Editorial

A very warm welcome to the first 2018 edition of News and Views. This is the first edition under my editorial eye and I’d like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have contributed to this issue. I have big shoes to fill and welcome all your support...

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Rushcliffe Scout Council
Registered as a Charity, Number 522469

Rushcliffescouts.org.uk

Rushcliffe District Scouters

@rushcliffescout
Editorial Continued

In this edition we find out about exciting events that have taken place around the district, including a recount of a Young Leader Training Weekend; more about Youth Shaped Scouting; the results of the Rushcliffe District Scouts Quiz and the various outdoor activities that have taken place at Stonepit and Hollygate. We also welcome articles from two of our young people based on their experiences at Brass Monkeys, and applaud the valuable community work and fund raising undertaken by 1st Keyworth in their Scout Christmas Post. Sadly, we also say goodbye to Baz Knight, a valued member of our district, who passed away recently.

Congratulations go to all those who have received an award this term, and to 1st Gotham Scout Group who are celebrating their 60th birthday this year – good luck with your festivities.

In the words of our Chief Scout: Inspire. Encourage. Adventure!

Becky Howard, Editor

DC’s Spot

So, the first term of 2018 is over and it's been brilliant. Well done to all the groups who have put on such inspiring, exciting youth shaped programmes.

Now on to summer term and I've already heard of some of the plans for camps and expeditions. Megamoot is just around the corner. Hope to see lots of pictures and stories from you in the next issue of News and Views.

Did you know that next year Rushcliffe district will be 10 years old? What would you like to see happening to celebrate? Let's have your ideas so we can start to plan.

It's St George's Day in a couple of weeks, I hope we have great weather and a fantastic turnout.

Happy Scouting everyone.

Kathryn Wills, District Commissioner
From the Chair

The season of County, District and Group AGMs is once again upon us. I am just back from a few days away and there sitting on the door mat waiting for me is the notification of the County Scout AGM which this year I see will be held in Southwell. The Rushcliffe District AGM this year will be held on Wednesday 20th June at Tollerton Parish Rooms, we’d be pleased to see as many of you as can make it at that meeting. The County AGM is I note on Sunday 24th June, so it’s going to be a busy few days in the world of Scouting governance. Not moments of high excitement for many or most and definitely secondary to the jobs that most of you do week in and week out providing excellent Scouting to thousands (yes literally) of young people in our District, but none the less important.

At each District Executive we hear a report on the work of the Appointments Sub-Committee and it never ceases to amaze me how busy they are interviewing prospective Scouters who are willingly volunteering to become leaders in our excellent Movement. I was a member of that Sub-Committee for quite a few years and we always quizzed prospective Scouters as to their motives for wanting to get involved. I doubt whether the reasons that most give have changed too much over the years', many parents recognise the fun and enjoyment that their children are getting from being in Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers and want to help. Others like me recognise the benefits that Scouting has brought in our lives and want to try and give something back. In my view there is no right or wrong answer as to why we get involved in Scouting and in many cases, stay involved over many decades. There is, however, an over-riding 'but' and that is that we never lose sight of the 'why?' as the initial motivations morph a little over time. I regularly think of a friend of mine in Scouting who is sadly no longer with us, for whom Scouting was almost quite literally his life - which by the way I do not think is very healthy! - whilst he was by no means without fault, he never lost sight in my view of the 'why?' and there are many Scouters that I am aware of that are doing what they do now due to his inspiration.

My friend was by no means unique and there are quite a few people in Scouting in every District in the UK with those inspirational characteristics, you could call it 'leadership', I prefer to think of it as an ability to use Scouting's foundation to create something innovative and engaging for young people that can quite literally shape their lives. Where is he going with this? - I hear you ask. Well it is quite simple really and that is that we all remember and especially those of us like me that do the 'governance' bit that we all should have but one aim and that is to create such an experience in Scouting that we inspire the next generation of leaders and I mean that in the widest sense.

So, as we all look forward to the looming AGM Season, let's hear the stories of how Scouting has changed lives and not spend too long picking over the embers (to use a campfire analogy) of the things that didn't go quite right this last year.

Yours in Scouting, Phil
A Quizzical Question?

What were, more than 45 Scouts, Young Leaders, Leaders & District Leaders doing at the West Bridgford Methodist Church Hall on Wednesday the 7th March 2018? Pitting their wits against each other in the ‘Rushcliffe District Scouts Quiz’, that’s what!

The mighty minds of Five teams of Scouts, together with Two (even mightier?) teams made up of Leaders & Young Leaders, fought it out (not literally) to see who would be this years “Rulers of Rushcliffe”.

Competition was fierce & the Quizzing supreme! But of course, there could only be one winning team.

The Scouts came up with imaginative names for their teams. There were Harry’s Heroes (2nd East Leake), Masters Of The Unexpected 2 (1st Kinoulton who were battling to hang on to the title), The Vikings (1st Radcliffe-On-Trent), Phileas’s Phouilty Lights (9th West Bridgford) & The Shining Wits (1st Shelford & East Bridgford). The two “Leader’s” teams selected the names Backwoods And 4Woods & Pie On Earring as their tags.

All teams had to answer questions in five categories plus two additional timed “Chaos” rounds (which were – CHAOS). The lead quickly changed over the course of the evening because if a team played their “Joker” before a category commenced, they got double points for that round. A short break for refreshments was needed half way through the evening to replenish energy levels.

After the Quiz, the points were added up & the winners were identified. Every team did very well & entered into the spirit of the evening, but the team that reigned supreme & lifted the trophy this year was:

“Phileas’s Phouilty Lights – aka 9th West Bridgford Scouts”

The winning “Leader’s” team was Pie On Earring who were presented with a “Wise Old Owl” award.

Congratulations to the winners but also to everyone who took part in making it a fun energetic & hotly contested evening. See you next year! All Scout Troops in the District are always welcome to enter a team (or two).

Ron Shepherd
Peter Shepherd
Ena Scott, ADC Scouts
Delivering for the Community

In December 1st Keyworth Scout Group provided their annual Christmas Post for residents of the village. This time round, the young people of the group decided that proceeds from the Post would go towards the charity ‘Mast Cell Action’, which supports research into Mast Cell Activation Syndrome (MCAS). Our young people were inspired by Lily Mason who lives in Keyworth and suffers from the condition. Her brother Harry is a member of our beaver colony.

MCAS is a rare condition affecting how the body reacts to the everyday environment. These triggers cause sufferers blood cells to attack their own body resulting in painful rashes and itches and feeling sick just from carrying out the day-to-day activities of life. Mast Cell Action aim to provide support for sufferers and their families, raise awareness and help advance the diagnosis and treatment of MCAS.

During the period of our Christmas Post we delivered almost 2000 cards, with only 1 falling by the wayside. It was addressed solely to Bill and Val, Keyworth! Our efforts raised £410 for the Mast Cell Action Charity. A cheque for the amount was presented to Lily and her mum, Joy, at a recent beaver meeting. Well done to the young people and parents of our group for delivering the service and thank you to the wider Keyworth community for once again trusting us with your Christmas mail!

Graham Blakey, GSL

Happy 60th Birthday to 1st Gotham Scout Group

1st Gotham Scout Group marks its 60th birthday this year, that’s 60 years of fun, friendship and life changing adventure.

Beginning life as 1st Gotham and East Leake Scout Group on 17th February 1958, meeting at the Church Hall with 1 Scoutmaster, 1 Cubmaster 14 Wolf Cubs and 10 Boy Scouts, now 1st Gotham has over 70 young people across 4 sections, both boys and girls and meet in their very own Scout headquarters.

Entitled, Our Diamond Year, 1st Gotham Scout Group is embarking on a yearlong celebration of its longevity. Including a special badge designed by the young people themselves, a cook book, a group camp to Walesby Forest and a promise renewal event to end the year. This is on top of all their usual section meetings, fundraising activity and the contributions they make in helping the local community.

Ben Anderson
Awards

The following Service Awards have been received and will shortly be presented:

Chief Scout’s 10 Year Service Award
Jenny Howard

Chief Scout’s 5 Year Service Award
Simon Rees, David Chalmers, Katie Metcalfe
Paul Forster, Greer Cook & Paul Bassett

Wood Badge Award

Karen Allaway 1st Bingham - Section Leader - Cub Scouts
John Birkbeck 1st Ruddington - Section Leader - Beaver Scouts
Andrew Board 1st Bingham - Section Leader - Beaver Scouts
Alison Haynes 1st Keyworth - Section Leader - Cub Scouts
Jennifer Tinsley 1st Ruddington - Section Leader - Cub Scouts
Paul Woods 1st Ruddington - Asst Section Leader - Cub Scouts
Victoria Urding 2nd East Leake - Asst Section Leader - Beaver Scouts

Congratulations to everyone
Roses are Red, Violets are Blue

St. Georges Day procession fast approaches and, in this year as in previous years, you may notice some of the older ex-West Bridgford leaders sporting a red rose. The red rose is the flower of England and an appropriate reminder of the celebration of the special day and renewal of our promises. The wearing of the rose by us was inaugurated some years ago by the late Joyce Tuckwood, for many years a leader at what was 1st Edwalton. Joyce was committed to the Group and heavily involved in the construction of the extension to the headquarters on Alford Rd. Her husband, Alan, was also a leader for a short time. Alan was also a District Councillor for several years. Unfortunately, Alan passed away in February. This year we will wear the rose to remind us of St. George, England, our Promise and to remember Joyce and Alan.

Violets are blue! A foolhardy trip to Stonepit on St. Patrick’s Day (17th March) with a biting wind and snow showers to see the intrepid Derbyshire Woodcraft group in camp and check how the violets were coming along. About a month previously I could only find about a dozen violets, but now there was a goodly number on the South side of the wood. Perhaps Spring is on its way after all! (He said with snow on the ground at the time of writing).

At the end of January, in what is becoming an annual event, Ena arranged the ‘Bras Monkey’ Camp, which was well attended. The Ruddington Scouts hiked across country from their base to Hollygate. The weather was a bit warmer than in some previous years, perhaps we should have waited until 1st March!

Sue Youngson organised an activity afternoon for about 70 young members of ‘Music for Everyone’ and was assisted by leaders from around the District. The event took place at Candleby Lane School in Cotgrave, which we avoided burning down with our fires to toast marshmallows. Other activities included, indoor archery (with rubber tipped arrows), missile launchers, lots of balls being thrown around and burgers to finish. A good (if exhausting) time had by all. Thanks to all the leaders for doing their ‘good turn’ and giving up their Saturday afternoon to pass on a taste of some of the fun activities to youngsters who may not otherwise be aware of the fun and OUT in Scouting.
During the gales earlier in the year we had several large trees blown down or badly damaged at Stonepit, some we have managed to fell, but a couple, although not an immediate danger to site users, will need the attention of a specialist, which has been arranged.

Hollygate held several working party days and a reasonable turnout meant that many of the jobs were carried out. There may be still some metal work needing painting, but we’ll have to wait until the temperature reaches at least 10°C. The sooner the better.

We look forward to St. George’s Day and the County Mega Moot.

Well done and thank you Becky for taking on the task of News and Views editor. May you be snowed under with contributions. (we’ve been trying for years!) I’m sure a contribution, even if only short, from each group would really make interesting reading. How about something from those attending the ‘Brass Monkey’ camp, delivering Christmas cards or just a straightforward meeting?

Don’t forget to put the OUT in Scouting. Hollygate and Stonepit are there for you.

Dave Howard
**Murder Mystery...**

*(Extract based on experiences of Brass Monkeys camps in 2017 & 2018 - Written by Holly - 1st Ruddington Scouts A)*

This is the night where no one is safe so lock your doors, shut your blinds and nail up your beds; for this is the night where anything could happen. But the First Ruddington Scouts didn't listen. In fact, they did the opposite of that advice. They decided to go on a camp and if that isn't bad enough, the campsite was in the middle of the deep dark woods. All of a sudden, the only leader, Baloo, decided he needed the loo and warned the group that they weren't to go outside. But one of them broke the rules and went outside, surprise, surprise. It was Brodie the group's "trouble maker" who was super annoying. Then came a scream "AHHHHH!" Everyone ran outside. "Ha ha ha, I fooled you. Ha ha ha," snorted Brodie. No one thought it was funny, and they left him outside. They all heard him get told off when Baloo came back. "Right we were going to roast some marshmallows but now you just ruined it for everyone now get back into your tent" and then they heard Baloo’s tent zip open and close.

5 minutes later.

"Zzz Zzz Zzz" every knew that Baloo snored so it was no surprise when they heard this. Then "AHHHHHHHHHHH!" Another scream filled the night sky. Everyone shouted, "SHUT UP BRODIE!" but no sound came back the girls opened their tent and then came and got everyone else to go on a search party as Brodie was missing. Ellie and Eddy (the twins) stayed behind in case he came back. I knew the closest place, the old power station I decided to make my way over there. after fifteen minutes I checked my phone only 15% left. I was about to text Lily to see if they had found him when a message popped up on my phone it was from a number that I didn't recognise I opened it and it said, "help me you’re my last chance" I immediately replied "who r u"

"Brodie"

"Where r u"

"Don't know lights keep flickering"

"I know where u r wait there" I raced towards the power station I went up the stairs and into the room that I could see the lights were flickering. There was no one there. I texted Brodie "Can't see you, any details I should see." "The room I am in is close I can hear you breathing I think I was put in the 3rd door"

I walked through into that room

"OMG Brodie"

"Yes"
"There's a handprint of blood on the window"
Message failed to send.
"Hello" texted Brodie.
"Call the police"
"What were u saying about the hand with blood on"
"Wait what how can u read the message it failed!"
"U shouldn't be here"
"Why what's happening"
"Turn around"

Stephanie McCar was found dead in the morning of May 27th she was cold and police say she was killed about a week ago. She was with her Scout group and Brodie Williams went missing the same night and appeared back home two days after he went missing he is now under questioning by the police. Stephanie was found with her phone next to her smashed and the SD card missing.

Scout Active Support Unit – West Bridgford
We held a very successful AGM on Wednesday 28 February when the following were elected: -

- President: Trevor Turney
- Chairman: Graham Hasnip
- Manager/Programme Secretary: Janet Baines
- General Secretary: Brenda Taylor
- Treasurer: Margaret Nurse

Our charity for this forthcoming year will again be Support for Children in Natal.

We were pleased that Alan Hubber from District Scouts joined members for the AGM. He asked for support for the forthcoming St George’s Day Parade on Sunday 22 April at The Forest Football Ground.

We continue with our monthly meetings and this month will be entertained by Paul Roebuck who has been a very welcome speaker for the SASU over many years. In April we will again be pleased to see Jude Winwood who will be presenting “Rhythm for Life” with her drums, when all will be participating.

Janet Baines, Manager
Brass Monkeys Camp January 2018

(First experiences of the hike and Brass Monkeys camp Jan 2018 – Written by Carissa 1st Ruddington Scouts B)

This year Brass Monkeys camp has been a great experience and I would really like to go again. Hiking is always fun but the Brass Monkeys camp was another level altogether!

Hike

Imagine squelching through the oozing mud, hiking boots tight on your feet, suddenly becoming more independent, that’s how it feels like to be in scouts. The outdoors all around you, letting you feel free and self-determined. I really liked how the leaders let us find the way on our own and let us make our mistakes, so that we could learn from them (we still had the leaders nearby just in case we got really lost). Once you had got to a memorable place (like Plumtree) it just made you want to persevere. You wanted to reach your goal and get to the camp. We stopped for lunch on a log in a field. As we carried on through the next field I met a Shetland pony and I gave it my apple. After that we came to a path that looked like it had a volcano full of mud in it. It looked like the English flag but in mud.

Tent

As we’ve had a lot of practise at putting up tents that was quite easy to do and we did that within 10 minutes. Then we explored the campsite; we found the toilets and looked for fire wood. We had dinner delivered (sausage and chips) which we ate around the firepit and drank hot chocolate. The fire was lit at around 7:30pm. After that we sang songs around the campfire with Ena, Ben and the Kinoulton scouts. My favourite song is “found a peanut”. After the campfire, we got into our PJs and ate jelly babies, nuts and popcorn. Then we went to bed and fell asleep (not), eventually.

In the tent it was cold but we had lot of friends and layers to keep us warm. In the morning a funny thing happened, Holly used my Sainsburys bag and wrapped it around her slippers, so she could keep them on. We had porridge, pain au chocolat and a banana for breakfast. When we packed our bags, but it was really hard because you couldn’t fit it all in. Then we packed up our tent, but it was harder than putting it up because we were tired and had barely any sleep.

Steps

We walked 7.07 miles! Navigating ourselves with maps. Walked 27,000 steps, got a sweet shop stop, had midnight feasts, sausage and chips, loads of fun in the woods and by the campfire...made friends and memories. I love scouts because - I want to it all again next year!
SMILES – Ever wonder...

Why is the man who invests all your money called a Broker?

Why is the time of day, with the slowest traffic, called rush hour?

You know that indestructible black box that is used on airplanes? Why don’t they make the whole plane out of that stuff?

Why don’t sheep shrink when it rains?

If flying is so safe, why do they call the airport the Terminal?

Why are they called apartments when they are all stuck together?

Janet Baines

Youth Shaped Scouting

Youth Shaped Scouting and empowerment is not something that can be achieved overnight. This will be the third #YouShape Month and my second and last as District Youth Commissioner. As part of Vision2018 we want every young person to have the opportunity to shape their experience. This work will continue as an integral part of our new strategy for the next five years: Beyond 2018 and I am reassured by this being mirrored nationally and I’m sure will evolve in the next few years.

Celebrating all things #YouShape for a whole month in February allows us to support young people and volunteers to embed this traditional part of Scouting into what we do, and celebrating the amazing examples of Youth Shaped Scouting already taking place around Rushcliffe.

As I write this we've just concluded #YouShape month with our Youth Forum; we imagined what it would be like to be Bear Grylls, presented future visions for the Youth Forum and thought about perception of the movement. This event was not as well attended as previous events and is a good example of how difficult it is to reach out to young people across our large and rural district. Please let us come together as a district to share the opportunities for our young people; communication is not a one-way street.

The month was punctuated with Notts Scouts County Conference Summit 18, which many GSLs and Leaders attended. It was an inspiring event at East Midlands Conference centre, with lots of evidence of Youth Commissioners doing a great job across the County, especially our County Youth Commissioner, Rushcliffe's very own Jordan Phillips.
Thinking back to the start of February we hosted Sixer Sunday which was my personal highlight. Sixers, from all corners of the district, achieved Challenge Awards, and learned how to be a better Sixer. That's not to mention all the wonderful things you are doing in your groups. I've heard plenty of examples of Wear Their Necker activities taking place, but you must keep shouting about what you do. So, we can continue to shout about being a scout.

Youth Shaped Scouting happens all through the year. I've got some help now with the appointment of three new Deputy DYCs, Aidan, Lucy and Jacob, during YouShape Month. They'll be out and about to help you throughout the year. Get young people to voice their thoughts on their Programme through activities such as Edible democracy, Social media stars or Speedy Scouting, all of which can be found in the post cards sent to your GSLs. You said you want more programme resources and so here they are, do use them. All resources are linked to badges so they can be run as part of the Programme.

Many thanks for all your hard work, not just during February but all throughout the year,

*Ben Anderson, District Youth Commissioner*

**Young Leader Training Weekend**

A Success Story... so far

The venue was booked, the Young Leaders gathered and the snow blew in.

On Saturday 17 March, 19 Explorer Scout Young Leaders rocked up to Sherbrooke Scout Campsite for a weekend of training.

The weekend was a joint event between Central Notts and Rushcliffe, organised by Scot Riggans (Central DESC) and Jason Billin (Rushcliffe DESC).

Over the next day and a half, the YLs were guided through modules B to I of the Young Leaders’ Scheme.

The training consisted of presentations, activities and games ably delivered by Scot, Ena-Marie Scott (ADC Scouts) and Karl Lewis (ESL Kinoulton) with Jason chipping in from time to time.

It was cold outside with horizontal snow but the mood inside was warm and convivial - with the YLs mixing readily in breakout groups and games.

There were 19 YLs on day one (6 from Rushcliffe, 13 from Central). 12 brave souls stayed over in the rather chilly bunk rooms, 3 from WB were only booked onto the first day (rumours that the bunkhouse has its own sub-zero micro-climate were proved real) but emerged safe on Sunday ready
for the hearty breakfast of sausage cob and bubble-n-squeak. Despite the planned bush craft skills training offered, for some reason the YLs decided that Monopoly and Chess were more appealing.

On Sunday an additional YL from Kinoulton (Tom) joined the group.

Catering was provided by Sam Martin (Central ESL and now helping at 1-2 WB ESU) and was excellent! Thank you, Sam.

This weekend was the first of two this year - the second will be in Rushcliffe and be a repeat of the first - this way those YLs that were unable to attend the full weekend have an opportunity to complete it later - and other new trainees can get their modules underway.

It was fantastic to see Explorer Scouts from the two districts mixing and gelling so well. It is heartening and bodes well for further Central/Rushcliffe Explorer Scout joint ventures.

The next weekend is currently planned for 22-23 Sept - somewhere in Rushcliffe... (Venues that can accommodate up to 20 YLs plus trainers are being sought.)

Yours in Scouting, Jason Billin

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Baz Knight

Sad to say that Baz recently passed away in hospital after a short illness.

Baz was a long time SL with 1st Bingham during the 1980’s and 90’s. He also supported many sections and Leaders in the Group and was always on hand to help others around the District who needed advice and guidance. In addition, he was also a founder member of the team that established and developed the Hollygate camp site.

He was renowned for his love of the outdoors, especially camping hiking and sailing – although he disliked canoeing/kayaking with a passion, complaining that it was too close to the water and too much risk of getting wet and cold! In his early days (during National Service in the RAF based in Lincolnshire) he frequently cycled back to Nottingham to meet his future wife, then back to base in time for a few games of table tennis. In later years he took up running and was a regular competitor in the Robin Hood half marathon and was a keen hillwalker until infirmity curtailed his activities.

Baz was a true gentleman of the old school; respected by all who knew him, he will be missed.
District Events and Activities for the rest of 2018

Sunday 22\textsuperscript{nd} April - St George’s Day Parade and Service
- see already published Information, otherwise contact Alan Hubber

Saturday 16\textsuperscript{th} June – the first District Cub Hike
- details already with leaders, for more information contact Fiona Burrows

Sunday 17\textsuperscript{th} June – District Scouting Family Fun Day at Hollygate
- details already with leaders, for more information contact Fiona Burrows

Saturday 18\textsuperscript{th} November District Scout and Explorer Night Hike
- based this year out of Sutton Bonington. Details will be published before Summer Holidays.

Tuesday 4\textsuperscript{th} December – All section leader meetings at the Grange, Radcliffe on Trent
- full details in the Autumn

*Alan Hubber, Deputy District Commissioner*

Copy Date for Summer News and Views

Friday 20\textsuperscript{th} July

[Newsandviews@rushcliffescouts.org.uk](mailto:Newsandviews@rushcliffescouts.org.uk)
Editorial

Welcome to the Summer 2018 edition of News and Views. Once again, thank you to all those who have contributed to this issue. We’ve had a slight delay in publishing this time due to a hold up with some final articles. The next copy date for News and Views is Friday 21st December so please get writing about all the exciting things you get up to this term and send your articles in as soon as you can...

newsandviews@rushcliffescouts.org.uk

Rushcliffe Scout Council
Registered as a Charity, Number 522469
Editorial Continued

In this edition we have promotions for many exciting upcoming events, including: the Youth Forum Sectional Afternoon which will provide our young people with an excellent opportunity to build on their leadership skills; the Gang Show, once again held at the Theatre Royal; a Community Commemoration Poppy event to mark the centenary of the end of WW1; the Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Concert Band's 'Tribute to the Fallen'; the 'Great Nottinghamshire Cake-off' which is raising money for those attending the World Jamboree; and of course, the annual Scout and Explorer Night Hike. There are many opportunities for both our young people and volunteers within these events.

We also have summaries of the Cub Incident Hike and other activities which have put the 'out' in scouting, as well as a contribution from our District Commissioner. Congratulations to all those who have received an award this term, and a big thank you from Nottingham Children's Hospital for the money that we raised at the 2018 St. George's Day Parade. Well done, everyone.

Becky Howard, Editor

Extra bit... Freebie

We have received a box of donated patterned card and other card-making bits. If you could make use of these in your group and can pick up the box from West Bridgford, please contact the editor at Newsandviews@rushcliffescouts.org.uk. First come, first served!

DC’s Spot

Welcome back to another Scouting year. It looks like you have had a fantastic summer. It has gone so quickly.

Work for me is crazy so I am not getting out and about as much as I would like but if there’s something coming up you would like me to come to, please let me know.

This summer we have held a recruitment evening to get some more adults to support some of our groups in the West Bridgford area. The next one is planned to support and grow 1st Cotgrave in September. We are then hoping to do an evening for a few other groups who are struggling for adults.

I’ve also attended lots of AGMs - all different but the one common thing is that we have managed to get new volunteers at all of them (including the District AGM).

You will soon see some new volunteer roles being advertised to ensure we make the district development plan work. The new team will look slightly different. If you like the look of any of the new roles, please apply - It doesn’t matter what your current roles is.

As always, thank you to you all for everything you do; the District is strong and set to get stronger.

Happy Scouting

Kathryn Wills, District Commissioner
Youth Forum Sectional Afternoon

Building on the success of our Sixer Sunday during #YouShape month we have decided to run a whole afternoon for all sections. Taking place at Keyworth Scouts HQ, Elm Ave, Keyworth NG12 5AN on Sunday 30th September 2018.

Beavers are invited to a Log Chew 13:00 - 14:00

Cub Sixers are invited to a Sixer Sunday 14:15 - 15:15

Scouts and Explorers are invited to our Youth Forum 15:30 - 17:00

This will be an excellent day, in which young people can build on their leadership skills, work towards challenge award and badge criteria and have a real say in the future of Rushcliffe and Nottinghamshire Scouts. We'll have more Great Places Great Scouting funds to award, our 10th Anniversary Badge Competition and our plan for the next three years to finalise. It'll be a fun and friendly afternoon where young people can work closely with others from across the district. There might even be sweets!

Leaders do not need to attend, although we may ask for volunteers closer to the time.

Please email Jacob with names, section and leader contact number by the first week of September.

jacob.piechota@4th-wb-scouts.org.uk

Ben Anderson, District Youth Commissioner
Rushcliffe District Cub Incident Hike 2018

Our inaugural District Cub Incident Hike was held on Saturday 17 June. It was a beautiful day as the teams set off only to be drenched by a sudden downpour during the hike. Eight teams with a maximum of 8 cubs and 2 leaders, were dropped off at two top secret locations returning to Hollygate campsite on either a 6 mile or 4.5-mile route with many of the groups camping over at the end.

Just as on the District Scout Incident Hike the bases were designed to educate, entertain and test the participants. In addition, just for the cubs, they were also able to gain their Navigator Staged Activity Badge. Those who completed the 4.5-mile route gained their Stage 2 award and those on the 6-mile hike gained Stage 3. The bases ensured the cubs completed all the different components for each badge with activities on map skills, washing lines, Pirate’s map and everyone’s favourite the butty base! Many thanks to the stalwarts who ran the bases - if you would like to join them helping run future hikes please get in touch.

We awarded points for the tasks carried out on the base activities and for their mapping ability. The team who finished top of the 6-mile route was 4th West Bridgford and 1st Kinoulton won the 4.5-mile route. There was some great feedback from the cubs at the end and even with the rain and the hiking they were keen to participate again in the future. Leaders have also given some great feedback on what worked well and some suggestions for next year on how we can improve the day.

Fiona Burrows and Alan Hubber

Gang Show – Theatre Royal – March 4th to 9th 2019

Well as you are all aware by now, Gang Show Auditions are not far away. The 7th & 16th September.

Let’s hope we see a good turn out from Rushcliffe.

It’s 6 months of fun and hard work culminating in a week’s run at probably the best theatre in the Country. Our young people work together, make new friends and just show Nottingham folk (and more) just how talented they are.

Now I’m writing to say why not plan a visit to the show with your group or section along with families and friends.

What a good way to get parents to join in and have a good night out. Worth putting into next year’s plan eh? “A Night Out at the Theatre”.

If you need info on Gang Show contact the Scout Office.
Browned or Greened Off

At this time of year, the wood at Stonepit is almost all green, the Spring flowers having finished and only the odd pinky/white blossom on the brambles and the insignificant white flowers of Enchanters Nightshade leavening the green.

The grass in the field is extremely long and brown, it needs cutting, but the fear of fire if it is cut and dries off any further, together with the major ruts in the North-side of the field means we are leaving it alone for the moment.

Stonepit has been well used by both authorised groups and intruders. The intruders caused some minor damage in June when they removed the PVC from several windows, tore down ‘Private’ notices and damaged the door bolt on the Storm hut. The tap on the rainwater tank had also been removed so there is no water for putting out even legitimate fires.

Repairs were soon carried out.

We have had some new Vinyl laid in our kitchen and managed to salvage enough of the old, in reasonable condition, to replace the floor in the toilet block lobby. A job that has been on the books for some time.

In July a request was put out to the users to only have fires in the campfire circle or BBQ area as the grass on the field was so dry. One Saturday we found we had had intruders at sometime between Friday night and Saturday morning, they had lit a fire in the campfire circle and left it burning, they also left a rather fine, but empty picnic hamper. Hey-Ho!

Greenfields Community School visits came to an end after 8 years as the two teachers who ran the trips left at the end of the Summer term. Their visits will be missed, and I’ll have to find something else to do on a Wednesday.

Hollygate was the base for the Cub Incident hike in June, the first one, as a spin off from the Scout hikes held in the Autumn or early Winter. Most of the time it was very hot, and those of us on car park duties were glad to get back towards the middle of the site for a drink and a bit of shade. Between 5 and 6 o’clock the heavens opened, and many got very wet, but soon dried out. Arranging the carparking was quite challenging as not only were the cubs being dropped off or being ferried to the start of the hike, but there were two other groups camping, but one group had really spread themselves out over about two thirds of the parking field and the other group had visitors and campers arriving. So, we were playing sardines with the vehicles. Some drivers, as usual, find it difficult to co-operate with parking staff – we do try to be reasonable! All the participants on the hike voted it a success and wanted another one next year.

At the beginning of May some of the District team looked after Sapphire sub-camp at Mega Moot. The first camp solely for members of the County Guides and Scouts. We had arranged to load kit and set off at 10.00 hrs on the Wednesday before the camp, but it was raining quite heavily, so put it off until 12.00 hrs. Once we set off the sun came out and stayed out for the whole of the 5 days the team were on site. As usual the team worked well together, and our Scouting and Guiding campers expressed their enjoyment of the camp.

As always thanks to our adult leaders and helpers who put the OUT in Scouting.

Dave H.
We want to say a huge
THANK YOU
to RUSHCLIFFE DISTRICT
SCOUT COUNCIL
for supporting the Big Appeal and
raising a brilliant
£747
AT THE 2018 ST GEORGE’S
DAY PARADE
Thank you for helping us to be at the
heart of our patients’ care.

Signed

Date
13/6/18

Dear Claire, Alan & everyone at the Rushcliffe District Scout Council

Your support makes Nottingham Children’s Hospital a very special place. Thank you.

We were so touched to receive your very generous donation of £747 from the Scouts and Guides, raised at the 2018 St George’s Day Parade. Your kindness means the world to us and will have a hugely positive impact at Nottingham Children’s Hospital – improving facilities and services for patients and their families. In particular your donation will support the Children’s Hospital Youth Service.

It was a privilege to attend the St George’s Day Parade and to speak about the Youth Service – thank you so much for making me feel so welcome.

We know that having a child in hospital is one of the most stressful experiences a family can ever have to face. That’s why, at the end of 2018, we launched our Big Appeal, aiming to raise £4 million by 2021 to help transform children’s care and research new treatment. With your help, we know we will make this happen!

The Big Appeal will enhance on-site facilities and accommodation for families who need to be near to their children in hospital. We’re also fundraising to support specialist paediatric imaging equipment, including a state of the art intraoperative MRI (IMRI) scanner, and child-friendly IMRI suite, to assist in surgery for children with brain tumours. Additionally, your support will continue to improve the hospital environment, offer complementary therapies, and fund youth support and play services for young patients.

We will keep you up-to-date with our work, and how you can support our hospitals, by sending you our twice-yearly newsletter ‘Pulse’, and information about our fundraising activities and events. To change your contact preferences, or to let us know if you would prefer not to hear from us in the future, please call 0115 962 7905, email charity@nhs.nhs.uk or visit www.nottinghamhospitalcharity.org.uk/your-preferences.

With the support of amazing people like the Scouts and Guides, we are doing everything we can to make the experience of being in hospital more normal, less scary and more fun for children. Your donation makes Nottingham Children’s Hospital a brighter, better, and more positive place to be for young patients and their families – thank you once again.
World Scout Jamboree – Cake-off

"Great Nottinghamshire Cake-off"
Sunday 23rd September 2018
11am- 4pm
A great day of cake related fun, with Live demonstrations, shopping, competitions and more!

venue:
The Nottinghamshire Golf and Country Club
Cotgrave, Nottingham, NG12 1NH

Event Organiser
Dinkydoodle
Daniel Butler
One of the scouts that this event is raising funds for

ROBIN HOODIES

A cake related day of fun, involving Live demonstrations from some of the world's best cake decorators, Cake competitions, pop up shops and stalls along with a raffle and Mystery goody bag stall.

I'd love the Rushcliffe Jamboree scouts to help at the event, and here's what I'm looking for:

- People to make cakes and bakes to sell at the event to the public
- Volunteers to staff the cake stall
- Volunteers to staff the Mystery gift bag stall
- Volunteers to sell raffle tickets (both at the event and before)

And for everyone to share, share, share the event on Facebook and other social media platforms.

Here’s the link: https://www.facebook.com/events/425567824619139/

All proceeds raised from this event will be shared amongst those who help.

Please get in touch if you think you would like to be a part of this event: dawn@dinkydoodle.co.uk

Many thanks,

Dawn
Community Commemorations – Poppy Promotion

Dear Rushcliffe Scouts,

I recently got in touch via Facebook to introduce myself and an appeal I’d be grateful if you can help me with please. My name is Nicola Wells and I am one of the Community Development Officers at Rushcliffe Borough Council. I plan arts and events projects in the local area and one of my forthcoming areas of work is to co-ordinate commemorations for the centenary of the end of WW1. Inspired by the Tower of London’s famous ‘Blood Swept Sands and Seas of Red' installation I'm planning an exhibition of remembrance poppies at Rushcliffe Arena 26 Oct - 16 Nov 2018. I am hoping we will be able to present a poppy for each one of the 502 men from Rushcliffe towns and villages who were lost in the conflict. I am issuing an appeal to local schools, youth and community groups to contribute poppies to the display. Poppies need to be handmade but can be from any material - wool, felt, paper, card, clay etc.

I would appreciate any help you can give the project by promoting the appeal to your members and creating poppies if you can please. Poppy contributions can be dropped off at Rushcliffe Arena reception or at Rushcliffe Community Contact Centre on Rectory Road by the end of September please or I can arrange for collection of items. If you would like more information about the project email arts@rushcliffe.gov.uk or feel free to give me a call on 0115 9148517. Many thanks for your time. Nicola

WWW – Just follow the links

ורים Rushcliffescouts.org.uk has been rebranded and has a new leadership page.

1st Shelford and East Bridgford Scout Group have a new website – clean, simple and on-brand!

We launched a New Public facebook page.
Do you fancy a good night out?

Then book your ticket now!! It will sell out quickly.

This event is a fundraiser for our County Water Activity Centre in order to purchase a replacement safety boat and engine.

TO GET YOUR TICKET RING “JOCK SHAW”. Tel: 07714325206 01159892942

email: rjockshaw@aol.com (or purchase from The Grange or Pen 2 Paper in Radcliffe-On-Trent)
Awards

Award for Merit

Charles Dearnley – 4th West Bridgford
Richard Dearnley – 4th West Bridgford
John Dunne – 4th West Bridgford
Kathryn Wykes – 1st Lady Bay

Chief Scout’s 30 Year Service Award
Charles Dearnley

Chief Scout’s 25 Year Service Award
Christiana King

Chief Scout’s 20 Year Service Award
Jean Newham

Chief Scout’s 5 Year Service Award
Clair Bussey, Caroline Crabtree, Amina Essop
Wood Badge Award
Robert Barrett, David Bolt, Karen Clingan, Paul Cockram, Stuart Hanagan, Richard Hill, Chris Moore, Jacob Piechota, Elizabeth Stratton, Adrian Telford

Chief Scout Commendation
James Conheeney - 1st/2nd West Bridgford
Nigel Bates - 2nd East Leake
Andrew Bayes - 1st Ruddington
Steve Eastham - District Camp Site
Sharon Finch - 1st Lady Bay
Keith Herrington - 1st Cropwell Bishop
Keith Hiley - 1st Tollerton
Charles Howick - 1st Gotham
James Medcalf - 1st Meadow Covert
Jenny Pike - 3rd West Bridgford
Sam Stephens - 2nd East Leake
Adrian Telford - 1st Bingham
James Telling - 1st Radcliffe on Trent
Peter Townsend - 1st Keyworth
Jeffrey Turnbull - 1st Keyworth
Peter Wortley - 2nd East Leake

Congratulations to everyone
District Events and Activities for the rest of 2018

After an extremely busy first half we have about four events for the second half of the year. Firstly, two recruitment events: one in West Bridgford to target the older children and their parents on the Beaver waiting list and those on the new Cub waiting list; and a separate event at Hollygate to develop Cotgrave Scout group to three sections and enhance the overall leadership team.

The third event is of course the Scout and Explorer Night Hike, scheduled for 2018 on Saturday 17th November running into Sunday 18th. This year it is based this year at Sutton Bonington. An invitation letter has already been sent out to Scout and Explorer leaders and an application letter will be with leaders for the start of the autumn term. Entries are due in by half term at the end of October.

To round the year off we will run the combined sections leader meeting in December, again at the Grange in Radcliffe on Trent.

If you have been asked “can you help?” but haven’t yet replied, now is the time!

Rushcliffe Events Team

Now you need a good giggle now and again........

- When chemists die, they berium.
- When you get a bladder infection urine trouble.
- Broken pencils are pointless.
- This girl said she recognised me from the vegetarian club, but I’d never met herbivore.
- I know a man who’s addicted to brake fluid. He says he can stop at anytime.
- England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.

Enjoy your Scouting

Jock

Copy Date for Winter Term News and Views
Friday 21st Dec Newsandviews@rushcliffescouts.org.uk
Summer’s 2nd Offering

newsandviews@rushcliffescouts.org.uk

Rushcliffe Scout Council
Registered as a Charity, Number 522469

Rushcliffescouts.org.uk

Rushcliffe District Scouters

@rushcliffescout
9th West Bridgford Scout Troop Camps

At the beginning of May, while most of the district were at Mega Moot, the majority of 9th West Bridgford Scout Troop were at Hollygate for a Patrol camping weekend. The Patrols had spent the preceding weeks planning their menus and working out shopping lists and they descended on Morrisons on the Thursday before camp in order to do their own shopping. Each patrol had a budget to stick to and meals were all to be cooked over fires for the whole weekend. It was a great weekend, all the patrols worked well together and ate well, and leaders were fed by the patrols in turn. During spare time, the Scouts got to grips with whittling, and carving their own Scout staves and there was a very noisy camp fire on the last evening.

Summer Camp, there were less of us, but a small group of the Scouts and leaders spent a whole week at Roughbreck Guide Campsite, near Worksop. An excellent campsite, hidden away at the end of a long track, in the middle of part of Sherwood Forest, trees and bracken everywhere, no internet connection, a chance to switch off and just enjoy each other's company. Unfortunately, the long dry spell meant a ban on fires, but there were kitchen facilities available so no problem. We didn't have lots of stuff planned, this was a camp purely for the fun of camping. The Scouts spent their time climbing trees, building shelters and sleeping in them, whittling, playing games. On the Monday Dave Howard came and taught us knife, axe and saw skills, and on Thursday, we all walked to Clumber Park and hired bikes for a few hours, followed by a walk across the Carburton water meadows to The Old School Tea Room for cream teas all round.

Next stop, a passport expedition camp to Drum Hill, in September for 4 of the Scouts, and another expedition, to Sherbrooke, in October, not on a passport, for another 6 Scouts.
9th West Bridgford (Holy Spirit) Cub Camp

The article was written by one of the older Cubs after our camp at the end of May

On 26th May the 9th West Bridgford Cub Scout Pack went to the Oaks Scout Campsite. We all arrived at camp and it was a sunny day, which was very lucky. After we had arrived at the site we put our bags down and pitched our tents.

After that we laid out our bedding and then got to know the helpers on camp and find out where everything on the site was. We had created a camp T-shirt and we were each given one to wear. It was then time for dinner; the food on camp was AMAZING. After dinner we went orienteering in the forest and around the camp. In the forest we saw lots of plants, it was hard to find some of the orienteering points.

In the evening we joined some Guides to have a campfire and sing some songs. Some of the Cubs even taught the Guides new songs too. The Guide leader was very impressed and gave the Cubs special badges for leading the songs.

On the next day we went on a long hike, just over 7 miles. As we were walking we went past a massive quarry that was being mined. We followed the diversions and had to cross over the motorway on the bridge. After a little rest back at camp we had outdoor mass with Hathi our Group Scout Leader.

The next day we did backwoods cooking, collecting wood for the fire, and cooking over the flames, in the fire and on a stick. In the afternoon we did air rifle shooting and then went in the “Blackhole”, which was a maze in the pitch black. I think that was the best activity.

On our last day we had to pack up the tents and tidy up, we also went bouldering. We had a short leaving ceremony at the end of the camp before leaving the site.

Aiming for the top – and raising money for the Group

Two of our young people - Beaver Leo Aged 7 and his brother, Cub Will, aged 9 will be climbing Ben Nevis over August Bank Holiday weekend and they have decided that they would like to raise some money for the Beaver Colonies and Cub Pack at 1st Shelford & East Bridgford Scout Group.

Training has been going well. In June they both climbed Kinder Scout at 636 metres. 2 weeks ago, they climbed the Landale mountain range in the lake district - Harrison Stickle (736m) and Pavey Ark (700) meters, with ease. This has given them confidence to climb Ben Nevis at 1345M. They are so determined, and it will be such a great achievement for them. They are doing the climb with their parents and their grandparents who are in their 70’s, so 3 generations of Sweeney’s climbing Britain’s highest mountain.

I am sure that you would wish to join me in wishing them every success and should you wish to sponsor them, please let me know. Yours in Scouting, Pothead
St George’s Day Parade 2018

All you have to do is stand in a humungous horseshoe, wait for the “boom, boom, boom”, march off in a straight line, visit the City Ground, then turn around and make your way back. It’s a piece of cake!

Or maybe it isn’t.

After a very short chat with Alan Hubber, the magnitude of the event suddenly dawned on me. Like:

- Did the flags and saluting base on the Avenue magically appear?
- How come the Groups on the Park ended up smartly presented and in fine order and not a disorganised horde?
- Were the City Ground events impromptu / off-the-cuff?
- How did the band know the route, did it rehearse, and what was the idea of playing the “Great Escape” when leaving the Park?
- How was the parade protected from irritated motorists?
- Wasn’t it fortunate that the City Ground, Park and Bridgfield, were all left unlocked – the timing was perfect for us.

And I still know nearly nothing except I learnt that it is a huge task!

So, what’s this about? Alan Hubber thanked all those involved for their hard work, and rightly so.

But Alan, you also deserve our grateful thanks for your tireless efforts in making this and previous Parades so successful. I also wondered if the fine weather was one of your mini-miracles but you might deny it given it has rained on occasions in past years (Unless it was part of a cunning plan, designed to freshen us up!).

Alan, I know you are not one to dwell on your successes; and definitely you shouldn’t as 2019 is rapidly approaching, and you have work to do!

Many, Many Thanks

From Peter Shepherd (and undoubtedly lots of others).
Diamond Anniversary – 1st Gotham Scout Troop

It's been a busy Diamond Anniversary year so far for 1st Gotham Scout Group! A couple of highlights so far...

One of our Explorer Scouts won our 60th Year Badge Competition, we had some great designs and it was narrowed down to just 3, with the final one being chosen by our members!

We have just returned from our Group Camp at Walesby Forest, we took over 30 members from our Scout Group, ages 6 to 17 for a weekend camping experience under the stars. Our young people had the opportunity to take part in various activities from climbing, zip wiring to circus skills, space hopper jousting and of course some group games! This was also the last camp for one of our Leaders Charlie Howick, who has been involved with 1st Gotham since first joining as Beaver Scout. His journey, has taking him through all sections, to being a great Leader of Beavers, Scouts and Explorers! Charlie also received his Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award with 1st Gotham! We wish him well on his new adventures!

We have also had some great fundraising events so are this year, the sun was shining for our annual “Grand Plant Sale”, with this being our top one so far, we hope your gardens are blooming!

Also, let’s not forget “The Pudding Club” in April. During the evening of fine food, we celebrated the release of our recipe book - “Cooking for Scouts”. Which is now available to buy and contains a great compilation of indoor and outdoor recipes from members through to celebrities (and now available in our local Gotham SPAR to purchase.

Finally, on 9th September we will be holding a Sunday afternoon Reunion at The Scout Hut, for past and present members, please keep a look out on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/1stGothamScoutGroup
Happy New Year and thank you to all those who have submitted articles for this addition of News and Views – we are blessed with so many articles that I am going to have to keep my editorial short!

In this issue we have write ups of the Rushcliffe District Night Hike, the various events that Keyworth and the SASu have undertaken this term, a ‘Bear Facts’ quiz and a lovely submission by Joshua, one of Radcliffe on Trent’s cubs, who includes instructions on how to make Hot Chocolate Stirrers – definitely a great idea for those upcoming cold winter nights!

We also include updates on our outdoor district sites, Hollygate and Stonepit, and find out about the delights of the Nottinghamshire Scout Activity Centre at Thurgarten. If anyone fancies a new challenge for 2019, why not sign up to help at one of these great places?

Finally, if you would like to submit your own article or photo for News and Views, the next copy deadline is Friday 5th April.

Many thanks for your continued support and have a wonderful term – I look forward to finding out all about it!

Becky Howard
Editor

Website: www.rushcliffescouts.org.uk
Facebook: @RushcliffeScout
Twitter: @RushcliffeScout
YouTube: Rushcliffe Scouts
From the Chair

It is something of an understatement to say that we live in interesting times. Normally at this time of year we can look forward to lots of uplifting festive stories on radio and TV, not this year I venture to suggest as we confront the prospect of leaving the EU without a deal and plenty of uncertainty as a result. I'm not quite sure whether to laugh or cry but the reality of the situation is that I feel disempowered by the goings on in London and Brussels.

Even for those of us who are getting long in the tooth, most of our lives have been lived in a world of a common market and a Union of European states. Indeed, I spent a year of my life living and working in Germany 34 years ago. I used to enjoy driving down to Harwich and getting on an overnight ferry to the Hook of Holland and then driving through Holland and Germany to my destination in Dusseldorf. Even in those days you could drive through the border from the Netherlands to what then was still West Germany pretty much without stopping. In the following year emboldened by my experience of working in West Germany, I took my own car plus a few Venture Scouts to an International Scout Camp in Oosterbeek - famous for being where the Allied Airborne attack on the bridge at Arnhem came to a very unsatisfactory end leading to the death and capture of many British and Canadian airborne soldiers in 1944. So, in the period of less than 30 years people like me were able to work and enjoy Scouting in an area that was at the very epicentre of a global conflict just 30 years earlier. I must confess that I can't remember how many Scouting nations were represented at that international camp, but I do remember we had a brilliant time meeting and enjoying fellowship with Scouts from around the world.

Initially through Empire and Commonwealth Links Scouting grew very quickly from its beginnings in England but it didn't take long before Scouting was embraced across Europe and many Groups in our District have longstanding friendships with Groups in many European countries.

Whatever our own views about Brexit and whichever way we voted in the referendum of 2016, I think we can all agree that Scouting continues to be a force for good across Europe, with all of us able to recognise the common bonds between Scouts, whilst at the same time celebrating diversity. As I write this piece with half an ear to the news, I hear again news of possible travel disruption across Europe after the 29th March, surely not. In this new age of uncertainty though anything is possible. What I can be very certain of though is that the fellowship of Scouting will be just as strong on the 30th March 2019 as it was for me in August 1985.

Hopefully my ramblings from the chair have not caused too many of you to choke on your remaining Quality Street as we enter 2019 because this was not my intention. The key message is that Scouting is great and what you do to support and guide young people in this District is brilliant.

Best wishes for a successful 2019. Phil
The DC’s Spot

Happy New Year everyone. It’s going to be a year of change for all of us not only in Scouting but politically too with Brexit. As Scouts, we promise to help other people and to keep the Scout Law, I’m thinking we will need lots of this over the coming year.

I was really pleased to hear the announcement that we have a new DC – Fiona Burrows. I am confident she will do a magnificent job with your support. We will be working together for the next few months to set up her team. A final day for me to depart is still to be agreed with the County Commissioner and Fiona but until then it’s business as usual with a twist.

We’ve had a great year with new sections opening, new leaders coming forward, the highest training record in the County and hopefully we will reach the 2000-member number at Census. I have not had any detail about census yet but as soon as I do, I will share it with you. Please remember it’s important that you include every young person and adult irrespective of whether they have just moved between sections or not.

Thank you to everyone who has made 2018 so successful. I know you will all continue with your hard work to support your young people get Skills for Life. I would particularly like to mention Ben Anderson, our District Youth Commissioner who will step down this year too. He is our first DYC and has done a tremendous job in promoting youth shaped scouting with Rushcliffe. The youth forums have been brilliant with lots of ideas and thoughts from our Young People which we have used throughout the year to inform our programme.

My thanks also to Pat and Alan without whom this year would have been disastrous. My day job has meant that I’ve been unable to commit 100% as I usually do, Pat and Alan have stepped up to the mark for me on numerous occasions.

This year is our 10th Anniversary and we will be working hard to celebrate this. I am very excited by this as I was the County Commissioner at the time the new District was formed and it’s great to be here as DC for the 10th anniversary.

Have a great year!

Kathryn
Pride for Rushcliffe Scouting

On 28th November 2018 two of our scout leaders proudly joined Rushcliffe's business leaders, sporting stars, and volunteers at a ceremony, as they were nominated for the Pride of Rushcliffe Award. This nomination was in recognition of the outstanding voluntary work they have done with Rushcliffe scouts - Jordan Phillips for his brilliant work as Notts Youth Commissioner, and Paul Johnson for leading Radcliffe on Trent scouts with proud dedication for thirty years.

They made the final shortlist of four people who have served Rushcliffe's residents in a voluntary capacity. It was a proud day for Rushcliffe scouting.
Rushcliffe District Night Hike 2018

This year we hosted 33 teams of Scouts and Explorers, an increase of five from last year, and with some 230 walkers.

We were based at Sutton Bonington this year, re-using routes from 2014 and a new six-mile route surveyed over the summer. We were again lucky in that we had a dry, not too cold evening with only light winds.

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. Our thanks to all these volunteers (well nearly all volunteers, a few were volunteered!)

One of the challenges is to “invent” new ideas for bases and this year saw donut eating (without using your hands), handing out Lego parts and having to build a plastic pizza at the finish, a new idea from the Shepherds along with old favourites from 4th WB.

We always award points for timeliness between bases and points for teamwork and success at the tasks set. 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 & Alan Hubber_
Hollygate Always Welcomes Helpers

We are planning several workdays at Hollygate Scout Camp (one of YOUR District sites) this winter. We have a large programme of work to maintain and improve the site and we think we may need several days to complete it all. The planned dates are:

Saturday 2nd February (approx. 09:30 – 16:00) Sunday 17th March (approx. 09:30 – 15:00)
Saturday 13th April (approx. 09:30 – 16:00)

Timings are subject to weather conditions on the day and on progress with the tasks in hand.

If the weather stays good and we get plenty of help we may not need the April date. We may also choose to cancel any of them at fairly short notice if the weather is particularly bad or if we get the work done quicker than expected – to ensure you don’t turn up and find no-one there please indicate your planned/possible attendance to info@hollygate-scout-camp.org.uk; we will then update you with any changes to our plans.

Help is encouraged for any period of the day. Don’t think that you have to be there all the time; an hour or two is still useful. We provide tea, coffee and biscuits; you need to bring your own packed lunch if you are staying all day.

Main jobs for this year (in no particular order):

- Lay more stone to track; fill holes in entrance “layby”; lay more stone to turning circle; construct roof to tool-store/workshop container; repair roof to activity container; extend and repair hazel fences south of climbing compound; more preservative to picnic benches; tree maintenance in woodland?
- Repair/improve standpipe/stopcock near compound; level ground around new electricity pole. If you have any ideas for further work that you would like to see carried out to improve the site, please let us know asap; we can then think about whether we can include your suggestion in this round of works.

You’ll notice that none of this is work is suitable for small children; so, although we have no objection to you bringing them, we can’t provide anything for them to do. Explorer age help would be useful for digging holes and shifting stone. Please come dressed expecting to get cold, wet and dirty, bring your own work gloves if you can; we have some but can’t guarantee having enough. A couple of extra wheelbarrows and shovels may also be useful.

Any questions please get touch – and don’t forget to let us know if you think you might come so that we can let you know if plans change/days are cancelled.

See you there, John Green, Hollygate Scout Camp, 01949 875057 or 07890 403448,

www.hollygate-scout-camp.org.uk, camp@hollygate-scout-camp.org.uk
Hollygate Campsite 2018

It has been a busy year on the campsite with just under 1700 camper nights with the biggest camp being 31st Rathfarnham from Southern Ireland who had over 50 on site for a week at the end of June/ beginning of July. The camping season seems to have been longer this year with there being campers on site for many weekends between the end of February and the end of October.

As usual there has also been a lot of evening use with the site being opened almost 60 times for this. The back end of June and early July are always the busiest with the Duty Warden often opening the site every day of their duty week.

We already have a few bookings for next year with 6th Newark cubs on for a week and Charnwood Beavers (in July) and Cubs (in September) for a weekend each.

We had two working weekends early this year which were reasonably well supported, and several tons of stone was moved to fill holes in the track amongst other jobs. Next year’s workdays are 2nd Feb and 17th March – all volunteers welcome!

The Tuesday working group has kept the site tidy and done basic maintenance and cleaning work. We have replaced the fluorescent strip lights in the toilet block with LED strip lights. They are much brighter and come on immediately when the movement sensor is triggered.

Climbing Wall

You should be aware by now that the climbing wall is now closed. Although there are a reasonable number of people qualified to supervise activities on the wall the only “volunteers” to come forward when we requested help numbered three, and they are also wardens.

As a result, we decide the wall should be closed and we aren’t maintaining it. One of the jobs for the working weekend will probably be to remove the holds from the bottom couple of metres to make it unusable.
Diary of the 1st Keyworth Scout Group 2018

Since the start of our new scout term on the 12th September our scout group has done a myriad of scouting events and activities. We have welcomed 12 new members into our growing family.

So, our first week was helping our new members to settle into scouting life playing games. Over the next few weeks we readied them for investiture.

This was held on the 26th of September, when we invested 18 scouts.

Over the following weeks we got our hands oily with cycle maintenance and cycle safety to start off their cycling badge.

We then delved into the space badge looking at planets, Asteroids, Meteorites and how craters were formed everyone found it extremely interesting.

The 17th of October found us getting prepared for our Jamboree on the internet which would find us eagerly awaiting to talk to scout groups from all over the world via the internet.

We tasked everyone with thinking of questions, songs and country traditions among other things that we could share and ask our new friends.

This went ahead on the 20th October at 7am an early start - not all were bright eyed, and bushy tailed but excited to get speaking to all these new friends we were about meet via the internet. The day was a great success, with our troop communicating with many countries on the day.

Over the next few weeks we honed our map reading skills for their badge and to prepare us for our first ever night incident hike at Sutton Bonington. We may not have finished first, but we will be better prepared for the next one.

We also took part in the remembrance parade in Keyworth with an amazing turn out of scouts who did the scout group proud with their behaviour and turnout. Following the remembrance parade, we have taken the scouts out of the hut which saw us take the scouts to planet bounce and then to see the Nottingham panthers at the ice arena. To our joy panthers finally came out winners in a penalty shootout.

Over the last few weeks of December the scouts have helped at the turkey trot water station in Widmerpool for our local half marathon. Again we had a great turn out and the scouts were very enthusiastic. It was another very successful day.

Then we have trudged miles delivering our Christmas post for charity. In between that we held our scouts Christmas carol concert. All were in fine singing voice and we had 2 scouts playing piano -
Gabriella and Zena who did an amazing job. We also had Willow doing a reading and Freddie as pole bearers - both did a great job.

It also gave me great honour of awarding scout of the year. This was a very hard decision to make as I had 5 scouts worthy of this award and deserved to win, but in the end this award went to Matthew Farrant who was a worthy winner. Our last activity to round off the year will be a fun night of bowling to celebrate all the scouts hard work over the last year and the last term for the younger scouts. They have all been amazing.

I would like to wish everyone a very merry xmas and a very happy new year - Richard, 1st Keyworth

The Bear Facts - Can you work out who or what the 'bears' are?

1. Who was a ‘Bear of very Little Brain’?
2. Which English County has a Bear and Ragged Staff as it's emblem?
3. Which bear wears (yellow) check trousers?
4. Who has ‘a little friend Boo Boo’?
5. Which Peruvian bear was found at an English station?
6. A bear that munches bamboo
7. What type of Bear was Brumas, born on 27/11/49 at London Zoo?
8. Which country is well known for having a bear pit in its capital?
9. An Australian native ‘bear’
10. In which show did Fozzie Bear appear?
11. Mowgli’s mentor
12. A miserable child in North America
13. Harry Corbett’s Bear
14. A famous person with first Names Edward Michael
15. The title and name of the Bear God in the book by Richard Adams? (A clue: Often mentioned in the write ups about the recent remake of ‘Watership Down’)
Wonderful Wednesdays

As we head to the end of the year, I just wanted to share an opportunity for one or more adult helpers to enjoy a wonderful Wednesday afternoon each week at the Nottinghamshire Scout Activity Centre at Railway Lake, Thurgarton.

In case you missed it. The Centre started operation in May 2017 after a massive effort by Scout volunteers to create it from nothing but a disused gravel pit. I believe it to be the only facility of its kind in the UK dedicated solely to Scouts. In the very full 2018 season around 2500 young people enjoyed a range of activities, mainly orientated to water sports – sailing, kayak, canoe, rafts. For weekend events there is also space for other land-based activities including camping.

If you have not visited yet, then you have also missed the superb setting. The walk around the lake is great for enabling young people to appreciate the natural world especially bird life. This year, we became a popular destination for bird-watching enthusiasts when a nesting black redstart (rare in Nottinghamshire) was observed collecting food for its brood from our compound and terraced area. Whilst sipping my tea, I have also seen kingfishers zooming low along the water’s edge.

The Centre is superbly supported by a host (around 75) of qualified and very enthusiastic volunteers running the activities 3 evenings a week and virtually every weekend during the season. The Centre also hosts its own Explorer unit. They are truly an incredibly committed bunch (or should that be a bunch that should be committed?) I am humbled by their enthusiasm and dedication.

Out of season, the leaders are allowed to play. The Centre runs courses to train adults in the disciplines needed to train and lead youngsters on the water and so far over 20 have been trained ready for future seasons of activity.

Anyway, you may be wondering, what has all this to do with a wonderful Wednesday and why is it an opportunity? The maintenance team meets most Wednesday afternoons to try to complete the list of jobs that we and others write onto our list.

Today (19th December), for example, we spent our time re-engineering our internal security fence to make it fit better with the external fence line. We spent some time thinking about what we needed to do to renovate a recently acquired pontoon in readiness for a launch in January 2019 and we supervised the delivery and fitting of some new boat covers in readiness for
the coming winter weather. We also found time to have a cuppa and a catch up on what else we were doing with our lives. Whilst we worked, we enjoyed the open skies, lakeside views and the sound of water birds coming in to roost. The enclosed photo was taken this afternoon to help you to share the sense of satisfaction working at the Centre can engender.

**Each week is different.**

There is a massive amount of ground – grassland, hedges, woodland and lakeside to manage and maintain. Our site contains a nature reserve area which attracts some relatively rare waterfowl and we commonly see deer using the site as a route between larger areas of woodland. We have many walkers using the concessionary path along the lakeside and riders regularly exercise their horses on the public bridleway. Our land management, therefore, needs to consider our activity programme and the needs of our flora and fauna as well as the needs of the local population.

Our compound is packed with boats of all types and sizes, of all ages and condition. Maintaining the boats requires all types of manual skill and sometimes specialised knowledge. After a breezy sailing session there are often emergency repairs which take priority over other jobs so that we have the equipment ready to support the activity sessions for young people.

We are fortunate to have great facilities for maintenance team refreshments, in that we have a kitchen. We also have showers, changing rooms (for young people and for leaders) and we have a large meeting room. The facilities are great and also bring with them a maintenance programme.

The work is really varied and interesting and I have learnt loads since I started to volunteer here. The setting is stunning, especially if, like me, you love wildlife and love being outdoors. Currently, there are just two of us most weeks, augmented by many others when we have a work weekend (typically for “special” projects – not for maintenance).

If you know of anyone that would want to share their skills or learn new skills, or who would want to spend more time in the fresh air being busy then we would love to hear from you. They have the chance to transform their own lives every Wednesday afternoon whilst helping to provide activities for our young people.

Look forward to seeing you soon

*Steve Eastham  (Adult Helper)*

(An autumn sunset from the Activity Centre) taken by Andy Best
1st Radcliffe on Trent Cub Pack - Raised £92 for the RNIB

At cubs we play lots of fun games, get creative and work towards lots of cool badges. But as we got ready for Christmas we wanted to do something to help other people less lucky than ourselves. We decided to make Hot Chocolate Stirrers and Marshmallow Pops and sell them on our Scout Post Stall.

Instructions for Hot Chocolate Stirrers

1. Wash your hands.
2. Carefully, melt some milk chocolate in the microwave.
3. Grab some small plastic cups and gently pour the chocolate into each one to ¾ full.
4. Place a small wooden spoon into each cup.
5. Pour festive/Christmassy sprinkles on top of the melted chocolate.
6. Leave to set in a cold place.
7. Remove the Stirrer from the cup.
8. Wrap in a small, transparent bag with a few mini marshmallows.
9. Sell, Sell, Sell!
10. Stir into a cup of steaming hot milk and enjoy.

By Joshua

Keyworth Explorers are on Fire!

We have a fire pit now. It’s just a simple sandpit. Explorers and Scouts have had old-fashioned fun, making, experimenting and trying different techniques of fire making and fire lighting. We’ve had timed games, stoves we’ve made ourselves and fires made in different shapes.

There really is something special about this simple act and the flames of a small cooking or camp fire. Even setting up attracts attention. Dog walkers and park visitors have to stop by the fence to have a peer. Younger children ask their parents about it. You can see peoples’ brains working as they watch a fire being planned or constructed. Quickly everyone is forming opinions of the best way to do it with the resources nearby. Anticipation reaches a high point when the lighting begins. Will the tinder take? And will the flame transfer from tinder to kindling? And sometimes then, failure and laughing and a 2nd go or frustration bubbling in the Explorer or Scout sitting next to them, who is desperate to take over and show how it should be done.

And soon, after persistence, that failure becomes success, the flames are a reward and we appear to have attracted a small group of on-lookers. I conclude that they are jealous and impressed...

With so many techniques still to try and a newly acquired Dutch oven, we plan to make good use of our little fire pit in 2019.

Be prepared! Dave Keyworthexplorers@gmail.com, David Day 07990990371 Keyworth Eagles ESU
In the Bleak Midwinter

In the bleak mid-winter is where we are at the time of writing, although it’s not too bleak at the moment and we have had some good events during the Autumn.

We finally managed to get the Stonepit field cut and the deep ruts filled as the field got dampened down. Our sincere thanks to Martin Howick for sterling work on both jobs.

Stonepit has been lightly used from September, almost equally by District and other groups. Our last booking for 2018 was for 28th December when the Ruddington Baptist Church held their annual B-B-Q. Let’s try to get the District use to outnumber the others in 2019.

Sutton Bonington was almost brought to a standstill when we descended on the village for the Scout Incident Hike in November. The car park was soon full, and cars were parked along the narrow road for many yards either side of the entrance. There was also a miniature railway display further up the road, which added to the congestion. I think I prefer being parking attendant at Hollygate and we wouldn’t cope at Stonepit! For once, the weather was kind and not too cold. It was great to see the big turnout and the numbers camping. The feedback was ‘roll on next year.’

Thanks to all our volunteers for giving their time; some until the early hours of Sunday morning.

Three Awards Presentation Evenings were held at Rushcliffe Arena and, despite one being on Bonfire Night, were well attended. The presentations were made by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, both giving their time to be with us and give some words of encouragement. Thanks to all who took part.

December was the month for the Leaders Get Together at Radcliffe, and lots of tea and coffee, provided by the SASu, was consumed.

The latest news is that Fiona Burrows is D.C. designate and will work closely with Kathryn during the handover period. We wish them both well in their endeavours to keep us on the right track and put the OUT in ScOUTing.

It’s a bit late to wish you a Merry Christmas, but not too late to say have a Happy, Scouty, New Year.

Don’t forget the work days at Hollygate and please get OUT and make use of both our campsites.

Dave Howard
SASu to the Fore

We kicked off the Autumn session with a B-B-Q at Janet and Charlies in September and managed to cook all the food before the heavens opened and we moved inside. It was one of the wettest, if not the wettest B-B-Q ever. Thanks to Janet and Charles and also to the supplementary food providers.

The October and November programmes changed, but we still had interesting evenings.

Tea, Coffee and Squash were provided, by us and other members of the District team, at the Awards Evenings at the Arena.

The Incident Hike in November also received our support.

December saw the SAS caterers in action with the kettle at the Leaders Get together in Radcliffe.

A short ‘plug’ was made to remind the assembled company that we are around and looking for new recruits so those of us whose spirit is willing will have help to give support to the District as our flesh weakens.

Later in the month we held our Christmas Party at the Baptist Church, each of us supplied some food and some quizzes to keep our brains active. It’s surprising the things Keith can put in bags for us try and identify just by touch!

Janet went into hospital for a hip replacement on December 12th and while she is recovering Charlie is in a home at Beeston. We wish them both well and hope to see them with us again soon.

January is the time for our late Christmas meal and we return to the ‘Poppy & Pint’. February is the month we hold our AGM and will probably see the film of ‘The opening of Stonepit’ in 1954 and ‘The Old Testament’ performed by 5th West Bridgford and filmed by J.B.

Dave Howard

ANSWERS TO THE BEAR FACTS

December Awards

50 Years
Philip Currier – District

40 Years
Francis Meylan - 1st Shelford & East Bridgford

25 Years
Chris Hammond - District
Ena Scott - District
Paul Stanley - 2nd East Leake

20 Years
Peter Besson - 1st Langar

10 Years
Steve Eastham - District
Sally Harris - 1st Lady Bay
Keith James - 1st/2nd West Bridgford

5 Years
Glenn Batchlor - 1st Kinoulton
Ann Dean - 1st Radcliffe on Trent
Grant Jones - 1st Meadow Covert
David Oxby - 1st Kinoulton
Kiran Patel - 3rd West Bridgford
Robert Siderfin - 1st Kinoulton
Liz Stratton - 1st Bingham

Wood Badge
Kerry Bingham, Nicola Harbourne, Grant Jones,
Katie Lee, Daniel Clifford, Jenny Ewers, David Chalmers.