

Cyngor Sgowtiaid Cymru—The Welsh Scout Council:

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

I'm writing this mid census reporting. A month has passed since the census date of 31st January and 5 Areas are now complete, the rest are still waiting for Groups and Districts to return numbers. I always find it amazing that every year is such a struggle to collate numbers, when everyone must have their records in a book or on a spreadsheet to run efficiently and effectively.

Sorry for the gripe.

On a positive note, the Areas returned so far are all showing an increase so well done and as an overall comparison to last year there is an increase of 3.4%.

Why is the census important? Well growth is an indicator of success, showing that Scouting provides programmes that young people want to attend and that Scouting still provides a dynamic experience in this very technical age. It also gives an indication to Area and District Commissioners as to where help and support might be needed or where the Development and Planning Officers might be asked to work.

It was good to see so many at the Beaver and Cub Conference on 3rd March and I look forward to seeing District Commissioners, GSL's and District Chairmen at the District Commissioners Conference on 24th March. The 25th March sees a day of training modules for those needing management training and I am encouraged by the sign up to this training day, but there is room for more participants on both days.

The preparation for the All Wales Scout Camp in June is well under way; it should be a great weekend and I'm looking forward to experiencing some of the activities on offer.

This issue of Sgowtiaid is the penultimate issue I'm afraid. The costs in money and time are just astronomical. We have been lucky to have had funding over the last few years, but now that has dried up and other funders are not forthcoming. Sgowtiaid will not disappear; just become a more regular feature on our new web site which should be ready for launch at our AGM in November.

Thanks for all you do in Scouting

Jill

JILL GLOSTER—CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF WALES





THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD
GWOBR DUG CAEREDIN

There have been some major changes in the way the DofE Award is organised in Scouting in Wales, with the main one being that there are now more DofE advisers/co-ordinators at a local level, that are slowly being trained up to deliver DofE courses and support Leaders, Explorer Units and Networks more closely. This is based around the new eDofE system, an electronic system that both leaders and young people use to record and approve the DofE Awards.

To find out who locally can advise you regarding the DofE Award contact:

Alison Owen Yeates

alisonowenyeates@talktalk.net 01269 844029

Courses & Training organised

During the past year many courses have been organised to help train adults to successfully run the DofE Award, Assess expeditions as Accredited Assessors and to train leaders and young people on how to implement the new electronic eDofE system.

Introduction To The Award (ITTA)	2
Assessor Accreditation Courses	2
eDofE Training	8

We have increased our number of Accredited Expedition Assessors by 95% (from 22 to 43) during this financial year so far.

Hafod Open Gold DofE course

The Open Gold will be run from Hafod Scout Mountaineering Centre from Friday 24th August to Saturday 1st September 2012. This is a course that will either get the Gold DofE Award candidate through their training and the Practice Expedition or through top-up training and the Qualifying Expedition. It is to provide the Gold Expedition opportunities to either individuals or small groups of young people in Scouting that for whatever reason have been unable to access this in their own Units or Networks.

The total cost is: £150.00 (includes all food, camp-site fees, transport while on the course, instruction and loan of equipment if required.)

For more information or for booking a place contact: *Wyn Owen* –

wyn.owen@talktalk.net 01269 844029



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD
GWOBR DUG CAEREDIN

Bronze, Silver & Gold Success

	Bronze		Silver		Gold	
	2011 -10	2011 -12	2010 -11	2011 -12	2010 -11	2011 -12
Completions	45	71	28	21	5	9
New Enrol-ments	107	197	35	70	25	33

There has been a 29% increase in the number of young people achieving a Duke of Edinburgh's Award and a 20% increase in numbers enrolling on the Award within ScoutsWales, compared to the previous year.

I'd like to extend a big thank you to all the Leaders at grass roots level who are making this happen.

Gold DofE Award Success

Since April 1st there have been 12 Gold DofE Awards awarded to young people in Scouting in Wales. It can take many years to complete and is a prestigious Award.

Congratulations to:

William Colerick

Llanrhaeadr ESU, Montgomery

David Edwards

Phoenix (Afon) ESU, CATVOG

Ieuan Gregory

Tyrch Trwydd ESU, Carmarthenshire

Suzie Gregory

Llangollen ESU, Clwyd

Christopher Kendrick

Marchwiell Scouts, Clwyd

Edward Lewis

Marchwiell Scouts, Clwyd

Sara Mayall

Radnor ESU, Radnor

Elinor Nicholas

Pembrokeshire

Melissa Parry

Marchwiell Scouts, Clwyd

Marc Rogers

Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan

Iwan Williams

Leri Dragons ESU, Ceredigion

Joseph Williams

Leri Dragons ESU, Ceredigion

Menai Bridge Explorer Scouts

After weeks of planning and months of fund raising, we finally had enough money for a caving / walking trip to Edale in Derbyshire. We (14 of us) could not afford the 5* spa resort we had hoped for but had a “winter warmer weekend” in Edale Youth Hostel instead. It became a bit of a challenge to reach the YHA on the Friday night in time for dinner – Menai Bridge to Edale is 2.5 hours according to all the route planners. We made it with about 5 minutes to spare. Our cave guide, Dave, met us in the hostel and gave a brief outline of the plan for Saturday which may not have reassured everyone!

Saturday morning was cold (-9.5°C) and crisp. This was our caving day so we had breakfast, picked up our packed lunch and set off to the meeting point claiming two geocaches on the way. After a brief period of “Explorer Curling” a new Olympic sport using Explorer Scouts instead of stones, we met Dave and travelled to the cave parking near the entrance. This might not have been a good idea...



After suiting up and preparing our equipment we entered the cave and climbed, crawled, squeezed here and there and reached a suitable point to invest Tomos (head sticking out of the Letterbox) and Sara (base of the stone waterfall). Maybe we should always invest people in unusual places. We left the cave around 14.30 and it was snowing, big time! This was not supposed to have arrived until 15.00 and so it became a race to the minibus, jump in and drive up the super slick ice and snow covered track to the road. We just made it although Dave's car did not and was stuck there for another two days. We also just made it up the YHA drive and rushed into the showers – never has hot water felt so good! All other arrivals after us had to park at the bottom of the hill and walk the half mile to the hostel.

We then had the luxury of watching the rugby on the television before dinner – oh so civilised. All evening it snowed and snowed. We started thinking about how were we going to get home? The pass we came in by would be closed and the Snake and Woodhead Passes were already closed. Would we even get the minibus down the drive? The train became a viable option...

Sunday, which had initially been planned to be a walking day (Mam Tor) was cool (+0.7°C) and clear. We helped clear the drive around the YHA, mainly by using the snow in snowballs or as a snowman. We got the minibus down to the road and then spent the morning plastic bag sledging with bags exchanged for a donation with the YHA. Fantastic fun. All Terrain Zero as well!

Around lunchtime we set off to Hope, the town that gives the valley its name, and decided to have a go at Winnats Pass as the roads were pretty clear. The route was perfectly clear although we did encounter some fog on the decent off the Peak District. After an uneventful drive back to North Wales we returned the minibus and realised we had left our flags in Dave's car! Ooops.

I think we are planning cycling on the Tissington Trail and Limestone Way next... watch out for more Bingo nights!

Stephen Mudge
Explorer Scout Leader, Isle of Anglesey



Tîm Gweithgareddau Dŵr / Water Activities Team

Fel rhan o'n hymrwymiad i ddatblygu hyfforddwyr cynhaliwyd cwrs cymorth cyntaf REC yn ddiweddar. Pleser yw cael adrodd bod 12 o'r tîm gweithgareddau dŵr wedi cymhwyso .

As part of our commitment to develop the team I am pleased to report that 12 people from the water activities team recently attended a REC two day first aid course and all passed successfully.

Yours in Kayaking, Canoeing and Sailing

Eryl Williams / Peter Firth

Sgowtiaid Cymru / ScoutsWales

Cydgysylltwyr Gweithgareddu Dŵr / Water Activities Programme Coordinators



Coastal Path Clean Up 27th-29th April

The Wales Coastal Path will open on 5th May 2012 and Keep Wales Tidy will be organising a pre-launch clean up over the weekend 27th-29th April.

Wales will be the only country in the world where you can walk the entire length of a country's coastline and we need to ensure that visitors appreciate our beautiful coast. This is a great opportunity for us all to work together with the public and receive a huge amount of national press coverage and help to ensure the path's success.

Keep Wales Tidy will be organising clean up events in all counties which has a section of the coast path during the weekend of the 27th-29th April.

They are hoping to work with many other organisations and attract as many volunteers as possible.

Please let Keep Wales Tidy know how you could assist and be involved in this event: (for example)

Organise an event

Publicise the overall event on your website, distribution lists etc

Any other ideas are welcome

Registration will be via the Keep Wales Tidy website together with an online map displaying events and equipment will be available for use at events.



Llywyr Arfordir Cymru
Wales Coast Path

Big Welsh Coastal Walk Taith Gerdded Arfordirol FAWR Gymreig

Calling all Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers & Network to the Opening of the first full Coastal Path in the World. Official Opening 5th May 2012

At 875 miles, the Wales Coast Path will be the longest continual path covering the whole of a country's coastline and linked up with Offa's Dyke Path, National Trail will create a 1000 mile continuous walk right around the whole of Wales.

To mark the official opening on 5th May, the Ramblers Cymru are organising the **Big Welsh Coastal Walk**, to take place over the whole of the Bank Holiday weekend. Many of these walks are being led by the ramblers, but charity walks and "days out" are being organised by many other organisations such as the Guides, DofE etc. The ambition is to get as many people as possible walking around the coast of Wales in perhaps the largest mass participation event Wales has ever seen.

All you need to do to be involved in this unique day is to decide on which section of the path you would like to visit and organise a walk, day on the beach, or any activity that your Group would be interested in taking part in. It may include a navigation challenge to actually get to the path, or work with "Keep Wales Tidy" and have a competition to pick up as much rubbish as possible with prizes for the winners. There are no limits to your imagination, but we do want to hear about and see your experiences from the day. And don't forget this is not just for the Scouts, but families can get involved as well – in fact the more the merrier and further events will be announced in the media the closer we get.

When you have decided which section you want to visit, **please contact your Area Commissioner or ScoutsWales Office** who are co-ordinating events on behalf of Scouting in Wales, which will build a picture of the activities for the day.

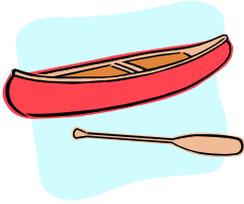
With National and International interest in the paths success we will be hoping to have a great deal of media interest **so please wear your 'Neckers'** and wave at the cameras where possible.

We have a special badge being designed to celebrate the opening of the path and this will be made available shortly and is designed to sit above the Diamond Jubilee Badge

The YHA is fully supportive and offering accommodation at reduced rates as well as opening their doors for activities. Get more information from: <http://www.yha.org.uk/find-accommodation/wales/>

A full set of maps showing the course of the path at OS 1:25k scale can be viewed at: <http://www.cw.gov.uk/enjoying-the-country/wales-coast-path.aspx>.

Don't forget **Leaders receive 20%** off all purchases in Cotswold Camping including maps



ScoutsWales Activity Weekend



In 2012 we would like to introduce the “ScoutsWales Activity Weekend”. This will be a fantastic opportunity and challenge for Young People and Adults within Wales to get together to put on and take part in an adventurous activity over a weekend.

Activities can be organised at an Area, District, Group or Section level and would be held over a set weekend during 2012.

Those who successfully partake in a registered activity will receive the 'Chief Commissioner's Activity Weekend Award'.

The success of the events held across Wales will determine if this becomes an annual or bi-annual event in the future.

First Planned “ScoutsWales Activity Weekend”

The first “ScoutsWales Activity Weekend” will be held over the weekend of the **6th/ 7th October, 2012.**

In addition to all of these events taking place, the Chief Scout is hopefully due to visit Wales on Sunday 7th October. Imagine how incredible it would be if you had the chance for Bear Grylls to drop by and visit your activity.

Registration and criteria

All events need to be registered for consideration and the criteria are as follows:-

- For those who would like to be considered for a visit by the Chief Scout, their activities must be registered with the ScoutsWales office by the **30th March 2012.**
- All other activities are to be registered with the ScoutsWales office by **27th July 2012.**
- Activities taking place on Sunday 7th October will be put forward for consideration of a visit by the Chief Scout.

Requirements to be fulfilled for a visit by the Chief Scout:

- The activity(ies) must be outdoors.
- The activity(ies) must be on Sunday 7th October 2012.
- The activity(ies) must be practical so allowing the Chief Scout to partake in the activity if time allows.
- The activity(ies) must be active between the hours of 9am until 3pm.
- There must be a suitable area for a helicopter to land fairly close, to minimise travel time.
- Activities must ensure that the Chief Scout can continue to the next visit.
- All events should be stand alone events. There is the possibility that weather, illness or the unpredictable could jeopardise a visit by the Chief Scout.

Suitable activities may include:

- Archery
- Climbing & Abseiling
- Backwoods cooking
- Shelter building
- Survival skills
- Water Activities
- Self defense
- Shooting
- Team building games



The Chief Scout is an active, hands-on person who wants interaction with young people. He has a busy schedule during the day so activities should be quick and interactive.

Post event, Leaders will need to apply to ScoutsWales office for the 'Chief Commissioner's Activity Weekend Award'.

For more information please contact:-

Gordon Richardson
Area Commissioner - Clwyd
areacommissioner@clwydscouts.org.uk
01978 810370 / 07970 140004

ScoutsWales Office
The Old School
Wine Street, Llantwit Major
CF61 1RZ
01446 795277

DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING NEWS



Snowdonia & Anglesey and Denbighshire

Since September we have worked in Llanfairpwll and Benllech setting up new Cub and Scout Sections respectively.

In St Asaph we have set up a new group which now has Beaver and Cub sections. 1st Barmouth Beavers are coming along nicely with a lot of interest from both adults and young people and pledges for funding.

A total of 54 adults have been recruited and 80 young people have attended sessions. We have also begun development planning work, offering groups the opportunity to see where they are, where they would like to be and plan how to get there.

**Debbie Tanner Development & Planning Officer,
Snowdonia & Anglesey and Denbighshire**



Cardiff & The Vale and Gwent

In CATVOG two new sections were started. 49th Cardiff saw 50 new children on the first Scout night. Excellent District support demonstrated what a success a project can be and their continued involvement suggests this should continue. At 1st Llandough a new Beaver Colony was started, again with good District support ensuring the project worked.

In Blaenau Gwent 1st Cwm Scout Troop was renewed, with the two Leaders doing an excellent job.

Development Planning showed that a little bit of planning and idea generation can go a long way. Need help doing your own? Why not put a referral in via your District Commissioner!

**Stephen Wells Development & Planning Officer,
CATVOG and Gwent**



Mid and West Wales

It's been another action packed term. I've been working with 1st Aberporth and Parclyn (Ceredigion) to help them find leaders for Cubs and 1st Newbridge-on-Wye (Radnor) to help them recruit more young people and adults.

We've also opened a brand new Beaver Colony in Neyland, Pembrokeshire where we had 44 new Beaver Scouts on the first night! A big thank you to the 'Development Team' - Harry, Pat, Leah, TJ and Sandra, your support made it all possible. The good news is that three new Leaders and one Section Assistant have come forward so they can take a break now.

Following the great success we had with opening Beavers there last summer, thanks to the brilliant Ammanford 'Development Team'. I'm looking forward to going back to Brynamman in Carmarthenshire next term to open Cubs.

**Jenny Pitchford Development & Planning Officer,
Mid and West Wales**



DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING NEWS



Development Project Successes across the board in the North West.

Since New Year, Connah's Quay Cub Pack, Wrexham Beaver Colony and a brand new Cub Section in Llanidloes have all benefitted greatly from a punchy publicity campaign, open nights and taster sessions in local schools. In each of these projects all remits have been satisfied, we have recruited: 12 Leaders, 3 Section Assistants and 2 committee members!

Comprehensive inductions completed, teams are now being integrated into sections with a grin and a quickening step. Congratulations to all of them.

**Mark Winson Development & Planning Officer,
North Wales and Montgomeryshire**



Mid and West Glamorgan

A Beaver Section in Pontardawe has started up on Tuesday's 5.00pm—6.00pm. This is going really well but to ensure this success continues, it needs more existing Leaders to help the programme.

In Cwmafan a new Beaver Section has opened on Monday's 5.00pm—6.00pm. The project has received good District support and hopefully a new Leader will shortly be in place.

8 new Beavers have joined the new up and running Beaver Section in Cefn Fforest. A new Leader is in place and the project continues to receive support from the District.

**Richard Flowerdew Development & Planning Officer,
Mid and West Glamorgan**



ADULT TRAINING

10 Facts about Adult Training

1. The Scout Association Adult Training Scheme has 38 modules, but you only need to complete the ones required for your role.
2. The scheme recognises prior learning, experience and existing knowledge.
3. It is a national scheme.
4. At the same time as completing modules you also have opportunities to complete Open College Network qualifications.
5. Learning is optional for each module but validation is essential.
6. Validation evidence should involve no extra work. Everything you need to do should be happening as you fulfil your role.
7. Training is accessible to all through a variety of learning method and locations.
8. Training Advisers are few and far between. If you have a Training Adviser treasure them.
9. TRAINING IS FUN



14-20 MAY 2012

In partnership with  B&Q

SCOUT COMMUNITY WEEK 2012

Scout Community Week gives us the chance to work together on community projects or events to raise money for local and national Scouting.

Sign up now to receive your free Scout Community Week information pack and to get all the latest news.

<http://www.scouts.org.uk/community>

CONGRATULATIONS



Many congratulations to Peter Muxworthy and Christopher Reed who have both been awarded a MBE in the New Year Honours List.

Peter Muxworthy, Area Treasurer Glamorgan West, has received his award for services to the community in Swansea.

After 40 years of Scouting, Christopher Reed, Group Scout Leader 1st Llanelli, has received his award for services to the Scouts and to the community in Llanelli, Carmarthenshire.

This is a fantastic achievement, well done.



A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY -

15—17 JUNE 2012

ALL WALES SCOUT CAMP

Join over 1,000 Scouts from around Wales for an action –packed weekend.

Further details can be found at:-

www.scoutswales.org.uk/scouts/awsc

Facebook—All Wales Scout Camp 2012

Twitter—@awsc2012



Pendine Outdoors

Providing adventure for youngsters in West Wales for over 40 years!

Our 150 bed activity centre is located just 5 minutes walk from the famous Pendine Sands. We offer camping on our 4 acre site, self catering facilities, B&B or full board accommodation.

We can also put together a full, or part activity programme from the wide range of activities including climbing, canoeing, bushcraft, orienteering, ropes courses and much, much more.

Open all year round, why not wrap up and sit around the fire in our 50 seat turf roofed, oak roundhouse.

Website: www.pendineoutdoors.co.uk

E mail: gjwilliams@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Telephone: 01994 453659 / 07977 543396



MEET THE WORLD IN THE MOUNTAINS

Kandersteg International Scout Centre is a World Scout Centre, where 12,000 Scouts come each year and experience a unique and international Scouting experience.

Located in the heart of the Alps, it has everything you need for high adventure right on its doorstep. It is the perfect place to build international friendships, with over 40 countries represented there as staff or guests each year. If you would like to experience the permanent Mini-Jamboree for yourself, you can find more details on www.kisc.ch

Leaflets are available on request from the ScoutsWales Office.

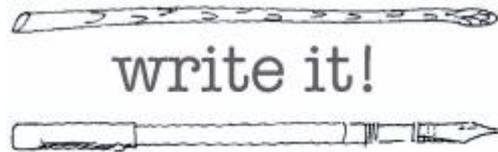
STAFF OPPORTUNITIES AT KISC!

Do you want to have the time of your life for 3 months in the heart of the Swiss Alps and become a Pinkie?

Are you:

- Over 18 years of age?
- A Scout
- Able to communicate in English?

If you are and would like to take up the challenge, further details can be found on the Staff section of the KISC website www.kiscstaff.com



CALLING ALL YOUNG, ASPIRING FOOD WRITERS.....

Entries from aspiring young food writers are now being invited for Writel! the annual competition organised by the Guild of Food Writers.

Open to students aged 18 and under, the Guild of Food Writers' Writel! competition invites entrants to write a non-fiction feature of around 750-words on any food-related subject. It could be as simple as a descriptive piece based on a person or place that inspired your interest in food; a restaurant review; a report on a visit to a food fair, farmers' market or food shop. Alternatively it could be a campaigning article on any aspect of food that interests, excites or frustrates you.

The judges, Bee Wilson, author and food writer on The Sunday Telegraph's Stella magazine, Lucas Hollweg, food writer and author of Good Things to Eat, and Karen Barnes, Editor of delicious. magazine, are looking for impressive writing skills as well as a real passion, understanding and knowledge of the chosen subject.

The winning entry will be announced in early June and the lucky winner will receive a library of the books shortlisted for the 2012 Guild of Food Writers' Awards, and enjoy a visit to the delicious magazine's test kitchen. The winning piece will be printed either in delicious magazine or on its website. Email your entries to jonathan@gfw.co.uk by Friday 11 May 2012.

For more information please visit www.gfw.co.uk/writeit or contact:

Jonathan Woods, The Guild of Food Writers:

telephone: 020 8659 0422;

email: jonathan@gfw.co.uk.

You can contact the ScoutsWales office by:

E-mail: admin@scoutswales.org.uk

Website: www.scoutswales.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: **FRIDAY 28th JUNE 2012** 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 of 'Sgowtiau' but are no longer in Scouting, make sure your name is removed from the Headquarters membership database (Backpack) and hand on your copy to someone else.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY—2012

24 MARCH - DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS & GROUP SCOUT LEADERS FORUM.

25 MARCH - ALL WALES ADULT TRAINING EVENT.

29 APRIL - QUEEN'S SCOUT PARADE & SERVICE, WINDSOR.

4-7 MAY - RIVER WYE CANOE CRUISE.

26- 27 MAY - SAIL TRAINING, BRENIG.

1-3 JUNE - SOUTH WALES PADDLESport WEEKEND.

15-17 JUNE—ALL WALES SCOUT CAMP.

16 JUNE—BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING.

30 JUNE - AREA COMMISSIONERS MEETING.

**LOOKING FOR A NEW ACTIVITY?
CONTACT A SCOUTSWALES ADVISER!!!**

Below are the contact details for all ScoutsWales Advisers, they will be delighted to give you advice and support and have lots of specialist knowledge to share—all you need to do is contact them!!



WATER ACTIVITIES: Ron Cox ☎01407 730592 ✉ water@scoutswales.org.uk

CANOEING: Barry Herring ☎01766 512159 ✉ barry@nickdom.co.uk

AIR: Ralph Stephens ☎01267 267428 ✉ lmstephens@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

CAVING: Bruce D Jones ☎01792 893151 ✉ brucedenley@hotmail.com

MOUNTAIN ACTIVITIES: David LI Jones ☎01978 853245 ✉ montain@scoutswales.org.uk

ORIENTEERING: Terry Smith ☎01982 570792 ✉ orienteering@scoutswales.org.uk

SHOOTING: Nigel Cole ☎08456 430339 ✉ shooting@scoutswales.org.uk

SEA SCOUTS: Dyfrig Harries ☎01239 810431 ✉ dyfrig.harries@virgin.net

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