



## Ripon & District News Update

October 2008

### Thank you

- to all those leaders who have spent many September evenings attending Scout-related meetings; these are inevitable at this time of the year, but your attendance and commitment is appreciated
- to Laura Gibson who, with very little notice, gave up her Sunday afternoon to represent Cubs at the County meeting in Thirsk
- for letting me have your Sectional programmes for the current term without need for cajoling and "reminders" - well done!
- to those of you who contributed high-class Scouting articles to the Gazette during July and August when there isn't a lot to write about; your "creativity" is appreciated!

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### Training

First Aid training is a *requirement* in Scouting, and all leaders must complete a First Response (or equivalent) course every three years. Please make a note in your diaries that the course for 2008 will be run at Coronation Hall, Boroughbridge, on **Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup>**. It is anticipated that at least half of the places on the course will be taken by new leaders. Application forms are available on request, and remember that the cost of the course is reclaimable IN FULL on completion

Young Leader training re-starts this term with Module A (compulsory for new YLs) on **October 16<sup>th</sup>**, followed by other modules on demand. To date I have seven names on the list of new Young Leaders – are there any more out there?

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### Reminders

Many of you already have a **Nights Away Permit**, but the policy of the District is for all Section Leaders and Assistant Leaders to have this "qualification". For Beavers (Sleepovers) I'm generally guided by Andrew and Elaine; and Roz will be taking over any assessment required for the other permits in future. Please let *me* know, however, if you would like to be assessed for a permit in the next year; also remember that it's the easiest way of ticking off Module 16 in the Adult Training Scheme!

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### Forthcoming Events

- County "skills" training weekend for Leaders and Young Leaders at Snowball on October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>
- District Celidh, Coronation Hall, Saturday, Oct 4<sup>th</sup>
- District Scouters' Council, Coronation Hall, Thursday, Oct 9<sup>th</sup>, 7.15 pm
- District Scout Night Hike, organised by 6<sup>th</sup> Ripon (DD), on Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup>
- RDHWG walk in Nidderdale (starting at Lofthouse) on Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>
- District Cubs Activity Afternoon at Holy Trinity on Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup> (Sue Edwards)
- District Swimming Gala on Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, in Ripon

## For Information

Following discussion at the recent District Team meeting, Scouters' Council is getting a long-overdue face lift. You'll be pleased to hear that there will in future be much LESS boring information-giving by the DC, and much MORE time allotted to Section meetings. Pure "information" will as a rule be sent to you by email on an ad hoc basis. Do try to attend the SC in Coronation Hall on October 9<sup>th</sup> at which the Calendar for 2009 will be discussed and events for next year decided upon. There will also be a NYJAM presentation by Richard Adams from County

Regarding NYJAM (July, 2009), we are hoping to have a large contingent of Scouts at the event, and Mike Collins will be District Scout Leader at the Jamboree. Please encourage your Scouts and Explorer Scouts to attend what should be an exciting week of activities and entertainment based on the Yorkshire Showground in Harrogate

I have received a fact sheet from HQ entitled "Promoting good sexual health within Scouting" (FS950000, Sept/08) which seems to contain some sensible points with reference to the Scout section and ESU - I recommend it to you

Gazette Reports: please note that pics as well as text would be welcome from now on! I suggest that, for the time being, you might include just one or two good pics, if you choose to do so, remembering to REDUCE the amount of text proportionally as the total amount of SPACE remains the same

From now on David Bumby is the person to contact in all matters concerned with trophies in the District (previously Shirley Fell who is thanked for all her hard work and diligence over a number of years)

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## Visits to Groups

Please let me know if you would like a hand with any event or activity during October, in addition to the events on the Calendar

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## From the District Exec meeting in September.....

A Training Fund has been set up by the Exec. In future, Scouting-related training, including travel costs, for adults, Young Leaders, and youth members can, as *general rule*, be paid for by the District on application through the DC(see accompanying doc)

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John

This month's pics: from 6<sup>th</sup> Ripon Harvest Festival, contributed by Markus