

## A message from the County Commissioner

Well we are now at the end of our year of celebration and I send my best wishes to you all. It has been a fantastic year of activities and celebration. Starting for the County with the unveiling of the village sign at Anmer by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh. The celebrations continued with the Centenary Camps when we were given as much water as we needed... and more!



We celebrated with two services in Norwich and King's Lynn, which were attended by over 800 people. This was a great opportunity to show Scouting to the Community and received some very good press. Speaking of press we have had events and activities in the papers, radio and on the TV every month and 2007 has seen more column inches than ever before.

The 21<sup>st</sup> World Scout Jamboree when 72 Norfolk Scouts and 8 leaders made up our contingent as part of the 40,000 young people from 216 countries from around the world. Norfolk also fully engaged with the event through the International Service Team and the Reunion 57 Team. Many of us joined in the Sunrise celebrations on the 1<sup>st</sup> August and joined the rest of the world in renewing our promise.

We have had three receptions to recognise the growth of Norfolk Scouting and in October we had 180 King and Queen Scouts attending a reception at Sandringham at which HRH The Duke of Edinburgh spoke to all and addressed the meeting saying what a wonderful organisation we have been over the last 100 years and told us the story that BP was advised of his peerage from the King at Sandringham House.

In Norfolk we have planted three Woodlands, which will be a lifetime reminder of our work and service. This was done in partnership with the Woodland Trust and the three landowners who have given the land with pleasure to assist in the project. It was an amazing sight to see over 2000 trees planted in Sandringham in so short a time ... Well done to all those who took part.

As you sit with your families over the Christmas holiday reflect on all the young people you have influenced over your years in the movement. Think of the fun and adventure you have given by the programmes you have delivered. These young people owe a debt of gratitude to you and those before you. May I on their behalf say THANK YOU for that work and effort.



Norfolk Scouts have grown and grown over the last six years and it has only happened because of you and the efforts you have made to ensure Scouting is as relevant today as it was in 1907.

Best wishes to you all. May you enjoy a peaceful Christmas and a very happy New Year.

**Richard**

**BEAVER SLEEPOVER MARCH 2008** A Beaver Sleepover is being held on the weekend of Friday 7<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March at Eaton Vale Activity Centre with two sleepovers being held back to back Friday/Saturday and Saturday/Sunday. Places are available on this Sleepover and if your Colony would like to take part in this please contact ACC Beavers Robin Parker. If you are a Beaver Leader who has completed Module 16 and needs to get this validated and your Nights Away Permit this is an ideal opportunity to do so.

**BEAVER CIRCUS FUN DAY BADGES** We have a few Badges left over from the Beaver Circus Fun Day. These are available at £1, if you would like one for your campfire blanket please send £1 and a sae to ACC Beavers Robin Parker.

**NORFOLK BEAVER CENTENARY BLANKET** The Beaver Blanket which is made up of decorated squares from each Colony is nearly complete and has already been taken to some events throughout the County. There are still some Colonies who are not on the Blanket, and we need to get this completed as soon as possible. If your Colony has not sent in their square of material please do so by the end of the year or send in a Colony / Group necker and name flash so that they can be added to the Blanket.

**BEAVEREE 2008** Book the date now Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2008 for a day of fun and exciting activities for Beaver scouts. Full details will be sent out to each Colony in the New Year.



**BEAVER LEADERS ACTIVITY DAY** Following the success of this year's Activity Day for Leaders we will be holding another day next year on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September again at Eaton Vale Scout & Guide Activity Centre where Beaver Leaders will have the chance to have a go at four more adventurous activities. Full details will be sent out in the New Year.

**NORFOLK BIG BEAVER SLEEPOVER 2008** Over the weekend of 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2008 a Big Beaver Sleepover is planned for Norfolk. We would like to have every Beaver Scout in Norfolk at a Sleepover over this weekend. Book the date now and start planning whether a Colony event, part of a Group camp or even a District organised Sleepover. A special badge will be available to all those taking part and let's try and make this Norfolk's and possibly the Country's biggest Beaver Sleepover.

**NEW PROGRAMME** By now we have all received in the Scouting Magazine details of the new programme and the new challenge badges for the Beaver section, it's good to have better programme zones linked across the sections and the new Challenges will help with producing even better and more exciting programmes for the Beavers. If you have any programme ideas for the new Challenges and would like to share them with other Leaders please let me know.



On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2007 Members of the

Organising Committee attended 1<sup>st</sup> Rural (Roughton Mill) Cub Pack to present a certificate recognising the Pack to be the first to register for 'One world 2008' Norfolk County Scouts Cub Camp to be held 16<sup>th</sup> - 18 May 2008 at the County Showground, Costessey. The Certificate was presented by the event chairman, Mr Chris Hargest at what was the Pack's Christmas Party. Mrs Carole Charge the Leader in charge, verified that all members present had been cleared for publicity photographs as part of the Groups major drive to save their Headquarters from being sold. The Group have their own Publicity Officer in this respect.



**NORFOLK SCOUT HILL & ROCK FELLOWSHIP ARE PLEASED TO PRESENT**

## BPA 2008

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2008

At a secret location somewhere in Norfolk



BPA is a challenge night exercise, that is open to teams of Explorers (from 13 ½ years to 18 years) and Network/Adult Leader teams. There will be 4 zones on route with 3 stunts per zone. Points are given for attempting each stunt and for overall team performance on the Zones.. Cost: £8 per person (min of 4 per team, max of 6 per team)

Closing Date: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2008 (or earlier if fully subscribed. Spaces will be allocated on a first come, first served basis). For Further information please contact: Karen, County Office, 01603 502246 or [hq@norfolkscouts.org.uk](mailto:hq@norfolkscouts.org.uk)

## EXPLORER BIRTHDAY CAMP

On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September, 31 Explorers and 10 Adults descended on London to take part in the explorer birthday camp - London Experience 2007. Travelling by train to Gilwell and using the underground to travel around London should have been an easy enough task, but little did we know what the Rail service had in store for the weekend.

Saturday morning, Norfolk Explorers became one of London's tourist attractions, as Lucy Inge, Barracuda Explorer and Tom Kelly, Claire Watts, Jason Drake, Emily Wright, Duncan Jameson, Alice Hewson, Central Explorers, were invested at the base of Nelson's Column. Well as we had a crowd watching we could not disappoint, therefore we did our version of the hokey cokey. I think there was a faint round of applause from afar and I seem to remember a version of the hokey cokey on a very crowded tube train!

Now it was time to start the London Experience. Six teams of explorers each assisted by a leader, or was that hindered, were given a list of questions, underground ticket, paper, and crayons. The questions were set around the locations on the monopoly board, meaning that teams had to visit these sites to get the answers. As if it would be as easy as going into an internet café to complete the competition! There was some confusion over the bark rubbings, however as the judges had

visited all the sites they could easily identify which tree the rubbing had come from. All teams did extremely well and although Ben, James, John, Lucy and Kirsty from Barracuda Explorers had the assistance of Andy MacDonald, AESL Central, they still managed to win. Congratulations.

After the explorer forum on Sunday, we started our long travel home. After trains being cancelled and rail works between Ipswich and Norwich, morale was high. Yet again, Norfolk Explorers became the main attraction by entertaining their fellow passengers with camp fire songs and yes the hokey cokey, (not easy when you have to remain seated!).

A big thank you to all those took part and made it an event.....



**The Training Calendar for 2008** - This was produced in September and has now been mailed to each GSL, or Group contact registered with the County Office, and District. There is however one change already to that printed some time ago. The Programme refers to a multi-module weekend on 18-20 April 2008 which was arranged prior to the fixing of the St George's Day events. **Modules scheduled for Sunday 20th April (Mods 12, 14, 20, 22) will now take place on Sunday 27th April.** So, there will be no residential option after Saturday's Modules.

**Module Training Locations 2008** - in the past we have fixed venues for Modules in advance and then found that leaders wanting to attend them have been at the other end of the county. In 2008, the venue will be fixed one month before the delivery date of the module, based on the home addresses of the people booked in at that time. All information will then be sent to individuals in the usual way. Later applications will still be accepted, spaces allowing.

**Working towards a Woodbadge?** - watch out for an invitation to a drop-in session near you, being arranged by your LTM. You can validate your learning and keep your progress moving, with or without your own TA.

**Struggling as a TA?** - Not enough time? Lost the way? Want some reassurance?

Try a TA Support Workshop. Four are planned this year; Saturday 7th June, Sunday 8th June, Saturday 5th July and Sunday 6th July. TAs can attend any of these four days, with lunch provided, at venues across the county. More information in the Spring.

**Ongoing Learning.** If your appointment is due for review this year, you will be expected to show your log of Ongoing Learning - a minimum of 5 hours for each year since you achieved your Woodbadge.

Have you considered Module 25 - Assessing Learning and working as a TA? Be the support for one of those new adults that you have recruited through all the fantastic activities your local Scouting was seen to be doing in 2007.

**Any questions or concerns** - please speak with your LTM or me.

Jennifer Chetwynd, Deputy County Commissioner - Adult Support



# INFORMATION PAGE

Calling all scout leaders with GNAS certificates please could you send your name, address, email and telephone number to Brian (details below) who is creating a database with a view to creating a fellowship with special outfit and badge etc, to be called upon to man events like Jamborees and county camps.

Brian Ebbs [brian@harscouts.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:brian@harscouts.fsnet.co.uk) address is 6 Fox Grove, East Harling, Norwich, Norfolk NR16 2PS.

Cancer is an illness that like most us has hit my family & some close friends, but all of us have been given amazing help & much needed support from MacMillan Cancer Support, and over the last couple of years I have run a half marathon & hiked along Hadrian's Wall to help raise funds for cancer charities. However next March I will hopefully complete my biggest challenge to date for MacMillan when I take part in a 100km trek in the Sahara Desert and I would really welcome the support from fellow scouts everywhere, by sponsoring me. It's really easy - and anyone can donate online by credit or debit card at the following address: <http://www.justgiving.com/sahara2008>

All donations are secure and sent electronically to Macmillan Cancer Support & If you are a UK taxpayer, Justgiving will automatically reclaim 28% Gift Aid on your behalf, so your donation is worth even more. Finally I hope as many people as possible will please join me in supporting Macmillan Cancer Support and this fabulous cause.

Trevor Hewlett - CSL Swaffham

## Baden Powell Water Activities Centre Brundall

The training team are putting together a programme of courses to run in 2008. There is room for a group of six scouts plus leaders to camp at the centre. Most courses run for two days. If you or your Group would like to do an RYA approved Sailing or Powerboat course in 2008 please let Rusty know, 01603 716548 [rusty.carter@btinternet.com](mailto:rusty.carter@btinternet.com)



## TRADING POST

Please note a change in the opening hours from January 2008. The new opening times are

Monday & Thursday 4pm to 7pm

Wednesday & Friday 11.30am to 2.30pm

Saturday 10am to 4pm

Please note that the shop will be closed for Christmas as follows : Last opening day Saturday 22nd December and reopening on Friday 4th January 2008

## COUNTY OFFICE

The County Office will be closed from Friday 21st December until Wednesday 2nd January

## DIARY DATES !!!!

NORFOLK SCOUTS ST GEORGE'S DAY DINNER - 12th April 2008

NORFOLK SCOUTS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Wednesday 17th September 2008

MOOT 2009 - Weekend of 27th/28th February & 1st March 2009

## FUNDRAISING

A list of local funding opportunities is available from County Office but also Fact Sheet FS190001 Grant Aid for Scouting (Headquarters Special Funds and Headquarters Loans) is also available from the Scout Information Centre.

Updated versions of the County Directory, County Diary and Training Programme are now available from the County Office

**CLOSING DATE FOR NSN NEXT EDITION : 1ST MARCH 2008**