Welcome to the Easter edition of News and Views. I would like to thank everyone who contributed to this edition and especially Brenda for her letter of encouragement.

It would be nice if we could have a few comments from our scouts and cubs.

Surely we have some budding talent from younger members instead of the usual crew.

Wishing you all a very happy Easter and keep on trekking.

Looking forward to the Summer edition when I get home from my holiday in Salt Lake City.

Your Editor Ron Berrington

Whilst trying to make News and Views more interesting I suggest that each quarter is allocated to a troop, the 1st one in June to be submitted by 1st Bingham looking forward to your cooperation on this topic.
Over the last few months there has been a lot happening in the District that you might like to know about.

You Shape

You will see my normal column has been written by Ben Anderson this month as part of Wear Your Necker for You Shape Month. Thank you from me for all the support you gave to Ben for February. I hope the You Shape work will continue.

Training

Training in the District is one of our key focuses as always and it has been great to see so many of our leaders on training courses over the last few months. Please help them wherever you can to validate their training by writing witness testimonies when you see them doing something that needs to be validated.

New GSLs

I have recently appointed 5 new Group Scout Leaders. Thank you and welcome to:

Ross Younger 3rd West Bridgford

Simon Gillespie 9th West Bridgford

Jennifer Tinsley Cramp 1st Ruddington

Peter Whitehead 1st Radcliffe

Mark Howard 1st Gotham
These GSLs will be embarking on their training over the coming months and I know I can expect great things from all of them as they work alongside our already great team of GSLs.

**Awards**

Congratulations to the following Leaders on their well deserved awards.

The Chief Scout’s Commendation for Meritorious Conduct - Steve Cumberland

Bar to the Silver Acorn – Hilary Frost and Pauline Olivant

Award for Merit- Peter Besson, Simon Grice, Phil Lovett, Richard Lumb, Barry Roland, Ron Shepherd

Chief Scout’s Commendation –Emma Bramley, Phil Bulmer, Katie Fielding, Jenny Howard, Mark Howard, Keith James, Chris Keast, Karl Lewis, Jane Pick, Sheila Turner, Kate Ward, Mark Wilkinson.

Don’t forget, you can let me know if there is anyone you think who is deserving of an award.

**What’s happening over the next few months?**

It’s a busy month coming up – we have St George’s Day Parade and District Camp. I hope to see many of you at these events. The Parade is joint this year with the City of Nottingham District as last year but also South West Notts District. We are hoping for a great spectacle to show that Scouting is alive and kicking.

We are working currently on development at Meadow Covert and Cotgrave. I will update you more on these as we progress.

**Nights Away**

Please can I remind you that if you are going to have a Nights Away experience even if it is a sleepover at your HQ, you must complete a Nights Away Notification (NAN) form and send it to Steve
Cumberland (Pothead) on steve.cumberland@southwell.anglican.org.

THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS. This is a requirement for insurance purposes and anyone not following this process will be dealt with as appropriate.

**Activities outside of your HQ**

If you are undertaking an activity away from your HQ, you must let your GSL or group contact know. Again this is for Insurance purposes.

**AGMs**

It’s almost AGM season, please can you let Alan Hubber, alan.hubber@ntlworld.com, know when you AGM will be as one of the District team will try to attend. Each Group MUST have an AGM within 6 months of the end of the Group financial year and a copy of their accounts MUST be sent to the District Treasurer.

Happy Scouting!

Kathryn - DC

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**From the Chair**

Just when you thought Winter would never end and that leaving the house in the dark and returning in the dark was some kind of penance that might never end, Spring returns. I am not sure why I feel pre-disposed to talk about the seasons and the weather in every column that I write for News and Views, but sure enough I generally do. Could it have something to do with the copy date of this august publication I hear myself asking!
Winter thankfully felt a little unremarkable this year, definitely no snow to talk about - but I will anyway! I well remember a week in late November when snow was threatened and I chucked the spade in the boot for all of two days. We were promised a snow day and I felt the weight of expectation on my shoulders, that's what happens when you work with young people I guess. The significance of the 'snow day' has not changed in generations. Little did we know that not only was there no snow in these parts but that no snow would be seen for the duration of the Winter. I hope I am not tempting fate by saying that.

I don't know about you but I have been tempted to bring the shorts out of hibernation and that inevitably brings to mind hazy, lazy Summer days and camping. So what have you got planned? District Camp at Hollygate this year is little more than six weeks away and preparations I am told are going to plan quite nicely. I met some of you on the February Working Party day. Have I, or haven't I volunteered to help at District Camp, what would I like to do, can I do what I'm asked to do? Pretty straightforward stuff goes out the cry - you should try running my Cub Pack, you District people don't know just how much there is to do. Thankfully we do have some idea and we are here to help. Do you want to ask a question that has been nagging away at you for months and were too shy to ask. Don't be, we genuinely want to help whilst at the same time ensuring that all our young people in the District have the best possible experience of Scouting.

St. George's Day is nearly here time to celebrate, time to reflect but most importantly time to look forward in Scouting to everything that the Movement has to offer both to young people and the all important volunteers. Some people ask me how can we best prepare our young people for the uncertain and ever changing world - look no further I say, get into Scouting, you won't regret it. Learn lots and have fun in this time of Spring Scouting optimism.

Phil
SCOUT ACTIVE SUPPORT
Rushcliffe District April 2017

SCOUT ACTIVE SUPPORT UNIT IN WEST BRIDGFORD

This week we look forward to hearing about another exciting and entertaining holiday from Sheila Sherriff, one of our good supporters for the programme of monthly events. Her slide presentation is entitled “Valley of the Gods”.
In April we hear about “Charge of the Light Brigade” from Keith Brookes, another of our Friary supporters, and then in May we shall be banging the drums and hearing about an amazing harp from a musical entertainer.
Our June meeting will be a members evening when we share favourite poems, funny stories etc. before we have our annual outing which will take place in July before a break in activities during August.
Do please join us at any of our meetings, on the large Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm at the Baptist Church in West Bridgford.

1st Lady Bay Scout Group
March 2017

Work to create a new Scout Hall for 1st Lady Bay Scout Group is nearing completion.

Building work began after the old Scout Hut was demolished in September 2016 and is due to be completed in April 2017.

The Scout Group raised £330,000 for the new headquarters, which will become a community hub on the site of the former Scout building on Mona Road in Lady Bay.

Fundraising for the new Scout Hall has been ongoing for many years, but was completed in 2016 thanks to grants of £49,950 from WREN, £25,080 from Nottinghamshire County Council’s Supporting Local Communities Fund, and £30,000 from Veolia Environmental Trust – as well as from the folding of 6th West Bridgford Scouts.
Built in the 1960s, the former Scout Hut was a prefabricated structure that was beyond economic repair and no longer fit for purpose, with a leaking roof, eroding external walls, very little insulation and poor kitchen and toilet facilities. It was also unsuitable for people with disabilities.

The new building will boast a modern kitchen and toilets, disabled access, a main hall and a meeting room – all available to hire by the community.

An official opening ceremony is to be held later in the spring.

Elaine Clarke, 1st Lady Bay Cub Scout Leader, said: “Completing the new Scout Hall will mark the end of many years of fundraising – and mark the beginning of a new era for Scouting in Lady Bay. Our old building was no longer fit for purpose, so I’m delighted that the new Scout Hall will give Lady Bay the modern, central meeting place it deserves.”

Photos and updates from throughout the rebuild can be found at the 1st Lady Bay Scout website www.ladybayscouts.org.uk.

PUNS ON WORDS
A bicycle cannot stand alone, it is two tired
A will is a dead giveaway
A chicken crossing the road – poultry in motion
With her marriage she got a new name and a dress
When a clock is hungry it goes back four seconds
You are stuck with your debit if you cannot budge it
He broke into song because he could not find the key
A boiled egg is hard to beat
He had a photographic memory which was never developed
And finally
She was only a whisky maker but he loved her still
Spring has Sprung

20th April and the first day of spring, cold and windy! News and views copy date sprung on me.
What to write about? Hope you had a good Christmas? A bit late for that and for Happy New Year.
Anyway a few signs that Spring is actually on its way, early February Hazel in flower and catkins well formed, 8th March Whych Elm just starting to flower, 18th March a very few purple Violets in flower. The Violets are perhaps a little bit later than in some previous years, but about the same as last year.
Stonestrip has seen three 1 night camps and several evenings use since the beginning of the year, although the field is like a swimming pool. A working day at Hollygate saw a good turnout of volunteers and many of the jobs needed were successfully completed, a lot of stone was laid on the track, a seat repaired by the campfire circle, fallen or damaged trees tidied up and the ceiling and woodwork in the gents toilet painted. Thanks to all who helped = many hands make light work!
We are looking forward to the St. George’s Day Parade at the Forest Ground on 23rd April and then the District Camp at Hollygate soon after. May it be dry, even if not warm for both.
Happy Easter and really get OUT with your Scouting.

Dave

COPY DATE –Wednesday 31st May 2017
Your Editorial Team was:
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E-Mail:ron.berringt4x@hotmail.co.uk
Rushcliffe Scout Council
Registered as a Charity, Number
Welcome to a belated summer edition of News and Views, due to my visit to America.

Better late than never, however my boss when I worked at Ericsons used to say better never late. So it would be appreciated when you have anything for News and Views if you could make the copy date.

I agree with Phil’s comments about the Scout Movement being the best youth organisation in the world.

The District has been very busy as usual. St. George’s Day Parade, District Camp, and many other events are planned for the future.

1st Lady Bay have opened their new HQ building, something that I was not aware of. “Time waits for no man.” Read the report sent in by David Rennie.

I only received one report other than the usual crew, which was from 1st Cropwell Bishop, thanks Keith. Looking forward to hearing from you at the start of the New Scout Year. Keep on trekking.

Your Editor Ron Berrington
THE DCs SPOT

It’s been a busy old time in the District since last time I wrote.

We had another fantastic St Georges Day Parade and Event at the Nottingham Forest Football Ground. This year we were joined by The City of Nottingham District again and also South West Notts District for the first time. The event was fun and engaging as always. Thank you to Alan Hubber and team for organising the parade, to Jock Shaw for arranging the service, to those who took part in the playlet and to all who came along to enjoy the afternoon.

The following weekend was District Camp. The theme for the camp was medieval and it was great to see so many groups taking part. The highlights for me were the medieval fayre, the camp fires and the beaver day. It was fantastic that the Keyworth Explorers organised the Scouts Own which I am told was brilliant – I missed it as I was herding Beavers at the time. Some brilliant activities were enjoyed. Thank you again to Alan Hubber, Fiona Burrows and Team for such a great weekend and Colin Wills for feeding us in the Mucky Cup.

Lady Bay Scouts have opened their new HQ building this term too. I had the pleasure of being showed round by Elaine Clark. There is now great potential to develop and grow the Group over the coming year.

Following the success of us opening the new Beaver Colonies last year, we now have a waiting list for Cubs in the District and so we are talking to a couple of the GSLs to look at opening new Cub Packs.

I have attended some of your AGMs this year and the rest of the team have done others. If you haven’t let us know the date yet, please let Alan know.

I have seen the adverts have come out for next year’s Mega Moot, the County camp for Nottinghamshire Scouts and Guides. Please think about making this your camp for next year.

The District team and I are planning to have a development planning day between now and September. There is lots to do to keep the District successful.
DBS checks are becoming a major issue for the District. Pat Shepherd works very hard to ensure that people are informed that their DBS is becoming due for renewal as well as HQ reminding individuals and their GSLs at 90 days, 60 days, 30 days and 7 days. Please do not ignore these reminders. I have no alternative but to suspend people when their DBS expires. Recently I have had 5 people that I should have suspended but because I have been extremely busy, I have been able to give a couple of extra days. I will not be able to do that going forwards.

Training is also an issue. Can I please ask that if you are chased about training, you respond with your plan as again, I will have no alternative but to suspend people who fall out of time. If you have any queries please contact Lee Redmile – Local Training Manager.

Nights Away Notifications and Nights Away permits

It’s the camping season and so please make sure you notify Steve Cumberland if you intending to go away and ensure that the person leading the camp has a current Nights Away permit. If you want to check it should be on Compass.

Thank you for all your hard work. You are all inspirational. Don’t for get to let us know what is happening to your Group we always like to hear.

Kathryn D.C.
From the Chair

I don't know whether like me you were struck by Brenda from Bristol's comment which went something like "You're joking, oh no not another one......." Brenda might well have been talking about my 'View from the Chair' but she was actually referring to yet another opportunity to exercise our mandate as a nation.

I write this piece the day after our Rushcliffe District Scout Council AGM to which we had quite a pleasing turnout. Unless like me you’re a bit of a governance nerd, AGMs and opportunities to vote for fellow supporters to Scouting can be a bit dry. Trust me we do try to look and feel quite enthused about the process but there is little one can do to be too jazzy when the subject is so important. The constitution of the Scout Association determines that each District is a charity in its own right and that therefore requires Trustees. Our District Executive are the trustees of Rushcliffe District Scout Association. I am pleased to say that we have a great Executive and by definition a fantastic group of trustees all bringing their own skills, knowledge and experience to the Executive.

There is, however a 'but' and that is that whilst we do not constantly need to totally reinvent ourselves we do need to be thinking about a possible injection of new blood before the next opportunity to exercise our mandate in June 2018. Like every good Chair I should be thinking about a succession plan, but at the moment I don't have one - perhaps that should be one of my Scouting objectives for 2017-18!

Irrespective of where your political loyalties lie, wasn't it great to see Mansfield elect a 28 year old MP on the 8th June. The Scout Movement is the best youth organisation in the world bar none and we know the massive well of talent that exists in our Groups, both young people, adult leaders and volunteers. Ben Anderson our District Youth Commissioner is working hard and doing a great job with our Groups on the 'You Shape' initiative which puts the young people in the driving seat as far as their programme is concerned - this is where the next generation of District Trustees will come from. Most of the current Trustees were to my knowledge Patrol Leaders, but for most that was quite a few years ago!

If you were not able to get to our AGM and didn't think about seeking nomination to the District Executive, but think that you might be interested in finding out what this governance thing is all about please do get in touch. Talk to Kathryn about it or talk to someone that you know who is on the District Executive.

Phew, that's a relief I've got to the end of 'View from the Chair' without once mentioning the weather - happy camping the weather's looking lovely!

Phil Lovett
We have much appreciated listening to some very interesting and entertaining speakers recently. In April Keith Brookes (a friend from Friary Church) enlightened us with tales of the Charge of the Light Brigade. This was quite fascinating and gave us an insight into the different personalities of the various leaders. In May Jude Winwood entertained us with music from her African harp and we hope to see her again next year with music on the drums.

June will see us keeping one another amused with favourite poems, funny stories etc. and in July we hope to have an outing to either Attenborough Nature Reserve or Ruddington Country Park.

Our annual barbeque will again take place at 120 Melton Road, Stanton on the Wolds, from 12 noon on SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER – do please join us for our fun day in the sun and inform Janet on 0115 9372197 or Brenda on 0115 9825031 if you are able to attend.

Our autumn programme will begin with our of our well known speakers, Paul Roebuck, telling us about his “Grand tour of Italy”.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ Janet Baines
SASU Manager

PUNS ON WORDS

A backward poet writes inverse
A calendar’s days are numbered
If you jump off a Paris bridge, you are in Seine
Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead to know basis
No matter how much you push the envelope, it will still be stationery
Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie
I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me.

Janet Baines
**1st Lady Bay Scout Hall Completed**

Work to create a new Scout Hall for 1st Lady Bay Scout Group has now completed and the official opening, by the Mayor of Rushcliffe Councillor Leslie (Barrie) Cooper, is on Sunday 9th July at 1.45pm. Representatives of the District, funders and supporters are all invited and we hope to see you there.

Building work began after the old Scout Hut was demolished in September 2016 and completed in April 2017. The Scout Group raised £330,000 for the new headquarters, which will become a community hub on the site of the former Scout building on Mona Road in Lady Bay.

Fundraising for the new Scout Hall has been ongoing for many years, but was completed in 2016 thanks to grants of £49,950 from WREN, £25,080 from Nottinghamshire County Council’s Supporting Local Communities Fund, and £30,000 from Veolia Environmental Trust – as well as money from the consolidation of 6th West Bridgford Scouts. Built in the 1960s, the former Scout Hut was a prefabricated structure that was beyond economic repair and no longer fit for purpose, with a leaking roof, eroding external walls, very little insulation and poor kitchen and toilet facilities. It was also unsuitable for people with disabilities.

The new building boasts a modern kitchen and toilets, disabled access, a main hall and a meeting room – all available to hire by the community. The scouting sections moved back into the hall in May, with the hall available to community hirers from June.

Elaine Clarke, 1st Lady Bay Cub Scout Leader, said: “Completing the new Scout Hall marks the end of many years of fundraising – and the beginning of a new era for Scouting in Lady Bay. Our old building was no longer fit for purpose, so I’m delighted that the new Scout Hall will give Lady Bay the modern, central meeting place it deserves.”
Photos and updates from throughout the rebuild can be found at the 1st Lady Bay Scout website www.ladybayscouts.org.uk.

The photo shows the Sections enjoying their new hall for the first time

David Rennie
Out in Force 1.

St. George’s day parade; a big one this year with three districts taking part, Rushcliffe, City and South West Notts. With those numbers the parade took about 25 mins to pass. Fortunately, we didn’t have too many upset road users. One bus nearly got through the cordon, but was stopped by the Library car park entrance so blocking it which relieved me of my duties. Another fine day for the parade. Thanks to all who took part especially the volunteers on traffic control duty.

Out in Force 2

Thursday 27th of April saw the advance party set out for Hollygate to prepare for the Big District camp. While we were getting things moving our intrepid white van men, Peter and Ron Shepherd, went back to Bridgford to collect some additional kit and, while we had a light sprinkle of rain on site, they got soaked! Apart from a heavy shower early Monday morning the weather was dry and warm, although on Sunday we thought we were going to be blown into orbit and the archery had to be stopped the wind was so strong.

The staff catering centre, ‘The Mucky Cup’ opened for business under the expertise of our chef Colin Wills. Thanks Colin for feeding the team well.

Three separate campfires were put on one for each of the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts with entertainment suitable for the age group. Thanks to Tig for preparing all three fires with logs from Stonepit all cut to length and numbered for ease of assembly. Saturday evening saw our now almost traditional Goose or Medieval Fayre, this time with the latest currency ‘Rushcliffe readies’ rather than ‘Robins’ and we were pleased to welcome John Asplin as the evil taxman, although for some reason he became popular and was being given the readies without being asked!

On Sunday evening 3rd West Bridgford held a moving remembrance gathering to celebrate the life of Mick Bragg.

Everything dried up well by the time came on Monday to strike camp, so no canvas to dry which made a nice change.
Many thanks to all the leaders and volunteers who made the event run so well and especially the District team, some who have been working on this type of big camp for nearly 40 years – we’ll get the hang of it one day!

**Out in Force 3**

Sunday 14th May saw Stonepit opened up for a walk in the woods, the weather was good, as usual, and we spent nearly 2 hours wandering round finding as many different plants as we could. After the walk we did a count of the Early Purple Orchids – a total of 290, they were out in force.

Enjoy the rest of the Summer get OUT, use Hollygate and Stonepit – they won’t wear out.

Dave.

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**Save the date 4-7 May 2018**

**MEGA MOOT**

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**WE DISCOVER, WE GROW**

**Girlguiding**

**Nottinghamshire County**

**scouts**

**be prepared...**

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

For current information check out [www.megamoot.org.uk](http://www.megamoot.org.uk)
Rushcliffe Scouts Quiz
29th March 2017

“Fizzy Pop”, “Scrambled Egg Heads”, “Masters of the Unexpected” and “Thor” – not to mention “Erudites” and “Wisdom Personified”.

What is going on?

The Rushcliffe “Brainiacs” assembled to battle it out at West Bridgford Methodist Church Hall to win the coveted District Quiz trophy; and a battle it was. The teams were incredibly good, and towards the end it was too close to call, leaving only the final “CHAOS” round to decide the outcome.

The winners this year by only two points were (fanfare!)

“Masters of the Unexpected” aka 1st Kinoulton Scout Troop.

Congratulations to them and also to the other valiant teams from 9th West Bridgford, 2nd East Leake and 1st Radcliffe-on-Trent who put up a really strong challenge and were only a few points short at the end.

On the side was a private, but keenly contested, skirmish between two teams made up of Leaders and Parents. Again, a very close run thing when Erudites pipped the post after being slightly behind for 2/3rds of the competition. They clearly watch more children’s television than they would let on!

Thanks to all who took part – and for making it a really enjoyable evening. See you next year!

Ron Shepherd
Peter Shepherd
The cubs of 1st Cropwell Bishop have not been in their usual venue at all since Easter, as we have been out and about exploring!

We started with a short hike from Cotgrave to Cropwell Bishop, singing camp songs all the way.

We then had a visit to John Deere at Langar, which included a presentation, tour of the factory and warehouses and a goody bag!

We camped at Beaudesert camp site at the beginning of May, and just last weekend took part in the cub water activity day at the new Scouts Activity centre near Hoveringham, followed by a nights camping.

Keith Herrington

1st Cropwell Bishop
Editorial

A warm welcome to the Autumn edition of News and Views and the start of the new scout year. Good to see a list of long service, wood badge and other awards - six of which were chief scout commendations.

SAS has had some interesting events at their Monday’s meeting at the Baptist Church on Musters Road. Why not come and enjoy a good evening out.

Kathryn has given News and Views a good plug so let’s hear about your camps over the summer months.

1st Shelford and East Bridgford have opened their second Beaver Colony.

1st Bingham Cubs and Scouts sent in three articles.

George Baker of 1st Kinoulton sent in an interesting article of his holiday in Kenya.

Jock tells us that is was time to prepare.

Dave wrote his usual Stonepit piece.

Looking forward to hearing from you in a bumper edition of Christmas News and Views.

Keep on trekking,

Your editor Ron Berrington
THE DCs SPOT
I hope you’ve all had a great summer – time to relax, enjoy time with your families and friends and re-energise for another exciting term of Scouting.

I know lots of you have been at camp over the summer. Why not ask your young people to share their stories with us for the website or News and Views? I would certainly like to hear what you have been doing.

Can I remind you about a few things please?

Training
If you are one of the people who have had a reminder to complete your training because you are beyond the 3 year timescale for completion, please don’t forget to contact Lee Redmile (lredmile@aol.com) to let him know what your plans are. The deadline set by County for completion is the end of November. I really don’t want anyone to be removed from their role because the deadline has been missed. Validation is easy … just get in touch!

Similarly, if you have received an email from Lee saying you need to complete Getting Started, please get in touch. These modules can be completed on line and validated very easily.

DBS Checks
If you receive an email saying that your DBS is about to expire please do not ignore it. The first email will come when you have 90 days to complete it, then 60 days and then 30 days. When it expires I have no choice but to suspend you. If I don’t do it, either County or Region will. That means you can no longer take part in any Scouting activity and will have to start the whole process again. Contact your Group Scout Leader or Pat Shepherd (pat_shepherd@ymail.com) as soon as you get the first reminder. They will help you through the process.
I was delighted to arrive for a District team meeting last week at Shelford and East Bridgford to find a table full of new volunteers having a meeting to open their second Beaver colony. This is exciting news – 2 colonies in one year! Well done and thanks to all involved.

I hope to see you all at some stage during the Scouting year. Have a great time and let us know what you’re doing. Thanks for everything you do to make Scouting great for the young people of Rushcliffe!

Kathryn Wills
District Commissioner
From the Chair

I hope that you have all had a good Summer and that you have taken time out for you and achieved something positive. I also trust that some of you have spent time with your Groups' at camp and had an enjoyable and safe time. Summer Camp has always been payback for the many hours that you spend in the Scout HQ during the dark nights of Autumn and Winter, enabling you and your young people to put in to practice many of the skills learned.

I know that many of you will already be considering your options for Summer 2018 and indeed Summer 2019. The County and us as a District have already spent some time thinking about our contingent for the World Jamboree in Summer 2019. I note that bookings are open for Mega Moot at Walesby next year and I am sure that a number of you will be thinking about taking part, whether as visitors to the camp or as volunteers.

Our District is very fortunate indeed in respect of the enthusiasm and skills that we can deploy to provide excellent Scouting to all young people that want to get involved in the Movement, this is something that we should celebrate at every possible opportunity. This does not mean, however, that we can afford to be complacent and I know that under Kathryn's leadership this will not be allowed to happen. The District Team are working hard to enhance the support the District can provide to Groups - more of that later I know. In the meantime let's focus on the here and now and another term of inspirational Scouting programmes right across the District with an eye on the balmy days of Summer 2018.

I look forward to meeting many of you at District events in the upcoming Scouting year - have fun and thank you!
On 18 July several members attended the funeral of Peter Foot whom many of you will remember. Peter and Maureen have been living in Laceby in Lincs since their marriage. Maureen was very pleased to see us and it was a pleasure to form a guard of honour before and after the service with representatives from the Deep Sea Scouts (Peter was their President).

Over the past few months SASU members have heard about The Charge of the Light Brigade, enjoyed Rhythm for life played on a very unusual harp and a jolly members’ evening when we exchanged favourite poems, stories etc. On 25 July members had a great visit to Attenborough Nature Reserve and as the weather was so good we had lunch sitting out on the terrace overlooking the reserve which has been greatly enhanced over the past few years.

We now look forward to the Annual Barbeque on Saturday 16 September at 12 noon, usual venue of 120 Melton Road, Stanton on the Wolds NG12 5BQ. We would be pleased to see any of the District Scout Exec members – just let myself (0115 9372197) or Brenda (0115 9825031) know for catering purposes. Please bring along your meat/veggie or fish item and for a small cost we can provide salad, rolls and delicious sweets.

Janet Baines
LEXOPHILIA –

WHO ON EARTH DREAMS THESE UP?

Why, a lexophile of course!

I tried to catch some fog, but I mist

I changed my iPod’s name to Titanic, it’s syncing now

Jokes about German sausage are the wurst

I know a guy who’s addicted to brake fluid, but he says he can stop any time

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went and then it dawned on me

When chemists die, they barium

I didn’t like my beard at first, then it grew on me

Janet Baines
During the summer holiday I went to Kenya, on safari, with my mum and dad. We left Samburu National Park and drove to Treetops in Aberdare National Park. On the way we had lunch at Outspan. Just before we left, to carry on to Treetops, we found out that Lord Baden-Powell had lived in a bungalow next door to the hotel and that was where he died. My dad was reading a notice in the reception area and a man came up to me and asked me if I was a scout. I said I was and he shook my left hand for a very long time. He told me there was a scout museum in Lord Baden-Powell's old bungalow, so we visited it before we left. When we entered the museum, every wall was covered in scout neckers from all over the world. The man told me that there were only three countries in the world that they didn't have neckers for. We thought we saw a Kinoulton necker but three were from Dorset and one from Chile! The guide gave us a talk about LBP and his family and how they came to Kenya. He also told us that his grave was only a mile away so we asked our driver to take us there. Even though it was only a mile away it felt like longer as the roads were so busy. The grave was very big, surrounded by purple and white fence panels and bushes. His wife, who died in England, has her ashes buried there too. Before I went to Kenya I didn't know that Lord Baden-Powell lived and died there - and now I know that I've walked in his footsteps at his home, as well as doing the same safari as he did at Treetops.
WISE TO PREPARE

I'm guessing just recently you've been on holiday or maybe be about to.

Before you went you may have thought what clothes do the family need?, do I need to shop?, is the equipment in order?, is the suitcase too big? Is it too heavy for the plane? Are the passports in order? Have I checked the tickets? Have we the visas? Will it all fit in the car? Do we need towels? Have we picked up the Euros? Have you checked the oil and tyres on the car? Did you pack my phone charger? How about the travel plug? etc, etc, etc.
Yes, a thousand and one things go through your mind, but why?

Well I guess you need to be organised in advance. I guess you are thinking not just of yourself but the family too.
Why do it? Well I guess too all need to be aiming for one outcome. To enjoy the holiday!.

So ok, what's that got to do with Scouting you may ask. Well each section needs to be aiming at something.....Enjoyable Scouting!.
How do we ensure that?
Like preparation for a holiday, we need to prepare for our meetings ahead.

Recently three Leaders of our section... CUBS at East Bridgford, spent a couple of hours in my local hostelry to plan the term ahead. GSL Pothead, Annette and myself sat with a blank calendar.
Like the holiday, we asked the questions first: What do we need to achieve? What do the Cubs need to achieve? How can we work for the Community too?.. and more.

Now, 14 Mondays to fill, to ensure our Cubs learn, enjoy and achieve. Again, "together" we bounced ideas and filled the rest of the plan.

Most importantly our first meeting back is for the CUBS themselves to plan their Sixers Evening they are running themselves to include Investiture, Games, forthcoming badge projects and selecting their own charity that they only raise funds for. Our 14 weeks leading to Christmas are fun, instructive, and provide achievement for our Cubs. We will cover parts of Communications Badge and Personal Challenge. We have guests passing on skills, we embrace our community with our annual free Christmas Dinner for 50 over 60's in the village and our Remembrances, and the preparation Cubs have a Halloween Party and a night out too, Can’t be bad!!

To sum up.
* TWO HOURS IS ALL IT TOOK.
* ALL 3 CUB SECTION LEADERS WORKED "TOGETHER" PLANNING THE PROGRAMME.
* EACH LEADER KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT WE ARE DOING EACH WEEK.
* EACH LEADER HAS A COPY OF THE PROGRAMME.
* EACH LEADER KNOWS WHAT THEY NEED PERSONALY TO ORGANISE IN ADVANCE.
* THE CUB SCOUTS HAVE BEEN AND ARE INVOLVED IN THE PROGRAMMING.

"All Leaders" working on a Programme is essential. Not just one Leader telling others week by week. Ask yourself: CAN YOU ANSWER YES TO ALL THOSE POINTS ABOVE? If No, then get "together" with your fellow Leaders when the next terms planning arrives.

Like the preparations to your holiday: think through, plan "together" and everyone will enjoy the weeks ahead in your section Scouting.
Just 2 HOURS working away from our HQ during the holiday, All 3 Section Leaders doing it "Together" and we have a Programme that will both achieve and provide fun through Scouting.

We enjoyed our night out, enjoy yours.

"JOCK"
Enjoying Cub Scouting.

**Joshua and his Mum - 1st Gotham Cubs**

“I went on the water sports activity day with Cubs…it was amazing! We did kayaking, raft making and canoeing I hope they do it again!” – Joshua.

“Joshua attended the water activity day with 1st Gotham Cubs last week. He really enjoyed activities including canoeing, kayaking and raft building with his friends. His favourite was kayaking.

We are so lucky to have so many interesting activities for our children to get involved with. This helps them all in so many ways. Thank you to all of the leaders who volunteer and have such a positive impact on our children's development.”

Helen (Joshua's mum)
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Planning for the new Scouting year is well under way for the Incident hike in November and the County Mega Moot 2018 in May to mention just two.

Stonepit was busy over the Summer with local Scout Groups, Guides and some other regular uses making use of the site. For the first week of August we welcomed back the 1st Adderbury Scouts from Oxford for their 4th visit. Some of the field was a bit boggy, but there was plenty of dry ground for their tents and activities. Fortunately, the week stayed reasonably dry. Their website has pictures of this year’s camp and their previous visits.

July 8th was our annual Brownie Guide day when 20 to 30 Brownie Guides came out to Stonepit with their leaders for an afternoon of activity and adventure. Next day, the 9th. We gathered in Lady Bay to enjoy and admire the new 1st Lady Bay Headquarters. No longer a hut, but a fine new hall with all the facilities including a much larger and more sanitary kitchen. We welcomed the Mayor of Rushcliffe to open the HQ and met up with many old friends. Congratulations to all concerned for raising the money and bringing the work to completion.

We had a little bit of vandalism during August so we now have put in a new handrail and slabs outside the fire door of the Storm Hut and re-fixed walls to the loo block. Let’s hope we don’t get any more unwelcome visitors.

Autumn is here and winter draws nigh, but that’s no reason to stop putting the OUT in Scouting, Hollygate and Stonepit are always open to welcome you.

Best wishes for the New Scouting Year.

Dave H.
Peter Foot

It was with sorrow we learnt of the passing of Peter just before the opening of the new Lady Bay HQ. Peter had been deeply involved with fund raising while at the 6th West Bridgford and these funds passed to Lady Bay when the 6th closed. While in West Bridgford Peter carried out a lot of work at Stonepit, contributing the concrete garage, the toilet hut, altar fires and many other tasks.

He was also a member of the Deep Sea Scout Fellowship from the time he was a ship’s captain and organised many camps for the DSSF and Scout Fellowship/Scout Active Support. Scouting will miss him. Our thoughts are with his wife Maureen.

Peter working at Stonepit

Freda Allchurch

Girlguiding lost a stalwart member of the Trefoil Guild long-time Guider and friend of Scouting with the passing of Freda. Her jolly demeanour and experience will be sadly missed by Guides and Scouts.
YOU ARE NEVER TOO OLD TO LEARN

What use are Elder twigs, bits of vegetation, potato peelers, thin card, coloured string, sycamore twigs and double sided sticky tape?

First Activity
Materials – thin card, double sided sticky tape and bits of vegetation.

Cut the card to a suitable shape, for example a crowns, apply rows of tape to the cards and decorate by sticking the vegetation to the tape. Stick the ends together and become king or queen of the woods. You could make a picture instead.

Second Activity
Materials - Potato peeler and sycamore twigs.

With the potato peeler remove about 150 mm of bark from the sycamore twigs (safer than a knife) and then wrap dough round them to cook twists.

Third Activity
Materials - Elder twigs and string.
Cut short lengths of elder twig, push the pith out of the centre of the twig, thread onto the string and make woodcraft jewellery – necklaces, bracelets, tiaras – use your imagination. think they are all great ideas – have a go!
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.
DRUGS ARE FOR LOSERS

“We were just having fun,” one of the lads said
That were anxiously gathered behind the old bike shed
Whilst an ambulance man struggled hard to revive
Their friend who was looking more dead than alive
He’ll live but he'll not be his old self again
For the stuff he’s been taking has softened his brain. Unheeding went warnings about drug abuse. With luck he might manage to lace up his shoes

Drugs are for losers now bear that in mind
If ever you’re tempted or feel inclined
If you feel you're different and think you can cope
That’s just the first step on the slippery slope
Give them elbow and stay in control
That way you're not adding to someone’s bankroll
I’m of the opinion, you won’t mind if I’m frank
It’s obvious a user is as “thick as a plank”

Drugs are for losers, a far from cheap thrill
You’ll end up paying a very large bill
They cost more than money in every aspect
But you can’t put a price on your own self-respect. Your plans for the future you’ll see go awry
Whatever your hopes, you can kiss them goodbye

Life is for living, yours has hardly begun
Drugs are for losers, make sure you’re not one.
Wood Fires

I was reading a book—not using the internet, T/V or computer—when I came across the following poem, it reminded me of the vast number of observations that over a long time have been committed to daily use in the past. So I now wonder if the following advice would be lost as industrial, domestic and campfires become obsolete.

Beechwood fires are bright and clear,
    If the logs are kept a year.
Chestnuts only good they say,
    If for long is stored away.
Birch and fir logs burn too fast,
    Blaze up bright and do not last.
    It is by the Irish said,
Hawthorne makes the sweetest bread.
Elmwood burns like churchyard mould,
    E’en the very flames are cold.
Popular gives a bitter smoke,
    Fills your eyes and makes you choke.
Applewood will scent your room,
    With an incense like perfume.
Oak and maple if dry and old,
    Keep away the winter cold.
But ASHWOOD wet or ASHWOOD dry,
    A King shall warm his slippers by.

Perhaps the Ash Tree should be well worked at Stonepit, could be useful if the gas cylinder has been left at home!
My name is Laurel, I Am a member of 1st Gotham Cubs. Last Saturday (3rd June) I was one of the Cubs Crew who visited Hoveringham Watersports Centre.

I had a great time both on the walk and on the water, I really liked the Kayaking, I had never tried this activity before and was a little nervous.

But it didn't take me long to get the hang of it... I had a fantastic day and went home really tired from being so busy all day....

Thank you....

COPY DATE –Wednesday 29th November 2017
Your Editorial Team was:
Ron Berrington and Sam Tebbutt (0115) 921 4901
E-Mail:ron.berringt4x@hotmail.co.uk
Rushcliffe Scout Council
Registered as a Charity, Number 522469
Welcome to the Christmas edition of News and Views. Thank you for your articles, very good input from all of you, especially D.C. Spot and The Chair. Hopefully I will be stepping down from my role as editor. I’m sure there are many budding editors in the district to take up the reigns. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and very happy New Year. See you at the next executive meeting. Keep on trekking.

- Your Editor

Ron Berrington
THE DCs SPOT

So, it’s that time of the year again when Christmas and New Year festivities start. I have been invited to a number of events – I will come along to as many as I can.

It’s been an exciting few weeks for the District. We’ve had the annual hike which I think Alan has reported on. Well done to everyone who took part. We also had jamboree selection weekend, attended by 33 of our Scouts and Explorers. The District are sending 10 people. It was really hard to choose from the fantastic people who took part. I think both events took their toll on the organisers and we are all sleeping a lot this week to recover. The successful people will be contract by County before Christmas.

We’ve also been working really hard to get our training lists down to nothing. I am delighted to say we are almost there with our list of people who have done no training for more than 3 years down to just a couple and the getting started list down to very few. Decisions will be made next week as to what will happen to these people.

I have spent some time with 11th West Bridgford Group whilst I have been validating training. It was great to spend time and to see how their meetings work.

I also received an envelope full of woodbadges which I will be getting out to the recipients as soon as possible.

Pat has been fighting the DBS battle too. We are doing really well but have a few outstanding. Can I please remind you that if you get a 90 day warning to complete your DBS check, please do it immediately as once I get an email to say I have to suspend you, I have no choice but to do that.

Congratulations to all those people who have recently received awards. If you could get in touch with me to let me know when you would like these presented please, I will try to get there or ask one of my team to do it if I can’t.

Finally, I want to thank my team and all of you for the hard work you do and hopefully will continue to do. Happy Christmas and Seasons Greeting to you all!
From the Chair

Christmas and the New Year holiday which follows is a time of reflection as well as celebration for me. Inevitably we look back over the year just gone and consider how we might do things better in the year to come - what went well, what didn't go quite so well. I am sure that we must all do some of this as we look back on our Scouting year. It is sometimes too easy to forget just how much the Groups that make up this District have achieved over the period of 12 months, fortunately much of this activity has been well recorded.

2018 beckons and I know that this new year will be just as special in Scouting terms as 2017. Thank you to all the many hundreds of volunteers that have helped Rushcliffe District to be a very special place for young people to enjoy Scouting - we are very fortunate that we have a vast wealth of skills to call upon.

Merry Christmas and best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Phil
NEWS FROM SCOUT ACTIVE SUPPORT UNIT

We enjoyed a members’ evening in November with some thoughtful and funny poems and now look forward to our Christmas Social on Wednesday 13 December with everyone contributing towards a great buffet and quizzes, fun and games. Please ring Janet on 0115 9372197 if you would like to join us. This will be in our usual venue, Baptist Church on Musters/Melton Road in West Bridgford from 7.30 pm.

I am just preparing the 2018 Programme and do wonder how and where 2017 has disappeared with such rapidity. However, it is very heartening to read about all the groups in West Bridgford and the increase in colonies due to overflowing waiting lists – just hope that we have enough leaders to cope with this enthusiasm.

We shall begin the New Year by meeting for an evening meal at Poppy & Pint in West Bridgford on Wednesday 31st January. Please let me know if you would like to join us

Janet Baines
SAS Manager
SMILES

The nicest thing about the future is that it always starts tomorrow
Money will buy a fine dog but only kindness will make him wag his tail
If you don’t have a sense of humour you probably don’t have any sense at all
Why is it that at class reunions you feel younger than everyone else looks?
A good time to keep your mouth shut is when you are in deep water
How come it takes so little time for a child who is afraid of the dark to become a teenager who wants to stay out all night?

Janet Baines
Our luck held for another year and we had a dry, not too cold evening with only light winds. With the predicted increase, yet again, in the number of teams we re-used a set of routes from a number of years ago, and a brand new six mile route with a total of 28 teams.

To help manage the increased number we drummed up support from the scout troops and explorer units so we could run incident bases on both routes including two food bases and deployed more than 50 staff on the night and our thanks to all these volunteers (well nearly all volunteers, a few were volunteered!)

We always advertise that the bases may educate, entertain and test the young people and this year we had country code questions (need to be more difficult next time), the problem of getting the fox, a chicken and bag of grain across a river (2 lengths of rope, some carpet tiles and a good dose of imagination), vegetable identification (didn’t they do well!), Black Bart’s Treasure, dry skiing with up to four on a pair of skis, and a “bomb” base. We also laid on a surprise base towards the end of each route titled silent zone – it appears some Scouts and a few leaders don’t seem to understand it applied to all in a team!

We always award points for timeliness between bases and points for teamwork and success at the tasks set as most of the young people seem to enjoy the competitive element, with four “classes” this year: Scout 6 mile route accompanied by an adult, Scout 6 mile route unaccompanied, Scout 10 mile unaccompanied route and an Explorer 10 mile unaccompanied route.

We know where next year’s routes will be based but are obviously saying nothing for many months to come although the diary has already been consulted.

Fiona Burrows and Alan Hubber
My night hike by Dylan Oldfield

On 11th November 2017 I went on the Scout District hike team. To start off we had to get a map and direct our driver to the starting point. Then we got a map and a compass and had to direct ourselves to each checkpoint.

At the first checkpoint we had a puzzle to solve. We had to get a chicken, fox and corn across the river!

After walking 2km to the next checkpoint we had to name different types of fruit and vegetables. Then we got stuck behind another group.

At the third checkpoint we got to eat. I had hot chocolate and a hot dog.

At the fourth checkpoint the leaders from 4th West Bridgford (my group) were supervising and we had to solve a crime including bombs. It was the toughest checkpoint.

Then we got a map leading us to the final checkpoint. We were excited.

Near the end we passed through a silent zone where we couldn’t talk.

We walked 6 miles in total.

We were the first group from our Scouts to finish and we got the most points out of the District so we were first! Back at church we watched a film, had toasted tea cakes and drank hot chocolate.

Looking forward to next year.
9th West Bridgford Group Camp

Friday 15th September, 4.30 pm and the first group of Scouts, Kate, Lauren, Miri, Holly & Rose, were in West Bridgford ready to catch the bus. Fifteen minutes later, they were followed by Thomas K, Danny, Daniel and Abraham. Both groups caught the bus into town, walked to Victoria bus station and then caught the Pronto bus to Blidworth, all carrying all their personal kit for the weekend. A one mile walk along Ricket Lane followed, to arrive at Robin Hood Scout Activity Centre before 7pm.

At about 7pm, they were joined on site by 3 more Scouts, 12 Beavers and 14 Cubs, all ready for a weekend full of activity.

With tents up, kit into tents (or into the bedrooms for the Beavers first night) and the bus traveling Scouts fed with lots of burgers, we were ready for the first activity. Six teams of a mixture of Scouts, Cubs and Beavers making ballistas and then using them to fire water balloons at Young Leader, Thomas P. These were their teams for the whole weekend and some great teamwork and leadership was evident already which got better as the weekend went on. Next activity, some hilarious games of Human Hungry Aliens before bedtime drinks and into tents or rooms for the first night (giving the leaders chance to have our own game of Human Hungry Aliens). Eventually everyone went to sleep.

Saturday, and lots of activities, Archery and Crate Stacking, as well as alien themed crafts, for everyone, Bouldering for Cubs and Beavers, and for the Scouts, a session of sawing and knotting in preparation for the sedan chair making and racing. Later on the teams continued the making of the sedan chairs, then there was a Cluedo based Wide Game/ Activity organized completely by Kate and a suitably noisy campfire before bed, with the Beavers in tents as well for the second night. Everyone asleep much more quickly this time.
Sunday morning, light sabre duelling (sword fencing) for the Beavers, Cubs and younger Scouts, expedition planning for the older Scouts, making omelettes for lunch and finishing sedan chairs for everyone.

At 3.30pm, parents were starting to arrive to see the sedan chair races. By then it was raining heavily, but the races continued, new rider each race and a process of elimination as chairs collapsed, until we had a winning team.

Moving Up ceremonies, 5 Beavers into Cubs, 1 Cub into Scouts, and a closing ceremony brought the weekend to a close, and tired young people (and not so young people!) off home to rest.

It was a fantastic weekend. The site was brilliant and the building impressive, excellent value, great warden and volunteers. The Scouts, Cubs and Beavers were all absolutely awesome and the leaders, Young leaders, helpers and parent helpers were all fantastic. Thank You all, will definitely do it again.

Margaret Walker (Scout Leader)

**IT HAPPENS IN RUSHCLIFFE**

Hollygate and Stonepit don’t get a closed season. Bookings for both go well into December and already a number have been made as far as July next year. Book early to make sure you get the dates you would like. I hope every section of every Group will have a session at each of the sites. They are there to be used!
The Incident Hike (was this the 17th in this series?) took place on 10th November with the help of over 50 supporters and 28 teams taking part over three routes. Thanks to the organisers, supporters and participants for another successful event. Have a look at other articles and our web-site.

Thanks to all who took part in the Remembrance Sunday acts of remembrance at sites all over the District.

A bit of frantic planning by the Rushcliffe and Newark District teams meant the Jamboree selection weekend was able to go ahead. In the end we were made welcome at the 2nd East Leake HQ, where we had a warm hall for activities and meals, a field for the Scouts to camp, parking space and a well-equipped kitchen - it’s surprising how much water has to be boiled to cater for 42 Scouts and lots of thirsty adults!. Thanks to 2nd East Leake for making us welcome and to all the leaders and helpers for making the weekend run smoothly. Our best wishes to the Scouts selected to go the Jamboree in 2019 and commiserations to those who missed out. The worst part of selection is deciding who must stay at home. For those who missed out, come to the Mega Moot in May and get a tiny taste of what a World Jamboree might be like. Please help the fortunate ones with their fundraising; they have a lot of money to find.

On a sad note we have heard that our Guiding friend Eileen Else and Pam Smith, our former local DofE organiser, passed away recently. Our thoughts are with their families and friends.

At the time of writing the Leaders meet at Radcliffe on the 5th December, Group Christmas parties are looming. St. Georges Day and Mega Moot get ever nearer. It’s all go and puts some of the OUT in Scouting – keep up the good work. I an assured we do it because we enjoy it -Hmmm!

A very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

Dave H.
CHRISTMAS BITS FROM “JOCK”...HAVE A GOOD ONE.

The Night before Christmas....

'Twas the nocturnal segment of the diurnal period preceding the annual Yuletide celebration, and throughout our place of residence, kinetic activity was not in evidence among the possessors of this potential, including that species of domestic rodent known as Mus musculus. Hosiery was meticulously suspended from the forward edge of the wood burning caloric apparatus, pursuant to our anticipatory pleasure regarding an imminent visitation from an eccentric philanthropist among whose folkloric appellations is the honorific title of St. Nicholas.

I made myself a snowball, As perfect as could be, I thought I’d keep it as a pet, And let it sleep with me. I made it some pyjamas, And a pillow for its head, Then last night it ran away, But first - it wet the bed!

This will be the fifth year in a row that my in-laws will come over for Christmas. I think this time we should let them in.

There was once a great czar in Russia named Rudolph the Red. He stood looking out the windows of is palace one day while his wife, the Czarina Katerina, sat nearby knitting. He turned to her and said, "Look my dear, it has begun to rain!" Without even looking up from her knitting she replied, "It's too cold to rain. It must be sleeting." The Czar shook his head and said, "I am the Czar of all the Russias, and Rudolph the Red knows rain, dear!"
How will Christmas dinner be different after Brexit? No Brussels.

What do workers at Sports Direct get for Christmas dinner? About 5 minutes.

How do you recognise a Christmas tree from BHS? All the branches have gone.

I bought my mum Mary Berry's cookbook for Christmas, I tried to get Paul Hollywood's but he'd sold out.

HO HO HO.....HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS

COPY DATE –Wednesday 28th MARCH 2018

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