

SGOWTIAID

The quarterly bulletin of the Scouts
of Wales

EDITION 2—2001

MARCH 2001

Welsh Scout Council
Cyngor Sgowtiaid
Cymru

A CAUTIONARY TALE



Inside this issue:

LLANGORSE	2
BSP	2
SPASH!!	2
DO YOU HAVE E-MAIL?	3
LATEST FACT-SHEETS	3
WSC AGM	4
WORLD JAMBOREE	4

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

New & Up-dated
Factsheets—page 3

Getting information
to you more
quickly—page 3

Going to
Thailand?—page 4

I potter round my home Area most of the time getting in the way, but occasionally being a bit useful. In this latter role I was invited to assist at a two-day District Course for older Scouts. This was well organised, apart from the weather and it became clear that water activities were just not 'on' as laid out in the programme for Day 2. Alternatives were called for and I diffidently offered to run a base on 'Scouting Skills'. This is a polite term for 'Has-been Scouting'.

I cudgelled my brain (pompous phrase for 'have quick think') and came up with tree dating, parbuckling and estimation as three activities possible with the resources available. Tree-dating was quickly disposed of—they had done that in Year Whatever at school. Parbuckling was new and if you do not know what that is ask your District Commissioner for a demonstration at the next District meeting. However, it was estimation (see First Class Badge tests prior to 1967 for full details or Weeks 32 and 33 in the Book *How to Run a Troop* published in 1916 with a Foreword by some chap signing himself 'Robert Baden-Powell'. I do always like to work from the most to up-to-date sources) which was obviously the most interesting, to such an extent that it received the comment from PL 'Gee, that's cool'. I normally associate the word 'cool' with beer or the weather, but I am reliably informed that the phrase was an indication that the activity was at least 'Satisfactory' or possibly 'Good'. Since no teenager would ever be so enthusiastic as to grade something 'Very Good' or 'Excellent' I count this as a success.

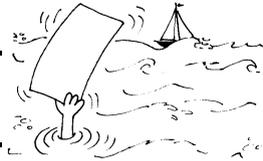
The simple moral of this tale is that those over 50 could have a few well remembered activities up their sleeve to delight and amaze your young people. When did you last invite your District Commissioner (or your Area Commissioner!!!!) down to do his or her 'party piece' for your programme? I wait to hear from the first District Commissioner, or Area Commissioner, who chooses to introduce Scout Pace to your Scouts. It will do them some good and one or two District Commissioners could benefit from it as well!

JOHN MUSTON—CHAIRMAN ACTIVITIES PANEL

'ROUGH IT FOR REFUGEES'

The United Nations Association Wales and Christian Aid are co-ordinating a programme of events across Wales to highlight the plight of refugees and is an opportunity to both give practical support to refugees and explore refugee issues. There are a variety of resources and possible events some of which can be organised at a local level. If you want to know more contact Helen Harris, Development UNA Wales on 01792 869 267 or by e-mail:

Helen.unawales@ecommonwealth.net



SPLASH!!!

CANOE TRAINING & ASSESSMENT WEEK-ENDS

Please note that with immediate effect, bookings for the Islwyn and Cae Llyn Training Assessment weekends must now be directed to Barry Herring, at the address below.

As you know Mrs Gladys Pritchard has carried out this task since the early 90's, coupled with this she has also served as the Activities Advisory Panel Secretary for six years. For all Gladys's support we are very grateful and I know that you will join me in a big thank you. One thing you will be pleased to hear is that she will not

be stepping out of our lives as we will see her at the canoe cruises supporting her husband, Ken, who as you know is one of our transport drivers.

Bookings forms should be sent to Barry Herring at:

65 Pensyflog, Porthmadoc LL49 9LD.
Telephone: 01766 512159. E-mail: barry@nickdom.com

BARRY SCOUT PROJECT (BSP)

The aim of the Barry Scout Project is to give access to a range of water activities and equipment.

They offer courses for proficiency badges and cover most of the water-based activities for the Scout Award schemes.

Their operating area covers Penarth Marina and Cardiff Bay, including the River Ely and River Taff. For tidal experience they work between Penarth and Barry Old Harbor, with access to the Bristol Channel via the Cardiff Bay tidal locks.



All instructors hold RYA certificates, Association activity authorisations and all boats have Association certificates in force.

For more information please contact: Keith McIntyre, 5th Barry Sea Scout Group on 01446 700488 or 07790 165471, E-mail: keith@mcintyre85.freeserve.co.uk

LLANGORSE ROPE CENTRE



Llangorse Rope Centre is remaining open to the public, despite the foot and mouth epidemic, as it is a self-contained indoor climbing and activity centre. Access is direct to the Centre from the adjoining car park and they have taken precautions to prevent public access to farmland and footpaths leading from the Centre.

The Centre can offer climbing and/or high level rope courses and activities, indoors, either with Centre Instructors (pre-booking

required) or by groups using their own instructors on a one instructor to six persons basis.

You can book by ringing: 01874 658272/584

MISKIN MILL SCOUTS VILLAGE

The Annual General Meeting of the Management Committee will take place at Misikin on 25th April, 2001 at 7.30 p.m.

JIM DENNING—029 20 513937

GIVE IT A THOUGHT!

In the original editions of the Welsh Scout Council newsletter from the 1930's, each edition contained a 'Thought for the Day' type piece. So let's up-date this and use some short pieces that would be useful for Scouts' Owns, meditations— or just useful to get us thinking! If you have a piece you think others will enjoy, please share it. Send your contribution to the Welsh Scout Council Office.

SMILE FOR YOU

Smiling is infectious; you catch it like the flu,
When someone smiled at me today, I started smiling too.
I passed around the corner and someone saw my grin
When he smiled I realised I'd passed it on to him.
I thought about that smile then I realised its worth,
A single smile, just like mine could travel round the earth.
So, if you feel a smile begin, don't leave it undetected
Let's start an epidemic quick, and get the world infected!

Keep the smile going by passing it on—everyone needs a smile!!!



MALVERN CHALLENGE THE SUN RUN

Do you know about these two events? The *Malvern Challenge* (29th June—1st July, 2001) is a weekend of activities for Scouts and Guides. All you need to do is take a tent, all food and activities are provided. The cost is £23.00 for Scouts and Guides, £18.00 for leaders.

The *Sun Run* (6-8 July, 2001) is for Venture Scouts, Senior Section members of the Guide Association and

Leaders. The aim of the run is to watch the sunset from the Malvern Hills then race to the Cotswold Hills in time to see the sun rise—about 23 miles. Cost is £15.00.

If you want to get the dates in the diary early for next year then note the following:

Malvern Challenge—28th-30th July, 2002
Sun Run—5th-7th July, 2002
See their website: www.sr-mc.org

E-MAIL!!

A growing number of people have E-mail addresses and consideration is being given as to how the Welsh Scout Council can make more use of this to ensure that information is sent quickly to the people who actually need it.

Over the past couple of years, we have tried to send information about events and conferences direct to the relevant people. While appreciating that E-mail facilities are not available to everyone (and that some Scouters do not even wish to own a computer!), we think we can probably improve the service we offer to individual Scouters by using E-mail.

If, therefore, you have an E-mail address and would like us to send information direct to you please send your details to:

admin@scoutsofwales.demon.co.uk

At the same time let us know the Sections you are involved with, to ensure that we only send you relevant information. If you need information relating to more than one Section let us know that as well. Patrol Leaders and Venture Scouts are also very welcome to send their E-mail address so that they can also have information direct.

You will not be deluged with information but when there is something going on in Wales that is relevant to you, at least you can receive it quickly!



PLACES TO GO—THINGS TO DO!

Information has been received from the following offering days out for groups of young people:



West Midland Safari & Leisure Park, Bewdley, Worcestershire £3.00 per person and more information is on their website: www.wmsp.co.uk

The American Adventure—just off Junction 26 of the M1. Group discounts are available and leaders are offered a free familiarisation visit on 18, 19, or 20 April. For further information ring the Sales & Marketing office on 01773 535301.

Pontins at various venues—offer self catering or half board holidays for groups. Telephone 0900 40 6070 for more information.

Blackpool Tower & Circus—full day admission special offers for groups of 10 or more. Telephone: 01253 292019 for more details.

PROUD TO BE WELSH!!

Is your Troop or Unit going abroad this year and have you thought of purchasing Sgowtiau Cymru neckerchiefs? The red necker bordered with white and green and embroidered with the emblem of Wales—the Leek, these scarves are very popular with overseas hosts! Cost—£4.50 for standard and £5.75 for XL, small charge to cover post and packing.

Also available are sweatshirts (£18.00) and poloshirts (£15.00), which can be personalised with your expedition name and the name of each member of the expedition. A wide variety of colours is available, the cost includes embroidery of the Sgowtiau Cymru logo and any personal details.

For full details contact the Welsh Scout Council office. These are made to order, so place your order in good time.

FACTSHEETS

Do you have the latest factsheets?

The following are new: **Cave Plan, Water Skiing, Windsurfing**. The following are updated: **Forestry, Route Plan, Snorkelling & Sub Aqua, Aircraft Recognition List, Archery, Cave & Mine Assessment & Advice, Swimming Pools**. All factsheets relating to the **Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme** have been up-dated and circulated to Area Co-ordinators. The factsheets covering the **Authorisation Schemes** have also been up-dated to take into account the fact that those under 18 are able to attend First Response Courses. In addition there are six new facts available relating to the revised **Authorisation Scheme for Mountain Activities**.



Up-dated Factsheets covering the following are soon to be available:

Snowsports, Authorisation Scheme for Snowsports, Authorisation Scheme for Air Activities, Access to Airfields, Flight briefing, Gang Show Recognition, Gang Show Standards, Scout Association Swimming Pools, Mountain Biking.

New Factsheets are soon to be available for the following: **Hovercrafting, Mountain Biking Application form, Sound, Lighting, Motor Cruising on Inland Waters**.

Welsh Scout Council
Cyngor Sgowtiaid Cymru

THE OLD SCHOOL
 WINE STREET
 LLANTWIT MAJOR CF61 1RZ
 CF61 1RZ

Telephone: 01446 795277
 Fax: 01446 795272
 E-mail: admin@scoutsofwales.
 demon.co.uk

**SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT
 OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN WALES**

If you want any information
 about articles in this Bulletin
 or about Scouting in Wales,
 please contact Shirley Myall
 at the Welsh Scout Council
 office.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2001

**12th May, 2001—Committee of The
 Welsh Scout Council**

**11th August to 1 August—Explorer
 Belt Expedition 'The Gambia'**

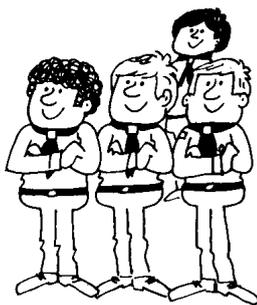
**23rd September—Advisory Panel
 Meetings**

WE'RE ON THE WEB—
[www.scoutbase.org.
 uk/wales](http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/wales)

Deadline for next Edition:
 30th June, 2001
 Material can be sent by
 post, fax or E-mail



WELSH SCOUT COUN- CIL - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2001



Did you know that every member of Scouting in Wales is welcome to attend the Annual General Meeting as are parents and supporters of Scouting in Wales. This year the meeting will take place on Saturday, 20th October, 2001 at the Pavilion Conference Centre, Llandrindod Wells commencing at 2.30 p.m.. The Guest Speaker will be Mr Peter Clarke, the newly appointed Childrens' Commissioner for Wales. There will also be

a presentation by the young people who will be taking part in the Explorer Belt Expedition to The Gambia this summer. At the end of the afternoon there will be plenty of opportunity for you to meet old friends and have a chance to look at the various of static displays.

Put the date in your diary now. If you know of someone who would appreciate a personal invitation please let us know.

20TH WORLD JAMBOREE THAILAND

The next World Jamboree will be held in Thailand from 28th December, 2002 to 8th January, 2003. Over 25,000 Scouts from all over the world will gather in Sattahip 150 km from Bangkok.

The Jamboree is open to Scouts and Venture Scouts and members of the Guide Association Senior Section who have reached their 14th but not their 18th birthdays on the first day of the Jamboree, 28 December

2002. The maximum cost for participants is £2,500 and the Scout Association is doing all it can to reduce the cost as far as possible.

The Jamboree will be a three-part experience, The Jamboree, home hospitality (likely to be in another South East Asia country) and a Thailand Experience. Units will be away from the UK for 22 days and could be travelling as early as 21st December, 2002 and returning as late as 15th January, 2003.

If you want to know more contact your Assistant Area Commissioner (International). If you are not sure of who this person is, get in touch with the Welsh Scout Council office.

