

# THE ESSEX ADVENTURE



**Marti, 14**, Catalonia, Amur Tiger, said: "When we left site there were cars that were driving on the other side of the road!"



**Rhys, 14**, Brentwood District Scouts, Elephant, said: "The strangest thing I've seen is probably the scarecrow in the security tower."



**Zach, 11**, 1st Braintree, Humboldt Penguin "I will miss my TV as I won't be able to find out what's going on instead I'll listen to the radio and go around making new friends from around the world and swap scarves with them."



**Briony, 6**, 4th Dover Court Beavers day visitor: "We did something with balloons earlier, and we played football with the other people here. It's cool!"

## The Essex International Jamboree

was an outstanding success. Don't just believe us - we asked participants and day visitors what they thought...

**Chris, 14**, 12th Bangor, Aardvark "At home I always play on my PlayStation. Here I'll have to spend my time doing lots of activities and enjoy the nice weather."



**Katherine, 6**, 1st Warley Beavers, day visitor: "I really wanted one of the milkshakes from the Soft Rock Café, I asked my Mum for a whole hour. It was really tasty!"



**Toby, 11**, 11th Chelmsford, Canadian Wolves: "My favorite bit? Going scuba diving is brilliant."

**Katie, 12**, 40th and 32nd Chingford Scouts, Canadian Wolves: "Being on the screen at the opening ceremony was exciting"





Over the weekend of 20th – 22th June, Essex Network hosted the annual MADUK Scout Network Camp at Hallowtree Campsite in Ipswich. With over 250 participants from all over the country the weekend that was themed 'all things holiday' certainly met it's namesake: i.e. rain, sun, activities and parties!

## All sown up over a weekend



In pure scouting style 60 Scouts attended the Outdoor Badge Weekend at Thriftwood.

33 Scouts participated in gaining their Camp Cooks Badge, 9 took to surviving on natural ingredients from the hedgerow, rabbits and the odd vegetable or two. 10 Scouts took to the lake canoeing and 4 Scouts took part in the Camper Badge. The remaining 4 Scouts completed an 18 mile expedition over the two days to gain their Expedition Challenge.



## A challenge for all

"Activities, Crafts, Mud and Sun over a weekend can only mean one thing.... Thorrington Camp Site has held it annual Fun Days! Over 7th-8th June nearly 800 Beaver, Cubs, Rainbows and Brownies took part in a huge range of activities from Climbing to Crafts, Go Carting to beat the Goalie and much much more.

A lot of the young people gained experience on more challenging activities, many for the very first time, proving that the Scouting and Guiding adventure is very much alive in North Essex. Roll on next year and two days of sunshine!



## A mega weekend for all

Not only was there a record sleepover gaining money for charity, the 1500 Cub Scouts and Leaders who took part in Essex had the weekend of their life. Although to be fair, despite trying to exhaust the participants with heaps of activities there wasn't much sleeping going on! The money raised will support the Save the Children's emergency work which enables children in disaster situations.





## YOUR ADVENTURE Why the Wye?

Amazing efforts go unrewarded every day in Scouting. Some things are flashed up, others go unnoticed. This event caught my eye for a couple of reasons. Firstly there is always a concern with sending your members to the next section: what will they be doing? Will they fit in? Be looked after? Will they enjoy it as much as in my section?

This is especially true of Scout Network. After all, why would you want to send your Explorer Scouts to a group of people who obviously just like having fun and don't do anything "Scouty"? Secondly, in Scouting we boast about how inclusive we are of race, ability and background. But are we?

Last month, a group of Networkers went to Wye Valley to go on a kayaking expedition. They were completing their Queens Scout Award but what made it really special?

Michael Green. Special needs that is. With CP (cerebral palsy) it's not the kind of activity most would imagine doing for fun. But with the help of six other Networkers: Chris Jackson, Sarah Lock, Amy White, Stacey Elphick, Dave Drydon & Luke Dollaghan, it was made possible. A modified canoe fitted with an old school chair, sponge seat and supporting apparatus meant that yet again Scouting demonstrates that for all sections, for all people, the everyday adventure lives on!

## Congratulations

**MBE**  
Richard Ocroft,  
Chelmsford.

**Award for Merit**  
In recognition of  
Outstanding Service  
Tony Cosans, Thurrock.  
Jim Barker, Hatfield Forest.  
Edward 'Ted' Vincent,  
Crouch Valley.

**Chief Scout's  
Commendation for  
Good Service**  
In recognition of  
Good Service  
Susan Bruton, Keith  
Davis, Robin Defoe,  
Maureen Stranger,  
Andrew Todd, Gillian  
Wallis ( all Royal Forest)

## Vacancy List

- County Awards Registrar
- Assistant Warden & Site Assistant, Thriftwood Campsite
- Local Training Managers for Colchester Estuary, Braintree, Brentwood, Royal Forest
- Team Members, Essex County Scout Archery Team
- Activity Instructors, Skreens Park
- Thriftwood County HQ Centre Manager
- County Fundraiser

## Adult Training – why all the fuss?

Whilst dropping my youngest off at nursery, I noticed all of the childcare qualifications proudly displayed. Whilst it is a legal requirement to show them, they reassure me of the staff's competence and give the staff confidence that they have demonstrated their skills and knowledge to a set standard.

In Scouting, our certificate, our knowledge, ability, pride and confidence is represented by our Wood Badge (WB). The wearing of it means that either through the validation of experience or the knowledge gained through learning, the wearer has demonstrated the skills required to be a leader. It is these two key areas that achieve the WB. And we need more people to come forward who deserve it.

So whether you feel you have experiences that automatically validate you for the many sections of the badge, or would like to share with others in a learning environment, email me how you too can show with your WB how proud you are.

Remember:  
**L**earning **O**ptional **V**alidation **E**ssential Adult Training.

I hope to hear from you soon

Ian Scott – County Training Manager  
Email – [training@essexscouts.org.uk](mailto:training@essexscouts.org.uk)



One minute  
interview

**Paul  
Stickland**  
Scout Leader



Paul Stickland is Group Scout Leader for the group that had the biggest membership growth in Essex during the last year, with an extra 52 members.

### What do you do in Scouting?

I'm Group Scout Leader of 9th Colchester. We are based on the eastern side of Colchester and out to Old Heath and Rowhedge where our Sea Scouts are based.

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

I have been a leader for nearly 20 years and was a Wolf Cub and Scout in the early sixties in Basildon. I became involved again when my eldest son became a Beaver.

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

Seeing our Group grow and being able to provide challenging and adventurous activities to more young people.

### Why stay in Scouting?

Because there is always more to achieve in providing the best for our members, and because Scouting truly is a family, but mostly because it is great fun and keeps you young ( I hope!).

### What's your tip for Leaders?

Be willing to try new ways of doing things. Take a gamble on opening a new section, you can wait for ever for conditions to be perfect. Trust the kids, it's their movement and remember the youngsters vote with their feet.

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

I think we will be a vibrant and exciting movement and all the more relevant because we have the ideals to make a difference.

## THE ESSEX ADVENTURE

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# September

## 19-21 Sep Essex Experience 2008 - Experience Weekend



A must for all those wanting some fun after the summer! A great opportunity to introduce other adults to the fun we have, and a life changing experience for all. In addition to developing leadership skills, its goal is to give hundreds of kids the chance to develop confidence and self esteem in a safe environment away from school and home through a programme of fun activities. For more information go to <http://www.essexscouts.org.uk/experience/>

## 21 Sep County Canoe Race



Essex Scouts Water Activities Team presents the county canoeing race along the River Chelmer in Chelmsford. Start & Finish at Wharf Road Car Park, Chelmsford. Trophies and Medals in all classes. Long distance and relay team events. More details from Trevor Lawrence, 01702 294934



## 27-28 Sep County Marathon 2008



County Marathon at Barnswood Scout Campsite in Cheshire. A two day self sufficient hiking activity, walking between manned checkpoints with activities to carry out at each. The event is ideal preparation for awards expeditions, the D of E Awards and for Form M experience.



## 28 Sep 10:00am-4:00pm EC SCT Caving Badge Course Training Day



EC SCT Caving Badge Course Training Day at the Mendip hills in Somerset.



# October

## 3-5 Oct Network Fellowship Gorge Walking Trip



Walking through Gorges and Abseiling down 50 - 80 ft waterfalls, and general hill walking in the Brecon Beacons National Park.



## 5 Oct Leaders Day



A day open to all working in the Beaver Scout Section. It will give everyone the opportunity to try something new. Go home with more programme ideas and where to get resources. Cost is £6.50 per person. For more information and an application form contact Irene on 01245 465519 or [accbeavers@essexscouts.org.uk](mailto:accbeavers@essexscouts.org.uk).

## 12 Oct 12:00pm-4:00pm County Awards



County Awards at Tilbury Fort

## 18 Oct 10:00am-5:00pm Regional GSL & Group Executive Workshop



A day of workshops and interactive sessions on aspects and functions of a Group Scout Leader's role. Additional workshops are running for Group Executives. To book log onto [www.essexscouts.org.uk/executiveworkshop](http://www.essexscouts.org.uk/executiveworkshop)

## 25 Oct 10:00am-4:00pm Belchamps Spooky Activity Day



Activities all day, with a campfire to round it off and all for only £10 per person!



# Calendar of Events

Application forms are available here:  
<http://www.essexscouts.org.uk/calendar/>

## September

19-21 Sep  
Essex Experience 2008 -  
Experience Weekend

21 Sep  
County Canoe Race

27-28 Sep  
County Marathon 2008

28 Sep 10:00am-4:00pm  
EC SCT Caving Badge Course Training Day

## October

3-5 Oct  
Network Fellowship Gorge Walking Trip

5 Oct  
Leaders Day

12 Oct 12:00pm-4:00pm  
County Awards

18 Oct 10:00am-5:00pm  
Regional GSL & Group  
Executive Workshop

25 Oct 10:00am-4:00pm  
Belchamps Spooky Activity Day

## November

14-16 Nov  
WINTAC 2008

21-23 Nov  
Network Netcars weekend

# November

## 14-16 Nov WINTAC 2008



Once the stuff of legends WINTAC (the Winter Activity Camp) is back for Essex Explorer Scouts. WINTAC 2008 promises to be the best ever, with all the old favourite features and a whole load of new ones! This year based on a 70's theme the fun action packed weekend will be held at Skreens Park Campsite.



## 21-23 Nov Network Netcars weekend



Netcars weekend –celebrating the best and the worst of the network year. For nominations see the website.



## Scout shops

Around the county there are heaps of individuals all trying to make sure you can have all you need to look as smart and equipped as can be. Here is a list of most of the shops so please continue to support them and remember that profit from official Scout Shops items returns to The Scout Association for the development of Scouting:

- **Maldon and East Essex Scout Shop**, Prances Activity Centre, GtTotham Road, Wickam Bishops, Witham, CM8 3NP, 01621 892876
- **Southminster Branch**, Merle Bundy, Southminster Scout Hut, King George's Playing Field, Southminster, 01621 772155 or 01621 774496.
- **Thurrock Scout Shop Trust**, Mrs Audrey Wheatley, Alf Lowne Scout Centre, Richmond Road, Grays RM17 6DN, 01375 891445
- **Chelmsford Scout Shop**, Betty Simister, 01245 251190
- **Belchamps Scout Activity Centre**, Hockley, SS5 4JD, 01702 562690

## Who are adventures off shore?



Adventures Offshore is a sail training charity based on the east coast. We have been running successfully for over 40 years and currently operate two 15 metre ketches,

each carrying a skipper, one or two mates and crew of up to 11 people. We are registered with Scouting in Essex, with our headquarters in West Mersea but sailing mainly from Ipswich throughout the season, with longer trips across to the continent and at least one of the boats takes part in the Tall Ships Races each year.

### What do we do?

We offer an introduction to the excitement and adventure of offshore sailing to young people from a wide range of backgrounds, including those who have special educational and social needs. Under the guidance of qualified volunteer afterguard, the crew are able to take part in all aspects of running the boat, from steering and sail handling; to cooking and navigating.

### How could you use us?

Our boats are available from around Easter to October each year for voyages of varying lengths for up to 11 crew per boat. The boats are available most weekends throughout the season, whilst longer trips and evening sails can also be arranged. The longer trips enable participants to work towards the RYA Competent Crew qualification and can qualify as the residential element of the Gold Duke of Edinburgh and Queen's Scout awards.

### How do you get in touch?

For more details, visit the website at [www.adventuresoffshore.co.uk](http://www.adventuresoffshore.co.uk), email [sailing@adventuresoffshore.co.uk](mailto:sailing@adventuresoffshore.co.uk) or call 01206 385071.



# The Community Supporting Scouting!

Sainsbury's













The partnership between Sainsbury's and The Scout Association is set to continue in December. Sainsbury's have exclusively offered Scout Groups an opportunity to use their stores to fundraise on 13/14 December and 20/21 December. These are traditionally two of the best fundraising weekends of the year, so this is a fantastic opportunity to raise much needed extra funds for your Groups. Groups taking part in Community Week last year raised a massive combined total of £265,000. Think how much you could raise just before Christmas!

If you are interested in taking part in this initiative, check out the website for more details or email [sainsburys@scout.org.uk](mailto:sainsburys@scout.org.uk)



Just because the Jamboree is over doesn't mean we stop looking after endangered species. Each Sub Camp at the Jamboree this year was based on an endangered species that can be found at Colchester Zoo. So, continuing the effort and awareness, here are some section ideas for the different animals...

| Subcamp           | Beavers   | Cubs  | Scouts  | Explorers  | Network   |
|-------------------|---|---|---|--|---|
| Aardvarks         | Catch ants – use smarties as ants and straws as the anteater's nose   | Make an ant farm  |   |  |   |
| Amur Tigers       |                            |   | Tigers are ideally suited to be camouflaged in the grasslands where they live. Take part in a night hike where the aim is to get from A to B without being seen |  | The Detroit Tigers are a Baseball Team. Get some kit and play one lazy summer evening   |
| Canadian Wolves   |   | Wolves and dogs are related (sort of cousins). Find some dog paw prints and make plaster casts of them  | Maple syrup comes from Canada – cook can top pancakes and enjoy them with some syrup  |   |   |
| Elephants         | Make Elephant Masks – decorate them with feathers and sequins and have a fancy elephant parade              |   |    | Create elephant sculptures in clay and paint them  |   |
| Humboldt Penguins | Watch 'Happy Feet' and spot the difference between the different penguins                                   |   |   | Penguins eat fish – contact your local fishmonger and learn how to gut and prepare a fish for cooking. Then cook it                |   |
| Komodo Dragons    | Komodo Dragons 'taste and smell' with their tongues. Run a sense programme with different tastes and smells |   |   | Run your own Dragon's Den style activity with teams of members coming up with potentially commercial ideas or programme activities |   |
| Lemurs            |   | The name Lemur comes from the Latin for 'spirit of the night'. Run a simple night activity for the cubs where you can look out for nocturnal creatures or watch the stars | Lemur tails are used for balance when swinging through trees. Make a rope swing (local woodland) and swing across an imaginary chasm                            |   |   |
| Orangutan         |                          |   |   | Orangutans sleep in bowers in the trees. Sleep under the stars yourself in shelters made from natural materials                    | Forest conservation is as important in the UK as it is in Tropical areas. Work with the Forestry Commission on a local project                                |
| Pygmy Hippo       | Hippos live near water to keep themselves cool. Have a fun evening playing games in the swimming pool       |   | Pygmy Hippos like to live in swamps – find some wetlands/marshes or mud and spend time finding who else likes to live in the wet!                               |   |   |
| Red Panda         |   |    | Bamboo Cane Pioneering  |  | The key faiths in China are Taoism, Buddhism and Confucianism. Find a local branch of one of these faiths and learn about the differences with your own faith |