



SGOWTIAID

An occasional bulletin of the Scouts of Wales

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

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

ANOTHER BUSY AUTUMN!

So with the holidays behind us (but hopefully not forgotten!) we face a busy autumn which is well underway. In addition to Group meetings it is the season for conferences and meetings about everything – including Programme and the Trustees setting priorities for next year.

One of the most exciting days will be our new style conference day for **EVERYBODY** in Scouting in Wales on October 15th in Llandrindod Wells. The theme of the day is “Today’s Youth, Tomorrow’s Adult” and the day is called “Talkabout”. You can raise any question you wish, whatever your role in Scouting, and we will update you on a number of the exciting changes which lie ahead for today’s youth.

You will also now know that Sue Camper, our present Chief Commissioner, is stepping down to pursue her calling of ordination. We owe her a great debt of gratitude for her leadership and support during her period of office. Equally, I know you will all join me in wishing well in her studies and future ordination.

On behalf of the Trustees we thank all of you for your ongoing work and wish you well for the coming months.

See you on 15th October!

Gareth J. Williams (Chairman)

FAREWELL FROM SUE CAMPER

As you may have heard, I have some personal news which means I will not be able to continue as Chief Commissioner of Wales. I have just started training for ordained ministry in the Church in Wales (Anglican). The training, at St Michael’s College, Llandaff, is non-residential but it is full-time. This was certainly not on my radar when I accepted the appointment of Chief Commissioner two years ago. As you might imagine, this is not a decision taken lightly as it will be life changing for me and John. When I was first prompted late last year to think about it, I believed that I could undertake the training part-time and it would therefore not affect my Scouting role. As the Archbishop has encouraged me to pursue full-time training, I have had to recognise that this is not realistic. The process by which the Church selects its ordinands is thorough and drawn out and I only received news in late July that I had been recommended for training. I then started immediate discussions with close colleagues in the Welsh Scout Council and HQ about the way forward, something I could not do until I knew the outcome of the process.

I greatly regret having to relinquish my role as Chief Commissioner after a relatively short time but I am confident that the WSC team we have built is a strong one which will keep things going until a successor is found and also provide a sound support to my successor. I will formally finish as Chief Commissioner on 31 October. I have been involved in Scouting since 1968 and it is a great wrench to have to leave it and to be unable to continue contributing to its future. In addition, I have gained a good many friends whose fellowship I will miss. However, if one is called then there is no scope for debate and I know you will understand that. I have no doubt that in my new life I will be able to advocate and perhaps help Scouting in other ways. Scouting has so much to offer young people and society - I wish you all well for the future.



WELSH SCOUT COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION 2006/2007

At the May meeting of the Board of Trustees it was agreed that the membership subscription payable by each member of Scouting in Wales to the Welsh Scout Council would be increased to £1.20.

IS THERE ANYBODY OUT THERE . . . ?

1st Connah's Quay are 'doing the history thing' - and finding it fun. Sue Copp writes:

"Our Scout Group's approaching centenary will be marked with some gusto at the same time as the national and international celebrations in 2007.

No, we're not really that old, but we are not far behind and we plan to research our long history and produce a book on it. Sounds ambitious? Maybe, but the more established the Group, the easier to find material. We will be asking people to tell us their stories and lend us their photographs. We will also be delving into the archives in the local Record Office. The staff there are only too willing to help and it is amazing how many sources there are, from Parish registers to old newspapers. There has been a considerable amount of preliminary work and planning to see if our project is feasible and it has been well received so far. Everyone involved is enthusiastic and we are fortunate to have the support of experts so that our book will be as professional as we can make it. We approached the Historical Society, the Library and Museum Service, the local College and the Photography Club and all were interested enough in the idea to become involved.

While it is possible to achieve much for absolutely nothing at all, some things, like publishing expenses, must be paid for, so we have applied for funding.

The past really is coming to life for us. The area around our Scout Hut has acquired another dimension as we 'map' our past. Really useful for the 'Local Knowledge Badge'. Best of all, in two giant leaps we have reached back to 1908, the year the Group started. A former Cub (aged 73), who remembers the first Scoutmaster, is on our Centenary Committee."

Bravo Connah's Quay—what about the rest of you?

DAVID LOADES, ARCHIVIST

LLANGOLLEN YHA CENTRE

The centre offer a full range of activities and is, of course, residential. They offer everything from gorge walking, mountain biking and a BMX course to archery and problem solving.

Thorough their 'Active Development' course they aim to provide a meaningful development experience for young people with an underlying emphasis on increasing self esteem and confidence. If you want to know more look up www.groupvisits.org.uk or contact the Centre directly on 0870 7705932 or e-mail: llangolen@yha.org.uk

LONGER AND LONGER!!!

In the last edition of Sgowtiaid we asked for names of others in Wales who had been awarded the new long service awards and we delighted to congratulate the following:

Raymond H Lynch of Newport District Scout Fellowship who was awarded the Chief Scout's 60 year Service Certificate on 4th July. In actual fact Ray will actually have completed 70 years service this year!

Charles E Wilbud and **Gerald W Carter** both of Newport District Scout fellowship who have been awarded the Chief Scout's 50 year Service Certificate.

In addition, **Iori Wynn Jones**, a Vice President of the Welsh Scout Council, has been a member for 83 years! Starting as a Wolf Cub, a founder member of 1st City of Bangor Cub Pack in May 1922!



STAINED GLASS WINDOW

Following the last edition of Sgowtiaid, we are led to believe that there is a Pathfinder window in Roche Church, in Pembrokeshire which several people have sent information about.

But the one very few people knew about is the one on Anglesey in St Cybi's church! This window was originally installed in St Seriol's Church, Holyhead in 1982 in memory of Francis James Bell and Florence Mary Bell. It was removed to St Cybi's when St Seriol's church was demolished.

Francis and Florence Bell were the grandparents of Tudor Bell, District Commissioner of Dwyfor District in Snowdonia & Anglesey. Francis Bell was very involved in Scouting during his lifetime and was very fond of the Pathfinder picture. Tudor has supplied information and photographs of the window. No doubt Grandfather Bell would be very proud to know that his grandson, great grandchildren and great great grandchildren are still involved in Scouting!

OU FOUNDATION DEGREE IN WORKING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

In June 2005 this foundation degree received JNC recognition and will now be recognised as a professional qualification for youth workers in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

For more information about the first course that begins this autumn, please call Julia Platt, the Award Manager, on 01908 858650 or you can visit the website: <http://www.open.ac.uk/courses>

COLOURS

Here are the Autumn hues we promised you in the last edition, a bright autumn orange! Shall we continue next year with our seasonal colours or does anybody out there have a better idea?



HAFOD TRAINING COURSES

Hafod is the Welsh Scout Council mountain training centre in the heart of Snowdonia.



The training team offer MLA training and assessment, rock climbing and SPA training, winter walking mountaineering for Explorer Scouts and First Aid (REC Level 2).

The Hafod leaflet and the calendar for 2006 has been circulated to all District Commissioners who have been asked to ensure that each Group receives a copy. If you are interested in any of the above mountain activities and have not received the leaflet then please ask your District Commissioner or Assistant Area Commissioners for Scouts, Explorer Scouts, Activities or the Area Scout Network Commissioner. If all else fails please don't hesitate to contact the Welsh Scout Council.

Hafod can also be hired as a residential centre and is suitable for groups of up to 40 in number. Booking details are on the leaflet.



CONGRATULATIONS

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

Richard Flint—1st Rogerstone, Gwent
Rhys Price—1st Rogerstone, Gwent
David Glyn McFall—Brecknock

To achieve their Gold Award, they have committed themselves to a Service Project for 12 months, have undertaken to develop a skill and take regular physical recreation for a similar period, they have planned and taken part in an expedition of 4 days/3 nights and have attended a residential project of 5 days and 4 nights.

This is a substantial commitment; as the Award record book says 'this is a marathon, not a sprint!' The Award demands persistence and commitment.



EXPLORER SCOUTS HAVE AN AWESOME WEEKEND!

Over 130 Explorer Scouts from across the UK descended on the Biblins campsite in the Forest of Dean in July for the first ever AWESOME Explorer Scout camp.

The weather was fantastic and despite the site having a few limitations in the electricity supply and mobile phone coverage department, the setting was ideal.



The weekend included activity bases like canoeing, bungee-running, climbing and archery on the Saturday and fun games on Sunday. Entertainment for the weekend involved Gazebo Speed Dating®, a casino night, camp fire and a wide game.

Thanks very much to everyone who was involved and helped run bases, and a special shout out to Network Wales without whom we couldn't have run the weekend.

After positive feedback from this event, Explorer

Scouts Wales plan to run another AWESOME in 2007. I'm going to put my head on the line here and name a date of July 6th – 8th 2007 for the next AWESOME as this seems to be the best date for events like this.

I know this may clash with Sun Run again, but those Explorer Scout Units that attend Sun Run should be encouraged to go to that in 2006 and come to AWESOME – and support a **Wales** event – in 2007.

***Put the date
in your diary now!
AWESOME 2007
6th – 8th July***



Winner of how many clothes can you get on a person competition!

ONLINE FORUM LAUNCHED

To improve communications and encourage debate about Explorer Scouting in Wales, a new online discussion forum has been launched. Please can Commissioners, Leaders and Explorer Scouts alike be told about this and encouraged to use it. It'll only be any good if it's used!

The forum is like an online message board where users can 'post' messages and news and reply to other people's posts. Network Wales have had a similar board for a while now and it's very useful for them, hopefully ours will be just as useful. To use the forum you need to register: a simple process that takes a few moments and then you're away.

Access the new forum via the Explorer pages at scoutbase.org.uk/wales

Moz

Commissioner for Explorer Scouts, Wales
moz_scouts@hotmail.com
07779 272340

EUROJAM—

A SCOUT'S EXPERIENCE

EuroJam was brilliant in every way. It was fun, interesting and enjoyable. It was a once in a life time experience that I will remember for the rest of my life.

The whole event was sparked to life with an incredible opening ceremony. It was unbelievable. Peter Duncan abseiled down the side of the arena to officially open EuroJam. It was then that the massive build up to EuroJam began to sink in. I found it hard to grasp the reality of what was happening around me. After the actual ceremony, the party began with performances from 'Stomp' and the 'Bogus Brothers'. The atmosphere was loud and charged with excitement as 10,000 Scouts and

Guides from across the globe screamed, jumped and danced all through the night!

After the opening ceremony there was no time to spare. Our sub camp, the Pyrenees, was quickly shipped off in coach loads to Gilwell Park, the headquarters of Scouting. We took part in lots of different activities and the best of them was by far the massive assault course, Challenge Valley.

We also took part in two more offsite activities, Splash and Starburst. Splash was simply a Water Activities Centre with canoeing and windsurfing activities. But Starburst was a campaign to give something back to the community. My experience of Starburst was quite fun. We were gardening for most of the day at St Peters Maternity Ward and old people's home. We then went in groups of about 10 to entertain the old people with songs and dance such as a rendition of Funky Chicken performed by the Gladstone Unit.

On-site activities covered a huge range. My favourite activities were Black Magic and the dance tent. Black magic was a German bar with carpets, candles and a fire with performances on stage. Definitely a chill-out tent!

As twelve action packed days slowly came to an end one of my most memorable experiences from EuroJam took place. I was chosen for Flag Down along with only two or three other British people from our subcamp. I was asked to take down the Hong Kong and Saudi Arabian flags. This was a great honour.

There is no single word to describe my experience at EuroJam. It was unbelievable seeing 10,000 people from 68 countries all coming together from different religions and cultures to sew friendships for life.

Rob Byrne
1st Hawarden Scouts



INTERNATIONAL

Explorer Belt—Serbia:

CATVOG are organising the above event in 2006. Details are given below, but more information or to register interest contact Andy Mitchell the Expedition Leader on 029 2033 9212 or e-mail: andy.mitchell@dial.pipex.com

Cost: £495 (inc. flights, accommodation, food, activities and Explorer Belt)

Dates: 29.07.06—12.08.06

Eligibility: 16-25 years

Activities: 10 day Explorer Belt Expedition, day trip around Belgrade, activities with local Scouts and more!

Deadline for registration: 01.11.05

Serbian National Scout Jamboree :

'Find Yourself'

This international jamboree for 3000 participants is from 21 to 31 July 2006.

The programme covers: my life, the work in which I live, nature around me, outdoors, sports, adventurous hiking, handicrafts, global development village, environmental activities, evening activities and much more!

Venue: the historical city of His, in Eastern Serbia, 250 KM from Belgrade.

Official languages: Serbian and English.

Cost: Jamboree fee of 130 Eur (includes food, activities, jamboree scarf and T-shirt. This is a really inexpensive international experience.

Eligibility: up to 18 years of age, 18 years + can apply for the international service team.

Adrian Robinson, International Commissioner (Wales) has experience of the Scouting in Serbia and has taken his Scout Group to camp there this summer. If you would like to know more about Scouting in Serbia and the Jamboree, contact Adrian for further details on 029 20 886299 or

adrian@robinson8455.freeserve.co.uk



SHORT OF ACTIVITIES? THEN READ ON....!!

With the start of the new Scouting year after the summer break you may be pondering what activities to introduce to your troop. Why not go through the requirements of what, in the dim distant past, was called the Second Class Badge? The whole troop could do it all at the same time. Time needed ? Say three months of regular weekly meetings. The requirements are quite simple:

1. Know how to deal with cuts and scratches, bleeding from the nose and avoiding sunburn. Demonstrate the use of a triangular bandage as a sling. Demonstrate how to summons help and treat for shock (not electric).
2. Know the general rules of health as given in Camp Fire Yarn 18 in 'Scouting for Boys'.
3. Describe, in writing, 16 out of 24 well assorted articles after one minute's observation.
4. Be able to recognize and name six common trees and know the value of their wood for fires.
5. Tie and know the uses of the timber hitch and fisherman's knot
6. Demonstrate square and diagonal lashings by constructing a trestle of Scout staffs.
7. Know the safety rules and care of a handaxe and knife. Demonstrate how to chop firewood.
8. Know the 16 points of the compass and how to set a map.
9. Lay and light a fire out-of-doors with natural materials using no more than two matches. Cook over this fire a sausage and potatoes, and make a twist or damper, and make tea.
10. Show he understands the parts of the Highway Code applicable to people on foot and on bicycles. Demonstrate he is keeping his bicycle in good repair.
11. Go by day, on foot, with another Tenderfoot Scout, a journey of 8 miles. The journey will have a route laid down by the SM and an objective will be given. A verbal report must be given on return.



12. Have not less than 3 months service as a Scout.

13. Repass the Tenderfoot tests.

Now, young leader that you are, you will say that you cannot do most of these things yourself so how can you teach your Scouts? No problem, just cast around for a leader or ex-leader over 60 and ask for help. He or she will be delighted to be invited to help and you might even, if they are an ex-leader, entice them back in some role. I will reveal the date when these were the requirements in the next number of *Sgowtiaid*. Happy Scouting!

John Muston, Chairman, Activities Team

NOTE: Anyone who decides to take up John's challenge, don't forget to let us know how you got on!!

HOW TO LISTEN—AND HOW TO HAVE YOUR SAY!!

As a Leader have you ever wondered how you can find out more about what is happening in Wales outside your Group/District/Area; wished you could have an input to what is happening in Wales; had a good idea that you would like others to consider? If you can answer 'yes' to any of the above then you need to talk to your Assistant District Commissioner!

Twice a year the Welsh Scout Council organises Team meetings. Assistant Area Commissioners for all the Sections plus Activities, Adult Training, International, Scout Fellowship and Archives get together for discussions, which, at present, focus on the recruitment and retention of adults. The AACs on returning to their Area then report back at Area meetings to ensure that Districts also receive information from the discussions. The process also works in reverse to allow you to have input as well.

The next Team meetings are on 12th November, so if you would like an idea discussed then talk to an ADC or AAC now—and don't forget to ask



what happened afterwards!

THINKING OF BUYING CANOES?



for kayaks plus other equipment.

Contact Steve at Waterfront on 07790 298670.

Steve always has good offers Scout Groups on canoes and

PLANNING THE DIARY FOR 2006

The Welsh Scout Council calendar for 2006 will be with District Commissioners soon, important dates for Groups to get into their programmes now are:

- Frostbite Canoe Cruise—6/8 January
- D of E Training Day (South) - 28 January
- Team Meetings—25 March
- Beaver Scout Leaders Conference— 01 April
- Wye Canoe Cruise—28 April/1 May
- Islwyn Canoe Training—3/4 June
- All Wales Scout Camp & Cooking Competition—16/18 June
- Sailing Training Course—24/25 June
- North Wales Water Activities Weekend—22/24 September
- Severn Canoe Cruise— 6/8 October
- Welsh Scout Council Talkabout 2006 and AGM—14 October
- Team Meetings—11 November



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
Website: www.scoutbase.org.uk/wales

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:
31st December, 2005

IMPORTANT DATES

WANT TO KNOW MORE—CONTACT THE WELSH SCOUT COUNCIL OFFICE

- **7/9 October**—River Severn Canoe Cruise
- **15 October**—ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
- **22 October**—HQ Development Meeting North Wales
- **23 October**—HQ Development Meeting South Wales
- **12 November**—Team Meetings, Llan-drindod Wells
- **3 December**—Board of Trustees, Llan-drindod Wells

Have you entered the important events in your diary?

WELSH SCOUT COUNCIL WEBSITE

Do you remember to look at the website? There is lots of information about Scouting in Wales and it's up-dated regularly. If you have not had a look for sometime, why not do so now—you may be missing out!

www.scoutbase.org.uk/wales

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 become wise.

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

Happy are you if you know 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.



