



WARWICKSHIRE SCOUT COUNCIL



‘WISPA’



Issue 78

August 2008

‘What a Picnic’

COUNTY CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

The dictionary defines "tolerance" in this way; it is to permit free expression of views one does not share; it is to be not included to condemn others; it is to be patient towards others. Tolerance is a quality which, I fear, we do not see as often as we used to. In many ways there seems to be a greater distrust between people of different backgrounds and cultures and languages than there has been for a long time. Even within our own communities people are so often intolerant towards other people. We increasingly hear of road rage - road rage is caused by intolerance. Maybe it is the pace of life in our modern world that causes more intolerance, we don't have time to be patient, we don't have time to consider the other person's point of view, it's much easier to blame the other person for doing or saying the wrong thing. It lets us off the hook. Yet how often are we intolerant of others? Maybe not intentionally, but intolerant nonetheless. At the centre of Christian teaching is the need to be tolerant - tolerance does not mean always agreeing with people, but it does mean respecting their views and opinions and beliefs and seeking to work alongside them for the good of all.

There is a hymn which runs: "Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me" .Peace begins with each one of us, and peace begins when we are tolerant of others.

Rev Paul Wilkinson (County Chaplain)

OBITUARIES **GLADYS MULLIS**

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Gladys Mullis. Many will remember her husband Skip Mullis a former DC of the old Mid-Warwickshire District. Gladys was a staunch supporter of Scouting in Warwickshire, even after she moved to Wales to be near to her family she remained a Vice-President of Warwickshire Scout County.

We send condolences to her family.

JOE WHITTAKER

It is with much sadness that we announce that Joe Whittaker aged 20, a former Cub and Scout at 1st Shottery Scout Group was tragically killed in a mine explosion whilst serving in Afghanistan with the Parachute Regiment.

Joe was a keen, dedicated, enthusiastic and popular member of the Group who always gave his all with a smile on his face. After leaving the Group he came back as a Cub helper as part of his Duke of Edinburgh Award, and even helped the Scouts on survival camp during a period of leave from the army.

Joe will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

A memorial service was held on 20th June at a packed Shottery Church, candles were lit in remembrance and condolence cards were completed.

Condolences to his family.

COUNTY OUTLOOK

Another WISPA and so much to write.

Firstly I am pleased to announce that Richard Staveley will be taking on the District Commissioner role in Kenilworth, I need to thank the three Kenilworth members who ran the search process and managed to generate the names of people for me to consider for the post.

Stratford District also has a new District Commissioner, Gill Turner taking on this role. Both of these appointments are subject to the usual confirmation by the appointments advisory committee.

More good news;

- **Hampton Magna Scouts have restarted after closing sometime in the 80's.**
- **I went to the investiture of the leaders and Cubs in Wellesbourne again a restarted group which closed in the 90's due to poor accommodation and lack of adult help.**
- **Some Nuneaton Leaders are looking at the possibility of starting a new group on the Leicestershire border**
- **Newbold Sea Scout Group successfully passed their Royal Navy recognition scheme , well done to you all.**

We seem to be on a bit of a roll, I believe we have a winning team that are having fun in Warwickshire Scouting, and people, if asked are saying yes to joining us to lead our young people.

So onto Scouting 101, what a fantastic day, I think we owe a great deal of thanks to all the people who made it happen, young and old. An awful lot of work went into this project but on seeing how many people were enjoying themselves and the offers of new adult help we had after the event it was really worth the effort. It was great to see our young spokes people so enthusiastic and confident in front of our guests and doing their public speaking to over 3000 people.

We also made some good links with groups from outside of Scouting and I will be keeping in touch with these people to see how we can help each other.

Summer is now upon us and quite a few Groups will be camping abroad (Switzerland seems very popular this year) so enjoy your camps and may your guy ropes stay tight and your canvas dry.

See you all at the County A.G.M.

Have a good summer

Dave Bramston (County Commissioner)

COUNTY BALL
PROPOSED DATE
16TH MAY 2009
MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR DIARY



NOT TO BE MISSED!

WARWICKSHIRE SCOUT COUNCIL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of
Warwickshire Scout Council will be held at
Warwick Court House, Jury Street Warwick CV34
on 24th September 2008 at 19.30 hours.

AGENDA

- 1, Welcome and Prayer.
- 2, Apologies for absence.
- 3, Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 26th September 2007 and matters arising from those minutes.
- 4, Annual Reports:
 - a. County Chairman.
 - b. County Treasurer.
 - c. County Commissioner.
- 5, Election of Officers.
- 6, Nomination of Trustees.
- 7, Appointment of Independent Examiner.
- 8, Guest Speaker, Ross Maloney, HQ, Head of Activities & International Affairs.
- 9, Presentation of Awards.
- 10, International reports from young people who visited Kandersteg Summer 2008.
- 11, Closing remarks.

Everyone is welcome to participate in refreshments which will be served
after the Annual General Meeting

Are you an Explorer?

Are you up for a challenge?

Are you free 19th-21st September?

Then come to

MOTIV8

a county camp for all Explorers!

Over the weekend you can pick and choose from different activities and book them for a time that suits you.

(That means you might even get a lie-in!)

Have a go and challenge your friends at;

laser quest
crazy golf
rafting
zorbing

archery
crate
climbing
climbing

kayaking
knee
boarding

and more!!!!

Saturday night there will be a disco and live music from Explorer bands, if you would like to take part contact us!

Think you're up for it?!

ASK YOUR LEADER FOR MORE DETAILS AND GET IN TOUCH NOW!

<http://www.ja.cobra.btinternet.co.uk/motiv8/>



WE SHARED THE ADVENTURE

22nd June saw 3,100 Warwickshire Scouts and their supporters descent on Ragley Hall near Alcester. At 9 a.m. the first eager arrivals were waiting for the gates to open and therefore, a steady stream of cars and coach's lined the drive.

The arrivals were greeted with a field of tents, with flags flying and a team ready to give them a day full of challenge, fun and adventure.

Activities ranged from go-karting to laser quest, aerial runway to model boats, modelling with soap to trash art. The pictures in this supplement give just a flavour of the day. For many more pictures, an audio of a local radio interview and footage (it takes a while to download!) go to www.warwickshirescouts.org.uk

Scouting 101, Share the Adventure was not only a great day of activities it was also an opportunity for Warwickshire to work in a different way.

The planning team had a number of 18 - 25 year olds who were key members of it, the hosts for the day and spokespersons were all under 20 years old and a number of diverse groups who are less often involved in Warwickshire Scouting participated.

This included the Foster Service, members of the Muslim and Christian faiths and environmental groups.

Scouting 101 showed that Warwickshire Scouts know how to put Scouting into Action and despite the wind the day was heralded a great success. Watch out in the coming months for how some of the lessons learned will be shared further.

Warwickshire Scout County wish to thank Ragley Hall for all help and cooperation given when planning Scouting 101 and on the day. You all helped to make the day such a great success.

Thank you so much for a fantastic day, our Group had a thoroughly super day. We cannot thank all enough for all your help and efforts.

I hope you know how much of a difference you made today at Scouting 101 to the Leaders and the kids of West Warwickshire District, it's great to know you can count on some people to go the extra mile.

*Sam, Gavin & the Gang at
Bearley & Snitterfield.*

It was a wicked day and we packed in so many great activities

Steven age 14

Explorer Scout 7th Warwick

What a Day! - it really blew me away!

Thank you to everyone who helped make Scouting 101 the enormous success it was.

The enthusiastic messages came in from all over the County

Thanks and more thanks

Dave Barclay

I have been shown around by a young Queen Scout, she was absolutely super. What a wonderful event, so much to do and so many Warwickshire Scouts having a fabulous time. Not only that but you had your people as a key part of your planning team.

*Mrs Anna Tyre,
High Sheriff of Warwickshire*

I should also tell you about my favourite 10 seconds
of the whole day....

During a particularly busy period a leader
said in a passing comment; 'This is manic!
to which a teenage boy next to me
turned round and said 'it's not manic, it's creative'.

I don't think I could sum it up any better if I tried.

Mike Barclay (an ex-Scout who ran Loose Parts)

As the MC at Scouting 101 I faced a new challenge;
to be able to speak into a microphone in high winds!

Although my speech wasn't fantastic I tried.

I love Scouting 101 it was great fun

Gemma age 16 (1st Heathcote Leamington)

What can I say?
A fabulous day, our young people and guests from outside
Scouting had a superb day;
Thanks to the management team for putting it all together
and everyone for supporting it
Thanks to the catering team for producing 'magic' food
for the build team, as a 16 year old spokesperson described it.
You have surpassed all expectations and have done us proud
Thanks seems too small a word
Dave Bramston (County Commissioner)

*A big thank you for inviting us to share in
Scouting 101 - unfortunately the wind was just
too much for our poor tent which collapsed around
us so we could not do the activities as we hoped.
We did try once but it was too dangerous to have
the children inside so we got out and about and
met all the Scouts, Beavers, Cubs and indeed
Leaders.*

*From the Fostering Service point of view it was a
very successful day as we got to meet so many
people and I think all the young people liked the
goodies we handed out!
Jeanette Mainwaring
Social Worker
Warwickshire Foster Service.*

*Scouting 101 was an amazing
opportunity to say 'Hi' to everyone,
even people I didn't know and a
great time to make new friends
Michael age 16
(Central Leamington Explorers)*

*The best thing I liked was the tunnels
Jake Beaver age 7 (7th Warwick)*

*At Scouting 101 I had the chance to meet new people from the County
that I'd never had the chance to work with before.
Chris age 16 (Phoenix Explorers Kenilworth)*

Fantastic day
Lots of fun and really well organised
Mum of Beaver (7th Warwick)

After all the hard work that went into Scouting 101, it was an awesome day and went off with a bang. I am so glad that I was involved in such an amazing day. I was lucky enough to be on the radio talking about Scouting 101 and how awesome Scouting is. I was on the marketing planning team and have learnt so much about the work that is needed to promote an event.

My favourite part of the day was seeing so many young people giving it their all and getting involved and doing their best, which is what Scouting is about.

It was really good working with other young people and seeing them getting really into it. It was really cool as some more people have got involved in Scouting, which is so good. We have had another lad joining us at 7th Warwick in Explorers

I would love to get involved in another event like Scouting 101 and put into practice what I learnt during Scouting 101. Can I say a big thank you to everyone who gave me the opportunity to get involved.

Sarah age 18 (Warwick Network)

Scouting 101 was a great opportunity for me to work with colleagues I had worked with at Warwick Castle and at the World Scout Jamboree. From the start David Barclay had a clear idea of what he wanted from this venture and his enthusiasm and drive rubbed off on all of us. The idea of having a young person working alongside us was inspirational and provided a further insight into what was required to make the day successful.

My responsibility was the site and together with Gareth Onens we started to develop a site map, list of requirements, toilets etc. and a built plan. Working with a small but highly motivated team was the key to providing a great experience for all who attended.

Over the weekend we were joined by countless others to help prepare the site, erect tents and activities, the whole weekend was a joy despite difficult conditions and I feel we achieved what we set out to do and that was to present Warwickshire Scouts as an adventurous and forward thinking association. My thanks to all

John Foster (101 Planning Team)

Going to 101 let me meet lots of new people from all over the County, and also to catch up with friends who I haven't seen for a long time, while taking part in some really fun activities.

William age 15

(Southam Explorers Leamington)

AWARDS FOR WARWICKSHIRE

Medal of Merit
has been awarded to

ANDREW HINKS

Deputy District Commissioner
Warwick District

IRENE MURFIN

Beaver Scout Leader
4th Bedworth
Nuneaton District.

Congratulations are sent from
Warwickshire Scout County.

IMPORTANT - Criminal Record Bureau Checks

Criminal Record Bureau (CRB) checks are a long established part of the accepted process of vetting all adults who volunteer to work with Scouting, as well as with other organisations. Many readers will remember that when the checks were introduced they were carried out on new adults joining us and subsequently those changing roles. This has been the case ever since.

However, now it is time to ensure the whole adult membership has a current CRB check recorded and then to ensure that those checks are regularly refreshed. The Committee of the Council has therefore issued guidance to Counties to the effect that by the end of this year (31/12/2008) all adults with an appointment should have a CRB check in place for their work in Scouting. In addition every five years this should be rechecked, this would normally be at appointment renewal or reassignment.

Districts and County are in the process of receiving a list from HQ detailing any adult appointment without a CRB check recorded. If you happen to be in this group, and quite a few are, then it is not a problem, you just need to complete the CRB form your District will provide you with, return it to them completed and they will submit it through the normal process. You can help with this process by completing the form in good time and returning it to your District Appointment Secretary (or whoever in your District performs this role) If anyone needs any further information please contact Jo-ann Bramston 01926 498168

POSTCARD from SWITZERLAND

*The following was received from
1/12 Leamington Scouts.....*

Having a fantastic time at the Kandersteg International Scout Centre, Hiked to Genviupcus yesterday (2360m) with breathtaking views of the Alps. Already taken part in many international activities - about 2000 Scouts in camp! See you all when we get back home!

GROUP SCOUT LEADERS SUPPORT

In response to requests from Districts and County, HQ's are holding a series of workshops around the Country. Each workshop will begin with a lively and interactive session to seek feedback on specific aspects of a Group Scout Leader's role, e.g. recruitment, induction, the review process. The feedback gained from this session will help inform the design and delivery of future support for Group Scout Leaders.

Following this session there will be the opportunity to attend three smaller workshops from the following six which will be offered:

- **Role of the Group Scout Leader.**
- **Induction to review.**
- **Retention and motivation.**
- **Challenging behaviour in adults.**
- **Group development.**
- **Recruiting adults.**

The dates for the West midlands region are 19th October, 16th November and then early next year 14th February. If none of these dates suit you then go to www.scouts.org.uk and follow the link for many others around the Country.

Venues for the three West Midlands dates had not been set when we went to print, but this information will also be available along with booking forms online.

VACANCY - WISPA Editor

Do you fancy a change?

Do you know someone looking to support Scouting?

We are looking for a new editor for WISPA

WISPA is produced up to 5 times per year and we are looking for someone to look after its production.

The job involves the following:

- **Call for regular and seek adhoc contributions**
- **Edit and occasionally write copy, as appropriate**
- **Compile newsletter to set timescales (laptop available)**
- **Participate in communication team planning meeting**
- **In addition the person will need to liaise with the proof reader and printer**

The job requires some experience in using Word and Publisher software, however training is available Ability to write short articles and to work as part of a team would also be great.

For a no commitment chat and to find out more about the role please call Kerrie on 01926 428897, 07931 739076 to email mccannfamily22@talk.net

NO KIDS ALLOWED WEEKEND (NKA)

To be held at Broadwater Campsite & Activity Centre on the 10th-12th October.

Make sure you book early for a fantastic weekend of socialising, swapping programme ideas, trying out activities and having fun

More information at www.broadwatersc.co.uk
Phone 01676523251 (ans phone)

BROADWATER CUB WEEKEND

It was good to see so many young people getting together and having fun.

They came from places as far apart as Birmingham and Stratford, Hartshill and Meriden, Coventry and Shipston on Stour, plus many other areas.

May I thank the Broadwater team for their efforts, especially the kitchen staff who once again excelled themselves feeding the hungry masses!

Les Alfrey (Broadwater Campsite Manager)

*Photos available to purchase from
Geoff Russell (County PRO)*

CUBS AT MUSEUM

Over 250 Cub Scouts and Brownies attended the Broadwater Cub Weekend and had a fantastic time taking part in the many activities laid on for them.

Apart from the usual abseil and climbing walls, rifle shooting and archery, aerial runway and obstacle course, several other activities really gave them all a weekend of fun. The bungee stretch and bouncing castle was joined this year with the very popular laser quest tunnel.

Many of the youngsters visited the en site County Museum and were very interested in the 'old days of Scouting and Guiding'

LASER QUEST

Around the sections

1st KENILWORTH SCOUTS

In June, 8 members of 1st Kenilworth Scout Troop (three 14 year old and five 13 year old) went to Stratford Gliding Club, the name says it all - we went Gliding. It was a lovely warm, sunny evening without much breeze; there was hardly a cloud in the sky. The safety briefing and talk about the glider itself took place at 6p.m. and the first of us were flying by 6.15p.m.

Now to the gliders themselves, to clear up any mysteries. The gliders have no engine or form of propulsion, to get into the air a long cable is attached to the glider itself, $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile away, just a speck on the horizon to you or me, is an incredibly powerful winch. When the go-ahead is given, the winch starts pulling the cable in at a speed of about 60 knots (roughly 65 mph); the glider is pulled after it, as soon as the air-speed is high enough, the glider takes off and then climbs at an angle of about 40°. The pilot then releases the cable once the plane is almost directly above the winch. A parachute attached to the cable then opens to drop it back down safely. The whole take-off procedure is actually very similar to flying a kite.

Every Scout was given the chance to fly the glider once it was steady, each flight generally lasts about 6-10 minutes of peaceful, cloudless sky. At the end of the flight the pilot guides the plane back in for a landing, on mine, we almost had a "hare strike", thankfully the hare moved out of the way just in time!. An absolutely brilliant evening and all of us will want to do it again.

Statistics:

- Overall cost: £35 gross, but fund-raising brought cost to £17.50 per Scout.
- Height reached: 1300 ft.
- Record height reached at Stratford Gliding Club: about 10,000 ft.
- Record distance 750 km.

James (Patrol Leader 1st Kenilworth Scouts)

COUNTY SCOUT FELLOWSHIP

What a hectic few weeks the County Fellowship have had, firstly we re-opened the County Museum after a final third stage extension was completed in time for a visit by Rugby Fellowship. This was followed shortly after by a guided tour of Notcutts Wildflower Meadows at Shirley by Pat Oldham, where we saw a magnificent array of wild orchids. Pat then invited us, all ten to her home for a 'cuppa', wondering how we would all fit in. But when we arrived there we were all pleasantly surprised at the size of their garden, and the little gentleman, David Oldham, who was slaving away at the BBQ. A lovely evening, many thanks both of you.

Another visit we made was to Newbold on Stour Sea Scout Groups 'Duck Race' and the weather was superb. After that evening we travelled just a few hundred yards to the home of Percy Blandford for our annual visit. While we were there we presented Percy with a certificate to commemorate his 'over 80 years in the Scout Movement' and granted him 'Honorary Membership of the Warwickshire County Fellowship'

Although we did not have a specific role at Scouting 101 at Ragley Hall, twelve of our members actually took part in one way or another, most of them of course are still working within their Districts. It was a good event with lots of happy youngsters getting almost blown off their feet with the very strong winds coming from the lake.

We started July off very well by accepting an invite to Packington Hall for Strawberry Tea, around a dozen of our members went along to yet another friendly get-together and also to Rugby Fellowship for one more social event, their annual BBQ. Finally for this issue, we were also in attendance at Broadwater Cub Weekend when we opened the Museum for everyone to look around. The youngsters, as well as the Leaders showed quite a lot of interest. I think I'll have a sit-down now with a cup of coffee!

Geoff Russell (Chairman Warwickshire County Fellowship)

RUGBY FELLOWSHIP LOOK AROUND THE MUSEUM