

Solihull Scout Times

For Solihull Scout County

September 2006

Editors Bit

Well the summer is nearly over and the Camping season is still just about hanging in. We are supposed to get a really hot spell in the next few weeks so stay outside for as long as we all can to keep the out in Scouting.

I had a great British camping season with loads of sun, wind, and rain, just what we all expect.

I bumped into scouts and guides from Solihull at both international camps we went to with the stilt team this year. It is nice to see Solihull being Put on the Map .

Solihull Scout County AGM

All Scouters in Solihull are invited to the AGM and Social on September 27th, 8.00pm, Methodist Church Hall, Station Approach, Solihull. After the formal part of the evening which will be kept as short as possible there will be a short preview of the forthcoming Gang Show, a presentation on a recent trip to Canada by members of 4th Knowle Sea Scouts and a few words about the preparations for next year's Jamboree. The meeting will be concluded with a light buffet and the chance for informal chats!

Solihull Gang Show

Help us Celebrate by visiting this years great Show at the Solihull Arts Complex. This great show has a Gigantic cast of over 90, Members of the Scout and Guide Associations We are looking at Celebrating 100 yrs of

Scouting, 50 Yrs of Gang Show and 25 yrs of Solihull Gang show so book your tickets now. They are all on sale from the Arts Complex box office, in person or by telephone, they will even take credit cards so no excuse! or you can get them from any member of the Gang or from DAL Lardner

Gang Show 28th November to 2nd December 2006



Cole District Appointments

Bob Warwick has been appointed as ADC Explorers

Blyth District Appointments

Blythe District has announced the appointment of Janet Pollard as Secretary and Trevor Richmond as Chairman with effect from 3rd October.

Changes in the County Report from Bob Lane

Now that the two new Districts are fully established in the County, the time has come to look to the future and provide a more solid structure at County level. In order to achieve this, I am making two new appointments.

The appointments are:

Ian Carnell as
Deputy County Commissioner (Programme)
Bob Fear as
Deputy County Commissioner (Adult Support)

Roles:

Deputy County Commissioner – Programme

Work with the District Section Leaders/ADC's to provide programme support for all training sections.

- Ensure that progression through the sections is actively encouraged
- Encourage active recruitment and retention within all sections
- Support programmed activities at National and Local level for 2007.
- Promote 21st Century Scouting through an effective programme in all sections.

Deputy County Commissioner – Adult Support

- Ensure effective operation of the Appointments process
- Ensure the maintenance of the County Database
- Encourage and promote adult training, by positive management, within the County
- Ensure that an effective training programme is available to all adults in the County
- Support the Child Protection policy within the County
- Provide support to special needs activity, when required.

The appointments will take place with immediate effect.

County Chairman

Since Ian will be relinquishing his role as County Chairman at the AGM, I will be nominating Ken Meeson to take on the Chairman's role at the AGM. Ken has previously carried out this role with great success and I am sure that he and I will form a very effective partnership managing the County

Bob Lane

Child Car Seat Regulations

As you will all have seen from the press, The Department of Transport are introducing new regulations on 18th Sept. A Scout Association factsheet (FS320006) which can be downloaded from ScoutBase has been produced. This should be read in conjunction with all the information available from the Department of Transport on <http://www.thinkroadsafety.gov.uk/campaigns/childcarseats/childcarseats.htm>

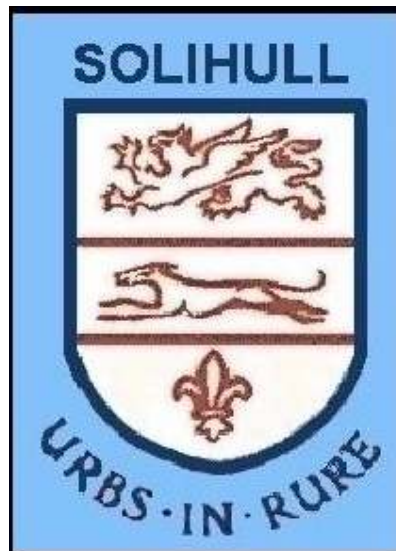
Managing Fire Safety.

A new factsheet (FS320007) has been issued which is aimed at all those (Groups, Districts, Counties etc) with responsibility for premises. New regulations highlight the requirement for those persons in charge of non-domestic premises to make a comprehensive fire-risk assessment of the premises. If any of the groups are concerned and feel that they need 'Independent advice' Please contact Andy Moore, a Chartered Building Surveyor who has a team of qualified Property professionals who may be able to help you

3rd Solihull

3rd Solihull is currently closed and the group has not been

active in Camping for some time. There is however a supply of some traditional camping equipment, which if



left in the stores until the group re-starts might be even less use than it currently is. If any Group have any specific requirements please let Andy Moore (Editor) know and we will endeavour to contact you as soon as we have begun to sort it out.

It is now 25yrs since the first Solihull Gang Show was performed at the Libruary Theatre, now the Arts Complex. The Gang Show Team are interested in hearing from past members of the gang, and perhaps organising a get together of past memebtrs at certain nights please e-mail Solihullgangshow@aol.com if you are interersted in attending, or know of a past member who has moved away. We have all of the original records and quite a few of the original memebtrs but we have lost toch with many of you as you have moved away or changed telephone numbers,

Stilt Walking around the Camp sites 2006.

Solihull's Stilt walkers have been at 2 International camps this year, firstly to NorJam held at the Royal Showground just outside Norwich and then the



Solihull Gang Show Reunion

Solihull Gang Show is celebrating 25 yrs of shows.

Cambridgeshire camp CamJam held at Huntingdon Racecourse. Both weeks were full of fun and activity

and over 40 youngsters learnt to walk on the teams Tall Stilts which are nearly 6 foot off the ground! So at the end of the year we have another 40 people proud to wear our bright orange and yellow Necker's



6th Shirley Scouts & Drake Explorer Unit Summer Camp 2006.

Between 28 July and 8 August 2006, 49 Scouts, Explorers and Leaders from 6th Shirley and Drake Explorer Unit went to the International Scout Centre at Kendersteg for their annual summer camp.

The camp set alongside the river Kander in central Switzerland provided an excellent base for a wide variety of alpine activities. During the week the weather ranged from sunny and very hot, to very wet and snow. (yes it snows in August !) But the adverse weather towards the end of the week failed to

curb enthusiasm. Activities ranged from climbing, hiking, white-water rafting, tobogganing and swimming. Visits to local towns and villages and helping the locals celebrate their national day, was also part of the experience. From a leaders

perspective seeing the Scouts mingling with individuals from as far away as the USA and Hong Kong was by far the best part. (Those who swapped, now refuse to wear anything other than their Hong Kong neckers)

Would I recommend the trip – without hesitation yes, I would urge any Scout or Explorer leader to take their youngsters. For me this was just the taster needed to prepare for our celebration of the movements 100th

birthday.

Jamboree 2007.

SOLJAM our County unit that will attend the World Scout Jamboree in July next year, are well into their preparations. With a little over 10-months to go, they are forming a very effective and efficient team, as was seen at last Saturdays Fire-station car wash.

At present they are planning numerous fund-raising events to support financially, their venture. In the forthcoming months, Indian meals, bonfires, more car washes, quizzes, beetle-drives and abseils are all planned. Helping at the County 'Gang-Show' and longer-term

environmental projects are also in the pipeline. The team are also keen to hear from Groups and/or Sections - Units as to how they can help you prepare for next year. As a County we will be hosting Scouts from Switzerland during Home-hospitality (HoHo) before the Jamboree, but we can all celebrate this Scouting milestone. The Jamboree team are happy to discuss any plans you have, as well as come to your groups, before and after the Jamboree, and share with your members their Jamboree experience.

If you need any further information, or wish to help in anyway please contact: Steve O'Grady steveogradyc@blueyonder SOLJAM Unit Leader.

Scout News

I am always looking for more information to put into the newsletter, if any of the readers have any information they would like to share with the rest of the county please let me know. I would love to hear of exciting campsites and activities which you would like to share with the rest of us please let me know

Andy

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Copy by the End of October Please