



SGOWTIAID

An occasional bulletin of the Scouts of
Wales

EDITION 1—2005

CIRCULATED:

WEEK BEGINNING 24TH JANUARY, 2005



Cyngor
Sgowtiaid
Cymru—The
Welsh Scout
Council

Supporting the
development of
young people in
Wales

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Meeting our Challenges in 2005

May I wish you and your families a happy and healthy New Year. We are all now back in the swing of our daily routines at home, work and in our voluntary roles. Following in the footsteps of my predecessor, David Marsh, I have found these times exciting, full of opportunities and also challenging.

These early weeks have included visits to the core of Scouting—all ages of Section meetings (and to participate!) to see at first hand the values of what we can offer in today's environment. At all meetings I have been struck by the warm welcome I have received and I thank you for that. It is quite remarkable that what we offer today is almost 100 years old. How Scouting has changed over those years, and is able to adapt to the needs of the day, is the strength of the Movement. But at the core of any change to meet our challenges must be our customers—the young people of Wales.

We know that the key challenges we face include: marketing ourselves more widely to change the perception of Scouting in the eyes of others and to give equal status to both the Welsh and English language in our communications. We also require funds to deliver our projects and in these applications it is becoming tougher to convince those who make the awards. But above all, our biggest challenge is gaining more adult volunteers—because people are our greatest resource.

In order to help our young people we need the best answers to these challenges in a time of substantial social change in our communities. We have set up Project Teams to tackle these questions and we would welcome any ideas you may wish to forward to us on these topics. As at many times over the last 98 years, we must be willing to embrace change to move forward and build a solid foundation upon the six elements of our values-based vision for our successors.

Everything we manage in Scouting today is in an increasingly competitive environment—whether we like it or not. So answering our challenges, making the changes for the future and putting at the centre of our efforts the provision for Scouting in Wales is why we will all succeed in moving forward in 2005. We look forward to hearing your views and meeting up with as many of you as possible in the coming months.

Pob hywl!

GARETH WILLIAMS

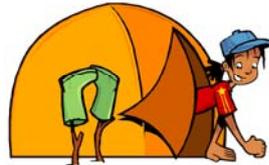
Message from the Chief Commissioner of Wales

I would like wish everyone a very happy New Year and wish you every success with your plans for Scouting in 2005.

I know that many of you are making plans at the present time for what your young members will be doing later this year—and there are so many exciting things in which to involve our young people. To name a few, this year in Wales we will see *Awesome* for the Explorer Scout Section; *Eurojama* for the Beaver Scout Section; *All-Wales Cub Fun Day*; the Scout Forum Activity Weekend; a contingent of Explorer Scouts attending a Boy Scouts of America Jamboree and, of course, many of you will be attending *Eurojam*.

Can I thank all of you for your commitment to our young members and wish you every success.

SUE CAMPER



Recruiting Adults

After two years of recruiting adults, predominately from parents, I have found that as a young member moves on from Section to Section, parents are inclined either to follow them into the new Section, or leave (claiming that the move to the older Section should provide an opportunity for self-reliance).

The answer is, of course, to ensure continual recruitment at every available opportunity. This can be solved in one way by introducing a Group Membership Application Form. This form is completed upon entering a Scouting Section and then at every move from Section to Section.

The form is made up of the following parts:

- The front page of the form asks for the details of the junior member applying to join the Section.
- A footnote to the front page is addressed to parents and provides a **first opportunity** for recruitment of a new adult. It indicates whether there is a waiting list for the

Section. If there is a waiting list, it points out that an applicant can be fast-tracked into the Section should the parent volunteer to help and, therefore, improve the adult/young member ratio. If the parent is prepared to help, this, of course, will help others on the waiting list.

- The second page of the form is the Adult Volunteering Form. It invites parents to volunteer for various roles within the Section and provides a **second opportunity** for recruitment. It is laid out on a sliding scale of commitment suggesting that, while volunteering to becoming a Warranted Leader may require a commitment of two to three hours per week, volunteering to become an administrator will only require, perhaps, half an hour per week.
- The third page of the form is a registration for the Group Supporters' Committee, providing a **third opportunity** for recruitment. It requests, as a condition of membership, that a parent of an applicant agrees to attend the Committee for approximately an hour every twelve weeks and includes a declaration with signature.

This system has been trialled by the 1st Caer-narfon Scout Group over the last eight months. It has resulted in the following:

- The formation of a Group Supporters' Committee
- The recruitment of six new Leaders

It has become a normal administrative function, instead of a daunting exercise in development and recruitment. If you don't already use something along these lines— why not give it a try?

Mark Winson, Welsh Scout Council Local Development Officer for Snowdonia & Anglesey.

Wanted!

An Explorer Scout Unit is to carry out litter picking and to clean up the site after Cub Fun Day. Tenders for the work to be sent to the Welsh Scout Council office by 14th March, 2005. This is a good way to raise money for your summer activities!



Fishing for Fun!

Did you know that the Environment Agency is

sponsor of the Scout Angling Badge? The Agency has supported Scouts for several years having initiated their sponsorship with the production of the Scout Angler Magazine and a new badge curriculum.

During the past two years the Environment Agency, together with angling clubs and Coaches from the Welsh Angling Coaching Foundation, have delivered fishing days to schools and youth groups. Over 7000 people, mainly youngsters, have been given the opportunity to cast a line for the first time with 63 events in the past year alone.

The introductory days aim to encourage participants to care for and respect their local environment. Attendees are given an introduction to aquatic ecology, witnessing some of the more unusual looking bugs and beasts that inhabit our rivers and ponds. Bankside etiquette, safety and basic angling methods are explained before being let loose on the water under the instruction of a trained angling coach—many of whom are members of the local community. Several of the coaches run angling clubs to which youngsters can turn for further help, advice and importantly, access to fishing waters near their homes.



If you would like to incorporate angling as an activity at one of your camps or activity days this year give the Agency a call. The contact details are provided below:

Chris Rees—01873 810464 for events in South East Wales.

Ken Parry—01248 670770 for events in North Wales.

Ida Tavner—01792 325616 for events in South West Wales.

Andy Schofield—029 20 466122— for national events.

Need new canoes?

Steve at Waterfront, Cardiff has a selection of canoes and kayaks suitable for Scout Groups. Prices are negotiable.

If you are interested you can contact Steve on 07790 298670



Fundraising Executive

The opportunity exists for a part-time role with the Welsh Scout Council to maximise our income for Scouting in Wales. The need is from Spring of this year.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in this paid role, please ask for full details from Shirley on 01446 795277 or by e-mail on: admin@scoutsofwales.demon.co.uk

We need this special person!

Ordering from the Welsh Scout Council

The Welsh Scout Council has a number of items available specifically for Leaders and others involved with Scouting in Wales. Here are just a few items, if you want to know more you can look at the website or ask for a catalogue:

Welsh Scout Council neckerchief—£4.75 std., £5.75 XL

Welsh Scout Council garments, embroidered with the Sgowtiaid Cymru logo and your name and appointment:

- Fleece jacket (£27.50)
- Sleeveless fleece (£21.00)
- Sweatshirt—opened hemmed or traditional (£18.00)
- Poloshirt—£15.00

All garments are available in navy blue, but are also available in a wide range of colours to match a Group scarf or for a special expedition or camp. Ring for details of post and package charges.

Also available are bi-lingual Promise Cards (40p); the Welsh language version of the Beaver Scout Log Book (£2.00) and the Parents' Guide to Beaver Scout Awards and Badges (£1.00) - ring for details of P & P charges.



Eurojama 2005

A very happy New Year to all Colony Leaders. Yes, you did read that correctly! Eurojama is a Beaver Scout (Wales) initiative to tie in with Eurojam and the Get Global theme for 2005.

The aim is to involve all Beaver Scouts in an international themed event with a maximum number experiencing a Night Away. The whole month of June had been specified for the events to avoid clashes with Cub Fun Day and any camps, but there should be flexibility when choosing a date, and if you slip into July – don't worry. The proposal is to hold an evening or a day of activities linked to one or more sleepover nights, perhaps using the same venue for two Colonies on successive nights, with an activity day in between. That way it is hoped that the entire Colony can enjoy a Euro themed event and as many Beavers as possible get their Stage 1 Nights Away badge. Various options will be available locally, such as individual or joint Colony events, District or Area links, depending on the numbers of Beaver Scouts and available facilities.

Information on Eurojam and European Scouting is available on the website; there are ideas for international themes in your Essentials files, and more ideas will be available after the March Regional Team meeting.

Remember that you will need a Sleepover Leader who holds an Indoor Nights Away Permit and that notification of the event must be with your District Commissioner a minimum of a week before the event, though in my experience, you will need somewhat longer than that to organise such an event. You will also need to produce the usual permission forms and home contacts.

So start planning now – choose a date and a venue – and look forward to a fun filled 24 hours for you and your Beaver Scouts when the

sun shines and daylight is at a maximum in June 2005.

Barbara Turton
Commissioner Beaver Scouts (Wales)



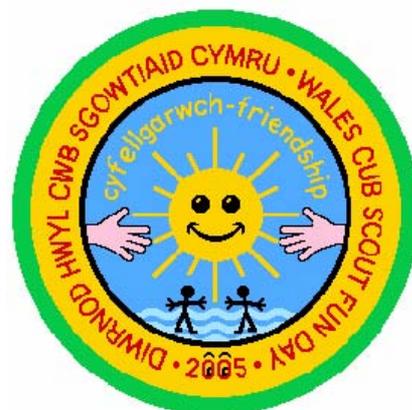
All-Wales Cub Scout Fun Day 2005

11th June, 2005—an important date for everyone involved in Cub Scouting in Wales to put in their diaries. Reserve the date, book the mini-bus or coach and bring your Cub Scouts along to have a fantastic day of fun at the Royal Welsh Showground, Builth Wells.

The theme for this year's event is 'Hands across the Sea' and there will be all sorts of fun on site—before you go home you will have visited Canada, USA, South America, India, China, Japan, Australia and New Zealand and can then take a trip through Eurotunnel and visit Europe!

The cost of the day is £3.00 per person including your Fun Day Badge and passport (travel costs are, of course, extra—that is travel to Builth Wells, of course, travel around the world, once you arrive on site is included!!)

The Fun Day Badge has been designed by a Cub Scout from Pembrokeshire and here is a preview of the design, although the monochrome version is a poor relation of the real badge.



Book places for your Pack with your ADC or AAC NOW! A publicity flyer in Welsh and English can be downloaded from the website:

www.scoutbase.org.uk/wales



Red Nose Day 2005

We've been asked this year to help launch Red Nose Day. The theme of the event this year is 'change something' and we'd like to 'change' a statue or other famous monument somewhere in Wales. Other monuments are being made-over in London, Belfast or Edinburgh. The aim is for Scouts to be involved in making over the statue or monument, and then, rather than going for national press, to launch the appeal to target to local and regional press.

The launch will be on 11th February—one month before Red Nose Day itself.

If you can think of a statue or monument that you'd be able to change (and think if permission is easily obtainable) please contact Moz, Commissioner for Explorer Scouts (Wales) on 07779 272340 or e-mail: david.morris@scoutbase.org.uk

Awesome Reminder!



The most fantastic Explorer Scout weekend for the whole of Wales will happen from 8-10th July, 2005 in the Forest of Dean. Application forms have been sent to ESLs, DESCs, DCs and ACs—and are on www.scoutbase.org.uk/wales—so it should be easy to get hold of one. Forget Sun Run . . . Support Wales events! Go to Sun Run in 2006!

If your District, Fellowship or Network can run a base for us, please contact Rob Kemp, AWESOME Bases Manager via e-mail at training@newportscouts.org.uk or 'phone on 01633 793009.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Remember Duke of Edinburgh's Award Record Books are available from the Welsh Scout Council office:

Bronze & Silver—£10.00 per Record Book

Gold—£15.00 per Record

Plus £1.00 post and package.

Books are normally dispatched immediately, so that your Explorer Scouts/Scout Network members can start on the Award as soon as possible. Phone, e-mail, fax—whatever you find easiest to order your books.

With each order we need the name of the Explorer Scout/Scout Network member, the date of birth and the name of the Unit. If you order by phone or e-mail your Unit will be invoiced.

Promotional leaflets and posters also available, together with other training material.

Activities

The following are Activity Factsheets that have been up-dated during the last six months. They can be found on www.scoutbase.org.uk

- [FS120078](#) (Edition 8) UPDATED Home Contacts
- [FS120088](#) (Edition 1) NEW Weather Forecasts in Outdoor Activities
- [FS120163](#) (Edition 5) UPDATED Scout Show Recognition Scheme
- [FS120269](#) (Edition 1) NEW Commissioner Guidelines for Scout Shows
- [FS120270](#) (Edition 1) NEW Assessment Criteria for Scout Show Recognition
- [FS120271](#) (Edition 1) NEW The Role of the Scout Show Assessor
- [FS120615](#) (Edition 4) UPDATED Recognition of RYA Training Establishments

JOHN MUSTON
CHAIRMAN—ACTIVITIES

Linking up!

From time to time the Welsh Scout Council receives requests to arrange links between Scouting in Wales with others in the UK and around the world. Below are those that have been received recently, remember we know nothing

about these contacts so it is up to Leaders to follow sensible guidelines:



- Jane & Neil Austin are the Cub Scout and Scout Leader of the 4th Kensington (The Oratory) Scout Group. They are interested in linking with a Cub Scout Group in Wales for the Global Challenge. They particularly want to explore somewhere nearer to home believing that the young people are not always aware of what is just around the corner! They have family from the Brynmawr and Ebbw Vale areas and want their young members to learn about the traditions, customs etc of Wales. Their e-mail address is:

janeil@austin420991.fsnet.co.uk
- Paula Dutton, a Beaver Scout Leader with the 1st Mill End Beaver Scout Colony, Richmansworth would like to link with a Colony in Wales. She says that in a few weeks time they are going to learn about Beaver Scouts in other countries and she is asking the Beaver Scouts to write brief 'penpal' style letters with an attached photo and would like to send this batch of 16 letters to another Beaver Colony with the possibility of them writing back to individual Beavers via her address. If your Colony would like to link with Mile End you can contact Paula on her e-mail address: paula.dutton@btopenworld.com
- Omar Jarju is a senior Scout member of the Delta Venture Scout Troop, which has the Tiger and the Lion Patrols. He would like to write to someone in Wales having read about the country in a magazine.

You can contact him c/o Bubacarr Ceesay, Gambia Ports Authority, PO Box 617, Liberation Avenue, Banjul, The Gambia.

A thought for volunteers

Blessed are those who can laugh at themselves; they will have endless amusement.

Blessed are those who can tell a mountain from a mole-hill; they will be spared a lot of trouble.

Blessed are those who are intelligent enough not to take themselves seriously; they will be appreciated by those around them.

Blessed are those who are attentive to the call of others without thinking themselves indispensable; they will be sowers of joy.

Blessed are those who can go to bed and fall asleep without looking for excuses; they will be wise.

Blessed are those who know when to shut up and listen; they will learn new things thereby.

Happy are you if you know how to take small things seriously and large things peacefully; you will go far in life.

Happy are you if you can admire a smile and forget a frown; your path will be sunlit.

Change of Address

M Warren & Co, the neckerchief manufacturers, have just moved premises and have asked that you note the new contact details:

Address: Unit 47, Chadkirk Industrial Estate, Otterspool Road, Romiley, Stockport SK6 3NE

Telephone: 0161 427 2220

E-mail: info@mwarrenandco.com

Website: www.mwarrenandco.com

If you have any requirements for Group neckerchiefs or a special colour for a special camp or event contact Averil, who will give you all the help and advice you need.



Water Activities

Each year the Welsh Scout Council holds a number of Water Activities events and the full programme for 2005 has been circulated to Districts during the last couple of months. If you have not yet received your personal copy ask your District Commissioner!! Or you can contact the Welsh Scout Council office and request a copy or you can look at the website! So no excuses—the information is everywhere!!

Just as a reminder of events in Spring 2005:

- 29th April to 2nd May 2005: 22nd River Wye Canoe Cruise.
- 4th June to 5th June, 2005—South Wales Kayak Training Weekend at Pen y Fan Pond near Newbridge.



And a new opportunity:



- 25th June to 26th June, 2005—Sailing at Llyn Brenig in North Wales.

Contact Berry Herring on barry@nickdom.co.uk or 01766 512159 if you want to know more about canoeing or Ron Cox on r.i.cox@lineone.net or 01407 730592 if you want to know more about sailing.

Mountain Activities at Hafod

During the Spring and Summer the Hafod Training Team are offering two courses for ML training and Hillwalking Training or Assessment is offered on:

4/6 February, 11/13 March and 8/10 April

6/8 May, 10/12 June and 1/3 July

Two Assessment weekends then follow:

1/4 September and 30 Sept/2 October.

If you want to know more about these courses

contact Geoff Morley by e-mail: geoffmorley@supanet.com or on 01768 88709

Hafod is the Welsh Scout Council Mountain Centre in the heart of Snowdonia.

Are you aware that you can hire

the hostel for groups of up to 40 in number? More details are available from Wyn Owen e-mail: glynderi@supanet.com or on 01269 844029.



Cornel Scout Centre

Also available in North is the Welsh Scout Council Centre—Cornel, and the new extension to the main house, to be opened in February 2005, Cornel Fach.

Cornel is situated at 200m at the head of a valley and on the shore of Llyn Crafnant and offers both indoor accommodation and camping. The nearest village is Trefriw.



The Centre is an ideal base for exploring the Carneddau

range of mountains, to the West and gentler country to the East and South (Terrain 'Zero'). It is also in easy reach of Conwy and its castle, Llandudno and other North Wales coastal resorts.

Bookings can be made via the website:

<http://www.cornelscouts.org.uk/booking.html>

You can check availability of the centre and confirm your requirements.

You can contact the Welsh Scout Council by:

E-mail: admin@scoutsofwales.demon.co.uk

Telephone: 01446 795277

Fax: 01446 795272

Writing to: The Old School, Wine Street,
Llantwit Major CF61 1RZ
Major CF61 1RZ

Sufficient copies of Sgowtiaid are sent to District Commissioners for circulation to everyone involved Scouting in the District. If you do not receive your copy within a reasonable time why not talk to your DC?

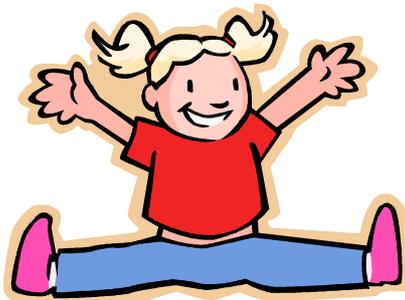
Don't forget, deadline for next edition of Sgowtiaid:
1st APRIL 2005

IMPORTANT DATES

WANT TO KNOW MORE—CONTACT THE WELSH SCOUT COUNCIL OFFICE

- 19th February—Chief Commissioner's Meeting
- 19th March—Team Meetings
- 7th May—North Wales Welsh Scout Council/ Duke of Edinburgh Award Training Day
- See inside for dates for Water Activities and Mountain Training

Let us know what you think about the new format of Sgowtiaid!



Mencap—'Get Together' Project

Some of you will remember seeing the Blue Peter programme last year when George, a little boy with Downs Syndrome wanted to join a Cub Scout Pack in North Wales, but needed one to one support to enable him to make the most of the opportunities that Scouting could offer him.

The outcome of the Blue Peter Appeal is that Mencap have created the 'Get **Together**' pro-

ject aimed at clubs or groups working with 5 to 16 year olds. The programme aims to recruit and train volunteers who will then be linked to any Group requiring support for a member with special needs and also offers to train Leaders to develop the way they include everyone in their programmes. Leaders gain a certificate and the Section will be awarded a plaque to show they are part of the Project. For those who complete the course Mencap are offering on-going support.

In Wales the training is being offered specifically for Scouting on 14th May at Llandrindod High School. If you would like to find out more about the Project and arrange for full details of the day and a booking form to be sent direct to you please contact the Welsh Scout Council Office.

There is no charge for the training, lunch is free and there may be a contribution towards travel costs!!

Make your booking early as numbers will be limited.