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## Blue Peter Experience

Recently I have some of the best scouting experiences in my life. This year is the 100th year of scouting and in memory of this great occasion Blue Peter dedicated a whole show to The Scouts, in the studio and a weekend of camping with lots of activities.

On the weekend of the 9th and 10th of February 120 Scouts from all over Essex were invited to a camp at the Youlbury activity centre in Oxford. We all arrived at approximately 8.00pm in our different coaches. We then unloaded our luggage and went into the food hall for a few snacks before our first briefing. After the briefing we took our luggage down to our tents or our huts where we were sleeping. Then we had our second briefing before heading to our beds for the night.

In the morning we headed in our separate patrols that we were going to be doing our activities with, luckily I was fortunate enough to be with the film crew. All through the day we were moving from activity to activity. There were so many to do, there was the high wire walk, air rifle shooting, archery, crate stacking, Jacobs ladder and leap of faith, zip lines, abseiling, wall climbing, go-karts and many more exiting activities to do.

At about 6:00pm we went for dinner and afterwards we went into a different hut where the film crew thanked us for our co-operation and also by the Leaders for our excellent behavior.



On the 20th of February we were invited to the Blue Peter studios in London to do a live broadcast for them about Scouts.

About 100 scouts met at Gilwell Park where we caught a coach to the studios. When we arrived at about 11:00am we were escorted to the studio that they had given to us to wait around in. At about 1:00pm a group of scouts were taken out to the garden to rehearse the scene where they were putting up the tents. Meanwhile, the rest of the scouts that weren't involved were taken into the studio to rehearse the pancake-flipping scene.

After many rehearsals everyone was ready for the live show. Then at 5:00pm it was time for the live show. It was excellent all went to plan and everyone was ecstatic after the show. We all went into the spare studio and talked about the experience. We then loaded into our buses and headed home.

Nicholas Smith (1st Castle Heddingham, Essex)



## The County Commissioner's Campsite Climbing Challenge

A prize of £100 is up for grabs for the team that climbs or abseils the greatest distance above 2007 metres. Commemorative badges will be presented to all those teams who achieve the minimum of 2007 metres.

This event will run throughout 2007 for Scouts and Explorer Scouts.

The rules:- Teams of 4 - 8 Scouts or Explorer Scouts. (Joint not allowed)

Aim - Climb and or abseil, jointly, a minimum of 2007 metres on at least four different venues at Essex Scout/Guide Camp Sites.

Times - Dawn to when Warden says, "Go home".

Registration - Teams must register, Team Name, Section, email address, Team Members names, with Bill Hindley email - [thriftwood@btinternet.com](mailto:thriftwood@btinternet.com)

Teams or part thereof may register climbs or abseil as long as a minimum of four of the registered team take part in the particular activity. All climbs must be signed off by a member of the particular campsite staff. Participating Campsites will then register each climb/abseil and this will then be acknowledged.

For list of participating campsites visit

<http://www.essexscouts.org.uk/support/2007/climbingchallenge.php>

To book see list of participating Sites. All enquiries through Bill Hindley [thriftwood@btinternet.com](mailto:thriftwood@btinternet.com) or phone 012777 226571.

## Rare Bird Spotted at Skreens Park

The Essex bird spotting community are all very excited at the sighting at Skreens Park, of a Tree Char, a member of the Charadriiformes family and a variety of song bird. This is the first sighting in Essex for many years. It has been suggested that a sighting of a Char this far north this early in the year is another sign of global warming. Although the exact location of the nesting site is known by the discerning few we can only reveal it is not far from the campfire circle. One of the characteristics of the Char is its ability to mimic. This is very evident during campfires where songs such as "Oh you'll never get to heaven" and "Quartermaster Stores" always seem to have an extra chorus or an echo. This has caused some consternation to the Campfire leaders until the phenomenon has been explained.

The bird itself is a little larger than a Robin and the male has a dark almost Royal Blue colouring on the lower half of its torso and distinctive brown feet, with a beige coloured upper half and a distinctive red collar around its neck and a small white tuft. The female, as with most birds has an unassuming plumage. They are generally blue in colouration with a white patch on its breast. Thus far we have only seen the male but this is not unusual as the females are rarely seen with the male other than in the very short mating season at the end of March and the beginning of April. We may be lucky enough to attract a female and create a mating pair. It is expected that as long as the bird is not disturbed and made to feel welcome around the campfire it will stay with us until at least the early Autumn.

It has been decided that it would be an excellent idea if Groups could adopt our little visitor and each Group wishing to do so will be sent a copy of a rare photograph and a certificate. No money need be sent just the Group Details and the point of contact. Groups should email to: [adoptanessxbird@essexscouts.org.uk](mailto:adoptanessxbird@essexscouts.org.uk)





### Search for a new County Commissioner

As you may already be aware, Rob Lyon has been appointed as Regional Commissioner for the East of England (which includes Essex). It is anticipated that Rob will take up his new appointment wef 1 October 2007, after having seen the County through both the World Jamboree and our own Centenary celebrations.

Wayne Bulpitt, Chief Commissioner for England South has asked me, and I have agreed, to chair the Search Group that is to be formed to find Rob's successor. Details of the Search Group will be circulated separately, as well as appearing on the County website ([www.essexscouts.org.uk](http://www.essexscouts.org.uk)), as its membership had not been finalised at the time this article was written at the beginning of March. In addition, the County website will also include a nomination form, role description, and application form (if you wish to nominate yourself - see below) for the role of County Commissioner.

I would now like to invite you personally to contribute to the search for a new County Commissioner by submitting a nomination (or nominations) of persons whom you feel should be considered for this important appointment.

Nominations should be submitted, either using the form available from the County website or by letter, in an envelope marked "Personal and Confidential" to me at 19 Dynevor Gardens, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 2RG.

Nominations should be received on or before 31 May 2007.

In order to ensure the widest possible consultation, I should be grateful if you would circulate this request for nominations to all members of the County, District and Groups within your area of responsibility, as well as any external bodies with whom you have regular contact in a Scouting capacity. If you wish to nominate yourself, which is perfectly acceptable, please do so and complete the application form available via the County website.

Please note that in order to ensure confidentiality, and prevent building false hopes, nominations should be submitted without approaching the individual concerned or, in the event that you nominate yourself, you should not indicate to others that you have done so.

The next County Commissioner could be someone with whom you work in Scouting, at work, or in the wider community, and I would ask that you give serious consideration to identify someone who you believe has the qualities to be our next County Commissioner. When considering a possible candidate, please do not compare them against the current or previous County Commissioners. It is important that we draw up a list with as wide a cross section of people as possible, so that the Search Group can begin the process of preparing a short list.

I would like to remind you that as a member of the County you are in the best position to know what you want from a County Commissioner, and are likely to know of potential candidates. Please take this opportunity and play your part in ensuring that all potential candidates are identified and given due consideration by the Search Group.

Finally, I would like to thank you in anticipation of your support in this very important process.

Paul J Stennett, County Chairman

### Help Welcome the World

Come and join the team and help build a tented city at Hylands Park, Chelmsford this July to house tens of thousands of young people from across the world who are taking part in the biggest ever World Scout Jamboree.

Help make it happen and donate your time and skills to complete the UK's biggest ever volunteer project. There will be jobs for all, whether you are skilled or unskilled, you could volunteer for one day, one week, one weekend or the whole period.

- 3 Free Meals A Day
- Free Space to Camp
- Free Day Visitor Experience Ticket if you complete 2 or more build days

Jamboree Build 2-27 July Jamboree Take Down 8-14 August

Pitch In at the Weekends 7-8 July 14-15 July 21-22 July 11-12 August

Further information and to apply [www.thejamboree.org/build](http://www.thejamboree.org/build) email [build@scouting2007.org](mailto:build@scouting2007.org)



### Help change the world for good

We all need to learn how we can all look after our world, to understand global faiths and beliefs and to appreciate global cultures. The 21st World Scout Jamboree Day Visitors Experience is the great opportunity for everyone to learn more about the world, its cultures, issues, faiths, cuisine, performance at the biggest ever World Scout Jamboree.

The experience will cater to those of all ages and is suitable for supporters, families and your group. Access is easy and parking is plentiful and free.

Full information is available online at [www.thejamboree.org/dayvisitors](http://www.thejamboree.org/dayvisitors) or by calling 0845 300 1818.

Tickets are £20 for adults and £15 for 3-14yr olds.



### 26th July to 2nd August 2008

Jamborees are a special opportunity for Scouts and Guides to take part in an action packed week of adventure and to join in the fun and friendship of an international experience.

During the 26th July to 2nd August thousands of young people from across the world will camp together at Kirby-le-Soken and take part in a jamboree packed with activities, entertainment and international friendship.

To register your interest or to order your personal copy of the leaflet and application form please email your postal address to [jamboree@essexscouts.org.uk](mailto:jamboree@essexscouts.org.uk)

Opportunities for members over the age of 16 to be part of the staff team are now available by downloading an expression of interest form from the jamboree website. You could volunteer to help run the activities programme, to help put the site together or to ensure that everyone is entertained in the evenings. A list of all the staff opportunities including details of roles will be available soon.

Why not get involved and ensure that the Essex International Jamboree is your destination during the summer of 2008. [www.essexscouts.org.uk/jamboree](http://www.essexscouts.org.uk/jamboree)



### County Cyclo-Cross Results

70 competitors took part in the 34th Championships at Skreens Park on 18th February. The winners were as follows.



#### Section 1, Scouts 11 – 12

- |                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Elliott Wincott | 1st North Springfield |
| 2 Tom Blower      | 5th Saffron Walden    |
| 3 Tom Maklouf     | 4th Billericay        |
| Team Award        | 5th Saffron Walden    |

#### Section 2 Scouts 13 –14

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Barney Farrendon | 2nd Stanford-le-Hope |
| 2 Nathan Shiels    | 4th Billericay       |
| 3 Matthew Cook     | 1st Saffron Walden   |
| Team Award         | 2nd Stanford-le-Hope |

#### Section 3 Explorers 14 – 17

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Daniel Frost       | 1st North Springfield |
| 2 Lewis Macklenburgh | 1st Maldon Merlins    |
| 3 Alan Price         | 1st Ransden & Downham |
| Team Award           | 1st North Springfield |

#### Section 4 Network & Leaders

- |                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| 1 Lee Lines       | 1st Runwell |
| 2 Sean Caull      | 1st Runwell |
| 3 Richard Yeldham | 1st Runwell |
| Team Award        | 1st Runwell |

# Notice Board

## Rob's Ramblings

At the time of writing this item there are District and County Commissioners across the Country anxiously watching the Census returns coming in and wondering whether or not the numbers are up? Why is that? Not that I can speak for others but for me it is simply that I want more Young People to experience the fun and benefits of the Everyday Adventure that we call Scouting. It is also an indication of the quality of the Scouting we offer. However, it is only that - an indication not a cast iron definition. The challenge we face is how do we measure quality? A Cub Pack may be brimming with Cub Scouts offering an excellent programme to the Young People but having technically not grown from one year to the next. So have they failed? In contrast another Cub Pack where numbers have increased from one year to the next. Are they succeeding? In both cases the answer is not necessarily. It all depends on a variety of factors; how many members of the Pack are the same. i.e. What is the turnover of membership? What is the number of members achieving awards and badges? etc. So, in terms of quality our Census is a very rough guide but it is at least easily measurable. It is also interesting to see that Districts and Groups that have thought about the issues are the ones that are on the whole growing and developing. How does your Group monitor and measure the quality of the provision offered to the Young People in the community you serve? What could you do that could be done better? Also what do you do that is really

good and needs to be celebrated?

Talking of celebrations I have received a number of invites to St George's Day Events and it is unfortunate that I am unable to physically get to them all. The renewal of our promise should be a meaningful and fun event for everyone especially our Young People. Having heard of the plans from some Districts where Explorer Scouts and the young people are leading the process it all sounds very exciting and it is good to see people thinking differently about our important day. If I am unable to join you please pass on my best wishes to all at your St. George's event.

This year is certainly full of opportunities for growth and development; the question is have we all thought about how we are going to maximise the potential? How is your Group or section going to make the most of our raised profile? Have you thought how you could best utilise extra adults or how you could best accommodate extra youth members? Although at this time I am unable to share any detail, I am in dialogue with staff at Gilwell about an exciting opportunity we could use within Essex. I will, hopefully, before our next edition of the Bulletin be able to share the details with you. However, it does need you to have thought about the issues and in true Scouting fashion to Be Prepared!

Good Scouting to you all.

## Building for the Future at Thorrington

Bright Spring sunshine greeted everyone as Thorrington Campsites' new Wardens' Lodge was officially opened on Sunday 11th March. Over 150 Scouting friends, young and old, saw Jacqui Archard, Thorrington Chairman, and Rob Lyon, County Commissioner, cut the tape and declare the impressive new building open for business.

Jacqui expressed her heartfelt thanks to everyone for their support and work on the Lodge project over a number of years, especially the "Wednesday Team" who had worked tirelessly to build the Lodge. The project has been hugely successful with virtually all of the labour (the most expensive bit) provided by the Wednesday Team, enabling the funds to be spent on providing the materials for the building.

Work had also been going on behind the scenes to thank the Wednesday Team more formally. The result being that they each received an "Essex Award" for their work and dedication over many years and projects. Rob Lyon presented the Awards and certificates as the crowd cheered and clapped. The Wednesday Team is made up of Fellowship Members, former Scout Leaders and friends who work at Thorrington throughout the year helping to maintain and improve the site for our Young People.

The New Lodge replaces the tired old building and gives the Wardens team all mod cons including fully fitted kitchen, large lounge area, excellent reception desk and facilities for disabled team members. Now fully operational, the Lodge will enable the Wardens to give the best possible support to the Scouting Adventure during the Centenary Year and beyond! One visitor commented, "It's better than my house, perhaps I'll volunteer to join the wardens team!"



## A new way to receive your County Newsletter from next issue

2 copies of the printed version will be direct mailed to Group Scout Leaders/Group Contacts.

5 copies of the printed version will be direct mailed to District Secretaries.

A copy of the PDF version will be emailed to every member with a listing on the Membership Services Database.

You can request your own personal printed version or an email version at [newsletterdistribution@essexscouts.org.uk](mailto:newsletterdistribution@essexscouts.org.uk)

or telephone 01277 216 829  
Newsletter Distribution 47 Western Road  
Brentwood Essex CM14 4SU

## Update your Membership Records

If you receive Scouting Plus you will also receive the new county newsletter via email. Your contact details are held by the membership services database and this is used to send you a copy of Scouting Magazine. If you don't receive either of these national publications then you can easily update your records yourself by logging in at <http://scouts.org.uk/membership/>

**THURROCK  
SCOUT & GUIDE GANG SHOW  
STRIDE ON '07  
THAMESIDE THEATRE, GRAYS  
2nd - 5th MAY  
TICKETS CONTACT LYN  
01375 374081**

### Belchamps Scout and Guide Centre

Due to increasing camper nights and major refurbishment plans we are currently recruiting Junior volunteers aged 12 to 18 and Volunteer staff 18 plus.

Holyoak Lane, Hawkwell, Essex S55 4JD  
Tel: Nigel on 01702 562690

E-mail: [centremanager@belchamps.co.uk](mailto:centremanager@belchamps.co.uk)  
[www.belchamps.co.uk](http://www.belchamps.co.uk)

## Winners at the High Sheriff's Awards Scheme yet again

The High Sheriff's Awards is an annual award scheme to support and reward local people and organisations which tackle crime and disorder in their communities. Once again the Essex Experience was entered for an award and on Tuesday 6th March at the awards ceremony held at the Fennes Estate near Braintree, the project received two awards. Richard Totten received a certificate of commendation for his work as training course director for the Essex Experience and the training course itself received a grant of £500. This is the tenth year running that the Essex Experience has featured in the High Sheriff's Awards.



The photo shows (from left to right) Gordon Henshall (Director of Community Development), Christopher Stewart-Smith (The High Sheriff), Graham Chandler (ACC (Essex Experience)), Richard Totten (Essex Experience volunteer training course director), Doug Kelly (Chairman of the Essex Experience management team), Steve Scruton (BBC Radio Essex Presenter) and Claire Fielder (Community Development Officer).

## Southend Estuary District Scouts Mowing well

District Headquarters manager Keith Rooks-Cowell has just received delivery from Ernest Doe's of Rochford, of a brand new Lawnflite Ride-on Grass Mower ready for our busy season at the Headquarters in Eastern Avenue, Southend on Sea.

Many events are planned by the Scouts to celebrate 100 years of Scouting which will give the new mower plenty of good use cutting our two and half acres. The District was given a grant under the "Awards for All" scheme from the National Lottery, having been applied for by Keith and the District Committee.

Our old second-hand mower had just about had its day after 9 years constant use. Keith said "Ernest Doe's gave us a very good offer and also supplied a small trailer to tow behind the mower".

Barry Smoothy, Chairman Southend Estuary District Scouts



## WHO IS THE OLDEST OF THEM ALL?

In preparation for the Centenary Scout Exhibition at the Chelmsford and Essex Museum running from 14th July to the end September we are still looking for possible names of the oldest living ex-Scout in Essex, also that of the person with the longest un-broken length of service in Scouting, both will be invited to the official opening of the Exhibition along with two Beaver Scouts.

Following a media release recently we had a certain amount of response but it did not appear to cover the entire county so we are asking again to search around your area to see whom you might know fills the bill.

At the moment we have a 93 year old who joined in 1923 as our oldest, and a current member with 76 years non-stop service, from 1930. Is there anyone out there who might beat these records, do please let us know soon, contact the County Archivist, Malcolm Treacher on 01245 250061.

## Amendments to County Directory

- Pg. 3. District Support. Change Heather Butcher's address to 10 Leonard Drive, Rayleigh, S56 9EA, 01268 785525.
- Pg. 5. Youth Programme. Change Paul Hole's title to ACC Scouts. Insert ACC Explorer Scouts, Andy Cunningham, 21 Romsey Close, Hockley, S55 4XJ, 07985 245082.
- Pg. 7. Scout Network. Delete ACSNC Gareth Smith.
- Pg. 9. County Executive. Change David Butcher's address to 10 Leonard Drive, Rayleigh, S56 9EA, 01268 785525.
- Pg. 13. LTMs. Delete Andrew Barnes.
- Pg. 15. Training Administrators. Delete Graham Addison.
- Pg. 21. Billericay & Wickford. Designate Dave Garratt as an ADC
- Pg. 22. Braintree. District Commissioner, delete Chris McCann and change David Cohen's appointment to District Commissioner.
- Pg. 24. Castle Point. Change all @castlepointscouts.org.uk email addresses to @cpscouts.org.uk.
- Pg. 24. Chelmsford. Delete Scouts\* Steve Harrison.
- Pg. 28. Colchester Estuary. Insert new DC Stu Gibson, 31 Meyrick Crescent, Colchester, CO2 7QY, 01206 530120, M 07940 076938. Explorer Scouts\* Elspeth Johnson, 162 Hythe Hill, Colchester, CO1 2NG, 01206 861360.
- Pg. 32. Crouch Valley, Delete Scout Fellowship\* Mark Pearson.
- Pg. 38. Harlow. Delete Chaplain Rev. Jenny Ragan.
- Pg. 43. Southend Estuary. Change Reg & Carol Cody's address to 33 High Street, Shoeburyness, Southend-on-Sea, S53 9EW, 01702 306324.
- Pg. 47. Thurrock. Change David & Heather Butcher's address to 10 Leonard Drive, Rayleigh, S56 9EA, 01268 785525.

## CONGRATULATIONS

### Medal for Meritorious Conduct

Bradley Woodward, Scout, 2nd Rayleigh (Holy Trinity), Crouch Valley.

### Silver Wolf

In recognition of Service of the Most Exceptional Nature  
Rob Medler, DC, Tendring.

Derek Tatum, Formerly DC, Colchester Central.

### Silver Acorn

In recognition of Specially Distinguished Service  
Tim Norman, DESL, Colchester Estuary.

Ian Johnson, SL, 3rd Chalkwell Bay, Southend West.  
Michael Francis, Assistant, 17th Colchester, Colchester Estuary.  
Susan Stevens, GSL, 8th Billericay (Emanuel), Billericay & Wickford.

Gerald Ward, Group Treasurer, Mersea Island, Colchester Estuary.

Lawrence Westlake, ASL 1st Dunmow, Hatfield Forest.

### Medal of Merit

In recognition of Outstanding Service  
Stephen Deighton, ESL, Tsunami ES Unit, Colchester Estuary.  
Paul Stickland, GSL, 9th Colchester, Colchester Estuary.  
Jean Ball, ASL, 34th Colchester (1st Shrub End), Colchester Estuary.

### Chief Scouts Commendation for Good Services

In recognition of Good Service  
Robin Cotgrove, Castle Point.

### Essex Award

Revd Jenny Raglan, District Chaplain, Harlow.  
Michael Brown, Wednesday Team, Thorrington.  
John Eaton, Wednesday Team, Thorrington.  
James Glover, Wednesday Team, Thorrington.  
Ronald Gooding, Wednesday Team, Thorrington.  
Trevor Green, Wednesday Team, Thorrington.  
Michael Jeffers, Wednesday Team, Thorrington.  
Douglas Meyers, Wednesday Team, Thorrington.  
David Nichols, Wednesday Team, Thorrington.  
Frederick Pearce, Wednesday Team, Thorrington.  
Gerald Peterson, Wednesday Team, Thorrington.  
David Willis, Wednesday Team, Thorrington.

Essex County Scout Gaving Team Affiliated to the Council of Southern Gaving Clubs

# Looking for a Challenge?

## Try the CAVER BADGE!

**Course Includes:**

- Food / Transport
- Accommodation
- Equipment Hire
- Cave Access

**22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> June '07**  
Training Day on 10<sup>th</sup> June

**Cost: £70**

**12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> October '07**  
Training Day on 30<sup>th</sup> September

For more information or booking forms visit our web site at [www.ecsct.org](http://www.ecsct.org) or contact the Course Co-ordinator – Paul Wise on 01702 558015 (Voice or Message)

Overflow Course: 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> Nov '07  
Training Day on 28<sup>th</sup> October

Ministerial Art Copyright ©CSCT, 2007

## Belchamps Scout Uniform Shop

Belchamps now sells all of the scouting uniform on the internet. You can order your new uniform, woggles and 2007 centenary items on the internet. Simply place an order on the online shop and we'll post your items to you as soon as we can.

Our online shop also stocks Belchamps Merchandise, such as bookmarks, mugs, woggles and badges.

You can pay by card online using our secure online service, or post us a cheque and we'll send your order once we receive it.

Just go to [www.belchamps.co.uk](http://www.belchamps.co.uk) and click on the link

Or you can visit our shop in person  
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday  
2-5pm

Saturday, Sunday 9-5  
Closed Tuesday

## Thriftwood News

The climbing/abseiling and artificial ice climbing wall is now floodlit. Use of the facility may now be booked for evening use during the twilight hours. If you want instructed sessions then this will normally be available on Tuesday evenings. At other times you may use with your own instructors (Familiarisation with techniques may be required).

Dates for adult activity authorisation courses:-

### GNAS Leaders Diploma (Archery)

Mon 2nd - Thu 5th July - 9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Daily Accommodation available - Cost- from £150

### Climbing & Abseiling (Training)

Sun 10th & 17th June - 10:00am to 5:00pm £35

### Climbing & Abseiling Assessment

Sun 1st July - 10:00am to 5:00pm  
Note - (At least one day must be attended to permit Assessment)

### NSRA Rifle Tutors Diploma

Sun 13th May 10:00am 5:00pm £45

### NSRA Rifle Tutors Diploma

Sun 25th Nov - 10:00am to 5:00pm £45

### First Response First Aid

Sun 18th Nov - 10:00am to 5:00pm £25

Notes - Uniform not required. All Courses require you to bring a packed lunch.

Outdoor clothing may be required. Coffee and tea provided.

Ring Bill on 01277 226571 for details or contact via email or directly on Site

**Dawn Celebration** - Thriftwood's International visitors, plus other campers will be celebrating this event on Shenfield Common at 8:00am, together with members of Brentwood District Scouts. Following breakfast on the common those that wish can return to Thriftwood for a day of activities. Morning will be based around traditional activities and afternoon, the more modern ones. Evening will conclude with a campfire and firework display. Cost £8:00 per person.

And next - 14th/16th September, '**Thriftwood is Fifty**' Camp. All on site activities, memories, fun, celebrations, singing, fireworks, badge, woggles, and everything.

Book now to avoid disappointment, £25:00per person.

And there's more - 26th / 28th October 2007. Following the hectic events of 2007 we thought it might be time for Leaders, friends and families to relax. So - we are inviting you to a TLC experience (Thriftwood Leaders Camp); a chance for Leaders and families to relax, chill out, try some of the on site activities, and even be pampered a little. Or just do as you please. Sauna, hot tub, massage, facials, manicures, golf, inflatables, campfire, leaders bar, music and dance. These are just a few of the things you can do.

Cost £30 per adult, children (optional) £15 each, under 6's free. Limited indoor accommodation - add on £7:00 each sharing with others - (Catering facilities only).

And lastly - **Pedal Olympics 2008** 11th - 13th January 2008. See web site for details, book early to avoid disappointment.

## BELCHAMPS EVEREST CLIMB 2007

As part of our Fundraising for the redevelopment and extension of the Kath Batts Building at Belchamps we are organising a sponsored climbing session on the 12th - 13th May 2007. The event will take place over 24 hours beginning at midday on Saturday 12th May, and the intention is to get enough climbers up and down the wall to have climbed the equivalent height of Mt. Everest. This means that we need climbers who think they can get up and down the wall in about 2 minutes. If you wish to be involved then please let us



know and we will let you join one of the Belchamps climbing teams or you can book an hour slot for a group of you.

We are asking that each participant collects at least £25 in sponsorship money. The sponsorship form is available from the Belchamps reception or a copy can be emailed to you.

## 1st Thors Oak Scouts on Target

Stanford-le-Hope & District Scouts have a new name on the Scout rifle shooting trophy - Thors Oak.

In an incredibly close final between the three top troops, with only 4 points between the teams at the half way stage, but an outstanding shoot by Toby Keeys with his last 5 pellets, 41 points including a bull's eye put Thors Oak in an unassailable position. His overall score of 73 is the new district record. Well done to Horndon who reached the final for only the second time in the history of the competition, as well as good shooting from Mitchell Young with a score of 50. Intrepid have reached the final 4 times now winning the inaugural competition in 1999. Keiron Peaceful scored 54 with 2 bull's eyes, which showed another case of a steady eye.

John Dighton, competition organiser and 2nd Stanford-le-Hope Scout troop leader, said afterwards, "It was an excellent final as well as being one of the closest in points we've ever had. All the Scouts had brilliant range manners which makes running the event so much easier. Thank you to all of them who took part."

The trophy was presented to Thors Oak Scouts by Assistant District Commissioner for Scouts, Peter Cobley, The Scouts will be partaking in more activities like this when the District go away to Skreens Park near Chelmsford, for their Centenary camp, in May to celebrate 100 years of Scouting.

To see the pictures from the event and for more information on Scouting in Stanford-le-Hope area please visit [www.stanfordscout.uk.com](http://www.stanfordscout.uk.com)

## Network Open Day

Calling all DCs, DESCs, ESLs and Explorers!

If you're still wondering what Network's all about, Essex Network invites you to come along to the annual Network Open Day at County Training Ground at Thriftwood campsite on Sunday, 29th April to find out.

Visitors will be able to meet members of Essex Network from various districts from across the county, be challenged to display their "It's a Knockout" skills and have the chance to ask all those questions you've always had about Network.

Network is an integral part of Essex Scouting and we appreciate your support - Network Open Day is an ideal opportunity to show us that support, build on links with your friendly local Networkers, introduce your Explorers to the next step in Scouting - and have a good time!

The day starts at 10.30am and will be all done and dusted by 3pm - and we're even throwing in a free lunch! We're looking forward to seeing you at Thriftwood in April...



## Scout Fellowship News



With the introduction of the new credit card style appointment card, it is essential that all Fellowship members are registered on the National Membership Database. Please take the time to check this, as records and communications are important within our movement. For those who have access to the "web" log on to [www.scouts.org.uk](http://www.scouts.org.uk) and follow the 'log in' link, or 'Sign up' link if you have not accessed before. Many people do not have access to the Web so please contact your Fellowship Secretary, myself or the records office at Gilwell if you require help.

A DVD has been produced of the 1957 9th World Jamboree. The Jamboree was a combination of Scouter's Indaba and Rover Moot. The DVD is a compilation of several films taken of the camp with some footage not displayed in public before.

Copies are to be released shortly and can be obtained from: Dave Andrews, The Den, Nursery Lane, South Wootton, Kings Lynn PE30 3NB. The cost is £10:50 +£1:50 P&P.

Cheques should be made payable to "Wasbay Scout Fellowship". Thanks for the invitations to AGM, it's good to keep in touch. Alastair Maclachlan ACC(SF)

# Programme Support - Darren Bretton

As we approach the World Scout Jamboree at Hylands Park in the Summer, the International pages will be looking at the countries that have hosted the previous 20 WSJs and will be giving you some simple ideas for your programmes.

Country: Norway  
When: 14th WSJ in 1975



Activity: Jamboree On The trail  
When: Saturday 12th May



Make reindeer headgear from 'alice bands' or cardboard rings, with the antlers made from card or pipecleaners.



Ready Steady Krispbread – whilst not the most exciting of foods, you could dress up a krispbread to make it a little more interesting – who can make the best dressed with different ingredients – cheese, fruit, ham etc.



Rose Painting is a classic form of Norwegian Art. Why not try decorating tiles, plate or plain mugs with rose designs in paints and other craft items. Make them into gifts for a special event.



Jorvik in York is an excellent tourist attraction that looks at the city at the time of the Vikings. Delve deep into this period in history with a visit – tied into a Unit weekend in the city. Use the youth hostel as a base and take in other sights such as the Minster and free National Railway Museum.



Glogg – a traditional Scandinavian version of mulled wine. Made of water, sugar, cardamom, cloves, cinnamon, orange, ginger, red wine, raisins and a white spirit. Ideal for the closing beverage at a cold outdoor activity – don't forget to use alcohol responsibility and ensure that no one is driving home.

## Group

Give your Group Christmas Fayre a Nordic feel to it with handmade decorations available to sell. Christmas markets are popular in Europe so try to recreate one at home, or even take a group trip by coach to one of those held in Germany which have a great reputation.



Nature walk – getting the Beavers out and about in their local community and seeing what wildlife they can find.



1 mile hike – pick a route that is away from roads and too many houses. Perhaps throw in some tracking to add to the excitement.



10 mile hike – proper route planning to be involved. Packing a small rucksack and taking the food and equipment needed to prepare a simple hot meal.



Overnight Incident Hike – I remember doing these as a Scout and having great fun. Involve Network and Fellowship in running bases on first aid and simple challenges en route. Make sure that there is hot soup at the end.



Time to work on your Duke Of Edinburgh or Queen's Scout Award expeditions. This weekend could make up part of the training programme.

## Group

Get the whole group out and about in the countryside. Perhaps use a well marked public footpath like the Essex Way, or devise a route of your own. Perhaps you are near a beach and could do a beach combing walk. Wherever you end up you could run a BBQ or similar to round the event off nicely.

Country: Greece  
When: 11th WSJ in 1963



Country: Austria  
When: 7th WSJ in 1951



Island Hopping – draw five chalk circles on the floor – and name them after Greek Islands (there are plenty of them). Cubs run around until you blow the whistle. They run to one of the islands. A leader calls out the name of one of the islands, and all those on it drop out. Winner is last one standing.



The Greek alphabet is different from the one that we use in English speaking languages. Make up codes using greek letters and get the cubs to break the code and translate the words.



The Ancient Greeks raced Chariots. In Patrols make a sedan chair or a chariot with wheels and race them around a course (large open space required).



Kebabs have a variable reputation – but authentic ones are really tasty. Have a go at making these as a late night camp snack – with plenty of salad to make them healthier.



There is a phrase that goes 'it is all greek to me' – meaning something that you don't understand. See how much people do know by running a fun quiz event for the Network. There could be a prize for the winning / losing teams, or just run it as a social activity.

## Group

Funday Olympics – celebrate the Centenary with a Group event. A funday full of weird and wonderful sports that everyone can take part in.



Make or buy small plain fairy cakes. Provide all sorts of decorating materials such as sprinkles, chocolate frosting, cherries etc. Who can make the best dressed cake. Finish off the evening by eating them!



Mozart was born in Salzburg in Austria. Make and play musical instruments as a pack evening activity. Collect household junk and see what sounds you can make with the instruments made from it.



Bake a cake – but on camp using a biscuit tin oven or similar. It can be done.



Austria has a host of coffee houses across the country – an opportunity to relax and catch up with the news of the day. Try filter coffee, cafetiere coffee, espresso, latte, mocha – the list is endless.



Austria is a mountainous country – go mountaineering, either as part of an expedition or for the sheer enjoyment of it.

## Group

Waltz the night away with a Group Dinner Dance. This could be another way of getting everyone involved in celebrating the centenary, and also a chance to dress up in posh frock and DJs.

Contact me by Email: [accinternational@essexscouts.org.uk](mailto:accinternational@essexscouts.org.uk) or post to my address in the County Directory

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