

The Wansdyke Way



Issue No.24

Wansdyke Scout District Newsletter & Digest Nov. 2006

This July, the District **Annual General Meeting** was held in the Centre Course Building at the Lansdown Race Course, (the site of WANJAM 2007)

The following is a summary of each of the Reports presented at the Meeting:

Trustees Annual Report-

- The numbers returned for the annual census showed an overall increase of 102 members on the previous year.
- Clutton increased by 33%, High Littleton 23%, Salford 11%!
- Radstock increased numbers from 6 to 31!
- Explorer Scouts continued to grow at a cracking pace!
- Keynsham hosted the 2005 St. George's Day celebrations with a march to St. John's Church followed by a short Promise Renewal Service and a 10 penny fair at Keynsham Scout HQ. Proceeds to the Scout Tsunami Appeal.
- Your Executive congratulates all Scouters, sectional Assistant and members of Group Executives who have been awarded Good or Long Service Awards and Certificates during the year.

District Commissioner's Report-

- Jane thanked everyone involved in Scouting in Wansdyke for giving her their support.
- She did not like the phrase "the District" as it tended to be used as a convenient scapegoat when things did not go quite the way that individuals would like, we are all one big family.
- Beavers and Cubs are currently celebrating their 20th and 90th birthdays respectively.
- *"We are now on the eve of one of the most fascinating and exciting times in the history of Scouting-the Centenary year. I never dreamt when I took out my warrant...years ago, that I would be privileged enough to be District Commissioner, let alone in such a special year. Finally, as we approach this major milestone, on behalf of the young members for whom you give up your time so willingly, can I thank you for all you are about to do. Let's celebrate our successes and go into a new Scouting Century with a firm commitment to those we serve to always **Do Our Best**"*

Janet.

District Development Plan-

- Last year the Development Plan had 4 points at Group level and 4 at District level
- At Group level we achieved co-educational Scouting across all Groups and each Group now offers at least one of each Section.
- Recruitment and Retention still needs to be a regular item on Agendas.
- Continual involvement by Sections in the bigger world of Scouting is fundamental to providing a balanced programme of activities.
- At District level we have looked at the provision of a 5th. Explorer Unit.
- We have reviewed and identified the problems with regard to Training and addressed these with the appointment of a District Training Administrator.
- The launch of the District's own Jamboree in 2007 has been achieved
- We have tackled Recruitment and the Management of Waiting Lists by working to introduce new Colonies and Troops in those areas where they did not exist.

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The Development Plan for 2006/07 is to continue to build on the success of the last year and continue to work towards offering Scouting to even more young people with a strong team of leaders as opposed to a thinly stretched team.

GROUP LEVEL

- Each Group to maintain the Sections now established.
- All Groups to actively start recruiting girls in all Sections.
- Each Group to step up campaign for Recruitment of leaders.
- Make sure every young member has the opportunity to attend every District Event.

DISTRICT LEVEL

- Follow-up established plans to implement 5th.ESU-covering lakes area.
- Establish and maintain a good publicity campaign working closely with nominated Group and ESU members.
- Continued Recruitment and Development at all levels.
- Prepare for 2008.

Appointment Secretary's Report (as at 13th.May 2006)

Provisional Warrants

2005 24 issued
16 completed *Getting Started* and warrant issued
8 expired without completing *Getting Started*.

2006 9 issued
0 completed
2 due to expire in June

Appointment Renewals

AR forms have not been returned from Keynsham, Midsomer Norton, Radstock, Paulton.

New Applications

6 leader applications have yet to be processed

Beaver Section Report



Scouting is growing in Wansdyke from the bottom up in a big way. Radstock has a new and growing colony. There are also plans to open a new colony in Clutton and expand the colony in Paulton. This will make Beavers available in every group in the district. Waiting lists mean further Colonies could be opened if we can find the leaders.

Wansdyke has some of the best and most dedicated Beaver Leaders in the county, providing excellent opportunities for the young people of Wansdyke. A BIG THANKS TO ALL OF THEM!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

In October we joined with the Cubs to enjoy a Space Odyssey and Salford Beavers won the joint Bath and Wansdyke football competition.

On Saturday 25th March 2006, Beavers from Saltford, Peasedown St John, Midsomer Norton and Keynsham to name but a few enjoyed the 'Let's Celebrate' party at St Katherine's School in Pill.

It was a special County event to commemorate Beaver Scouts being 20 years old. Beavers enjoyed games, crafts, drama, singing, Punch & Judy and a magician. There was also a County challenge to design a Beaver Birthday card. With over 450 entries from around the County. I am pleased to say that Wansdyke had a runner up in High Littleton and a runner up in Midsomer Norton.

Looking forward, Beavers of Wansdyke will be part of WANJAN, the foundation of Scouting's future.

Cub Section Report



The Cub Section is currently in party mood as we celebrate our 90th Birthday nationally. At the time of writing this report most things are geared up to the next half of the year so will fall in next year's report-but be sure, we've got some brilliant plans ahead. In the cub section we find reasons to "party" all the time and are always looking for new ways in which to deliver the balanced programme. Last year,s outing to Longleat was great fun, although it rained most of the day. We invested some cubs and presented Wood Badges to leaders on the steps of Longleat House which had the stewards of the house quaking in fear as the 100+ party approached - you can imagine them planning how to secure their vases, murals etc. The Si xers and Seconders Day in September (05) was based on board the "pretend " ship Cleevehilly, with a very dubious Captain, who looked very much like the Midsomer Norton Chairman.

Cubs had to dismantle and rebuild a cannon over an assault course, find treasure, walk the plank, make rum truffles, collect water in a rickety cart which was hauled by the tars singing sea shanties. After the Cleevehilly had set sail, the leaders remained for yet another party- 50th.(no names) and next morning started plans for the cub section at WanJam.

District Camp was based on past Jamborees to help celebrate Eurojam and the forthcoming World Jamboree. The gateways were fantastic and with each sub camp offered activities relative to that Country - including eating snails in France. At the Thai base the cubs made peace boats and at the end of the camp fire as dusk settled, night lights were placed in the boats and a beautiful procession of glowing boats sailed downstream-a touching moment.

The year also saw the following competitions organised, Monopoly, Football, Swimming,. Sports, and a Quiz to name but a few. Congratulations to all those who took part and thanks to all those who organised them.

We have great fun in the Cub Section. Our meetings are always entertaining and we encourage our young members to take part in as much as they possibly can. There is a terrific Team spirit and a certain sense of wackiness about us, which means that we are willing to give something different a go.
Janet Turner



Scout Section Report

If you could read the numerous activity notification forms, which are submitted by the Scout Section on almost a weekly basis, you will realise that the Scouts of Wansdyke are really on to a good thing. The activities are varied, challenging, different and all geared towards the Balanced Programme. The Section had up until recently been led by Karl Kilburn as ADC but circumstances now find him needing to take up the role of GSL with 1st. Peasedown where he will also remain with the Section.

Thanks to Karl for the work that he carried out over this time.

By far the highlight of last year had to be the Night Mare Hike on the Mendips which saw the Scouts (girls and boys) sleeping in sub zero conditions having worked through to the early hours of the morning completing a hike, with various challenges thrown in. This was a tremendous event, well attended and all credit to those people who organised it.

The Scout numbers have all been boosted in the last year and some of this has been due to the fact that the introduction of co-educational Scouting seems to have started in this Section initially. If you have been fortunate, as I have, to see the girls on Summer Camp, you would soon realise that Scouting is moving in the right direction. We have also seen the re-opening of a Troop which has been fantastic news.

The Scouts all had successful Summer Camps in various parts of the Country as well as many weekends away. Thank you to the Leaders and supporters who continue to provide this age group with exciting activities within a structured environment.

Janet Turner

www.ditk-kids.com/

The link above takes you to a site full of ideas for Beavers and Cubs. It has customised printables e.g. different Bingo cards with themes on. You choose your category, follow the instructions, keep printing "print a bingo card" and the cards are changed for you.

Wansdyke Honours and Awards

MBE

Peter Shore, Kevin Shore.

SILVER WOLF

Jack Robins.

SILVER ACORN

Eric Bush, Charles Sanders.

MEDAL OF MERIT

Charles Hall, Tony Stringer.

LONG SERVICE CERTIFICATES AND DECORATIONS

25 YEARS BAR LS DECORATION	Jean Arthur, Janet Turner, David Turner.
15 YEARS LS CERTIFICATE	Darren Wyatt.
5 YEARS SERVICE CERTIFICATE	Tim Cummins, Shayne Gibbs, Paul Savage.

OTHER AWARDS

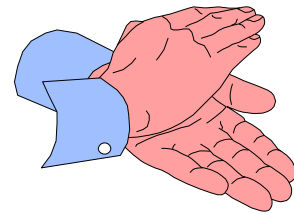
WOOD BADGE	Jayne Bond, Penny Fisher, Shayne Gibbs, Gavin Li, Louise Olejnik, Simon Rahn.
BRONZE DUKE OF EDINBURGH	Matthew Horler, Adam Rabbits, James Green, Chris Barlow, Emma Turner.

Wans dyke Way extends it's hearty congratulations to the recipients of these richly deserved awards.



Charles Sanders' Presentation

Charles Sanders of 1st. Keynsham Scout Group receiving his Silver Acorn at their AGM by Stuart Ballard Deputy County Commissioner.



Charles Sanders' Presentation

Charles has been involved in Scouting for over 40 years and is an invaluable member of the Keynsham Team. Apart from regularly helping at Troop meetings, he is QM and a very active fund raiser. He is responsible for organising the Keynsham Scout Fund Run, which attracts hundreds of runners and can be seen, setting out the course which he then runs whilst thanking the marshals along the way. At the end he puts his tracksuit back on and clears up.

A remarkable man and a well deserved Award !

(photo by Howard Stockall)

Bath and Wansdyke Scout Network

Winter Programme 2006-10-27

September	Thurs 28 th .	Swimming	Doug.
October	Thurs.5 th . Thurs.12 th . Thurs.19 th . Thurs.28 th .	Climbing <u>7pm</u> Ready steady cook Escape and evasion <u>7pm</u> Gang Show	Sam Marcus Mike W BK
November	Thurs.2 nd . Thurs.9 th . Thurs.18 th . Thurs.23 rd . Thurs.30 th .	Fire works night Andy's birthday BK's night Pottery <u>7pm</u> Bingo	Fred Andy BK Andy Marcus
December	Thurs.7 th . Thurs.14 th . Thurs.21 st . Thurs.28 th .	Walking Archery and Shooting Christmas Doo No Meeting	Mike H Andy Marcus & Fred
January	Thurs.4 th . Thurs.11 th . Thurs.18 th . Thurs.25 th .	Badminton Caving <u>7pm</u> Offroading Go Carting <u>7pm</u>	Doug Mike W Fred Adam
February	Thurs.1 st . Thurs.8 th . Thurs.15 th . Thurs.22 nd . Thurs.29 th .	Ice skating <u>7pm</u> Challenges How far can you get River Run Program planning	Sam Marcus Mike W Sam All

All events will start at Keynsham Scout hut at 7.30pm unless you are informed otherwise

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High littleton stage another excellent family camp.

On the 9th.July the High Littleton Scout Group met at Tedbury campsite in Mells for what was set to be a great weekend of games socializing for the scouts and their families.

Mums and Dads and Sisters all joined in the fun, with a long crazy game of rounders followed by an innovative *It's a Knockout* style tournament pitting team against team. Tests of strength, endurance, skill and plain old fashioned cunning had most teams in fits of laughter rather than serious endeavour.

The evenings were filled with the traditional campfire games and sing-along with guitar playing provided by Ian Tucker who also bravely took to the posts in our penalty shootout competition (see photo).

It was brilliant to see new parents as well as all the old familiar faces at camp with many families signing up for next year.

The food was great and plentiful and a special thanks must go to Alison Sampson for organising the catering and Angie Wiles for her help as always. A big thank you to all the Scout leaders and parents who pitched in to make the weekend such a great success.

Pete Bailey





To Scouters and Friends of Scouting:

As part of our Centenary Celebrations, Wansdyke District has been invited to organise an exhibition to depict 100 years of Scouting.

This will take place at the Norton-Radstock Museum, the date is yet to be decided.

The intention is to display Scout items of interest, both local and national. Any international items could also be included.

We would like to hear from anyone who would be prepared to loan items for the duration of the exhibition. A record to ensure that all items will be returned to their owners.

At this stage, we would like to plan the displays by making lists of items available. If there is a big response, we would have to limit items borrowed

If you have something of interest could you please contact :
Ken Hellier 01761 418015, John Church 01761 418705,
John Sharp 01761 410261, Graham Dix 01761 413554.