Leaders in your Troop.
- Discounts are now available for you learner drivers that are Scouts who can take advantage of a 15% discount visit www.youngdriver.eu for more information.
- The annual census is once again due in the New Year and the GSL should by now have received this year's pack. Please note that the Ethnic Origin section has been expanded this year also there is a section on disability for more information go to www.scouts.org.uk/census

Message from the editor.....Andrea Dolan

At the time of writing Christmas is 51 days away and the end of the year is fast approaching. December will of course be our final issue of 2010. It has been great hearing about all that is going on within the county and 2011 is shaping up to be a busy year already. As usual I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to this issue and look forward to hearing more of your stories. Please send all of your articles to countylife@gmescouts.org.uk by the 27th of November for inclusion, without your help we would not be able to put together County Life.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate my brother Michael Dolan and his girlfriend Andrea on their recent engagement.

Thanks for all of your continued support

Andrea Dolan

