

www.scoutswales.org.uk

CIRCULATED:
OCTOBER 2009



***Cyngor Sgowtiaid Cymru—The Welsh Scout Council:
Supporting the development of young people in Wales***

FROM THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF WALES

I am thrilled to be able to announce that Simon Weston has agreed to attend our AGM on 31st October for election to be our President. I was privileged to meet with Simon at the beginning of September, with Gareth Williams our Chairman, to confirm his willingness to accept the position.

Simon was a Welsh Guardsman aboard the Sir Galahad which was destroyed in Bluff Cove during the Falklands conflict in 1982. Despite horrific burns, Simon put all that to one side and got on with his life, writing books, becoming an inspirational speaker, supporting charities and especially young people. He was awarded an OBE in 1992 and Wales recognised him as one of their top heroes in 2004.

I heard Simon speak at a Scout conference in York a few years ago. His talk was fascinating, inspirational and humbling and meeting him has been an honour. His enthusiasm and drive to work, support and help people is daunting and his sense of humour infectious. I am sure we will have in Simon a great President.

So please come along to Talkabout on Saturday, 31st October, 2009 at the Pavilion Conference Centre, Llandrindod Wells when our President will address us for the first time.

Lunch will be provided, so booking your place is important, and you can do this by e-mailing or phoning the ScoutsWales office.

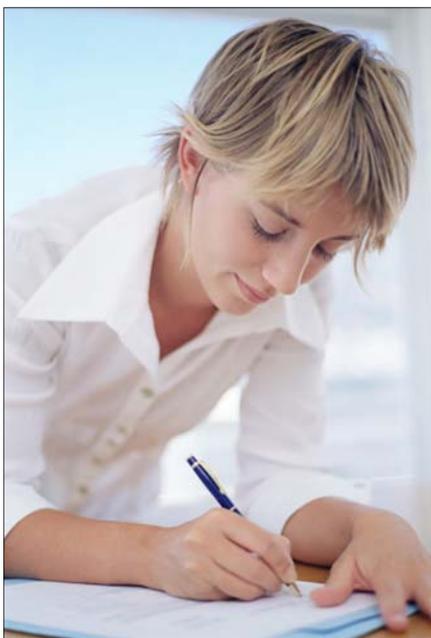
Jill Gosde



LOOKING AFTER NUMER ONE! IN THE JOBS MARKET

This might seem a bit selfish at first and out of keeping with our principles of helping others but in today's job market you need to represent yourself honestly but as comprehensively as possible.

Maybe you are starting out on your working career, looking to change jobs or have experienced redundancy.



Make sure your Scouting experience counts for you!

If you are playing an effective role in Scouting you will normally be demonstrating your skills and experience as a team player, a team leader, an

administrator, organiser, planner, decision maker, arbitrator – all skills that are sought after in the workplace.

Make sure that any prospective employer knows this. Don't just say you're in Scouting as they may not always appreciate what's involved, spell it out for them.

If you're a Young Leader or a Network member, or you are responsible for them, then make sure you use the resources from Scout Headquarters to supplement your CV.

You may wish to take a more formal approach :

- If you are undertaking or have completed your adult training then the National Open College Network (NOCN) youth work awards may interest you. The units that make up our adult training programme can earn you a recognised external qualification in youth work.
- If you have gained your Wood Badge then you can seek membership of the Institute of Leadership & Management again a widely recognised external qualification.
- If you are involved in a training role then you may be interested in membership of The Institute of Training & Occupational Learning.

These external qualifications will cost you money but they might just give you the edge over the many other candidates without them.

If you need more information on any of these external awards and memberships then your Area Commissioner or Area Training Manager should be able to point you in the right direction.

RON DAVIES
ASSISTANT CHIEF COMMISSIONER
(ADULT SUPPORT)

adult training



AWESOME saw a new initiative when a team of Training Advisers set up shop at Glanusk

Park. A flyer had been sent to all Unit Leaders advising them that we would be available for anyone who had 10 minutes, a hour or even longer to spare, and wanted to move closer to gaining their Wood Badge.

After a fairly quiet start, during which we enjoyed the beautiful surroundings and the sunshine, people started popping in to see us. Although we weren't overstretched we had a steady stream of 'customers' and the following facts make good reading:

- We helped 11 Leaders to move towards gaining their Wood Badge.
- During the day 32 Modules were validated and signed off.
- Two Personal Learning Plans were agreed.
- One Wood Badge was recommended.
- The Training Scheme was explained to three Leaders.

This opportunity was appreciated by Leaders and is something we will continue to provide at all future All-Wales events.

The photograph below shows Lynn and Ruth from CATVOG, Ann and Pat from Glamorgan West, Linda from Eryri y Môn and Sue, Commissioner Wales (Adult Training) and, opposite, Ann in her assessing role.

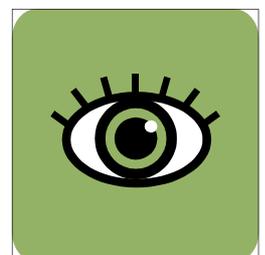


SUE RYAN COMMISSIONER WALES (ADULT TRAINING)

SIGHTSAVERS

This charity has a lot of resources which can be downloaded from their website, giving information about eyesight problems suffered by adults and children around the world, —lots of ideas and lots of activities!! Although many are for schools all can be adapted for use in the Colony, Pack or Troop.

If you want to find out more look at their website—
www.sightsavers.org/schools





ALL WALES BEAVER SCOUT LEADERS' CONFERENCE— SATURDAY, 17 APRIL 2010 AT LLANDRINDOD WELLS HIGH SCHOOL

The Welsh Scout Council have kindly agreed to support us financially once again to stage a Leaders' Conference next April. The theme will be:

'Communities – Home and Away'.

The theme comes from work done under the 'Your Voice - Your Programme' project which identified aspects of the Balanced Programme where Leaders want more support.

These included the Global, Beliefs and Attitudes, and Community Programme Zones and some methods e.g. Act, Sing and Make Music and Listen to Stories. At the last Team meeting, AAC's agreed this demonstrated a need for Leaders to take part in a bigger community, through exchanging ideas and sharing good practice at an event such as a conference.

Budget details are still being finalised, but the cost will not exceed £10 per head, and will include lunch.

The programme will include discussion groups and news from HQ in the morning, and workshops in the afternoon. Booking details will be published after Christmas,

but now is the time to put the date in your diary.

If you have any comments about previous conferences, or ideas you would like to see included, please tell your AAC or contact me at beavers@scoutswales.org.uk before 1 November, so we can include your thoughts in our final planning.

I look forward to meeting you all next April.

**BARBARA TURTON
COMMISSIONER WALES (BEAVER SCOUTS)**

PHOTOGRAPH LIBRARY

If you have some really good photographs of activities with your Colony, Pack, Troop or Unit—or, of course, adult Leaders—please can you send them to the ScoutsWales office so that we can start to form a photolibrary.

The photographs need to be of a high resolution and sent in picture format. This is essential as the library will provide a source of pictures to use in future professionally printed material.

There is a lot of advice on the internet about how to take good photographs, and you may like to look at: www.kodak.com and click on 'Tips'.



HERSCHEL MUSEUM



Are you considering the Astronomer badges in your programme for the Autumn and Winter months? If so the Herschel Museum in Bath runs several hands-on workshops which they consider absolutely ideal for groups of Scouts wanting to complete the badge.

The fees for the different workshops are modest and they say that the Museum's Georgian Garden is a lovely setting for badge presentations too! For a small fee they will also open outside normal hours.

For more information ring 01225 446856

CORNEL RESIDENTIAL CENTRE

If you are considering where to stay in North Wales do you know about Cornel? Cornel is a large camp site



site on the banks of Lake Crafnant in Snowdonia, North Wales. In addition to 25 acres of camping grounds it comprises a fully equipped campers block, with toilets, showers and a drying room plus a converted farmhouse divided into two dis-

crete units which sleeps a total of 30 in five bunkrooms. Each unit has its own purpose built modern kitchen, showers, and comfortable lounge, (the larger also has a drying room) making it the ideal base for groups wishing to spend time in a safe and beautiful environment yet within walking distance of the Carneddau peaks. See www.cornelscouts.org.uk

LETTER FROM AMERICA

My name is Rachael Adams. I am currently working on my Wood Badge ticket, and would like to ask for your help. I would like to offer an international pen pal opportunity for the boys in our cub scout pack. Would there be any individuals or packs in your council that may be interested in participating? This would be a wonderful chance for young scouts to learn from someone in another country. Just getting a letter from somewhere new can be fun, but this will also open up communication and understanding between our countries and culture.

Please contact me soon to see how we can work together. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Rachael Adams
Sam Houston Area Council
Tall Timbers District
Pack 347
Houston Texas, USA
rahrah_106@hotmail.com

Please take the standard precautions when communicating with somebody who you do not personally know.





I hope you and your Scouts had a chance for a summer camp this year. They should, quite rightly, be the highlight of the Scouting year and an opportunity for fun, badge work and teamwork.

Speaking personally, our Scout Group had a terrific summer camp this year and, as a Leader, it's very rewarding to see the Scouts achieving some of their Challenge Awards. We also had events to mark both ends of the Scout programme; the investiture of four new Scouts and one of our Scouts completing her Chief Scout's Gold Award.

No sooner have we finished all the fun and activities of summer camps, of course, than we're into the start of our programming for the new term. However, the fun of the summer camp reminded me about a unique award we have in Wales – the Dragon Award. Although details are available on the Scouts Wales website (at www.scoutswales.org.uk/programme/dragon) I thought I would give it a fresh plug in this issue, as it would be great to see more Dragon Award badges being worn around Wales.

The Dragon Award is a progressive Award which is available to all Scouts, Explorers, Network members and Leaders. To prove a point, some Scouting colleagues and I have started working towards ours this year – although we're not looking forward to the winter months!

To get the Bronze Award you have to have spent one night under canvas or bivouac for each month of the year. You don't have to do this all in one year – there's no time limit to the Award.

After gaining the Bronze Award, it then gets more interesting as you have to complete 12 camping challenges, from a list of 30, to get your Silver Award. The type of challenges range from camping below 1° C or camp with another Troop/ Unit/ Network through to camping at sea level or camp above 600 metres! Once you've achieved the Silver Award, you can work through another set of 12 challenges to get your Gold Award.

The Dragon Award can easily be worked towards as part of your regular Scout programme and the Silver and Gold Award challenges might well make plans for future camps much more interesting! I'd really like to hear from anyone who's achieved

their Dragon Award or is working towards it. Please e-mail me at scouts@scoutswales.org.uk

On a different subject, news will be filtering through Areas and Districts about the application process for the 2011 World Jamboree in Sweden. More details on the World Jamboree can be found at www.scoutswales.org.uk/explorers/worldjam The most important thing now is that **the closing date for applications is the 30 October**. Any Scout or Explorer Scout who was born between 25 July 1993 and 27 July 1997 is eligible to apply for Jamboree selection.

The Jamboree Unit teams are arranging presentations across Areas and Districts throughout September and October, to answer questions and encourage applications. However, it would really help if all Scout Leaders could also download some of the information from the website and promote the application process in your own Troop meetings. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for Scouts and the Jamboree team would hate to think anyone in Wales missed out because they didn't know about the application process and timescales.

Finally, I still look forward to hearing about your own programme ideas, tips on camping skills and activity centres you'd recommend to others. The more information that is passed to me, the more we can try any put on to the Scouts Wales website for the benefit of others.

Alan Davies
Commissioner Wales (Scouts)



In the last edition of Sgowtiaid you will have seen the name of 'Sally Jones' who was one of the nine Queen's Scouts from Wales who attended the Parade in Windsor. Sally comes from Snowdonia & Anglesey Scout Area and this is her account of her achievements:

It has taken me about 3 years to complete my Queen's Scout award and I have had a great time doing it. The Award has given me a great opportunity to do things that I wouldn't have normally done and meet people I wouldn't have met in my everyday life.

I have been able to go walking with my friends in the mountains for a week and watch the sun rise every morning, learn to play the saxophone, improve at swimming. As part of my award I attended the Jamboree in 2007 and met Scouts from around the world and learnt about what scouting means for them.

Completing this award is one of the best things I have done, I have made many friends over the past few years through the different activities and I have learnt so much about myself and those around me. I have loved every minute of it and I would recommend the award to everyone.



BUFF'S BLOG—22ND WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE, SWEDEN 2011



It's hard to put into words what attending a World Jamboree means to both youth participants and adult staff alike. Fantastic fun, great opportunities, new friends and an atmosphere that simply seems to buzz from the moment you get up each day. It is always said that it doesn't matter where you are in the world, once you are at a Jamboree you could be anywhere. However I believe that the best words came from a Welsh participant at the end of the 2007 World Jamboree.

"I don't know how to put the experience into words. I was in tears when I left because for the whole Jamboree I had been with 40,000 friends and that had never happened to me before and may not happen again. People told me that the Jamboree would be a life-changing experience, I didn't understand. Now I do. I know what it means to be a member of the family of Scouting and the potential that family has if we want it to. To anyone who has the opportunity to go to a World Jamboree I say **GO.**"

The application process for the next World Scout Jamboree is now underway. An application form can be downloaded from our website, or can be obtained from the Scouts Wales office, all Area Commissioners, District Commissioners and most Scout and Explorer Leaders. (www.scoutswales.org.uk/explorers/worldjam) The Jamboree leadership team, together with leaders in every Area, will be organising local presentations for young people and their parents. Please make every effort to attend. The final phase of selection is attending the "Selection Weekend". Please put November 28th and 29th in your diary.

If you will be over 18 at the time of the Jamboree but want to attend as part of the International Service Team (IST), you will need to register with the UK Contingent. **On Line registration will open on Monday 19th October 2009 from 10am** from the main UK Contingent website www.scouts.org.uk/ws2011 Successful applicants will also have to attend a full selection weekend.

Following successful selection to the UK IST you may wish to join the Welsh IST Unit, you will need to complete a further registration form. This will be available to download from this site, or hard copy from the ScoutsWales office when UK IST Selection has finished - probably late Feb 2010.

If you are a Commissioner, Leader, Helper or Parent please support our Jamboree Team in their efforts to allow as many young people to sample this once in a lifetime opportunity.

SIMON FAIRLESS
COMMISSIONER WALES (EXPLORER SCOUTS)



GOLD CONGRATULATIONS!!

JONATHAN BEER from No Limits ESU, Rogerstone, Gwent. Has achieved his Gold Award—many congratulations.

GARETH BIRD—CATVOG

MARK JONES—Clwyd

Congratulations to Jonathan, Gareth and Mark on their considerable achievements, as the Award record book says 'this is a marathon, not a sprint'! To achieve the Gold Award requires a substantial commitment, demanding persistence and commitment. Well done to all three!

MIKE BREAKWELL
D OF E ADVISER FOR WALES



ACTIVITY CENTRE AVAILABLE

We are an activity centre based in North Devon just outside Barnstaple, no more than 30 minutes from the beach and 20 minutes from Exmoor and have been catering for our local Scout groups for a while now.



We can offer a varied and very wide range of activities, some of which are covered by your badge scheme. Within The Mill staff we have two Rock Climbing badge assessors for the Scout Association.

As well as our activities we offer a full or self catering residential centre, sleeping up to 35 young people and 4 staff, there is also a camping option. Please take a moment to check our website www.milladventure.co.uk and I would be very interested in your feed back.

Paul Russell, Director, 01769 579 600
The Mill Adventure Centre, Hacche Mill,
South Molton, North Devon EX36 3NA

LEGACY CAMPAIGN

In the envelope with this copy of Sgowtiaid you will have seen a leaflet about legacies. This circulation is part of the ScoutsWales legacy campaign.

There are many people who look back on their time in Scouting with great affection and feel that they would like to do something, however, small to help Scouting young people in the future. The leaf-

let is to encourage everyone to consider carefully how this can be done.

Many people think that the word 'legacy' refers to a sum of money with a long line of £0s!! But, of course, it doesn't! If a lot of people left small amounts to Scouting in their will this would add up to considerable support for the young people of future generations.

Equally, many people like to think that their legacy supports young people in the Group which they attended or where they were a Leader. However, there are dangers in being too specific when naming the beneficiary. Hopefully, the will is made many years before Scouting receives any benefit; in that time the Group, District or Area may have closed, changed name— there are all sort of possibilities which can only be sorted out with huge difficulties.

However, a legacy (as worded in one received in recent years) to be used 'to support Scouting in South Wales' (or whatever geographic region you chose) gives benefit to a lot of young people without complications!

If you do not want the leaflet, you don't need to bin it, how about putting it in the local library or in a community centre. There may be somebody who is no longer involved in Scouting who could be very interested!



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HELPING TO IMPROVE THE IMAGE OF SCOUTING IN WALES?

We are seeking someone to take on the role of Assistant Chief Commissioner (Media and Communications). This is an exciting new opportunity help Scouting in Wales by using your communication and influencing skills. This is a role suitable for non-uniformed supporters of Scouting, as well as those in a uniformed role.

We're looking for an enthusiastic individual who will spare a few hours a week to contact the media in Wales to try to get positive press, TV and radio coverage.

You'll need to build up a network of contacts across the Areas and Districts to enable you to identify good news stories which you'll turn into press releases.



These press releases will be sent to the media in Wales and so you'll be expected to keep an updated list of contacts. We've got an agreement from one of the major companies in Wales to help compile and

update the lists so you won't have to do this alone.

You'll need some IT skills and will work with the website managers to ensure that the website is kept updated.

You'll be a member of the Funding, Marketing, IT and CSR Sub Committee and you'll get help from the rest of the members.

If you're interested please contact the ScoutsWales office for a copy of the

job description and person specification.

YR HAFOD MOUNTAIN TRAINING CENTRE

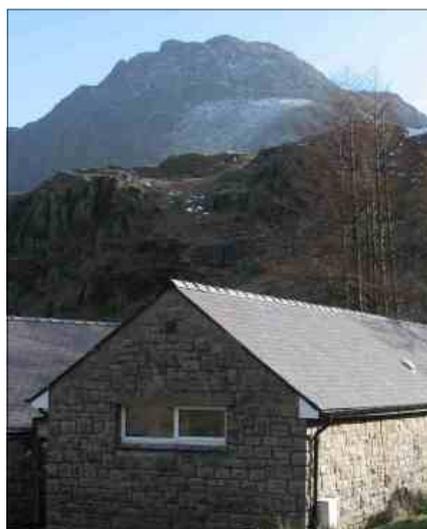
Enclosed with this edition of Sgowtiaid is the programme of courses offered by the Hafod Mountain Training Centre in Snowdonia.

This Centre, operated by the Welsh Scout Council, offers a wide range of courses linked both the Scout Association Permit scheme and also leading to national governing body awards.

In addition, Explorer Scouts are very welcome and the Mountain Training Team will fully programme a stay at Hafod to the needs of your Unit. At £45.00 per head, a bespoke course is a bargain!!

If you want to know more, contact Dave Jones, Mountain Activities Adviser (Wales) on 01978 853245 or mountain@scoutswales.org.uk or climb@yr-hafod.org.uk

You can also hire Yr Hafod for weekends or longer periods to run your own programme. The Centre can sleepup to 32 people in 4 bunk rooms and has excellent modern facilities.



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: 8 January 2010
- 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

- **31.10.09—Talkabout and Welsh Scout Council Annual General Meeting**
- **14.11.09—Team Day**
- **14.11.09—District Commissioners' Forum at Team Day**
- **14.11.09—Board of Trustees Meeting**
- **6-8 November—Hillwalking/Mountaineering Skills Weekend (Hafod)**
- **6-8 November—ML Award Refresher Course (Hafod)**
- **11-13 December—First Aid Training REC—Level 2 (Hafod)**

WALES APPOINTMENTS

The Chief Commissioner is delighted to announce the following new appointments:

Wyn Owen—Area Commissioner for Carmarthenshire

Ken Hinton—Deputy Chief Commissioner of Wales: This new role which Ken has taken on will include chairing the Operations Sub-committee, deputising when the Chief Commissioner of Wales is not available and he will also take on various projects to support Scouting in Wales. At the moment he is supporting Programme prior to an Assistant Chief Commissioner (Programme) being appointed.

SITUATION VACANT!!

Interested in the delivery of the Scout Programme? Would you like to deliver a Wales Programme Strategy/Initiative? Would you like to work with other senior volunteers to support the delivery of a quality programme to young people throughout Wales? Could you motivate, lead and support senior volunteers? If so, why not put your name forward for the role of Assistant Chief Commissioner (Programme)? Want to know more, so that you can decide whether this role is for you? Then don't delay— contact Ken Hinton, Deputy Chief Commissioner, on deputycc@scoutswales.org.uk and find out more about this exciting role!