

# THE ESSEX ADVENTURE

The County Bulletin of Essex Scouts  
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## Essex International Jamboree 2008 26 July – 2 August

Thousands of Scouts and Guides are busy preparing for one of the UK's biggest Jamborees, where international friendship mixes with fun and adventure for an action-packed week in Essex. Every section can take the opportunity to get involved by taking a visit to the open day on Wednesday 30th July.



## Beaver Craft Challenge Sat 30th November

A county-wide craft competition for Beavers will finish in November with a special craft challenge. During the year, local district competitions will decide the best six competitors to face the special challenge against Beavers from across the county.



## Wintac 2008 14 - 16 November



Although many adults will recognise the name, the event takes on a new lease of life for Explorer Scouts in Essex. Activities will include archery, abseiling, climbing wall, rifle shooting, inflatables, disco, bands, cinema, inter-unit competitions, and more throughout the weekend.

## Mega Camp 2008 13 - 15 June

Around two thousand Cub Scouts are looking forward to an Olympic themed activity weekend in June. The event, held every three years is always full of surprises and fun. Inflatables, crafts, Challenge Valley and The Rock will provide two fun packed days of early summer fun.



## MADUK 2008 20 - 22 June

2008's event for Scout Network will be held at Hallowtree Campsite in Ipswich and is a themed weekend open to all Networkers in the UK. MAD ROCK Cafe and a host of activities assures Network members the opportunity to let their hair down and relax in early summer.

# Essex Scouts in 2008

# THE LAST ADVENTURE



## Didn't They Make us Proud?

On 24th November a cast of over 2000 Scouts joined together in the O2 Arena, London, to celebrate the centenary with a huge show. The show was performed twice to a combined audience of 30,000. This was the final celebration of the Scout centenary and was a variety show with a cast of all ages.

The Scouts from Essex had a huge role. Not only were our Scouts the flag bearers with each District in Essex represented, the World Scout Jamboree Cast – consisting of many from Essex – played a key part. The Network team made up the majority of the James Bond-based sketch, which included powerisers, Minis and fireworks!

Did we make Essex proud? Most definitely, over 60 from the cast of the Southend Gang Show sung and signed the song "Do I make you proud?". They certainly did!



## Strengthening the network

Now in its third year, 'Doc Browne's' Network training weekend was another success. With members from each Network coming together to learn about how to improve themselves, their Network and networking as whole.

"What an amazing weekend. Discovering how to get the most from my team and in 30 minutes we created a over a year of programme ideas, it was the best training I've ever been on and it will help me at work as well."  
*Kate French*



## Celebrating Success

Another year and another reason to celebrate the successes of Network at their NETCARS (Network Oscars!!). With 135 in black tie sitting down to a three course meal (well done Chelmsford Fellowship) in a marquee at the county training centre in Thriftwood, it was certainly a celebration.

Many awards are designed to recognise achievements in Scouting such as Synergy Southend winning the Best Community project for their contribution to the Southend Carnival or the best international activity won by Morphions for attending the World Moot in Australia. But there are also some fun awards – the best of which was the 'least Scouty' award won by Rob Lyon for managing not to spend one night at the World Scout Jamboree. Instead he opted for the comfort of his own bed!

## The missing link...

In November 2007 the 'Explorer Action' conference took place at the county training centre at Thriftwood. All adults involved in the Explorer Scout Section were invited and the 20 delegates represented 14 districts.

The overall goal was to find ways to ensure higher levels of 'recruitment' and then 'retaining' members through the sections – otherwise known as mi-mo (moving in – moving on)

In addition to the fun and inspiration gained from the programme that was run by Network's Development Advisor, Tim Browne, it was also a great opportunity to share best practice and develop skills for their individual roles.

A follow-up development day is being organised for June 2008; watch this space for details!



As part of the Scout centenary Stansted Scouts went to Skreens Park to plant 30 trees donated by the Woodland Trust.



Lewis Hamilton could have learnt a few things at this year's national pedal car Olympics held at Thriftwood!

*Paul Hole ACC Scouts, Stuart Watson CSNC and Andy Cunningham ACC Explorers highlight the problems faced with the attitude towards mi-mo*



## One minute interview Justin Mullender



### What do you do in Scouting?

I mainly work behind the scenes. I look after media, website, newsletter, PR in fact most of the communication of Scouting in Essex.

### How did you start in Scouting?

My mum was a Cub Scout Leader so I guess I fell into it?

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

Still the largest co-educational youth movement in the UK. To be the choice for young people to do something adventurous. And that there is an abundance of volunteers who are wanting to grow Scouts, it's members and themselves.

### What is your best moment in Scouting?

My first is being at the 2004 Essex International Jamboree and seeing it happen  
My second was being part of the World Scout Jamboree and the realisation of all those dreams.

### What's the first thing you pack when going on camp?

My camera!

### Finally what is your tip to Scout leaders?

If you don't appear to be enjoying it – don't do it!

## THE ESSEX ADVENTURE

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# YOUR ADVENTURE

## A Message with Real Bottle

Each month I receive many individual stories and obviously I read all the district newsletters. As I look through, I look for inspirational or thought-provoking pieces. This one caught my eye.

1st Holland Beaver Scout Colony decided to celebrate the Centenary by filling an empty bottle with a message from each Beaver, a potted history of the 100 years of Scouting and details of their Group. With the help of the Clacton-on-Sea RNL Lifeboat crew they launched the bottles into the Wicket to start their journey.

After much waiting and a definite sinking feeling they were contacted from Belgium. Jean Philippe, a Frenchman, had found the bottle washed up near Wissant on holiday. He wrote to the Beavers, "I was

thrilled to have found your bottle, I was like a child that had found a treasure". The Beavers were also thrilled that their message had travelled so far.

Despite the environmental effects of this old-fashioned form of communication it got me thinking. What message would you or your Group send out? What would you tell the world about Scouting? How would you sum it up and what would you put in the bottle to represent all you have achieved in Scouting?

Answers on a postcard or in a bottle...

To recognise this message the Beavers have been given a 'buy one get one free' offer to visit the Jamboree open day on Wednesday 30th July. Keep your news coming, Tim.

## Vacancy List

- Local Training Manager - Stanford-le-Hope/ Colchester Estuary/ Basildon/ Southend Estuary/ Brentwood/ Braintree
- Team Leader Roles – Essex International Jamboree 2008
- Essex County Scout Archery Team
- Child Protection Awareness Coordinator
- Activity Instructors for Skreens Park
- Thriftwood County HQ Centre Manager
- County Fundraiser
- Activity Centre Assistant Belchamps FT & PT
- Centre Manager, Thriftwood

For more information on role, responsibilities and how to apply go to [www.essexscouts.org.uk/vacancy](http://www.essexscouts.org.uk/vacancy)

## My Backpack

The new style Membership Database is now up and running. It is called 'My Backpack' and is accessed through [www.scouts.org.uk](http://www.scouts.org.uk)

Go and check your details and add or amend your email address so that you get your own copy of the Essex Adventure electronically.

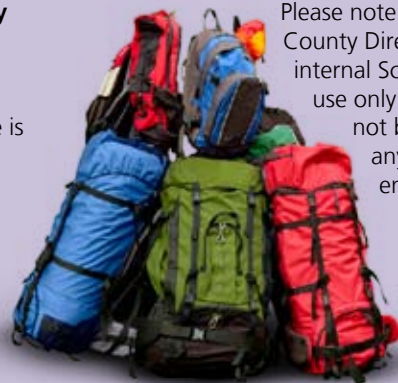
## The County Directory

The County Directory 2008 edition should now be with Districts for distribution.

Directories are allocated as follows: one for each Section Leader, Group Scout Leader, Group Chairman, District Commissioner, District Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, Assistant District Commissioner, District Explorer Scout Commissioner and each Explorer Scout Leader.

If you would like an electronic copy of the Directory and regular updates please email [organising@essexscouts.org.uk](mailto:organising@essexscouts.org.uk) with your name and appointment.

Please note that the County Directory is for internal Scout & Guide use only and should not be disclosed to any commercial enterprise.



# THE NEXT ADVENTURE

## Take your skills to the top

If you want to successfully traverse a long ridge or complete a testing climb then why not expand your abilities or put your skills to the test with an adventure in the mountains? The ESMAT Easter Event between Thursday evening 20th to 24th March is a weekend for Explorer Scouts, Scout Network, Scout Fellowship and Leaders to take a choice from walking or climbing courses led by ESMAT instructors for the price of £46 per person.

The fee includes a choice of eight different courses at all levels of experience, indoor accommodation with heated showers at Felin Bach Centre in North Wales, as well as breakfast and evening meals. You can expect to be out on the hill every day, returning to the centre each evening before dark while some expeditions may be out overnight with instructors on planned expedition high camps. For general enquiries and advice on adventurous outdoor experiences please contact [esmatchair@essexscouts.org.uk](mailto:esmatchair@essexscouts.org.uk).

## A chance for explorers to monopolise the situation

On the 26th – 27th April, hordes of Explorer Scouts will be taking to the streets of London for a large scale Monopoly run. The challenge is to visit as many places on the Monopoly board and get back to BP House in the evening.

The event, for over 16s in the Explorer Scout section, is an ideal opportunity for older Explorer Scouts to meet others from across the county and to have a special event for the older Explorer Scouts. If you or your Unit want to know more then download the paperwork from the website or email [explorerevents@essexscouts.org.uk](mailto:explorerevents@essexscouts.org.uk) for more information.



## CONGRATULATIONS

### Chief Scouts Commendation for Meritorious Conduct

Mark Evans, Cub Scout, 41st Epping Forest (4th Loughton Union Church), Royal Forest. 'In recognition of his bravery and perseverance to continue Scouting despite suffering with many adversities, his determination is a true inspiration to others'.

### Bar to Silver Acorn

Jackie Martin, Brentwood and District.

### Silver Acorn

Grace Maitland, Royal Forest.

### Bar to Medal of Merit

Peter Dixon, Crouch Valley.

### Medal of Merit

Michael Acott, Colchester Estuary; Mary Bacon, Royal Forest; Rodney Barnard-Hill, Stanford-le-Hope; Mark Bint, Royal Forest; James Hearn, Colchester Estuary; Jennifer Ann Jay, Colchester Estuary; Sheila Hazel, Crouch Valley; Mary Hughes MBE, Colchester Estuary; Tony Jay, Tendring; Gillian Murgia, Colchester Estuary; Mark Pearson, Crouch Valley; Kevin Potter, Crouch Valley; Amanda Tomlin, Stanford-le-Hope; Derek Weekes, Crouch Valley; Kevin Wilson, Crouch Valley; Wendy Wilson, Crouch Valley.

### Award for Merit

John Dell, Thurrock; Sue Rogers, Thurrock; Jeremy Tew, Chelmsford & District.

### Bar to the Award for Merit

Diana King, Chelmsford & District; Gillian Smith, Royal Forest.

### Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service

David Emsley, Royal Forest; Kim Williams, Colchester Estuary; Ian Scott, Training Manager, Essex.

Full details of adult achievements can be viewed at

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

## Calendar of Events

### March

Thu 20 - Mon 24 – ESMAT walking and rockclimbing training event  
Sat 29 - Sun 30 – Skreens Park Conservation Weekend

### April

Sat 19 – DC's Day  
Mon 21 – County Executive Committee  
Sat 26 - Sun 27 – Explorer Scout 16 Plus Weekend  
Sat 26 - Sun 27 – Network Open Weekend  
Sun 27 – Network Open Day  
Sun 27 – County DESC & ESLs Meeting

### May

Sat 3 – Mon 5 ESMAT mountain leader training course  
Thu 8 – County Activities meeting  
Fri 9 - Sun 11 – ECSCCT (Caving) Instructor Training Course  
Sun 11 – County Awards  
Sun 11 – Adult Achievements Reception  
Fri 16 - Sun 18 – ESMAT mountain leader training course  
Sat 17 - Sun 18 – Working Weekend - Essex International Jamboree

## Try something different

For those of you that haven't yet heard, Sainsbury's and Scouts have teamed up to help find 1000 new 16-25 year old volunteers by 2009. As part of this, 'Community Week' was devised. From the 3rd - 9th October, Sainsbury stores opened their doors to the Scouts to help us raise our image in the community, with everything from just meeting people to head shaving, from climbing to bag packing.

The result of this was quite literally phenomenal: over 700 new volunteers were recruited nationally, of which just over 400 were 16-25 years olds, and financially, Scouts raised just over £250 000.

### So what next?

Well, plans are already underway for similar, but smaller events to be held in 2008 so more districts can be involved and gain from the success seen in the stores. Events are currently being planned

to coincide with Sport Relief, which is also sponsored by Sainsbury's.

### So how do you get involved?

Easy, contact either Sarah Lock on [sarah.lock@scout.org.uk](mailto:sarah.lock@scout.org.uk) or your DC, and they will be able to let you know what's going on in your area.

Ann Bennett and a team of Scouts from 8th Leigh



# ESMAT

**Who are they?** Essex Scout Mountain Activities Team

**Why are they there?** To help give all in Scouting access to adventure in hill walking and climbing and to provide training and assessment of permits and national governing body awards.

**What do they do?** We have various events throughout the year: the February winter walking skills weekend in the Lakes; at Easter we go to Snowdonia for walking, climbing and expeditions practice; in June and September we have a rock climbing weekend in the Peak district and we also hold bi-annual expeditions to locations such as Norway and Switzerland.

**Where have I seen them?**

At the county marathon, MAD weekend, ESMAT events and there is probably one lurking in your district – we get everywhere!

**When can I see them next?**

The popular Easter event is weeks away and we also have an on-going Junior instructor section for keen Explorer Scouts, or we can come to you.

**How can I contact them?**

Contact Lynn How at: [esmatchair@essexscouts.org.uk](mailto:esmatchair@essexscouts.org.uk) or 01245 328029

Gangshows coming your way soon

**Thurrocks Gang Show**  
30th April to 3rd May  
01375 374081

**Chelmsford Gang Show**  
22nd to 26th April  
01245 352211  
[www.chelmsfordgangshow.org.uk](http://www.chelmsfordgangshow.org.uk)

**Colchester Gang Show**  
14th-17th May  
[myweb.tiscali.co.uk/colchestergangshow/](http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/colchestergangshow/)

Thanks from Steve Sodbury!

I did it! I trekked the Great Wall of China (well 100km of it) it was an amazing experience! And thanks for all those who sponsored me, just over £6500 raised for the Alzheimer's Society to date!



# ESSEX INTERNATIONAL JAMBOREE 2008

**What is the Essex International Jamboree?**

It is a large scale international camp, in Essex, organised jointly by the three Essex Guiding counties and Essex Scouts. It attracts over 8,000 participants and will take place from 26 July to 2 August 2008. Many international participants attend, making the camp a global village. It is huge fun, with a full range of activities covering everything from abseiling to the ultimate disco party.

**Do the group leaders need to organise anything?**

Yes and no. The leaders are responsible for their own members, both in terms of catering and providing a camp base. As an adult leader, you simply have to make sure that the young people in your care are fed, watered, sent off to where they are due to be and return safely, ready for sleep. There are no activities to organise, only to organise your members to get to the activities!

**It is just for Scouts and Explorers?**

No. The camp can only be a success with the support of the other sections. Leaders from other sections together with Explorers make up the majority of the staff team – having fun and helping it to be a success.

**Is it a primitive camp experience?**

No. Unless you call flushing toilets, warm showers and internet access primitive!

**I'd love to get involved but I've got a family now and they are too young to be in Scouts. What can I do?**

As Scouting moves on so do the facilities and so there are two on-site crèches available to children of staff on a first-come first-served basis.

**Is it work, work, work?**

It can be – or you can relax and enjoy the 'staff only' bar and their schedule of evening activities.

**Sounds like fun. Can I visit and bring my pack or colony?**

Of course; Wednesday is open day so bring as many as you like and get a taste of the largest jamboree in the UK.

**How do I find out more?**

Whilst the Jamboree is nearing capacity and the online registration is closed, paper forms can be sent. There are still opportunities open for staff. Book before it's too late. Log on to the website at [www.essexscouts.org.uk/jamboree](http://www.essexscouts.org.uk/jamboree)

**\*THORRINGTON\* Map Ref. 168/084205 Post Code CO7 8JF**

Near Colchester. 27 acres, woods with 14 grassed sites, plentiful supply of wood. Hot and cold showers. Two centres suitable for pack holidays, sleeping 48 (with showers and toilets) and 38 (with night toilet facility) and one other small hut. Campfire circle, chapel and gift shop. Activities on site; adventure run, pioneering, abseil/climbing tower, a 3D Maze and pedal carts. Contact David (WES) Evans, 14 Malvern Way, Great Horkesley, Colchester CO6 4TZ

[www.thorington.com](http://www.thorington.com)



You may have read in the Dec/Jan issue of SCOUTING that there is a new series of Awards called Green Footprint. You can look on the website listed below for more information on what the criteria are and how to get these awards, but the theme of this issue is all about how to use Green Ideas in your programme and your Sections.

### At the Headquarters

- Change to low energy light bulbs and turn them off when you can
- Recycle all you can: waste paper/cans/bottles/phones/printer cartridges
- Print newsletters and notices on recycled, chlorine free paper
- Turn the heating down after the young people have warmed up with active games at the start of the evening
- Plant a wildflower mix on an area of your Headquarter's land (or local campsite) to encourage butterflies and insects – and then use this as a programme activity!
- Use 'water hippos' in your cisterns to reduce down water usage
- Plan to recycle toner cartridges, mobile phones, spectacles etc and in some cases you can get money for them
- If decorating the HQ collect leftover paint from parents and mix together to make a base coat
- Investigate what your Group Parents do – do they do jobs that give them access to materials that you could use in the programme?

# Eco-Scouting



### On Camp

- Always put lids on top of boiling dixies to cut down on energy required to cook food
- Instead of generating carbon dioxide from wood burning on your own campfire, go to the site one, or invite others round to you – one fire is better than many
- Car share to camp – or even better, travel by bicycle or public transport
- Shop for locally grown produce for your menus
- Carbon offset your camp – work out what you have generated and balance that by cutting down elsewhere (by planting trees for example)
- Encourage your Scouts to turn off the tap when they are brushing their teeth
- Turn lights off when not in a room
- Use rechargeable batteries in torches or invest in wind-up torches that only use human power!
- Cook vegetables together in the same pot to reduce the amount of gas you use
- Buy eco friendly food – such as line caught tuna or free range eggs for your menu

### In the Programme

- Get involved in conservation work (try British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BCTV) or Essex Wildlife Trust (see below))
- Go litter collecting to tidy up a piece of open land (woodland or parkland)
- Make bird tables / boxes to encourage birds into the Headquarters land or home gardens
- Visit a nature reserve and get close to Nature. Hanningfield Reservoir holds bat nights and other wildlife safaris
- Create a dumpers diary and get your Scouts to record what they throw away as a family and make a Planet Pledge. What is your section going to agree to do to make the world a better place?
- Use waste materials for craft bases in your programme – before you then send the items off for recycling
- Adopt a car share programme with your section parents so that all seats are full when you go on a visit or outing
- Make recycled paper – from waste paper
- Plant a tree – trees absorb carbon dioxide and help balance out the harmful effects of carbon emissions
- Run a poster campaign for the young people in the Group to highlight eco friendly messages and award a prize for the best ones (then get them printed for the Headquarters and local campsite)
- Run a swap show for unwanted games, books, CDs and DVDs – or donate them to charity shops to help disadvantaged people
- Organise a car wash to raise funds and reduce down the dependence on commercial outlets that may use huge amounts of water and detergents

### Internet resources

#### Information on the Green Footprint Awards

[www.scouts.org.uk/climatechange](http://www.scouts.org.uk/climatechange)

#### Calculate your Carbon Footprint

[www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.html](http://www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.html)  
[www.carboncalculator.co.uk](http://www.carboncalculator.co.uk)

#### Young People's Trust for the Environment

[www.yptenc.org.uk](http://www.yptenc.org.uk)

#### Environmental Kids Club

[www.epa.gov/kids](http://www.epa.gov/kids)

#### Free resources for recycling

[www.eastex.org.uk](http://www.eastex.org.uk)

### Books

#### You Can Save the Planet –

101 ways that you can make a difference  
ISBN: 978-1-905158-78-2

#### Change the World for a Fiver

ISBN: 978-1904095965

#### 1001 Ways You Can Save the Planet

ISBN: 978-84483-081-7