Editorial

A warm welcome to the Easter edition of News and Views.

It’s been a cold and wet run up to Easter so let’s hope we can have some warmer weather later on.

With Easter being early this year I would like to thank all of you who sent your articles on time.

It will not be long before the next edition so let’s see if we can get a bumper edition for the summer when you have finished you camps and expeditions.

I managed to get twelve pages for this edition which is not bad since Easter was so early.

I hope you found this edition enjoyable and informative. I did!

Looking forward to hearing from you in the summer.

So keep on trekking.

Your editor Ron Berrington
It’s been a really busy couple of months and lots has happened in the District to tell you about.

First, we have had another census. Some Groups have had significant growth this year, well done to those Groups. Others have had a slight decline, all with fully acceptable reasons and which will be turned around during the coming year. Thank you to those who completed the census on time and thank you to you all for all you do to provide excellent Scouting in Rushcliffe District.

This weekend (23 February) it’s the County Thank you event. I’m hoping as I write this to see some of you there especially the team from Sutton Bonington who are the District’s nomination for Group of the year and Pat Shepherd who is my personal nomination this year. Without Pat, I could not do my job. Not only is she the District Appointments Secretary but she is also the font of all knowledge about Rushcliffe District.

Pat, Lee Redmile and I have spent a lot of time over the last few months reviewing training in the District and I am delighted to say that a large number of leaders have completed their training and will be receiving their woodbadges. Some of our newer leaders attended the County’s first Induction Training weekend. Their feedback was really good and they are now looking to get their validation completed so they too can receive their woodbadges.

It’s the centenary of Cub Scouting this year (No, I wasn’t there at the beginning) and the cub section are busy celebrating, a few groups went to the Doncaster dome for the County launch and many of our Groups are attending the Centenary camp in May. The Cub Scout team lead by Fiona Burrows are working extremely hard to make sure they have a fantastic year.

It’s also the 30th Anniversary of Beaver Scouting and the Beaver Scout team are also planning for an exciting time.
I have also been trying to fill some of our Group Scout Leader vacancies and I am pleased to say that we now have new Group Scout Leaders at 1st Gotham – Sarah Bell and at 1st Keyworth – Graham Blakey. We haven’t completely said goodbye to the outgoing GSLs though. Jason Billin has agreed to take on the role of ADC Activities with responsibility for Duke of Edinburgh and Richard Lumb will continue with Keyworth Duke of Edinburgh group for now but I am hoping to involve him in something else too. I will tell you more later. There are a number of Groups with Group contacts and over the coming months, I will be trying to recruit Group Scout Leaders for these groups too. Some discussions are already underway.

We are currently working with the Regional Development Service to look at providing more Beaver Scout places in the District. We are at a very early stage and I will update you in coming months. However, it’s looking very possible that a new colony will open at 9th West Bridgford shortly. I will tell you more later.

It’s coming up to the camping season. Can I remind you to complete your Nights Away forms and send them to Steve Cumberland (Pothead). Enjoy any camps you might have but be safe – don’t forget your risk assessments!

Best wishes

Kathryn
From the Chair

2016 has been a funny year so far, weather-wise at least, I understand from my newspaper today (yes I still read a newspaper - that's slightly unusual in its own right - most of our news content is now online isn't it!) that this Winter has been one of the warmest and wettest since records began. The daffodils have been in full bloom for the last couple of weeks along sections of my journey to work and yet as I write this I am sitting wrapped up as another frost develops outside. The lighter evenings tell their own story though, Spring is just around the corner, indeed the daffodils might suggest that it has already sprung.

So what does 2016 hold in store for us as Spring approaches. 2016 is a year of significant centenaries. One hundred years ago Cub Scouts came into being in the midst of a particularly bloody World War, which touched every community in this country, across Europe and indeed much of the world. There were many bloody battles in the four years of war and the cost in human life was horrendous throughout the War, however, 2016 marks the centenary of perhaps the bloodiest battles (series of battles) of all, the Battle of the Somme. So in the year in which something as significant in terms of the impact it has had on generations of young people was occurring, the founding of Cub Scouting; young men from cities, towns and villages across the globe were in the name of their countries involved in the most awful slaughter. For those of you reading this, who like me have had the privilege of attending jamborees and international camps, will have spent time with Scouts from the countries that 100 years ago were on opposite sides in those battles of 1916.

Much has changed in the last 100 years, but Scouting has remained constant and continues to have a huge impact on generations of young people. Whilst it is important that we remember past conflicts and
indeed as Scouts we do every Remembrance Sunday, it is important to look forward to the next 100 years of Cub Scouting and Scouting in general. Bear in mind that in 1916 electric light was still in its infancy and now the big discussion of the day is about the availability of super-fast broadband in every home. I am sure that the pace of change will be equally stunning over the next 100 years, but I would feel fairly confident that whilst Scouting will change and adapt with the times, it will still be a force for good in 2116.

Back to the here and now, let's hope that Spring really has sprung and that Spring/Summer 2016 will be another great year for Scouting in Rushcliffe District.

**WINDY AND WET**

Surely the wind and wet will soon be gone; Spring is on its way.

December and Christmas celebrations were well to the fore with Groups holding various special sessions. The Methodist Church hosted a Singing Christmas tree with a number of different organisations singing to packed audiences. I attended two sessions, the first by West Bridgford Junior School and the second by the 4th West Bridgford Scout Group. Well done to both groups.

The SASu held their Christmas Party in December at the Baptist Church Hall and their Christmas Dinner at the Poppy and Pint in January. An enjoyable time was had by all. (I also celebrated Burn’s night at the dinner by scoffing a Crispy Haggis Burger with all the trimmings. I can usually finish a plate of food, but was nearly defeated this time - very tasty!).
We managed a couple of working sessions at Stonepit finishing the year on New Year’s Eve by clearing a large tree which had been blown down. The weather kept us away from the site during January, but things are now moving again. Tig is still trying to get the grass grids laid across the field, but at times needs water wings as it is so wet. On the other hand the wood is reasonably dry with very little standing water. Bookings have started to come in for the season and kicked off with a camp on 21\textsuperscript{st}/22\textsuperscript{nd} February.

Check the website for the Scouting Skills booklets and have a go at putting them into practice. Can you tie all the knots and Lashings? Mini-pioneering kit for the projects is available to borrow from the District, contact me, Dave Howard, to borrow it and, if you ask nicely, I’ll come along as well. When the weather gets better and I can get outside to take some photos I intend to add some more projects, mainly mini, some midi and some which can be upgraded to the real thing.

Don’t forget the District keeps a variety of kit available to borrow, a lot is free, but there is a small fee for some items.

Hollygate and Stonepit are feeling lonely so get out there and put the OUT in Scouting.
See you around!
Some people can tell the time from the sun but I have never been able to make out the numbers.

We say the cause of perfume disappearing is evaporation. Evaporation gets blamed for a lot of things people forget to put the top on.

To most people solutions mean finding the answers but to chemists solutions are things that are still mixed up.

Look at a drop of water under a microscope and we can see there are twice as many H’s as O’s.

Clouds are high flying fog.

I am not sure how clouds are formed but clouds know how to do it and that is what is important.

Clouds just keep circling the earth around and around. There is not much else they can do.

Rain is known as soft water. Hard water is hail.

In some rocks you can find the fossil footprints of fishes.

A monsoon is a French gentleman.

C.B.B.
There were 10 of us for the get together in January with dinner at Poppy & Pint – a very enjoyable evening.

Our next meeting is the AGM on Wednesday this week, as usual held at The Baptist Church in West Bridgford.

Our programme continues as follows:-

Wednesday 30 March – American Holidays by Graham Hasnip

Wednesday 27 April – The Children’s Society by Jane Foster

Wednesday 25 May – Members’ Evening with favourite poems, funny stories etc.

Wednesday 29 June – How they won the vote by Rowena Edlin-White

We then have a break with our outing in July (still to be arranged), no meeting in August and then the usual Barbeque at Stanton on the Wolds on Saturday 17 September.

We look forward to seeing any from the Scouting fraternity, young or old – you are very welcome to join us any time.

Janet Baines

SASU (West Bridgford)

SMILES
A lady phones Delta Airlines and asks “Can you tell me how long it will take to fly from San Francisco to New York City?”

The agent replies “Just a minute”

“Thank you”, the lady says and hangs up.

THE GIFT

After the Sunday service the minister stood by the door to greet the congregation as they left the church. Soon one of the younger children filed by “Good morning Jonathan”, the minister said, as the little boy reached out and handed him something “What is this?

“Money”, said the boy, with a big smile. “It is for you”. When the minister protested in surprise, the little boy continued “But I want you to have it. My daddy says you are the poorest preacher we have ever had and I want to help you.”

Janet Baines
Betty Potter and Mick Milward

It is with regret I have to report the passing of Betty Potter, wife of David. Betty gave David her support for many years while he played his part in a number of roles in Scouting in West Bridgford. Betty was always ready with a cup of tea and biscuits for visiting leaders and was always prepared to groan at Dave’s jokes.

In January we lost Mick Milward who was a leader at 2nd West Bridgford in the 50s and 60s and was very involved with Stonepit Wood. He and his wife, Beryl, spent the day with us on the occasion of Stonepit’s Diamond Jubilee in 2014 and the older members of the District spent time reminiscing about the early days of the site and Scouting in Bridgford then and now.

Are thoughts are with both families and our thanks go to them for sharing Betty and Mick with us.
St. George’s Day Parade

If you haven’t heard we parade on Sunday 24th April in the afternoon from Bridgford Park to Nottingham Forest ground for a short nondenominational service and renewal of promises and return by the same route.

Full details to all units before the Easter break, but if you have any questions please contact me.

Alan Hubber

Rushcliffe District Incident Night Hike for Scouts and Explorers

Set for Saturday 12th November, based out of Hollygate. Full details in summer term with invitation to teams before end of summer break. If you want more details before this or have questions please contact me.

Alan Hubber

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Rushcliffe Scout Council
Registered as a Charity, Number 522469
A warm welcome to the summer edition of news and Views.
Jock did a grand job as he always does at the cricket ground on St. Georges Day.
Kathryn has been very busy, I don’t know how she fits it all in. (good planning.)
Beavers are celebrating their 30th anniversary and county have planned a day at Sherbrooke.
1st Lady Bay have reached their target for a new scout hall.
Stonepit has been busy thanks to Dave.
Simon sent me three pictures drawn by the 9th cubs of their time at Southwell.
Chris sent me nine pictures of St. Georges Day Parade, only had enough room for four of them.
Just hope the pictures are clear enough on the posted ones.
So summer News and Views should be an enjoyable read.
The SAS meet on the last Wednesday of each month except for August, and everyone is most welcome, email Janet or give her a buzz on 9372197.
Next News and Views is in September so let’s have a bumper edition, and keep on trekking.

Your Editor    Ron Berrington
THE DCs SPOT

As we start into the summer term, I would like to wish you all a very happy camping season. Please remember that you must send you nights away notification to Steve Cumberland prior to the camp, that any activity undertaken must have the correct permit, if one is required and that appropriate risk assessments are completed. Any accidents that may happen must be reported to Gilwell if any kind of medical intervention happens – doctor, hospital, dentist etc.

We have had a busy few months. The Cubs have been celebrating their 100th birthday and so far have been to the Doncaster dome and attended at least one of the Cub 100 camps held in Nottinghamshire over the last month. The first was at Southwell racecourse and the second at Walesby. 1st Bingham Cubs attended both. I can honestly say that all cubs at both camps had an amazing time.

The next event on their busy itinerary is the activity day being held at Hollygate in July and then the Promise Renewal in December. More information on these from Fiona Burrows, ADC Cubs.

The Beavers are also celebrating their 30th birthday and they have an activity day planned by County at Sherbrooke. More details on this from Lisa Taylor, ADC Beavers.

We had a fantastic St Georges Day Parade. In all my years of Scouting, I can honestly say I have never laughed so much. West Bridgford Explorers did it again! Thanks to Jock, Alan and the team for the amazing organising skills.

On Sunday 4 June, the District are attending a volunteers’ day in West Bridgford. This precedes the 5 events being held across the District to enable us to open some new Beaver Colonies. This will help us to reduce our waiting lists. The first of these is on 8 June in Radcliffe although the likelihood is that the colony will open elsewhere. More news next time.
I will shortly be advertising for some new people to join the District team. These are a District Youth Commissioner, a Network Commissioner and an ADC Development. The first two will be for people aged 18 – 25 and the third is open to anyone. Watch out for the adverts over the coming weeks. If you think you have the skills, time and ability, please apply. I really want to get the best people for these roles.

It’s also AGM season. When you know the date of your meeting, please let me know and we will do our best to have one of the team attend.

Training continues at a pace in the District with more woodbadges being received all the time. We no longer have a 5 year list and the getting started list is reducing. If you have any queries about training, please contact your GSL or Lee Redmile.

Have a great summer. Enjoy your camps and AGMs and anything else you are doing.

Kathryn Wills
District Commissioner.
From the Chair

What does Summer have in store for you?

In a typically British way we immediately think and talk about the weather, particularly in the Summer. I happened to notice the other day that Yellowknife in the North West Territories of Canada, which is significantly closer to the Arctic Circle than we are in Nottinghamshire is experiencing much warmer temperatures than us. I am not sure why that is significant other than at this time of year our thoughts go to camping, indeed some of you may even have been out during the recent Half Term, which for most of England at least was cool and blustery. Anyway look on the bright side at least you didn't have midges and bears to contend with!

This brings me on nicely to risk assessment. The great joy of Scouting is that it has equipped us with skills to enable us to make the most of the outdoors whether that be near to home or far away. For many who have not had the privilege of having been a member of the Association, these skills are often acquired and deployed in a somewhat half-hearted manner. Whilst being outdoors and taking part in adventurous activities is innately risky, with the right training and preparation, the risks are manageable and proportionate. Our experience tells us that members of the Association are better trained and prepared than most who venture out into the great outdoors. This allows us to take on challenges that inspire more young people to join the Movement.

I am not sure how I would go about risk assessing an expedition to Canada's North West Territories, particularly with recent stories of walkers going missing in much less unforgiving terrain, but I do know that as Scouts, should we find ourselves there we would cope with it and have fun in the process in true Chief Scout style.

Have a safe and happy Summer, wherever your adventures take you.

Phil
Dear Supporters and Scouting friends

**Our new Scout Hall – building target reached!**

You may be aware that we have been fundraising for a new Scout Hall for 1st Lady Bay Scout Group for some years now. The good news is that we have finally reached our target of £320,000.

Reaching our total means our Scouting heritage will continue in Lady Bay long into the future. The new building will be a hub for not only all of our Scouting activities but for our whole community. This will be a purpose-built, state-of-the-art Scout Hall fit for the 21st Century – a building of which we can all be proud.

The fact that this is happening is thanks to the support of our parents, our community, our councils and local businesses. The final total was reached thanks to a donation of £49,950 from the WREN Community Action Fund. Further grants were received from Veolia Environmental Trust, Nottinghamshire County Council Supporting Local Communities Fund and Rushcliffe Borough Council. A generous donation was made by members of 6th West Bridgford Scout Group on its merger with 1st Lady Bay Scouts.

Work should start later on this month and is planned to be completed ready for the start of 2017. Regular updates will be posted on our website [www.ladybayscouts.org](http://www.ladybayscouts.org).

Thank you again for your support and ongoing commitment to helping secure the future of Scouting in Lady Bay.

Yours sincerely

Richard Mansfield

1st Lady Bay Scout Group Chairman
SCOUT ACTIVE SUPPORT GROUP

At our meeting in May we had a very interesting and amusing evening when members shared their thoughts, poems and funny anecdotes. Dave Howard spoke about the history of Stonepit Wood, Keith gave us some of the many quotes penned by The Two Ronnies and the rest of the members contributed poems and amusing translations.

This month (on Wednesday June 29) we welcome a speaker enlightening us about “How they won the vote” by Rowina Edlin-White. We have heard this speaker at a Friary Church Fellowship meeting and were very impressed.

Do remember – as our name implies, we are always here to assist and help out wherever this is needed within the scouting family in West Bridgford. In the meantime, do join us anytime.

SMILES

Scout: Skip, the lads and I have found a snake. Is it poisonous?
Skip: No, this snake is not poisonous at all.
One of the lads picked up the snake and was bitten. He began to spasm and foam at the mouth.
Skip – However, this snake is venomous. Venom is always injected, poison is ingested or absorbed through the skin. Let’s get it right next time lads.
Thank God for laughter, and thank God for fun
Thank God for talent in making a pun
God wants us happy, not deep in the blues,
So He gave us laughter and things to amused

Janet Baines
SASU Programme Secretary
0115 9372197
HOW SPASMODIC IS SPRING?

May 31st. has been cool and rainy following spells of dry warm weather interspersed with cool and wet days. Fortunately we have chosen mainly good days for our activities.

From Easter Stonepit has been heavily used and forward bookings are looking even stronger. This year the Early Purple Orchid count was down to 210 compared with 400+ last year and 240 in 2014,

As usual the best wildflower display was over the second weekend in May with some flowers finishing and others coming into bloom. It’s surprising how much difference a week makes in what there is to see. One week Bluebells in flower; the next week virtually none.

The revised St. George’s arrangements went well as we had to move to the Cricket ground, less of a ‘hike’ and fewer road closures. We were pleased to welcome groups from the City as, for Council administration reasons, they could not hold the usual event in the City. We stayed dry. Many thanks to our organisers.

The big event in May was the County Centenary Cub camp at Southwell Racecourse. Hundreds of noisy Cubs and leaders on the Friday night complete with slamming portable toilet doors. Managed to tire them out on Saturday so more sleep by all. On the Rushcliffe sub-camp we had over 300 Cubs, leaders and helpers and the District team fed about 20 County staff plus our own team. Thanks to Colin Wills for stepping in to mastermind the catering. On the Saturday and Sunday, over 3 sessions, all the Cubs went off on a hike, some thought it was too long and some too short so probably at about 3.5 miles (excluding diversions) about right. The sub-camp team set the Rushcliffe Cubs the challenge to visit each of our Groups to get to know them and learn a knot. Three Cubs completed the challenge and handed their score card in, but many more (and some leaders) took part even if not handing in their cards. There were 14 knots to have a go at – see our website knotting booklet for all of them plus some
others. The weather over five days (some of us started setting up on the Thursday) was generally good with only the odd shower most of which did not cause much inconvenience and, although the forecast for the weekend was pretty dire it was not nearly as bad as we expected, Saturday was windy, but Sunday was dry, sunny and warm so once the tents had dried after the over-night rain we got the tents down dry for once. Hooray!
Thanks to the Pack Leaders, District team, County Team and Racecourse for an excellent weekend. I may recover eventually.

The evenings are still light so get OUT and use our sites at Hollygate and Stonepit Wood.

Enjoy the rest of the Summer.
Dave H
Welcome to the autumn edition of News and Views, and the start of a new scout year. Albeit a sad one, due to the deaths of three members of the district.

Jock invites us to the Gang Show, and Phil says that scouting is good at challenging young people to do more.

Kathryn has been very busy as usual, and Dave Howard wants us to put the OUT in scouting.

I would like to thank those who sent in articles for this edition of News and Views.

Have a good scout New Year and keep on trekking.

Your Editor

Ron Berrington
THE DCs SPOT

It’s been a brilliant summer for me, I hope it’s been good for all of you.

District Team

In July, we interviewed for two new roles in the District team – District Youth Commissioner and District Network Commissioner. It was a great afternoon in the sunshine where they had to tell some rather inept people from the team how to erect a gazebo. They did really well especially as the gazebo doesn’t actually fit together properly! At the end of the selection process we are delighted to announce Ben Anderson as our District Youth Commissioner and Joseph Grasham as District Network Commissioner.

Welcome to the Team Ben and Joe. Thank you to Alan, Fiona and Jordan for your help on the selection day.

Over the next week or so some adverts will be sent out for a number of other new roles. Look out for them and if you are interested or know somebody who might, then let me know.

Beavers

Just before the summer break we held an evening to look at opening a new Beaver colony. We had a great turnout of adults, most of them agreed to volunteer in some way. For the following four weeks we ran taster sessions at 1st Shelford and East Bridgford on a Tuesday evening. Around 6 adults helped with these sessions and 3 of them have now agreed to open a new Colony which starts on 13 September. It looks like there will be around 20 Beavers.
On 22 September another new colony will open at 9th West Bridgford. Margaret Walker and Mary, the new Beaver leader have worked really hard to get this colony started. Lisa Taylor (ADC BS) will be supporting them for the first few weeks while they get started. Again, it looks like a good number of beavers will start here.

If you can spare an odd evening between now and Christmas to be the responsible adult until the leaders are confident to go it alone, please let me know. Your help would be much appreciated.

Training

Training is continuing at a pace with more woodbadges being presented over the summer. There is a Management Training weekend on 1st and 2nd October. If you are GSL or an ADC who needs to complete these modules, there is still time to book onto this course through the county training team.

DBS Checks

There are an increasing number of people who have not completed their DBS checks on time. Gilwell are now starting to send out letter suspending people who do not have a current DBS check. This means you cannot attend any meetings or Scouting events. Pat Shepherd gives plenty of warning for people to complete these checks and so if you get an email from Pat, please make sure you complete the paperwork to avoid suspension.

Awards

If you have someone in your Group who you feel is worthy of an award and has the correct woodbadge for their role, please let me know.

Have a great autumn term. Let us know what you are up to.

Don’t forget to keep checking our facebook group and website for current news.

Kathryn District Commissioner
From the Chair

I hope you had a good Summer, I certainly did. I was lucky enough to spend a couple of hours kayaking across a beautiful inlet in Alaska on one day of my holiday.

The Pacific Ocean was very cold, perhaps something to do with the glaciers that feed into the Ocean in these parts. It took me back to winter kayaking expeditions with Scouting friends some 35 years ago when the water always felt cold.

Memory can work in strange ways, was I really enjoying being immersed in cold river water or was it something to do with the challenge.

Scouting is good at challenging young people to do more, go further, be creative. This takes time and commitment from very many people in the Movement.

As we start a new term refreshed by our kayaking, camping, hiking or whatever you have been doing this Summer.

I would like to thank you for the commitment you make to Scouting in the District and wish you an enjoyable and successful 2016 - 17.

Phil
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE SCOUT’S AND GUIDES ONCE AGAIN ARE COMING TO TOWN WITH NOTTINGHAM GANG SHOW 2017.
AT NOTTINGHAM THEATRE ROYAL. February 27th - 4th March.
Over 250 Young people, will shortly start rehearsing one of the best variety shows you will see at our premier theatre. For one week they will fill the stage to entertain full audiences with their blend of music, comedy, song and dance.
With their own full orchestra, the cast, all Scouts, Guides and Leaders are supported by another 200 of the same backstage. Costumes, scenery, production staff (all from Scouting and Guiding ) combine together to make this one of the largest Gang Shows in the Country.
Gang Show has always been popular and it is said that every ten minutes a Scout Gang Show is being held somewhere in the world. Nottinghamshire is very proud of our show and we have been running every two years at the Theatre Royal for over 60years.
This cast aged 8 years to our more Senior members, are all drawn from Scouting and Guiding in Nottinghamshire. So why not make a date for a Great night out in the New Year. Put it in your diary now, bring the family, there’s something in this show for all ages. Come along to GANf SHOW 2017.
Tickets will be on sale from the Theatre Royal Box Office from September.
Jock.
HAPPY NEW SCOUTING YEAR

We are all set to make the most of the New Scouting year, but what’s been happening since June?

Well the District Team have been busy planning events for the coming year, Beaver Scout Leader recruitment meetings, Cub Scout 100 year celebrations, the St. Georges Day celebration and a District camp among other things.

Stonepit has had a fair number of visitors both authorised and unauthorised. The Storm Hut was damaged in early July, a panel by the front door having been completely smashed. Since then there have been signs of use with litter being left around and the fire door left open. A number of authorised visits had to be postponed as a lot of the site was under water, but we had a good day with 40+ Brownie Guides in July.

There have been very few Butterflies around since the wet weather, but the Dragonflies made their usual appearance.

Now the site has dried out Martin Howick kindly cut the field in August, thanks Martin.

Hollgate was the venue for 4th West Bridgford’s AGM, in June moving from Stonepit at short notice because of the wet and, as usual, had an excellent turn out, for the meeting followed by a campfire, ably led by Jordan and his team, ending the evening with hotdogs. A couple of showers tried to dampen things down, but didn’t spoil the evening.

In July Hollgate also hosted the Cub Day for Rushcliffe Cub Scouts and their families. There were lots of activities for the participants on a very warm afternoon with hot dogs and beef burgers for all (provided by the Cropwell Bishop team) and finishing with a campfire. Thanks to all who helped make the afternoon successful.
This was followed in August when Colin Howard and Becky Lawrence held a garden party, at Hollygate, for well over a hundred guests to celebrate their wedding, held the previous day at Beeston Fields Golf Club. The District team and the couple’s families were much in evidence working to make sure the day went well and the weather played its part by being warm and dry on both days. Thanks to all involved.

Colin and Becky

Some of the District Team

Martin helping to lead the campfire

Have a Good New Year, put the OUT in Scouting and USE our site. Dave H.
It was with great sadness we learnt of the passing away of Chris over the August Bank Holiday weekend. Chris started his Scouting life at 1st West Bridgford and then joined the 3rd West Bridgford Rover Crew. He joined the Beeston Sea Scouts as a leader and ever afterwards wore the Sea Scout uniform. His membership of West Bridgford Scout Fellowship continued for many years, although latterly he was unable to take part in the Fellowship/S.A.Su. activities. During 1984 he acted as D.C for West Bridgford.
Those of us who knew him will remember him with affection.

Iris Brown

Iris started her West Bridgford Scouting life as a Cub Scout Leader at 3rd. West Bridgford (Friary) in 1969 and continued serving as A.C.S.L. and C.S.L until 1995. Iris also assisted at 1st. Gamston in its early days. On retiring from the 3rd. Iris joined The West Bridgford Scout Fellowship/S.A.S and remained a member until she passed away in early September, although latterly ill health meant she was unable to give her usual active support to the District or attend S.A.Su, meetings. We will remember her sterling involvement.
Mick Bragg - 1949 - 2016

We are sad to report the passing of one of Scouting's 'larger than life' members in our district.

Mick was a member of the 3rd West Bridgford (Friary) Scout Group and a valuable member of the leadership team, and latterly looked after the hall management, and was a Group Trustee. Early days, Mick was part of the local Territorial Army where many of the skills he learnt were very useful later on in life, especially to his family and the Scout movement.

He has always enjoyed a diverse portfolio of interests, which were activities such as walking, climbing Munros in Scotland and of course Scouting. He also gave time to the National Trust, working at Belton House, Grantham, on maintenance. Later he could be seen driving the miniature train about the grounds. More recently he enjoyed working for the Trust at Alanbank, Grasmere, gardening, painting, and many other jobs, which he enjoyed doing.

Mick was also a keen walker, having walked the Pennine Way, Cumbria Way, Cleveland Way coast to coast and many more. He actually introduced his wife Janet to walking, which they have spent many hours doing recently up in the Lake District, having purchased a static home near Ambleside.

He was an extremely active man, living life to the full. But the measure of this man was more in what he did for others, and that was amazing.

He and Janet met in the 1960's at the Friary Youth club, and married in 1968. From this union came 3 lovely girls - Vicky, Lucy and Michelle. From the girls came 9 Grandchildren and 5 Great Grandchildren.
Mick was a proud family man and his family kept him extremely busy - as I am sure you can imagine. Mick also had living siblings, who I am sure, also benefited from his skills and expertise.

Scouting was a time consuming passion, and with Janet's support, he has given a tremendous amount of his time. He was a Cub Scout Leader and gave much support to the youngsters, camping, cooking and hiking, in addition to group indoor activities, including stage managing gang shows and maintenance work. I cannot remember a time when Mick refused to help someone in need - he was always available to help - family, friends, scout movement - and so it went on. **Mick was a truly remarkable person!!!**

God bless him and let him 'Rest in the Peace' that he so justly deserves.

Tony Mason
Since the last issue of News & Views we have enjoyed a members’ evening when we shared favourite poems, funny stories and Dave Howard gave a very interesting talk on the setup of Stonepit Wood, the pitfalls, breakins etc. Then in June we were entertained by Rowena Edlin-White, an author who talked about how “Women won the vote” with particular relevance to Nottingham women.

We now look forward to, hopefully, a fine day for our: Annual Barbeque on Saturday 17 September from 12 noon at 120 Melton Road, Stanton on the Wolds

All are welcome and if you are interested please inform Brenda on 9825031 or Janet on 9372197 (or via email). It is always a very jolly occasion before the dark nights loom upon us and our winter programme gets on its way, details as follows:-

Wednesday 26 October - Playing a very unusual harp, Rhythm for Life by Jude Winwood

Wednesday 30 November – Story of an Auschwitz Survivor by Jock Shaw

Wednesday 14 December – Christmas Buffet and Party (bring and share)
SMILES

A backward poet writes inverse

She was only a whiskey maker, but he loved her still

No matter how much you push the envelope, it will still be stationery

I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger, then it hit me

If you jumped off the bridge in Paris, you would be in Seine

When cannibals ate a missionary, they got a taste of religion

Two silk worms had a race – they ended up in a tie

Janet
Welcome to the Christmas edition of News and Views

Four new Beaver groups in the District.

Some very interesting articles in this edition

Kathryn has been her usual busy self.

Jock has written an interesting about the First World War, and Will Ciffford was climbing a tree in Stone Pit wood.

I would like to thank all who submitted articles for this News and Views, but would be nice if a few more other than the regulars submitted article.

Will close now and wish you all merry Christmas and a happy New Year, and let’s have a bumper Easter edition and keep on Trekking.

Your Editor   Ron Berrington
THE DCs SPOT

What an exciting few months it has been for Rushcliffe District. So many brilliant things happening, it's hard to remember them all.

Since September, we have been working hard to start 4 new beaver scout colonies in the District. The first opened at the beginning of September at 1st Shelford and East Bridgford. The second opened at the end of September at 9th West Bridgford. Both are now operating well, running fun and exciting programmes for their beavers who are having a great time.

The 3rd and 4th colonies opened in the middle of November following their 4 week taster sessions. The new leader teams are finding their feet and doing really well. The beavers will be invested during the first meetings back in January.

6 of the leaders from these new colonies came to the county induction training on 25/26 November and are now working to validate their learning.

The ADC team have been very busy out and about visiting sections. They are reporting back on some fantastic programmes.

It seems right at this time to thank all of you for everything you do. Without our adults in scouting we would not be able to provide exciting, challenging programmes week in and week out.

In particular I need to thank a few people who have been supporting our new sections, namely Fiona Burrows and Lisa Taylor but also Pat Shepherd who is working so hard to get DBS checks and appointments meetings arranged for all of our new volunteers.
Thanks to the new volunteers who are doing such a great job.
And Alan Hubber, my right hand man.
Without every single one of you we would not be here.
Have a very Happy Christmas and a successful Scouting new year.

Kathryn DC
From the Chair

It's nearly here I hope you are excited? Yes Christmas is nearly here, but that's not what I am referring to, I am of course talking about the Cub Centenary! I seem to recall that I first mentioned this in my View from the Chair almost a year ago. 16th December will be a special day for the Cubs of today and for those of us that started our Scouting journey as Cubs. As it happens I haven't met many Chief Scouts but I do recall seeing one in the distance at a big get together at Wollaton Park almost fifty years ago when I was a Cub - in fact that could be a question in our Christmas quiz, who was that Chief Scout?

2016 has in most people's view been an interesting year, with some wonderful celebrations and a number of less happy events. As we were standing at the War Memorial in West Bridgford on Remembrance Sunday it was very much in my mind that whilst 100 years ago the Battle of the Somme was just coming to an end, Cub Scouting would already be two years old by the end of the First World War.

I know it has been a busy Autumn for our District and it never ceases to amaze me how many young people and therefore adult volunteers are involved. You will recall that in addition to the Cub Centenary, this year is also the 30th Anniversary of Beavers and I for one had a great day at Sherbrooke helping at an activity base for the day. Calverton is not generally known for its traffic jams but there was one that Saturday afternoon as hundreds of Nottinghamshire Beavers left the campsite with their parents and leaders after a happy day of celebration.

Whatever you are doing this festive season I hope you enjoy yourself and spend time celebrating with family and friends. 2017 is just around the corner and before we know it it will be time to think about another set of Scouting events - good luck with the planning for that.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Phil
SAS IN WEST BRIDGFORD

On Wednesday 30 November Jock Shaw showed us a very moving video made by a Survivor of Auschwitz. This gave us much to think and ponder about, a time in history that we must never forget. The gentleman in question is now in his eighties, has married and lives peacefully in England.

We look forward to our Christmas Social on Wednesday 14 December at 7.30 pm at The Baptist. Please ring Janet on 9372197 if you would like to join us. The 2017 Programme is almost complete and will be distributed at the Christmas Social or by e.mail.

SMILES

Laws of the Universe:-

If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal, someone always answers.
If you change lines in traffic the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are now in.
When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone will ring.
When you try to prove to someone a machine will not work, IT WILL.
The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.
As soon as you find a product you really like, they will stop making it or the store will stop selling it.

Janet Baines, SAS Manager
DBS Process and Suspension process for no valid disclosure

Process overview

There are three key elements to the mandatory suspension process regarding disclosures. These are:

- Welcome and reminder service for new adults joining Scouting who require a disclosure
- Reminder service for existing adults whose disclosure requires renewal
- The suspension and unsuspension of adults who have not submitted a disclosure application

In order for these systems to work efficiently, it is important that all volunteers (including Occasional Helpers) have a valid email address recorded on Compass so that the reminders are not missed.

You can view a process overview diagram that summarises the detail below.

**New adults joining (or re-joining) Scouting who require a disclosure** will receive a welcome email two days after they are added to Compass (Note: the “clock” starts when they are added to Compass, not from the role start date). The email will remind them that obtaining a disclosure plays an essential part in safeguarding the young people in the Movement. It will also explain how to obtain a valid disclosure and that they need to complete the application process within 30 days. This email will be copied to their line manager, the relevant Commissioner and Appointment Secretary.

If a completed disclosure application has not been made within 20 days, a reminder email will be sent to the individual and copied to their line manager, the relevant Commissioner and Appointment Secretary.

**Adults who are required to renew their disclosure** will receive reminder emails informing them that their disclosure is about to
expire approximately 90 days, 60 days and 30 days before it does. The email(s) will explain what they have to do in order to apply for a new disclosure. Their line manager, relevant Commissioner and Appointment Secretary will also be informed at 90, 60 and 30 days that the disclosure is about to expire.

If by the time the original disclosure expires a completed application has not been made, further reminders will be sent after 1 day and 20 days in after expiry.

**Suspensions of adults who have not submitted a disclosure application**
If after 30 days of being added to Compass as a new adult, or expiry of their disclosure for an existing adult, a completed disclosure application has not been made, the relevant commissioner (normally the District Commissioner) will be informed that they must suspend the individual concerned.

Suspensions are not an automated process, however they are mandatory and Commissioners will need to complete the suspension process on Compass. It is critical that ‘No valid disclosure’ is selected as the suspension reason.

The Commissioner must also inform the individual concerned and their line manager (usually by telephone or face-to-face meeting).

An alternative to suspension is to close the role(s) that require a disclosure. For some people, particularly new volunteers and Occasional Helpers, this might be the best approach to adopt.
A TRUCE AT CHRISTMAS 1914

Roughly 100,000 British and German troops were involved in the unofficial cessations of hostility along the Western Front. The first truce started on Christmas Eve 1914, when German troops decorated the area around their trenches in the region of Ypres, Belgium and particularly in Saint Yvon (called Saint-Yves, in Plugstreet/Ploegsteert – Comines-Warneton), where Capt. Bruce Bairnsfather described the truce.

The Germans placed candles on their trenches and on Christmas trees, and then continued the celebration by singing Christmas carols. The British responded by singing carols of their own. The two sides continued by shouting Christmas greetings to each other. Soon thereafter, there were excursions across No Man's Land, where small gifts were exchanged, such as food, tobacco and alcohol, and souvenirs such as buttons and hats. The artillery in the region fell silent. The truce also allowed a breathing spell where recently killed soldiers could be brought back behind their lines by burial parties. Joint services were held. In many sectors, the truce lasted through Christmas night, continuing until New Year's Day in others.

On the day itself, Brigadier-General Walter Congreve, then commanding 18 Infantry Brigade, stationed near Neuve Chapelle, wrote a letter recalling the Germans initiated by calling a truce for the day. One of his brigade's men bravely lifted his head above the parapet and others from both sides walked onto no man's land. Officers and men shook hands and exchanged cigarettes and cigars, one of his Captains "smoked a cigar with the best shot in the German army", the latter no more than 18 years old. Congreve admitted he was reluctant to personally witness the scene of the truce for fear he would be a prime target for German snipers.

A few years back my Belgian friend Johan took me to Plugstreet to visit a newly opened museum. It was interesting to hear that during World War 1 Winston Churchill in charge of a cavalry troop was one side of the village and Adolf Hitler was serving on the other side with his regiment. Neither of course new that they would be opposing each
other in World War 2. Adolf Hitler was removed from the area in World War 1 due to being gassed!

For those who like me have visited Tyn Cott at Passendale at Christmas-time, you will have noted just how cold it was. If cold was not enough, being in trenches before battle, for weeks on end up to knees in water for some not a way to spend Christmas. To have to run carrying your heavy ammunition across flat, thick, mudded fields in the face of fire hits home hard how soldier’s bravery and courage over many months at the front will never be forgotten.

During all their suffering that Christmas Day brought a TRUCE. A day where enemies came together briefly as friends and shared that moment of PEACE. So when you sit with friends and family over Christmas Dinner, take a private moment and toast those brave soldiers among others who we all remembered recently at our Remembrance Day services.

Jock.

Pull a Cracker with Jock

What do you call a bunch of grandmasters of chess bragging about their games in a hotel lobby?
Chess nuts boasting in an open foyer

What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus?
Claustrophobic

Why does Santa have 3 gardens?
So he can ho-ho-ho.

What do you get when you cross an archer with a gift-wrapper?
Ribbon hood

What did Adam say on the day before Christmas?
It's Christmas, Eve
What did Tarzan sing at Christmas time?
Jungle Bells

Why was Santa's little helper depressed?
Because he had low elf esteem.

Just for interest:

We see gardens and houses with Christmas lights, but how many nativity scenes do we see?

Oh well, Have a very Merry Christmas and A very Happy New Year.

Oh yes, and take the kids to the Gang Show.. w/comm 27th February at The Theatre Royal!! Thats a Cracker too!!!
Whilst normally the regular team can fix most things at the site, when the last of the large willow trees failed half way up and the top 60 foot lodged in a adjacent tree, leaving a potentially very dangerous situation, it was definitely time for reinforcements. Fortunately “we know a man that can” and our problem was solved.

Our grateful thanks are due to former 4th West Bridgford Scout, Will Clifford who kindly donated all of a Sunday afternoon to solving our ‘problem’. After a period of aerial acrobatics he then cut free the top section before transferring to the stump and reducing that to a safe height.

The least we can do is advertise his services, with a strong recommendation, Will can be contacted at the long established Aart de Groot tree surgeons.

Tig
IT’S NEVER TIME FOR NEWS AND VIEWS IS IT?

The time seems to have flown past since the last edition of your favourite District news magazine. I must have been enjoying myself!

Stonepit has been well used since September and we have bookings through to December and a good number for 2017, so when you are planning to go make sure to book early to stand a chance of getting the dates you want.

The start of November was particularly busy for me with a mini-pioneering evening with East Bridgford Cub Scouts who between them made

![Flagpole](image1.png) ![Skylon](image2.png) ![Bazooka](image3.png)

a Free Standing Flagpole, a Self-Supporting Skylon, a Bazooka and Missile Launchers mainly from canes and rubber bands.

Over the weekend of 12th and 13th there was the Incident Hike (see report), a good turnout for the Act of Remembrance at the Musters Road war memorial and, on the Sunday afternoon, Will Clifford kindly sorted out a fallen tree for us at Stonepit. Will was a Scout with 4th WB and gave his time to help us out. Many thanks Will.

![Will](image4.png)
Don’t forget Hollygate and Stonepit are waiting for you, even if they are a bit wet.

Get ready for the District Camp in May.

Put the OUT in Scouting even over the winter.

A Merry Christmas and active New Year.

Dave H.
COPY DATES FOR 2017

Easter Wednesday 22\textsuperscript{nd} March
Summer Wednesday 31\textsuperscript{st} May
Autumn Wednesday 6\textsuperscript{th} September
Christmas Wednesday 22\textsuperscript{nd} November

Please note that copy date for Easter may be earlier because I am going away March/April but I will inform you later when I know what dates I am going away.

COPY DATE –Wednesday 22nd March 2017

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