



# SGOWTIAID

An occasional bulletin of the Scouts of Wales—sponsored by Royal Mail

EDITION 1—2007

CIRCULATED:  
WEEK BEGINNING



## PERSONAL DELIVERY BY THE ROYAL MAIL!!

For the first time the Welsh Scout Council is able to deliver 'Sgowtiaid' direct to your doorstep!!

**Cyngor  
Sgowtiaid  
Cymru—The  
Welsh Scout  
Council**

This means that you will be able to read your copy immediately, and hopefully will mean that the cries of 'but I didn't get my copy until it was too late' will be no more! However, as you will appreciate posting direct to everyone involved in Scouting in Wales is a costly exercise but it has been made possible by the generosity of sponsorship from Royal Mail.



**Supporting the  
development of  
young people in  
Wales**

We will be using the Headquarters Membership Database for circulation of information, so you need to make sure that your details on the database are correct and up to date! If someone you know complains that their copy of 'Sgowtiaid' has not arrived, the first thing to do is to ask them to check if their details are on the database and if they are correct! The Scout Association is also requesting that this information is up-dated before the issue of membership cards, so it is a good time to get it checked!



## APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS (WALES)



Nominations are currently being sought for the positions of Commissioners (Wales) for both Scouts and Explorer Scouts. Both the roles are essential to the smooth running of these sections within Wales, effective communications and the development of the Section.

The job descriptions for both positions are available from the Welsh Scout Council office at Llantwit Major and if you want further details of the roles you should contact Keith Burfoot, Deputy Chief Commissioner on 07710 816375 or by e-mail [keith@burfoot.org.uk](mailto:keith@burfoot.org.uk)

Remember you can apply yourself, or you may think you know of someone who would be excellent in one of these roles. If this is the case give Keith a ring and have a chat. There are lots of people in Wales with a huge experience of Scouting within these Sections, this is an opportunity to share that experience with others and see how the Section can grow and develop with your support.





## WORLD JAMBOREE 2007

190 young people are attending the World Jamboree from Wales. This is a very exciting time for them, with preparation camps and events, bringing them together into five Units and preparing them for what will be a fantastic experience—certainly different from any other camp that they have attended, as different from the average Group summer camp as it is possible to be!!

Apart from the sheer size of the event, with some 40,000 participants on site, and the scale of the campsite needed to cater for this number of people, they will, of course, be camping alongside Scouts from all the nations of the world— what an adventure.

The Unit under the leadership of Simon Fairless is being joined by a Patrol of Scouts and a Leader from Rwanda.

**THE SHEEP** —Leader: Simon Fairless:

**THE ARMY OF WELSH DRAGONS**—Leader: Gordon Richardson

**PRIDE OF THE WELSH**—Leader: Jill Lewis

**ST DAVID'S DEFENDERS**—Leader: James Stuttard

**MYNACH**—Leader: Gareth Cox

Members of the Units are representative of the whole of Wales and are also being joined by members of Girlguiding Cymru.

There is a souvenir badge on sale with profits from the sale going to support the costs of the pre-jamboree events, so if you haven't been approached by a Unit Member from your District or Area to purchase a badge, please send £2.00 and a SAE to the Welsh Scout Council office to make sure you are supporting our young people. The Welsh Scout Council is very grateful to Jacquard Weaving Company who have supported the production of this badge.

Everyone involved in Sgowtiaid Cymru sends their very best wishes to the members of all the Units— have a wonderful time and enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

If you want to know what happened come to the Talk-about 2007 and hear all about it!!!



Many congratulations to the following who have gained their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award:



**William Cheyne—CATVOG**  
**Robert Cheyne—CATVOG**  
**Clare Dallimore—CATVOG**  
**Matthew Lewis—CATVOG**  
**Christopher Brooks—CATVOG**  
**Mathew Owens—CATVOG**  
**William G Maddocks—CATVOG**  
**Rhodri Millichamp—Ceredigion**  
**Tristan Mathews—Ceredigion**

To achieve the Gold Award requires substantial commitment; as the Award record book says 'this is a marathon, not a sprint!' The Award demands persistence and commitment. Well done to all!

### Award Matters

The **minimum ages** for entry to the Award are Bronze 14 years, Silver 15 years and Gold 16 years. Whilst there is some discretion for entry to Bronze and Silver Awards (see Award Handbook). There is **none** at GOLD. Record Packs will **not** be issued from the WSC Office unless a full name and date of birth is provided.

One of the successes of Scouting is our International aspect. D of E Award expeditions can be undertaken overseas but the same criteria applies as if they were undertaken in the UK i.e. minimum numbers, terrain and independent assessment.

In addition to the usual Scout approval from your International Adviser, all overseas expeditions have to have the approval of the D of E Award Adviser (Wales). In addition, for the Gold Award the submission of the 'Blue Form' (notification form for expeditions abroad), together with the route **must** be submitted for approval by the Award Office *at least 12 weeks in advance of the venture*. A notification number will be issued. No Gold Award can be authorised without this number. Unfortunately Explorer Belt expeditions will not normally count as D of E expeditions.

Any advice on any aspect of the Award can be obtained from Mike Breakwell Award Adviser (Wales) on 01495 758662 or [mike.breakwell@btinternet.com](mailto:mike.breakwell@btinternet.com)

## Interview with Jill Gloster, Chief Commissioner for Scouting in Wales

### ***How did you get into scouting?***

Like so many, I was approached at the school gate while waiting for my son. I declined to help open a new Beaver Colony, having trained as a secondary school teacher, but offered to help with Cubs should there ever be a need, knowing full well that there was a very strong leadership team in place. Before long, as Akela moved and Baloo became DC I was asked to join as ACSL and that was that.

### ***What other posts have you held in scouting?***

Cub Scout Leader; District Commissioner; Assistant Area Commissioner (Cub Scouts) and Area Commissioner.

### ***Did you know anything about scouting before you joined?***

Not really, other than I had by that time one Beaver and one Cub in the family. I was, however, a Brownie and a Guide and achieved my Queen's Guide Award, which was presented to me by none other than Lady Baden Powell. That was a very valuable background.

### ***What is it about Scouting that you enjoy the most?***

Meeting people, visiting places and doing activities that I would never have dreamed of ordinarily.

### ***Such as?***

Canoeing, climbing, archery, shooting, orienteering. I'm not very good at any of them but I've had a go, mainly with my Cub Pack. Again with Cubs, there were great pack holidays with the Sudbury Group (Suffolk) and District camps which I loved. Hard work but I just love camping and the Cubs love it too, well it's very much what Scouting is all about, encouraging independence and enjoying the outdoor life. At the other extreme, I've visited Uganda with Scout Leaders from throughout the UK, slept in a sword grass tent and camped at the Ugandan Jamboree. It was an unforgettable experience.

### ***What made you decide to become Chief Commissioner for Wales?***

Good question! It was a hard decision and one I though I'd never have the opportunity to make, but after various rethinks I decided it was an-

other challenge and agreed to let my name go forward for interview and here I am.

### ***You have a family?***

Yes. I have been married for 32 years to Richard and have two sons both of whom went through Scouting. They are now 27 and 29. I also have a dog, a blonde-golden retriever.

### ***Do you work?***

Yes, part-time for a small property company. I run the North Wales office. There is only me so I keep the books, let flats, shops and garages, organise repairs and clean the drains if necessary! It's very much hands on.

### ***If you have any, what do you do in your spare time?***

I walk the dog, I love cooking, I dabble at gardening.

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### **From Stadium to Scout**

Scouting groups in Wales are eligible to apply to the **Millennium Stadium Charitable Trust** for grants of up to **£2,000**.

The fund, which receives its income from a levy on tickets sold at the Millennium Stadium, issues grants to charitable organisations throughout Wales. The Trust is keen to receive applications from groups who are working to make a difference in their community, and for projects that demonstrate a need and offer good value for money.

The types of projects that can receive funding include the purchasing of new equipment, training costs for volunteers, start up costs for new groups and educational project costs. The Trust gives priority to exchange projects that encourage young people to travel throughout Wales learning new skills, sharing ideas and making lasting friendships.

Interested groups will need to bid for funding via an application form which can be obtained from the website [www.millenniumstadium.com](http://www.millenniumstadium.com) or via the Trust Office (Telephone: 029 2049 4963).



Many Packs have one or two Explorer Young Leaders helping them. If you are fortunate to have such a person(s), how much do you know about their training, and how much do you do to help them?

An Explorer Young Leader, aged 14-18, is first and foremost an Explorer Scout. He/she can work with Beavers, Cubs or Scouts, but he/she must complete Module A of the Young Leader Training programme. The rest of the training modules are optional, but if you can persuade your Young Leader to complete ALL the modules, you will then have a much more useful helper in the Pack (Colony/Troop). The programme covers all sorts of ideas for activities, games, equipment, and also how to put the information across to our very young members, in the most enjoyable way.

Being a Young Leader requires a degree of maturity, and some of our Explorers mature more quickly than others. Please do not depend too heavily on your Explorer Young Leader in running the Pack. Remember that this young person has school work to complete, other Explorer interests to follow, and wants to enjoy it all. An Explorer Young Leader is not a replacement for an Adult Leader, but if he/she is nurtured and helped along the way, he/she may become an ADULT LEADER one day.

Recently my own District celebrated our achievements with an Awards Night. I was delighted to find that among the many certificates and badges for all the sections, and adults, there were about 8 Chief Scout's Awards, at Silver level, to be presented. This pleased me very much, because it shows that the programme in the Packs concerned is working well.

Do the other Packs need some help or encouragement, I wondered? Food for thought! Occasionally I hear from Leaders, ADCs and AACs that Silver Awards have been made in their Dis-

tricts / Areas, and that pleases me too. Good News is good news. Congratulations to the Cubs and Leaders concerned.

The AACs Cub Scouts and I are starting the planning for Cub Fun Day in 2008. We are also starting to plan a day for Cub Leaders – "Cubarama" - for 2008, so, please send your thoughts about what should be included to your AAC or to the Welsh Scout Council office.

May Castrey

Commissioner (Wales) Cub Scouts.



## Explorers tell us what they think!

Last year a survey completed by the Wales Explorer Scout Forum shows some interesting results. Members of the Forum went back to their Areas and completed the poll, the results of which had a reasonable sample from a good cross-section of Areas, so it should be quite representative.

First of all, the good news! The average rating for the question "overall, what do you think of Explorers" was 7.3 on a scale from 1 (rubbish) to 10 (amazing). Good ratings were also received for the quality of the activities they did and whether they thought their views were listened to. Surprisingly most Explorer Scouts thought that number of Leaders was not a problem.

According to the survey, Explorer Scouts spend quite a bit of time doing their Scouting, attending an Explorer Scout meeting or activity (including their 'regular' Explorer Unit night and as a Young Leader) an average of 5.3 times a month. That's over once a week! Should we be concerned about this? It's already a busy time of their lives, so are we expecting too much of, say, Young Leaders?

There may be a problem with the amount of time

Explorers spend chatting to their Leaders about their progress. An average rating of 6.0 out of 10 (where 1 is not enough and 10 easily enough) was given when asked "Do you have regular chats with your Leader about your progress?" The score of 6.3 was the average when asked, "Do you know what's going on?" with 1 being 'in the dark' and 10 standing for 'finger on the pulse', so perhaps Explorer Scouts could be better informed!

Finally three possible problem areas were highlighted. First of all, Nights Away. Most Explorers didn't think they went camping enough, with the average Explorer Scout spending just 14.5 nights away a year.

Another problem was awards. Numbers of Chief Scout's Gold Awards was good (so well done Scout Section) and lots of Explorers had gained the Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award, but other Awards were very low in numbers, especially the Chief Scout's Platinum Award, which was held by about a third of the number that held the Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze. This is of concern because the two awards are virtually identically. Are Explorer Scout Leaders forgetting the Scout Awards?

Most surprising to me was the final area badly rated by Explorer Scouts: 'variety of programme'. A rating of only 6 was achieved (1-poor, 10-good) for the question, "What do you think of the variety of activities you do?" Are Units stuck in a rut already? Hopefully the new Programmes Online facility that should be launched later this year should help this. Remember, Explorer Scouting is Leader led and while Explorer Scouts should be asked their opinions when planning a programme, it shouldn't be left totally to them. Leaders should use their knowledge and experience to plan a varied, attractive programme - including some, not all, of the Explorers' ideas.

So, a bit of a health check from the people that matter. I'd ask all involved in delivering Explorer Scouting to look at these results, ask themselves if this is their Unit or District, and think of ways to improve in the problem Areas. Don't forget to ask for support if you need it.

## Monday 26th March 2007

At the weekend I attended the Energise 07 UK Explorer Scout conference, during which we held a meeting of the Wales Explorer Scout Team. This was my last act as Commissioner for Explorer Scouts (Wales) and I've stood down from the role. I've now been promoted to Explorer Scout Leader!

It seems an awfully long time since I first chaired the inaugural meeting of the Wales Explorer Scout Team in the 'De Winton' room of the Commodore Hotel back in 2002. It was a very strange experience as it was a brand new Section and we were all feeling our way around in the dark to a certain extent.

My aim from the beginning was to find ways in which the Welsh Scout Council could support Explorer Scouting across Wales. It took a while for Areas to find out what support they required, and a while for us to find out how to do it, but I think we have made a difference over the last five years.

I think there are three main successes that the Team - and of course, under the chairmanships of Adam Gardner and Chris Cooke, the Explorer Scout Forum - have achieved since we first sat down together. Firstly, and most importantly in my opinion, is the chance for people with similar challenges to be able to talk to others, and to find solutions together. Support structures were not, and in some cases are still not, completely in place - AACs Explorer Scouts are still very thin on the ground - but we were able to perform some of the duties by supporting each other.

Secondly, it was obvious from the first meeting that Explorer Scouts wanted a big camp where they could meet other Explorer Scouts. So AWESOME was born, and in 2005 the first camp was held on a gloriously sunny weekend in the Forest of Dean. I very much hope that AWESOME 2007 will be as - if not more - successful, I'm sure it will be.

Finally we have created Team X. It quickly became apparent how successful the Young Leaders Scheme was, where it worked. Where it wasn't working we had some kids who were missing out. Team X has hopefully changed this, and it's fantastic to see how these Explorer Scouts will get on trains and travel the length of Wales to undertake training, and meet friends they've met on previous courses. Now there is training and support available to anyone, wherever they live.

I'd like to thank a lot of people for what they do for Explorer Scouting. I've met many of them, but there are more that I haven't met - who every week turn up to their meeting place on put on top quality Scouting for teenagers, or who diligently keep records of Explorer Scouts and chase them for their subs, or who support Explorer Scouts and Explorer Scout Leaders in other ways. You're all stars and every day you're making our World a better place. Thank you!

There is likely to be a slight interregnum before my successor takes the reins. I hope that they enjoy the challenge as much as I have. In the meantime, while I'm not in the role any more, I'll always be happy to answer emails or phone calls if anyone ever needs anything. One thing I've learnt in this job is how to say 'no', so I can practice that! Joking! Shirley Myall in the Welsh Scout Council Office will be around too should you need anything.

Good luck everyone with all that you're doing, and I hope to see you all around.

## Moz

**NOTE:** As you will see from the above Moz has retired (seems a bit young for 'retirement'!) as Commissioner (Wales) for Explorer Scouts. Moz has done a huge amount of work to develop the Explorer Scout Section in Wales plus establishing Team X. A big 'THANK YOU' from everyone to Moz for all his hard work and I'm sure we will see him around at various events!



*"What's all this I hear about Team X?"*

In rural parts of Wales, running – or getting access to – Explorer Scouting is often tough. For many young people aged 14 to 18, their nearest Explorer Scout Unit is many miles away and so they can either leave Scouting or become a Young Leader with their Beaver Colony, Cub Pack, go to a nearby Troop to help out or even stay at their own.

Lots of these Young Leaders really enjoy helping out and the Section Leaders that they help wouldn't be without them for the world.

There is a problem though. It's often almost impossible for rural Districts and Areas to put on the full range of 11 Young Leader Training Modules, whether it's because there aren't the adults on the ground to do it, or because there are so few Young Leaders per square mile it's not worthwhile running a course. There is also the downside that in some cases the Young Leaders rarely get to meet more than a couple more people of their own age in Scouting.

**Team X is there to help with this problem. It is a 'super'-Young Leaders Unit open to every 14-18 year old in Wales who is involved in Scouting. We put on residential training courses covering everything from the 11 Young Leaders' Modules to leadership skills to rock climbing and canoeing. We give young people in rural areas the chance to meet other Explorer Scouts from across Wales and have a great weekend together. We give them the training that other Explorer Scouts tell us is very useful, interesting and fun!**

In return, all we ask is that members of Team X (Explorer Scouts become members just by attending one event, and event get a cool orange polo shirt!) try to give us a hand at major Wales events such as the All Wales Scout Camp and Cub Fun Day.

Welsh Scout Council Office, and will be deleted when a young person reaches 18½. Contrary to what some Leaders have said the Data Protection Act does not say that information cannot be passed between levels of Scouting.

WES the SNAIL contains information and a booking form for Team X events. Explorers simply need to send the form in with a deposit (that is returned once they attend the event) and joining instructions are sent out. It's as simple as that.

These young people are the future of our Movement. They are the adult Leaders of tomorrow. They mean that we can retire earlier!!!

Please do all you can to make sure they get the opportunity of the training and 'being part of something bigger' that Team X can offer.

## WATERFRONT HOLIDAY HOMES

Two cottages on the Pembrokeshire coast for Scouters and their families. Special rates.

Contact Steve on 07790 298670



## AWESOME 2007

All Explorer Scouts and their Leaders are welcome to AWESOME 2007, details that have been sent to the WES the Snail database are given below. On-line booking is now available, check out the details. Bookings can be taken from Units or from individual Explorer Scouts.

**AWESOME**

**28th-30th  
September 2007**

**AWESOME – the All Wales Explorer Scout weekend – is back!**

**On the weekend of the 28th-30th September, hundreds of Explorer Scouts will descend on Glanusk Park near Brecon for a weekend of activities and fun**

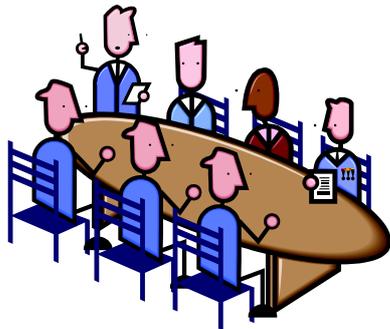
Have a word with your Explorer Scout Leader, tell them that you want to come and get them to book your Unit in at [www.awesome2007.com](http://www.awesome2007.com) – if it's just you coming, book yourself in. For more information see the website. If you don't have internet access phone 01446 795277 for a booking form

**Only £20 Bargain!**

**EXPLORER**

## TRUSTEES

From 1 April 2007 the Charity Commission require all Trustees working with young people or vulnerable adults to undergo a CRB check. This, of course, applies to all members of Group, District and Area Executive Committees.



If you have not yet arranged for Executive Committee members to complete a Scout Association CRB form you should do as soon as possible.

## THANKS

*(sorry this is rather belated, not Clive's fault!)*

Many of you will know that I suffered a major heart attack in July last year, which kept me away from work until



January 2007.

Through Sgowtiai I would like to thank the many people who were kind enough to send me get well messages – I was truly overwhelmed by your kind thoughts.

In particular I would like to thank the Scouting community in Ceredigion who were truly splendid, initially looking after me and then my wife Yvette during the week I was in hospital in Aberystwyth.

Scouting is a truly wonderful organisation when the chips are down. The prognosis is good and I started to undertake some work last autumn and have now returned to full-time work – it's good to get going again.

**CLIVE BRACEWELL**  
**FIELD COMMISSIONER**

## SCOUT STAMPS FROM BLETCHLEY PARK POST OFFICE

Royal Mail's "Scout" stamp issue on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2007 will be released on a special first day cover from Britain's secret little post office at Bletchley Park. It celebrates 100 years of Scouting. The cover to carry the new stamps on their first day of issue has been designed by Mark Cornelius and Clare Pollitt. The colourful design depicts a campsite with two scouts signalling the letters BP by semaphore flags. BP standing for "Be Prepared", "Baden Powell" and of course "Bletchley Park", where the local scouts are known as the "Enigma Troup". The stamps feature a range of scouting activity and will be cancelled for their first day of issue with a special postmark featuring an old scoutmaster with a rope and reef knot border. On the rear is a selection of historic Scouting items from the Holley Cornelius Collection at Bletchley Park. The cover will be a limited edition of just 250 priced at £12.50.



Further information can be obtained through the web site: [www.bletchleycovers.com](http://www.bletchleycovers.com) or from Bletchley Park Post Office, The Mansion, Bletchley Park, Milton Keynes, MK3 6EB. Tel: 01908 631797/272690.

## PROMISE IN WELSH

Last year two Explorer Scouts from Nottingham made their Promise during a camp in Snowdonia.

Just in case this was a little too easy, it was decided that during the camp they would learn the Promise in the Welsh language. They contacted the Welsh Scout Council office for the wording, made contact with a Welsh speaking person living near the campsite and having worked hard during the week had learned the words in time for the Promise Ceremony at the end of camp!

Gareth Williams, Chairman of the Welsh Scout Council Board of Trustees and Hywel Rees, Adviser Welsh Culture & Language, sent their congratulations.

The picture below shows Jamie Gollings and Nikki Crawford after they had made their Promise.



## SUPPORTING OUR ADULT VOLUNTEERS

This is the first in a series of articles about supporting our adult volunteers. Adult Support is an often misunderstood role, it's not just training and it's not the responsibility of any one person in the Group, District or Area. It's the responsibility of all of us – that's probably why it often doesn't get done properly.

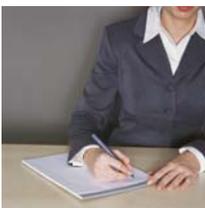
Let's look at the induction of new adults – OK we don't like the word induction. It seems too formal and business like. OK then let's look at how we welcome new adults into Scouting.

Better still let's hear from Emma Newcomer who joined her local Group just a few weeks ago. Emma how would you describe your induction into the Group?

*Well I didn't see it as an induction as such. It was just an informal introduction. Everything was new to me so I didn't really know what to expect.*

How were you recruited?

*Again it wasn't really recruitment. The Group involves everyone in its activities and so it seemed just natural when I dropped off my daughter to stay and help.*



*It was Lynne the Cub Scout Leader who first approached me and organised all the forms I had to complete.*

*Ioan, the GSL, see I'm already used to using Scouting acronyms and abbreviations, welcomed me. He explained that they had a welcome pack for all new adult volunteers. It covered a lot about the Group and how it operates – you know stuff about the other sections, funds, safety, the other adults and so on. It also had some introductory materials from Scout Headquarters.*

*Ioan had also arranged for Mary one of the Training Advisers to come along and she told me more about the training I need to complete and booked me onto a "Getting Started" session.*



*I was a bit nervous about what I'd have to do but in the pack there was a useful list of things I might be asked to do or even want to do. Things like collecting subs, running games and such like. Jane has been a Leader with the Pack for about a year and she's my "buddy". She's showing me the ropes and I've spent the last couple of weeks shadowing her. It's been a good introduction and blown away most of the apprehension I had.*

*I'm attending the Scouters' meeting in two weeks time where I'll be able to meet the other Leaders and see what the other sections have planned. My name's down for the Leaders' skittle match in December. I understand the December Scouters' meeting is always a social event.*

*So yes it's been good, I'm enjoying it, I've been made welcome, I was impressed with the Group's professional approach – in fact my employer could learn a few things about induction from the Group. In work you're lucky if someone shows you where the loo is on your first day!*

Thanks Emma – I'm glad your enjoying it all so far. I suppose as a "people" organisation you expect us to be good in the way we support our adults – wouldn't you?



## EXCITING NEW DEVELOPMENT PROJECT!



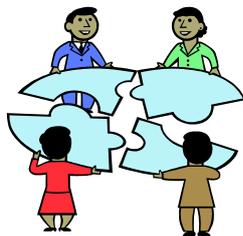
The Welsh Scout Council has been fortunate to obtain funding under the Active Communities Grant (a fund managed by the WCVA on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government) and the Scout Association Development Grants Board to support a Development Project which, over the next three years, will work to recruit adult volunteers in all of the 22 Unitary Authority areas of Wales— although not all at once of course!!

Three Development Officers have been recruited and have undergone an intensive induction course which included Scout Association training, including Module 25. Their remit is wide and includes raising the profile of Scouting

within the communities in which they are working. Scouting will gain from their extensive knowledge of development within the wider voluntary sector and this will enable routes for recruitment to be explored that have previously not been used because of the lack of capacity of local volunteers.



However, one thing is certain the Development Officers will need your support and the new adults that they recruit into Scouting need to be welcomed into the Movement and made to feel part of the family of Scouts. Everyone in Scouting is so busy that it is sometimes difficult to find the time to explain things to a new volunteer—we are all guilty sometimes of thinking ‘it would be easier and quicker to do it myself’!! However, this only solves a problem in the short term and in the long term remember that ‘many hands, make light work’!!!!



You will undoubtedly meet one of the Development Officers over the next three years, they are:

Jessica Evans—working in South East Wales

David Thomas—working in West Wales

Mark Winson—working in North Wales

In addition, working within the joint Welsh Scout Council/Mid Glamorgan Area Scout Council Development Project there is Rees Preston, who has been in post since September 2006 and in that time Rees has recruited twice as many new adults into Scouting, as the target set by the Project!!

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR ADULT TRAINING



The Welsh Scout Council has been successful in obtaining a grant of £44,000 from the Garfield Weston Foundation to reduce the cost of training for volunteers. The grant has been made to ensure that cost is not a barrier to training and that more volunteers complete the Scout Association training programme. All modules within the Adult Training Scheme Module Matrix will qualify.

Areas will claim, on completion of any validated module, the direct costs of training plus personal travel costs to a maximum of £10 per module.

The Welsh Scout Council is delighted to have received this grant and to be able to offer financial support for all those who volunteer for leadership roles in Scouting.

## BUSINESS IN THE COMMUNITY (BITC)

Business in the Community is a business-led organisation that links business participation to local community organisations by encouraging companies to share their valuable skills, expertise, resource and knowledge to make a positive impact in the community.



Team Challenges are practical projects completed by a team of business volunteers responding to a community need, this could be landscaping the land around a Scout Headquarters, creating a play area at a campsite or making the hall of a meeting headquarters more welcoming and appealing.



They may be able to help in other ways such as free professional advice and strategic support, management coaching, assisting with special projects etc.

Area Commissioners will be managing the link between BITC and Scouting in Wales and if you think Scouting in your community could benefit from support from BITC, then get your ideas together and make contact with your Area Commissioner as soon as possible.

## WELSH SCOUT COUNCIL CENTRES

Wanting to take your young members away for a residential event? Have you thought of Cornel, the Welsh Scout Council centre near Trefriw in North Wales, on the banks of Llyn Crafnant?

You can find out all about the centre, which has both indoor and camping facilities by looking at the website: [www.cornelscouts.org.uk](http://www.cornelscouts.org.uk)



There is also Hafod, the Welsh Scout Council Mountain Training Centre, Nant Francon, Snowdonia. You can hire the centre as a residential unit for groups up to 40 in number or you can join one of the training events, here is the list for the Autumn:

7-9 September—Rock Climbing & SPA training

5-7 October—Mountaineering for Explorer Scouts

2-4 November—Mountaineering for Explorer Scouts

30 November-2 December—First Aid (REC level 2)

Check out the website: [www.yrhafod.org.uk](http://www.yrhafod.org.uk)

## WELSH SCOUT COUNCIL WEBSITE



We're currently building a new website to be launched this summer! The new site will have a modern and adventurous look and feel, and will have a lot more content and interactive features. But we need your help—to help us better understand your needs, please fill in our survey at [www.scoutswales.org.uk/websurvey](http://www.scoutswales.org.uk/websurvey). We're also looking for people who are passionate about the adventure of Scouting and have an eye for detail. Please email: [webteam@scoutswales.org.uk](mailto:webteam@scoutswales.org.uk) for more information and details of how to apply.

## WATERFRONT ADVENTURE GEAR

Steve at Waterfront has new sit-on tops in stock as well as canoes kayaks and Topper sailing dinghies. Special rates for Scout Groups.

Contact Steve on 07790 298670.



**You can contact the Welsh Scout Council by:**

**E-mail:** admin@scoutsofwales.org.uk  
**Telephone:** 01446 795277  
**Fax:** 01446 795272  
**Writing to:** The Old School, Wine Street,  
Llantwit Major  
CF61 1RZ

**Don't forget:**

- **Deadline for next edition of Sgowtiaid: 31st October, 2007.**
- **If your Area, District or Group would like to share an idea or an event please send in details by this date.**
- **If you receive this copy 'Sgowtiaid' but are no longer in Scouting, make sure your name is removed from the database and hand on your copy to someone else.**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 27 July to 8 August—World Jamboree
- 14-16 September—North Wales Water Activities Weekend—see Water Activities Programme 2007.
- 29—30 September—Llyn Bala Sailing Weekend—see Water Activities Programme 2007.
- 5-7 October—Severn Canoe Cruise—see Water Activities Programme 2007.
- 3 November—**TALKABOUT 2007:**  
**EVERYBODY** is welcome to attend and take part in the Welsh Scout Council Annual Conference! Ask your District Commissioner for all the details.
- 10 November—Team Day.
- 4–6 January 2008—Frostbite White Water Canoe Weekend—see Water Activities Programme 2007.

## SOME BYGONE BADGES

I have had for many years on my bookshelf a copy of *BOY SCOUT TESTS and How to Pass Them. Complete Instruction in All the Tests.* It was compiled by Robert E Young, Commissioner for the County of the City of Glasgow and runs to no less than 672 pages and possibly a few more since the last page text looks as if it should continue on to the next page. It was published in 1917 and, from the Preface, is clearly an update of an earlier edition. Stuck inside the front cover is a card saying *Bugler Alf Westkilt, No 13180 K.R.R., 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Headquarters Flanders B.E.F, France.* Clearly young Alf, and all buglers were young, was fighting in trenches of World War One and this volume perhaps helped to keep him sane until he could return to Scouting. Let us pray that he did so.

If the Editor of *Sgowtiaid* agrees I will introduce you to some of the Scout Proficiency Badges of that era because they make fascinating reading and are something of a commentary on life in those days. Some, such as the Cook and Pioneer badges, are remarkably similar to present day but others are very different so, for starters, let us look at the Clerk Badge:

**Requirements.** A Scout must have the following qualifications:-

- Good handwriting and hand-printing
- Ability to use typewriting machine
- Ability to write a letter from memory on the subject given verbally five minutes previously
- Knowledge of simple book-keeping

*Or, as alternative to Typewriting –*

Write in shorthand from dictation at twenty words a minute as minimum



Even remembering that in those days, Scouts could be any age between 11 and 18, BUT also remembering that most left school at 14 this is a fairly demanding test. I am reliably informed that 20 words a minute shorthand is slow by trained secretarial or PA standards but for, say a 16 year old, this would need a lot of effort to achieve. From the text following the Requirements the Scout needed to contend with Cash Books, Journals, Ledgers, Trial Balance and Balance Sheets. Put that to your nearest Explorer Scout Unit and ask them to cope. Further on are all the modes of address from The Queen down to Lord Mayors and Provosts with a lot in between. Just in case you have forgotten, you end a letter to The Queen with: *"I remain, With profoundest veneration, Madam, Your Majesty's most faithful Subject, and dutiful Servant"*. If that is a bit much for you to cope with then all you do for an Archbishop is: *"I remain, My Lord Archbishop, Your Grace's most obedient Servant"*. All quite something even if the Scout was nearing 18. Next time I will deal with the Miner Badge – presumably quite a favourite in Wales in 1917.