

# THE ESSEX ADVENTURE

The County Bulletin of Essex Scouts  
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www.essexscouts.org.uk



## Just a few of our winners!

In challenging times (not sure what I mean, just read the papers!) We need inspiration, we need to be reminded of those who fearlessly approach obstacles in order to learn, develop and of course have fun. Here to celebrate those that rise to the occasion are a few of the latest winners of the bronze, silver and gold chief scout award.



Harry Risk (8) from 2nd Stanford-le-Hope  
"I was pleased with completing my level 9 swimming award but I really enjoyed making a robot from junk."



Ben Threadgold (10) from 1st Westcliff  
"I loved doing all the new things and at the end of it I received my Silver Chief Scout Award"



Joseph Montalbano (10) from 21st Church Langley  
"My best improvement was my maths, it's my hardest subject and I passed the test. My favourite bit was telling my friends about fishing as it's my favourite pastime."

Kira Jarvis (9) 1st Hatfield Peverel "I got to see so many things, Chatham Docks, a visit from a vet, HMS Belfast and Dover it was a great experience."

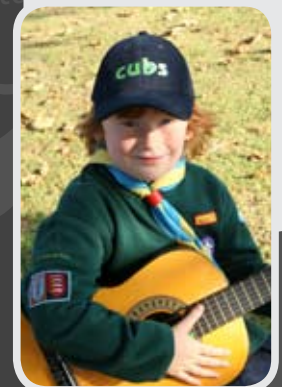


Aidan Gutteridge (14) from 7th Clacton  
"The thing I liked the most is meeting so many great people from other groups. My proudest moment was the Map reading as I'm dyslexic."



Freddie Colcough (7) 1st Saffron Walden  
"I loved the Beaver sleepovers but I think my favourite was the experiment evenings as I love finding out how things work."

Connor Ledgerton (8) 1st Great Notley  
"It was all fun but I was most proud of learning to play the guitar and playing the theme tune to Star Wars to the Colony."



James Jackson (14) from Endeavour  
"My biggest challenge was writing a newsletter for the Scout Group, it was fun but hard work."



David Baker (8) 1st Warley  
"My most nervous bit was the presentation. My best bit was the card making and showing them to the Cubs."



Thomas Knox (11) 1st Wickford  
"Getting lost whilst map reading was an adventure, I got the hang of it at the end! I think my favourite bit was teaching Cubs to make kites from bin bags. I did lots with recycling, it makes such a difference."



## WINTER FUN EXPLORER SCOUTS

### WINTAC in numbers

- 930 – photos were taken over the weekend
- 562 – the number of hits of the promo video
- 449 explorer scouts
- 427 - the number of miles the furthest Explorers travelled – Belfast
- 116 - number of service and leaders having a fun weekend too
- 100 - the percentage of participants that want to return next year
- 24 – the number of explorers invested over the weekend
- 20 - the number of districts represented
- 6 ½ - the number of years since the last wintac
- 5 - the number of countries represented
- 3 - the recorded temperature at night – it seemed colder!
- 0 - the number of hours sleep some of the Explorers got!

### A paddling success

Using the facilities of the new Docklands Scout Project, a dozen Explorer Scouts from Nore paddled round Canary Wharf and the O2 dome.



### Rounding up the winners

Yes it was cowboy theme for this years network Oscars (NETCARS) and in addition to the fun had by all 15 awards we given to recognize the best (and the worst) of Essex Network.



### Kip on a ship

16 Cubs from St Edmonds Pack spent a weekend in London to see the sights and they spent their night sleeping (well some) on the HMS Belfast.



## An Essex Experience for all!

And what an experience it was. It's not just about another weekend away for Scouters, or about kids who have never been in Scouts to have a go. It is also about volunteers from outside the movement to get involved. So here are the views of just three of the many who helped. Our thanks goes out to all who helped.

**Name:** Andy  
**From:** Romford  
**Day Job:** IT Team Leader  
**Scouting experience:** none  
**How he found the EE:** "I was very apprehensive before the weekend and was expecting to not get too much sleep but we've had a great weeks training and I have had a real laugh together with the other volunteers. I've loved this project so much that I'd love to come back as a tutor. I've made a difference – one youngster even said that I'd make a really good dad"



**Name:** Mel  
**From:** South Woodham  
**Day Job:** Essex Police  
**Scouting experience:** none  
**How she found the EE:** "I met people from all sorts of places and there's been no barriers to get on with anybody and the team building meant we really got to know each other. Three of the boys were labelled by another youngster as trouble- makers but when you see them come back from an activity that they have enjoyed that's a result enough for me. If I can change their path in life a little bit that's enough for me.



**Name:** Saz  
**From:** Witham  
**Day job:** Essex Police  
**Scouting experience:** Brownie and Guide  
**How she found the EE:** "I am at a point in my life that I am not sure what I want so gave this a try. We managed to convince one youngster to try archery, I encouraged him to do 3 arrows, he hit balls eye and wanted to stay for the whole session. I'm glad I persuaded him to try, all he needed was a push. It was a fab weekend."



# Sharing the Adventure

Yes it is true. Great things are happening in Scouting everyday. In reading district newsletters it is evident the adventure is thriving. And with the last two years and their jamborees' success it is obvious why the local press has been happy to support us.

This success whilst supported at county level is only successful through the development of local media coverage. The more people who are involved the better. Because of this a training day is planned for spring.

Held at Gilwell Park on Sunday 1st March it is targeted at Explorer Scouts and Network members wishing to be a Young Spokesperson. It is also for anyone else who is interested in supporting or wanting to brush up on existing skills in the development of media coverage in your local area. Please contact Justin on dcc.justin@essexscouts.org.uk for further information.

To encourage the development of the team the next Essex Adventure will really be Your Adventure as it will be written, edited and designed in a day. Yes on the 18th April editors and designers will be joined by young leaders, Young spokespersons and those involved in media to generate the next edition. If you fancy a fun day out to learn, share skills and news then contact news@essexscouts.org.uk.



## One minute interview

### Jan Dear

County Commissioner

#### What do you do in Scouting?

Apparently everything and nothing (depends on who you ask).

#### How long have you been involved in Scouting and what got you in to it?

I know its hard to imagine but I became involved as a Cub Scout Instructor in 1976. I was a Guide but the Guiding commissioner told me I did not have the patience to work with Young People.

#### What's your proudest achievement in Scouting?

As a Venture Scout I gained an entry in the Guinness Book of records for cooking a 13 mile long sausage to mark the 100 years of St Johns Ambulance.

#### Why stay in Scouting?

It keeps me young at heart and provides those moments when a young person comes up to you to ask when can we do that again.

#### Where do you see Essex Scouting going next?

Continuing to increase opportunities for young people and adults alike to take part in our Essex Adventure by thinking and doing things differently.

#### Where do you see Scouting in 10 years?

More Kids  
More Adults  
More Fun

#### Sum up Scouting in one word

FUN

## THE ESSEX ADVENTURE

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## Congratulations

### Silver Wolf

In recognition of Service of the Most Exceptional Nature  
**Judith Gilder**, DC / TA, Harlow.

### Bar Award for Merit

In recognition of Further Outstanding Service  
**Doreen Missing**, District Badge Secretary, Chelmsford.  
**Colin Wheatley**, Formerly District Treasurer, Thurrock.

### Award for Merit

In recognition of Outstanding Service  
**Nicholas King**, ASL / District Scout Fellowship Member, 1st Writtle, Chelmsford.  
**Laurence Bundy**, GSL, Southminster and Maylandsea, Maldon and East Essex.  
**Merle Bundy**, BSL,

Southminster and Maylandsea, Maldon and East Essex.

**Anthony Merryweather**, GSL, 1st Holland-on-Sea, Tendring.

### The Essex Award

In recognition of their special services to the Staff Catering Team, Essex Jamboree

**Mark Guy**  
**Roger Henderson**  
**Colin Howes**  
**Gwen Hudson**  
**Diana King**  
**Gwilym Morris**  
**Sarah Parish**  
**Norman Sharpe**  
**Pamela Sharpe**  
**Chris Webster**

In recognition of his special services to the Web Site, Essex Jamboree  
**Julian Cochran**, Explorer Scout

## Vacancy List

Deputy County Commissioner Youth Programme

Assistant County Commissioner Cub Scouts

Assistant County Commissioner District & Group Development

County Media Development Manager

County Promotions Manager

Count Scout Network Area Advisor (North West Essex)

Local Scout Network Advisor (Zorro Network, Braintree District) & (Synergy Southend, Southend Estuary/Southend West District).

Local Training Manager (each for) Royal Forest, Southend Estuary, Brentwood, Braintree

[www.essexscouts.org.uk/vacancy](http://www.essexscouts.org.uk/vacancy)

## February

**13 - 15** Belchamps Winter Camp   EX   

From t-shirt and shorts weather to -2 in the tents we can't predict the weather but we can guarantee the fun! Have you ever tried eating Squirrel, Rabbit or pigeon? Need to brush up on your axe and saw training? Or just enjoy the huge list of activities including a full evening programme to educate and entertain. For more info contact [info@belchamps.co.uk](mailto:info@belchamps.co.uk)



## March

**8** TRACKS   EX   

County Mountain Bike

This year Hog Hill Cycle Circuit becomes our host for TRACKS... The County Off Road Cycle Races. Opened by London Mayor Boris Johnson in 2008 and purpose built, Hog Hill offers a mountain bike track with a large descent section as well as berms, jumps and a 'pump track'.

For the first time ever the event is open to all sections from Beavers up to Leaders and Fellowship. You'll need a cycle helmet and a bike (though limited numbers are available for hire at the track). We will check your bike before the race and the only other thing you need is enthusiasm. Register online at [www.essexscouts.org.uk/tracks](http://www.essexscouts.org.uk/tracks)



**11** Essex Experience Partnership Awards 

It's that time of year again when we give a huge thanks of appreciation and some awards to all the partnership organisations from outside of Scouting which support the Essex Experience. Venue is the Shire Hall in Chelmsford. For more information contact Claire Fielder: [commdevoff@essexscouts.org.uk](mailto:commdevoff@essexscouts.org.uk)

**21** Essex Explorers Challenge 2009 EX


(formerly the 'break-in')

Due to the leaks on last year's event this challenge will be kept a secret till closer to the event! Although it has been confirmed that it will start on the 21st and go through the night.


For those up for night of incident and hopefully no accident then contact Andy Cunningham: [accexplorers@essexscouts.org.uk](mailto:accexplorers@essexscouts.org.uk)



## April

**4** Cub Scout Incident Hike 

Danbury Park, Danbury, near Chelmsford  
Compete for pride at this year's Cub Scout Incident Hike for sixers and seconders. This is a county event so if you want to take part then get in touch with Stuart Carter: [accubs@essexscouts.org.uk](mailto:accubs@essexscouts.org.uk)

**18 - 19** Scout County Incident Hike, Prances 

Teams of 4-6 Scouts will leave three locations (Hatfield Peverel, Maldon & Witham) and Hike to Prances. Just as in the County Marathon it's a competition, with incidents and locations to search out. Saturday night will have evening Activities for the Scouts finishing Sunday morning. For application forms contact Paul Hole: [accscouts@essexscouts.org.uk](mailto:accscouts@essexscouts.org.uk)

## May

**10** County Awards   EX   

Join us for a day of celebration when the County recognises the county awards: Chief scouts Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum, Diamond Awards. Queens Scout Awards. DOE Awards, Explorer Belt and Young Leaders Award. Contact Julie Mathews for more information: [youthprog@essexscouts.org.uk](mailto:youthprog@essexscouts.org.uk)



## June

**13** Beaver Scout Fun Day 

Yes that time has come around again. A day of fun and frolicking for the beavers has been planned at Cressing Temple (between Braintree and Witham). For more information contact Irene Fisher: [accbeavers@essexscouts.org.uk](mailto:accbeavers@essexscouts.org.uk)



## July

**3 - 5** GiGA Camp 

Each year it gets better and better – 2007 the World Jamboree, 2008 the Essex International Jamboree and here we are with the best yet 2009 and GiGA Camp. Held at Skreens Park Activity Centre this is planned to be the best GiGA yet!!! For more details or to book online visit [www.essexscouts.org.uk/gigacamp](http://www.essexscouts.org.uk/gigacamp)





## Wanted People to thank

Do you know someone who contributes time & effort into Scouting? Do you know someone who has committed extra effort into an individual project or who has over many years assisted in making an event a success? Do you know a person or a company that you want to thank but might fall outside of any other recognition scheme? If so then let us thank them with you. Yes whilst there are more words in the dictionary for criticising someone than praising, it doesn't mean that the effort that many put into ensuring the success of the Scouting Adventure shouldn't go unrewarded. In addition to National Scouting Awards in Essex you have the opportunity to nominate someone you believe to be worthy for a county award.

So if you do want to repay someone or a company for their contribution or simply want to know more, then contact the county organising commissioner Bill Marshall on [organising@essexscouts.org.uk](mailto:organising@essexscouts.org.uk).

## Billericay, Wickford & Basildon Gang Show

Dates: 18-21 February 2009

At: Towngate Theatre, Basildon,

For tickets call 01277 658723

## Who are SAFE?



SAFE are **Scout Aid For Essex**, they provide First Aid support for Group, District and County events.

### Where might you have seen them?

Beaver fun days (yes we were the team that sent the Beavers home from the 2007 event

with gunshot wounds, black eyes and cuts that they washed off later!); MEGA camps, GIGA camp, MAD and County award days. We also supported the Build team for the World Jamboree and some team members help with training First aid around the county.

### If the emergency service has ambulances how do you get about?

Whilst some say they are dangerous some of the team ensure a spring in their step by using powerisers, the rest you will have seen on the yellow and green mountain bikes.

### What if i wanted more info or wanted to join the team?

Very simple just email Dot on [safe@essexscouts.org.uk](mailto:safe@essexscouts.org.uk)

## Skreens Park Activity Centre

**Location:** 5 miles west of Chelmsford

**Size:** 52 acres plus 3 acre lake

**Accommodation:** 26 open space camping areas for small and large camps plus three centres. Tinley (large hall and accom for 36), Leaman (hall and accom for 30), Warren (activity area and accom for 36).

**Facilities:** With a new road and water main laid by summer 2009 you'll have access to 23 activities available to both campers or day or evening visitors. Have fun in the outdoors on activities such as climbing, canoeing, archery, fishing or pond dipping.

**Contact details:** t - 01245 248235  
e - [skreenspark@skreenspark.org](mailto:skreenspark@skreenspark.org)



# Students for Scouting

This February, Colchester Scouting is taking the lead in a new national trial to generate new volunteers and Scout Network members from the student population of the University of Essex.

A team from Colchester Scouting, Gilwell, Essex County and Essex Network have been working with a company called Making Waves, specialists in the field of student marketing, who will be working with us to encourage volunteering into Scouting and/or to take part in the youth programme as Network member. The goal is to collect the details of 100 students during a Scouting event to be held on campus by trained leaders.



As busy volunteers we know how useful it is to have extra volunteers to help with our youth programme and by welcoming

these students into Colchester we hope that all of Scouting will benefit with an increase of Leaders and members.

As a trial, it will be interesting to see the outcomes of this pilot. We will share progress of the project and hope to introduce elements of this project to other areas in Essex over time.

This issue brings you a calendar of inspiration – a month by month guide to some International and Faith programme ideas to use in your section meetings

International

Faith

January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December

25th - Scotland (Burns Night)  
 • Write poetry  
 • Host a Burn's Night Supper  
 • Cook and eat a haggis  
 • Learn to dance a Highland Fling

6th – New Zealand (Waitangi Day)  
 • Create Ta Moko facial tattoos on paper masks  
 • Play rugby  
 • Learn the Hakka

24th – Vatican City (Coronation of current Pope)  
 • Paint the ceiling of the Sistene Chapel (paper secured upside down underneath a table. Lay on your back to paint!)  
 • Create your own Garden of Eden by planting seeds and vegetables at the HQ  
 • Invent a new pasta sauce / make your own pasta

17th – Iceland (Independence Day)  
 • Run a Mastermind evening (with favourite topics)  
 • Go sea fishing  
 • Make model volcanoes that erupt

4th – United States (Independence Day)  
 • Inter Unit Baseball League  
 • Hawaiian Luau Party  
 • Disney Themed evening

23rd – Japan (Birthday of Emperor Akihito)  
 • Origami tree decorations  
 • Tea Tasting activity  
 • Go on a section train trip (Bullet Train)

Holi – Hinduism  
 • Bonfire party to celebrate the end of winter  
 • Tie dye in bright colours  
 • Float oil paints on water and transfer design onto sheets of paper

Buddha Day – Buddhism  
 • Try some yoga  
 • Make up a chant for your section at a campfire  
 • Use some of the teachings of the Dalai Lama in the Exploring Beliefs and Attitudes programme zone

Lailat Al Mi'raj – Islam  
 • Night Hike  
 • Stargazing  
 • Bird Watching / Falconry display

Ramadan – Islam  
 • Fast for charity  
 • Support a local soup kitchen or homeless centre with man power to prepare food  
 • Get up early to see the sunrise

Diwali – Hinduism  
 • Candle lit reflection at the end of the section meeting  
 • Programme run by torchlight alone  
 • Night activity – campfire or hike

Birth of Guru Nanak – Sikhism  
 • Good turns – help those in greater need than yourselves  
 • Sikhs wear Kara or iron bracelets. Make bracelets from cards and other decorative items  
 • Learn how to tie and wear a turban

