



### Developing Warwickshire Scouting

Over the next year and a half we are embarking on a number of specific challenges to support the delivery of even better Scouting to even more young people. We want more young people to join, continuing to start new sections as in the past year. To get more adult help we will continue to support ideas like Group recruitment events as we already have in four Districts.

Our young people have shown us in LookOut 2009, Motiv8, and County meetings that they are willing and able to make decisions and steer Scouting. We will find more ways to include young people in our decision making processes in 2010. That's one of the ways in which we will make sure that County actively supports those working directly with the young people, making the best use of time and resources.

Our publicity shows people that Scouting is a strong, relevant youth movement which welcomes all young people as members. We will continue to work on showing the right image.

We expect the range of young people in our membership to reflect the society we live in, so we want to increase the membership of girls and reach out to other social groups who are not yet fully represented in our numbers.

#### Census

Membership	2009	2008
Beaver Scouts	1,038	1,094
Cub Scouts	1,512	1,391
Scouts	1,363	1,298
Explorer Scouts	413	393
Scout Network	48	46
Fellowship	40	63
Leaders & Commissioners	873	836
Administrators	59	45
Totals	5346	5166



### St. George's Day Awards

The Chief Scout has awarded the following in the St. George's Day Honours List:

**Silver Wolf:** David Mein, Nuneaton

**Silver Acorn:**

Clive Dunn, Nuneaton

Elaine Dunn, Nuneaton

Derek Foxton, Rugby

Peter Waddington, Rugby

David Woodward, Nuneaton

Congratulations to all those members recognised for their efforts and leadership over many years, including all recipients of Medals of Merit who are not mentioned here. A full list is held on the County website.

**Acknowledgements** Acstede Design • Chris Whitmore Associates • Coventry Building Society • Dacapo • Dale Street Methodist Church • Gavin Slark & BSS Group • On Centre Surveys • Ove Arup & Partners • PTS • Trust Pet Products • Volvo • Warwickshire Police • W.C.V.Y.S.

#### County President

Martin Dunne Lord Lieutenant, JP

#### Vice Presidents

Sir William Dugdale BT.MC, DL, FRSA

The Right Reverent Bishop of Coventry

Reverend RJM Collins

M Brewer Bsc (Hons)

G Roberts

J G Richards

D J Brain

Mrs B Winstanley MBE, DL

#### County Honorary Scouters

D J Brain

J G Mason

J G Richards

#### Patron

The Rt Hon. The Earl of Aylesford

Warwickshire Scout Council is affiliated to Warwickshire Council for Voluntary Youth Service (WCVYS)

The County Executive is grateful to the County Team, District Commissioners and Chairmen for their reports and all leaders for their hard work and commitment.



Warwickshire Scouting continues to grow with a brilliant 4% year on year increase in membership. And some Districts achieved double figure growth!



David Bramston  
County Commissioner

## 2009 LookOut Warwickshire Scouts Annual Report



We have a full County team, including youth representation and our flexible approach to recruiting is working. Some county appointments have been split into manageable parts, better utilising skills and filling roles with strong candidates.

Safeguarding young people work has resulted in another increase in adults training in this area. We are also sharing best practice with WCC.

LookOut 2009 broke new ground. Those attending enjoyed a valuable day; the team building was great to see, as was the way it was presented, with an effective set and young people taking the lead.

The renaming of the Alfrey Activity Centre was a fitting tribute to the greatly missed, Les Alfrey. It hosted one of many unusual and exciting St. George's Day events this year, which ranged from Quests around Warwick to fire breathing dragons. All of which had the young people buzzing.

We recently appointed our most youthful Jamboree leader team to-date. Led by Andy Shorter, they are now launching the autumn contingent recruitment road shows.

The 50% increase in members venturing abroad this year was capped by an email from a Canadian citizen. On meeting our Rugby Explorers she wrote; *Those young people from Rugby are a credit to your organization and really stood out and made a very positive impression..... Congratulations to your organization for making such a positive investment in the future.*

Looking forward we have started the work to align our County objectives with the national strategy. They have been reviewed and adopted, with a key focus on increasing membership, including adult volunteers.



# We challenge people to learn new things and have new experiences which will enrich their lives

## County Programme & ACTIVITIES TEAM

From our first days of getting the team together, to supporting LookOut, and recruiting new members, it has been a fascinating year. This is just the start, we have lots of opportunities to come.

## BEAVERS

The annual County Fun Day this year at Rugby, was themed as the four seasons, resulting in great programme bases.

Beavers enjoyed a variety of well planned District activities, which along with the commitment shown

by all Leaders and helpers, enables Beavers to enjoy and thrive in their first steps in Scouting.

Looking forward we have the Wally Williams Challenge and the 2010 Fun Day is already in planning.

## CUBS

The slight increase in numbers bucked the national trend at the start of the year, not least due to Packs being very active, taking part in camps, challenges and adventurous fun. The Frank Latchem Trophy was won by Nuneaton and the General Knowledge Quiz by Kenilworth.

The year concluded with Graham Howe taking over from Tony Frearson, who steps down after a number of years in the role.

## SCOUTS

The year saw Keith Lewis stand down after 11 years service and Phil Houghton take over. With events like BearTrek and fishing competitions it's been another fun year.

The future looks even brighter with a new format BearTrek creating more team spaces. Watch this space for more developments in this section.

## EXPLORER

Motiv8 was a successful start to the year, with some great team work. Units have been working together on camps and a variety of activities.

Explorer Scouts made an unforgettable contribution to LookOut, leaving audiences in no doubt of what our young people need from leaders. Young leader training continues and all Explorers are offered Safeguarding training.

Many Units enjoyed expeditions ranging from the Sea Scouts celebrating their centenary, to trips to Italy & Canada.

Looking forward Explor09 starts the year with a bang!

## NETWORK

The year's highlight was the launch of units in Stratford and Rugby; with a new unit expected soon in Warwick and the formation of a County Network Committee to develop the programme further.

Many Network members have contributed to the organisation of events for themselves and other sections during the year.

As the year concludes, Pete Johnson is off to Yorkshire, as we look forward to welcoming his replacement.

One of the main aims will be to see more DofE and Queens Scout awards in 2010 and to continue to grow.

Next year the team aim to support more 'Great Scouting', keeping our youngsters as they move through sections, by providing challenging & fun activities. With more sections opening, we can ensure a place is available for all who want to join.



## Communications

The team have achieved much this year; WISPA has been reviewed, it now has a new look and feel, all for the same cost. We have developed our website home page; it is now focused on the key events we want to promote as a County.

Design expertise has given our literature and the way we promote ourselves a look and feel that fits with Warwickshire Scouts of today. A good example was the staging of LookOut; from adverts to staging and handouts, it was all clearly part of one big event.

Our roving photographer has captured many of the county's large events, ensuring the faces we present to the public are all local.

Looking forward we want to increase the success Districts are having in gaining positive local PR, with Stratford, Nuneaton and Rugby Districts achieving significant success this year. We will continue to ensure the content and circulation of WISPA is relevant and the use of our website and email lists continue to improve.

## Training

Over the last year the Training Team has worked hard to bring a whole range of training from Woodbadge modules to activity qualifications to our leaders. The Local Training Managers have made considerable progress with regards to training plans and making sure all leader records are up to-date on 'mybackpack'. We still have a long way to go but we are heading in the right direction.

Looking forward, over the next twelve months we are going to build on what we have already achieved by putting in the following goals:

- Local District Module Training making it more accessible for Leaders
- More Training Advisers in all Districts
- 10 % Increase of Woodbadge Recommendations

## International Scouting 2008/09

307 Warwickshire members have participated in International Scouting events overseas, a fantastic 50% increase on last year. Countries visited include France, Canada, Austria, Holland, Spain, Switzerland and Sweden.

Three Warwick Explorers undertook an Explorer Belt expedition to Poland and a party of Explorers and Network members from Nuneaton completed an Explorer Belt expedition in Italy. In July, the County welcomed 35 Scout members from Finland who had just completed an Explorer Belt expedition in the UK.

A sum of £2565 from the County International Fund has been granted to Groups participating in International Scouting events during the past year.

Main aims for the coming year are to support our 22nd World Jamboree leaders in recruiting 36 members for the County Contingent, and to encourage and assist as many members as possible to experience the 'magic' of International Scouting.



## District Reports

**Atherstone & Coleshill District's** main highlight was 190 kids attending our St. Georges Activity Day, a fantastic achievement. We're looking forward to next year now.

Future plans include the new Water Orton Beaver colony and hopefully a group in Coleshill. We're giving additional support to the number of small rural Groups in the area and we want to get the Network running, as well as encouraging Explorer units to work together more.

**Leamington's** highlight was a fantastic St. George's District Camp attended by over 500 members. Activities were varied and the celebration culminated in the whole camp defeating a fire breathing dragon. A huge thank you to the organising team.

We have seen a large number away at camp, either in the UK or abroad and we have recorded another steady increase in numbers this year.

Our late President, Richard Hiorns, will be sadly missed but we were pleased to welcome Don Sullivan to the role.

Training is moving forward with regular events taking place and Woodbadges being awarded.

**Kenilworth's** census figures showed an increase marginally higher than the County figure.

2009 saw another fantastic gangshow and all sections have been very active, with sleepovers and a range of District events. Not to mention a Valentine's Disco and the Brownies and the Scouts playing human monopoly.

Phoenix Explorers have received praise from all sides for their work at various events; an Explorer Scout Unit any District could be proud of.

Looking forward we are planning a 2010 District Camp and newest group, 1st Leek Wootton, will be adding a Scout Troop this September.

**Nuneaton's** enjoyed another busy year with a number of adults rewarded for their exceptional contribution, including Dave Mein receiving the highest recognition, a Silver Wolf.

We welcomed 1st Wolvey as a new group, working towards our ongoing growth target and longer term aim to recruit more volunteers to help us continue to develop.

Adult training has seen real progress with an increased number of Woodbadges awarded.

Highlights have been numerous with our young people achieving much on their journey through Scouting, not just awards but over coming personal challenges.

Lindsey Caruthers achieved a Queens Scout award and we have recognised a number of DofE achievements.

**Rugby** Network launched, meeting regularly throughout the year. District Scout camp at Princethorpe was well attended and enjoyed by all. District Cub and Beaver fun days attracted over 100 young people at each.

Numbers are 3% up with Explorers showing the largest growth. The year finished with a party of 26 Explorers and adults fundraising their way to Canada.

**Stratford** has had an exciting and challenging year with a magnificent 12.5% membership increase; partly due to re-opening Tiddington where 40 more youngsters enjoy Scouting. And we recruited 16 new adults across the District.

The newly appointed sectional advisers have seen each section grow in strength using their knowledge and expertise.

Training has seen a major focus and we are pleased to now have a system that will see a training module delivered monthly in future.

Two Queen's Scout awards were earned and a number of Chief Scout awards due to some very fine achievements. Eighteen leaders received awards for exemplary service.

**Warwick** has seen another busy 12 months, numbers have continued to increase, helped by the new Wellesbourne Beaver colony.

We have developed a close working relationship with Stratford for adult training delivery which is showing results.

Looking forward we have our District camp later this year at Charlecote Park and we look forward to welcoming Andy Clarke, our new DC in early 2010.

**West Warwickshire** has had a successful year with more Woodbadges awarded than normal.

A new Cub event, Scrapheap Challenge saw all Groups taking part. The Scout and Explorer sections enjoyed a very successful Dovetrek, with the introduction this year of GPS trackers.

The District has a number of ongoing projects, we have acquired a 60 KVA Generator and we are in the process of setting it up in a trailer. We are also looking to install new toilets and showers at our District Camp site in the coming year.