



## International Programme Ideas



### Ireland



Ireland has been celebrating 100 years of Scouting in 2008. They held an International Jamboree in August at Punchestown, Co. Kildare to celebrate. Here are some programme ideas you can join in with their celebrations. Some of these ideas and information came from the websites [www.enchantedlearning.com](http://www.enchantedlearning.com) and [www.en.wikipedia.org](http://www.en.wikipedia.org). All ideas can be adapted for use in any section.

#### Beaver Scouts

- Make potato print pictures of shamrock, the emblem of Ireland.
- Make a rainbow using Beaver hand prints
- Hold a games evening to celebrate St Patrick's Day, 17th March. Include making St Patrick's flag. Adapt games they know or create new games using names connected with Ireland.
- Tell the story of the legend of the giant of the Causeway (Wikipedia) and get the Beavers to draw and colour a picture of the giant
- Ireland is famous for its peat bogs. Decorate a plant pot and plant some bulbs in peat for the spring or try growing shamrock.

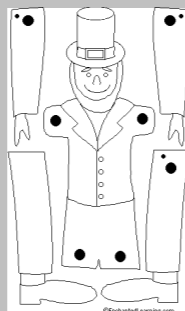
#### Cub Scouts

- Make a potato man or animal using a potato and other craft items.
- Draw the flags that make up the Union flag. Show where St Patrick's flag fits in. Learn the Saints' days and emblems.
- Tell the story of the Blarney stone (see [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org)). Make a blarney stone -paint a large stone green and decorate with wool hair, googly eyes, etc. Use as a paper weight.
- Make a leprechaun marionette with card and paper clips. Make scenery and hold a puppet show.



#### Scouts

- Hold a cooking evening using just potatoes and come up with as many ways of cooking them as possible.
- Hold a mini 6 nations rugby tournament. Invite other groups to join in.
- Hold an evening telling Irish jokes. Make up Limericks.
- Visit a department store to see some Waterford crystal, and then do some glass etching, or create stain glass windows using coloured cellophane and black card.
- Carrickarede is a famous rope bridge near the Giant's Causeway. Build a rope bridge.
- Make a shamrock button hole using crepe paper to wear on St Patrick's Day.



#### Explorer Scouts

- Visit your local supermarket and buy Irish produce only to make a traditional Irish stew. Hold a cooking competition to see who can make the best stew.
- Take a cheap day flight to Ireland from Stansted airport for a visit.
- Arrange an expedition to climb the highest mountains in Northern Ireland, Slieve Donard at 848m, and in the Republic of Ireland, Carrauntoohil 1041m.
- Invite a sports coach along to learn the rules of Gaelic football, Hurling or Lacrosse, popular sports played in Ireland.
- Cook some soda farls, a staple food of the Irish. Recipes are on the Internet.

#### Scout Network/Scout Fellowship

- Find a patch of land and create a vegetable plot, including potatoes.
- Invite a dance teacher along to learn an Irish jig. Go to see Riverdance.
- Learn to knit and try to make an Aran scarf.
- Visit a brewery and find out how beer is brewed.
- Take part in the Dublin marathon, held each year in November.
- Go on an expedition to Co Kerry and cycle round the famous Ring of Kerry, If you can't make it to Ireland cycle the equivalent in this country, 112 miles.

Linda Clements, ADC International

## ADC International

Hi, my name is Linda Clements and I am now your ADC International. I have been a member of the Scout movement in Chelmsford & District since 1965 and have experience of taking all ages abroad.

If anyone is considering taking their Pack, Troop, or Unit abroad and need advice or ideas I'm the person to contact. My telephone number is 01245 321038 and email address is [ljclements@aol.com](mailto:ljclements@aol.com).

International does not just include travelling abroad, it is much more. I will be giving you programme ideas in this and future editions of Chats.

Linda Clements, ADC International

## Important Information For Minibus Drivers

Any organisation that charges for providing transport will normally be regarded as a Public Service Vehicle operator. It is a serious offence to do so without a PSV operator's licence.

Charging for providing transport specifically includes a payment to a club (e.g. subs to a Scout Group) that entitles you to travel free in the club's transport even if the payment is not related to that particular journey. Vehicles that can carry fewer than 9 passengers do **not** require a permit even if the passengers pay.

Permits issued under Section 19 of the Transport Act 1985 allow Scout groups to charge for transport services without a PSV licence. Permits are issued by a number of designated bodies including The Scout Association, so you should apply for your permit through them.

For more information see:  
[www.scoutbase.org.uk/library/misc.min](http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/library/misc.min)

Contributions for Chats should be sent to:  
Jane Ronaldson (Editor)  
[chats@chelmsfordscouts.org.uk](mailto:chats@chelmsfordscouts.org.uk)  
Deadline for next issue:  
10th February 2009

# Chelmsford Chats

## A Message From The District Commissioner

The credit crunch, American presidential elections, and all the other doom and gloom in the newspapers so thank heavens for Chelmsford Chats and the opportunity to read about some of the good things in life – namely Chelmsford and District Scouting!

Since the last edition many of us spent our leave in a field in Kirby Le Soken with several thousand Scouts. What a terrific week it was and how proud it made me feel to be part of it. I know many of you felt the same. Some have even been rash and said they'd do it all again too!

Our centenary year has continued with the party at Hylands School. Unfortunately the weather was very unkind but those who were there had a great time. I was disappointed that the Barn Dance for leaders had to be cancelled due to lack of interest. Remember you are allowed to let your hair down in the name of Scouting. Maybe another time, although I fear that I can hear the organising committee shouting "Not on your life"!! So much effort goes into trying to think of new things to do and admitting defeat does not come easily.

I know some of you are struggling in your groups for leaders. It's a problem everywhere we look but I am planning to address this in the near future. I don't have a magic wand but a Group Development day is being planned and Recruitment and Retention is top of the agenda (see below). By working with GSL's, Group Chairmen and the District Team, along with some people in the know from Headquarters, I hope we will get some new ideas for the way forward.

Continue as you all are and the District will thrive, I have complete faith in you. Remember I'm always on the end of a phone or keyboard. The team is here to support you.

Sue Wilde, District Commissioner



[www.chelmsfordscouts.org.uk](http://www.chelmsfordscouts.org.uk)



#### Have you checked the website lately?

If not you may be surprised. Visit [www.chelmsfordscouts.org.uk](http://www.chelmsfordscouts.org.uk) and then why not contribute something? Our website will only be as good as what's on it so I'd love to hear from anybody with a story to tell or an event to celebrate (don't forget to send me pictures as well).

E-mail me at [steph.nicholls@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:steph.nicholls@blueyonder.co.uk). If you would like to help maintain and develop the website I'd love to hear from you too.

[www.chelmsfordscouts.org.uk](http://www.chelmsfordscouts.org.uk)....[www.chelmsfordscouts.org.uk](http://www.chelmsfordscouts.org.uk)..[www.chelmsfordscouts.org.uk](http://www.chelmsfordscouts.org.uk)

## The Fulbeck Trophy - Nights Away

We are delighted to announce the re-launch of the 'Fulbeck Trophy'. The award, donated back in 1996 by Jonathan Fulbeck, was originally presented to Groups for work done in the community. Unfortunately, it has spent the past few years gathering dust...., but we're please to say 'its back' with new criteria following the Nights Away and Kids Outdoors schemes.

The trophy will now be awarded to a Group or Unit, where, 'a group of any size and of any ages have spent a night away in the most unusual place'. This could be the whole Beaver Colony on a sleep-out at a museum, a Cub Sixers and Seconders camp on a ship, a Scout Patrol Camp on an old train, an Explorer camp on a beach.... it could even be a Group camp in caves. The objective is to have fun and try something a bit different.

During 2001, 14th Chelmsford stayed somewhere unusual every month.

These places included: the Nuclear Bunker, a canal boat at Victoria, Essex County Cricket Ground, Crossing Temple, Mangnapps Railway Museum, Hylands Park and the Calais to Zeebrugger overnight ferry.

Nothing special is needed to enter, as we will be able to collect information from the submitted Nights Away Forms, but feel free to contact the Media team or myself, as it would be great to come along to visit and get some pictures for 'Chats'.

Judging will take place in April every year and the award will be presented at the St George's Day Service.

If you would like help, guidance or ideas, please feel free to contact me: [danyel@chelmsfordscouts.org.uk](mailto:danyel@chelmsfordscouts.org.uk)

Danyel Horner, DDC

## Chelmsford Badges



From Monday 3rd November the Badge Secretary will be moving to a new location. You will now be able to order your badges in one of three ways:

- 1) Online – A link to the new badge site is on the District website.
- 2) By Post – Order forms available either online or by telephone.
- 3) In Person – Monday to Friday, 9.00 am – 5.30 pm and Saturday 10.30 am – 1.30 pm.

GSL's have forms to fill in to activate online accounts for sections and, when this is done, you will receive an e-mail confirming your user name and password.

Payment will be on 14 day invoices for your Treasurers to settle or, if you prefer, you can pay at the time of ordering.

You will be updated, through future issues of Chats, on any changes to the current badge programme and any new badges.



**Gary Jarvis, Badge Secretary**

**Telephone: 07946 535194**

**e-mail: badges@chelmsfordscouts.org.uk**

## Something for the weekend...at the 1st Chelmsford

### Attention all Scouts Leaders, Cub Scout Leaders and GSL's!

We have a Scout Troop that meets on one Saturday each month from 10am – 3.30pm. This runs alongside the Friday night Troop and those Scouts in our Deaf Section.

The Troop was started to meet the needs of those young people who, because of the pressures of homework and travelling to/from school, were finding it difficult to commit to traditional weekday evening meetings. Meeting once a month also makes it easier for the leaders to fit the meetings into their diaries.

Meeting all day on Saturday also allows us to run a wide variety of programme ideas and, in many cases, spend a whole day on particular topics. Examples of our programme have included:-

- Travelling by train to Southall, meeting up with Sikh Scouts and visiting both Sikh and Hindu Temples;
- Spending a meeting looking at issues of Fair Trade, including planning a menu, buying ingredients and cooking various Fair Trade recipes;
- Emergency aid training, pioneering, fire lighting and backwoods cooking as well as map reading and planning and doing a hike.

During this term we will be entering a team in the raft race, holding a weekend camp at Thriftwood (October), a lights, camera, action day with professional film making equipment (November) and a community day in December.

Whilst the Troop has "traditional" members, Scouts from other Troops also join us for activities on an ad-hoc basis. We operate an e-mail circulation list giving details of the programmes on offer and simply ask that Scouts (or their parents) let us know if they are planning to attend. Our aim is not to 'poach' your Scouts but to provide additional Scouting adventures and enable Scouts that can no longer make evening meeting stay involved.

If you have Scouts (or Cubs ready to become Scouts) who are finding it difficult to come to weekday meetings and perhaps may otherwise give up Scouts, please tell them about the Saturday Troop. Likewise, if you have Scouts that might enjoy the opportunity to do even more Scout activities, let us have their (or your) e-mail contact details and we will add them / you to the circulation list. You can help out too if you want.

Contact Paul Wilkinson (SL) paul.wilkinson@scout.org.uk or Chris Dear (GSL) on chris@dearhome.freereserve.co.uk with any questions.

**Paul Wilkinson, SL, 1st Chelmsford**

## From Around The Groups

### 24th Chelmsford

24th Chelmsford has served Westlands and the surrounding area for more than forty years but has struggled in recent times to keep on top financially and involve parents. To add to the problems, the Scout and Cub Leaders both left Essex earlier this year. Thank goodness the founder of the Beaver Scout section is still in post after more than twenty years!

However, a small but active group of parents has got together to form an Executive Committee for the first time in a few years. Re-painting the inside of the building was one of their first achievements, with help from our two Explorer Scout Young Leaders.

A new Scout Leader came forward, the Assistant Cub Leader accepted the offer of promotion, and the Group had invaluable help from members of the District Team, in forming an Exec, managing the leadership transition in Cubs, and generally putting the Group back on an even keel.



We were delighted to welcome the DC and the Mayor at our recent Fun Day, held on a sunny (!) Saturday in September. This raised money for Group funds and, just as importantly, raised the profile of the Group locally and created interest for each Section. The Scout Leader has set up a website, the first in the Group's history and we see this as a valuable tool in communicating internally and to the wider public. [www.24thchelmsford.co.uk](http://www.24thchelmsford.co.uk)

So the message is – those prepared to help themselves will find that help and expertise are available, from parents and from the District team. You don't always appreciate how much is out there 'til you take a peek outside the Scout Hut!

**Chris Rosier, Group Scout Leader**

## Riffhams Update

We took advantage of the quiet summer holiday period to start the re-fit of the kitchen area in the hut. The dividing wall was the first to go, followed by a good few years of grease on the ceiling and walls - the result, I am sure, of many tasty fry ups!! Some old hardboard splash backs were removed revealing the original tongue and groove boards which we have kept. After a couple of coats of paint, new kitchen units and worktops have been installed in an open plan design, with an area protected by a recycled stainless worktop for cooking on. We have a new fridge and microwave and hope to purchase a Burco boiler and maybe another fridge / freezer depending on feedback. Two double gas burners are available for use with gas supplied. A few utensils will also appear over the coming weeks.

We hope the new design will meet with everyone's approval and make the area more flexible to use. All we ask is that you leave the facility clean when you leave. It was a bit of a job to decide between dirty and clean in the old kitchen but now we have a clean start it will be easy to spot any offenders!! The cost for the service team to clean it is £50, so it is worth just having a wipe round before you leave. Please don't put any cookers / gas Burco direct on the worktops - additional cookers will have to go outside.

If you still haven't been to Riffhams this year, book a visit now. It's our own site and the perfect place to put into practice all traditional Scouting skills. Don't forget the orienteering course, nature trail and pioneering poles are available for hire. A charcoal BBQ is also available. Help us to keep the site tidy - if you use tin foil on fires or hang things in the trees for activities please remove them before you leave.

To book a camp or day visit, please contact me on 01245 467803 or 07708 178850. The booking form is downloadable from Essex County Scouts Website or drop me an e-mail at Nigel.d.wood@bt.com .

**Nigel Wood, Site Manager**

## Nights Away

To most young people experiencing a night away from home is what Scouting is about. It is clear that the young people of Chelmsford District not only have this opportunity but the range of experience is great. If we are to ensure that this is not only a good experience but a safe one, it is important that the policy related to this is complied with. I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone about the permit system.

- Permits normally last for three years. Please ensure that yours is current before planning an event. Camp Wardens are increasingly asking to see the permit of the leader in charge of the event. When your permit needs to be renewed, download an application form from Scoutbase, complete this and return it to me.

- Any event which takes young people away from home and involves them sleeping somewhere overnight is deemed to be a 'Night Away'. A Nights Away Notification (NAN) needs to be completed and returned to me: seven days prior to the event if it is within the District, fourteen days if it is outside the District.

- It is good to see that an increasing number of Scouts and Explorers have been undertaking expedition work. This is possible under the Nights Away system by using a 'passport'. Any Nights Away permit holder can grant a passport to someone under the age of 18 after checking on the young person's knowledge and ability to lead the event. The passport will last for one event.

Permits are not section specific but do have an event type on them. There is now an expedition event. If you feel that you need this type of event, please discuss it with me.

The last thing to say is that the permit system is not there to put barriers in the way of providing this type of experience to the young people of Chelmsford. It is, however, there to try and ensure that both you and the young people have a good experience. If you have any concerns about this type of event or would like help in planning such an event then please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Derek Cummings, ADC, Activities**

## District Calendar

### 2008

#### November

Training: Caving badge	2nd
Beaver Scout sleepover	8th
Training: Modules 12,14-19	8th-9th
Fellowship Meeting	12th
Training: Caving badge	14th-16th
Explorers WINTAC	14th-16th
Training: Getting Started	17th
YL Meeting: Module A	19th
Training: NSRA Rifle tutor	23rd
Training: Scout badge	24th
Training: Module 8	26th
Training: First Response	29th
Scouts: I'm A Scout....	29th

#### December

Cubs Christmas Party	6th
Fellowship Christmas Party	9th
Training: Module 9	10th
Explorers Nepal Training	14th
Explorers: Christmas Party	15th
YL Meeting: Fun & Crafts	16th

### 2009

#### January

Explorers: Winter Camp	9th-11th
Training: First Response	11th
Fellowship Meeting	14th
Training: Getting Started	19th
Training: Module 11	21st
Training: Scout Badge	24th
Cub Handicraft Competition	31st
Training: GNAS Archery	31st-1st Feb

#### February

Training: Winter hill walking—ESMAT	6th-8th
Fellowship Christmas Meal	10th
Explorers: Valentines Disco	13th
Adults: 80's Disco	14th
Training: Getting Started	16th
Training: Module 16	25th
District Swimming Gala	28th
Explorers Nepal Training	28th-1st March

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Siobhan and Simon Preece and Rick and Joan Balding on their weddings this summer.

