



From ACC Communications and Resources: Mike Dolan

It is now my turn to do a piece for County Life and to highlight my role within the County. I think it is official that I have the longest title in the Country and with that brings a number of areas which I have responsibility for.

When I took on the role 18 months ago, my remit was to look at the communications within the County and improve them. County Life was the first to get a make over and we have tried to make it more informative and have it distributed to more people. We have succeeded in this, we use HQ's memberships list for distribution, so if you don't get County Life then it is probably down to not having an email on your membership profile, or your email is incorrect. Of course if you don't get County Life then you won't be reading this, so it is down to us all to ensure that copies are available to those who may not have email or are not aware County Life exists.

The web site has also changed www.gmescouts.org.uk just in case you haven't visited it recently. It is updated every week with relevant forms, calendar dates and upcoming events. The website is an ongoing project and we are looking to change the format of the site soon, so watch this space.

Other part of my remit is to support communications of the other strands; this may be verbally, via email, the web, County Life or with our newly appointed Media Development Manager. Keeping County members informed and highlighting the successes we have is an important part of the role, this includes celebrating awards that County members achieve.

I help co-ordinate the County Calendar which went out for the 2nd time this year, this shows events which County have already planned for the year ahead, by doing this, it is hoped that Districts can then plan their events without clashing. The calendar also provides a bit more information about the County and the role it plays, which again we hope is a useful tool.

The resources side of the role covers the County Directory, County Quartermaster and the County Shop. The Directory is kept up to date, with the aim of producing new versions twice a year, a good tool for County managers and DC's. The quartermaster is a role that is still in its infancy, but it is the intention to co-ordinate all the resources that County holds with the view to making them available to County members.

Finally the Shop, launched at the end of last year offering a 10% discount on most items within Scout Shops. This is proving to be a success and the idea is to build this up and have a base of operations, plus an online booking system, which is in the pipeline, but in the mean time please go to the web for details of how to order.

Communications can only work if it is two ways and not everyone uses the computer or indeed has time to look at the computer. So it is down to us all to pass on information you feel needs to be cascaded. County is here to support, so if you have any feedback on the web, County Life, Shop etc, then please let me know, all constructive feedback is welcome, just email me at communications@gmescouts.org.uk

Yours in Scouting –

Mike Dolan

ACC Communications and Resources

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Scout Survival Skills Camp 9th to 11th July 2010

What does the word survival mean to you? Struggling across deserts or living for weeks in a small open boat at sea? Well, that is correct, but survival can also mean knowing how to stay alive in the British hills, which may not seem so exotic but which is probably more important for most of us.

So one simple definition of survival is the ability to look after yourself with a minimum of equipment in a given situation.

It's time for our **County Survival Skills Camp** at Boarfold Scout Campsite.

It is open to those Scouts who have some experience of camping already and are able to cope with the conditions and weather. Scouts are shown a variety of techniques that would prove useful in a survival situation. They build and sleep in their own shelters and cook everything in a backwoods style.

The cost will be £15.00 per Scout. In addition, Scouts will be asked to provide their own food for some meals and certain other materials – full details will be issued to Troops upon receipt of successful application.

Places are limited to 10 Patrols and will be allocated in order of receipt of application including payment.

Please return the application form with fees as soon as possible and no later than 26th June.

John Dawson
11 Windermere Road, High Lane, Stockport. SK6 8AH
Tel: 07726 170875 e-mail: scouts@gmescouts.org.uk



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Scout Survival Skills Camp Application Form

TROOP:	
DISTRICT:	
CONTACT NAME / ADDRESS:	
	(places are limited to a maximum Patrol size of 6 Scouts per Troop)
SCOUT NAMES:	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.
	5.
	6.

Please advise whether any leaders are able to assist during the weekend.

2010

CHAMBOREE 2010
in Cheshire

KNIGHTS IN CHESHIRE, UNITED KINGDOM
CHAMBOREE 2010

31ST JULY - 7TH AUGUST
"CHESHIRE IS READY TO WELCOME THE WORLD"
WWW.CHAMBOREE2010.CO.UK TEL. 01606 734 107

scouts
be prepared

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

SCOUTS EXPLORER NETWORK

Poster Submissions

Many of you send us posters and adverts in a multiple of formats ranging from word documents right through to pdf files. We would be very grateful if any poster submissions were done in PowerPoint. Already I hear the question why!

Production in PowerPoint is easier for both of us for the following reasons:

- 1) PowerPoint is a presentation editor therefore it is designed for both text and pictures therefore you can produce a document much more easily than you would in word
- 2) When formatting in PowerPoint at this end we can manage the document quicker without losing the formatting that you had it in originally (like we would in a word document) therefore our reproduction is much better
- 3) Funnily it is actually easier for us to put a PowerPoint slide into a word document than it is to put a word document into a word document especially when the size is being reduced from A4 down to a quarter page.



News from the Clough

Canoeing Course

This is your last chance to book on our canoeing course that will enable you to take your own Group on Roman Lakes and run a safe and enjoyable session. The course will be held at Glossop Pool on Saturday 8th May and Roman Lakes on Sunday 9th May. The cost is £15 per person. Contact Linnet Clough urgently if you wish to reserve a place.



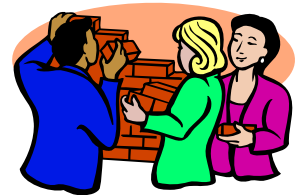
Coming Months

We are going to be very busy in the next months as we have hundreds of campers booked for both May Bank Holiday weekends. We are also expecting lots of visitors for the Join in Japan day. In the Summer we have had a number of bookings for Summer Camps from Groups in a variety of towns including Carlisle and Norwich.

If you are visiting us please may we remind you to organise car sharing if at all possible and to ask drivers to pass the cottages on Gibb Lane at low speed.

Team Building Days

We are hosting an ever increasing number of organisations as they hold team building days. These include CIS, Wythenshawe Hospital, Tesco and Real Radio. If your company is considering organising one of these days then remember Linnet Clough, we offer very competitive prices.



Medieval Night

It is not too soon to book your New Year's Eve entertainment. We are holding one of our famous Medieval Nights on New Year's Eve. There will be a 4 course banquet, mead, ale, champagne, entertainment and fireworks at midnight. All at a cost of £40 per person. Contact us for a booking form.

We need you

We are always seeking new member for both our junior (14-18) and senior (over 18) service crews to help with the effective running of the campsite and activities, any help on any weekend would be greatly appreciated.

If you would like more information about Linnet Clough then you can contact us by telephone on 0161 427 1688 or via E-mail at linnetcloughcamp@aol.com.

Green Fingers



2nd Romiley Scout Group Annual Plant sale will be held on the weekend of May Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th. We will be open for drop in business from 9.00am on the Saturday and 10.00 am on the Sunday.

We have a fine selection of quality bedding plants, tomato plants and hanging baskets. We have something for everyone and far better quality than the supermarkets. Please come along to browse and make yourself known, who knows, we may even find you a bacon butty!

You will find us at The Canal Wharf, Stockport Road, Romiley, SK6 3AN

CHIEF SCOUT'S GOLD AWARD

Congratulations to the 21 Scouts from five Districts across our County who were presented with their Chief Scout's Gold Award Certificate by Lord Davies of Coity CBE, County President, at a special ceremony at The Fairfield Moravian Church on Wednesday 21st April 2010.

The Chief Scout's Gold Award is the highest award for Scouts in the Scout Section and all those who gain it have demonstrated considerable commitment and leadership skills. Let us hope we see all these young people taking on further challenges in Explorer Scouts and going on to gain their Queen's Scout Award in the next few years.



Cheadle & District

George Fish	2 nd Cheadle
Connor Shelton	2 nd Cheadle
Tom Hirst	2 nd Cheadle
Robert Wood	2 nd Cheadle
Matthew Turner	2 nd Cheadle
Michael James	2 nd Cheadle
Josh Thompson	2 nd Heald Green
Jack Williams	2 nd Heald Green
Adam Lindsay	2 nd Heald Green
Jonathan Rourke	2 nd Heald Green

Goyt District

Robert Roberts	1 st Marple (Cobden)
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Glossop District

Jake Wilson	1 st Dinting
Liam Hesketh	1 st Dinting
Thomas Gregory	1 st Dinting
Thomas Greenough	1 st Dinting
Daniel Bailey	1 st Hadfield
Liam Belfield	1 st Hadfield

North Manchester and Medvale District

Sophie Cummings	308 th Manchester
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Ladybrook Valley District

Gian-Luca Raimo	1 st Bramhall
Michael Pennington	1 st Bramhall
Stephen Chamberlain	3 rd Bramhall

Woodbadge congrats for:

Christopher Vickers ASL – 308th Manchester – N Manchester

Christopher Revell ASL – 6th Ashton – N Tameside
Julie Lesbirel BSL – 339th Manchester – N Tameside

For information about manager and supporter training please see page 8.

THINKING OF TAKING YOUR GROUP ABROAD?

Please contact me if you are considering taking your Group overseas this year.

Remember the Travel Abroad Form **MUST** be completed for any trip abroad.

Debbie Gallagher
ACC International
07734 882 685

Email: international@gmescouts.org.uk

St George meets vultures

An amazing 340 Scouts and friends took part in the St George parade in Ashton on Sunday the 25th of April, the parade assembled at the shopping centre on Old Street when the heavens opened and it poured down the parade went for shelter under the veranda.

The parade was due to leave at 2.30 but due to a break in the weather we decided to leave early with Arnfield Brass Band beating the drum with a faster marching tune, so as to miss the next down pour, the plan did work for the rest of the parade. The St George flag was presented to Albion Church for the service by the Hurst Explorers led by Alex Mee the Hurst Explorer Leader. The service was lead by the District Commissioner Ken Marks and the Revened Alan Wickens, and the service was about comparing St George and his good deeds, being a friend and helping others and a short film clip from the jungle book of the 4 vultures singing their friends song, and helping Mowgli being his friend when he was lost in the jungle.



The Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and Leaders all re-affirmed their Scout Promise during the service. At the end of the service Ken Marks invested Carl Whitfield as a new cub leader at 12th Ashton Scouts and presented long service awards to Chris Wilson Group Scout Leader at 6th Ashton for 5 years, Arthur Mackin for 30 years and Alan Fish for 40 years. Chris Wilson carried out his first investiture since being made GSL at 6th Ashton and invested Robert Wardle into the Scouts and Molly Holloway and Keran Birchall into the Cubs at the Alter.

After the service the new District Chairman Steve Holloway said “This was my first St George Parade and I wasn't told my job involved running around the parade collecting road closure signs and getting wet. I didn't realise there were so many Scouts and girls in North Tameside Scouts, Scouting is a great organisation for young people to get life skills to enable them to take an active part in their communities.”



A shocked Alan Fish, who knew nothing about his award, said “even after 40 years I still enjoy working with young people even though they have changed a lot over the years, I better start looking now for a replacement for myself as we do struggle to get adults into Scouting.”

GME County Shop

Order the new Copy of Scouting Skills

A Complete Guide to Scouting Skills (Hardback)



GME Shop price of £9 – send you orders to communications@gmescouts.org.uk

Go to the web for more details on how to order from the Shop – www.gmescouts.org.uk

Diary Dates (see web for more details)

May

- 7th – 9th Scout/Explorer Climbing
- 8th Linnet Clough Canoe Course
- 8th County 6-aside Competition
- 9th Linnet Clough Canoe Course
- 15th Mega Team Meeting
- 18th Core Team Meeting
- 22nd Join-in-Japan Activity Day
- 28th – 31st Activity Fest

June

- 4th – 6th Climbing Badge Weekend (Now Full)

July

- 2nd – 4th Japan Exp. Training weekend
- 3rd National Scout Car Championships – North Manchester
- 9th – 12th Scout Survival Camp – Boarfield
- 25th – 15th Japan Expedition



A Model Railway & Transport Show

AT
Astley Sports College Yew Tree Lane
Dukinfield Gr. Manchester

on
Sat 8th May 10am until 5 pm

Sun 9th May 10am until 4.30 pm

Model Railways in all scales, Thomas the Tank Engine,
All forms of Transport Displays in all scales,
Vintage & Veteran Vehicles, Motor Cycles, Live Steam Engines, Craft
Stalls, Refreshments Available, Trade Stand Modelling Competitions,
Ample *Free* Car Parking. Full Disabled Access

LOTS TO SEE & DO FOR ALL THE FAMILY

Prices held for another Year

Adults £3 Children £1.50 Family {2 Adults & 2 Children} £7
For further information: Tom Lowther 12, Mostyn Street Dukinfield Cheshire SK16 5JS
0161 338 5097. Mobile 07719259638 Email superscout@tiscali.co.uk

IN AID OF SCOUTS FUNDS

Staying Safe Online

Most children think that they are safe when they use the internet as they are in a place that they feel safe. They often assume that the person that they are communicating with is who they say they are, however sometimes this is not the case. Share the following advice with young people (a complete guide is available in Scouting, April/May 2010, pg67):

- Never give out personal information online (IM ID's, Email, phone numbers etc) and keep network profile private
- Use webcams with caution and only with friends and family who you know in the real world.
- Do not post inappropriate images online which can send out the wrong impression and make you vulnerable to approaches from offenders online.
- Remember that online friends are just that. Never meet up with someone without a trusted adult being present.
- Think before opening a file from someone that you don't know, they could hold a virus or inappropriate material.
- Know how to block someone online and how to report them. Save www.clickceop.net so you can report someone straight away.

Managers and supporters wood badge training

Managers and Supporters in scouting who are effective in their role are as important in providing Everyday Adventure to Young people as section leaders. They ensure smooth running behind the scenes and make sure that all scouting activities are exciting and safe at the same time as ensuring all adult volunteers get the right training and support for their role and enjoy scouting as much as the young people do.

Not an easy task..... and here in Greater Manchester East it is important to us that you also have the right training to help you carry out your role. We know how time consuming scouting can be and so we have designed our manager and supporter training to be as flexible as possible to fit around your lifestyle and scouting commitments.

Do I need a wood badge?

If you have not got one specifically for the role you are in, then yes..... You may already hold a wood badge for a different role, and that means you may have already completed some of the requirements for the wood badge you need. This will be taken into account when creating your personal learning plan.

How do I apply?

- Request a needs analysis from managerlearning@gmescouts.org.uk
- Complete the needs analysis in your own time, think carefully about making your answers quite detailed, as some of the information you give may immediately validate you for some of the areas to be covered. It's not an exam but a way to find out where your strengths are and any gaps you might need to address. If you would prefer to talk to someone about your answers rather than write them down this can be arranged please contact Kay Hill on 0161 681 8619.
- Send in by post or email your needs analysis. At the same time pay the programme fee

What will happen next?

- Your completed needs analysis will be assessed against the learning requirements for your role. You will receive back a Personal Learning Plan including recommendations for learning and any validated criteria completed. Remember anything you have shown you already have the skills for will be acknowledged and you will not need to complete learning for these areas.
- You decide how to complete any learning you require via any of the methods below. Your PLP will include recommendations for the sessions at the manager workshop weekend which would be most useful for you.
- When you have completed learning and have considered the validation criteria you wish to attempt, you can attend one of the open validation evenings at county office where a manager training adviser will work with you.
- When the required modules are fully validated the recommendation for your wood badge will be made by the County Training Manager.

How much will it cost?

£50 if you want the needs analysis, Personal Learning Plan and access to manager learning as outlined below, or £150 if you would like to access all of this plus any of the learning opportunities for a sectional wood badge over a period of 2 years.

How can I complete the learning?

Essential information (1)	• module session: As advertised on the website and in county life or e learning
Tools for the job (4)	• module session: Sun 16 th May 2010 (<i>and Module 1</i>), Tue 9 th Nov 2010 or e learning
Modules 5-9 & 21-24 & 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • workshop weekend: 5/6 June 2010: Timed sessions based on needs analysis • e learning: Fundamentals of Scouting (5) & Balanced Programme (12) or workbook: Managing adults (24), Supporting adults (26) or video: Changes in Scouting (6), Valuing Diversity (7) or module sessions: 12, 17, 19

How can I validate the learning?

Manager & supporter open validation sessions Bring evidence of your work, discuss modules with the Training Adviser, try some validation activities	Tue 18 th May 2010, Mon 19 th July 2010, Sat 16 th Oct 2010
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Tame Valley Explorers in Apex Challenge

For the second year running Tame Valley Explorers took part in the fantastic Apex Overnight Challenge on 10th-11th April, at Sherwood Pines Forest Park in Nottinghamshire. This is a national competition for Explorer Scouts and Network.

This time the teams improved on their performance last year, with the team, Chewbacca's Hair Dressers (pictured) finishing 4th and Arson Fire finishing 29th out of 69 Explorer Scout teams, with a further 6 Network teams taking part.

The explorers had a fantastic time at the event where points are awarded for the different bases they attempt these are diverse, fun and challenging; including from mountain biking in the dark, a large inflatable assault course and logic problems. These bases are spread out over the park and the teams have 6 hours to navigate to as many bases as possible.

Further details can be found at the challenges website <http://www.apexchallenge.co.uk/>

Bob Taylor, Gavin Armit



Nick's Jambo Blog

22ND WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE SWEDEN 2011
UNITED KINGDOM

Sadly we don't have an update this month from Nick with him having been on holiday over Easter we are wondering if he has managed to get back into the UK after he jetted off to Egypt. So whilst Nick enjoys an extended stay we thought that we would bring you some Jargon, so that as it is mentioned in conversation over the coming 15 months or so you will know what they are talking about, we hope.

UK Contingent Leader: Mike Parkes is the UK Contingent Leader and is ultimately 'The Boss' of the UK Jamboree.

Contingent Management Team (CMT): This is a team of 7 volunteers and 2 staff from HQ who have overall responsibility for delivering the best Jamboree experience possible to the UK Contingent. This team was appointed at National level.

Contingent Support Team (CST): This is a team of 34 volunteers from all over the UK who are supporting the CMT, each CST member has a specific role within the Contingent and is the link between the CMT and the individual units at County level, they all have a 2 or 3 specific units to support before, during and after the 22nd WSJ. This team was appointed at National level and 3 are from Greater Manchester East, Debbie Gallagher, Will Carr and Nick Steciuk, the rest are from all over the rest of the UK.

Units: Made up of 4 Adults and 36 young people, these are appointed / selected at County level.

Unit Leaders & Assistant Unit Leaders: Each Unit has 4 adult volunteers, 1 unit leader and 3 Assistant Unit leaders; these are appointed at County level.

Participants: These are the people the Jamboree is all about, the lucky few young people who have been selected to represent the UK at the 22nd WSJ. They are very much regarded as the VIPs.

International Service Team (IST): These are the adult volunteers who will work long and hard to make the Jamboree happen, the Jamboree experience couldn't happen without the IST's efforts. There will be around 570 IST members from the UK at the 22nd WSJ.

National Notice Board

- The past month has seen the following updates and additions to the Scout Association Fact Sheets
 - New
 - FS120075 – In Touch
 - FS120052 – Full First Aid Certification: Definitions and Wearing of Badges
 - FS120310 – D of E: Getting started
 - FS120311 – D of E: A Commissioners Guide
 - FS310610 – Guidance for the Storing and Destroying of Adult Appointment Forms
 - Updates
 - FS185092 – Alcohol and Scouting
 - FS298405 – Facts and Figures about Scouting
 - FS322086 – Flag Procedure
 - Further updates are also available (for a complete list of updates please see Scouting Magazine Pg 17)
- Staying safe online, with the increase of Social Networking sites, the Scouting Association published an article in this months Scouting Magazine on keeping both the movements Adults and Young People safe whilst online. The feature starts on page 64 of the April/May issue of the magazine or you can download a copy from the www.scouts.org.uk/magazine if you don't get a paper copy.
- The BIG Adventure starts on 1st May and will run until the end of August. The idea of the BIG Adventure is for you to encourage parents to be part of your leadership team over an event. So invite parents along to join your camp this summer and turn it your camp (or other event) into a Big Adventure.
- Do you know a young Superhero? The Red Cross are looking for nominations for this year's Humanitarian Citizens' Awards which recognises the valuable contribution young people make to the lives of others, through volunteering, first aid, fundraising, or helping their community. The competition is open to anyone aged 25 and under, and includes individuals and groups. For more information and to place your nominations visit their website at www.redcross.org.uk/theaward.
- This year's annual census results have shown that there has been a 3.45% growth in the movement during 2009 the biggest increase since 1972. The organisation (at the census) has just under half a million members thanks to the growth over the past year.

Message from the editor.....Andrea Dolan

Another month has passed, the Ash cloud has come and gone and many of you will finally have made it back after slightly extended Easter Break. I do hope that you didn't have too many delays and that any delays that you did have you managed to make the most of.

It is now also of course the start of the camping season and we have two wonderful bank holidays to look forward to. If any of you get up to anything unusual or exciting then remember to let us know all about it along with a few photos to show everyone what fun you had. Your photos from St George's day would also be fantastic.

Please send all article to me on countylife@gmescouts.org.uk by Sunday 30th of May and I will do the rest.

Thanks for your continued support

Andrea Dolan

