

South West Notts Explorer

Newsletter



October 2014

This newsletter brings you up to date with the activities of the Explorer Scouts of South West Notts. It is sent to all SLs and GSLs in the District.

Richard Pratt, District Advisor

Message from the District Commissioner

Explorer Scouting - The Challenge of a Lifetime!

I would hope that every young member in our fantastic Movement has the ambition to gain their Queen Scout Award - and in the process also gain a Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award. Yes, of course, the Diamond and Platinum Chief Scout Awards are important, but the ultimate goal must be that coveted Queen Scout Award...and the key to that success is for Scouts to move on to become Explorer Scouts.

Sadly, many Scouts miss out on these opportunities, as the District Unit nature of Explorer Scouting invariably means they have to move to pastures new to join an Explorer Unit. We need to break down this barrier. For that to happen leaders from the Scout and Explorer sections, aided by Explorer Scouts themselves, need to ensure that Scouts get a taste of Explorer Scouting over several weeks or even months as the time approaches when they have to make that decision to "Move On".

Can I encourage all Scout Leaders, Explorer Scout Leaders and Explorer Scouts to work together to ensure we give every Scout a chance to ultimately gain their Queen Scout Award!

Simon Clark, District Commissioner

International

Kandersteg

Tornado ESU had a successful trip to the Kandersteg International Scout Centre in Switzerland, so successful that it's still being written up! See next issue.



International (Cont)



Fundraising events continue for the 23rd World Jamboree to be held in Japan next year. The latest two were a Caribbean evening held at 6th Beeston HQ (thank you) and a concert by the Carlton Male Voice Choir at the Church of the Assumption on Foster Avenue in Beeston.

The Caribbean Evening was a great success, a sell-out. It featured a meal with typical Caribbean food, a steel drum band, and even limbo-dancing. We were pleased to welcome the Mayor of

Broxtowe, Prof. Stan Heptinstall, and the Mayoress. The Mayor is seen here with the Jamboree participants, Samantha (Sam) from Pioneer, Lily from 6th Beeston, Jesse from 1st Stapleford, and Amy from Pioneer.



We wish to thank all who attended the event. From all reviews received, everyone really enjoyed the night, especially the food. A big thank

you to Nostalgia Steel Orchestra (all the way from London), Raymond Khandoo the MC, Joanne Locke on the piano, Judith, Sarah and Asha for cooking the food, Colin Mitchell of Mitchells Soul Foods of Alfreton Road, Nottingham, and Sidney for the rum punch. It was good to see Jack and Johno of Hood 's 40 (the Notts Contingent) supporting the event.

On the right, Jesse shows us how it's done under the limbo bar!

The Carlton Male Voice Choir's evening was rather more sedate, but nonetheless very enjoyable. They gave us a variety of choral and solo pieces from around the world; one which sticks in the mind was "O my darling Caroline", the trials of a young man who who falls in love with a young female rock climber. Many thanks to the Choir for their help to our Jamboree contingent.



International (Cont)

Tanzania

Tom Knox, one of the Explorer Scouts from SW Notts, had the chance to take part in a service project in Tanzania, for the Kilimanjaro Young Girls In Need organisation. Although this trip was organised by his school, George Spencer Academy in Stapleford and not by Scouting, it is so much in the spirit of the Scout Promise “to help other people” that he was asked to write up a report, which is in a separate document accompanying this newsletter. Thanks for the input, Tom.

ScoutCentrum Rotterdam 2015

The arrangements for this trip, which is a joint venture of 2nd Beeston, 2nd Attenborough and District Explorers, are beginning to be put in place. If you haven't already done so, please ensure that any Scouts who might be in Explorers by next July, and who might be interested in going, have registered their interest with Karen Wood. Also - GSLs - could you please remind all Young Leaders with your Group that they are eligible to join in.



Unit News

Pioneer

Continuing the “helping others” theme started by Tom Knox above, Mathew Harris and Oli Cooper are now fully qualified as lifeguards.



Back in the summer term, the Unit enjoyed an evening “messing about on the river”, which was also a linking evening for Scouts from 2nd Chilwell.

Then as the chillier weather closed in, they went bowling.



Young Leaders

Young Leaders are also Explorers and belong to a special Unit, whether they are a member of one of the normal Units or not. There is a training scheme designed to help them become more useful to you in their roles, and we ask Section Leaders and GSLs to encourage them to take part. In particular, it is important that they complete Module A, on safety and how child-protection affects them, within 3 months of becoming a Young Leader.

This autumn monthly Unit meetings are being held at the 1st Stapleford Scout Headquarters behind the Fire Station on Pinfold Lane, Stapleford, NG9 8DL, from 13.00 to 16.30hrs The first was held on Sunday 28th September, the remainder are on the following dates:

Wednesday 29 October 2014 (half-term week)

Sunday 16 November 2014

Sunday 7 December 2014

During these meetings we will be looking at some of the Young Leader Training Modules and Missions and also setting them some challenges to develop their range of skills which should all help them in their role as a Young Leader.



Explorer Roadshow

Explorers are able to come to your Troop to talk about Explorer Scouting.. The “Roadshow” consists of a video and a PowerPoint presentation and covers Young Leaders as well. To make a booking contact please contact Richard Pratt (District Advisor), richard.pratt83@ntlworld.com or tel: 0115 9436965.

Meeting Places and Times

Although 3 of the 4 ESUs meet at Group HQs, a Scout may choose to attend any of the Units; there are no restrictions. Scouts may choose a Unit based on its programme, whether they know the existing members, its meeting night or the ease of getting there. (Magellan is right by what will be the Beeston bus tram/interchange; Pioneer is served by evening buses on the 36 and Y36 routes, and Tornado is served by i4.) Discovery is the District Water Activities ESU. If Scouts wish to start linking, please make sure that they contact the ESL first to confirm that the Unit is meeting at its regular place and that the meeting will suit a newcomer. It is perfectly acceptable to visit more than one Unit before they make up their minds.

Day	Name	Place	Start	Finish
Monday	Pioneer	Inham Nook Methodist Church, Inham Rd, Chilwell	20:00	21:30
	Tornado	1st Stapleford HQ	20:00	21:30
Thursday	Magellan	6th Beeston HQ	20:00	22:00
	Discovery	(Winter) 2nd Beeston HQ (Summer) Barton Island	19:30	21:00

The Young Leader ESU meets at various places for training and social events. (See information above for the autumn term 2014.)

More Information

See <http://www.swnotts-scouts.org.uk/explorers/>

Contact

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ESLs – see District Directory